



Exmouth & District U3A

NEWS BULLETIN NO 2: 3rd April 2020

U3A Tech Team

We previously mentioned that we had set up a U3A technical advisory team to help members during these challenging times when online communication has now become even more important. Our core Tech Team is currently Christine Chittock, Maurice Chittock, Ian McLauchlin and John Hunt. As mentioned in this month's Newsletter we are seeking more volunteers to join us. Please email John Hunt if you can help - johnh@exmouthu3a.org.uk.

If you have any technical problems or queries please first check the information and advice given on our Connect and Learn website. Our guide to using computers, laptops, tablets and smartphones is at <https://sites.google.com/view/connectandlearn/computers> and our guides to using videoconferencing and teleconferencing are at <https://sites.google.com/view/connectandlearn/videocalls>.

If you still require further help and need to contact the team, please email John on johnh@exmouthu3a.org.uk with your query, and he or another member of the team will get back to you. If it is urgent or you cannot get online you can telephone him and leave a message on 01395 279132. Until we have expanded the team, priority will be given to requests from group organisers.

Exmouth & District U3A Facebook Group

We are very pleased that so many of you have requested to join the U3A Facebook Group that Ian McLauchlin has set up, following the announcement in this month's Newsletter. If you have not already joined you can ask to join via <https://www.facebook.com/groups/exmouthU3A/>, and then click or tap on the 'Join Group' button. It would be good to see as many members as possible getting involved with this group as it's a great way to keep in touch and share information.

Exmouth & District U3A Connect & Learn website

As we said in this month's Newsletter, our Connect & Learn website is now open to all U3A members to use whenever they wish, and we hope that this will be helpful, especially now that we have to spend so much time at home. As well as the new sections on computers and videocalls mentioned above, we have a new section for your ideas and suggestions to help get us through these difficult times, and it's another opportunity to share ideas and activities (for example how to see National Theatre plays free!). The links to this and to the whole range of interesting topics are via the home page of the website – which is <https://sites.google.com/view/connectandlearn>.

National U3A Newsletter

In addition to what we are doing locally, the national U3A office publishes some really useful information and advice on its website at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/>. They also publish national newsletters which you can read on their website. Better still, we urge you to subscribe to its newsletter (it's free), and it will be sent direct to your email inbox. To do this, go to <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter>.

East Devon District Council Coronavirus Community Support Hub

This new hotline is now open Monday to Friday for individuals who need support or if you are calling on behalf of someone you care for, family member, friend or neighbour.

Details are contained on the attached EDDC update.

There is also information for anyone wanting to volunteer.

Cyber crime and coronavirus

Laura Cowie, our speaker from Devon and Cornwall Police at our recent meeting, has sent a warning about fraud linked to the coronavirus. Please note the attached information sheet from Laura. The April newsletter contained further useful websites.

Please remain vigilant and cautious at all times.

Shared Reading Group

One of our members is setting up this new group on Zoom. There are no costs and anyone interested will need to sign up to Zoom and agree to share email addresses. Please contact the secretary who will pass on your enquiry –secretary@exmouthu3a.org.uk.

Feedback

We welcome any comments, suggestions and ideas which will assist our members to keep in touch and perhaps to develop new interests or experiences during this rather surreal time.