

Newsletter July 2021

Welcome to your New-Look Newsletter

From the Chair – Helen Hickman



We have all had a difficult year but things are beginning to look up, so here's hoping we can get together and resume all our activities again soon. By the time you read this we should know if things are being allowed to return to normal.

Since the beginning of the lockdown last year the Committee have been meeting on Zoom each month rather than every two months in order to keep abreast of the latest rules and regulations. We will continue to do so and will be giving regular updates on our website to make sure we comply not only with government guidelines but also keep within the rules of our governing body, The Third Age Trust. We'll be keeping an eye on the government's latest information as it is published so it may mean that things change occasionally and at short notice.

We may not have not beaten the virus yet, but nor has it beaten us. In the meantime, and most importantly, we have to look after ourselves, our loved ones and also each other.

From the Editor – Andy Pickford



As you can see we have updated the format of the Newsletter. We hope you like it. If you have any ideas to improve or to contribute to future editions please contact us at: [**info@streetu3a.org**](mailto:info@streetu3a.org)

In this edition we are looking forward to September when we hope our activities can return to normal, but this depends on members volunteering to help. You will read later that we need some Group Leaders for a number of our Groups, and we also need new committee members to organise events. **Just to be clear, if a Group has no Leader then the Group will not run.**

The following forms can be completed online through our website: *Membership Form; Gift Aid Declaration; Group Enrolment Form*. The 2021-2022 *Provisional Groups Programme* is also available to view/download.

Your New Committee



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Helen Hickman

chair@streetu3a.org



Treasurer
Gill Donkin

treasurer@streetu3a.org



Membership
Paul Vernoum

members@streetu3a.org



Groups
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Venues
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Pamela Branley

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Publicity
Carole Fox

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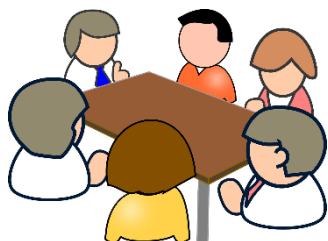


Newsletter /
Web Manager
Andy Pickford

info@streetu3a.org



From the Committee



There have been a number of changes on our committee since the May AGM. We say “thank you” to those who left: Mike Ellington as Chair and Pat Thompson as Newsletter Editor. We welcome Gill Donkin as the new Treasurer, and Pamela Branley as Venues Booking Secretary. We are still looking for volunteers to be responsible for a number of essential roles. These are: Secretary (essential!); Vice Chair; and Events Organiser. If you wish to support your u3a in any of these roles please contact us. Things can change quickly so please visit our website, ***streetu3a.org***, where all the latest information will be published.

Street & Glastonbury
2021 - 2022 **u3a**

We have been informed over the past year that, sadly, Alan Parr, Joyce Pascoe, Graham Jackson, Heather Kennard and Rudi Birk have passed away.

Important Dates & Information



- **ENROLMENT DAY** ~ Thursday August 12th, 10.30-12.00, Glastonbury Town Hall.
- **GROUP LEADERS Meeting** ~ Thursday July 22nd, 10.00 Town Hall (Small Room)
- **AUTUMN GROUP PROGRAMME** ~ Starts Monday September 13th.
- **CHANGE TO MEMBERSHIP FEES** ~ For current members, ie 2020-2021, the fee will be £5. See 'From the Treasurer' below.

Group News – Cynthia Rayes



There has been so little activity over the past year and a half, with only the groups that could carry on via zoom or the Internet taking place. As always the Group Leaders are stepping up again for the majority of our groups and a big

thank you to them, as without them the activities would not take place.

The provisional programme is issued with this Newsletter. **You can now enrol in Groups through the website**, or by contacting the group leader, or by completing the Enrolment Form with this Newsletter. Of course you can come along to Enrolment Day at Glastonbury Town Hall on **Thursday 12th August 10.30 am – 12.00**.

We are always happy to hear from anyone who has an idea for a new group, so please get in touch. We can now look forward to our new year starting on **Monday 13th September** and I am sure that everyone is keen to get together.

We are still in need of some Group Leaders. At the time of writing we need GL for: Table Tennis (Ashcott, Tue and Fri am); Reading Shakespeare 1; Poetry for Pleasure; Racketball. If you can help please get in touch asap (groups@streetu3a.org). Keep checking the website for the latest situation. **If a Group has no Leader then the Group will not run.**

A number of Group Leaders have set out their plans for September:

Beginners French (Shirley Gunter). *The Beginners group are working their way through the textbooks and will be carrying on with these when we meet in person in September.*

Improvers French (Shirley Gunter). *This group will be practising their French by reading and translating stories complemented by some grammar revision each session. There are a few spaces in each of these friendly groups so if you are interested in finding out more please contact me: shirleygunter32@yahoo.co.uk Tel:07531758292*



French Conversation (Jenny Lewis). *We are aiming not to forget our French, and to enlarge our vocabulary along the way. Bernard corrects us occasionally but otherwise we say what we can and in normal times read from a magazine for adult learners too. This group is almost full so please contact me for details: jnylewis@gmail.com*

