

Matlock Area U3A

What's On

This **September 2020 newsletter** is sent to all members of the Matlock Area U3A who are registered as current members on the Beacon database and for whom we have an email address.

Restarting Activities...In person

Some outdoor activities now feel able to start up in person again. The **Walking Group** and the **Geology Group** have tentatively started, but in groups of no more than 6 socially distanced. Some groups are meeting in gardens, again limited to groups of 6. The brave **International Folk Dancing Group** has been entertaining the dog walkers by dancing in a field near their usual venue (see website for photo). The **Signing Group** have been emailing each other with a new sign to practise every day. The **Birding Group** are planning a trip out for September; members will be emailed with details.

All activities which have begun under the U3A banner are subject to U3A as well as to national guidelines. A risk assessment must be completed in order for our group insurance to be valid, and members should be aware of this, and aware of their own responsibility to make decisions based on their personal health and circumstances. All in all, things continue to be difficult for our age cohort, and we are sorry that we are not able to meet up in our usual way.

Restarting Activities...finding new ways!

Some groups are finding new ways to keep in touch the **History Group1** has regular monthly meetings via Zoom in which one member presents a topic of their choosing each month; **Book Group2** again meets monthly via Zoom to discuss the month's book and share a chat; the **Bridge Group** are using Bridge Base Online to continue to play, and in July thirteen pairs fought over the much coveted Frank Hemming Salver, which was won in a nail-biting finish by Ros Bourne and Janet Green. (See website for photo). Another inter club competition is just starting up.

Photography

Matlock U3A does not have a photography club, although I'm sure we have many keen photographers. Anyone fancy starting one? I feel it does lend itself to socially distanced activity.

I have been approached by a member of **Bakewell Photo Club** to invite members from Matlock to join some lectures that they are organising.

The three lectures organised so far are all at 7.30pm on the following days;

- Monday September 7th - Chris Upton "Thoresby -The End of the Mine"
- Monday October 19th - David Keep "Project-based Approach to Photography"
- Monday November 2nd - Guy Edwardes - "Landscape"

A short synopsis of each talk can be found at

<http://www.bakewellphotographic.co.uk/section831571.html>. For security reasons you must pre-register, and numbers are limited to 100 including their own members.

Email the chair Brian Jewsbury via this link [Bakewell Photo Club](#) with your full name and the name of Matlock U3A. Please ensure that the name you give him is the same as your Zoom name so he can recognise people in the 'waiting room'.

New Technology

If you are finding all this new technology daunting, but would like to learn, please get in touch! If you feel you could buddy someone who would like help with new technology please get in touch!

Derbyshire Dales Community Volunteers Scheme (DDCVS) have been in touch with me. They have got funding to help people who need it with computers/tablets/Zoom etc. This can include funding to have the internet installed and possibly equipment to loan. Funding would be dependent on either receipt of benefit, or a disability, but the support scheme is open to all. They are looking both for volunteers who could help another person to get started, and for people who would like to access technology but haven't got the skills or support to do so.

The project is in its early stages at present, but get in touch with me in the first instance if you are interested. Tel 07748917232 or click this link.

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