

What is happening in Leigh Estuary U3A?

Dear Member,

We thought it would be good to tell you what the committee have been up to whilst we have been in lockdown.

We have had two enjoyable committee meetings using the zoom video conferencing facility, as you will see from the attached picture. There have been various issues to discuss, however our two main concerns were:

1. How do we keep our member's spirits up?
2. What do we do about our AGM due in June?

The first point was dealt with quite quickly. We issued the Smile News which is sent out regularly. Members of the committee and of our U3A provide contributions and Lorna Reeve does a great job putting it all together. The feedback has been excellent, so thank you for letting us know, it is appreciated.

Various groups are doing their best to keep in contact with their members. Just a few examples: Local History 2 provides a very interesting weekly newsletter which family members are enjoying as well! We are seeing in to member's very tidy gardens daily with Sue Sullivan sending photographs. Family History and the Fashion Groups are using Zoom. The Craft Group have plenty of time now to create their items (See LEU3A website). Please let David White, Group Coordinator, know if your Group is able to get together remotely in some way.

The second point is the AGM. At this AGM due in June there are 4 members of the Committee who will be retiring.

Ruth Lancashire - Chairman, Lorna Reeve - Vice Chairman

Esther Gilbey - Membership secretary, Linda Butler - Front of house

Unfortunately due to the current restrictions it is not possible to hold an AGM in person; therefore we have sought advice from the National U3A. Our constitution allows us to defer the AGM for three months, but the committee are concerned that by September, will we be able to meet in large enough groups, bearing in mind the age demographic of our members? National Office is leaving it to individual U3A's to adopt their own procedure according to their constitution and the Charity Commission.

We are currently contacting the Charity commission for advice.

However Esther Gilbey, our Membership Secretary and Linda Butler, who was in charge of Front of House wish to retire now. If you have a membership query please do not contact Esther but email leu3ale@gmail.com Thank you. We would like you to join us in giving a very big thank you to both Esther and Linda for all their hard work, care, concern and dedication to our U3A.

Our plan is to co-opt new members to the committee who volunteer to share the work load and join us on our next Zoom meeting on 30 June. If you are willing to help out and join us we would appreciate hearing from you.

Our Chairman Ruth and Vice Chairman Lorna are staying merely in a holding position at the moment. Ruth has other commitments now as a City of London Guide and Lorna is very busy organising her wonderful holidays when they are able to resume. Please come forward to help as they need a rest after 3 years in these roles!

In the meantime, we will be advising you on what we will be doing about subscriptions for the following year.

We hope that you and yours are all keeping well and keeping yourselves safe at this time. If you wish to chat or have a query please contact the help line we set up at the beginning of lockdown helpleu3a@gmail.com

Very best wishes to you all.

Ruth & the Team

