

Chairman's Notes

It was third time lucky for the BU3A Committee at our recent socially-distant meeting in the open air at Nowton Park, as the weather was warm and sunny, rather than the wind and rain which accompanied our previous two meetings. Let's hope this was an omen for better times ahead for us all.

The main topic for discussion was our future at Thurston New Green, as a certain amount of doubt had arisen regarding our monthly bookings there. However, I am glad to report that at a meeting with their management attended by John and Brenda it transpires that there needs to be very little change from what has gone before in that the kitchen will still be available to us and that improved ventilation will be provided in the main hall. With this in mind your Committee decided that (subject to any changing Government guidelines) we will aim to re-commence our monthly meetings at Thurston in September, with the delayed AGM to take place in October. The present Officers and Committee have all agreed to stay on until the following AGM in March. This, of course, will allow 6 months for the never-ending search for volunteers to fill these vacancies to continue.

Our Lecture Secretary, Bernadette, has already put together a programme of speakers for the next year, details of which will be sent out during August together with the new membership cards. Also just to remind you that Liz is available to answer any queries that Interest Leaders may have, likewise Andrew can answer any problems re membership and subscriptions etc.

I would like to place on record my appreciation of everyone's efforts during this difficult time, particularly to Andrew for his great work in organising the Virtual meetings, to the Membership who have supported them by their attendance, and the Interest Group leaders who have striven to keep their groups active in one way or another.

Finally my grateful thanks to the Committee who have worked so hard over the past year or so to ensure that the BU3A does not wither in the vine, and to our Membership, without whom there would be no BU3A at all.

With best wishes and the hope that we can all meet again soon, Peter Lester,
Chairman BU3A

Comments from the Committee

We would like to welcome our new members who have joined us and please contact Interest Group leaders even if those groups are full. Also if any members would like to start a new group let Liz Morgan know and she will advise how to get started!

Thanks to all who pay on standing order for their subscriptions as this does save a lot of work for our Treasurer and a reminder to those who have not paid yet that the last date to send your subscription to Brenda is the 31st of this month July! After that we will presume you do not wish to be a member and will remove your details from our data.

As Peter mentioned above the committee plan to meet mid-August and send out the membership cards and programme by post (or hand delivered!)

Our delayed AGM will be 4th October this year and will resume the normal date next year first Monday in March 2022. By then we hope to have new volunteers to help on the committee as the only 2 remaining committee members will be Brenda and Andrew who will not be able to continue on their own! Looking forward to seeing everyone in September when we meet again! Best wishes Helen (secretary)