

Good afternoon,

Welcome to the New Fortnightly Newsletter!

Once a fortnight one of the Committee members will update you on the latest news from the thriving Basingstoke – Old Basing U3A. I'm Richard Field, your new Webmaster, following the recent sad death of Harvey Wallace and I have volunteered to write the first one.

New Website

Great news! We now have a new website, taking advantage of all the latest technologies, capturing the latest news and making it more interactive.

Here's a link to the new website: <https://www.basingstokeu3a.org/>

Please have a look at it. We aim to update it weekly. Please send any comments or changes you would like to secretary@basingstokeoldbasingu3a.co.uk

Groups are Running!

As the Covid 19 Lockdown eases, we are running an ever-increasing number of groups.

Outdoor groups are now able to run, subject to Government guidelines.

Croquet are now operating as normal, with small numbers participating, following Croquet Association and government guidelines.

Cycling group are keeping active with a cycling treasure hunt and a Zoom meeting each week to give the answers to the clues.

Walkers are now operating again, keeping social distance and arriving in separate cars, with 6 walkers per group.

Indoor Groups cannot yet meet indoors, however:

Needles & Pins are now holding 2 hour Zoom meetings every two weeks. At the first meeting on 3rd July, 17 members attended, showcasing their work and having a general catch up.

History are now holding full length monthly Zoom meetings and ran the first one on 1st July, with a presentation on WWI and WWII communications to 20 members.

Poetry Appreciation has a monthly email sharing session against a group theme [e.g. this month study of Robert Frost], with some of us then concluding with a more in depth full length Zoom meeting to discuss, in which 2 poems are chosen and 1 is read. Recent poets studied include T.S. Eliot and Gerard Manley Hopkins.

Science & Technology are holding 2 hour meetings on Zoom, every two weeks, where there is a presentation by a volunteer speaker from the group, followed by a Q&A session.

Strings and Things 6 members now meet and play in the Group Leader's garden, complying with social distancing guidelines.

To find out more details of our current activities, please click on [this link](#)

If you are a Group Leader and would like your group to have a Zoom meeting, then please send an email to secretary@basingstokeoldbasingu3a.co.uk.

Online AGM in August via Zoom

We have rearranged the AGM for 12th August 2020 at 2pm via ZOOM. All members have been sent the relevant paperwork and invited to attend.

Enrolment

Your current membership will be rolled forward until the end of 2020. We are hoping to resume normal operations at the start of 2021 and there will be a fee for membership from January to August 2021.

National U3A Links

The National U3A office are providing a wealth of online material for you to take advantage of at this time. Please click on the links below to see what is available:

Quizzes: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/component/tags/tag/quizzes>

Keep Learning: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/component/tags/tag/keep-learning>

Covid advice links: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/covid-advice-links>

U3A Newsletter: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter>

U3A Plus: <https://plus.u3a.org.uk/>

South East Region: <https://u3asites.org.uk/south-east/home>