



NEWSLETTER

Issue June 2021

Web Address: www.hucknallu3a.org.uk

Message from our Chair

Hello everyone and welcome to the June 2021 Newsletter

While none of us want to tempt fate, and anticipating that the mutated variants will only have a limited, controllable effect most of the news regarding the fight against Covid remains encouraging.

I am therefore pleased to report that the committee is making plans for the summer and the remainder of our 2021/22 year.

With the recent relaxation of the rules about meeting in small groups of six indoors and up to 30 outdoors some of our groups have started meeting in person.

Members are already walking, cycling and playing Pickleball and the ukulele, all being very careful to keep to current rules and regulations.

We always make sure we keep up to date with those.

Coming soon: The reading group is starting up again, in a garden if the weather is nice and the lunch group is hoping to start up in June

There could soon other activities going on indoors too, if any group does start to meet then please let Siobhan know and tell everyone what you are doing via this newsletter.

Technology has enabled us to do far more indoors during lockdown, many of us have kept in touch using technology, others haven't wanted to or have been unable to, and some of us, have welcomed it, reluctantly at first maybe but it has enabled some meetings and group activities to continue.

Like many organisations, we're likely to continue with a mix of online and face to face activities. First thoughts are now that it is possible to have informal get-togethers of mini groups of 6 indoors (and as the weather improves) 30 outdoors then interest groups can consider meeting in this way.

We are approaching a time when the government are liable to further relax regulations regarding the use of Halls, Homes, Libraries, Bowling venues and outdoor activities. Wherever our groups are meeting the paramount concern must be the safety of all members from Covid 19.

When we consider returning to use our venues it is still important to ensure that we all continue to follow whatever government guidelines are relevant at that time, e.g. numbers, hand washing, hand gel and social spacing.

Finally a thank you from the committee to those members who have offered help and suggestions relating to storing equipment and alternative venues to the leisure centre for the monthly meeting

Especially thanks to:

Christine Eagle, Margaret Cook, Jean Cragg, Christine Ashby and Susan Foss

David Rose, Chairman

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COMMITTEE MEETING

Notes from the June 2021 Committee meeting

Apologies were received from Sandra Green, Diane Heenan and Christine Berril

Dianne White had a Zoom technical issue and belated apologies received.

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record

Fool's Gold an acoustic duo from North East England are booked for the monthly members meeting on June 9th. They perform a variety of songs which have stories, histories, mysteries, tragedies and romance.

Angela gave feedback from a recent meeting about maximising the impact of social media such as Facebook on encouraging prospective new members to join their local u3a. It was agreed to set up a working group to contribute to the Hucknall and District u3a page.

The treasurer's report showed little change to our finances, it was agreed to pay the annual membership fee of £25 for the community bus which is used by some groups.

Gift aid of £525 as just been awarded and due to be paid soon is the capitation payment for the membership of £3.50 each to the u3a trust.

Philip reports that our equipment which was stored at the Leisure Centre has now been removed and is in safe storage thanks to member Christine Eagle.

Melvyn has arranged an afternoon Zoom driving course on June 15th at 2pm

The Hucknall u3a policies have been reviewed and are on the website

The committee are to meet at, and with, the John Godber Centre on June 25th to consider how our monthly meetings could take place there since we can no longer meet at HLC.

Other venues have been considered but overall the JGC with a hall capacity of 200 seated in one room is the best option.

The meeting closed at 11.30am.

Update from the Social Committee who met on 3rd June

A Christmas event is being organised for Monday 6th December. There will be 2 identical sessions, one am and one pm, for approximately 100 members each time.

David Rose

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NEW GROUPS, GROUP NEWS, WORKSHOPS & OTHER NEWS

Proposed Hucknall u3a Litter Picking Group

Please note the correction from last month's article. The e-mail address for Val is :-

val.gant@virginmedia.com

ONE-OFF COURSE - DRIVING IN THE THIRD AGE

We have organised another zoom 'One Off Course' for Tuesday 15th June at 2.00pm.

This is entitled DRIVING IN THE THIRD AGE and is being presented by a lady named Autumn Rose, who is the Road Safety Officer of an organisation called Via East Midlands Ltd..

