

# BOURNE U3A NEWSLETTER FEBUARY 2021

WEBSITE : - <https://www.bourneu3a.org.uk>

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1100094

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

### *Chairman's Chat*

I sometimes get my leg pulled on the Committee for being, at 67 years old, the youngest member. I quite enjoy being the 'baby' in the U3A although it is a status I am rapidly losing as younger members join. I was, therefore, decidedly miffed when I felt patronised by a young woman cutting my hair last year. She had asked what I was doing for the rest of the day. I replied that I was shopping and mowing the lawn. Her response was, "Ah, Bless". I suppressed an acerbic retort but reflected on society's attitude to older people. How many of us are regarded as 'old dears' or old codgers'? Where do those attitudes come from?

However, when I think about it, I might also be guilty of a degree of ageism. I have often said that we should have a greater number of younger members on the Committee and running Groups. Is it right that members in their sixties are relying on members in their seventies and eighties to organise part of their social lives? As we age we may lose touch with technology changes and the aspirations of younger generations. We may slow down and become set in our ways and unable to run a thriving and dynamic organisation. But that is not inevitable, and I know many U3A members who are sharper and more up to date than lots of younger people.

I do get annoyed when people patronise or dismiss the older generations. They are happy to accept our voluntary work, our caring of grandchildren and elderly parents, our spending and charitable donations so why not give a little respect for the enormous contribution we make to society rather than rely on lazy generalisations. Other societies revere the experience and wisdom that their elders possess, and often benefit from their wise counsel.

Before dismissing anybody over the age of 66 as past it, people should remember that the United States of America have just replaced a 74 year old President with a 78 year old one, while the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi, is 80. Gandhi was 78 and still campaigning when he was assassinated, and Winston Churchill was 80 when he finally retired from office in 1955.

With very little effort I am sure you can think of many public figures – not just politicians – who continue to make a valuable contribution to society long after their seventieth birthday. How about David Attenborough (94) or Judi Dench (86)? Perhaps we should compile a list of the over seventies great and the good and publicise it at every opportunity. It might give the ageist youngsters something to think about.

**Malcolm**

## *Committee Page*

### **Renewal Reminder**

Your Bourne U3A subscription ran out on 31<sup>st</sup> January. Over 200 members have already renewed but many more have yet to do so. You will find a renewal form at the end of this Newsletter but can also download and print one from the website at [5e6ea9\\_e7a2820f2dc34cee9db22ae1af89c712.pdf \(filesusr.com\)](https://filesusr.com/5e6ea9_e7a2820f2dc34cee9db22ae1af89c712.pdf) You can also pick up a hard copy from Sam's in Spalding Road.

We have reduced the annual membership fee to £10.00 (£5.00 for Associate Members) because of the pandemic. Your membership fee also entitles you to access the National website at [u3a - About](#), where you can sign up for the National Newsletter and many interesting talks and lectures.

Please remember if you do not pay the annual renewal fee soon, you will stop receiving this Newsletter and invitations to the various Zoom meetings and events that we are holding both locally and nationally. If you do not intend to renew, please let our Membership Secretary, John Owen, know on [membershipbourneu3a@gmail.com](mailto:membershipbourneu3a@gmail.com) or 07949 524475.

## **FINAL WARNING**

Many of our members are still accessing our old website for information and to contact Committee Members. This is no longer possible.

The new website at: <https://bourneu3a.org.uk> has been up and running since September 2020. If you need to contact Committee Members, links are on the website plus all information is on the last page of this Newsletter.

NOTE: The old website will be removed on 28 February 2021.

My thanks to all those Group Leaders who have answered my request for information about their group to add to our new website. Plus some lovely pictures. Those unable to supply pictures, I hope you will be happy with the generic pictures I have used.

If you haven't responded yet to my request be prepared for a knock on the door in the middle of the night via email!!!!!!!!!!

Best wishes from your friendly Webmaster.

## *Photography Challenge*



The challenge was to take photos on the subject of “**Post Box Red**”. Selected as the best were those above from Diane Hinchcliffe, Sandy Love & Paul Smith. Other photos were sent in by Vaughan Roberts & Jennifer MacLean.

