

NEWSLETTER – February 2021

LOCKDOWN CONTINUES – AND SO DO WE!

Lockdown goes on and our u3a is being increasingly creative – many of us are finding IT skills we never knew we had. More groups are getting used to Zoom and WhatsApp meetings, and we're using our new Facebook page and group to keep in touch too. Members are sending out quizzes, and there are presentations and webinars for members to enjoy – we've explored China and Big Ben from our living rooms, and learned some of Queen Victoria's secrets!

Membership of whichever groups take your fancy is included within the one fee, so why not take the chance to see what some other groups have to offer? A few possibilities are given on the next page.

Membership renewal as at 1 January 2021

A big **thank you** to everyone who has renewed their membership with effect from the start of this year. If you have not yet done this however, please note that **your membership will cease at the end of February unless you renew before the end of this month.** Please don't miss out – we'd hate to lose you!

Has your email address changed?

More frequently than you might think, emails that we send out bounce back because the address that we hold is no longer correct. If your email address has changed or if you change it at some point in the future, please tell us so that our records can be updated. Keeping in touch is particularly important in the current circumstances, so please help us to help you. Thank you.

Your committee

Rod Marshall	Chairman	drmarshall1956@gmail.com
Janet Field	Business Secretary	jrfield1975@gmail.com
Margaret Hayes	Groups Facilitator	basingstokeoldbasingu3agroups@gmail.com
Sue Seamour	Treasurer	sue.seamour@ntlworld.com
Linda Wain	Membership Secretary	wain.linda@yahoo.co.uk
Richard Field	Webmaster and Assets Manager	rfield1952@gmail.com
Liz Horner	Systems Manager	liz.horner@btinternet.com
Madeline Hussey	Marketing	madeline.hussey@btinternet.com
Ian Stimpson	Committee member	
Marie White	Co-opted member	
Supported by:		
Brenda Austin	Minutes secretary	

Please send any general enquiries to:
basingstokeu3aenquiries@gmail.com

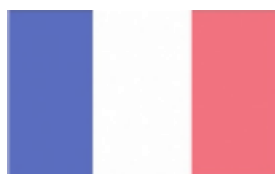
Forthcoming group meetings on Zoom

Some of our Group Convenors have announced topics for upcoming Zoom meetings. This information has been added to their pages on [our website](#) but a summary of the topics is also shown below in case any are of interest.

If you would like to attend a Zoom meeting for a particular topic but you're not a member of that group, no problem! Just [send us an email](#) in good time saying which meeting(s) you would like to attend. We will forward your email to the Group Convenor(s) concerned and you will receive an invitation to the meeting(s).

Group	Topic	Date	Time
Environment and Us	Mangroves	3 March	14:00 – 16:00
	Climate migration	7 April	14:00 – 16:00
Family history	Using multiple sources to make research breakthroughs	24 February	14:00 – 16:00
Literature	The Secret Garden – Frances Hodgson Burnett	25 February	15:30 – 16:45
	Stay with Me – Ayobarin Adebayo	25 March	15:30 – 16:45
	The Enchanted April – Elizabeth Von Arnun	22 April	15:30 – 16:45
	The Children Act – Ian McEwan	27 May	15:30 – 16:45
	Where Angels Fear to Tread – E.M. Forster	24 June	15:30 – 16:45
	The Fall – Albert Camus	22 July	15:30 – 16:45
Science and technology	Play your cards right	2 March	10:00 – 12:00
	Stellarium – a road map to the stars	6 April	10:00 – 12:00
	How to arrange your life effectively	4 May	10:00 – 12:00
	Why IT data projects fail	1 June	10:00 – 12:00

Interested in a new French group?



Rose Holstein, who helps lead more than one of our foreign language groups already, would like to hear from any member interested in joining an *Improvers French* group. This would be set at a level suitable for people who had studied French at school for two to five years but nothing since. If you are interested, or would simply like more information, please contact Rose directly (details below) or send an email to basingstokeu3aenquiries@gmail.com

romyholstein@btinternet.com

01256 781780

Family history group

As shown above, the next meeting of this group will take place on 24 February. Topics for future meetings will be drawn from the following list, as voted for by group members:

- Ancestors lost in London
- Deaths, burials and gravestones
- Identifying ancestors in old photographs using facial recognition software
- Migration overseas for employment or a better life
- Impoverished ancestors
- Putting your family tree online
- Military – Boer War, WW1 and WW2

Phil Males

Monthly talks and webinars

Until we can resume our regular monthly meetings, we are running a series of live talks and webinars using Zoom, including the opportunity to ask questions. Numbers are restricted, so please book quickly if you are interested. We hope that each presentation will be recorded and shown again at a later date however, so that anyone who misses out on a place can still enjoy it. They take place on the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 2pm.

10 March

Tony Harris takes us back into Tudor history as Henry VIII, in costume, talking about his life and his wives!



For group convenors

As you will have seen elsewhere, we now have a Facebook page. Please view this as another means of promoting your group to potential new members. If you are not on Facebook yourself, draft what you would like to say, attach a picture if you wish, and email it all to:

basingstokeu3aenquiries@gmail.com

We will take care of the rest.

u3a events available nationally

In addition to everything our u3a is offering, don't forget there's a lot available free online nationally too, usually though not always via Zoom. Here are some very varied examples to whet your appetite.

- The role and history of the National Trust
- A taste of Japan
- Friday watercolour painters
- Maths problems and puzzles
- Wellbeing in nature
- The drifting continents – a lesson in geology
- FIRE! – a century of the Volunteer Fire Brigade

See www.u3a.org.uk/events for further details.



Tinnitus – new local support group

A new local support group is being set up for tinnitus sufferers. If you would like to find out more, email baatingroup@outlook.com with your name and phone number, or phone Basingstoke Voluntary Action (BVA) on 01256 423816.

DON'T FORGET!

You can stay in touch by emailing basingstokeu3aenquiries@gmail.com

checking on our website at www.basingstokeu3a.org

joining in with us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Basingstokeu3a

or, if you're not online, ring 07787 520281