



Exmouth & District U3A

NEWS BULLETIN NO 1: 27th March

Welcome to our first bulletin which we hope you will find informative and helpful for keeping in touch with our U3A. Our aim is send this out weekly containing information, advice and suggestions during this difficult period when our normal activities are suspended.

We will be continuing with the monthly newsletter and the April edition will be issued next week.

Monthly meetings at the Pavilion.

The Pavilion is closed for the time being and therefore we intend to rebook our speakers for a later meeting.

AGM.

This was due to take place in May but this will now be rescheduled for later in the summer or even the autumn. Further information will be in the newsletter. The existing committee will of course continue until the AGM finally takes place. We are pleased that John Hunt has been co-opted to the committee and his IT knowledge will be invaluable.

Group meetings.

Clearly group meetings cannot take place face-to-face until restrictions are lifted. However, many groups could find innovative ways to maintain their interests and keep members involved. Our new Tech group can hopefully help organisers with this, using modern video conferencing and social media such as Skype, Zoom, Facebook, WhatsApp or others. Further information on these is set out below and will be included in future bulletins.

Groups News and vacancy list

For the moment we will delay sending out the monthly edition of the groups news and the vacancy list. Further information will be provided in a future bulletin.

Technical Advice Team.

A new U3A Tech Team has been set up to provide technical advice and support initially to group organisers. More volunteers are required to join the team so if you

have experience in this area please put yourself forward. Further information is contained in the newsletter and enquiries should be sent to the co-ordinator, John Hunt.

Guides to video-calling

The U3A Tech team is currently testing out the most popular video-calling apps and software, as video calling is a very effective way of communicating with each other both individually and also in group calls – and its free! The team are drawing up some basic guides on how to use these, and we will aim to have these ready for members as soon as possible.

Connect and Learn Group.

This was set up a year ago for online learning and information. The group and its website will now be made available for all of our members without the need to register to become a member of the group. Through this there are opportunities to undertake a wide range of online learning and other activities. John Hunt has provided more information in the newsletter.

Facebook.

The facebook group has been expedited and is now available for all members. We are very grateful to Ian McLauchlin for setting this up and Ian will be the manager. Details on how to join are contained in the newsletter.

Third Age Trust.

We are affiliated to the Trust and in addition to the magazine, they sent out monthly emails and have a very good website containing advice and information. Any member can register on the website to receive the monthly emails and access the advice. Contact: www.u3a.org.uk

Membership Renewals.

For those who do not pay by standing order, these have been disrupted by the restrictions. Our membership secretary, Maurice Chittock, has drawn up a procedure note which is published in full in the newsletter. Please read this and do NOT send the renewal forms, cheques or cash to Maurice. Any queries: membership@exmouthu3a.org.uk

Comments : if you have any suggestions, ideas, comments etc please email Sandy on chair@exmouthu3a.org.uk or Keith on secretary@exmouthu3a.org.uk