Autumn ran a similar course for us back in 2016 which was excellent and very well attended.

Autumn writes about the course - *"Our presentation aims to prolong and enhance the driving experience for older drivers. We look at how driving can change for older drivers, changes and updates to the highway code and what simple adaptations are available that may help. With a friendly quiz, lots of helpful hints and tips, this is a positive presentation designed to help people feel confident"*

Whilst this course is aimed at drivers, I would encourage everyone to take part as it will be very helpful and interesting to all.

As always we will send a zoom link out a couple of days before. Looking forward to seeing many of you on 15th June

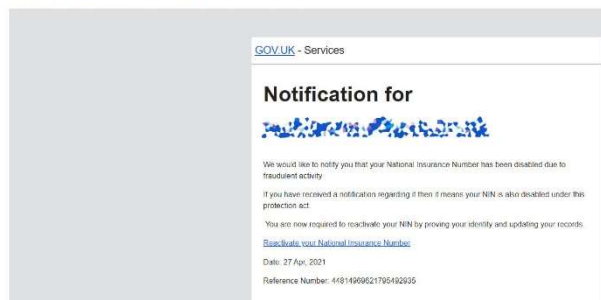
Melvyn Francis

JUNE SCAMS UPDATE

1. National Insurance number 'compromised' cold calls

If you've received a pre-recorded message or phone call claiming your National Insurance number has been compromised, you can safely ignore it. **It's a scam.**

Original message
From: GOV.UK Alerts
Date: 27/04/2021 07:08 (GMT+00:00)
To: [redacted]
Subject: NIN Deactivated - today 27 Apr 2021 - [Reference: 44914909621795492035 - CWFEBH1]



Phishing emails

Fraudsters appear to be continuing to use the hook of National Insurance numbers as a means to exploit personal information from victims – the scam appears to have now moved to phishing emails:

This email, which was **not** sent by GOV.UK

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2. Cold call 'crime scam'

We've been made aware that an official sounding voice usually claiming to be from the National Crime Agency or 'National Office for Serious Crimes' has been cold calling unsuspecting members of the public, asking them to call back urgently.

Fraudsters will then try to manipulate you into handing over personal information using a web of lies and threats.

There have been dozens of people targeted by this scam over the past few months. Action Fraud data shows it is the most reported phone scam of this year so far, having received more than 1,000 reports.

One victim reported that when he returned the call he was falsely told that someone had been using his National insurance number (NINo) to claim Universal Credit.

The scammer told him that if he didn't hand over his personal details so they could make a 'correction' he would be liable to repay thousands of pounds in fraudulently claimed benefits and could be sent to prison. At this point he realised something wasn't right and put the phone down, but the scammers continued to try and get in touch with him for more than a week.

The scammers tell the unsuspecting victims to hand over their personal information as they need to be issued with a new NI number.

Don't be pressured for your details. In reality, there's very little damage anyone could do with just your National Insurance number, even if someone had access to it. But your other personal details, such as your name, date of birth, address and bank details are much more valuable to criminals. They could use this information to target you with more personalised scams, or try to gain access to your accounts.

No government organisation would ever pressure you to hand over sensitive information, and if you're uncomfortable or unsure, **just hang up the call.**

Finally: Remember, you can visit Gov.uk which offers contact numbers and web chat support if you have concerns regarding your National Insurance number.

David Rose

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NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

ARTS & FILMS INFORMATION GROUP

If you wish to be included with the 150 other members in the circulation of the ongoing Arts Information Calendar each month, please drop an e-mail to alansnape@Hotmail.co.uk or ring me on 07940146542.

CHOIR GROUP

'June is busting out all over' ... It's going to be much easier to sing with the sun shining, although the weather won't put off anyone who likes to sing, they just may not do it with quite the same brio.

Now that we can begin to see the possibility of actually meeting up again, (to me Covid has seemed a bit like being pregnant, you know it must end, but it doesn't seem absolutely real until there are definite signs of it happening) I wonder if anyone else would like to consider joining the choir?

You could always come to see what we do, join in or watch. Get in touch nearer the date of our recommencing and we can arrange it. It would be a good time for anyone new to choir singing, and lacking confidence, to give it a go, as we aren't back yet and it's already been fourteen months since we sang together, so we're going to be rusty!

