

# The Viral Times

Issue 11 19-08-20 (Published by Bourne U3A WEB : - <https://u3asites.org.uk/bourne/home>)



*These pictures were the winning entries in the Photography Challenge "A Landscape"*

## Annual General Meeting

**Following on from the General Meeting on Monday, we will hold our delayed Annual General Meeting via Zoom on Monday 21st September at 2.00pm. The Calling Notice and Nomination Form is delivered with this issue of the Viral Times. The Trustees Report and 2019-2020 unaudited accounts were sent out in May, but we will send them again a little nearer the meeting together with any necessary ballot papers for those who cannot attend the Zoom meeting.**

**The existing Committee are willing to serve for a further year and we have a volunteer for Secretary but, as always, we are looking for more members.**

**Malcolm Scriven**

### **A Photography Challenge?**

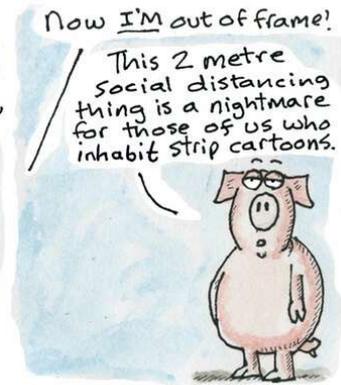
The challenge was to take photos on the subject of "A Landscape". 7 Entries were received, selected as the best 2 were those above from Richard White and Dave Pask

**The new challenge is " From the Garden " (entries by 07-09-20)**

**The next challenge is " Reflections " (entries by 12-10-20)**

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

## A little bit of humour



## Poetry

This poem was sent to me by Janet Dowse

### A LOCKDOWN LOSS

I'm glad she lived to share the day  
Of memories of Forty-five,  
When streets were filled for Victory  
With tables laid out end to end  
And bunting hung from house to house,  
Red, white, and blue with union flags.  
Joyful families, neighbours, friends -  
Music, singing, dancing, laughter  
And food where rations would allow-  
Sandwiches, jelly, pink blancmange,  
Buns, cakes, and fizzy lemonade.  
So now when lives are threatened still,  
Constrained this time by vicious plague,  
We turn to food to bring relief  
And try our hands at cooking skills  
We had no time to tap before,  
Sometimes successful, sometimes not,  
As furloughed Parents kneaded dough  
Alongside children home from school,  
Found precious flour for baking pies  
And eggs for pancakes tossed with care  
While strawberries and raspberries  
Graced the cup cakes iced in white -  
All comfort food - Corona Cakes  
To cheer our souls through Lockdown Blues.

In memory of Dame Vera Lynn who died on June 19th, 2020, aged 103 soon after "VE Day", May 6th, 2020.

## Around the Groups

## **Nosh & Natter**

The first post lockdown meeting of the Nosh & Natter group was held in the group leader's, Jackie Searl, garden on the 17th of July. Most of the members were able to attend and a very pleasant afternoon tea was consumed while the conversation about our various "lockdown" lives proved interesting. A couple of pictures of the event are below.



## **Drawing and Art Group.**

The coronavirus lockdown has been horrific for many of our members and remains so, in an attempt to keep the group together and to give us all a focus for our art I have produced a weekly newsletter since March.

With the expert help of our tutors we have set and then collated monthly art projects. I then published the results of these projects in our weekly magazine.

We have some exceptionally talented members and if you visit

<https://u3asites.org.uk/files/b/bourne/docs/drawingpaintingcoronavirusexhibition.pdf>

you will see a "virtual" exhibition of the groups work.

## **Bourne U3A Artist gets global recognition.**

On the advice of our tutor Chris Moxley, one of our artists, Gavin Jeffery submitted an Australia Composite painting to the Australian Embassy for their comments. He has since received a letter praising his work and informing him that his painting will be framed and hung in the Australian High Commission in London, Australia House. This is praise indeed for his work and illustrates the standard of work typically carried out in many of these local art groups. A virtual exhibition is online on the website

## **Creative Writing Group 1**

On Monday, August 3rd, members, carefully social distancing - had a happy meeting in the garden of Group Leader Janet Dowse. They caught up with news and shared stories and poems written during Lockdown. One of the poems, by Janet Dowse, is produced above.

