



Hello Cheadle U3A Members!

Welcome to the October 2020 eNews

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Items for the next eNews before 9 a.m. Wednesday 28th October 2020 please. It would be helpful if people sent their news items in good time, otherwise they risk not getting them published.

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 issues are available here:

- **[Cheadle U3A Downloads](#)**

CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY

The committee has met over the summer/lockdown and made the following decisions:

- A. There will be no Newsletter going out containing the renewal forms.
- B. Members will be asked to download a form from the website and use the 'buddy system' to accommodate those who do not have access to the internet.
- C. We will investigate whether the library can be used to obtain hard copies of the form.
- D. Val to update the form detailing her new address.
- E. Members will be asked to enclose a sae for the return of their card.

Updates will be sent out when necessary.

COVID19: Useful Information

- **[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)**
- **[nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/)**
- **[u3a.org.uk/keeping-in-touch/](https://www.u3a.org.uk/keeping-in-touch/)**

The national office also provides a regular Newsletter which we encourage all members with Internet Access to sign up to. Here is the link:

- **<https://www.u3a.org.uk/email>**

Keep Healthy, The Committee - Cheadle U3A

Chris Brown - Cheadle U3A Chairman

With regret we have to announce the retirement of our Chair, Chris Brown. She has decided to curtail her committee activities with immediate effect. Chris has served on the committee for over 12 years and will be sadly missed. Jenny Crump will be caretaker chair until such time as we can hold an AGM.

The Committee - Cheadle U3A

Gardening (Webpage)

Hello all,

I hope all has gone well with you over the summer. The garden has been our haven and watching things grow and flower is such a pleasure. I have sent emails to you all via Doreen and then had a go myself, but some have been bounced back so hopefully this will contact you. Thanks for the ones who have responded with thoughts on what we can do next year, all being well. I will think about what to do from next March to October. Please contact me if you have any questions or problems in the garden. I have been very busy looking after a new garden and keeping my old garden tidy, it's been a CHALLENGE . My new garden is mainly raised borders with shrubs and flowers - not as back breaking!!! I have missed you all and our chats and laughs and learning from each other but as Vera Lynn sang " we will meet again" and I will look forward to it very much, so take care keep safe.

Regards **Val** (Tutor)

Reading for Pleasure (Webpage)

Now that the library is open to borrow reading sets, I am trialling doing Reading for Pleasure with group 2 on zoom. I hope to offer zoom meetings to group 1 soon. I will not be able to offer indoor meetings until there is a vaccine.

Lesley Hall - Group Leader Reading for Pleasure Groups 1 and 2

Cycling Group (Webpage)

The unofficial non-u3a bike group has been meeting most Tuesdays since we were originally given the go-ahead to meet outside in groups of 6. This increased until about 10 were riding. Now we shall have to revert to groups of 6, properly distanced.

At the end of each ride, we put forward ideas for the following week which is then circulated by **Email and Whatsapp**. So far we've only had to call off one ride due to bad weather but managed to meet up for coffee in Tutbury. Our rides last most of the day. If there was sufficient demand, we'd be willing to set up some half day rides for anyone new to, or returning, to cycling.

Joan Charles 07547504373

UKE3A (Webpage)

The Ukulele Group (UKE3A) last met in early March. Since the lockdown began we tried a couple of methods of keeping in touch - an internet-based Blog for a short while followed by another member who started a WhatsApp

chat line. Both of these methods had some success and a handful of members made contributions, though mostly these were about their general lives and opinions and not necessarily about music. Some interesting poetry was also written at this early stage, perhaps as an outlet for people's feelings about what was happening. Both of these initiatives have since lapsed.

In an effort to do some playing and singing Roy Scott has now taken a lead in setting up Zoom Singalong on alternate Wednesdays. This is only for 40 free minutes so doesn't cost the U3A anything. Those familiar with Zoom will know that there is a problem of 'synchronicity' with this system in that if we all sing and play together we quickly get out of time with one another. So the way we work this is for members to volunteer to lead a song while others mute and just join in at home. I think this works fairly well but I am conscious that quite a few members are unable to operate Zoom at home.

In addition to this Singalong, I have recently started a Zoom 'Chatalong' later on Wednesday afternoon where again just a few members can tune in and chat to others. Technically this works better than singing as no timing is involved though again only a few members have joined this activity. But at least it gives some folks the opportunity to see and hear others and to exchange views on this and that.

So for many members of the ukulele group, like many other aspects of life, the activity is on hold but for some of us we are making an effort to keep in touch however imperfect this is. We look forward to one day meeting again as singing solo in the shower sure isn't how it's meant to be!

Barry Barnett (UKE3A Group Leader)

Editor's Note

Facebook: If you are not a member of this page then please go to Cheadle U3A Staffordshire and join. I will ensure that any updates/news will be put on here. Once we are fully active again all activities will be published for your information.