Reading Latin (Jennifer Westcott). *We are a small group and enjoy battling with Latin texts written in the original. We shall be continuing to read some of Cicero's letters, which were written in a time of great upheaval when the old Republic was breaking up at the end of the first century B.C. It is extraordinary how many echoes we find of politics today and these generate a lot of discussion. The classes include translation, revision of grammar and listening to a translated passage relevant to what we are reading in Latin. Despite sounding rather dry, we somehow manage to have quite a lot of fun and there is profound satisfaction in unlocking a Latin passage and putting it into stylish English. If you remember a fair bit of the Latin you learnt at school or later and want to give your mind a good stretching, this is the group for you. jennifermmsing@yahoo.co.uk*

Reading Greek Tragedy (Jennifer Westcott). *During lockdown, we read one tragedy (Ion by Euripides, about an orphan discovering his origin) and then, for a change, decided to follow this with a comedy (Lysistrata by Aristophanes, a very bawdy play indeed.) Now that we are planning to have live lessons again, the first play we are going to read is*

Agamemnon by Aeschylus. This powerful play centres on a wife's (Clytaemnestra's) revenge for a terrible wrong done her by her husband, Agamemnon. In this class the participants read the parts – they are very good at this – and then we discuss the issues involved. These are very wide-ranging discussions and we constantly marvel at how relevant the issues raised in the plays are to today's world: revenge, jealousy, passion it seems are perennial. Strong stuff! Give it a try! jennifermmsing@yahoo.co.uk



Latin Groups A & B (Pat Thompson). *We will be taking up where we left off last time we met, that is at the beginning of Book Two for Group A and the beginning of Book V for Group B. If you have done a little Latin before you might be able to catch up with Group A, but Group B has been going for some years and to join us you would have to be at a reasonable standard. We look at English words derived from Latin ones and take time to consider points of grammar; we read chapters in the book and translate them. We also consider aspects of Roman life and occasionally sing rowdy songs (Clementine) or dress up as Roman generals, ladies or slaves. If you would be interested to join either class, please contact me on Enrolment Day.*

T'ai Chi (Steve Cousins). *T'ai Chi is many things to many people. Some love the peace it brings, some the exercise and health benefits. Some wish to tackle those balance and breathing issues, or maybe address that stiff joint or back. We will address these and any other issues you may wish to raise. T'ai Chi is an art form where there is always more to learn, however the benefits may be felt from the very first movement. We practise the 'Lee Family Style', a style that is thousands of years old. Try us, we're a friendly group, if you have any questions call me and we can chat. Tel: 01458 442599*



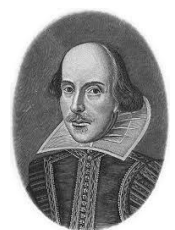
British History, The Tudors (Wilton Wills). *We will resume in September, hopefully at the Tor Leisure Centre. Our feet will still be firmly in the middle of the Wars of the Roses which should give us a clearer understanding of the Tudors. If you wish to sign up for the 2021-2022 season and avoid the need to attend the enrolment meeting, then contact me either by email or telephone. New members are always welcome. wiltonwills@gmail.com Tel: 01458 833995*



Music Appreciation (Wilton Wills). *After a good and productive first year, we hope to continue at the Tor Leisure Centre in September. I see my role as a facilitator rather than a leader, leaving it very much to the group to decide what music they wish to discuss and listen to. This worked well last year, even on Zoom. If you wish to sign up for the 2021-2022 season and avoid the need to attend the enrolment meeting, then contact me either by email or telephone. New members are always welcome. wiltonwills@gmail.com Tel: 01458 833995*

Book Group (Julie Hillman). *This year the Book Group is being rescheduled to meet on a 4 weekly basis throughout the year (co-ordinating with week 2 activities to avoid any clashes). There is a complete past reading list posted on the website in case it is of interest. Each session we discuss one chosen book. At the time of writing, June 2021, our future reading list has not yet been decided upon. I will aim to publish details of at least the first two or three titles on the website and circulate to members by late-August, giving people enough time to obtain their own copies. The ideal size of the group for a lively discussion is around 12. There may be a few spare places. If you would like more information please do contact me. juliehillman@btinternet.com*

Reading Shakespeare 2 (Julie Hillman). *We have booked a larger venue and for the autumn term at least will be meeting in St Edmund's Hall, Glastonbury. We will continue with our well-established format of watching 20-30 mins of a BBC production of our chosen play on DVD followed by reading and discussing the same scenes. Our chosen text is to be Troilus & Cressida. Members need to have their own copy of the play, preferably with line numbering. The group will be limited to 12 and we do currently have spare places. If you are interested to join us please contact me. juliehillman@btinternet.com*



Membership – Paul Vernoum



Thank you for staying with us through a difficult time. Now we are looking forward to a full u3a year of activities starting in September. To renew your membership please go to our u3a website, <https://streetu3a.org>, and fill in the online form. You can use the Membership form supplied with the postal version of this newsletter (you will also find a Gift Aid form in the envelope).

