



NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 1152459

APRIL 2021 — ISSUE 54

Until further notice Members' monthly meetings, usually held in the Grange Hall on the first Thursday of each month are suspended .

From the Chair

Welcome to the April newsletter and my first opportunity to introduce myself as the new chair to the whole membership; firstly I must thank Malcolm for seeing us through the last 3 years and particularly during what has been a difficult final year in post. It was good to see so many friendly faces at the virtual AGM last month.

For those who were unable to attend a warm welcome from me. Not everyone will know me, but I have lived in Radcliffe since 1982 and have been involved in village life ever since. Some of you might remember me from when I was a lifeguard at the local pool or through our two sons who went through the local schools. Since joining the u3a, I have been active in several groups. I am the leader of 'Fit & Toned' and I regularly attend Keep fit, bridge, photography, wine tasting and occasionally the walking group. I joined the committee 2 years ago and have enjoyed working with the current members who have much more experience than me; it is this experience, knowledge and talent which will enable me to give my best during my tenure in the chair.

Well that's enough about me; after the year we have all had, I am now feeling optimistic and I believe it will not be too long before we can get our groups back into the hired rooms and eventually have our monthly meetings back in the Grange Hall with visiting speakers. We have recently been reaching out to our group leaders exploring and sharing ideas for moving out of lockdown and returning to being the social animals that we naturally are.

Lots of local people will have retired while we have all been locked up; perhaps some of them are your friends and neighbours? We need to introduce these people to our fantastic organisation before they go off and join other groups which they think will meet their needs. This organisation belongs to all of us and not the committee. The more members we have, the more interest groups we can initiate and the more fun we can all have. If you know someone recently retired or who has reduced their working hours, this is your opportunity to introduce them to the u3a with something that will spark their interest.

I am looking forward to seeing you all out and about in the coming months.

Beverley Lawe Email : radcliffeu3a.chair@gmail.com



BRIDGE GROUP PLAYS IN AN ONLINE U3A TOURNAMENT

The Bridge Group continues to play online every Monday afternoon. Most weeks we have about 32-34 members playing Real Bridge. The great advantage of this website is we can see and talk to other players. The feedback is that everyone is really enjoying the sessions.

On Sunday 21st February we joined 22 other U3A Bridge teams on Real Bridge to play in a tournament. In all about 100 people were playing. This was organised by one group in the country and it was a great success. Radcliffe entered two teams and they finished a very respectable 5th and 11th. However, what was so nice about the tournament was being able to see and talk with other U3A members from places like Inverness, Settle, Basingstoke (who won) and many more. Everyone was very friendly and no one was taking the game too seriously. The plan is to have further tournaments and we are hoping other members of our group will be persuaded to take part.

Anyone who can play Bridge and is interested in joining the Bridge group please contact

Greg Bungay on gjbungay@yahoo.co.U.K or **01159334942**

KNIT & NATTER GROUP

Our Knit & Natter Mascot is in danger of being swamped by all the knitting which has accumulated during the current lockdown. I am looking forward to being able to distribute every-



thing to the various charities as soon as things open up again. In the meantime we are exploring the option of having a natter via Zoom.

Group Leader **Jan Addiscott** email : groups@rot-u3a.org.uk

FRENCH / GERMAN CONVERSATION – INTERESTED?

Improve your French conversation, have fun and grow in confidence. Look out for a new group with a difference. Audrey Squires has for far too many years been teaching both French and German but loves it. She hopes she can inspire you.

She is also thinking about a beginner's German group. It is the most fabulous language and contrary to popular misbelief very easy.

Will keep you updated.
A bientot. Bis spatter

Audrey Squires Email:
a.s.squires@icloud.com

FRENCH BEGINNERS GROUP

We were very saddened to learn of the death of Jean Murgaseth, who ran this group within the Radcliffe u3a. Jean was pro-active in getting Zoom meetings for the group up and running early during the Pandemic and they were so successful that she was running them weekly, rather than just twice a month, which was the normal timetable for the group.

We know that those in the group are missing their meetings.

We understand their aim is to become proficient enough to join the French Conversation Group! With this in mind it is our intention to do whatever we can to find another special person to continue the legacy started by Jean so that the group will continue to flourish

Jan Addiscott Group Co-ordinator groups@rot-u3a.org.uk

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

We send our thanks to Group Leaders for their articles and contributions throughout last year.

Our members really enjoyed and love to know about the activities of all our Groups.

YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED

Please send your items, articles, photos or sketches to:

radcliffeu3a.news@gmail.com

All news and items for inserting in the Monthly NewsSheet should be sent to the above email address.

Thankyou.

FRIENDSHIP & SUPPORT GROUP

After 45 weeks of receiving our regular weekly Friendship Group Newsletter our Group has managed to work out how to hold a Zoom Meeting and our first such meeting was on Tuesday 9th February. Seven of us got together and wrestled with the technology to achieve, what is now, a regular "on-line weekly, Tuesday coffee morning chat and catch up" meeting on Zoom. Bearing in mind the seniority of our group of u3a members who live on their own and find technology somewhat of a challenge at times, this has been a great achievement.



Now as we cautiously as a nation come out of lockdown the Friendship Group hope to start planning ways we can once again begin to resume some sort of friendship and support activities. From March 29th up to six people can meet outdoors, so, as we are a tough bunch and as long as the weather isn't too excessive it's coffee and a chat in our gardens for about forty minutes or so.

By April 12th the Hospitality Industry may be permitted to provide services outdoors. So we will be keeping our eyes on that possibility.. All of course subject to the Governments current guidance.

Our Group's weekly Newsletter and Zoom Meetings will keep members informed.

If you would like to know more about the group contact:-

Rodney Fogg. Tel :07971537119 or email : rodneyfogg@gmail.com

Geology and Environmental Studies Group.

Background to our current topic which concerns the former land area, now known as Doggerland, which joined Britain and Europe before being flooded around 6,000 yrs BC due to rising sea levels resulting from melting of the last Ice Age glaciation.

Some Time Lines, Dates and Contexts defining the last 20,000 years in relation to the occurrence of Doggerland.

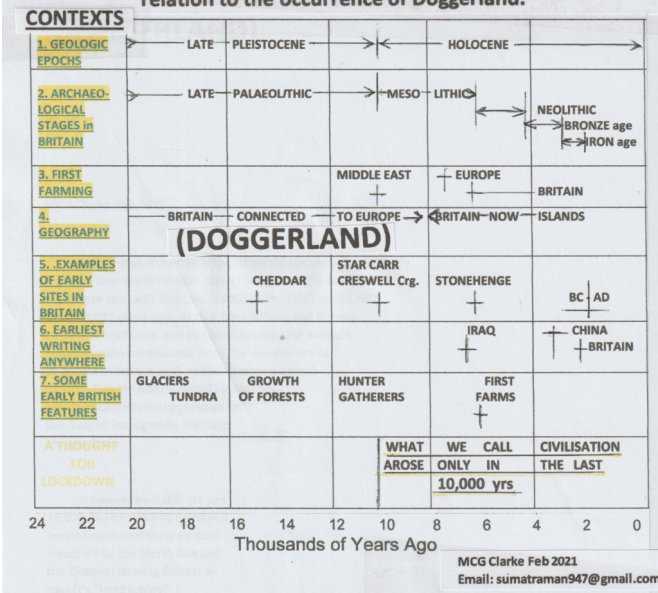


PHOTO GROUP

We are still in operation. We have two new members and are looking forward to meeting again soon. It is now a year since last we met and will be a couple of months or so before we can get together.

We will probably be able to have an outdoors trip, organised in small groups first. Our current project for March and April is Spring and Easter, it will be quite a challenge with the weather not helping and probably no outdoor activities at Easter. Attached is a photo taken in the Memorial Park a couple of weeks ago, hope it bring a touch of Spring to your edition.



WINE APPRECIATION GROUP

The group held its first online Zoom tasting session in March, almost exactly a year since their last face-to-face meeting. Participants caught up with each other and chatted about the wine they were drinking on the night, as well as their favourite wines. It is hoped that the group may resume face-to-face mid-year.

Judging by the banter a great night was had by all.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR GROUP LEADERS.

We held a special Zoom with Group Leaders on Friday 19th March. It was good to learn how our groups have managed to keep in touch during the pandemic and we were able to exchange ideas and suggestions over a cup of coffee. With the Government Road Map in mind for the easing of Covid restrictions, we are very keen to encourage our members to recommence their activities in whatever way possible.

Enquiries are being made locally to find out where and when we will be able to meet up again :if you need help to make a new start, then please do contact us. We are here to help wherever possible.

Carol & Jan - Group Co-ordinators.
Email : groups@rot-u3a-org.uk

APPEAL FOR NEWS ITEMS

MAY

NEWS SHEET

Please send your news, articles and photos by **18th April** to our email address which is

radcliffeu3a.news@gmail.com

Thank you *Editorial Team*