

u3a August 2023 newsletter

1 message

Oban u3a Newsletter <obanu3anews@gmail.com>

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28 July 2023 at 10:17

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Oban u3a Newsletter August 2023

Chair's remarks

We hope you enjoy your 'new look' newsletter. We are using a new system to try to avoid recurring problems we've had with people not receiving their newsletter or not being able to open it as an attachment. By receiving it in the body of the email, we hope we have overcome these issues.

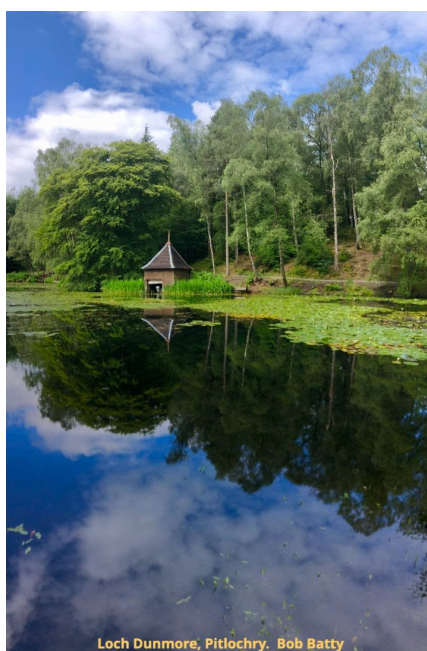
While many groups are not meeting during the summer, there are other things to think about. Our September Monthly Meeting will be the AGM but it will not be at all boring. Groups will have 'stalls' displaying information about their activities and Group Conveners will be on hand to chat and answer questions. It will also be our 15th anniversary; we will have a cake to celebrate!

There will, of course, be an election for the committee and here is something for you to think about; we could have one more member on our committee. We share the work so that nobody has too much to do. If you or a friend could make a contribution to running our u3a, please consider joining the committee. Please think about this and, if you want to know more before you volunteer, feel free to contact me. The closing date for nominations is the 1st August, the day of the Monthly Meeting, but nominations can also be allowed during the AGM.

Bob Batty

Chairman Oban u3a

obanu3achair@gmail.com



National news

Don't forget that the groups on offer in the Oban area are not the only choice you have. There are a wide variety of groups all over Scotland which you can join online. Take a look at the list on the link below. Any member in Scotland can join any group.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/onlineacrossscotland/home>



Local news

Monthly meetings

Our 1st August meet up will again be a chat over a cuppa at the Corran Halls from 10:30 to 12:00.

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 5th September.

Talks will resume on 3rd October.

Pickleball

Come along to the meeting in the Corran Halls on 5th September at 10:30 to find out about pickleball, the sport which u3a groups are playing throughout the UK. You can pick up a bat and ball and learn the rules at our groups' fair.



Group news

Membership of u3a local groups

Please remember that, for insurance reasons, you cannot join the activities of a u3agroup more than once if you are not a member. If you renewed your membership you will have received a membership card last autumn. If you are not sure, please contact Graham Cameron at obanu3amemsec@gmail.com.

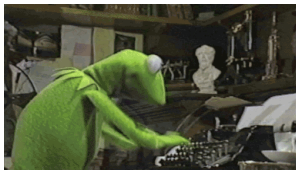
Calligraphy group

The group is taking a break over the summer. It will be offered again at the u3a's September meeting, when existing group members and new people can sign up for the coming autumn and winter.

Craft group

The craft group met on 27th July.

Creative writing group



The Creative Writing group is on a very short summer break, but will resume in on 22nd August. Meetings are normally held on the island of Kerrera which group members have enjoyed as a short afternoon "across the water".

This is a small, possibly quirky group. For anyone interested in trying out their writing skills, or beginning them, it offers support and encouragement - not judgement.

There is space though, for just one more group member. So, if you are interested at all, please get in touch for more detail.

There will also be a small stand at the u3a AGM if you would like to talk in person.

Discussion group

The group will meet, as usual, on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of August at the Royal Hotel.

French conversation group

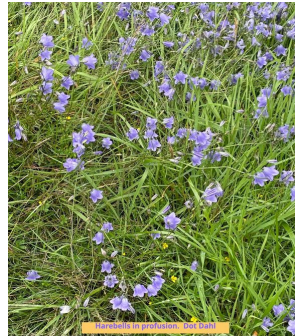
The French Conversation Group meets every Friday afternoon in the Lancaster Hotel, to speak in French and to enjoy a coffee, tea or hot chocolate together. We welcome new members who have an intermediate or advanced knowledge of spoken French.

The group will reconvene on 18th August. For more information, please contact Kathy Murgatroyd, French Group Convenor, on the email at the bottom of this newsletter.

Gardens and wildflowers group

The group will meet at 14:00 on Monday 21st August at Kilchoan Garden, near Kilmelford.

Members of the group will be sent an email prior to this event. It is important that those wishing to participate reply to that email. Luke Senior, Gardens Manager, will be meeting us there.



Geology group

The Geology group is on a summer break. Anyone else wishing to join the proposed field trip to the North-West Highlands (4/5/6 October) should contact Patrick and Virginia Bird as soon as possible to register their interest - email address at the bottom of the page - and reserve their accommodation at the [Inchnadamph Explorers Lodge](#) for as many nights as they wish to join in. The complete trip would involve the nights of 3/4/5/6/7 October, but some may wish to come for just part of the time.

German group

German group membership has stabilised at nine people. It meets on Thursdays, 10:00am at Graham's house, and coffee is provided. The group will reconvene on 7th September.

Mahjong group

The Mahjong group will continue to meet over the summer at the Royal Hotel at 2pm on a Monday. New members or visitors welcome.

Out and about group

Plans for August are not known at publication time.

Poetry group

The Poetry Reading group is taking a break during July and August.

Reading group 1

The group discussed *The Road to Lichfield* by Penelope Lively on 31st July.

Reading group 2 (crime)

The crime book group will meet at 17:00 on Thursday 10th August at The Falls of Lora Hotel. The book chosen for this month is *The Blood Strand* by Chris Ould, a Faroes novel.



Reading group 3 (fact & fiction)

The group will next meet at 14:00 on 21st September, when it will discuss *The Garden of Evening Mists* by Tan Twan Eng.

Science group

The Science Group is taking a summer break and will meet again in the autumn. If you have any thoughts on the programme, or a talk to offer, please get in touch with Bob Batty directly or through the email address at the bottom of this newsletter.

Scottish history group

The Scottish history group is taking a break. It is hoped that it will resume in January 2024.

Spanish group

The Spanish group continues to meet throughout the summer and is pleased to have a regular attendance of diehards despite the vagaries of the weather. Anyone looking for a new linguistic challenge, or just good company, is welcome to join us in The Lancaster Hotel at 11:00 every Wednesday.

Table tennis group

The group expects to start again when schools go back in mid-August, usual time and place - 14:00 on Mondays in the main hall at Atlantis Leisure. Players of any level - or none - will be most welcome.

Walk and lunch group

The next walk and lunch will be at 10:30 on Wednesday 16th August. We will meet at the Tigh an Truigh Inn at Clachan Seil and return there for lunch.

The walk is based on the Walk Highlands 'Bridge over the Atlantic' circuit on Seil.
<https://www.walkhighlands.co.uk/argyll/clachan-seil.shtml>

The route follows a variety of sea - and land - scapes and is a walk we've enjoyed previously.
Time 1.5 - 2 hours; Distance: about 3.5 miles.



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