



• CHAIRMAN'S NOTES •

Well it's over a month since we started lockdown and it seems to have flashed by so quickly – well for me it has. The committee have had a Zoom meeting; just think, I hadn't even heard of Zoom last month! I expect most of you hadn't either.

There's no change to all our events being cancelled. The holiday has been postponed for a year – more details below.

However, some interest groups have been using Zoom and other similar apps to continue to meet, albeit virtually. If you think of using Zoom then we can help as we're getting more expert at it. Ask for a demonstration. Let us know what you're using instead of Zoom (it appears to be limiting calls to 40 minutes again).

We will be sending out the AGM papers before too long. Note that a quorum for an adjourned AGM is the same as a quorum for a committee meeting, which is three. We will endeavour to give members a say, but it would have to be by email.

Emails and letters will be going out shortly for subscription renewals, so look out for these. We won't be asking for you to check your details, but please let us know of any changes in any case.

We have one new member since the last newsletter – Gill Marsh from Wallingford.

And we have two Quiz Masters in residence now – see the last two pages.

Take care, stay safe *Malcolm*

COFFEE MORNINGS

Why not have a coffee at home on first Friday of April – phone a U3A friend and chat along....try out a group chat on Skype, Zoom, or WhyPay
Or just send a smoke signal!



• Editorial •

Welcome to the May Newsletter, I'm beyond apologising for going over deadlines. Each day is its own these days.

To the left is a lovely set of photos from Mark Robinson (unrelated) who has gathered these lockdown images around Wallingford. He will also be providing photos for the proposed Zoom Quiz hosted by Ken Johnstone (see page 2).

See next few pages for messages from Outings Committee, and from Group conveners waving a hand to all of us.

Big thank you for the lovely photos from Photography Groups.

I welcome contributions for the next issue, anything you've found useful, puzzles, live streaming, photos, and either let your convener know, or email me.

There are no printed copies available except to the few members who do not have online access. An anonymous benefactor with a better printer than mine is printing the 40 printed Newsletters we send out to offline members.

If you are online and like to print and have no printer or it's being non-functional then I recommend online printers on page 6 who you send the Newsletter pdf to and they will print it and post it back to you.

Enjoy!

Sarah Boyt Robinson
newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org

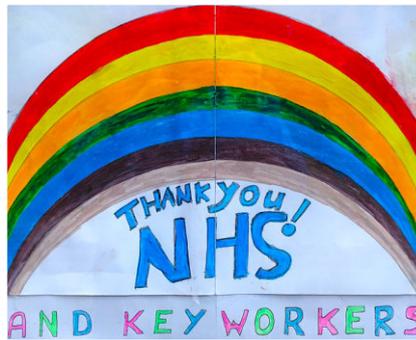


Photo Credits: Mark Robinson



• SPEAKER MEETINGS •

All Speaker Meetings cancelled for now

OUTINGS

All Outings cancelled until further notice. Watch this space.

Message from Paul Booker of the Outings Committee:

Congratulations and thanks to Mike Sedman who managed the cancellation of our holiday to Northumberland. He has ensured that we are able to go at the same time, same cost and see the same interesting items in 2021.



The intervening months will pass like lightning.



And from Mike Sedman: Jewels of Northumbria trip

We have been wrestling with the problem of what to do about the trip, which was originally planned for 20th - 24th June 2020. After negotiation with our tour operators we have re arranged our holiday to take place next year in 2021 leaving on Sunday 27th June and returning on Thursday 1st of July.

All the other details remain the same, including the trips, hotel and the price. The travelling members have been kept fully informed.

Although the trip is fully booked we are keeping our waiting list open. There are a few members on the list for single rooms but so far there are no couples waiting for a double or a twin. If you would like further information please contact Mike Sedman-ptimara@googlemail.com or 01491 825198.

Your trips committee still have a full programme of outings for the rest of the year, which hopefully we will go ahead on Government permitting and subject to safety protocols.

We also have one possible surprise outing at the end of the year.

