

Halesworth and District U3A Press release 12th July 2020

Halesworth and District U3A.

Socially distanced but still very much still here

First a big hello again to all those U3A members who do not use email and so have not been receiving our recent 'e newsletters'. Copies of these are also to be found on our website (search Halesworth U3A) and so can be viewed by members and all others alike. It is no surprise that with social contact severely restricted especially indoors and with some members continuing to shield at home that business of late has been far from 'as usual'.

Our groups and monthly talks at The Cut remain for now suspended in face to face form and our AGM due in September has now been postponed to December.

However all is not gloom and doom with many groups finding ways to remain in contact. Several groups have transferred to weekly or monthly group online video sessions often on Zoom using a mix of PCs, laptops tablets and smartphones. The committee continues to keep the formal side of things on track again using Zoom, phone and email to ensure that we are ready to start to meet again in person as soon as the national U3A Trust advises it is safe enough to do so and in what form.

For those now retired or looking towards this perhaps the possibility of joining U3A has not been to the fore of your thoughts. However just a reminder should you wish to consider joining us application forms along with contact details for many of the groups remains available through the Halesworth U3A website.

--- And finally it's good to see the local Community News is back with us in print once again.

Martin Stevens for Halesworth U3A



It will be of no surprise to all our members and supporters that **all face to face U3A activities both indoors and outside have been suspended until further notice.**

This includes talks by speakers booked at The Cut and the planned coach outing to Bury St Edmunds in July.

However, a number of our interest groups are exploring ways of members keeping in touch with each other, either online or by phone. U3A can then quickly get back to business as usual again 'face to face' when we are advised it is safe to do so.

At the time of writing a number of online ways of continuing contact are being explored and, in some cases, starting to happen using the Zoom video conferencing app. The Ukulele group, incidentally now renamed the 'Halesworth Strummers' have already met online, managing to play together with fun and enthusiasm from home using smartphones, laptops and tablets. Among other groups actively exploring meeting live online are the Science group, the Wine group and The Technology group.

The U3A members April newsletter has now been sent to all members who are on email, and we ask those members aware of members not on email to offer to print and post them a copy.

Our website will continue to be updated as and when new information is available. Potential members can still print down application forms should they wish to join and make contact with any of the group leaders. As always just search Halesworth U3A

It is a fast changing and more serious world at the moment. However we are confident that Halesworth U3A will quickly get back up to full speed and in person once it is safe to do so.

Martin Stevens for Halesworth and District U3A



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