

## THERE ARE CHANGES AHEAD

### And opportunities

There are some aspects of the Lewes u3a administration which have not moved with the times and we are in the process of addressing this. For example, very few people use cheques nowadays, so we have added options for electronic payments with our membership applications. Also, thankfully, we do not need to scabble around for stamps, then try and find one of the few remaining postboxes—the majority of activities can be done online.

#### *Group membership*

The same for Group membership. We are in the process of changing the way we join new Groups to make it simpler for both the convenor and the group member.

#### *Progress*

Because of the complexity of changing systems, progress behind the scenes has seemingly been at a snail's pace.



#### *Urgent need*

However, as we make real strides — which will be conveyed to the Group Leaders first - we have an urgent need for a member who can act as a conduit between the IT 'working' group and the Committee. This is an **IT Coordinator**.

#### *Trustee position*

This is a Trustee position. We need someone who can communicate the progress of our IT working group to the committee and in turn report back to the working group the requests of the committee.



*Further information on page 2*

## More about IT co-ordinator role:

### *Time commitment*

In terms of time commitment, the new IT Coordinator will be required to attend the committee meeting each month, and will need to be present at some or all of the working group meetings.

Contact [Susan Murray](#), or any committee member if you are interested.

### *Further "vacancies"*

Maybe the role of Group Co-ordinator or Assistant Treasurer has more appeal to you? Contact our Chair, [Susan Murray](#) or any committee member if that is the case.

## Attention Buddies!

The committee will ensure that any change takes into account those without a computer, so there will be alternative ways to navigate membership, groups and events. If any Buddy notices a potential problem the committee may have missed, please get in touch.



Enquiries, comments or  
suggestions?

Email [Bulletin@lewesu3a.uk](mailto:Bulletin@lewesu3a.uk)

***Summer's  
coming.....***



**And for some  
of us that  
means nothing much to  
do, since many Lewes u3a  
groups break for the  
summer.**

However, there are some  
that run throughout the  
year:

- Bird watching
- Bridge—Mondays, Wednesdays  
online Fridays, Practice (Sundays).
- Sussex History Walking Group 2
- Badminton
- Coffee Club
- Jazz Club
- Science Matters
- Outdoor sketching
- Recorder Group

### ***Occasional 'outing' type groups:***

- Out and About
- Theatre Group

Have a look, and if there is a  
group that looks interesting to  
you, get in touch with the  
convener.

[u3asites.org.uk/lewes/groups](http://u3asites.org.uk/lewes/groups)

## The Outdoor Sketching Group is another of our newer Groups, introduced in March this year. One of our 'all year round' activities, founder Ann Coffey explains what goes on.

'Jill Butler and I co-lead the new Outdoor Sketching Group, which has met fortnightly since the 31<sup>st</sup> March. We have sketched so far in Southover Grange Gardens, The Priory, The Railway Land Nature Reserve, and St. John's Sub Castro Churchyard near Pells Pond. Our next meeting will be around the Castle. The locations are varied and are chosen by group members.

### *Minimum needed*

'We spend just over an hour sketching. Everybody chooses their own spot. Bringing our own seat means that we are not confined to the view from available benches. People are welcome to use whatever materials they want. A minimum needed is a pencil and a notepad. If people don't feel like sketching they are welcome to just sit and ponder. People can share or not share what they produce.

### *Sense of wellbeing*

'Our aim is to provide an environment that encourages members to observe what they see, enjoy the sense of wellbeing that comes from being in the open air, and creating a visual response.



We want people to feel relaxed and enjoy the social opportunities the group offers. The only entry requirement is just to enjoy taking inspiration from what's around us. We don't have a waiting list or a limit on numbers.

'After our sketching we have refreshment and a chat. At our last meeting we heard about a great drawing book and a new life-drawing class in Lewes. At our next meeting we will be going to The White Hart for refreshment which also has a very good view from the terrace.

### *Visiting exhibitions*

'We are thinking about occasionally visiting nearby towns or exhibitions. The aim is to continue all year round - this could be a challenge and we are thinking about inside places where we could sit and sketch. We anticipate the group will change and evolve over time'.

Contact Ann or Jill [here](#).



## Sussex Historical Walking Group (2)

*When the Sussex Historical Walking was set up, it proved so popular there was immediately a 'waiting list'. Fortunately Joanna Sutherland-Young stepped into the breach.*

'We are an offshoot of the original group, set up simply because the first group is full.

### *New members*

We've started with a group of 6 people and would love to welcome new members.

### *Meeting throughout the year*

We each take it in turn to organise an easy/ moderate walk, between 1-5 miles, town or country, with some historical interesting aspect (no expertise is needed). We meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month throughout the year.

### *History experts*

We don't need history experts or fitness fanatics (although they are welcome!)– this is for sociable people who would enjoy learning while ambling.

A car is essential, as walks will not always be convenient for public transport'.

*For further information email: [Joanna Sutherland-Young](mailto:Joanna.Sutherland-Young).*



Lewes Priory Park

## Lewes u3a Open Day

Released from the shackles of lockdown, this year we have recommitted to our annual event, the Open Day.

At 10am on Wednesday, 7th September, the doors to Lewes Town Hall will open to our biggest assembly of course conveners since 2019, ready to talk to not only existing members, but also those who come out of curiosity.

If you are a Group Leader, or are thinking about starting a group and want to gauge interest, there will not be a better opportunity to talk to both members and non members.

More updates in the next Bulletin.

*In the meantime, if you would like to get involved in set up, publicity or any other way contact [Jackie Ralph](mailto:Jackie.Ralph) or any members of the committee.*

## Safeguarding

Although not a 'welfare' organisation, Lewes u3a recognises its duty of care as recommended by the Charity Commission in protecting its membership. Select [Lewes u3a Safeguarding Policy](#) to see our Safeguarding Policy and Procedure.

Any issues regarding safeguarding relating to Lewes u3a members should be reported to [safeguarding@lewesu3a.uk](mailto:safeguarding@lewesu3a.uk)