

Lyme Regis u3a Newsletter – February 2022

Talks

We are continuing to deliver presentations online until April when we will restart 'real life' face to face talks.

February 2022:

Friday – February ---: - NO TALK – see details for the Meet the Group Leaders event on Tuesday 22 February at 10.00 am – 12.00 midday in the Group News

Friday 18 February 10.00 am: Science & Technology – Dr Andrew Lacey - The Davy Notebooks Project

Links for the talks will be sent out separately. Everyone is welcome.

March 2022:

Friday 11 March 11.00 am: Virtual tour of Mapperton House

Friday 18 March February 10.00 am: Science & Technology – Steve Coles - Our Microbiome

**** Everyone attending the online sessions should use their full names to register instead of an alias or e.g. 'ipad 4' etc., particularly if they are not using the video setting. Thank you to all those who have already done this.**

Expressing thoughts on speakers

Since February sees the Group Leaders' session in lieu of a general talk, it may be opportune to invite your reflections on topics you would like to hear about. In March, the last of the winter zoom presentations will feature a virtual tour of Mapperton House. Then in April, Covid permitting, in person talks at Woodmead Hall will resume with the Lyme based Word Forest organization being show-cased. Subsequently, I have plenty of possibilities available but would be interested to receive suggestions of locally based speakers who might be of general appeal. In November, we shall return to zoom presentations when we can call on speakers from far further afield.

Another approach would be to invite each of the interest groups to nominate a subject or speaker relevant to them and who would help to promote their activity to a wider audience. There's an invitation to mull over during your next get together.

I look forward to collating your responses! Please use the contact: speaker-finder@lru3a.org (and don't forget the hyphen!)

Andrew Lightfoot

Covid

Public Health Dorset (PHD) <https://www.publichealthdorset.org.uk/your-health/protecting-your-health/latest-updates-on-covid-19-in-dorset>

PHD (28 Jan) – ‘Plan B measures have come to an end this week but it is important to remember that we are still living with the virus - case rates are high locally so there is still a risk you could catch COVID-19. Consider the risks and follow public health advice to keep yourself and your loved ones safe and healthy. Testing, isolation, ventilation and hygiene measures are all key ways you can help stop the spread.’

We continue to request that just before events such as the Informal Drop-in, u3a Breakfast and the February Meet the Group Leaders event that everyone does a Lateral Flow test. Obviously, if you test positive or if you have any cold/flu like/Covid symptoms you need to stay away to prevent spread, and to protect other u3a members.

For information about group risk assessments please contact Mark Gillams at groups@lru3a.org

u3a4u Spring 2022 Newsletter

The spring newsletter will be produced at the end of February for distribution in March. We would really like to make this a ‘bumper edition’, but we need your help!

Please could all group leaders send a short piece of text regarding what their group has been doing to Mark Gillams (groups@lru3a.org) by 13 February 2022. Photographs would be most welcome.

If any member has an amusing cartoon or joke that they think others might find equally amusing, please send these to Elaine Taylor (editoru3a4u@lru3a.org) by 13 February. Cartoons and photographs should be in .jpg format.

Many thanks for your help.

Elaine Taylor (Editor u3a4u)

Membership Renewal 2022

One month into my tenure and I’ve been busy getting to know the system, processing renewals and adding some new members. I’ve received a flurry of cheques through my letterbox and many payments online as a result of sending out reminders that the subscription for this year was due on 1st January 2022. If you have yet to pay I would urge you to do so at your very earliest convenience. Rates are unchanged from 2020 and as follows:

Individual Membership £12

Joint Membership £22 (2 members living in the same house)

Individual Associate £8.50

Joint Associate £15

Cheques should be made payable to Lyme Regis u3a. However, if you are able, payment by Bank Transfer would be very much appreciated. Our bank details are:

Bank: Natwest; Sort code: 601357; Account Number: 51051567

When doing so it is very important to include your surname and membership number as a reference. Send me a brief email and I’ll reply with your membership number. Many thanks, and I hope to meet more of you in the coming weeks! Jacqueline Petitt (Membership Secretary - membership@lru3a.org).

