

# Tetbury & District u3a

Bulletin No 22 - May 2021

We are getting close to finally coming out of this pandemic and your committee are already making plans for an Open Day which we hope to hold on 10 August at the Goods Shed. It would be good to be able to hold it without the restrictions that will be in place from 17 May until at least 21 June, but we have to be cautious and realistic that the date may have to be postponed. Watch this space.....

## Talks

### **U3a COTSWOLD LINK - Programme of Talks**

July 2021 via Zoom

These talks have been arranged as an alternative to the Special Interest Day that is held each summer. The talks are free of charge to members of all U3As affiliated to the network.

The speakers will cover a wide range of topics as follows:

#### **Keith Bostock on Robots.**

Keith leads the Gloucester U3A's Electronics Group. He led the Gloucester team that came second in the inaugural U3A National Robot Challenge in 2019. Keith's talk will cover the true meaning of 'robot' and the current progress in the science and engineering involved in their creation, with a look at their future.

#### **Frank Cooper on the Background to the Staffordshire Hoard and the Origins of a Warrior King's Golden Helmet.**

Frank is Centre Manager for Digital Design & Manufacturing and a Senior Lecturer at Birmingham City University. The Hoard, discovered in 2009, remains the largest collection of Anglo-Saxon

gold and silver ever discovered. He will discuss the probable methods of manufacture and the detail of various traditional artisan crafts as well as modern digital technologies used in jewellery industries.

### **Tony Conder on a Gloucestershire Odyssey**

Since his retirement as a museum curator, Tony has conducted in depth research covering the area of Gloucestershire, its geology, local history, and traditions. He is recognised as an authoritative local source of information on the many landmarks and ancient monuments of significant historical interest to be found there. Tony has summarised much of his work in a series of illustrated presentations that he is convinced will encourage the viewer to embark on a personal Odyssey to discover afresh what this area has to offer.

The programme is FREE and is as follows:

Keith Bostock:	1st July 2021 1030am
Frank Cooper	7th July 2021 10.30am
Tony Conder	14th July 2021 10.30am

Booking will be through Eventbrite, accessed through the Cotswold link website <https://u3asites.org.uk/cotswold-link/events>

**Tetbury & District u3a Talk - Tuesday, 18th May**  
**10.30am** Alison Mees - Living the African Dream

Alison is going to talk to us about her journey through Africa with photographs and stories of the bush from the last sixteen years working with the Cheetah Conservation Fund. More details of Alison's work on her website:

<https://www.alisonmeesphotography.com/>

Please make sure you join the meeting promptly as latecomers will not be able to join as we now have protocols in place to stop unwelcome intruders!

## Groups News

The **Short Walks Group** have had a brilliant start to the year, post lockdown. At the beginning of April, we walked from Tetbury, up to Chavenage/Wild Carrot, along the fields then back via Hermit's Cave Wood. Due to the numbers wanting to attend, we did this three times in groups of up to six people. It was wonderful to have so many members wanting to walk and keen to meet up with friends and colleagues. At the end of the month, 11 of us walked around the outskirts of Tetbury, going under Bath Bridge to the Goods Shed, along the rail track then up to War Well, through the Miller Homes estate then back to the recreation ground, our starting point.

We started May with an excellent walk with 13 members. We walked along Longfurlong Lane to the back door of Highgrove, cut across fields to the Hookshouse Pottery, then back. We saw a wonderful blanket of bluebells at Hare Covet, see photo.

The short walks group is flourishing - do join us if you would like to walk in good, friendly company!



[http://shortwalks@tetburyu3a.org.uk](mailto:shortwalks@tetburyu3a.org.uk)

**The Bridge Group** hope to restart our "Round Robin" tournament once a month starting in June, depending on the rules published on 17 May. Critical will be the social distancing rules since it would not be possible to stay two metres apart at a bridge table and there is the question of handling the cards. We welcome new members to the group, please contact the leader Jeremy.

Meanwhile the group will continue to play online using "Bridge Base" on a casual basis.

**Leader:** <mailto:jeremy@jeremynorth.com>

**The Play Reading Group** are pleased to announce that we will restart live readings on 24 May limited to six readers at the Priory Inn at 2pm. We shall be reading "Bedroom Farce" by Alan Ayckbourn. This reading is fully booked but a second reading is being offered on 31 May and there are three places free on this reading at the time of going to press. These arrangements assume that the rules will allow this on 17 May.

We would welcome new members to this group which has remained very popular and active during lockdown with the help of readings on Zoom. We have written 12 plays especially for use on zoom and have sold scripts to over 100 other u3a's raising over £500 for our funds. To join please contact the leader Jeremy. There is no limit to members as we will just add a second and third reading each month if necessary.

Our live reading at the Goods Shed has been postponed to mid-autumn when we hope to be able to perform to a large audience without restrictions.

**Leader:** <mailto:jeremy@jeremynorth.com>

**And finally.....**

We have had a request from the Visitor Coordinator at Rodmarton Manor for volunteers to join their team:

Rodmarton Manor, one of the last country houses to be built and furnished according to the Arts and Crafts ideals, are currently looking for interested people to join the Stewarding Team rota. The House and Garden are open to the public each Wednesday, Saturday, and Bank Holiday afternoons - 2pm - 5pm - May to September.

In addition, we are also looking to grow our Tearoom rota and have vacancies for Tearoom assistants for the above days/times, plus assisting with catering for groups at other times.

If you are interested in either roles please call - 01285 841442 or email: <mailto:enquiries@rodmarton-manor.co.uk>