

Tetbury & District u3a

Bulletin No 19 - February 2021

Welcome to your February Bulletin. To continue with the introduction of members of your Committee, this month it's the turn of Douglas Looman, our Treasurer. Setting up the Finance section of T&D u3a involved a great deal of work and it is thanks to Douglas that we are on a good financial footing.



I retired from the Ministry of Defence in 2018 where I worked mainly on programmes and in corporate governance. I moved from Chippenham to Tetbury with my partner shortly afterwards and am an enthusiastic member of several local organisations.

Joining a U3A was definitely on the "to do" list and when it was suggested we create one in Tetbury it seemed an obvious thing to get involved and help set up, taking on the role of Treasurer. It has always been the self-help nature of the U3A that has appealed and, although the pandemic has put much of what we can do on hold, already we can see how much knowledge and experience the various groups can offer, with, we hope, more to come! (Italian, anyone?)

When not wrestling with the spreadsheet of our finances, I am clocking up the local miles as part of the 1000-mile challenge - where easy access to the Monarch's & MacMillan Ways are another of Tetbury's attractions and, with my bubble not extending that far, Zooming with my boys who these days live in Manchester.

Talks

After the success and excellent feedback from our January talk, we are now looking forward to our next talk on Monday, 15th February at 10.30am via Zoom. Jacquie and David Gawn, together with Duke, will tell us how life has been transformed for them by their assistance dog. Just click on the Zoom link below to join the talk on Monday, 15th February at 10.30am:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84208522325?pwd=VW9CODU1L0sxWFd2Z0dTeEhxTExEUT09>

Looking forward: On Tuesday, 16th March we have Sue Limb. She is very happy to answer any questions you may have on her writing and life and it would be helpful to have these in advance. They can be sent to Anita at speakers@tetburyu3a.org.uk or ring her on 01666 238023. Check the website <https://tetburyu3a.org.uk/events> for more details.

Groups

Apple iPad & iPhone refresher sessions started again on 20th January. These Zoom based sessions are initially scheduled for 4 consecutive weeks just to get everyone up to speed and to determine the direction the group wants to take in 2021. It is open to members who have previously attended in 2019 and 2020. During the time of the refresher sessions, the original "getting started with iPad and & iPhone" will be opened up to any new members who have not been before, perhaps a new group on a different day can be formed if there is sufficient interest, but these will be run by Zoom until such time as Covid allows for face-to-face meetings again.

Anyone interested in either the refresher or new "getting started" session, please contact the group leader directly. apple@tetburyu3a.org.uk

Play Reading. The next play reading will be a Zoom meeting on 15 February at 2pm when the group will read, "What's in your Pot of Tea?" and "Pro bait" by Jeremy North and Stephanie Dale respectively, with a short break in the middle. The two authors have now written 10 plays between them which have been taken up by 36 other u3as, All Tetbury members can order any of these scripts to read at home or can attend the next reading as observers. There is room for new members to join the group. If you would like a script, an invitation to the meeting or to join the group contact: playreading@tetburyu3a.org.uk

If you have any news for the next Bulletin please let the Newsletter editor know before the beginning of March. newsletter@tetburyu3a.org.uk

SPECIAL OFFER

One of our members has made a special offer to all those at Tetbury u3a for the duration of the current lockdown. Now is a great time to look through your photographic files and weed out anything you do not want to keep. While you are at it, pick out one or two that you think are pretty good, but which need a bit of work to make them superb - maybe framing, maybe exposure, whatever. Consider the photograph below:



Those of you who live in Tetbury will be aware there are no hills in any direction. The bottom third of the picture was photographed on a flat grey day at 9am thus boring light, but it could be at dusk. The top third is a sky from Norway. The hills in the middle are actually the sky of the bottom shot but the sky has been shaped to look like hills. The sea gull is dropped in just for fun and to amuse our photographic group as they know the photographer uses a gull as a sort of copyright joke for manipulated images.

So, the offer: if you find a photograph you would like to play with in these dark times, send it to the contact below. Jeremy will discuss it with you. It's probably best if you are computer savvy and have Adobe Photoshop, but do not let that put you off as he likes a challenge. Then why not join our photo group. All levels of experience welcome - its active even in lockdown.

Offer Contact: Jeremy North jeremy@jeremynorth.com

Group Leader: Steve Hammond photography@tetburyu3a.org.uk