

# Tetbury & District u3a

Bulletin No. 15 October 2020

Did you spot that we have been rebranded? (It's not an editorial typo!) This change was unveiled at the recent AGM and is intended to be "a fresh look at the movement with the ambition to put it at the heart of the current national debate about ageing". If you look at the u3a national website, you will see "the bright colours, lower case font, friendly language and new imagery which better reflect the energy, connection and learning of this amazing movement." <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

The first u3a radio programme launched officially after the AGM; you can listen wherever you are as it is delivered as a recorded podcast. Find it on the u3a YouTube channel: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning>. This pilot will feature interviews from across the movement and there will be another pilot before Christmas. If you have an interesting story to tell, email the volunteer broadcasters at <mailto:communications@u3a.org.uk>

## **WE HAVE A DATE FOR OUR AGM!!**

Tetbury & District u3a's first AGM will take place virtually via Zoom on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00am. Places must be booked through our website and then you will be sent full details of the Zoom link. If you'd like to volunteer to join the committee, tick the box on the booking form and a nomination paper will be emailed to you. This needs to be completed by you, a proposer and a seconder, in line with the Constitution, and then returned to the Chair by 12<sup>th</sup> November. Questions 'from the floor' must be submitted in writing in advance on the booking form; there will be no online Chat facility on the day and all attendees will be muted. Our website address is <https://tetburyu3a.org.uk>

## **GROUPS**

At the moment, the Rule of Six remains in place for our activities along with the mantra of "hands, face and space" and the need for a track and trace record. The requirement for mask-wearing can be lifted at the leader's discretion and more than one group of 6 can be deployed per activity so long as they do not meet. Several groups are managing well within these constraints.

In summary, the committee knows that:

FRENCH CONVERSATION meets by Zoom every two weeks.

GARDENING is doing a tour of local garden centres and sitting at tables of 6 or fewer for coffee and natter.

PLAY READING is using scripts requiring small casts, maximum of six, and the scripts are left to decontaminate for a week before being reused.

SPANISH held its most recent meeting in a local field shelter, to the bemusement of the watching horses.

WINE meets monthly on Zoom.

CREATIVE WRITING has been meeting outside at The Royal Oak but has moved to email as the days become colder and the weather less reliable.

PHOTOGRAPHY is used to working outside with social distancing and plans a trip to Westonbirt at the end of the month in groups of up to 6.

GLASS MAKING members have been working on their own to create some beautiful, and cleverly Covid-themed, tiles which you can see on our own website: <https://tetburyu3a.org.uk>

HISTORIC BUILDINGS has no visits planned for this year but intends to get going in 2021.

BRIDGE will require a new leader when groups can meet again. Social bridge continues virtually on BridgeBase.

The QUIZ group is in abeyance as it is almost impossible to whisper likely answers while 2m apart and possibly masked.

BOULES tends not to play in inclement weather so will be taking a break soon. An anonymous member has sent the following: *On behalf of the Boules group, I would like to thank our leader, Keith, for doing a difficult balancing act in juggling with the Rule of Six etc on our behalf and always with a wry good humour. As the season of regular meetings comes close to an end now that wetter and colder days are on the way, I hope we may be able to play at short notice if we get a lovely sparkling winter's day. Meanwhile, thank you, Keith.*

**Please keep aware of changing regulations and be prepared to alter plans at very short notice.**

This is a notice for lapsed or resigned members who will not be reading this email, of course, so you may have to tell a friend that, if a member leaves a group then decides to re-join u3a, they will need to re-apply to re-join that group as places will not be 'held' and may well have been re-allocated as some leaders hold waiting lists. If you know anyone who has complained they are not receiving the emails, it may be because renewal has slipped their mind.....

The **MONTHLY TALKS** at the Goods Shed have all been cancelled for this year but most have been re-booked for next year. Some will take place on Zoom with speakers who have become proficient users of the technology. Everything you need to know about joining a Zoom presentation will be available in due course.

### **LIVE PLAY READING**

Tetbury u3a Play Readers have been invited to read a short play to the general public at the Goods Shed on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November. The play was written by members Stephanie Dale and Jeremy North with thanks to Marcus Galea for his editing help. It was especially designed for reading

and discussion on Zoom and so is structured like a radio play. It is set in a mythical Gloucestershire village during the early stages of the Black Death in 1348 and is titled "The Black Pit".



*The key character is Sir Richard de Montcalme who is not feeling too well.....*

The play invites comparison with our current situation so there will be a short discussion afterwards, helped by Jane Haines of the History of Tetbury Society.

Tetbury u3a is providing the performers to read to the audience and to lead the discussion but this is a Goods Shed event and will take place under strict Covid-19 performance regulations. Masks must be worn on entering, leaving or moving within the Goods Shed.

Tickets will be £6 per person to include a cup of tea and piece of cake on arrival and **must** be booked in advance from the Goods Shed's website on <https://shed-arts.co.uk> There is limited availability; none will be sold on the door. Doors will open at 5pm for a prompt 5.30pm start and the performance is scheduled to end by 7pm. If you would like a copy of the script, contact <mailto:jeremy@jeremynorth.com>

Please keep your news coming, especially as the groups restart. Send it to <mailto:newsletter@tetburyu3a.org.uk>

Caroline and Judith