

BOOKHAM AND DISTRICT u3a NEWSLETTER



21st April 2021

Dear u3a Members

Thank you to those of you who joined our monthly meeting on the 6th April. AGMs are often not exciting events but very necessary if an organisation such as ours is to continue to run smoothly to the satisfaction of yourselves and the Charity Commissioners. My sincere thanks go to Roger for his determination to do the best possible for our u3a during these demanding times when much of our normal activities have had to stop whilst we all accept restrictions on our lives.

Once the AGM was completed, we were taken to Japan by the photographer Jim Holmes to get a feel for some of their customs in this very conservative country. Then yesterday we were entranced by Steve Price, a professional magician who said he was showing how some tricks were performed but he still managed plenty of deception.

I am just getting into the driving seat as your new Chairman following the AGM. Things are not new to me having worked closely with Roger during his past 2½ years. I am well aware that I know some of you and some of you know me but there is quite a large gap. One of the ways I want to bridge that gap is by reinstating interest group visits by the chairman when restrictions permit and when you invite me to participate in your activity. I am also well aware that interest groups may be different as we move into a 'new' normal. Some members may have developed new interests, some may remain reticent about meeting face to face with too many other people. It is going to take time to bed down and come to terms with life after such a long period effectively locked up. However, we will come out the other side. One way of moving forward which has been a great relief for many is of course the COVID-19 vaccination programme. I hope you are in the +90% in Mole Valley who have received your first dose, if not your second.

Anyway, one thing that won't change for a while is our monthly meetings on Zoom. Your committee will be looking at when and how we can resume in the Old Barn Hall, but right now it is unlikely before September this year. So meanwhile our next monthly meeting on Tuesday 4th May is presented by Andrew Baker. Last year he presented on Donald Trump and this time he is going to look into the future with the subject of 'Life after the Covid storm'. Andrew asks; 'How will we, our society, our politics, our economy and the world be different when normality returns? Will some things change forever?' Andrew is taking a bold step forward by speculating on the very issues which could affect our lives.

To register for the 4th May meeting, please click on this link.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkdOGrqzssE9G1kLenfI5KQ4QE7TojWXP0>

The talk will be open on Zoom at 2:15pm for a 2:30pm start.

Whilst we have been holding 2 general meetings a month during the darker period of winter, we are now reverting to just one on the first Tuesday of the month, as the longer days and (hopefully) better weather should encourage you to get out in the fresh air.

Best wishes

Chris