

Lyme Regis u3a Newsletter – February 2024

Talks

The talks are at Woodmead Halls. Please do not attend face to face meetings if you have any Covid/flu symptoms.

**There will be refreshments before the meeting – 10.15 to 10.45 am. Philippa Fortescue is now our Refreshments Coordinator. Thank you Philippa for volunteering.

February 2024:

Friday 9 February 11.00 am - Alex Leger - Life on the Licence Fee

Friday 16 February 10.00 am: Science & Technology – Simon Petitt - How to Build an Aircraft Carrier

Thank you

At the AGM in January Alex Ruck and Mary Bohane retired from their roles on the committee.

Alex joined us in May 2020 as Treasurer and has served for almost four years. He came at a very challenging time as we had just gone into lockdown. We very much appreciated his support.

Mary was one of the original members and has been on the committee for many years undertaking a number of roles including Membership Secretary, Membership Advisor, Deputy Chair, and she was a very sharp proof reader!

A very big thank you to you both for all your hard work.

Membership Renewal 2024

U3A subscriptions became due for renewal on 1st January 2024. The renewal rate has been fabulous at over 85% and with the renewal window open for just a little while longer there are only about 50 members to be chased. Many thanks to those of you who have already paid and to those yet to make payment a personalised reminder has been sent out to you recently with all the details you need to renew your membership for 2024. Please ensure that you use your surname and membership number as a reference.

For any membership queries please do not hesitate to contact me - Jacqueline Petitt
membership@lru3a.org

Informal Drop-in

The Drop-in is at the Bell Cliff Café at 10.30 am on the last Thursday of the month. The next Drop-in is on Thursday 29 February 2024. This event is open to everyone and if you want to come, just turn up.

For more details contact Rachael Pope on rachael pope1@outlook.com or 01297 445575 or Ann Fleet on 07761468608 or annfleet60@outlook.com

Breakfast – Bell Cliff Cafe

We are now meeting at the Bell Cliff Café on the first Saturday of the month at 9.30 am. The next u3a Breakfast is Saturday 3 February 2024. The Breakfast is open to everyone and if you want to come, just turn up. The breakfast choices will cost £6-10.00. Everyone is welcome.

For more details contact Rachael Pope on rachael pope1@outlook.com or 01297 445575

Group Leaders

*Please remember that you need to be happy with any contact details going public as this newsletter goes on the website. Group Leaders are reminded to let Mark the Groups Coordinator know if there are any changes to the membership of their groups.

Group News

We are starting the New Year in a really promising way with great news from several groups looking for members. Yes, that could be you finding a new group to suit you! Mark.

Venue Share

Are you a group looking for a venue? Is your activity sedentary but chatty? Are you prepared to share the hall hire costs? An existing group finds itself occupying just a portion of a comfortable community room and would be willing to welcome another group to share the facilities. The availability is the 2nd and 4th Monday afternoons of each month (bank holidays excepted). Come and join us! Contact Jacqueline for more details - jacqueline.petitt@btinternet.com

Check Mate

Several members have shown an interest in Chess and Peter Jackson would like to hear from just 3 or 4 more so that the group can be launched.

All skill levels are welcome. Whether you are a seasoned grand master or a total beginner you would be welcome. The day, time, and meeting place are yet to be decided. We are considering various locations in and around Lyme Regis to make it convenient for everyone. If you have any suggestions or would be willing to offer a space, please let us know.

We look forward to hearing from you and, hopefully making some strategic moves on the chessboard together. For further details contact Peter Jackson 07789732700 or Mark Gillams on groups@lru3a.org.

Great Big Dorset Hedge Volunteers

The Great Big Dorset Hedge Volunteers Group will be holding a monthly zoom meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm (starting in February, on the 6th). GBDH Project Manager, John Calder, will brief everybody on the progress that has been made in the GBDH project in the past month. A short presentation from John will be followed by questions, discussion and thoughts about how to grow the group.

The Group starts modestly with just four of us. Our purpose will be to participate in the GBDH surveys across West Dorset alongside the existing GBDH volunteers and to share in its progress across the county as a whole. While the surveys themselves may only appeal to the physically fit, the scope for those with computer skills to make a contribution is enormous. If you want to join us for that first zoom just email John at jccalder@gmail.com

Jewellery Making

I hope to restart my old Jewellery Making group. I've designed and made jewellery, using vintage and semi-precious beads since the mid 90's. Silver wire and various silver chains and a variety of stringing, including leather and elastic are used to make necklaces, bracelets and earrings. Sorry, no gold (too expensive) and I can't solder bangles etc. or re-size rings. I'd like a "drop in and out of" group, where you can bring your jewellery to mend, or make new pieces as and when needed on a casual basis. So perhaps a weekly Wednesday afternoon session with free tea and coffee at my home in Uplyme. This is close to the bus stop, pub, garage and school. There's also parking in the drive and nearby road. We could work on a variety of jewellery pieces, using beads, including pictures (although you may have to bring the pictures). In fact, any sort of beading work will be considered. Contact Angela Cooper on 07513271702 or Mark Gillams on mark.gillams@lru3a.org

Short Tennis

Short tennis is played indoors on a badminton size court, with soft balls, a lower net and short, light racquets. It is an exciting game which anyone can play and is ideal for both beginners and experienced tennis players. The game requires less strength and power than tennis, so is suitable for all abilities.

The weekly sessions run every Thursday from 2 to 3.30pm at Musbury Village Hall and all necessary equipment is provided. We share the cost of the hall on a termly basis. We have vacancies for approximately 3 or 4 new members. If you would like to give the game a go please contact Sharon Young on 07530 002287 or syoung5727@gmail.com

Craft and Chat

Fed up with this dark and dank winter and just need to get out of the house and 'do something'. In a recent article I read that crafting, whilst creative and enjoyable, also has immense physical and mental health benefits too - it calms our brains! And we all need some calm. The group meets twice a month on Mondays (1 - 4.30) at Halletts Court Community Room. Our February meetings are the 12th and 26th; come and join us! We all bring our own projects to work on and share enthusiasm, helpful encouragement, conversation and a cuppa - crafters of all levels are welcome! Contact Jacqueline for more details - jacqueline.petitt@btinternet.com

The Monthly Catalyst

Meets on the 1st Thursday of the month 10am until 11.30am at the Bradshaw Room, The Heritage Centre, Silver St, Axminster, EX13 5AH. The Heritage Centre has a lift for anyone who struggles with stairs. Contact Rachel Jordan 07837233177 rachelbramble@yahoo.co.uk

We need your help

Volunteers are coming forward. Thanks to them all. Phillippa Fortescue is taking on the role of Refreshments Coordinator, Fran Barter is Speaker Finder, David Ruffle is now in charge of Publicity and Ann Fleet, Lorraine Vandersyde and Maggie Allison are assisting.

Monica Mellor, Prue Porteus and Joy McClellan are helping with the refreshments. However, Phillippa **still needs a few more people** (men and women) to assist when required.

This organisation can only continue to be a success if people are willing to come forward to help.
Thank you.

Dorset Council

Regularly publishes bulletins for residents (you can sign up to receive them directly). You may find these recent ones of interest.

Cost of living support. <https://rb.gy/8tvro>

News from the Dorset AONB. <https://rb.gy/1v4pq>

Contacts:

Membership Secretary: Jacqueline Petitt - membership@lru3a.org

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Monthly newsletter: Rachael Pope - 01297 445575 - rachaelpope1@outlook.com

Chair: Richard Doney – chair@lru3a.org

Vice-Chair: Vacancy

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>