



Learn, laugh, live

Newsletter, September 2022

Dear Member

I would like to welcome all our new members (we now have 243 members– the most that I can recall). It is good to hear that so many have joined us on personal recommendations.

I enjoyed meeting both old and new members at the AGM in July, though many of our stalwart members were unable to attend. The six existing members of the committee were re-elected and have retained their current roles – that is: I remain Chairman, Juliette White is Treasurer and webmaster, Steve Read is Secretary, and he and I share the role of Membership Secretary. Tom Bunting compiles the diary for us. We do have a vacancy on our committee and I would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join us – it is not onerous, involving a brief meeting over tea and biscuits every two months, and it will give you the chance to find out what is going on and contribute new ideas. The minutes of the AGM can be found on our website.

Group News

I am delighted that another new member, Suzie Webb, has offered to convene two new groups. **Chess** will take place on 2nd and 4th Friday mornings of the month, starting on 9th September if enough people are available then, and **Wellness/Health Talks** will be held on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 2-4pm. Please let Suzie know as soon as possible if you are interested in either of these groups (copying me in if possible) so she can book the venue – Maison Belleville in St Saviour's Road. Her email address is suziewebb53@gmail.com.

The other new group is **Beginners' Spanish** offered by Karen Le Brun, an experienced tutor, who wishes to share her love of all things Spanish with us. I am hoping to join and host this group, but as I will be unavailable till the middle of October the group will initially be held at Santander at Charing Cross, on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, initially for an hour starting at 10am or 11am from 19th September. If you would like to join, please let her know at fastcarfan@hotmail.com as soon as possible, again copying me in, so she can book an appropriately sized room.

Most groups that have been having a Summer break will be re-starting this month, apart from **Jazz Appreciation**, which will re-start on Wednesday 12th October, when hopefully Geoffrey will be back to full health and strength.

Social History will be starting again this Friday, 9th September for a talk by Montford Tadier on the Corn Riots – a significant event in our Island's history which many people know little about. At these meetings we encourage members to stay for a chat, and possibly to ask

further questions of the speaker. Please do stay if you can, to make this more of a social gathering.

Most groups would like to welcome new members, including **Beginners' French**, and **Creative Writing**, which previously have been full.

After some hiccups, the **Knit and Natter** group is re-starting on Thursday 15th September, and Pat would welcome new members.

Coffee mornings at the Radisson Hotel – in town, but with parking, are still being held on the second Wednesday of the month at 10.30am. I attend when I can, along with other members of the committee, and find it a good way of meeting new members. I am pleased that recently they have been better attended. Though members are free to just turn up, if you know you are coming it would be helpful if you could let me know as I will be able to reserve a table, and may be able to get a deal on refreshments. The next one will be on 14th September.

The next **lunch** is due to be held on Friday 30th September. Eric is working hard to find a suitable venue, and will send you more details as soon as possible. If you don't receive emails, and would like to go, please ring him on 780269.

I am pleased to say that though our expenses have increased, as most groups are meeting in person and we have to bear the cost of many venues, the subscription will remain the same for the next year. The magazine is a useful way of keeping in touch with the national organisation, but if you do not wish to receive it, please let me know, as there is a cost to us.

If you would like to attend any group, please contact the convenor using the details on the attached groups list. The success of our organisation is entirely due to the efforts of convenors old and new, without whom we would have nothing to offer. If you have an enthusiasm to share – you don't need to be an expert- please consider starting a new group. We have a shortage of creative activities and maths or science based groups, so just contact me or another committee member if you would be prepared to offer anything. I would like to thank all convenors and committee members for their continued enthusiasm and support.

I look forward to meeting you, whether at a coffee morning, the lunch or any of the groups that I attend.

Best wishes

Anne