

CALVERTON & DISTRICT U3A NEWSLETTER MAY 2021

<http://www.calvertonu3a.co.uk>



OUR FIRST MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING – VIA ZOOM

On 14 April we held our *first* Monthly Meeting via ZOOM. Congratulations go to the Committee for their work in putting this together so successfully. It was wonderful to see familiar faces again. As well as news and information, we had a very enjoyable talk from IAN GUNN who had been a Governor in charge at four Scottish prisons. He had some VERY interesting stories to tell.



OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 12TH MAY 2021

You can check in on Zoom from 10.15 for 10.30 start
(The meeting will end around 12 noon)

Speaker - **CHARLES GARLAND**

who was for some 20 years

Assistant to Croft and Perry, Script Writers for DAD'S ARMY

Charles will share his insights into the production of the show and of the cast.



*Please put this date in your diary
You will receive a zoom link and email closer to the time.*

FUTURE MONTHLY MEETINGS

Although we would like to return to the Village Hall when circumstances allow, for the meantime we are having our monthly meetings on ZOOM for at least May and June. At our General Meeting on **Wednesday 9 June the speaker will be John Hope on the subject of 'Time.** More in our next newsletter.

▶▶▶ **THANK YOU** ◀◀◀

Once again, we send a big **'thank you'** to Michael Dobbs who was instrumental in getting CAD u3a started and was our Chair for the best part of two years. Michael still continues to be a very active and supportive member, both as our webmaster and group convenor for the Ukulele Group.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS – SITUATIONS VACANT!

CADu3a has a very active committee and we are now looking to expand the numbers of committee members.

If you feel that you would like to get involved or just learn more about what we get up to on the committee please contact either:

[Len Hand \(len.hand@gmail.com - 0115 9654611\)](mailto:len.hand@gmail.com)
[Brian Hillary \(b.hillary@icloud.com - 0115 8477988\)](mailto:b.hillary@icloud.com), or
[David Vanner \(david.vanner@ntlworld.com - 0115 8450697\)](mailto:david.vanner@ntlworld.com).

This is an opportunity to be involved in a vibrant organisation which, in less than 2 years, has gone from strength to strength (despite everything that has been thrown at us since March 2020).



We are now looking forward to the future in a very positive way.
Please help us to do that!

CO-OP GOOD CAUSES FUND-RAISING



Many thanks to all our u3a members who are also Co-op members and have nominated us as their 'good cause' for this year. We have now received just under £800 for the period October to March and hope for more

later in the year.

We applied for the funds as part of our plan to restart CADu3a as we emerge from Covid-19 restrictions. The funds take the form of a commission on purchases you make at the Co-op. If you have any queries about this please ring Len on 0115 9654611.



INTEREST GROUPS

See the following 2 pages for news on Interest Groups, including some **NEW GROUPS.**

If you are interested in a particular group, please contact the group coordinator or:

len.hand@gmail.com (0115 9654611) or
lynnmajewski@hotmail.com (07738171698)

INTEREST GROUPS:

We've heard from Freddie Davies who has been running numerous groups via email over the past year. He is currently suspending the **Geography Group** and we thank him for all the work that has gone into running this. Those of us who have been taking part have learnt fascinating facts on diverse parts of the world from, Russia to Japan to Iceland to Oceania and much more. The **good news** is that Freddie is thinking of re- running two of the popular groups: **History of Planet Earth** and **Heraldry**. See information below:

History of Planet Earth:

How was Earth "born" 4.6 billion years ago? Where did the Sun and Moon come from? What is the story of Earth from then to now? How has our planet been given the glorious scenery which we all admire and travel frequently to enjoy? WHY are there earthquakes, mountains, volcanoes, glaciers, deserts, storms, rivers, oceans, and the animal kingdom? This is a fascinating story and if you want to know the answers to these questions and also how and when WE arrived and survive on the thin "eggshell" which is the crust of the Earth, then this group is for you. It is highly illustrated with maps, sketches and photos so is a visual as well as a reading experience



The Ancient Art of Heraldry:

This is a highly colourful, absorbing and humorous subject to learn about. Heraldry was an ancient means of identifying compatriots in battle and it developed into a status symbol for leading families in medieval and middle-age times. It is still in use today by nations, governments, local authorities, companies and descendants of historic families. Heraldic symbols in the UK today must be registered with the Royal College of Arms, although anyone may create a coat of arms for the family, but unless registered it will not be formally acknowledged. It is possible that your ancient family has a Coat of Arms!! The



subject is highly illustrated with colour pictures to accompany the descriptions and the language used to describe the "shields" can be very amusing.