## **NEW GROUP - DRAMA WORKSHOP**

This new group, rising like a Phoenix from the ashes of the old Drama Group and out of lockdown, is being set up in a fun and friendly manner to explore our own interpretation of words, small sketches and other scenarios and to have fun with them. We are having our first meeting in September and intend to meet up once a month, at first, in the homes of members, but if numbers increase, then we shall probably move to a more suitable venue, i.e. Wake House. Numbers and venues will be dictated in the first instance by Coriolanus social distancing requirements (oops my spell check was set to Elizabethan English).

Our aim is purely to have enjoyment within the group; to relax and laugh with each other. There will be absolutely no pressure to entertain on stage or give any public performances. Whether we act like Frank Spencer or Dame Judy Dench, only we will know!

An initial meeting will be at my home in Bourne, outdoors weather permitting for a max of 10 persons to allow for social distancing, and will take place on Wednesday, 2nd September at 2.00pm. If you would like to come along and see how we hope to evolve, then please do contact me. I will be delighted to hear from you and welcome you in this new venture.

**Malcolm Ranson 07885 386634**

## The Quiz Section

**Answers to the “Double Clued Crossword” my thanks to Nick Searing for the crosswords in the last few issues.**

A	U	P	A	I	R		V	A	S	S	A	L
R		R		N				B		C		A
T	H	O	N	G		A	B	S	T	A	I	N
I		V		O		F		O		L		C
S	H	E	L	T	E	R		L	E	D	G	E
T		R				I		V				D
			B	L	A	C	K	B	E	L	T	
M				L		A				N		B
A	V	A	I	L		A	N	T	O	N	Y	M
R		B		E		N		R		G		M
V	O	Y	A	B	E	S		I	N	E	R	T
E		S		R				T		N		T
L	I	S	B	O	N		S	E	N	T	R	Y

### FANCY A CHOCOLATE?

**Can you name these Chocolates, Sweets and Biscuits?**

..... (some may be retro)

	Questions	Answers
1.	Emblems of England	
2.	Talk quietly	
3.	Wobbly infants	
4.	Dark and mysterious	
5.	Thief	
6.	Different shapes and sizes	
7.	Content of conversation	
8.	Delicious fastening	
9.	Tiny jewels	
10.	Bright kids	
11.	Small dog	
12.	The right side of town	
13.	Royal sport	
14.	Three in a row	
15.	God of war	
16.	Where big cats drink	
17.	Public transport	
18.	The Unigate man’s round	
19.	Pirates treasure	

20.	Conversation killer	
21.	Caveman's weapon	
22.	A sheik's pleasure	
23.	Ten pin bowling	
24.	An American coin	
25.	Mr Parton's wife's concoctions	
26.	20.01pm	
27.	Snow	
28.	Shirley Temple's hair do	
29.	Singing insects	
30.	Cab	
31.	Make waves	
32.	Worm's glue	
33.	Songs	
34.	Holds our solar system	
35.	Travelling musicians	
36.	Nut fetish	
37.	Essential for the transport of goods	
38.	They pick on little Malcolm	
39.	45,760 yards	
40.	How do you eat yours?	
41.	Good ideas	

### **From My US correspondent: Teaching in the Time of COVID-19**

For the last few weeks I have been teaching in a summer program Hofstra offers to students in grades 6-12 (age 11 – 17) from surrounding school districts. This year, we did it via Zoom for obvious reasons.

I structure my course as a close reading seminar and a simulated Constitutional Convention, such that we start by reading the original US Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Reconstruction amendments (passed after the American Civil War settled the question of the abolition of slavery in the US once and for all, in 1865.) I explain that much of the text was based upon American grievances against Britain during the American Revolution, and then add that our two countries have come a long way since our people were on opposing sides in 1776, such that the UK is America's closest friend now. And I encourage them to visit, so they can learn about English history and culture in person, as I did on a Cunard transatlantic crossing this November, where I met your esteemed newsletter editor and Secretary, whom I now have the pleasure of calling family.

