



Newsletter

This month's newsletter, like last month's, is again very different from our usual before the lockdown but because the committee is keen to keep our members in touch with what is going on around the U3A it was decided to continue producing it, especially as we can't meet up at the moment. It can be too easy to lose touch with our friends in the U3A so we hope that this newsletter will help keep us all together.

On Or Off Line

Obviously while we are in lockdown almost all U3A activity is carried out online which poses a problem for those who don't have an internet connection. This is why Sam Mauger, CEO of The Third Age Trust, is trying to get everybody who is connected to the internet, to sign up for the National U3A Newsletter. For May's edition, the U3A are hoping to produce a smaller version that can then be printed off by members and sent off to their colleagues who are not signed up for the digital version. Below is the link to the National Newsletter. <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter>

It is filled with information, stories and advice from across the U3A movement on how to keep safe and occupied during this difficult time. It is also available through our Wallasey U3A website on the tab labelled Nat U3A News.

The National U3A Colour Magazine

The U3A also publishes a full colour magazine five times a year called TAM, Third Age Matters. For a very reasonable price of just £3 per annum you will receive a magazine full of features, stories, letters and anything else you would expect from a magazine. You can email Cathy Morgan on the email below for more details.



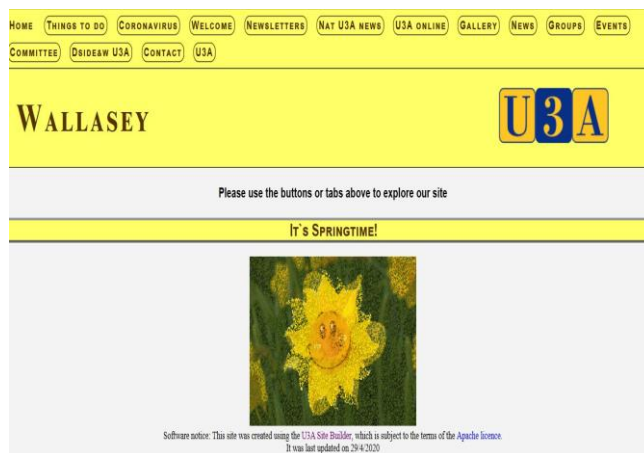
Group Leaders Keeping in Touch

Many of our own Wallasey group leaders have been keeping in touch with their group members. Stewart's Bridge Club have been playing online bridge each Tuesday and plan for more sessions. The Ukulele group have been using Zoom for regular uke sessions as well as using Whatsapp for day to day chat. Other group leaders such as Billy's Guitar group and Sue's Craft group have been keeping in regular contact via either phone or WhatsApp. Shelia has been emailing her computer group with items that may be of interest to them. It is important that we don't lose touch with our group members over this long period, especially for those people who are living alone.

Our Website

For those who have an internet connection, don't forget that we have two particular sites that Wallasey U3A have created for our members. Firstly, our own Wallasey U3A website, <https://u3asites.org.uk/wallasey>

Click on this link and then click on the **Things To Do** tab. The Things To Do page has over fifty links including such things as Free streaming from various theatres, Help to make scrubs, Art and Craft ideas, Recipes, Exercises with Mr Motivator (specifically designed by him for the U3A), Quizzes and several YouTube links etc. Instructions for using Zoom and many other computer 'Teach Yourself' sections are also on the Things To Do page. It has proved to be a very popular page with well over 1800 visitors since lockdown and it has now been shared by other U3As around the country and now even a couple of U3As in Australia! Also, we have a fun Wallasey U3A Facebook page intended for informal chat and sharing photos of holidays, gardens, jokes etc. Click on the link below or log in to Facebook and search for **Wallasey U3A**.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/573567333089568/>



National U3A on Facebook

The National U3A has also set up a couple of fun Facebook groups, one of which is called **Keeping In Touch**. It is intended simply for swapping ideas, jokes, photos, anything at all. You can see that the U3A widely endorse the use of Facebook nowadays as well as Zoom for video calling and therefore consider them to be safe platforms for people of our age to use in order to keep in touch. However, if you still have any fear or doubts about setting up Facebook then you can email Cathy Morgan at her email address below and she will help guide you through what is a very simple process.

Finally for those who are interested in learning how to use WhatsApp, another very easy to use app for the smart phone which can be used for texting, sending photos or videos as well as very quick and easy video calls, again you can contact Cathy cathymorgan@live.co.uk

Take care and stay safe and we hope it won't be too long before we can all be back together.

Thanks to Cathy Morgan for producing this Newsletter for us.

Wallasey U3A Committee