To register your interest:

in either **History of Planet Earth** or **Heraldry** please contact: **Freddie Davies:** fjd7789@gmail.com or **Tel; 0115 9204239**

Gardening Group

Good news- the Gardening Group is starting to bloom again thanks to Pat Barton taking on the role of convenor. She is hoping to include discussions around gardening, problem solving and visits to gardens or garden centres but would welcome any other suggestions to encourage its future growth! Contact Lynn if you're interested who will pass your details on to Pat.



Reading Group

The next meeting of the Reading Group will be via Zoom on



Monday May 10th 2pm

when we will be discussing *The Buried Giant* by Kazuo Ishiguro and a short story (link available from Lynn) The next few months book choices are **The Big Over Easy**, **The Berlin Girl** and **Girl, Woman, Other** which we are continuing to source ourselves but may be available from the library now it has reopened. We will look at resuming meeting in person as the restrictions ease.

Walking Groups

As the u3a follow Ramblers' guidelines we can now resume walking in larger groups.



Long Walking Group:

next walk **Wednesday 26th May** led by Martin Davenport.

Medium Walking Group: next walk

Friday 7th or Friday 14th May

Gunthorpe/Burton Joyce 6m

Short Walking Group (up to 4 miles): we are hoping to resume this group

Tuesday 18th May.

NEW! Evening Walks

Starting **Friday 28th May** and then hopefully fortnightly - short evening walks of approximately 2 hours starting and finishing at various local hostelrys. The aim is to enjoy the long summer evenings with some exercise, good company and a beer garden to aim for! I will send out the information to all the walking groups but if you are not in any of those groups and would like to join us please contact Lynn.



Discussion Group

The **NEW** Discussion Group has had one lively meeting talking about Food Banks and the next subject being discussed on **Wednesday 5th May 7pm** will be Charities. We are doing some research about the topic beforehand so that hopefully we are more informed on the subject. We are currently using Zoom but hope to be able to meet up in person soon- if you are interested in joining us please contact Len or Lynn.



U3A Coffee Club – Thursday 8th April

Ten of us met up for April's Zoom Coffee Club where we chatted firstly about:



➤ The Best Times of our Lives:

Meeting our husbands, the birth of our children and grandchildren were clearly very important moments for us all. Next stop "Butlins" was a memory of a couple who met at Freshers week in 1970 and recall their college days with nostalgia.

Others had worked abroad and had special memories of times spent in South Africa and visiting Soweto. David and I having spent time working in Dominica, an island of 365 waterfalls, the "Nature Island of the Caribbean".

Many of us are now retired so when working we had drawn up "Bucket List Holidays" that we could dream about, and

NOW is the time we can tick these off [Covid permitting].

The Trans Canadian rail trip, the Great Barrier Reef, Thailand and India were just a few places travelled to already.

We then went on to talk about:

➤ Films that have made a lasting impact on us –

- Indecent Proposal – with Robert Redford came to mind with the feeling of "If you love someone let them go and they will come back."
- Terri has been going to cinemas regularly since she was aged 8 or 9 and fondly recalls the Saturday Matinees, which showed Whistle Down the Wind with Hayley Mills ... she so wanted to be her!
- West Side Story, The Sound of Music, South Pacific, Grease and Oklahoma were musicals that kept us singing along.
- Truly Madly Deeply, Aliens, the first Die Hard and many of us mentioned the Shaw Shank Redemption, which seems popular still with so many people.
- The one that made us all laugh hysterically though was Kate's visit to see Saturday Night and Sunday Morning, when, at age 16, she lit up a cigarette in the cinema and as she was going out for a crafty smoke she accidentally set fire to the brim of a lady's hat, which started to smoulder and smoke as she brushed past her!



Our next meeting will be on

Thursday 13th May

when we will be thinking about

Our aspirations for Monday May 17th when we can meet up to 6 people indoors and in restaurants and can stay overnight in Hotels!

Who will we see? What will we do? Where will we go? Food for thought!

Please email me on:

barbara9449@hotmail.com

if you would like to join us

THE U3A AND YOUR PRIVACY

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION

Although the rules and legislation surrounding General Data Protection Regulation were not originally intended to apply to small organisations such as Calverton & District u3a, we are still obliged to comply with them where possible.

Therefore, we wish to advise members that we may from time to time publicise our activities in the form of photographs or videos. The privacy of our members is of paramount importance and if any member has concerns, they can request the removal of their image from the website. On the other hand, you may simply remove yourself from the vicinity of any filming or photography, when given the opportunity.

A typical statement which we may incorporate into our application for membership is reproduced below.

PHOTOGRAPHS/VIDEOS

Photographs/videos may be taken as a matter of record at u3a events and may be published in newsletters, on the internet or in print. I accept that these photographs/videos may include my image and understand that I can request the removal from the website of photographs that include my image. By joining Calverton & District u3a, I confirm my consent to these arrangements for photographs taken at u3a events.

