

## **Lyme Regis u3a Newsletter – October 2021**

**\*\*\*\* We urgently need a Membership Secretary. Several requests have been made and we need someone to come forward for this very important role. Please contact me on [chair@lru3a.org](mailto:chair@lru3a.org) or Graham Pitts on 01297 561569. Thank you, Rachael.**

### **AGM**

We are holding an **online AGM on Friday 12 November at 10.00 am**. Please put this date in your diaries.

### **Talks**

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

#### **October 2021:**

##### **Friday 8 October 11.00 am: The Lynmouth Floods: Act of God or Act of Man? - Pam Hogan**

Many remember the summer of 1952 when disaster struck the small fishing village of Lynmouth on the North Devon coast (which has topographical similarities to Lyme Regis). During one August night, flash floods destroyed scores of homes and claimed 34 lives. But not so many recall suspicions that emerged at the time of Government interference with the weather. Fact or fiction? Pam's talk uncovers the incredible facts that create the backdrop for her novel 'Seeds of Doubt', many discovered in top secret government documents of the time. This multi-media presentation will include information from those documents, book readings and anecdotes about the research and writing process.

##### **Friday 15 October 10.00 am: Science & Technology – Benford's Law - Max Beran**

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

#### **November 2021:**

##### **Friday 12 November 11.00 am: Proposed Dorset National Park - Richard Brown**

What are the potential benefits of rural Dorset being designated a National Park and what would be the effects on the surrounding areas? Richard will set out the case and answer queries relating to the environment, economy, housing and costs.

##### **This meeting follows the online AGM at 10.00 am**

##### **Friday 19 November 10.00 am: Science & Technology – Radio Astronomy and the Contribution of the Independent Researcher - Paul Hearn**

**\*\* 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.**

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.

## **Membership Renewal 2022**

Whilst fees for next year are not due until 1st January we know that many of you like to make payments in advance. With this in mind, arrangements have been made for the small hall at Woodmead to open between **10am and mid-day on Wednesday 24th November and again on Thursday 2nd December**, when payments can be made and new membership cards issued.

As a reminder, fees are as follows:

Individual Membership £12

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

Individual Associate £8.50

Joint Associate £15.00

Cheques should be made payable to Lyme Regis U3A

If you prefer to pay by bank transfer see details below.

Bank. NatWest

Sort Code. 601357

Account No. 51051567

Please ensure that you use your surname and membership number as the reference.

## **We need your help**

If you would like to help and support this u3a in some way contact Rachael on [chair@lru3a.org](mailto:chair@lru3a.org)

### **Membership Secretary**

Graham Pitts will be leaving this position at the end of the year so we are now seeking a replacement as quickly as possible. If you would like to volunteer for this role please let Rachael know so that we can arrange a smooth transfer of duties. Alternatively, if you would like to talk to Graham first, please contact him on 01297 561569

Key Duties include:

Maintaining the U3A membership database.

Dealing with enquiries and sending out membership forms, welcome letters etc.

Ordering annual printing of membership cards and their distribution

Collection of renewal fees, cash cheques or BACs and passing details to Treasurer

Quarterly advice to U3A of Third Age Matters recipients

Attendance at Friday meetings to answer queries, collect money and record attendance.

## **Risk assessments**

Following the Government's relaxation of the COVID regulations on July 19th the National u3a organisation has revised its requirements for restarting face to face meetings. The requirements can be found in section 4 of

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/covid-19-advice-on-u3a-activities/897-covid-19-advice-on-u3a-activities-in-england-u3a-kms-doc-074>

Essentially a system with two layers of protection is advocated for face to face events and meetings. The first layer is the personnel risk assessment to reduce the risk of the infection being taken into the group meetings and events. The second layer is a risk assessment to reduce the transmission of the virus during meetings and events.

The aim is for each group to reduce risks to a level that is acceptable to the group leader and members and ensures that all attendees are comfortable with their participation. In this way it is hoped that many groups will return to normal activities as the pandemic finally recedes.

Group leaders will be contacted by Mark Gillams the Groups' Coordinator to offer further information and advice.

If any member has any questions on the process they are welcome to contact Mark at [groups@lru3a.org](mailto:groups@lru3a.org)

### **Group Leaders**

**If you have not made contact with Mark Gillams our Groups Coordinator, please let him know what is happening in your group. As the restarting of the groups progress we need to keep our records up to date. Thank you. [groups@lru3a.org](mailto:groups@lru3a.org)**

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](mailto:webmaster@lru3a.org)

If you want a contribution about your group to go into this monthly newsletter please contact Mark Gillams our Groups' Coordinator [groups@lru3a.org](mailto:groups@lru3a.org)

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](mailto:groups@lru3a.org) to provide advice and address any questions you may have.

#### **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, meeting on the terrace upstairs depending on the weather. The next one is on **Thursday 28 October 2021**. Contact Rachael Pope [chair@lru3a.org](mailto:chair@lru3a.org) or 01297 445575, or Ann Fleet 0776168608.

#### **Breakfast**

We are hoping that the u3a Breakfast will restart in November. Details to follow.

#### **Trips**

Ann Fleet is going to arrange some trips for 2022 - 07761468608

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

Just to register interest in further information, with no commitment, get back to me at:

[jdbart45@gmail.com](mailto:jdbart45@gmail.com)

**Contacts:**

Membership: Graham Pitts - 01297 561569 [membership@lru3a.org](mailto:membership@lru3a.org)

Treasurer: Alex Ruck - [treasurer@lru3a.org](mailto:treasurer@lru3a.org)

Groups' Coordinator: Mark Gillams - [groups@lru3a.org](mailto:groups@lru3a.org)

Secretary: Yvonne Renouf – 01297 442847 - [secretary@lru3a.org](mailto:secretary@lru3a.org)

Speaker Finder: Andrew Lightfoot – [speaker-finder@lru3a.org](mailto:speaker-finder@lru3a.org)

Webmaster: John Marriage - [webmaster@lru3a.org](mailto:webmaster@lru3a.org)

Printed newsletter: John Marriage - [webmaster@lru3a.org](mailto:webmaster@lru3a.org)

Trips: Ann Fleet - 07761468608

Vice-Chair: Mary Bohane - 01297 444566 [vice-chair@lru3a.org](mailto:vice-chair@lru3a.org)

Monthly newsletter: Rachael Pope - 01297 445575 [chair@lru3a.org](mailto:chair@lru3a.org)

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**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>