



BENFLEET BULLETIN



Issue 28: September 2020

Website: [U3Asites.org.uk/benfleet](https://u3asites.org.uk/benfleet)

FROM THE CHAIR: Hello Everyone

I can't believe another month has gone by and here I am writing to you all again.

Things are slowly beginning to improve and I am delighted to be able to say we now have some firm guidance from the Third Age Trust National U3A as to how groups can gradually restart.

I know one or two groups have restarted already meeting in gardens, walks, etc. The relevant information has been passed to the Group Contacts who will be in touch shortly no doubt.

Sadly we cannot yet meet inside and certainly not 100+ so our monthly meetings will have to wait a while. Meanwhile please keep positive and stay in touch with each other.

Marion (Chair)



CURRENT STATUS AND NEWS UPDATES

Member Meetings: The 29 September 2020 meeting is **CANCELLED**. Later meetings will be reviewed as Government advice changes.

Outing Bookings: Unfortunately, both the ABBA, 1 October, and Hever Castle, 14 December, events have had to be **CANCELLED** as the venues and transport cannot make them Covid-19 safe.

Jill Parr is processing full refunds of the deposits made but please be patient as there are a high number of refunds to pay.

Restarting Specialist Group Meetings:

The National U3A guidance, introduced by Marion above, covers all situations including activities that we don't have and is hence much wider than needed specifically for our Benfleet U3A.

We have therefore prepared a shorter and simpler guidance, extracting all of the relevant information that directly affects our groups.

This Benfleet U3A guidance has been passed to Group Contacts for deciding if each group can practically start even if initially in a restricted manner.

It is also available to all members along with the full National U3A guidance on our website at <https://u3asites.org.uk/benfleet/home> > **Group** tab



Keep alert for fraud – telephone, internet, post and cold callers.

Details of recent scams are on our website. Direct access to:

Common Scams at <https://u3asites.org.uk/benfleet/page/104875>

Further advice received from Essex Police regarding scams for Financial Support for Covid-19, NHS Track and Trace, fake face masks ads and many more. It's sad that we need to even be highlighting more of these every month.

As always don't respond to unexpected calls and emails, do not click on internet links from unknown sources and even be wary of emails that appear to come from a known source.

Always contact organisations using telephone numbers, internet and email addresses that you know are correct e.g. on your credit/bank card or statements.

DON'T LET THE FRAUDSTERS WIN



Short on Reading Material?

Jan Lane has a good number of magazines - RHS/gardening, National Trust, and SAGA, which she would like to pass on to any interested member instead of just putting them in the recycling bin.

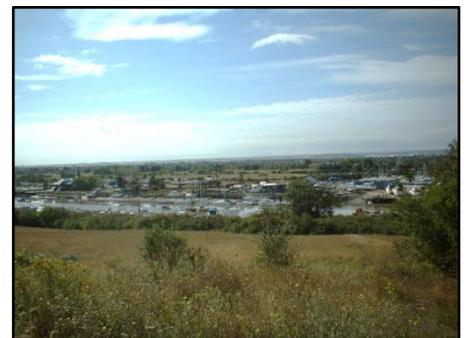
Jan is happy to deliver if in the Benfleet area.

If interested please contact:

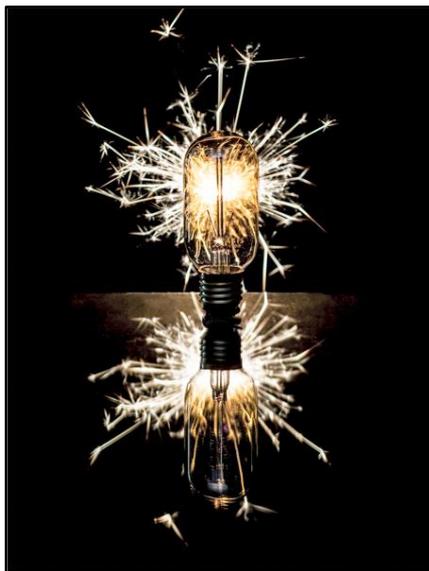
Jan Lane via our website at: [Jan Lane](#)

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?

A few of the superb member photos you will find on our website. Try it! Go to: Home page <https://u3asites.org.uk/benfleet> > QUICK LINKS > select activity/topic



And there's more....



THOUGHTS OF THE DAY

I applied for a job at Citroen. - I had to send 2 CV's.

I think my calendar is trying to kill me.

Obviously my days are numbered.

My bank manager come around the counter and started pushing me, when questioned he said he was just checking my balance

I'm friends with only 25 letters of the alphabet.

- I don't know Y.

My wife told me that,
"Sex is better on holiday"
Not the best postcard I've ever received!



A friend has invested his life savings in an onion factory. - It will only end in tears

I don't always see eye to eye with my optician.

No special training required for a refuse collector. - They pick it up as they go along.

Barbara bought a bracelet with pieces shaped and coloured like liquorice sweets. - It takes all-sorts.

A cartoonist has been found dead. - Details are sketchy.

The invisible man married the invisible woman. - Their children were nothing to look at.

A pair of jump leads walk into a bar.

- The barman tells them "I'll serve you but don't start anything".

Why were 2, 4, 6, beaten by 3, 5, 7? - The odds were against them.

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas. - But if the white runs out I'll drink red.

Gross ignorance is 144 times worse than ordinary ignorance.

When Insults had class!

A member of Parliament to Disraeli:

Member: "Sir, you will either die on the gallows, or of some unspeakable disease."

Disraeli: "That depends Sir upon whether I embrace your policies, or your mistress."

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire." – Winston Churchill

"I didn't attend the funeral, but sent a nice letter saying I approved of it" – Mark Twain

"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork." – Mae West