Hope to see you all before too long.

GARDENING GROUP

June was Geoff Hamilton's favourite month. "The foliage is at its finest, borders are awash with flowers, with plenty to come; strawberries have started, raspberries are on their way and the vegetable plot is at its most mouth watering."

The warmer weather also encourages us to keep on sowing and enjoying time outdoors, as long as we can dodge the showers! There are plenty of jobs to do as we potter on our plots and don't forget this is the time to do the "Chelsea Chop" on plants like sedums, echinacea, monarda, achillea, aster, phlox, helenium and nepeta, to encourage stronger growth and lots more flowers a bit later in the summer.

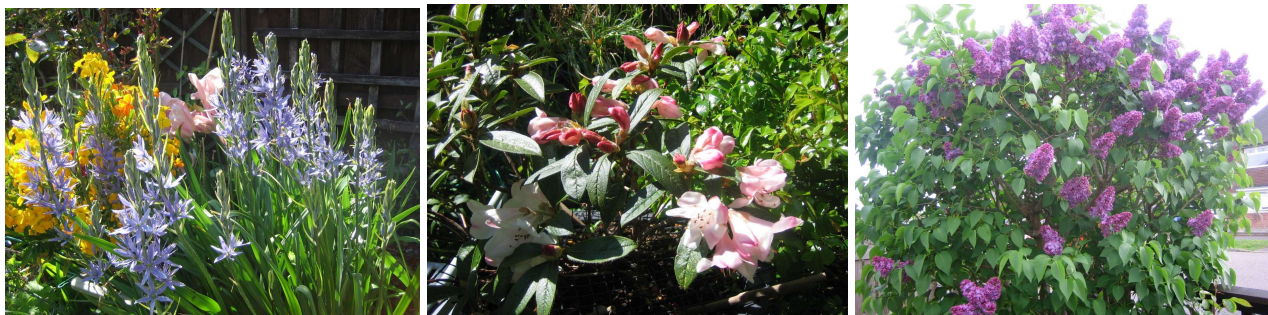
Each year I grow Ipomoea, or Morning Glory, half hardy annual climbers. They germinate easily and can be grown against walls or fences or up fruit trees to fill in gaps. They can be put in the garden as soon as the threat of frost has passed and will quickly climb. These days there are so many colours to enjoy- blue, purple, white, pink and scarlet. And it turns out that sweet potatoes are ipomoeas too.

As we are able to get out and visit gardens now you may want to have a look at soon The Laskett, in Herefordshire. It has just been donated to the charity Perennial and is the home and garden of Sir Roy Strong. (To book a visit you can call 01372384045)

The charity also has 2 other gardens, York Gate near Leeds and Fullers Mill Garden in Suffolk. These are also open to visitors. You may have seen the programme about the development of the RHS garden at Salford, Bridgewater. That is opening now and includes the Worsley Welcome garden, the Paradise garden, an extensive kitchen garden, an orchard with heritage fruit trees and a Chinese Streamside garden. To book go to www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/bridgewater

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Whatever you do and wherever you go, enjoy all that this month has to offer in the gardens around us.



LUNCH GROUP

I was hoping to book Sprinters in Arnold for our first Lunch Group of the year on 23rd June but they inform me they are not taking group bookings until after 21st June when (Boris permitting – their words) they will open indoors for groups. I expect many venues are doing similarly so hopefully we may be able to meet up on Wednesday, July 28th at Sprinters. Watch this space!

NATIONAL TRUST GROUP

As you will be aware the decisions regarding the lifting of social distancing rules and face covering etc have still not been made and at the time of writing this on May 26th but are due to be announced on June 14th, although this may change again!!.

So presently we are still in the same position as last month with National Trust properties not accepting coach bookings and the coach companies forced to limit numbers on board.

If we have some positive news in the next few weeks then we will email or phone all members who were originally on the Fountains Abbey list to give out further information.

This group will include everyone who paid for the trip and also the few people who requested their money back.

Hopefully we are getting close to making real progress but in the meantime enjoy the better weather which is forecast for the next week.

