

Tetbury & District u3a

Bulletin No 23 - July 2021

With freedom to meet as Groups tantalisingly close, it's time to look forward to a summer of getting together again. If you have been waiting to get out and meet your group members please be aware that the new membership fees are now due.

Membership Renewals (no form filling) for the period **1st August 2021 to 31st July 2022** is £8 per member. You can pay in either of the following ways:

- BACS -Sort code 309626, Account 52130160, Payee -Tetbury u3a, with reference your name.
- Cheque payable to Tetbury and District u3a posted to Membership secretary Gail Moss, Conifers, Long Newnton, GL8 8RH.

N.B. If you would like the paper version of the Third Age Magazine posted to your home, please add £5 to your payment.

For **new members only**, please go to the website

<https://tetburyu3a.org.uk/membership/> and follow simple guide to complete online or download your membership form. The fee from 1st August 2021 to 31st July 2022 is £8. We are still waiting to finalise our Open Morning on 10th August, which will only go ahead if the Goods Shed is allowed to dispense with social distancing and allow freedom of movement around the venue.

Continuing with the introduction of members of your committee please say hello to Audrey Hateley, your Groups Coordinator:



I was born and brought up in Malmesbury and lived in Wiltshire all my life until coming to Tetbury in 2012.

Originally qualified in Medical Microbiology, I trained at Frenchay hospital and Bristol Polytechnic before working at Princess Margaret

Hospital in Swindon. Whilst having my family I ran a farmhouse Bed & Breakfast business, followed by a residential and touring caravan park.

My interests include spending time with my family and friends (I have 6 grandchildren), tennis, bridge, walking and reading. I much prefer spending time in the great outdoors rather than in cities or shopping!

If you have any Group news please send it to Audrey and it can then be included in the Bulletins.

Talks

Our talk this month will be on **Tuesday, 20th July** at 10.30am via Zoom



Rose Hewlett - A village through time.

Rose is an expert on life in the history of Gloucestershire, in particular its houses. We are going to follow the history of a particular village from its very foundation in pre-history to the present day. A fascinating story of which we are all part in some way.

There will be no Talk in August and we hope by September to be able to gather in the Goods Shed for a talk by Ashley Jones, MBE Regional Fraud Protect Advisor, S.W. Regional Organised Crime Unit.

In October, Caroline Lowsley-Williams will be our much-anticipated Speaker on filming at Chavenage followed in November by Chris O'Grady on his walk to Rome with a rucksack and four pairs of underpants.

Talks for 2022 are currently being booked and range from the Titanic, Life as an Artist, Life on the Severn, A Ships Graveyard, Optical Illusions, a Musical Trip from New Orleans to New York and Glittering Elements. All this for only £8 a year - what a bargain!

Groups

The Wine Group met together in a member's garden on Monday 7th June where we tasted a selection of sparkling wines - to celebrate! These were Champagne, Cava, Prosecco, Cremant and an English sparkling.

Our next group meeting in July will be in another garden where rosé wines will be the topic.

The Gardening Group met in a member's garden on Wednesday 9th June. There were only 9 of us but we are hoping for a better turnout on Monday 12th July when we are meeting at a member's house in Cutwell for a garden tour and tea, coffee and biscuits. The Group Leader wants to hear suggestions for further meetings so bring your ideas.

The Playreading Group has at last secured a date for the reading of "The Black Pit". Jeremy and Stephanie's play reading goes "live" on Sunday, 24th October at The Goods Shed, Tetbury.

Tickets will be on sale as soon as the Goods Shed is in a position to finalise seating arrangements bearing in mind Covid regulations. In the meantime, you can register your interest at <https://shed-arts.co.uk/>.

CHESS can be enjoyable and good for you. After two successful u3a Zoom meetings support has been gathered from u3a members representing all parts of the UK for the start of the u3a CHESS NETWORK. The Network aims to promote the study and playing of chess in the u3a - both in local u3as and nationally on websites and Zoom, etc

In September a nation-wide u3a Chess League is starting, which will be available to all members of all abilities from learners to experts. The objectives of the new u3a Chess Network are: - to help and encourage new Chess Clubs; (one of the most common questions we have received has been, "how do I start a Chess Club ?") to collect, and make readily available, information relevant to u3a chess players and clubs; - to encourage Zoom or on-line u3a Chess groups or leagues; (another typical complaint to the Subject Advisors is that there are no u3a chess groups in my area!). It is now possible to join the u3a CHESS NETWORK by going to:

<https://u3achessnetwork.org.uk/> - where it is also possible to register for the u3a Chess League starting in September.

Research and Shared Learning

We are very aware that a great deal of excellent work has been and continues to be done around the area of what has been called Research and Shared Learning within u3as.

An online workshop on the topic Research and Shared Learning in the SW Region will take place on Thursday 29 July at 10.00 a.m. Its aim would be to provide an opportunity to exchange ideas, promote good practice and create a support network within the region that u3a members can call on when they identify a need to "find out".

This might be an interest group researching a particular subject area, or a committee wanting more information about their members, for example, or a more formal specific project. We can always learn from each other's experiences and promote good practice going forward.

Please can those who intend to join the Zoom meeting email susan.parker@u3a.org.uk giving their name, u3a and email address and the invite will be sent out closer to the date.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you on July 29th."

And finally....

The Tetbury and District u3a Business Secretary, Lawrence, thinks the following may be of particular interest:

the Barclays Digital Wings learning platform is open to anyone to register, login and upskill your digital knowledge (you do not have to be a Barclays Customer).

This is the link <https://digital.wings.uk.barclays/>. Topics covered include but are not limited to:

- Digital basics; safety; communication; devices; finance; skills; entertainment
- Virtual sessions; cybersecurity; fraud & scams; staying safe online

The platform is supported on Apple, Windows, Android desktops, laptops, notebooks etc.

Smartphone and Tablet Apps can be downloaded from the respective App stores.

Best of all the Barclays Digital Wings learning platform is FREE to all users.

Please note you will need to register with your Name, Email and a secure Password as a pre-condition to Login.

Barclays have been working with u3a and many other national organisations to make this digital learning platform available to everyone. It is designed to improve your digital skills whether you are new to the digital world or an expert.