

Tetbury & District U3A

Bulletin No. 14 September 2020

Guidance from the government remains much the same for our group activities; we are still subject to the Rule of Six with distancing, masks and hand washing still thought to be the best safety measures. This does mean, though, that U3A can operate within that rule which is allowing the emergence of groups with creative use of numbers and more frequent meetings. Track and Trace arrangements must be in place, and there must be no sharing of equipment or food. Some national sporting bodies are providing approved guidelines so that more than 6 can take part in activities. All group leaders restarting their meetings must inform Audrey, Groups Co-ordinator, in order for activities to be fully insured: <mailto:groups@tetburyu3a.org.uk>

AGM STOP PRESS AGM STOP PRESS AGM

As we feared and with reluctance, the Committee has to delay both our October AGM and the talks planned for October and November. This is due to the most recent changes to UK Government Covid-19 restrictions and U3A national guidelines.

We were hoping, particularly after such a good response to our online website bookings for the AGM and talk, to be able to get together at the Goods Shed under their umbrella which allows for up to 60 people to attend an event. In the current circumstances, under U3A National rules, we are deemed to be a community event, not a performance, and so the Rule of Six applies. Our charitable status is not relevant in this circumstance; you may know of organisations which are currently able to meet in larger numbers but this exemption does not apply to U3A.

Perhaps we will all be able to gather in the spring for an AGM; face-to-face meetings feel much friendlier than Zoom though many of us have been very glad of that method of contact. And we hope Caroline Lowsley-

Williams will have space in her busy calendar to talk to us later next year, perhaps September or October 2021.

We know you understand the present difficulties and we are all very disappointed. But actual groups of up to 6 are beginning to meet again which is very good news.

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The proposed MEMBERS' LUNCH scheduled for January at Calcot Manor has been cancelled. It was going to be an opportunity for members to mix, mingle and socialise but we clearly won't be doing that for the foreseeable future. It will be back on the agenda as soon as is possible.

GROUPS

The PLAY READING leader will now be able to offer readings live, for up to 6 people on a booking system, on the last two Mondays of the month. Plays will be selected with small casts in mind and the same play will be read twice a month to give twelve members the chance to book on a 'first come, first served' basis. The next two readings, of "Arms and the Man" by G Bernard Shaw, will be on 19th and 26th October at the Priory Hotel under strict Covid-secure conditions. Members must not attend if they are quarantined or showing symptoms. Sessions will be from 2pm till 5pm with tea served at 4.30pm. The cost is £3 per head to include tea and script hire. <mailto:playreading@tetburyu3a.org.uk> or call Jeremy North on 01666 502974

The GARDENING group will meet at the Blue Diamond Garden Centre, Nailsworth, on Wednesday 30th Sept at 10.30am in the café. We will sort ourselves into groups of maximum 6 at the tables. Don't forget your mask! Or your shopping list for spring bulbs. This group currently has vacancies for two more members. <mailto:gardening@tetburyu3a.org.uk>

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

Caroline and Judith