

u3a

learn, laugh, live

ISE VALLEY NEWS

Kettering, Northants

Charity Number 1179738

March 2021

Hello Everyone

It's very difficult to think of something to write in our third period of lockdown. Very little is happening to talk about!!

I must thank Sylvia for her ingenuity in filling our newsletter each month to keep us in touch over this difficult year.

It seems that vaccination is a big part of the way forward. I hope that anyone eligible for the vaccine so far has been offered it.

Our first virtual presentation on Zoom will be on Wednesday, 10th March at 2pm. It is "The History of Cartoons" by Ian Keable. The Zoom link is being emailed to all Ise Valley u3a members with internet access. The meeting will be open at 1.45 and as our speaker is hosting the session it will interrupt his talk if he has to admit people once he has begun.

I apologise for previously saying that you can just click the link to access the meeting without downloading the Zoom programme or App. I have now been told that this is incorrect. You don't need to open a Zoom account but you do need to download Zoom in advance.

Over 30 members have asked to join the Zoom meeting. We would be very grateful for your feedback afterwards please, to decide whether to go ahead and plan more virtual presentations. There are many different Speakers available this way and there is a much wider range of choice, because it doesn't depend on geographic location of the Speakers and their ability to travel to Kettering. However, we are all aware that the social interaction is a very important part of the monthly meeting and we will endeavour to get back to that as soon as possible.

There are also plenty of online opportunities on the Third Age website. For anyone who wants something different to do, it is worth having a look at them.

Last year, the u3a network had arranged a presentation by Gervase Phinn at Wellingborough United Reform Church. This has once again been rescheduled for October 15th. Tickets will be valid for the new date and everyone who has booked will be contacted by email.

I will host Zoom coffee mornings again at 10am on Thursdays, 11th and 25th March and will send Zoom links out nearer the time.

Helen Hicks
Chair

Lockdown - as I see it

For once, I can stop and stare
At a world for which we all care
To look, to listen and to ponder
At what lies out there in the blue yonder.
Each day that comes and shares with all
The warmth of spring and the fall
Summers of blue skies and bright sun
Winters of snow, frost and short days done.
This lockdown gives us time to breathe
To see our world before we leave
In one short month, I have gone
From vigorous and bright- to old and no fun.
I want my life back, oh so much
I am bored of TV, radio and such
To meet friends and to chatter
That's what is the matter
No mates to hang around with
To put the world to right.
Corona virus has a lot to answer for
From old and vulnerable me - good night!

Census 2021

The next Census will take place on 21 March. The Census provides a snapshot of our society and responses to the questions help shape policy, allocate resources, plan services and monitor equality.

You'll soon see advertisements on the TV and in newspapers, and towards the end of February a postcard will be delivered to your home to remind you that the Census is happening.

At the beginning of March, you will receive an Information Pack in the post which will tell you all you need to know about completing the Census form. Remember, you complete one form per household.

The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on

sexual orientation and gender identity. Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

A Digital First Census

You'll be able to complete the form online, but if you don't have your own computer (or tablet or smartphone) you can ask a family member or someone else you trust to help you complete it. If you'd prefer to fill in a paper form, the Information Pack will tell you how to ask for one. Some households will receive a paper form automatically, this can also be completed online if you wish.

You can start to complete the form as soon as you get it, but you should complete it no later than 21 March.

Please don't worry about filling in the form. You can get help from a dedicated Census Help Line (the number will be available in your information pack) where they can assist you with completion over the phone. As well as advisor support and webchat, they also offer a text relay service.

If you require further information regarding the Census, please contact your local engagement manager daniel.paterson12@field.census.gov.uk or alternatively visit www.census.gov where you will find a wide range of information and resources.

February quiz answers

- | | | | |
|----|-------------|----|-----------|
| 1 | Newquay | 17 | Exmouth |
| 2 | Cromer | 18 | Poole |
| 3 | Southend | 19 | Worthing |
| 4 | Blackpool | 20 | Folkstone |
| 5 | Ramsgate | | |
| 6 | Dartmouth | | |
| 7 | Whitby | | |
| 8 | Broadstairs | | |
| 9 | Brighton | | |
| 10 | Caister | | |
| 11 | Hastings | | |
| 12 | Minehead | | |
| 13 | Cardigan | | |
| 14 | Deal | | |
| 15 | Lyme Regis | | |
| 16 | Cowes | | |

