

AGM 2020 CHAIR'S REPORT

Hello everyone, thank you for trying to support our fourth AGM which had to be adjourned due to COVID19 restrictions. You are now receiving everything electronically which will culminate in a ZOOM meeting to enable us to conclude the AGM and move forward.

I will now remind you of our existing committee –

Chair – Jean St Clair; Vice Chair – vacant; Business Secretary – Judy Marles; Treasurer – Andy Christie; Membership Secretary – Christine Frederick; Social Secretary – Ian Gravenell; Publicity – Keith Hilton; Groups Coordinator – Janice Clarke; Speaker Secretary – Miranda Nash; General Committee members - Ros Hunt; Allan Groombridge; Lynne Dunham.

THANKS

I must give thanks to Keith who has now retired from the committee, for all his hard work over the last four and a half years as our Publicity Officer. He has gone over and above this role by also producing our newsletter, which has been the envy of other U3As. He has also been sending a report about our speaker to the Press. Thank you, Keith.

Thanks, must also go to Grania for continuing to supply and run our refreshments at the monthly meetings. I will also need to convey our thanks to Budgens who have continued to offer us a discount on our tea, coffee, biscuits etc.

I must also thank Keith, Robbie, Ian and Becky for giving us back our coffee morning complete with freshly baked scones, cakes and brewed coffee, after we out-grew the Jubilee Centre. Keith and Robbie have since stood down, so it is now run by Ian and Becky. With Ali helping with the baking and is held at the Roman Catholic Church. Miranda also deserves thanks for continuing to bring books and jigsaws to our coffee morning. Robbie and Becky have also continued to bake us cakes at special monthly meetings.

Last, but not least thanks to Kevin for helping run our raffle.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership has continued to grow over the past year and now stands at 355 with 68 new members during the past year.

My thanks to all those who have renewed their membership during this lockdown, especially those who have used Standing Order or BACS, this helps us. But we have had many members asking how much membership is and how to pay, which surprises me as we are constantly putting this information out in our newsletters, emails and it is also on our web site.

INTEREST GROUPS

Once again, we have gained some new interest groups over the past year including Style, Canasta, Classical Music, golf, snooker, Needles & Pins, Supper Club, Knitting & Crochet. I would like to thank all our convenors for their continued support. We always learn from each other, so no one is expected to teach a group unless they wish to pass on their knowledge to others. Also, hopefully some of you have made new friends and gained new skills along the way.

EVENTS

Firstly, Ros and Ian have worked extremely hard to organise a programme of trips. My thanks to you both.