**The new challenge is " The view as seen by a small animal" (entries by 06-03-21)**

**The next challenge is " Signs of Spring" (entries by 06-04-21)**

Entries to :- [vasmroberts@gmail.com](mailto:vasmroberts@gmail.com)

## *Group News*

### **Science and Technology**

All members are cordially invited to the next Science and Technology meeting on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 10.00am when Tim Young will be talking about British engineer, Joseph Bazalgette whose major achievement was the creation of the London sewage system. Some say Bazalgette did more to improve the nation’s health than all the Victorian medical advances combined. To find out more, register your interest with Malcolm at [chairmanbourneu3a@gmail.com](mailto:chairmanbourneu3a@gmail.com). Priority will be given to members on the SciTech mailing list, but there should be room for plenty more.

### **A message from John McGregor**

Some of you will remember John McGregor. He and his wife were two of our founder members, but sadly, when his wife Margaret died, he moved ‘up north’ to be nearer his family and he now lives in

Morpeth on the Scottish borders. I was delighted to have a phone call from him at Christmas telling me that he has settled down very well but he still misses his friends here in Bourne, especially the members of the U3A. His son does his shopping for him but he still does all his own cooking and enjoys being independent. He asks to be remembered to you all, especially members of the two music groups and the art group.



### **Day trip for Any Time Out Group.**

The day of Remembrance for the Holocaust triggered my memory of a day out which the Any Time Out group took a few years ago. We were going to visit the Horological Museum near Southwell in the morning. The coach always leaves at 9:30 usually arriving wherever we need to go in time for coffee and that particular morning was no different. We pulled into the car park for the Museum and lo and behold there was a little cafe into which 25 of us plus the driver could not wait to get inside. The two ladies behind the till were horrified to have to serve so many coffees or teas and possibly cakes. The cakes were delicious including some gluten-free ones for my GF members. We then walked up the drive to the museum and were given an introductory talk about time and the various clocks we would see. They included one of the oldest clocks which I believe was from the 16th century and a clock which worked by water. Beautiful Grandfather and Grandmother clocks plus clocks of all shapes and sizes. We were all fascinated. Then it was time for lunch so we piled back onto the Coach and went to a restaurant which we had previously visited where we had a most delicious meal.

I had not at the start of this trip told the group where we were going so they had to trust my judgement on this Mystery Tour. Our afternoon visit was to the Museum for the Holocaust. Luckily for me most of my members were very interested and joined me inside the building to look at the photographs and remembrances all of which were heart breaking. On arrival however we were all amazed by the beautiful rose bushes each one of which had a plaque by it remembering a specific family. So, so, many beautiful roses. The day was sunny and we had a cup of tea out in the garden with our own memories. Some of us bought a rose to take home which if I remember correctly had the name of Anne Frank. The group has now been running for 10 years and we have had many happy days out but not one was as thought provoking as this one had been.

## Easter Island

*This is a short version of a recent blog on the Bourne U3A website. More details and photographs can be found on the website at [Blog | Bourne U3A](#)*

In December 2019 we were lucky enough to be able to visit Easter Island, called Rapa Nui by locals, as part of a Christmas trip to South America.

At 64 square miles in size, Easter Island is less than half the size of the Isle of Wight. It is the most remote inhabited island in the world and lies in the South Pacific, 2,180 miles from the Chilean coast.

It is most famous for statues called mōai that appear all around the island. They can weigh from 10 to 85 tons and many were toppled in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as part of inter-tribal warfare. Many have now been restored to their original positions on top of burial mounds called ahus.



*Moai at the Stone Quarry at Rano Raraku*

Some 8,000 people live on the island and they get almost all their supplies from a regular cargo ship every three or so weeks. It travels back and forth to Valparaiso 2,180 miles away and must be unloaded in the bay because the harbour at Hanga Roa is too small. Most of their food is imported because after centuries of over exploitation the land is very poor.



*The supply ship outside the capital, Hanga Roa*

The island was annexed by Chile in 1888, but the local population were not recognised as Chilean citizens until 1966. There are some grumbles about Chilean rule and there is a small independence movement, but it does not seem to have a lot of support.





Apart from fishing, the islanders rely on tourism and the sale of craft items such as this ‘Bird Man’ carving that celebrates the cult that replaced the erection of mōais in the nineteenth century.



*Bird Man carving based on a traditional design.*

Malcolm Scriven

Thought this was rather neat and may bring a smile to a rather grey world;

SERIOUS LOCK DOWN ADVICE

Everyone PLEASE be careful because people are going crazy from being locked down at home!

I was just talking about this with the microwave and the toaster while drinking my tea, and we all agreed that things are getting bad.