We need your help

If you would like to help and support this u3a in some way contact Rachael on chair@lru3a.org

We **still need** someone who will oversee the publicity for this u3a as we attempt to increase the activities.

Also, under the rules of our constitution all committee members are required to resign from their specific roles after 3 years. I am coming to the end of my 3 year term in March 2022 and therefore need to stand down as Chair. We are therefore looking for someone to take my place, and would like them to start working with me as soon as possible, thank you, Rachael.

Informal Drop-in

We meet at the Pilot Boat in Lyme Regis on the last Thursday of the month at 10.00 am. The next one is on Thursday 24 February 2022. Contact Rachael Pope chair@lru3a.org or 01297 445575, or Ann Fleet trips@lru3a.org or 0776168608. The Drop-in is open to everyone and if you want to come, just turn up. Tea and Coffee will be £1.50 a cup.

Please remember to do a Covid Lateral Flow test just before you come, and wear masks until seated.

Breakfast

The u3a Breakfast is on the first Saturday in the month at the Pilot Boat in Lyme Regis. The breakfast is open to everyone and if you want to come, just turn up.

There are two breakfasts available. A smaller breakfast with one of everything (£7.50) and the larger breakfast with two of everything (£12.00). Tea and Coffee will be £1.50 a cup.

For more details contact Rachael chair@lru3a.org

Please remember to do a Covid Lateral Flow test just before you come, and wear masks until seated.

Group Leaders

**** Please could all Group Leaders remind their group members of the need to pay their membership fees for 2022. Thank you, Rachael**

Please remember that you need to be happy with any contact details going public as this newsletter goes on the website.

Group News

If anyone wishes to start a new group please contact Mark groups@lru3a.org to provide advice and address any questions you may have.

Meet the Group Leaders event

An opportunity for new and existing u3a members to meet with Group Leaders and find a group to join is scheduled for **22 February 2022 at the Uplyme Community Hall at 10:00 am (9.30 am for**

Group Leaders to set up the room). It is hoped that a good selection of our groups, plus existing and prospective members will participate. All are welcome.

There is still considerable uncertainty about the future progression of the Covid pandemic. Whilst we intend to go ahead with the meeting the recommendations of the Dorset Council (See <https://www.publichealthdorset.org.uk/your-health/protecting-your-health/latest-updates-on-covid-19-in-dorset>) and the National u3a with regard to precautions will apply. These will be issued in good time before the meeting.

Possible new groups – Fencing, ‘Adventures with a Bus Pass’ and Dog walking

Just before lockdown we had a very interesting demonstration of fencing (with swords!). Covid stopped any plans of starting a fencing group. The good news is that Nigel Carter is still willing to start a LR u3a fencing group, probably meeting in the Morcombelake Hall.

Taking an idea from another u3a would anyone like to organise some ‘Adventures with a Bus Pass’?

Also, last year, the idea of a dog walking group was suggested and generated some interest from pet owners. As spring is coming along and there are many dogs that think this is a brilliant idea is anyone interested in running this group?

Please contact Mark Gillams, Groups’ Coordinator.

The update of the group pages on the LRu3a web site has been going well and all inputs received from Group Leaders have been incorporated. If anyone has any suggestions on the accuracy of the information on any of the groups please let your Group Leader or the Groups Coordinator know.

The number of groups has fallen somewhat during the pandemic and many of the remainder are full so this is a really good time for those who wish to share and develop their interests by starting a new group. Support, guidance and advice for Group Leaders are all available. The committee ensures that its administrative requirements for Group Leaders are kept to a minimum. The Groups Coordinator will be pleased to answer any questions you may have about running a group.

There are three groups currently in need of new leaders. These Groups are the Creative Writing Group, the Religion and Ethics Group and the Strollers Group. Please contact the Groups Coordinator if you would like to know more about running one of these groups.