Sue and Barrie

PICKLEBALL GROUP



During the structural work and changes at Hucknall Leisure Centre courts have been booked at the Kirkby in Ashfield (Festival Hall) Leisure Centre on:

Thursdays from 1:30 pm to 3:30pm.

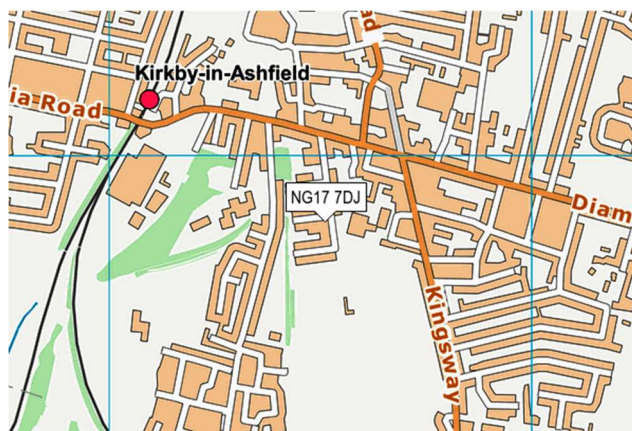
Please note the change of times from our previous 2pm start.

Several members acted as an advance party and played our first session since early March 2020 on the 20th May.

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Covid protocols are in place which restrict each court to a 'bubble' of 6 players.
This worked well on the first visit.

Location: Hodgkinson Road Kirkby in Ashfield NG17 7DJ



David and Terry

PUB QUIZ & LUNCH GROUP

Hopefully we may be able to re-start the Pub Quiz & Lunch at the Nabb Inn possibly in July but I will contact everyone nearer the date.

Answers to the cryptic clue quiz for May on **Flowers & Herbs**

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. This flower is one in the eye for the girl? | IRIS |
| 2. Got Up? | ROSE |
| 3. Please remember me? | FORGET ME NOT |
| 4. Fashionable feline? | DANDELION |
| 5. Cunning animal's hand warmer? | FOXGLOVE |
| 6. Bovine error? | COWSLIP |
| 7. Wed Precious Metal? | MARIGOLD |
| 8. Spring Month? | MAYFLOWER |
| 9. Sad Ringer? | BLUEBELL |
| 10. Vehicle State? | CARNATION |
| 11. Duration? | THYME |
| 12. Bill sounds like a nice fellow? | SWEET WILLIAM |
| 13. Industrious Queen? | BUSY LIZZIE |
| 14. Receptacle for dairy product? | BUTTERCUP |
| 15. Used in thickening sauces? | CORNFLOWER |
| 16. Mrs Bucket's first name? | HYACINTH |
| 17. Enclosure in criminal court for prisoner? | DOCK |
| 18. A nice pad on a lake? | LILY |
| 19. A Vicious Welsh emblem? | SNAP DRAGON |
| 20. A wise old herb? | SAGE |

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Here's a General Knowledge quiz to pass the time away during June.

1. Which German word means lightning war?
2. Can you name the rather tall co-presenter of the BBC One television quiz show *Pointless*?
3. What name links the former rugby playing husband of Charlotte Church to the creator of The Muppets?
4. Name the last British monarch to be born outside Great Britain?
5. Which British television series is filmed at Weald and Downland Living Museum in Singleton, West Sussex?
6. What did Ian Dury and the Blockheads want to be hit with?
7. Human cells normally contain how many pairs of chromosomes?
8. What is the name of Joe Biden's wife?
9. What's the name of the tallest of all penguin species?
10. What name is shared by a fictional plantation and the eldest daughter of Joan Collins?
11. Designed by Danish architect Jorn Utzon, in which decade was the Sydney Opera House formally opened?
12. Which famous American company has supplied the Presidential helicopter since 1957?
13. Which actor was dubbed the muscles from Brussels?
14. In miles per hour, what's the maximum speed limit that mobility scooters are allowed to do on UK roads? (Hint: if you need a clue, it's either 8, 12, 14 or 16 mile per hour)
15. What does a Brannock Device measure?
16. An ice giant is a giant planet composed mainly of elements heavier than hydrogen and helium. There are two ice giants in the Solar System, can you name both?
17. Who starred in the sitcom *Nearest and Dearest* with Hylda Baker and played Cannonball Lee in the 1990 film *The Krays*?
18. Which Jane Austen novel tells the story of naive young Catherine Morland and her journey to a better understanding of herself and of the world around her?
19. Which 3-digit number, particularly in America, is cannabis culture slang for marijuana?
20. Name the world's lowest lying capital city, it sits an amazing 28 meters below sea level?

