



University of the Third Age

Stratford-upon-Avon U3A
Newsheet: 1st September
2020



www.sonau3a.btck.co.uk
www.u3a.org.uk

**Chairman's
Note**

Trying
Times



Hello again :

This is such a difficult time for everyone -
staying positive is not easy
Latest update - 27th August 2020

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AN INFORMAL COMMITTEE MEETING was held on 19th August 2020, at 10.30 am in the Library, Margaret Court, Tiddington. Present were: Jacqueline Checketts, Chair, Stephen Kaye, Treasurer, Sheila Gullick, Membership Secretary, and Audrey Spencer, Committee Member. I am now very pleased to tell you that Sue Crowley, U3A Member, attended the meeting and agreed to become our Secretary. Sue lives in Stratford-upon-Avon and we are delighted to welcome her to the Team!

Items discussed were :

Subscriptions/September Meeting/New Members/
Interest Groups/Future Plans.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2020 – IMPORTANT REQUEST

I regret that I do have to ask you all to pay your subscriptions. The fee due is only £14.00 pp – please make your cheque payable to **Stratford-upon-Avon U3A** and send to Sheila Gullick, Membership Secretary, 6 Badgers Way, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 0UJ. These payments are absolutely essential to keep our U3A viable. We can then ask our Treasurer to pay Fees which are due to The Trust, including cost of Magazines. Although other U3As in the area paid their subscriptions at AGMs at the beginning of the year; they also have not been able to have Meetings, speakers, interest groups, etc. We were not able to collect subscriptions at our AGM in March because, sadly, everything was cancelled from February. Chairman/JC

GENERAL MEETING: At the moment only 6 people have expressed interest in holding a September Meeting. Apologies - it does not look possible to hold a Meeting in September. Let's see what October brings? *Jackie, Chair*

NEW ENQUIRIES: Sheila Gullick reported that she had received several new enquiries and it has been decided to attempt to keep in touch with these prospective members. Copies of the Newsheet are being sent to anyone enquiring about our U3A in order to keep them interested. We, therefore, feel optimistic for the future.

ITEMS OF INTEREST: It was agreed that Non-U3A items, for example, Local History, would occasionally be included in future Newsheets.

TWENTIETH YEAR CELEBRATIONS: Audrey Spencer reported on the cancellation of our Twentieth Anniversary Celebrations – Stratford-upon-Avon U3A was formed in January 2000 – the first U3A in Stratford; the nearest one being Alcester U3A. However, we have every intention of having one Big Welcome Back Party when and if we are allowed to socialise again; hopefully in the New Year!

Extract from a response from The Trust:-

“All U3As having a big Anniversary get a mention and a Certificate at the AGM. This year being online will operate slightly differently but the sentiment is still there. Too late for September issue but there will be another issue in November”.

BE AWARE of FRAUD AND SCAMS Always check invoices carefully which are received in the post. Remain alert. NEVER click onto an email attachment or link unless you are certain of its origin. The letters regarding payment for TV licenses are being sent to households at the present time. Check your letter is definitely the original before payment.

INTEREST GROUPS

GARDENING GROUP

Two people in the Gardening Group decided to arrange some Coffee mornings. First one meant that 6 people sat inside and the second, 9 people inside. As the temporary Chairman at the moment, I regret I am not comfortable with these numbers. *Diana FitzGibbon*

LATIN GROUP (Improvers)

Ill health forces the Latin Group (improvers) to close. I would like to thank all members past and present for their hard work, enthusiasm and friendship over many years. From zero Latin to reading Roman authors was a great achievement. Basil spent hours revising in car parks while his wife shopped. Lesley, only recently, gave up the Times Latin crossword, and the whole group contributed to the success of the Latin Magazine. Londinium. Thank You all so much. It's the end of an era.
Margaret Dews

LATIN GROUP (Intermediate)

We have been continuing Intermediate Latin as best we can, via Zoom, emails, and the odd telephone call. So far since the lock-down rules, we have managed one meeting in a garden with appropriate social distancing. If only the weather could be more kindly on Thursday afternoons.

ITEMS OF INTEREST and REPORTS etc. needed

How are you coping? Do you have special survival techniques?

Your Newsheet needs You !

Otherwise your Chairman will keep rambling on and, even worse, go berserk with ClipArt pictures: **HELP**



KEEP FIT CLASS: Good News at last!