The committee is grateful to those members who have already stepped forward recently to start new groups or ensure the continuity of an existing group.

The following Groups are looking for new members.

Art and Craft

A new Art and Crafts Group is proposed. This group will work with materials and methods of choice for each of the Group members. This could mean any craft such as painting, knitting, stitching, batik, silk pictures, lino cutting, quilting or any other of the myriads of crafts now available. It will be a "crafting together" group rather than a teaching group.

As there is already sufficient interest the group will be starting soon.

Contact Jayne Avery 07743 095919 or email her via the u3a website.

Current Affairs

Gilbert Bland is offering to lead a Current Affairs group. It will be face to face at his home in Ware Lane where there will be good ventilation and reasonable social distancing. It will be held fortnightly,

probably on a Tuesday morning. The group will be about eight members. It is anticipated that members will attend meetings unless, for example, they are away or have visitors.

Gilbert believes the group will work best if it contains people of different backgrounds and views. Coffee and biscuits will be provided. It is expected that each member will have given some thought to the subjects to be discussed and hopefully done a small amount of 'homework'.

There will be two subjects discussed at each meeting (half time coffee break). The subjects to be discussed will be emailed to members two/three days before the meeting. Members will be invited to make suggestions, if they want to, on subjects that can be discussed. Over time the format of the meetings can be changed if members have ideas to make the meetings better and more worthwhile.

Contact Gilbert on gilbertbland@gmail.com or 07754 545590

Intermediate German

Kay Luckraft has volunteered to lead this group which will now meet on Tuesday afternoons.

This is a small friendly group which meets once a fortnight usually in the Group Leader's home; some of us studied German at school (many years ago!) or have 'picked up' some German when abroad, and a couple of members have family living in German-speaking countries; we all enjoy speaking German together.

We chat (in German) about what we have been doing recently, and then read and discuss articles or watch videos from a variety of sources on a wide range of topics. We sometimes play language games or even get together occasionally for a German-style meal. New members would be very welcome.

Contact Kay Luckraft on 01297 599416 and come along to a session to see if you enjoy it.

Poetry group

Members are being sought for a new Poetry group. We will be exploring poetry written by ourselves mostly, but occasionally exploring the work of other poets.

Contact David on davidruffle@hotmail.com for further information.

Sea front gardens

Merry Bolton is hoping to restart activities in our seafront gardens in April. Could all existing and any new volunteers please contact her with their availability on merrylymeregis@gmail.com or 01297 443334

Trips

Ann Fleet is going to arrange some trips for 2022 – 07761468608 or trips@lru3a.org

Crewkerne, Lyme Regis and Bridport U3A's - Trip to London Southbank April 2022

Just to register interest in further information, with no commitment, contact John Bartholomew at theatretrips@lru3a.org

Contacts:

Membership Secretary: Jacqueline Petitt - membership@lru3a.org

Treasurer: Alex Ruck - treasurer@lru3a.org

Groups' Coordinator: Mark Gillams - groups@lru3a.org

Secretary: Yvonne Renouf – 01297 442847 - secretary@lru3a.org

Speaker Finder: Andrew Lightfoot – speaker-finder@lru3a.org

Webmaster: John Marriage - webmaster@lru3a.org

Printed newsletter: John Marriage - webmaster@lru3a.org

Editor u3a4u: Elaine Taylor - editoru3a4u@lru3a.org

Trips: Ann Fleet - 07761468608 - trips@lru3a.org

Theatre trips: John Bartholomew - theatretrips@lru3a.org

Vice-Chair: Mary Bohane - 01297 444566 vice-chair@lru3a.org

Monthly newsletter: Rachael Pope - 01297 445575 chair@lru3a.org

Chair: Rachael Pope - 01297 445575 chair@lru3a.org

Links:

Lyme Regis u3a website - <https://www.lymeregisu3a.org/>

National u3a website - <https://www.u3a.org.uk/>

National u3a Newsletter - <https://u3a.org.uk/newsletter>