INTEREST GROUPS

All Interest Groups face-to-face contact is cancelled. However, many Groups are keeping in touch with each other by all means electronic. Below some conveners are letting us know how the Groups are faring.

From Ken Johnstone:

ZOOM QUIZ

We've had Magnus (I've started so I'll finish) Magnusson
We've had Chris (We don't want to give you that) Tarrant
We've had Michael (Take the money or Open the box) Miles
We've had Hughie (I mean that most sincerely, folks) Green
We've got Bradley (Can you beat the Chaser?) Walsh
You've now got " DRUM ROLL" Ken (Your Chairman of Vice!!!) Johnstone

In order to help lighten the load, your U3A Committee (well at least two of us) would like you to join us in an on-line quiz.

There are no prizes, purely just for fun but also a means to possibly catch up with friends we've not seen for a while.

If you have Zoom installed on your phone/PC/Mac or tablet, then keep an eye out for your invite.

Here's looking forward seeing you all.

From Carol Chaplin:

French 2 is Zooming in on Thursday 14th May if no other meeting possible. Wendy will be inviting us. We still have "French and fizz" and boy do we need it! We have had a French quiz set by Mike Sedman and we send round amusing clips to keep us going. Even some from la belle France!

I have been heartened by how inventive and creative everyone has been.

Jill passed on a poem in French "La Forêt" so we've been back to nature as well!

From Philipa Davies:

Well, as Playreading coordinator I would recommend going to the National Theatre website as they are streaming through You Tube, Danny Boyle's direction of an adaption to Mary Shelley's book "Frankenstein" from April 30th to 7th May. Jonny Lee Miller and Benedict Cumberbatch play the leading roles - if you miss this, don't despair as they are streaming different plays every week, and it's FREE! www.nationaltheatre.org.uk

From Patricia Shields:

History Group 2 has unfortunately stopped meeting for the foreseeable future.

From Loren Butt:

The pétanque group is doing nothing for the moment, (not 'live streaming' for sure!) but if they relax the lockdown and permit small groups to meet but keep the 2m distances, we will restart on Tuesday mornings.

From Linda Matthews:

Our Genealogy group have been keeping in touch with a group email so we were able to make our own contribution on the subject of 'Occupations' in April. Some very interesting contributions, the life of a quarryman, boot and shoe maker, publican and bakehouse officer and the umbrella and parasol maker were all fascinating to read about. This month our subject is 'Migration' which could be anything why our ancestors moved from countryside to city or tracing them across the world.

Link in TAM on genealogy courses - including free ones very useful
www.u3a.org.uk/component/edocman/u3a-genealogy-newsletter/viewdocument/515?Itemid=

From Sue Taylor:

Book Group 1 are going online via Zoom for our May meeting, when we will discuss "Bettany's Book" by Thomas Kineally.
As well as Tollington Gospel Choir and Gareth Malone I am enjoying James Still's Sofasingers....Tuesday 7.30 pm or Fridays 11.00 am - eventbrite.com or sofasingers.co.uk....you book a ticket about 48 hours in advance (it is free really), it's limited to 500 members WORLDWIDE and it is fascinating to see people from all over the world (Hawaii, New Zealand, Mexico...etc) all singing together – you can't hear them of course.
The Ashmolean Museum have online puzzles of some of their best artefacts - the puzzles are graded easy, medium, hard - and they are just what they say!

From Val Wolsey:

I'm not full of ideas for the Music Broader group. However I will forward a fun musical piece which a friend sent me.
At present I am offering to help people write their Lasting Power of Attorney documents using technology, then giving my modest fees from this business "HelpPenHand" to South Oxfordshire Sue Ryder Hub.

From Diana Young:

This month Bookgroup 2 is reading The Music Shop by Rachel Joyce.

From Sue English:

Book Group 5 are reading The Cockmaker's Daughter by Kate Morton and are having a Zoom meeting 2.30pm Thursday 28th May.

