

Hello Cheadle U3A Members!

Welcome to the May 2020 eNews

Editor: Roy Scott - roy.scott@theadleu3a.org

Or telephone: **07751 180 812**

Items for the next eNews before 9 a.m. **Monday, 25th May 2020** please. It would be helpful if people sent their news items in good time, otherwise they risk not getting them published.

Please add (**eNews**) to your contacts to ensure that CheadleU3A eNews displays correctly, including images!

Do visit our (**Website**) on a regular basis. It contains a calendar of events, information on activities, how to contact committee members, group leaders and much, much more.

Copies of past Cheadle U3A eNews can be downloaded from: **here**.

U3A FORUMS

New U3A Discussion Forums

Using digital platforms to stay connected

The **THIRD AGE TRUST** has asked us to advise all the **Cheadle U3A** of several online Forums that may be of interest to you. We encourage you to check this out and sign-up. Below is the message received from THIRD AGE TRUST. If you encounter any difficulties please contact our Webmaster for assistance!

During these unprecedented times, the Third Age Trust has been looking at different ways to support our amazing U3A community. We wanted to enable and support U3As, members and Interest Group leaders, to stay active and connected with each other.

To this end, from April 2020, Third Age Trust have launched three online discussion forums so that you can share ideas and support each other. Thanks to the Beacon users, we are doing this by extending the existing (and successful) Beacon User Forum to all U3As, regardless of whether or not you are using the Beacon management system at your U3A yet.

It is easy to get started. All you need to do is visit the forum website at <https://forum.u3abeacon.org.uk> click the 'register' button and fill in your details

From there you will be able to explore the forums and get involved in the discussion.

*If you are not familiar with online forums, we have prepared a how-to **Guide** to help you get started. We welcome your feedback on the guide. Your feedback will help us develop our guide which will be available on the national website in the next few days.*

There will be three forums that you can join:

*Learning – discussions around subjects and all forms of interest and learning
Our U3A Community – discussions arounds how we support*

each other Beacon – discussions around using Beacon, the U3A management system

This is just an outline of what the forums are about because it will be led and developed by you when you join and the conversations that are happening.

A volunteer team will moderate the site and support you to use the forums in a safe, positive and productive way.

We will send more details through the week as we have them on our website and in the newsletter.

Please join us, sign up and get chatting. Together we will network, share ideas and stay connected

Covid-19 Advice Links

THIRD AGE TRUST

Folk Band Group News (Website)

The Weasels were very disappointed at having to cancel the U3A barn dance on 14 March but with everything that has happened since it was unquestionably the right decision.

We will be organising another barn dance as soon as it is safe to do so. Everyone who bought a ticket for the March dance will have their money refunded on presentation of the ticket when we are able to get out and about again. If you can't wait until then if you email me at ann.mundy@theadleu3a.org I will send you my address and you can post me your tickets for a refund by post.

All our group members are social distancing but we are keeping in touch by email and social media. I am circulating a new tune each week, set by a Facebook group called "Tunesday Tuesday" and we are learning it, recording it and passing our efforts round. It's important to keep up the practice and we've now not got the excuse that we don't have the time!

COFFEE MORNING (Webpage)

Due to the CoronaVirus Emergency, Coffee Mornings are suspended until further notice!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS (Webpage)

Hello everyone. I hope that you are keeping well and staying home. I have been keeping in touch with some members who are self isolating and alone. They seem very positive which is great. Please get in touch if any of you need support I will do my best as always. Well, stay safe .

Regards **Val Egerton**, Membership Secretary

Gardening (Webpage)

Hi, I hope that you are all enjoying your gardens. We have lovely weather at the moment and everything is looking beautiful. One lady has told me 'Weeds darent come up' I hope this makes you smile. Our gardens are certainly providing us with the change we need . Let me know how you are all doing. Hope Pam Barford is doing well in Devon and gets this mail to cheer her up. Keep safe and happy gardening

Regards **Val Egerton**, Group Leader

Bridge (*Webpage*)

We have 2 sessions each week for the members of the Bridge Group. This is on an internet site and we play people we know, i.e. from the group and on average 80% play.

Singing for the Untuned (*Webpage*)

There is a weekly singing session for the group. We use the ZOOM internet site and it lasts for around 30 minutes.

Sing Along

There is a weekly singing session for the group. We use the ZOOM internet site and it lasts for around 30 minutes.

Neither singing group is a choir and does not mimic Gareth Malones Great British Choir and is aimed at participation and fun.

Best Wishes, **Steven D Booth**

Editor's Note

Help to keep our "hard copy" members up to date - be a "buddy".

SHARE this information with a friend or neighbour if you know they are not on the internet. Why not drop them off a copy next time you pass so that as many members as possible receive this information update. Please use the **View in Browser Link** at the top of this email to print out a copy.

Look out for our (*Webpage Links*) and (*Email Links*) click spots - let your fingers do the clicking!