

SPIRE U3A

learn,
laugh,
live

u3a

THE THIRD IRREGULAR NEWSHEET

WHO knew? When I put together the First 'Bang Up' issue in April I had no idea we would be in this position now, still unable to attend our usual interest groups, or the monthly meeting, in person.

Committee Members are still doing what they ought to be doing on your behalf. Chairman John Holt represented us at the National AGM [online]. Treasurer Stuart Robson is considering new ways of spending money to benefit members in the current situation and Committee Meetings happen virtually.

The Third Age Trust are offering special activities via the website....

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

And they are compiling a list of speakers who are prepared to give online talks.

You may also have noticed that there is some re-branding going on. That has brought in a bit of colour and turned us from U3A to u3a which is noticeably easier to type I have noticed.

The Online Programme that we have been following during the summer has nearly run out but we shall be extending it. Webmaster Peter Read has cleverly posted details of the current Programme on the Spire u3a Meetings page.

Each week go to the webpage and 'Click' the link for the talk listed. Past events are still available online (but not *Amadeus* the play about Mozart) so if you have missed any you can still see them.



Travel Guides
for 2020?

Previous issues of this Irregular Newsheet signposted a number of things to get involved in and keep your mind occupied, such as Citizen Science projects, Future Learn's free courses and a timed Still Life exercise. We have shared some of the latter during our monthly Zoom meetings and I know one person has happily completed 24 hours of study with Future Learn's Genealogy course.

If you have taken up something like this do let us know - tell us during a zoom session, post it on Spire u3a Facebook Group or email **townpump@hotmail.co.uk**

Meanwhile, it has been lovely to see more of you taking up the COFFEE TIME and TIPPLE TIME initiatives. Looking forward to seeing you again soon - or should it be 'Looking forward to zooming you again on screen'?

Maureen E Frost

SPIRE u3a monthly meetings are still happening.

SPIRE u3a monthly meetings are still happening. Yes, on the second Monday of the month all members are invited to join the Coffee Time Meeting, using Zoom. We open the meeting at 10.30 and spend a sociable 40 minutes together. It is fun.

TIPPLE Time follows a similar format when members are invited to have an end of the week drink together - on the third Friday of the month at 6pm. If you are missing your u3a colleagues these sessions allow you to see them, to speak to them and to continue to Learn, Laugh, Live, - all from your own home.

**The next COFFEE TIME will be on Monday November 9 at 10.30am.
The next TIPPLE TIME will be on Friday November 20 at 6pm.**

The usual details are.....

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76815680786?pwd=QUV3MTNaeGpMbGhGZXBkUVICUHZYZz09>
Meeting ID: 768 1568 0786
Passcode: 2HVC11

[If we have to change to a different link we will post it on our facebook Group and ask Interest Group Leaders to cascade the information down to members they are in contact with.]

SPIRE TALKS PROGRAMME

Week beginning 18/10

The Chalke Valley History Show 7

The final bumper instalment presented by James Holland, with contributions from Tom Holland on his book Dominion, Joanna Grochowicz on Captain Scott, Clare Mulley on women who flew in WWII, Alex Compiani, Colin Bell DFC, Bernard Gardner and Philippe Sands.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6hyld_YOwk

Week beginning 25/10

From the Edinburgh International Book Festival
Douglas Stuart: the Making of Shuggie Bain

<https://www.edbookfest.co.uk/the-festival/whats-on/douglas-stuart-the-making-of-shuggie-bain/>
player

Week beginning 1/11

In this event the celebrated Scottish writer, **William Dalrymple**, talks to BBC special correspondent **Fergal Keane** about India's turbulent history under imperial rule.

<https://www.edbookfest.co.uk/the-festival/whats-on/william-dalrymple-with-fergal-keane-rapacity-and-excess-in-imperial-india>

Week beginning 8/11

Two short films. From Wales, **Catchpool Cottage Garden**

https://drive.google.com/file/d/11bYic_8WGVdVCemF6nhBlyZikiH2W4KO/view

And **Bodnant**.....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d75pvH3j9II>

Week beginning 15/11

Presentations on four aspects of **Salisbury**: pub, hospital, street and what happened in 1919.

<https://www.salisburyhistoryfestival.co.uk>

Week beginning 22/11

'This Evil Thing'

A drama, recorded in lockdown, in 6 short parts, by Michael Mears

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vxHNE6Cffk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwR5W-H7Wr8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZ1UzPZ8im0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJbfuuJhNp8>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_N-M_gPI_po

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hqxjkViRU1E>

& finally

SOMETHING TO DO

Creative Writing - the opening paragraph.

A novel, published 10 years ago, begins:

'Listen. The trees.....

The last sentence of that first para ends:

'.....something is about to happen.'

Your task is to fill in the rest of that opening paragraph.

Post your efforts on Spire u3a Facebook, read them to us at Tipple Time or email your words to townpump@hotmail.co.uk to find out the name of the novel.

Teacher: Give me a sentence which includes the words, Defence, Defeat, Detail.

Charlie: When a horse jumps over defence, defeat go first and then detail.