Then, I split the students into groups representing hypothetical states I designed in a fictional country, which I call Oceania. (Those of you keeping score will doubtless recognize the veiled 1984 reference, but the students don't.)

As you can probably tell from where this is going. I've designed it so that certain states are agricultural and have smaller populations, while other states are industrial and urban with huge populations. The students are also told what the major economic drivers of their states are, and have to decide on a structure of government and a bill of rights for the fictional country.

In addition to the standard rights pirated, if you will, from our own Constitution, the students have agreed to a constitutional right to decent housing and food on every table, paid for at government expense if need be for persons of limited means. They have also agreed on a constitutional right to an education. Some groups limit that to K-12 (age 5 – 17), while others go all the way through a Bachelor's degree. Here in the United States, Higher education is not thought of as a "public good" to the extent it is in the UK and EU.

When I mentioned to them that these rights would mean a heavy tax burden, particularly on high income earners, they replied that it would be fundamentally unfair for the rich to hoard all the resources and that they

saw these issues as basic human rights. Are these kids' idealists? Maybe. But it gives me hope for the future of the Republic, and for the durability of the bonds of affection between our countries.

Christopher E. Czerwonka

(Chris informs me that these children he has been teaching are from under-privileged families who would not be able to afford this type of course without the grant that the State of New York gives Hofstra University to fund the teaching, the materials and also the internet access necessary)

## From the Editor

This issue of **The Viral Times** will be the last in this form as from September I will be reverting to the "Newsletter". I intend to retain some of the types of content which I am hoping has kept you entertained over the last few months but as more of the groups are now holding meetings of one form or another I would like to receive more reports from the group leaders on what they have been up to, so please let me have a small note about your group whenever you meet!

I would like to, on behalf of the committee, thank all of the members who have given up their time, paper and ink to get copies of "The Viral Times" to those members who do not have internet access and who because of the restrictions could not collect their copy in person at the normal monthly Monday meetings. As those restrictions are still to a large degree in place, we will still need to carry on with this for the foreseeable future.

Thank You

**Valerie Palmer, Dawn Stewart, Jean Dee, Val Shuell, Jim Winstone, David Ashby,  
Eric King, June Owen & David Mainwaring.**

## BOURNE U3A

Notice is hereby given that the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Bourne U3A will take place at 2.00 pm on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020 via Zoom (on line)

(NB. This meeting has been deferred from 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020 due to the Covid 19 pandemic)

The business to be transacted is set out below.

### AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019  
(NB. *The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were approved at the SGM on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019*)
3. Trustees' Report
4. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Accounts for year ended 31 March 2020
5. Appointment of Honorary Auditor for 2020/21
6. Motions
7. Election of Honorary Officers and Executive Committee
8. Date of the next AGM

Under the Constitutional changes adopted at the 2010 Annual General Meeting, all officers and committee members will need to be elected at the 2020 Annual General Meeting and will serve for one year.

**Completed Nomination Forms and Notices of Motion must be with  
Margaret Smith, Honorary Secretary, 21 Northfields, Bourne, Lincs, PE10 9DB  
*by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020***

Alternatively, these can be downloaded from the Members area of the Bourne U3A website, scanned, and sent to [secretarybourneu3a@gmail.com](mailto:secretarybourneu3a@gmail.com)

## NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

Members wishing to stand should ensure they are eligible to do so under the Charity Commissioners rules.  
Nominated persons should sign below to agree to stand for election and must be proposed and seconded.

*PLEASE PRINT NAMES AND SIGN.*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Print Name and Membership No. of Nominated Member</i>	<i>Signature of Nominee</i>	<i>Printed Name, Signature and Membership No. of Proposer</i>	<i>Printed Name, Signature and Membership No. of Seconder</i>
Chairman				
Vice Chairman				
Secretary				
Treasurer				
Committee				

Please post completed form to: Margaret Smith, Honorary Secretary, 21 Northfields, Bourne, Lincs, PE10 9DB  
or scan and send by email to: [secretarybourneu3a@gmail.com](mailto:secretarybourneu3a@gmail.com) ***by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020***