



LEIGH ESTUARY

21st March 2020

SMILE NEWS

Firstly..... Some Important News

MAIN MEETINGS

All main meetings at the Wesley Methodist Church have been cancelled until further notice.

Membership Renewals on **Tuesday 31st March** have been cancelled. We will resume renewals at a later date.

Summer Lunch

This event has now been delayed until Summer 2021. Something we can all look forward to.

National U3A Day 3rd June
Beach Clean - Cancelled

COFFEE & CHAT

The meetings at Truleigh Scrumptious on the 4th Tuesday of the month have been cancelled until further notice.

As many of you will be self-isolating, or social distancing, we thought it might be an idea to occasionally send you our Smile News to keep in touch, give you news about your local area or the wider community, possibly some stories from members, and maybe make you smile. If you have an interesting story, have had a wonderful holiday that you'd like to tell us about, know a witty joke or anything that you think would lift the spirits of our members, please send it to reevelorna@gmail.com and we will consider it for inclusion. Our aim is to help keep your chin up and stay positive until we meet again.

TESCO SUPERSTORE - PRINCE AVENUE, SOUTHEND

Tesco have announced that they will now close between 10 pm and 6 am to allow staff to restock shelves.

This true story was heard recently from someone when the store was reopening at 5 am, which has now changed. (See above)

A taxi driver arrived after his shift at 4 am without realising the new opening hours. He parked up in a bay in the empty car park and promptly fell asleep. He awoke at 5 am to a full car park and mayhem.



I am giving up
drinking for a
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Punctuation
matters.

Uniqueclassrooms.com

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

One positive result from the shut down in Italy is that the water in the canals of Venice is clear and the fish have returned. Another is that the Chinese around Hubei province have seen blue skies instead of toxic gas.

GROUP NEWS



Or should the heading say No Group News? Unsurprisingly, most groups have called a temporary halt to proceedings. If you are unsure if your group is on standstill then please contact your group leader direct and check the situation. If you do not have their telephone number or email address then contact can be made via the website. Every group tab has a "Contact Me" button which sends the message direct to the Group Leaders inbox.

The challenge we have is how to stay in touch while this pandemic is resolved. Please share your ideas with us as it might spark off ideas for others. So far, we have seen the Wildlife Walks group sharing photos of different wildlife with Frances imparting her knowledge accordingly to the group members. The Local History group are talking about a quiz for members testing their knowledge of past events etc. in the locality. The Maths for Fun group will continue to set and solve puzzles, sharing answers via email each month.

What is your group planning to do to stay in touch? Please share by sending your ideas to dwhiteu3a@gmail.com the Group Coordinator.

In regard to my Walking Group we were out yesterday on a very enjoyable walk around Pleshey, near Chelmsford. Individual space was strictly observed and naturally there was no contact between walkers.

There were 5 people including myself. These people made their choices and were aware of the restrictions and health requirements. Needless to say we all enjoyed the day out in the fresh air and sunshine.

The report above was submitted by Dave Rixon, who runs the Country Walks Group, before further restrictions were imposed. Whilst this group has now closed, as the group were car sharing and enjoying lunch afterwards, this might give some of you ideas of how to keep in touch. A walk with friends keeping their distance, would keep the social interaction going. You can still chat from 6ft away.

HELP

If you are in need of help or can offer help, please email our address at: help3a@gmail.com

*Best wishes,
Ruth and the Team*