From Rosemary Garner:

Birding 1 are just keeping in touch via email with any sightings of unusual birds, sending amusing appropriate emails etc and checking that everyone is well and in good spirits.

From Helen Futcher:

I can't think of anything. I'll try and do better next month! I hope you are all well - seems like we've been in lockdown for ever!

From Carole Johnson:

I am sending out a monthly Quiz, based on antiques and relating to talks and discussions we've had in the last couple of years, sent via email, with the answers being emailed a week later. Only 3 of them took part last month, but I shall keep sending them out, in case a few more feel inclined to do some research!

From Violet Hadley:

My daughter has sought my help with sewing and making a cushion. Her husband, on a visit home, returned with his old Boy Scout shirts with a large variety of badges there on. She is going to design a patchwork with all the badges and my job will be to sew it all together and make a cushion. A memento of times past!
One of our Scrabble Group is giving a tour of her garden on Zoom.
Our Craft Group is exchanging photographs of things made during the month.
Our Writing Group is also exchanging emails of articles/stories for the month.
It's good - we are keeping in touch.

From Ann Truesdale:

I can suggest the following websites. Futurelearn provides excellent free short courses - including one on Covid 19 and is an OU initiative. Duolingo is great for learning or relearning languages. I have been having a go with German which I learned more than 50 years ago. We haven't got a virtual Mac group scheduled but I keep up by email and support each other.
www.futurelearn.com www.duolingo.com

From Sylvia Harrison:

I am hoping to get some or all of my Photography group interested in Malcolm's Flickr U3A Group.

From Malcolm Brooks :

I have started a Flickr group and would like make an open invite to any member to upload photos to it (they will have to have a Flickr account). We can then comment on these in a friendly way and you might see something useful as well. It effectively makes us a virtual group, so any number can join. Contact me chairman@wallingfordu3a.org



Corona Scrabble

by S. J. Harrison



Church of St Cyr and St Juliette

by Malcolm Brooks

BOOK READING LIST

This is some of the Book Groups reading lists drawn together – you are all invited to peruse!
Please do let the Editor know of any recommendations any of you have to go in the next Newsletter

Book Group 1:

A Spark of Light by Jodie Picoult
Bettany's Book by Thomas Kineally
Clock Dance by Anne Tyler
Educated by Tara Westover
Home Fire by Kamila Shamsie
Queenie by Candice Carty-Williams
The Child by Fiona Barton
The Force of Nature by Jane Harper
The Heart's Invisible Furies by John Boyd
The Holiday by Tim Logan
The Testaments by Margaret Atwood

Book Group 2:

A Life of my Own by Claire Tomalin
Accidents in the Home by Tessa Hadley
Pompeii by Robert Harris
The Beekeeper of Aleppo by Christy Lefteri
The Dangerous Edge of Things by Candida Lycett Green
The Hidden Village by Imogen Matthews
The Music Shop by Rachel Joyce
The Prince of the West End by Alan Isler
The Salt Path by Raynor Winn
Wilding by Isabella Tree

Book Group 3:

Conclave by Robert Harris
Dangerous Crossing by Rachel Rhys
Erubus by Michael Palin
Lie of The Land by Amanda Craig
Once upon a River by Diane Setterfield
Pomfret Towers by Angela Thirkell
Sapiens by Yuval Noah Harari
The Curious Heart of Ailsa Rae by Stephanie Butland
The Great Alone by Kristina Hannah
The Reason to be Cheerful by Nina Stibbe

RESOURCES:

RNIB Connect Radio is on **Freeview 730** and online at <https://rnibconnectradio.org.uk/>

"Tune in every weekday for a new episode of our unabridged Talking Book, or catch up online.

New episodes **every Monday - Friday at 2pm**, or if you prefer a book at bedtime it's repeated **every night at 10pm"**

Online catchup is at <https://insightradio.co.uk/talking-books.html>

And of course there's

BBC Radio 4 Book of the `Week
Mon-Fri 10:45-11:00 pm

with catchup and past books on **BBC Sounds App** or at

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qftk/episodes/player

There's an app called **Libby** for **Oxford Libraries**
You apply using your library number, and then access their online books and audio books on your tablet, i-Pad or Kindle. Its free.

