

LEICESTER



NEWS SHEET

Friday 30th April 2021 Edition Number 52

Hi everybody,

Welcome to the 52nd Edition of the Leicester u3a Newsheet, listing online activities and formal announcements, all with the appropriate links and contact details, to follow up interests, existing or new. A sincere thanks you for all your kind responses, and they are really much appreciated. Send your suggestions, to newsheet@leicesteru3a.org.uk Click on the links!

LEICESTER u3a ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY 11TH MAY 2021

TAKING PLACE ON ZOOM

"BREAKOUT ROOMS"

Our AGM will take place on Zoom, and Zoom Invites will be sent out to all members.

Henry Paulinski, our Committee member in charge of Zoom, has organised "Breakout Rooms", places where small groups can chat before and after the event. These are totally private, and Henry can enter just to say the main meeting will begin or end.

The Zoom Invites will include the option to join a Breakout Room. Do say on reply if you'd like to take part in one. Full instructions will be given.

Looking forward to seeing as many of you there as possible!

Leicester u3a Day Celebration As you will know from the Newsletter and from your Group Convenors we have been working very hard to put together Leicester u3a's contribution to the National u3a Day. Much postponed due to Coronavirus, it will take place on Wednesday 2nd June 2021. We will still not be able to easily do anything physically by then, but we still plan to publicise Leicester u3a, our interest groups and social activities, widely. From the last two weeks of May to u3a Day itself and beyond our website's Welcome pages will be transformed to include YouTube videos of examples and mentions of each of our 76 groups. You may have heard our recent interview on Radio Leicester, and further publicity will go out too. There is still a little time for contributions to be included and please send them to me at groups@leicesteru3a.org.uk. We will do any tidying needed!

Neighbourhood Watch Leicester Police and Leicestershire Police warn us about Pension Fraud, which often includes “free” pension reviews, “too good to be true investment opportunities, or offers to help release money from our pensions. So – Reject unexpected pension opportunities whether by email, text or phone; Research – use the Financial Conduct Authority’s register to check companies <https://www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart> or phone 0800 111 6768 don’t be Rushed – into making any decision; Remember – even genuine investment schemes can be high risk. Which www.try.which.co.uk has Scam Alert, regular email updates on frauds, including practical advice on the next steps to take if you are a victim of them. Report at report@phishing.gov.uk any suspicious texts to 7726. Report at Action Fraud www.actionfraud.police.uk 0300 123 2040. Report incidents online at <https://www.leics.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime> Fraudulent Covid 19 Tickets: these are letters demanding money in fines. Police Officers can only issue any fines in person, and not by post. Covid-19 Vaccine Fraud: the Government and the NHS remind us we should not pay anything for vaccination. The NHS will never ask for payment - vaccination is free. The Covid Fraud Hotline www.covidfraudhotline.org Neighbourhood Alert alert@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk <https://www.leics.police.uk>. The Citizen’s Advice Consumer Helpline: 0808 223 1133.

Wellbeing Independent Age provides regular support and phone calls to people who are lonely. Say the code word “u3a” when calling Freephone to 0800 319 67889 or www.advice@independentage.org

u3a Network Zoom Quiz To conclude the u3a Day, the Leicester and Rutland Network of u3as and Northamptonshire Network of u3as are running a Zoom Quiz open to all members. We’re requested to book early as places are limited, by sending an email to coordinator@landru3a.org.uk as soon as possible. We will receive an email confirming our place, with joining instructions sent out a few days before the Quiz

National u3a www.u3a.org.uk Radio Podcast, 7: the programme for April will remain on the website, with the new edition coming on 7th May. On the website go to Learning Pages for these and all programmes so far. Click on Online Events for The Role and History of the National Trust Wednesday 5th May 10.30am. Paul Boniface, 21 years working for the National Trust charts the history of the organisation from the end of the 19th Century, and explains how it has responded to the conservation challenges of the past 125 years.

Wildlife and Nature Send your Wildlife Photos! Leicester Museums and Galleries www.leicestermuseums.org.uk will be hosting this Summer the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition, showing the winning photographs and other entries. They would like to display our photographs of nature, in Nature on Your Doorstep. Submit up to 3 images in jpeg/jpg format on the website, scroll to the link at the bottom of the page and click Enter. Closing Date 24th May.

May Day The first day of Summer! Or Beltane, the “fire of Bel” Historic UK www.historic-uk.com describes May Day Celebrations, and also has Historic Accommodation, History Magazine, and a Family History section. And on May Day you go:

Morris Dancing. As Shakespeare says, “As fit as a Morris for May Day” The Morris Ring www.themorrisring.com “the Founding National Association of Morris and Sword Dance Clubs” has a wonderful Introduction to the History and background of Morris from its scholarly history by John Forrest, the History and Background of Morris 1458 – 1750, to recordings of Joan Sharp on Pipe and Tabor. She was daughter to Cecil Sharp, Director of the English Folk Dance and Song Society www.efdss.org.uk Click there to find Cecil Sharp House, and the Vaughn Williams Memorial Library. Also scroll down to book now for The

Young Folk Club 2nd May 4.00pm; and on Saturday 29th May 11.00am Youth Folk Sampler day. And you could also do:

Maypole Dancing. www.maypoledance.com "You've got your Maypole and now you need some ideas about the dance" for introductory Maypole dance steps; also "The First Plaiting Dance" and the "Gypsies Tent".

Talks Mirthy Talks www.mirthy.co.uk "live events in your own living room" continue, "Covering everything from Gardening and travel to History and Show Business" Saturday 1st May 11.00am for Brass from the Past a Free Online Music Concert with the Queen Victoria Consort playing original 19th Century Brass instruments and Victorian and Edwardian music.

And finally: On the 4th May 1896, the Daily Mail was first published; on the 7th May 1824, the world premiere of Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 took place, in Vienna; on the 8th May 1835, the first instalment of Hans Christian Andersen's "Fairy Tales" was published in Copenhagen; and on the 9th May 1662 Samuel Pepys witnessed the first Punch and Judy show at Covent Garden.

Do try these links out, along with all previous ones, from the first Newsheet to 50. All will be available to use in your groups when we are able to meet again. Thank you as always for all your suggestions and do keep sending them to me at newssheet@leicesteru3a.org.uk

Take Care!

Neil Taylor

Newsheet Editor