



What's On

This **Autumn 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.

This is a plain text version ...if you want to see it in full colour with the new u3a logo and pictures, an editorial first for me, then please open the attached version.

Restarting Activities...In person

This was how I started the last newsletter that didn't last long did it?!!
Consequently, there is little to report at the moment which is why I've combined the October and November newsletters.

Restarting Activities...finding new ways!

Those people who have met are mainly doing it through alternative ways. Many are finding that they can Zoom when they thought their zooming days were over! If you are still apprehensive it is really not as daunting as it sounds. If you have an invitation to one you just need to click on your invitation link, and zoom does the rest. To set up and lead a meeting requires more skill, but we are gaining members with the skills to help you if you need it. If you would like to 'Zoom' but don't feel confident to try a full-on meeting then do get in touch with me, I am happy to do a trial run with you or find you a 'zoom buddy' Tel 07748917232 (Liz Walker)

Bridge

We are fortunate to be able to continue to play bridge using an app called Bridge Base Online, although, sadly, without our Wednesday morning social chatter and delicious refreshments. We are currently running our third online competition, with 22 pairs - 44 members- participating. There are three groups, with the individual pairs in each group playing against each other during November to decide a group winner. The nail-biting play off between the three winning pairs will take place in early December and can be watched online by all members, much better than Netflix!



Here are the worthy winners of the second competition (Brian Williamson and John Namport) with their lavish prizes, suitably socially distanced in Hall Leys Park.

The Bridge group has around 60 members, with pre-Covid around 50 attending our weekly meetings at Matlock Football Club. The numbers taking part in this online competition shows how virtual bridge offers an attractive alternative in these times. If you can play Bridge, whether you have a partner or not, and would like to join in our next competition then check out 'Bridge Base Online' and contact the coordinator via this link. [Roger Keeling](#)

2021 Subscriptions

The committee has decided that next year's subscription will be reduced to £5 per person. We do hope that you will still join, in hope and optimism, and as an incentive there will be a New Year Event by 'Fools Gold' who entertained us and were so popular at the AGM a couple of years back...Live on Zoom especially for Matlock U3a on **January 11th at 2.00PM**. Save the date, details and invitations to follow. Indeed, we hope that we will be able to get back to some sort of normality next year. Requests for your subs will be going out next month

Matlock u3a Website

Check out the Matlock area u3a website on www.matlockareau3a.org.uk! Can you guess the local locations of the Happy Snapper page? Getting out and about walking will be very important for many of us during the winter months. Why not take a photo of where you have been and send it to Linda Wilson (Business Secretary) at <mailto:bizsec@matlockareau3a.org.uk>

As one of our web team, Martin Eyre, a founding member of Matlock u3a and a staunch member of the committee for many years, has moved away from Matlock we would like to recruit another 'webperson' to join Dave Puxley and Mike Frosdick. If you feel you could contribute then advanced skills are not necessary, just a willingness to learn. Please get in touch with Mike and Dave at <mailto:webteam@matlockareau3a.org.uk>

Way Forward Group

A sub group of the committee has been formed with the intention of finding and discussing ways in which we can continue to meet and to interact. They are planning a Winter Festival programme, along the lines of a coffee morning, with a short talk or presentation. They are hoping to have a Christmas themed one, including a video of Peak Singers Christmas Songs on **7th December**. They are also planning a **survey** of you, the members to find out which sort of activities you would like and be interested in. Please watch out for this and respond.

National u3a Website

The National u3a website has a new look, a new logo, and lots of interesting activities and online events, workshops, webinars and interactive sessions on everything from 'A How to guide to Zoom' to 'What Philosophers say about Happiness'
Do check it out by clicking the link to www.u3a.org.uk

Finally



If you haven't already seen it on our website, here are the lovely woodland fauna themed tiles that the Wednesday painting group have been doing, they have a theme each month ...

They are working on the theme of 'Harvest Time' now

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