READING GROUP

A Reading Group meet up in Margaret White's garden is planned for early June, weather permitting. Unfortunately at this moment Hucknall Library is *still* not open so it has been difficult to return books etc but they have automatically renewed all books until 1st July and I understand that they have a Click & Collect service if you log on to the Inspire website. Also I believe you can return books to any library so if you happen to be passing another one in Nottingham, give it a try.

SCIENCE GROUP 2

In May our topic was Floods and Flooding. Floods are becoming more frequent in most parts of the world. They have many causes and can be country wide, affect a town or just a local street or area.

This example is Thorsby Dale in 2020.



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Next month we are meeting via Zoom on Friday 18th June at 10am for a presentation on 'The History and Development of Forensic Science'

David Rose

THEATRE GROUP

Strictly The Professionals Concert Hall on Saturday 17th July 2021 at 2.30pm.

I have 5 tickets for both these shows. Please let me know if you want to do both or just one of them. Payment only received for one of them

Riverdance Concert Hall on Saturday 28th August.2021 at [2.pm](#) please let me know if you are available for this date.

Chicago on Saturday 23rd October 2021 at 2.30 tickets £49.50. Please let me know if you would like to go.

9 to 5 The Musical at Theatre Royal on Wednesday 27th October 2021 at 2pm Tickets £50.00.

The Adams Family at Theatre Royal on Saturday 13th November at 2.30pm. Tickets £40.00.

Mathew Bourne's Nutcracker Ballet at Theatre Royal on Thursday 14th April 2022 at 2pm Tickets £40.50.

Singing in the Rain at Concert Hall on Wednesday 6th July 2022 Tickets £40.50.

The Book of Mormons Musical on Saturday 20th August 2022 at 2.30pm Tickets £65.00.

Please let me know if you are interested in coming to any of the above shows at ives.barbara@gmail.com as soon as possible.

The following shows have been cancelled:

The Great Gatsby.

Sister Act

Guys and Dolls

Barbara Ives.

UKELELE GROUP

This group formed almost 6 years ago and up to the lockdown 14 months ago members were playing enthusiastically, introducing new songs each month.

In 2020 they held a few session on Zoom but it wasn't a popular way of playing as a group, having to 'mute' while only being able to hear the leader of the group playing.

24 May 2021 was the date set for an outdoor session, the days leading up to that Monday morning had been atrocious, weather wise, more like November than May, but at 9.15am the sun was shining and the decision was taken to go ahead. The get together to be on the patio at Alan's home, balloons were tied to the hedge at the entrance to his drive so the nine other members could easily locate the house,. So keen were the members one arrived a good 20 minutes early and another missed the drive and had to go another mile before they could turn around.

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Everyone was set up and ready to go at 10.30am, Phil, the group leader admitted that he had not touched the uke since the last Zoom meeting, last September, gasps of horror could be heard from everyone, before most admitted they were as guilty of not practicing.

Gradually everyone 'warmed up', their playing that is and the sun continued to shine. We managed to play all the songs requested, finishing just as the grey clouds arrived.

A very successful morning, to be repeated on Monday 14 June, same place, same time.

Vivian, Group Co-ordinator

WALKING GROUP (SHORT WALKS)

We are pleased to be up and running once more (actually it's more like a gentle stroll)

On May 20th eighteen members enjoyed a 4 mile ramble from Lowdham, mainly on footpaths with good views. We also walked by the building in the photograph the Grade II listed Lowdham Mill on the Doverbeck River.

Unfortunately my photograph of the group was way out of focus, apologies for that.

We are pleased to welcome new members to the short walks: Ken Carlin, Pauline Archer and Gary and Tina Holmes.

The next walk is on Thursday June 18th venue tbc



David Rose

WALKING GROUP (MID LENGTH WALKS)

On May 17th twenty-five of us went to Gunthorpe Bridge for our first walk for 14 months.

