

NEWS BULLETIN NO 22

Forthcoming Connect on Thursday meetings:

- **'Connect on Thursday' meeting – 27th August**
10.15 for the start at 10.30. 'The Arts in Exmouth and Beyond' - a presentation by John Hunt. If you are interested in art, music, theatre and comedy, literature, film and dance, this informal interactive presentation could appeal to you. We will explore what's been happening in all these areas of the arts locally (and further afield if there is time), and consider how things could develop in the arts world at these times of uncertainty. Followed by news and information.
- **Connect on Thursday sessions from September** - You may remember that in our August newsletter we said that we would be having informal open sessions on the first and third, and where appropriate the fifth Thursday of the month. This means that in summary the programme for September is:
 - 3 September: Informal open session
 - 10 September: Monthly meeting: 'Incredible India' by Chris Upton ARPS. A welcome return by Chris from Nottinghamshire - <https://www.chrisuptonphotography.com/>
 - 17 September: Informal open session
 - 24 September: Presentation 'Photo Books' by Bryan Webb MA, one of our own members
- **'Connect on Thursday' meeting – 3rd September**
10.15 for the start at 10.30. This will be our first Informal open session. It may be that one of our Groups may like to take the initiative in leading a session. Or members may be willing to give an informal short presentation. Perhaps members will just like to share a photo and talk about it, or share other resources (show and tell). Or it may be that members are just happy to chat with each other.

Please note that there is now a new Zoom link and log-in for Connect on Thursday meetings (and so please don't use the log-in details from Connect on Thursday events before the end of July). This new link is:

< Information removed for the website >

These sign-in details are to be used only by Exmouth & District U3A members and should not be shared with anyone else. If you have any problems, then email johnh@exmouthu3a.org.uk. In the very unlikely event that we having problems with this link, please keep an eye on your email inbox at the time for further information.

Reminder:

Covid-19 advice from the Third Age Trust (TAT) for restarting interest groups

After the recent report, detailed advice has now been received which is aimed at assisting interest groups to restart. This advice, dated the 7th August, was sent out last week. It has also been posted on our website on the hot news page alongside previous advice from TAT.

The key points include the following:

- Group organisers must notify the committee before restarting an interest group.
- Organisers must undertake a written assessment of the location which must be Covid-secure, the activity and how members will participate before commencement. This includes sports facilities and community halls.
- Where larger groups come together for organised activities or risk assessed activities in Covid-19 Safe premise, not more than 30 can attend.
- Members are advised NOT to share cars.
- Members must undertake their own personal assessment before deciding whether to participate in any activity.
- No interest groups can meet inside a private house.

There is further guidance relating to sports, walking, external non sporting activity, sedentary interest groups, and arts/crafts/model making and creative groups. Specifically board games, cards etc are still not possible.

If you have any queries or require assistance with risk assessments etc, please contact Lyn on publicity@exmouthu3a.org.uk.

Membership

Please note that following the AGM election to the committee, the role of Membership Secretary has been taken by Olwen Smith. Please do not send further letters to Maurice Chittock, although the email address membership@exmouthu3a.org.uk can still be used as it has now been taken over by Olwen. More on this in the next Newsletter.

'Together on Tuesday' on Facebook

Please join us just before 10.30 am next Tuesday in our virtual café on our U3A Facebook Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/exmouthU3A>) for an hour of chat and the chance to share things - perhaps a short video, some photos or something else of interest? This uses text chat, so you can either type in or dictate your views, comments, ideas, questions and whatever else you would like to share. This will no longer be actively facilitated and instead we are being very democratic and inviting you, the members, to participate in any way that you wish. This is a golden opportunity for more members to seize this initiative and shape the conversation. And if anyone else wishes to help facilitate this, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Facebook Group

Membership is still slowly rising and we now have 155. Favourites this last week have been crocosmia, humorous signs, scabious, two cellos, botany and natural history group's visit to The Maer and flowers planted around a cottage. If you can't find something that interests you among all of those, then I'd be surprised!

September Newsletter

If you have any articles or photos which you would like to include in the next newsletter published at the beginning of September, please send them to John Hunt before the deadline date of next **Monday, 24 August**.

Contact details

NB these will be updated as necessary.

- Chair: Christine Chittock: chair@exmouthu3a.org.uk
- Secretary & Facebook: Ian McLauchlin: secretary@exmouthu3a.org.uk
- Treasurer: Richard Morgan: treasurer@exmouthu3a.org.uk
- Tech Team & Connect on Thursday: John Hunt: johnh@exmouthu3a.org.uk Tel: 27913
- Newsletter: John Hunt: newsletter@exmouthu3a.org.uk
- Connect on Thursday speakers etc.: Christine Chittock: speakers@exmouthu3a.org.uk
- Membership: Olwen Smith: membership@exmouthu3a.org.uk
- Beacon database: Maurice Chittock: database@exmouthu3a.org.uk
- Groups: Lyn Holmes: publicity@exmouthu3a.org.uk
- Publicity: Camilla Benyon: camilla@exmouthu3a.org.uk

Please take care, stay safe, be alert and continue to join us on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Ian McLauchlin, Secretary.

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