I didn't mention any of this to the washing machine, because she puts a different spin on EVERYTHING!

I certainly couldn't share with the fridge, 'cause he's been acting cold and distant!

In the end, the iron straightened me out!

The vacuum cleaner, however, was very unsympathetic ... told me to just suck it up!

But the fan was VERY optimistic and gave me hope that it will all blow over soon!

The toilet looked a bit flushed but didn't say anything when I asked its opinion, but the front door said I was becoming unhinged and the doorknob told me to get a grip!

You can just about guess what the curtains told me: they told me to "pull myself together!"

We will survive. Just pass this message on it may make somebody's day.

BOURNE U3A COMMITTEE 2020 – 2021			
TITLE AND/OR JOB	NAME	PHONE 01778	E MAIL
CHAIRPERSON	MALCOLM SCRIVEN	426483	<a href="mailto:chairmanbourneu3a@gmail.com">chairmanbourneu3a@gmail.com</a>
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NEWSLETTER EDITOR	PAUL SMITH	424554	<a href="mailto:editorbourneu3a@gmail.com">editorbourneu3a@gmail.com</a>

I welcome reports of Group activities with photographs, if applicable.

**The copy date for the March issue is  
9am on Saturday, 27 February 2021**

Please e-mail your copy and pictures to [editorbourneu3a@gmail.com](mailto:editorbourneu3a@gmail.com)

or post to *Paul Smith, 21 Northfields, Bourne, PE10 9DB*

*I reserve the right to either bring this date forward or retard it if my personal  
circumstances dictate.*

### ***Local Charity Events***

*These events are neither organised by the U3A nor are they for commercial gain. Any member may suggest a suitable entry for this page on similar lines but publication will be at the discretion of the Editor. There will be just one page per month.*

For internal use:

Date Received	Amount Paid	Trans. Number	Mem. Number/s	Mem. Year	Initials and Last Name
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## Bourne U3A Membership Application/Renewal

YOUR DETAILS (Please complete in BLOCK LETTERS ONLY, INCLUDING EMAIL ADDRESS)

### Member 1

Title	Forename(s)	I like to be known as:
Surname		
Email	Telephone:	
	Mobile:	
Address		
Postcode		

### Member 2 – only if resident at the above address

Title	Forename(s)	I like to be known as:
Surname		
Email	Mobile	

### MEMBERSHIP FEES PER YEAR

<input type="checkbox"/> One member £10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Two members at the same address £20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member £5.00 (Member of another U3A. Evidence required) annually	<input type="checkbox"/> Part-year from Sept 1 <sup>st</sup> until December 1 <sup>st</sup> £6.00

If you join after December 1<sup>st</sup>, you will be asked to pay the full fee of £10.00 which will then cover your subscription for the next 13 months.

This form plus payment should be handed to the Membership Secretary at the monthly meeting or sent to  
**U3A Membership Secretary, 31 Essex Way, Bourne, PE10 9NH.**

Membership fees are payable by (please tick one):

<input type="checkbox"/> Bank transfer to Sort Code: 40-12-32 Account Number: 91230433 Reference Your Membership: Number	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque payable to "Bourne U3A"	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash
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**GIFT AID:** If you pay income tax and are willing to Gift Aid your subscription, please tick the appropriate box

<input type="checkbox"/> Member 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Member 2

The amount of tax you pay personally must exceed the tax recoverable from ALL your gift aid donations. Basic rate tax is 20%, this means that if you give £10 using Gift Aid your subscription to the charity is worth £12.  
 For full details see [www.hmrc.gov.uk/individuals/giving](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/individuals/giving)

I/We apply for membership of Bourne U3A and confirm that I/We have read and will abide by the terms and conditions of membership as shown on the member's page of our website. I/We confirm that the form was completed by myself/ourselves. I/We will make full payment of fees due as soon as is reasonably practicable. **By signing this form, you confirm you are not in full-time employment and note that your Membership Records will be kept on a computer database that complies with the GDPR Legitimate Interest requirements. Your data will not be shared with third parties without your specific consent.**

Signature Member 1	Date
Signature Member 2	Date

Are you happy to be added to the direct mailing list for the Third Age Trust magazine – Third Age Matters? If so, please tick the box ☐ I consent to my data being shared with the company who oversees the distribution of the Trust Magazines. Note that if you do not tick the box, you will not receive Trust Magazines.

Last amended 18th November 2020