

Lyme Regis u3a Newsletter – June 2021

Talks

We are continuing to deliver presentations online until further notice due to the ongoing Covid situation.

June 2021:

Friday 11 June 11.00 am: **Keith Jones – The story of Botox: from deadly poison to cosmetic**

The talk will cover botulinum food poisoning, how the toxin works to cause disease in humans, and how the toxin is nowadays used in medical procedures and as a cosmetic.

Keith (one of our members) was a Senior Lecturer in Microbiology at Lancaster University. He was also a visiting professor at the universities of Pretoria, South Florida, California (Berkeley), Hawaii and KNUST (Kumasi, Ghana). His research was in Health-related Environmental Microbiology with main interests in the safety of bathing waters, Campylobacter food poisoning and the roles of livestock and wild birds in the spread of diseases.

Friday 18 June 10.00 am: Science & Technology – **David Croman (Bridport) - Dorset Reptiles**

Links for these talks will be sent out separately. Everyone is welcome to both of these sessions.

July 2021:

Friday 9 July 11.00 am: David Boag – Wildlife in a Quarry

Friday 16 July 10.00 am: Science & Technology – Leigh Edwards (Exeter) - Artificial Intelligence

[A few people are still not responding to our request to identify themselves in the online sessions](#)

**** 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. We would like to know who is attending the sessions. The reason for this request is to encourage more positive and friendly connections. Thank you to all those who have already done this.**

If you are on Zoom you can change your name if you right click on your image, or click on the 3 dots, and pick Rename. On Webex you can go into Set Up on the App and then My Profile and put in your name.

Going underground – digging for history in Dorset – National Grid archaeology webinars

National Grid VIP are running a series of Webinars on the archaeological finds uncovered during their project. Each of the three Webinars cover a different historical period.

'We would like to invite you to join us for a series of archaeological webinars entitled *Going underground – digging for history in Dorset*. As you may be aware, National Grid's project to replace 22 pylons and 8.8km of overhead electricity line with underground cables has unearthed a wealth of fascinating archaeological finds on an impressive scale.

We're keen to share these finds more widely and so have developed a series of webinars to present the exciting outcome of our archaeology work to date. We will be hosting three webinars, and you can register to attend all these webinars on our website: dorset.nationalgrid.co.uk

Discover the story behind the amazing archaeological find in the Dorset Downs

Going Underground – Digging for history in Dorset

A major landscape enhancement project unearths a wealth of fascinating finds on an impressive scale

When National Grid started work in 2018 on its Dorset Visual Impact Provision (VIP) project just outside Dorchester, no-one could have imagined that 20 months later the team of more than 25 archaeologists would have uncovered a compelling evidence of human presence in the area dating back 6000 years.

With the archaeology now concluded and the engineering work which will enhance the landscape in full flow we have organised a series of webinars to give a taster of the fantastic findings and what they mean.

Led by National Grid's Lead Project Manager Paul Hammett and John Boothroyd of Oxford Archaeology, each webinar will focus on a different period in history and feature a contribution from one of the many stakeholders who made the project possible, including Historic England, the Dorset AONB Partnership, and the Dorset County Archaeologist.

Webinar 1	Tuesday 8th June	Neolithic & Bronze Age
Webinar 2	Tuesday 15th June	Roman
Webinar 3	Tuesday 22nd June	Early to post Medieval

All webinars start at 12.30pm and last for around one hour.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Find out more at dorset.nationalgrid.co.uk

nationalgrid

If you have any questions, please email us on visualimpact@nationalgrid.com'.

Membership

u3a membership is free for existing members for 2021. However, **if you do not wish to remain a member please contact the Membership Secretary, Graham Pitts** on 01297 561569 or membership@lru3a.org New or lapsed members will pay £12 for single membership, £22 for joint and £8.50 for associates.