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries

Wallingford Book Shop is taking orders on **01491 834383**

or email books@wallingfordbookshop.com
and they will post them out to you.

And **David Walliams** is reading a short story **every day** on www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/



INTEREST GROUPS – MAY

Antiques	<i>Carole Johnson</i>
Art/Painting	<i>Angie Thorrington</i>
Craft	<i>Angie Thorrington</i>
Badminton	<i>Hilly Bailey</i>
Pétanque	<i>Loren Butt</i>
Birdwatching 1	<i>Rosemary Garner</i>
Birdwatching 2	<i>Pam Johnstone</i>
Book Group 1	<i>Sue Taylor</i>
Book Group 2	<i>Di Young</i>
Book Group 3	<i>Sheila Findlay</i>
Book Group 4	<i>Dee Clarke</i>
Book Group 5	<i>Sue English</i>
Cards Bridge 1	<i>Sheila Findlay</i>
Cards Canasta	<i>Hilly Bailey</i>
Cards Cribbage	<i>Joyce Kent</i>
Cards Euchre	<i>Hilly Bailey</i>
Scrabble 1	<i>Sarah Masters</i>
Scrabble 2	<i>Vee Hadley</i>
Current Affairs 1	<i>Trudy Davies</i>
Current Affairs 2	<i>Val Mowlam</i>
Seminar	<i>Gloria Hamilton-Peach</i>
Science	<i>Philippa Cullen</i>
French 1	<i>Janet Franklin</i>
French 2	<i>Susan Renn</i>
Latin for Pleasure	<i>Roger Morgan</i>
Spanish Improvers	<i>Val Mowlam</i>
Genealogy 1	<i>Linda Matthews</i>
Genealogy 2	<i>Mary Cozens</i>
History 1	<i>Ted Nelson</i>
History 2	<i>Patricia Shields</i>
History 3	<i>Colin Clarke</i>
History 4	<i>Jenny Potter</i>
History 5	<i>Ray Verral</i>
Writing Life History	<i>Margaret Pritchard</i>
iPad Users 1	<i>Sheila Findlay</i>
iPad Users 2	<i>Carol Chaplin</i>
Mac Users	<i>Ann Truesdale</i>
Garden Visits	<i>Not confirmed</i>
Lunch Club	<i>Rosemary & Tony Hines</i>
Sunday Lunch Club	<i>Ken Gough</i>
Music Broader	<i>Val Wolsey</i>
Music Classical 1	<i>Mike Sedman</i>
Music Classical 2	<i>John Cozens</i>
Singing for Fun	<i>Helen Futcher</i>
Ukulele	<i>Paul Booker (temp)</i>
Photography 2	<i>Sylvia Harrison</i>
Photography 3	<i>Malcolm Brooks</i>
Play Reading	<i>Philippa Davies</i>
Poetry Reading	<i>Jill Cooney</i>
Writing for Pleasure	<i>Ros Stayne</i>

WALKING GROUPS

Shorter Walking	<i>Paul Booker</i>
Rambling	<i>Phil Richardson</i>
Moderate 1	<i>Julia West</i>
Moderate 2	<i>Julia West</i>
Longer Walking	<i>Julia West</i>

Next Newsletter

The **JUNE** issue will be released by
Monday 1st June

It will be emailed to you and also put up
on our website

www.wallingfordu3a.org

**No deadline for contributions,
just send it in!**

newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org

Recommended Printing Services:

www.doxdirect.com

www.pdf-2-print.co.uk

<https://printpond.co.uk>

www.direct2print.net

COMMITTEE 2019-20

Malcolm Brooks - Chairman

Ken Johnstone - Deputy Chairman

Hilly Bailey - Treasurer

Paul Booker - Secretary
& Outings Co-ordinator

Yvonne Griffiths - Groups Co-ordinator

Anna Gordon - Membership Secretary

Jane Milne - Minutes Secretary

Neil Kelly - TVN Representative

Sarah Boyt Robinson - Newsletter
& Communications

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Sarah Boyt Robinson
newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Paul Booker has stepped up and is now the Committee Secretary. Big thank you Paul, your considerable experience of all things U3A will serve us well.

