

LEICESTER



NEWS SHEET

Sunday 25rd April 2021 Edition Number 51

Hi everybody,

Welcome to the 51st Edition of the Leicester u3a Newsheet – complete with new font! Tahoma! This matches the font style of the u3a logo, gives the Newsheet a fresh modern look I think, and is clearer to read. I hope you like it, but do let me know if there any suggestions you'd like to make. Leicester u3a's Newsheet will continue to list online activities and formal announcements, all with the appropriate links and contact details, so we can follow up interests, existing or new. A sincere thank 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

2021

"BREAKOUT ROOMS"

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

We want as many members as possible to attend, and for the event also to be a social gathering, with chance for people to chat - and share, at least virtually, that tea, coffee or cake(!)

Henry Paulinski, our Committee member in charge of Zoom, has organised "Breakout Rooms", Zoom – speak for 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 reply to say 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!

Neighbourhood Watch 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. Courier Fraud Alert Leicester and Leicestershire Police warn this week of a Courier Fraud Alert. We should be aware that fraudsters might target us by: Phoning out of the Blue; Claiming to be the Bank or Police; Advising us of an "issue with our banking; Sending a Courier to collect cash and valuables. 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. Use the Financial Conduct Authority's register to check companies <https://www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart>

Wellbeing Independent Age provides regular support and phone calls to people who are lonely. Say the codeword "u3a" when calling freephone to 0800 319 67889 or www.advice@independentage.org

The Golden Age of Crime Writing Following our recent Zoom Monthly meeting with a talk on Agatha Christie, search on www.crimereads.com for 10 Golden Age Detective Novelists who Deserve to be Better Known. See Death in the Dusk by Virgil Markham; and The Lodger by Hilaire Belloc's sister Marie Lowndes Belloc. Search on Genres for Suspense; Espionage; and Hardboiled. Plus, the Daily Thrill; and the Literary Hub, for Sartorial Trademarks of Writers.

Poetry The Poetry Foundation www.poetryfoundation.org for Poets and Poems; also, Poem Guides on your chosen poem. Click on Podcasts on the top banner for Audio Readings : "Begin in Delight, end in Wisdom" And www.RainyDayPoems.com for Marie's sister Hilaire Belloc's cautionary Tales for Children – including "Jim who ran away from his nurse and was eaten by a Lion. Also, children's Stories, and Picture Books, such as "Little giraffe's First day on Earth"

Ornithology The British trust for Ornithology www.bto.org has the garden Birdwatch with free participation for a year in this project, keeping track of the birds outside our windows and in our gardens. Summer of Swallows podcast on www.bbc.co.uk Radio 4. Participants around the coast are looking out for the first swallows. Couples return to their usual yearly - as exact as the same place on telephone poles. Our swallows fly to and from South Africa.

Podcasts Tim Harford www.timharford.com has Cautionary tales True life stories about mistakes and what we can learn from them. Including such subjects as jeweller Gerald Ratner who blew up his business by joking about the "crap" products he sold. With Helena bonham carter as Florence Nightingale in one programme. Philosophy Bites www.philosophybites.com is presented by David Edmunds and Nigel Warburton, and features philosophers speaking on subjects and introductions to the great thinkers. The Rest is History www.play.acast.com with Tom Holland and Dominic Sandbrook, has programmes such as one on Meghan Markle and the history of the royal scandal. Featuring a discussion on Caroline of Brunswick, who was barred from the coronation of her estranged husband George IV by bayonet wielding soldiers.

Virtual Trips What was virtualtrips. io has now changed its name to Heygo www.heygo.com Click on Book Tours on the website for free virtual guided tours, as usual, with the option of tipping the guide. You can also chat with the other participants of the trip. There is a huge list daily of trips to go on, and tomorrow Monday 26th April 11.00am "Chat and Stroll through Sardinia"; and at 4.00pm got to Budapest for "Cherry tree Blooming in Buda Square"; or 4.30 pm Luxor, for "the Theban Desert on Horseback".

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" On Thursday 29th April 4.00 pm register for the free online talk A Policemen's Lot, for Neil Sadler's experiences as a police officer in Bognor Regis in the 70's. Be amazed at what he discovered on his first solo night shift... And 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 26th April 1915 2nd Lieutenant William Rhodes Moorhouse becomes the first airman to win the Victoria Cross; On 27th April 1749, the first official performance of Handel's Music for Royal fireworks takes place; on 30th April 2018, the Pakistani city of Nawabshah sets the global record for an April temperature: 50.2 degrees Centigrade, or 122.36 degrees Fahrenheit; and on the 2nd May 1970 Diane crump became the first woman jockey to win the Kentucky Derby.

Do try these links out, along with all previous ones, from the first Newssheet 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

Newssheet Editor