We need your help

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

A big thank you to Mark Gillams for volunteering to be our Groups Coordinator. He can be contacted on groups@lru3a.org

Group News

To all Group Leaders

If anyone wants to change anything on their section of the website, John Marriage has kindly offered to do that for you. Please contact him direct on webmaster@lru3a.org

If you want a contribution about your group to go into this monthly newsletter please contact Mark Gillams our new Groups Coordinator groups@lru3a.org

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

There are encouraging signs that a number of groups have or are preparing to restart their face to face meetings as Covid regulations are relaxed. Canasta is one such group and is meeting with restricted numbers until more normal meetings can resume.

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

Informal Drop-in

We restarted our Informal Drop-in at the Pilot boat in Lyme Regis on the last Thursday of the month at 10.00 am. This is an outdoor event at the moment. We met on the terrace upstairs and 23 people attended.



The next one will be on **Thursday 24 June 2021, 10.00 am**

Virtual Coffee and Chat

We have now held two virtual Coffee and Chat sessions. We go into breakout rooms randomly selected by the technology, so that we can talk to different people, swapping around part way. If you want to have coffee (or tea), chat and a laugh please join us on

Friday 4 June at 10.00 am. Access from 9.45 am

I will send out a separate link. See you there, Rachael

Dog-owners walking group – possible new group

Is anyone interested in starting or joining a Dog-owners walking group? If you are please contact Mark Gillams the Groups Coordinator groups@lru3a.org

Poetry Reading

This group used to meet regularly before Lockdown and a small number of the members would like to continue. However, the group needs a leader. It is understood that the group took it in turns to host the meetings so the leader role was essentially one of administration and communication. Anyone wishing to know more please contact Mark Gillams via groups@lru3a.org. The group does not have to be run the same way as before. The previous leader has offered to provide support and advice to any incoming leader.

Creative Writing

The U3A Creative Writing Group currently has vacancies due to people moving away from the area. The Group meets at 2.15pm, for around 2 hours, on the second Monday of each month, rotating the meeting place to each other's homes. We like to limit the number of participants to an optimal 7 people which experience has taught us works well for us. A different theme or subject is set each month and we each write a short story of around 1500 to 2000 words. Each member reads out their story to the group, with a break for tea and cake. Following this we email our stories round the group and circulate our constructive comments.

We are an informal group, we aim to enjoy our writing, to stimulate each other's ideas and creativity through writing both fiction and non-fiction and to enjoy the fellowship that the regular informal meetings present.

Group leader: John McCallum jaamcc46@gmail.com

Garden Lovers

The Garden Lovers group hopes to resume activities this month with some socially-distanced visits to private gardens.

Seafront Gardens

Merry Bolton has organised several weeding and planting sessions in the seafront gardens so far this year. If you would like to take part in any future sessions please contact Merry on 01297 443334.

History

Second Wednesday in the month, 4.00 pm on Zoom. Co-ordinators: Ed and Audrey Standhaft. The group will seek to expand their knowledge and understanding of history. This will cover world history, British, local, family, biography etc.

Please contact Audrey on aud.standhaft@outlook.com

Making Music

The Making Music group are meeting weekly on Zoom. If anyone would like to join us please contact Rob Walker on 01297 444811

Walking Group 1

Walking group 1 are restarting on 21 June 2021. Sue Wilson is the new leader for this group. She can be contacted on sue.wilson44@outlook.com

Maurice Liddiard has been the leader for the last two years. Sadly, he has had to retire due to injury. Thank you Maurice for all your efforts on behalf of the u3a walkers.

Other active groups

Other groups have been active in lockdown to varying degrees: Archaeology; Book group 1; French Conversation; French for Fun; German Conversation; Jazz Appreciation Live!; Literature; Meditation; Plant Sharing; Play Reading

Covid update

See the national u3a website.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/covid-19-advice-on-u3a-activities>

Contacts:

Membership: Graham Pitts - 01297 561569 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 - speakerfinder@lru3a.org

Webmaster: John Marriage - webmaster@lru3a.org

Vice-Chair: Mary Bohane - 01297 444566 vice-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>