We walked in 3 smaller groups, which gave us the chance to chat and abide by the covid rules! Our route was from Gunthorpe along the river path to Burton Joyce, returning via the wooded path (5 miles).

We had deliberately planned for a shorter walk than normal, to give time to have a picnic in the field by the river afterwards. However, at 12 o'clock the heavens opened, and we all got drowned; hail stones were even making a big splash on the river. So, the picnic was abandoned!

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We'd had a lovely morning despite this. It was good to see 'real' people after all this time and everyone is looking forward to the next walk in June.

WEEKENDERS GROUP

The June Newsletter will be sent out after 1st June. Once again, many thanks to Margaret Whilde for printing off copies for those members not on email and for delivering them on her morning walk. We plan for garden meet ups at the end of May and also optimistically our birthday lunches, an outing and a Christmas lunch – more details later. Sadly one of our ladies passed away this month; we shall miss Joyce Crane at our get togethers; she was a lovely lady.

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HUCKNALL & DISTRICT U3A INTEREST GROUPS

June 2021

For further details contact check the website at www.hucknallu3a.org.uk from there you can email the respective Group Leader

ARTS

ACOUSTIC GUITAR	1 st &3 rd Thursday 10:00
CHOIR	1 st Wednesday 13:20
	3 rd Wednesday 11:20
DISCUSSION	1 st Monday 13:45
DRAMA	4 th Friday 10:00
FILM CLUB	Thursday 12:30
HISTORY	3 rd Wednesday 14:00
NATIONAL TRUST	Various dates & times
READING (BOOKS)*	1 st Wednesday 14:00
SINGALONGA	3 rd Tuesday 10:30
THEATRE	various dates
UKULELE	2 nd &4 th Monday 10:00

ACTIVE WELLBEING

CYCLING	Every Wednesday 9:00
EASIER CYCLE	Every Friday 9:00
GROWING OLD DISGRACEFULLY*	Various
GRUMPY OLD MEN	Various
NOT SO GRUMPY OLD MEN	Various
KURLING	2 nd Sunday 3-5pm
PICKLEBALL	Thursday 14:00
SEATED EXERCISE	4 th Monday 14:00
WALKING (LONG)	1 st Tuesday 10:00
WALKING (MID)*	3 rd Monday 10:00
WALKING (SHORT)	3 rd Thursday 10:00

FOOD & DRINK

BREWERY SCIENCE & HISTORY	Various
GINOLOGY	3 rd Thursday 19:00
INTERNATIONAL DINING	As Arranged
LATE BREAKFAST	1 st Friday 09:15
LUNCH GROUP	4 th Wednesday 12:00
PUB QUIZ & LUNCH	2 nd Monday 12:00
WINE APPRECIATION*	3 rd Monday 19:30
WINE TASTING *	3 rd Wednesday 19:30

HOBBIES & PASTIMES

CANASTA	1 st & 4 th Friday 19:00
CRAFT 1 *	3 rd Monday 13.45
CRAFT 2	2 nd Tuesday 14:00
GARDENING	3 rd Tuesday 14:00
HOLIDAYS	various dates
KNITTING & CROCHET	4 th Tuesday 14:00
MAH JONG	2 nd Friday 19:00
POT LUCK *	1 st Wednesday 19:30
RUMMIKUB1	1 st Monday 14:00
RUMMIKUB2	Thursday 13.00
SCRABBLE	4 th Thursday 14:00
TABLE GAMES	3 rd Friday 19:00
WATER COLOUR	1 st Monday 14:00
WEEKENDERS	various Sat & Sun.

LANGUAGES

FRENCH CONVERSATION*	3 rd Tuesday 10:00
FUN WITH LANGUAGES	2 nd Thursday 10:30

SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SCIENCE 1	4 th Thursday 10:00
SCIENCE 2	3 rd Friday 10:00

*Indicates group full. If you are interested then contact Siobhan who will happy to help you set up a further group. Please be aware that some Interest Groups have a limited number of places due to activity, venue etc.

Group Leaders are normally available in the Board Room at the monthly U3A meetings to answer any questions that you may have about their group. Their contact details are displayed on the Interest Group Information Board.

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