Many thanks to Yvonne Griffiths for fulfilling the role so admirably these past years. She continues to be Groups Co-ordinator.

NEW MEMBER ENQUIRIES

If someone asks you about becoming a member, please direct them to

Anna Gordon

membership@wallingfordu3a.org



THE THIRD AGE TRUST is the national representative body for U3As in the UK
Information on its activities can be found at www.u3a.org.uk

U3A THAMES VALLEY NETWORK

Thameside (Wallingford) U3A is one of thirty-eight U3As within the Thames Valley Network.

Their website is <http://u3atvnetwork.org.uk>

Our representative is Neil Kelly who reports:

During the current period all TVN activities are on hold, so there are no study days. However planning continues and a beginners UKULELE DAY is a possibility; if you are interested please contact Patsy Thornton at patsy@thorntac.co.uk

Please also checkout the National Office Website u3a.org.uk/keeping in touch which has lots of advice on this subject, and there is a U3A FaceBook page.

MIKE'S MAY QUIZ

With the coming of V E day here is the second world war cryptic quiz – all answers are associated with the war in some way – best of luck !! Answers in next newsletter

All the best
Mike Sedman



1. Succeeds weight holy place up there
2. Sheltered inside a mollusc
3. Greyish brown Scottish church
4. Almost big and strong but not out
5. Second prince faithful chap
6. Sounds a bit like desert mice
7. Projecting land conflagration
8. Almost a perky garden bird
9. Surgery above God
10. Enter uninvited i
11. Scrawl with little creatures
12. English flower with open country
13. A sheltered bay on the way in
14. Sounds like a high hill with a French rubber factory??
15. Conflict tool slum area
16. Almost a tall sort of oil
17. Last Stuart monarch honest!
18. Sounds like a vicious dog with a bell
19. Thin mother on a wealthy regime

Here are the answers to the quiz in the April newsletter:

1. Opera
2. Toscanini
3. Accordion
4. Rhapsody
5. Bartok
6. Berlioz
7. Base Viol
8. Borodin
9. B minor Mass
10. Sullivan
11. Capriccio
12. Marc Antoine Charpentier
13. Cymbals
14. Don Carlos
15. Flying Dutchman
16. Frescobaldi
17. Poulenc
18. Gounod
19. Joseph Haydn
20. Billy Budd
21. Lohengrin

KEN'S GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

Introducing yet another Quiz Master! Answers will be in the June Newsletter.

Ken is also going to set up an online Zoom Quiz – look for his invitation earlier in this Newsletter.



1. Which Greek philosopher inspired a medical oath?
2. In which year was the European Union founded?
3. Which country displaced Britain to be the world's fifth largest economy in the world in 2019?
4. Which country is the world's biggest exporter of lamb?
5. The first chocolate Easter eggs in the UK were produced in 1873 by which company?
6. In which film did Elvis Presley make his acting debut?
7. Avola, Canoe and Capucijner are varieties of which vegetable?
8. On 11th April 1855, the first pillar boxes were put up in London. What colour were they?
9. Which entrepreneur opened his first holiday camp in Skegness on 11th April 1936?
10. On 11th April 1972, which long-running BBC radio comedy game show was first broadcast?
11. The tradition of the White House Easter Egg roll was started by which US President?
12. In the 1918 UK general election, who became the first ever woman to be elected as an MP?
13. In which English town are the world egg-jarping championships usually held every Easter Sunday?
14. Who was the first British astronaut?
15. Which monarch holds the record, at 72 years, for the longest reign of a European sovereign?