The instructions for completing and returning the forms are included on the forms. You can pay by cheque or bank transfer. Confirmation of your membership number will be by email. If joining by post you can request your membership number to be sent to you by post by enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your membership form. Please complete the form as clearly as possible and check it is correct before posting it to the address noted on the form. If forms are sent to me that are incomplete, illegible, return envelopes that do not have the correct postage, missing or unsigned cheques, your membership may be delayed. Problems like this cause extra time-consuming work. Your help by avoiding these problems will be much appreciated. I hope you will enjoy the Groups you have chosen and will continue to support our u3a.

From the Treasurer – Gill Donkin

You may find it more convenient to pay your membership fee by bank transfer. All the details are on the website, together with an online Membership Form, as well as a Gift Aid Declaration if you are a tax payer. Please remember that Group fees should be paid by cheque, made out to '*Street&GlastonburyU3A*'. Please hand to the GL at the first session. All fees remain the same as previously. As there were so few groups running during 2020/2021 members who joined can re-join for 2021/2022 for £5. See payment details on our website and the enclosed membership form.



Publicity – Carole Fox



Enrolment Day is the perfect time to seek out new activities and do something you've always fancied but haven't quite got round to. Do come along to Glastonbury Town Hall on 12th August, between 10.30 and noon, bring your friends and family, and choose something lovely to do. Look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones, to learning new skills and pastimes or rekindling old ones. It's all there ready for you - come and join in! Check out local magazines in August and hopefully local radio for further news.

Future Events

~ Coffee Morning Talks & Trips

At the time of writing we have no Events Organiser, hence there will be no Coffee Mornings or planned Trips until this post is filled.



~ Christmas Lunch.



We are hoping to hold a Christmas Lunch towards the end of the autumn term, but this will depend on whether we have an Events Organiser!

Please check our website for updates on all social events.

Useful Weblinks (Click the website name to open site)

~ S&G u3a Facebook

~ u3a Head Office

~ u3a Head Office YouTube Radio Podcasts

~ u3a Head Office Monthly Newsletters

Our web address is: <https://streetu3a.org>

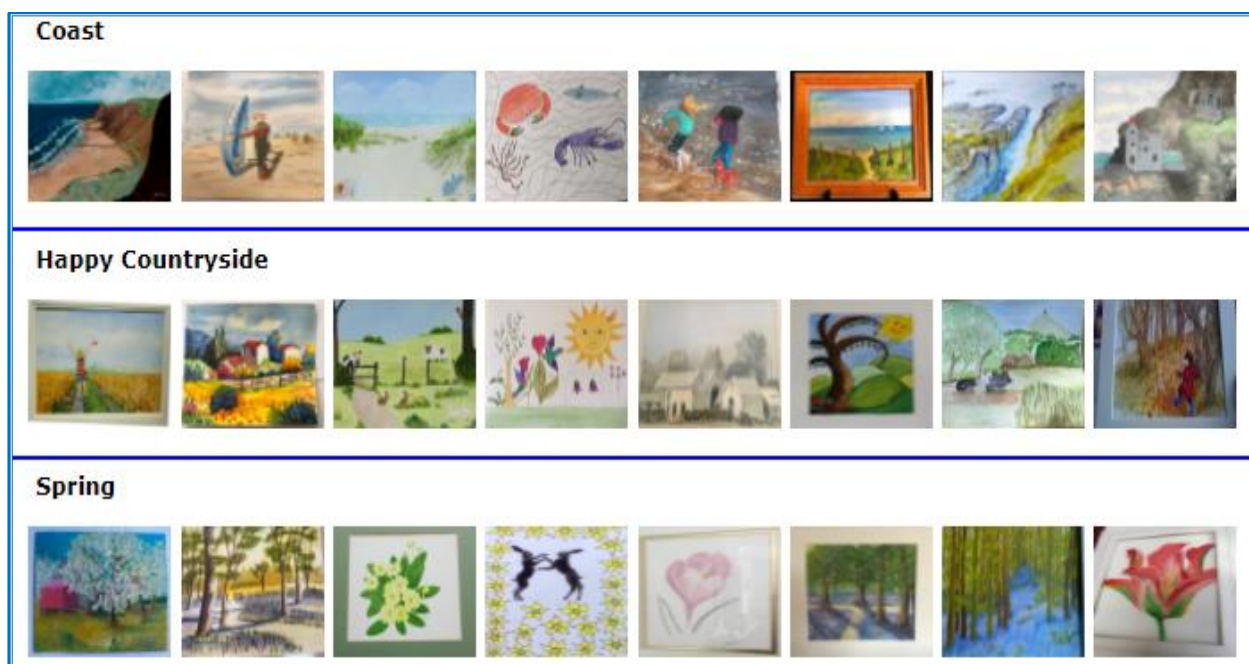


The **https** in the address informs visitors that the site is trustworthy and that the site belongs to the organisation. We never ask you to send credit card or bank details. Any data you submit from the website is sent securely and kept secure under Data Protection rules.

During Lockdown

Some of our Groups met via Zoom, and two groups even managed to create artwork and produce music!

Painting for Pleasure: A selection of paintings by members during Lockdown. All the paintings are available to view on the website. [Click here to view](#)



Music Jamming: The Lockdown Band have put together collections of music during the lockdown. You can hear them through the website: [Click here](#)

