

# **All change for the Science and Technology Group**

## **We have morphed into**

## **The EG u3a Science and Engineering group**

### **The rationale for changing our name**

As a u3a interest group we have always been very inclusive and accessible as a group. Members have been welcome to join whatever their background or experience. Our members have covered the complete spectrum of educational and occupational backgrounds – from members with little formal secondary education through to time-served professional engineers, technologists and scientists who may have worked for years in industry or academia after attaining professional membership of one of the hallowed scientific or engineering bodies.

**What has changed for us?** At the bottom line, nothing. We just want to ensure that no babies get thrown out with the bathwater! We have members representing diverse interests at a high level from various backgrounds. We can identify a few clear areas, including a lot of “engineering” for example:

- The Aviation industry
- Manufacturing technologies
- Medical engineering
- Nuclear engineering
- Transport engineering
- Electrical and electronic engineering
- Plastics engineering
- Ecology (ex Saving Planet Earth)
- History of technology
- History of engineering

We intend to focus on some of these specific areas (and indeed anything that you as members would like to focus upon. Remember the circulated brainstormed list of ideas??) So for example in just two areas:

- **History of technology**  
Around ten years ago we started a History of Technology group under separate leadership. Sadly the leader passed away after only a few meetings and we re-amalgamated into a single Sci & Tech group. I am proposing to focus upon this aspect, including Engineering, which is a fundamental aspect of Technology. So look out for some specific HOT meetings
- **Aviation (and aerospace)**  
There is sufficient interest and knowledge in the group to focus on Aviation/aerospace as a sub-group. If we include things beyond our own blue planet the World is only a tiny fragment of your oyster!

### **Come and join (or rejoin) us**

We look forward very much to meeting up again in September. You are very welcome to come along and bring any interested u3a friends for a taster session. But remember – they must be paid up members of EG u3a first and foremost.

### **Paying our way**

Hiring a room at St John’s church Felbridge costs £60 for three hours. There is no magic money tree – we have to pay our way. We are now simplifying things to ensure that we do so. This term we are asking for a single up-front termly payment of £10 per member. We are hoping that will be able to pay this by contactless means, or otherwise in cash. Payments will be taken at the first meeting or earlier if convenient. If it proves that we over-recover our venue hire costs, the second term payment will be reduced accordingly, or vice versa.