Book Group

Our book for February Group was "Trick of the Dark" by Val McDermid. It received mixed receptions. Most felt there was too much emphasis on the lesbian relations and too little on the crime and the solving of it. All agreed they had not guessed the final outcome. The story concerns four murders that Charlie is asked to investigate in order that Corina can persuade her daughter to give up her relationship with Jay. For much of the book it seems that Jay might have done the murders. In the end it turns out that although she knew who had done it she was not responsible. The characters are varied and well portrayed. It is a long book and some felt it could have been shortened. Hopefully, some might be persuaded to try some of her other books as she is a prolific writer with a variety of styles

Lindsey Cole

Appeal

If any of you have an old laptop that is no longer in use, Southfield School would welcome it. A lot of their pupils have no laptop or computer to use at home and the school is asking for any that have been replaced and are just sitting in a cupboard gathering dust. If you can offer one then contact Helen Hicks on 01536 529048.

Thank you.

Speeding Motorist

Late one night this guy is speeding down the empty road. A Policeman sees him go flying past so chases him and pulls him over. The Constable goes up to the car and when the man rolls down the window, he asks, "Are you aware of how fast you were going, sir?"

The man replies, "Yes I am. I'm trying to escape a robbery I got involved in."

The Constable looks at him disbelievingly and asks him, "Were you the one being robbed, sir?"

The man casually replies, "Oh no, I was the one who committed the robbery. I was escaping."

The Policeman is shocked and surprised that the man has admitted this so freely. He says, "So you're telling me you were speeding...AND committed a robbery?"

"Oh yes," replies the man calmly. "I have all the loot in the back."

The Policeman is now starting to get angry and says, "Sir, I'm afraid you have to come with me" as he reaches into the window to take the car keys out of the ignition.

The man shouts, "Don't do that! I'm afraid that you'll find the gun in my glove compartment!" At this the Constable pulls his hand out of the window and says, "Wait here" as he returns to his car and calls for backup.

Soon there are cars, cops and helicopters all over, everywhere you look. The man is quickly dragged out of his car, handcuffed and taken towards a cop car.

However, just before he is put in the car and taken away a Policeman walks up to him and says, while pointing at the Constable that pulled him over, "Sir, this officer tells us that you had committed a robbery, had stolen loot in the trunk of your car, and had a loaded gun in your glove compartment. However, we didn't find any of these things in your car."

The man replies, "Yeah, and I bet that liar said I was speeding too!"

Sad News

We have been told that Sue Scott-Hunter has lost her battle with cancer. She has been a member for a number of years and regularly came to the general meeting. She will be missed!

Singing for Pleasure

We couldn't sing but we could chat! We have just had our first zoom coffee morning! It was so good to see everyone's face – for the first time in a year. We spent an hour catching up and are looking forward to the next one which is already booked.

Coffee Morning

In desperation, we have started zoom coffee mornings. We are all missing the social side of the u3a and this was a great way to catch up. We will be having them fortnightly until we can meet again in person. We will be positive and we will have our chats – negative thoughts not allowed!

