



# newsletter express

News from U3A Guernsey

Issue No: 29

16th June 2020

Dear Member

First, the good news: with Phase 5 of our Exit from Lockdown about to happen, **we will be restarting most of our U3A activities from next week.** Jane Pearson, our Interest Groups' Co-ordinator, will be writing to you later this week with all of the exciting details as we become the **FIRST U3A in the British Isles** to restart normal activities.

But, now for less good news: this will be **my last U3A Guernsey newsletter.** When I took over as Chairman of U3A Guernsey from Sue Knowles in May last year, it was my firm belief then that it was **not good corporate governance to have the Chairman who was also the Newsletter Editor.** My views have not changed. Despite approaching more than a dozen members and repeated adverts in the newsletter for a new editor, no one has yet come forward to replace me.

I have been your newsletter editor for almost four years and I have produced 23 editions for you. And I have decided that it is now finally time that I stood down as editor. There will not be any more newsletters until a new editor is appointed. **Could the new editor be you?** Interested to know more? Please email me at [u3aguernsey.news@gmail.com](mailto:u3aguernsey.news@gmail.com) and I will happily answer your questions. I started knowing nothing about writing and editing newsletters. But, I learnt on the job; so, could you, too (with my help if needed).

Over the past 12 weeks all of the **Executive Committee** members have had to work a lot harder than normal in order to keep the membership advised/informed wherever and whenever possible of the many developments during this pandemic. It has been hectic on many fronts. Whilst we used to hold meetings once a month, we have been having to hold meetings every week (on Zoom) to keep up-to-date with developments. But, happily, we shall soon resume our normal monthly meetings again (after each Coffee Morning).

**We believe change and new ideas are vital to the life blood of U3A** and several committee members now feel it is the right time to step aside and allow new members to take their place. We should have an Executive Committee of twelve; we will shortly be down to only six committee members i.e. **we will have six vacancies which we need to fill at the AGM** to reach our full complement of 12 committee members.

**So, another question for you - how about volunteering and becoming a committee member?**

Maybe you have some ideas to improve our present arrangements? Now is the time to step forward!

With a membership of over 800 members to look after, we need to fill these Committee vacancies, soon. **It is not unheard of for U3As to collapse** because not enough members were prepared to step forward to help with all of the organising that is required.

**Your U3A needs supporting, just as we have supported you** through these months of turmoil in all of our lives. It is essential that we spread the organisational load and to keep it fun for all of us!! Please, please would you consider standing for the Committee? Feel free to email me at [u3aguernsey.news@gmail.com](mailto:u3aguernsey.news@gmail.com) or phone me on 720394 to find out more.

Our delayed **AGM will now be held in St. Sampson's High school on** (still subject to confirmation) **Wednesday 22nd July** and I am delighted to say our speaker will be the **Seigneur of Sark, Christopher Beaumont.** We very much look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Nomination forms for new Executive Committee members will be sent out to you shortly, with all of the other formal details that are needed for an AGM. These will also be available at our first, post-pandemic Coffee Morning on Tuesday 7th July at 10-11.30am at Rovers FC.

**Remember, it is all about Learn, Laugh, Live!**

À la perchoine,

Ian Daish, Chairman & (retiring) Newsletter Editor, U3A Guernsey

Our Phone Line: **07781 193333**  
Please leave a message

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