

Tetbury & District u3a

Bulletin No 20 - March 2021

To continue with the introduction of members of your committee, this month it's the turn of Lawrence Moss, our Business Secretary including IT Support.



I retired in 2002 from an International Telecommunications company, whereby I supported Software Developers' and Customers' teams worldwide.

I assisted Tetbury & District u3a from its start in 2019 to configure the u3a Beacon membership database and designing, implementing and maintaining the website <https://tetburyu3a.org.uk> As Business Secretary I liaise with the Chair (Carmel) to organise committee and AGM meetings. This includes meeting decision records -

Constitution, Policies, Procedures on the website and u3a National Office and Trustees.

I've always been interested in technology and helping others to become acquainted and comfortable to use all device types. There is so much knowledge and experience within our generation, evident across our local u3a membership groups.

Today's advances in telecommunications technology provide on-demand video calls from our smartphones to friends and family across the world, firmly in the realm of science fiction during my working career!

I support several local community projects to use technology and enjoy walking through our delightful countryside. I have long been a supporter of advanced driving to promote road safety as a volunteer master's Mentor to the Institute of Advanced Motorists (Cirencester IAM).

My wife (Gail - membership secretary) and I have lived in Long Newnton for 41 plus years where we brought up our three sons, themselves married and living in Australia, Manchester and locally.

There are still places available on the Committee. If you feel you, or someone you know, could spare some time to help Tetbury & District u3a please do let us know.

Talks

Tuesday 16th March Sue Limb - "What's So Funny?"

Script writer, biographer, novelist; Sue will tell us about her life in comedy as the creator and writer of BBC Radio 4's 'Gloomsbury', 'The Wordsmiths of Gorsemere', 'Dulcie Domum's Bad Housekeeping' and many others. She will also tell us about her other life, as an organic farmer.

As this talk will take the format of an informal interview, Sue would be delighted to answer questions from our members. As this is Anita's first foray into the role of interviewer she would be particularly grateful for any ideas or questions you would like to put to Sue. Please send your requests/ideas to Anita at <mailto:speakers@tetburyu3a.org.uk> by 14th March at the latest.

Monday 19th April - High Kicks and Art - Fiona James

We cannot offer you a chance to learn the Can Can, but we can offer you an opportunity to absorb something of the atmosphere of Paris in the days of Toulouse Lautrec and the Beau Monde.

Talks from the National u3a

The national u3a website has a series of Talks (and Workshops) on their website. A couple of examples are: "Cyber Security, Staying Safe Online" and "Leonardo da Vinci: Would he have made a good u3a member?" There are plenty of others to sample so just go to <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events> They are all free to members.

Groups

Computing - Android: whilst we are currently unable to meet face to face, support to Group members continues to be offered via phone/email/WhatsApp etc. Please contact the Group Leader David <mailto:android@tetburyu3a.org.uk> for support.

Historic Buildings: Covid-19 lockdown means that there are too many uncertainties at this stage to allow us to plan a detailed calendar of events. However, we have been lucky to secure a provisional booking to visit Longford Castle nr Salisbury for the end of August. The Castle, the ancestral home of the Earl of Radnor, houses a world class collection of art, and it's only open for private visits for a few days per year. Fingers crossed that we are able to complete our visit! Please contact David at <mailto:historicbuildings@tetburyu3a.org.uk> for more information.

The **Play Reading Group** meets on zoom on 15 March at 2pm and will read two short plays by two of its members.

Pro-Bait by Stephanie Dale. Synopsis: Having control over her mother's finances before and after death proves monetary bait too difficult to resist for a domineering daughter in dire financial straits.

Looking for God by Jeremy North. Synopsis: An 89 year old woman searches for a spiritual ending to her book, written for her grandchildren, and comes to a moving conclusion.

This dynamic group has written 11 plays especially for performance on zoom, which have now been taken up by 49 other u3as so come and listen in and then decide if you might like to join us!

Contact to get a link or to join the group: <mailto:jeremy@jeremynorth.com>

And finally.....

We have had some good news about the possible journey out of lockdown. We hope to see a gradual return to a social life and a return to the undoubted benefits of being a member of your local u3a. Please encourage your friends to either join, or re-join, so that we can get back to sharing our expertise and willingness to learn, and hopefully make new friends in the process. The membership fee is a very modest £5 for the year.