

# FILEY & DISTRICT U3A

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

## A BIG THANK YOU

to all those of you who took part in the AGM process, which was completed with the other AGM formalities, on 10<sup>th</sup> September. **135** members responded. (105 by email, 14 by post, 12 by telephone and 4 in person). This represents **44%** of our current membership, so we exceeded our Quorum of 20%. **128** members were in favour of the proposed Motion (4 were against and 3 abstained). So the Motion was carried by the necessary 2/3 majority of those voting.

### COMMENTS RAISED BY MEMBERS

#### 1. **Members able to stay on the Committee for up to 12 years is too long.**

This was the main reason for voting against the Motion.

**Committee Response** - For many years we have had difficulties attracting members to join the Committee and for getting existing Committee members to take on one of the key roles. Until this proposed update to our Constitution, no individual could take on a particular role for more than 3 years (except the Treasurer for 6 years). Now, someone can stay in position for an extra period of time until a new person can be found and trained to fulfil the role.

We don't envisage anyone staying in a particular post for up to the maximum of 6 years (except possibly the Treasurer) and it is very unlikely anyone would want to stay on the Committee for up to 12 years!

Each year, as per our Constitution, all Committee Members have to resign at the AGM. At the first Committee Meeting after the AGM "the Officers shall be appointed, annually, from amongst the Committee Members, by decision of the (Newly Elected) Committee".

#### 2. **Annual Accounts** - How big a balance/reserve should we have?

**Committee Response** - The "healthy" balance we had at 31 March 2020 is one of the reasons we decided not to charge a Membership fee for our existing members for 2020/21. Our reduced Balance, lack of Income in 2020/21 and a proposed increase in the Capitation Charge made by the Third Age Trust (TAT), will be taken into account later in the year when we decide on Membership Fees for 2021/22. Also, TAT and the Charity Commission advise us that we have to keep enough in our funds to cover at least 6 months "working capital".

#### 3. **Vote of Thanks** - Thank you very much for the many votes of thanks we received for the Committee's efforts to keep the U3A going and for keeping them informed.



## **Yes – the Digital Photography group calendar is back!**

We all missed our quality calendar last year, so the Digital Photography group have been busy collecting photos of the district to bring you another lovely calendar for 2021. With Christmas creeping up on us these calendars make a very useful stocking filler or a nice ‘thank you’ to people who have rendered us services during these past difficult months.

### **Don't miss out!**

You can order as many copies as you like and delivery is free within the Filey area. They are priced at £5 each.

To place your order and arrange delivery, please contact Peter Greaves by phone or text on 07930162250 or email [petergreaves1947@gmail.com](mailto:petergreaves1947@gmail.com) .

## News from the groups



First of all, I owe an apology to the **ART** groups for not including them in the last newsletter. Margaret, the group leader, informed me that they have been keeping in contact and have continued to work since the beginning of the lockdown in March. You can see some beautiful examples here of the high standard of work we have come to expect from our U3A members.



The **BRIDGE** group continue to play together twice a week online and the **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY** group meet online once a month.

The **DISCUSSION** group are planning to start meeting again in October at Hunmanby Community Centre. (It is worth noting that the Centre has been offering reduced room fees with Covid secure facilities, if anyone is looking for a safe venue.)

One of the **PLAY READING** groups are planning on starting up again sometime in the next couple of weeks. The **POETRY** group has met up for the first time this month and are hoping this can continue. The **RUMMICUB** group have started playing again and **SPANISH CONVERSATION** continue to meet fortnightly on Zoom.

The **9 HOLE GOLF** group have been playing in small groups on a weekly basis, so have been able to take advantage of some of the lovely weather we have had over the summer. There are only a few more opportunities to get out and play as golf courses tend to close down in the winter months.

The **UKELELE** group have been experimenting with venues and online meetings and hope to get a regular slot soon to meet face to face.

Members of the **TABLE TENNIS** group have been meeting on a casual basis using the outdoor table tennis table at Hunmanby Community centre. It has proved very interesting playing with occasional wind gusts, but generally the weather has been kind and games have been vigorous and entertaining.

Our two established **WALKING GROUPS** have been going out regularly since the beginning of September. The attendees split into groups of 6 or less and walk the same route but leave a few minutes apart to maintain social

distancing. This seems to be working well at the moment. Walks have been restricted to loops starting and ending at Filey Bus Station, but there are hopes in the future to be able to use public transport to a venue and then walk back into Filey, so that routes can be varied a little. However, just getting out into the countryside and along the coast has been a welcome event in these restricted times. We are all hoping that the weather will smile on us over the next few months and Boris will not have to clamp down with any further restrictions.



The **NATURAL HISTORY** group is to lose its leaders! Sadly for us, Janet and David Pickersgill are planning to move out of



Filey and relocate nearer their family, thus leaving the Natural History group in need of someone to take over. They have been taking small groups out frequently over the summer enabling the



members to enjoy the good weather and the abundant wildlife. We do wish them well in their new home and send them our heartfelt thanks for all their work for Filey and District U3A over the years. Feast your eyes on the last of Janet's nature photos here. David and Janet - you will be sorely missed!

### **GROUP LEADERS WANTED!**

Keeping motivated during these difficult times has been a problem for many of our members, so our U3A is an important means to keep each other supported and mentally healthy. We are always looking for new ideas for groups and people to lead them. Mostly, we just need someone to organise a meet up. This is best done with a buddy who can help with the organisation and deputise during holidays or times away from Filey. We now have a Handicrafts group and Natural History group which need leaders to keep them going. Any help you need in setting up a group or finding a venue, just contact Tony Dawson (01723 563173) or one of the committee. We are here to help!