We hope to start again at the end of September. Date to be confirmed. However, the numbers will have to be restricted (possibly to 16) as everyone will have to be **3 metres** apart. *Joyce Steckel*

"NEWS" FROM THIRD AGE MATTERS - See Summer edition, page 5:

"Recording our thoughts for posterity" (Extract)

"Valuable insights about life during lockdown for U3A members have been pouring in to the Living History Diary Project. The extracts will be shared with the Mass Observation Archive, which has been recording everyday life in Britain since the 1930s, and eventually made into a book."

"Mass Observation collected photographs and observations of life from volunteers from 1937 go the early 1950s. The ongoing Mass Observation project was launched in the 1980s and continues to this day."

This sounds a really interesting and worthwhile project – and if you would like to take part, visit U3A.org.UK/Learning/Diary-Project-2020 – for more information. *JC*

Please let us know if you do contribute:

I would also like to bring to your attention the following Monumental Project!

A major national U3A Research project which will look initially a local High Streets before and after Covid-19, with the main survey taking place in September. U3A Members are being asked to research now so that they can record details of premises in their local High Streets and shopping areas in September, gathering information about businesses that were trading at the end of March. Re-visiting in 18 months' time to note any changes that have taken place.

(Extract:-) There is still time for you to volunteer to take part in this monumental project. More details about how to take part – please complete the Research forms and go to (<https://u3alondonregion.wufoo.com/forms/s175dvt040qop/>)

Would anyone care to set up a small team (socially distanced of course) to become involved in checking out our High Streets? I would love to do this, but need someone to organise me/small group?

I am planning a further Newsheet at the end of September 2020 and looking forward to receiving your items for inclusion. Please let me have items by the 20th September.

Jackie, Chair

LOCAL HISTORY (extract) From the records in Records Office, Shakespeare Centre.
History of Shottery Village and The Hamlet, which joined Cottage Lane and Church Lane.

There are records from June 1786 showing Conveyance from previous owners "to Viscount Beauchamp of all the manors and lordships of Shottery".

Properties in this Village represent two aspects of the character of the village which have existed side by side for most of its history. Poverty and Affluence. Few people outside town owned houses they lived in, especially those as small as Hathaway Hamlet. Places like **the Hamlet** were usually owned by one person and they would let their farm workers live in them. There were several very large properties – Shottery Hall, Shottery Manor, Shottery Lodge, Shottery Villa.

Fighting was a major pastime at Shottery in the early 1800s. At one of the Petty Sessions, 7 Shotteryites were fined 10 shillings each and imprisoned for 28 days for fighting. In 1869, the effigy of a married woman, who had committed adultery, was paraded round the village. The local constable had given permission for this to continue over 3 nights!

WORKHOUSE - Hathaway Hamlet 1770 – This was perhaps the most interesting period in the history. It was agreed that "a **Workhouse for the Employment and maintenance of the poor of the said parish**" would be set up.

There is a small volume which records the names of **the occupants of the workhouse** in 1779, their diet and an inventory of the contents. **The Stone House** (the building with the very high sloping roof) was converted into a workhouse proper. In 1799 there were 22 people living in the workhouse and, in 1880, 45. The oldest, Mary White as 80 (who dies in 1807 aged 88) and the youngest, Richard Allock, aged 7. They were well fed, emphasis being placed on help rather than punishment for poverty.

From April 1799 to March 1800 meat was provided every other day in sufficient quantities sufficient to ensure enough for the intervening day:-

10 April 10 ½ lbs bacon, 3 May 18 ½ lbs beef and 2 ½ lbs bacon was provided for the 22 inmates. At various times they had mutton, liver veal, and regularly rice or suet pudding, plus bread, potatoes and beer!!

There is documentary evidence to show that the Hamlet was referred to as The Barracks. It is possible that members of the militia may have been billeted there briefly, but it could also have been given that name because of its crowded situation. Certainly the Census in 1851 shows that conditions must have been less than ideal – there were 57 people living in 18 cottages.

The Workhouse continued until 1840, when a new workhouse was built close to the Hospital (now an Hotel) and the Hamlet converted gradually to the private houses as we see them today."

THIS MONTHS'S QUIZ (answers next edition)

There are 20 C in this Q (= 20 Clues in this Quiz)

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1 O is O and A A | 2 T in the B, O and N | 3 B M (S H T R) |
| 4 H of the A | 5 O R | 6 S to a H |
| 7 D in S W | 8 P in a G | 9 L of a C |
| 10 G B H on the W | 11 P in a C T | 12 M of J |
| 13 U F S | 14 L in an S | 15 M on a D M C |
| 16 S S and N B K | 17 M A to T a D T | 18 A of M |
| 19 H – the G C B | 20 S on a D B | |

e.g. : 10 Green bottles hanging on the wall. 13 Unlucky for some.

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