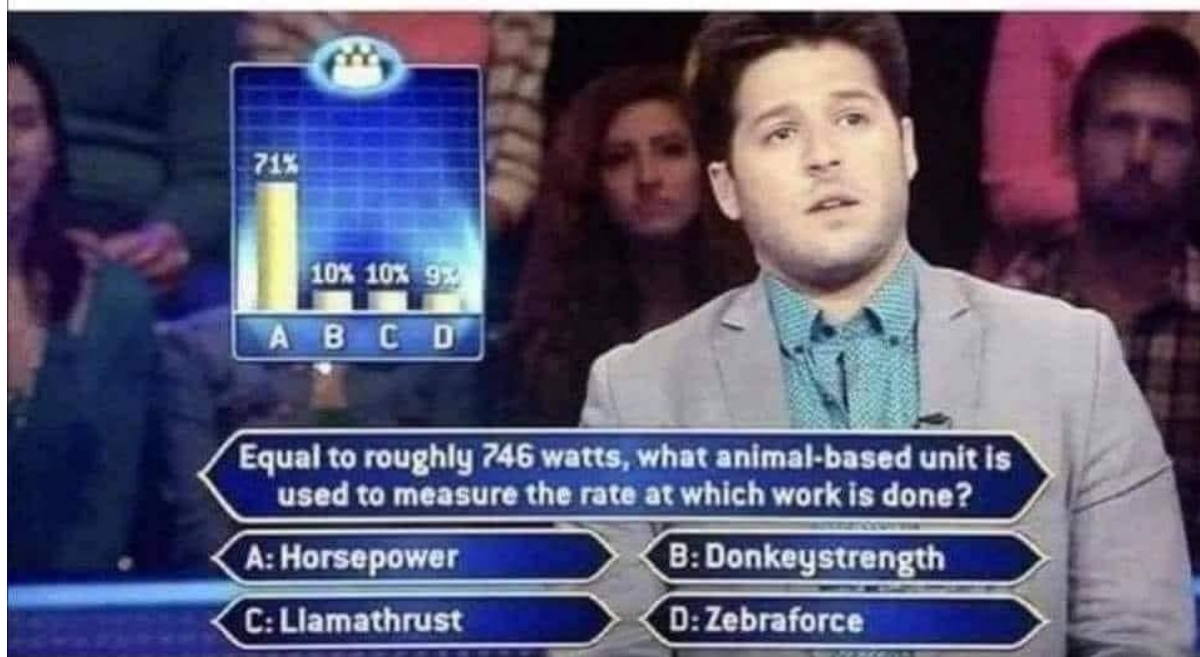
Zoom training

For anyone who is interested – the Third Age Trust are running free zoom training sessions. Go onto their website to book. This may be the way forward at the moment and at least it is something to do!

Speaker

A reminder that we have a virtual Speaker on March 10th at 2pm. The talk will be on Cartoons. Anyone who would like to watch please email Helen Hicks for the zoom link. helenhicks2@gmail.com

If u feel useless today, just remember that a guy used a lifeline for this...



March Quiz

The answers are the names of birds

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Type of lifting gear | 11 | Castle in a game |
| 2 | Letter of the alphabet | 12 | Tower birds |
| 3 | A chocolate biscuit | 13 | A big gulp |
| 4 | Always eating | 14 | This feline isn't asleep |
| 5 | Quick - stoop low! | 15 | Action showing dog is happy |
| 6 | Out of breath | 16 | Flies at street parties |
| 7 | A royal angler | 17 | Ariel antics |
| 8 | Nocturnal pint | 18 | Very fast |
| 9 | Another moan | 19 | Delia Smith club |
| 10 | Bagpipes on the beach | 20 | It's not butter |

Money talks - mine always says goodbye!

Word Search

P I N F E A T H E R S L P U K E
S S L E E P W A L K E R I W E K
T S S L N S L S A L S A S B Y A
C E F A O C B E B Q N R S U N N
A I M I R A P A G S U L P R O N
R R R P M I T L N I T E E E T E
B O O C O N Y L I L S R D A E X
N T P E U A P I K E G L I U D E
B E O O S M I T A D D B A V C R
B R C L N O C N L S S E P T E T
A C U T E N A I Z H E V A D E S
A X N I S O L C S P U K O O H D
E E G J S M L S S E N B A R D E
D J R G R E Y I N G D N S F A O

Accountable

Baaed

Circumcised

Evades

Gnu

Keynoted

Oafs

Plus

Sari

Sped

Wire

Acute

Bracts

Delis

Excretories

Greying

Laking

Oleo

Puke

Scintilla

Strives

Annexe

Bruise

Drabness

Exert

Hookups

Legislated

Pinfeathers

Rifle

Septet

Tempo

Aqueduct

Bureau

Enormousness

Fakes

Hubs

Monomaniacs

Plied

Salsas

Sleepwalker

Typically

You have two parts of the brain - left and right. On the left side there is nothing right and on the right side there's nothing left.

Preacher's Wife

A couple were going on a vacation together but the wife had an emergency at work. So, they agreed the husband would go as planned and his wife would meet him at the hotel the next day.

When the husband got to his hotel and had checked in, he thought he should send his wife a quick email letting her know he'd got there ok.

As he typed in her email address, he made a typo and his email was sent to an elderly preacher's wife instead. It just so happened that her husband had sadly died just the day before.

When the grieving old preacher's wife checked her emails, she read the one from the holiday maker, let out an awful, loud, piercing scream, and fainted on the floor.

At the sound of her falling, her family rushed into the room. They tended to her and then looked at her computer and saw this email on her screen:

Dearest Wife,

Just checked in to my room. Everything is prepared for your arrival tomorrow.

P.S. It sure is hot down here.



*“The second jab offers
97% efficacy”*