



With covid and flu still around, please do not attend any meeting if you have any symptoms. You may also wish to wear a mask.

Monday 16th January

Bernard Hope will be telling us about Eddie Chapman, North East Double Agent.

This is a long awaited talk due to happen before the covid lockdown

Doors open at **10.00** for a 10.30 start.

BEAMISH. REFUND

Refunds of either £20, or £8, as appropriate, will be made at the meeting on Monday for the outing to Beamish which was cancelled. Anyone unable to attend will be refunded at the meeting on 20th February.

Resignation

Pat Devenport has given notice to the committee that she will not stand for re-election as Chairman at the next AGM in May. This will give those who are considering the role to find out more and attend committee meetings as a guest. It should also be noted that some members of the committee are reaching the end of their 3 year terms. Now is the time to be thinking how you could help guide our u3a.

U3a Insurance - a question answered.

Are members insured if they hurt themselves moving tables and chairs at meetings?

The answer to whether this would be covered is- it depends on the circumstance - if the table was damaged and it somehow hurt the member then it would most likely be covered by insurance, but if the member hurt themselves then it might not be covered by u3a insurance. It depends on whether the insurers find the u3a (or another u3a member) liable which can only happen after they investigate.

An example where a member wouldn't be covered is if the member carried a table that was too heavy for them then they dropped it on themselves, they would be considered 'the author of their own misfortune'.

Members should assess their own abilities and the risk to themselves if they put the chairs and tables, and then act accordingly. If a member makes the choice to put the chairs and tables out, then they accept that the u3a might not be liable if they hurt themselves (e.g. they strain their back). Please take care.

How to spot a misleading voucher offer – article from Which?

During a time of financial strain, it's understandable that you might be drawn in by the promise of free vouchers – but remember the old adage that if it looks too good to be true, it probably is. If you see posts promising vouchers on Facebook or receive an unsolicited email, be suspicious. A quick online search of the company in question can set alarm bells ringing and give you an indication of whether the offer is actually genuine. If there's any element of doubt, steer clear. As a rule of thumb, it's best to only buy vouchers or enter competitions directly offered by the retailer itself. You should also be wary about how much of your personal information you're giving away by engaging with 'rewards' companies.

Which? have seen instances of social media users entering their personal details on dodgy websites, with their information then used to scam or spam them at a later date. Consider reading the website's privacy policy to understand how your data will be used and how long it will be kept for. You can flag suspicious Facebook posts using the 'report post' feature. Dodgy emails can be reported by forwarding the email to report@phishing.gov.uk and suspicious websites can be logged with the National Cyber Security Centre at www.ncsc.gov.uk.

News of Groups

The ethos of the u3a is to Learn, Live and Laugh, with members sharing their interests for the benefit of everyone.

Feel there is nothing for you currently in the u3a groups?

Then help to set up and run a new group based on your interests, with the full support of the committee. Contact Sue Soulsby at u3aboldon@gmail.com

Watch out for news of the Singing Group

If you want more information about any groups, please contact the group leader directly via the website by clicking the blue carrier pigeon.

If you feel you can help in any way, please email u3aboldon@gmail.com for more information or see the committee at a General meeting.

Remember you can always find the latest news on events and groups by visiting our web site u3asites.org.uk/boldon/home or by joining our Facebook group.