

u3a Epsom & Ewell

Learn, Laugh, Live

<https://u3asites.org.uk/epsom-ewell/home>

Email enquiries to: u3aepsom@gmail.com



Important Your u3a needs a **SECRETARY**

In the last month there were six emails from National Office. The Secretary role requires someone to forward these to the relevant committee members. The secretary also attends bi-monthly meetings with the team currently on zoom.

Hello Friends

Welcome to the third instalment. November went well, we had a new members' coffee morning and gained a couple of new members.

We also had a mid-month talk 'Laughter in the House'. By popular request part 2 will be in February. Booking on the website.

We also started our Retiring with Attitude course, that has proved to be an interesting experience with us discovering things about ourselves we didn't know.

November also saw the start of our first Pop-Up groups, Food and Mood.

Epsom & Ewell U3A
IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO MEMBERS

On Friday one of our members was the victim of a distraction robbery in the Sainsbury's Kiln Lane Car Park.

Please take extra care when shopping and using retail centre car parks.

As our member was loading her shopping into her car she was distracted by one man while another man stole her wallet from the front seat of her car.

Stay Safe

U3A
Learn, laugh, live
Registered charity no 802690

Website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/epsom-ewell/welcome>

Important **Announcement** **Membership**

The usual fee of £15 per person will become due on 1st April 2021 and will be valid for 12 months.

Any new members joining now will pay a reduced fee of £10 per person

Epsom & Ewell Town Twinning and the u3a

I thought we'd look this month at the beginnings of the u3a movement. The u3a originally started in France in 1973 and arrived in the UK in 1981.

Some of our u3a members are involved in the local Twinning Association that links Epsom & Ewell with Chantilly in France. They have shared the following report with us.

Twinning in Epsom & Ewell has now been established for 25 years, and we are keen to involve people of all ages in our activities and to help develop new ventures in the future. We already have links with some u3a's French groups, but we are not limited to those who speak French, and right now there is a variety of interest groups and individuals in Chantilly just waiting to link with groups over here. Current requests for links range from sporting activities: yoga, table tennis, golf, plus more energetic sports; to allotments and gardening; cultural exchanges and correspondence. There is also the opportunity for visits for all age groups. There are many other activities in Chantilly and we can match your group with one of those.

Our 25th Twinning Anniversary celebrations have been put on hold but, when we are able both towns will mark the anniversary with events here and in Chantilly. If anyone would like to join in our festivities, we warmly welcome you to join Epsom and Ewell's Twinning Association. In more normal times we have a range of activities throughout the year and we fully intend to resume them when it is safe to do so. There is also plenty of scope within Twinning for active members either to help organize our variety of local activities, visits and events, in the future, or be a part of our friendly committee.

To find out more, please contact us without commitment at contact@epsomtwinning.com or see our website at www.epsomtwinning.com



Chairman
Tony Skelton

Treasurer
David Leggett

Membership Secretary
Peta Hargreaves

Group Coordinators
Jenny Powell and
Brenda Griffiths

Travel Team
Irene Moore and team

Hall/Speaker Liaison
Clive Hargreaves

Website/Publicity
Sue Skelton

Volunteer Liaison
Annie Ralph and
Lynda Jennings

Minutes
Lynne Mason

Almoner
Veronica Wheeler

Secretary
YOUR u3a NEEDS YOU

Groups newsletter
Vicky Mason

Travel Team Update

The travel team have been busy listing all the names of members who have expressed an interest in the events for 2021, and Hannah has been busy emailing out to all members to let them know that their name has been added to the list.

Currently they are not requesting any deposits for the day trips as the situation is still very fluid and nobody knows quite where we will be by the time the trips are due to take place.

Irene has been in touch with our tour operator for the Llandudno trip and they have agreed to defer payment of the deposit until January. The deposit of £50 per person now needs to be sent to Irene with the balance due 8 weeks before the event. The company is fully bonded so members' money is secure.

We currently have space to register for a few trips.

Some only have limited spaces left so register an interest on the website.

Monthly Speaker Update

This month's special guest speaker was Bertie Pearce with his talk entitled 'A Dickens of a Christmas'.

Over 90 members registered for a place at the event which was brilliant, feedback is already coming in to say how enjoyable it was.

Don't forget to register for next month's talks, booking form as usual on the Events page of the website.



January 11th 2021

Concorde: The World's only supersonic passenger aircraft

Tim Young

Chairman of Newmarket u3a will present his talk about Concorde.

Mid-Month Special

Thursday 21st January 2021

The Normans

a pre-recorded presentation.

PATHFINDER

This month I have had a series of meetings with some of our group leaders to discuss what our groups are doing and where we go from here. I am grateful to the leaders that attended for their input and ideas. I will admit to being disappointed that more did not take part as it would be good to talk even if their groups are not meeting due to the restrictions currently put upon us. If any group leaders that did not manage to attend a meeting would like to discuss the status of their group and if there is anything that the committee can do to help please contact me and I can set up the relevant meetings.

There are numerous ways that we can engage with members and help groups to stay in contact. I explained to group leaders at the meetings that our zoom pro package has the facility for us to set meetings up for groups with a host key so that they are not restricted to a 40-minute meeting.

Going forward I'd like to invite any members that have ideas that we can use to please contact me.

We need to make sure that our members are able to meet and contribute if they wish to in these very strange times.

STAY SAFE AND WELL AND WATCH THIS SPACE.

BEST WISHES, TONY

Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.

Joshua J. Marine

HOST KEY

Our u3a has a zoom pro license and this gives us the flexibility to schedule meetings for groups with unlimited time, rather than the 40-minute limit of the basic free package.

So far 7 group leaders have signed up to take advantage of this facility.