

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN



Dear Fellow Members of Ballymoney U3A

In 1938 as the crisis in Europe deepened the prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain, described the issue regarding the Sudetenland as a "quarrel in a far away country, between people of whom we know nothing."

When we first heard about Covid-19 a year or so ago it was a bit like that. China is a long way away and we have had these scares before – swine flu, avian flu, etc, but they soon passed. The so-called Spanish Flu killed countless millions of people all over the world between 1918 and 1921 but there is no one alive today who actually remembers that awful pandemic. And time seems to have erased the memory of some of the practical steps used at that time to counteract it. Medicine has come a long way in the interim but victory over the Coronavirus doesn't look as if it is going to be conquered any time soon, if ever.

Our entire world has been turned upside down. Many of the activities that we simply took for granted until only nine months ago have been suspended indefinitely. Some may never be resurrected. Life during the Spanish Flu pandemic has many parallels to life to-day except that 100 years ago the marvels of the technology that we now take for granted did not exist. At least to-day we can communicate using the internet via Zoom and other media which has been a Godsend. It has been a real life-line for organisations such as U3A. Covid-19 has seen to it that this year's programme has had to be curtailed, but thanks to our committee, only to a certain degree. Obviously, our monthly meetings have had to be suspended, as with other activities where we were required to gather together. But we have managed to put together a pretty varied programme of events that can be carried out either physically, within the current regulations, or by Zoom.

I sincerely hope, therefore, that it will continue to hold your interest in U3A for as long as this "plague" continues to disrupt our normal lives.

Keep safe.

John W D Pinkerton, Chairman



ZOOM TRAINING – FINAL ROUND

Zoom Training will be held on Monday 16 November 10:30 am

With the dark winter months drawing in, you may like to occupy some time with your U3A and join in Zoom activities eg Quiz, Zoom Readers, Family and Local History, Creative Writing etc.

If you are unfamiliar with Zoom, don't worry, we will help get you started.

In all probability this will be the last Zoom Training on offer so please take advantage of this opportunity. Please confirm your wish to attend by email to Irene at groupsu3a@gmail.com. Please respond by 10 November.

ACTIVITY ADMINISTRATORS AND LEADERS

BU3A WEBSITE and FACEBOOK

WE ARE GLAD THAT YOU ARE VISITING OUR WEBSITE

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

PHOTOGRAPHY

Every month the photographers can post themed photos on



'Not Again' by Kieran Casey

Michael Diver, our new Webmaster, is updating FRAE THE TOON WEBSITE, and FACEBOOK for 2020 2021. Michael would welcome your support in updating Activity details, Admin and Leader information. In these current times we do not know how long it will be before we get back together for meetings and activities. However, we strive to keep the information as accurate as possible.

If possible, Admin and Activity Leaders should send a monthly report on activities undertaken to Michael or any news updates or matters of interest to the members. In these times it is important to keep in touch with our members, update them on activities or news and to encourage them to take part in any activities we can still run.

TO CHECK YOUR ACTIVITY INFORMATION - LOG ONTO FRAE THE TOON.

GO TO ACTIVITIES (2nd tab) and follow down the page to the bottom to see all existing details.

BALLYMONEY U3A

Home Activities News About Us Meetings Homeless Ballymoney Contact Blog

BALLYMONEY U3A		ACTIVITIES					
Activity	Day	Time	Venue	Leader	Admin	Phone	Email
ARCHERY	Suspended						
BOOK GROUP	Suspended						
BOOK READERS - see Note ****	Wed Thursday	10 am - 11 am	Meet by Zoom	James	James		James.Lynch@talk21.com
BREXIT	On line sessions available	1pm	Meet by Zoom	Kathleen	Kathleen	078 2112 7029	Julia12_A@talk21.com
CREATIVE WRITING	Wed Thursday	10.2 - 10 pm	Meet by Zoom	Sharon	Sharon	0773 208 9999	sharon@talk21.com
CURRENT AFFAIRS - see Note ***	Suspended						
DICTIONARIES	Suspended						
FAMILY LOCAL HISTORY	Wed Thursday	11 am - 1 pm	Meet by Zoom	Kathleen	Kathleen	028 2766000	kath@talk21.com

- **EXISTING ACTIVITIES** - IF YOU WISH TO MAKE CHANGES (amend as per normal times, adding COVID times). See Michael's details below.
- **NEW ACTIVITIES** - WRITE UP SOME DETAILS WITH DATES, TIMES etc.
- **CHANGES TO:** michael.diver@talk21.com
- **TO DISCUSS** - Michael's Mob: 07733720463

MEMBERSHIP FEES – RENEWALS

To facilitate those still wishing to RENEW their membership of BU3A and wish to PAY by CASH, Marion will be present at the main doors of Holmes Memorial Hall on Tuesday 10 November, from 11am to 12 noon.

To facilitate those who prefer to pay by BACS or CHEQUE, please contact our Treasurer (John Michael) by email or mob: johnmichaelu3a@gmail.com / 07718338909.

Current Fee Rates

Individual: **Cash or BACS payment** - £9 with the U3A magazine; OR £6 without

Cheque payment - £10 with U3A magazine; OR £7 without.

Associate: **Cash or BACS payment** - £5 with U3A magazine;
OR £2 without (member of another U3A and get magazine already)

Associate: **Cheque payment** - £6 with Direct Mail;
OR £3 without (member of another U3A and get magazine already)



27 November 2020

Next Quiz will be held on 27 November at 7.30 pm.

It has been so encouraging to see such a significant increase in participants. Join us for the craic. Win or lose it doesn't matter – you can even keep your score a secret!

If you wish to take part please contact Irene at: quizbu3a@gmail.com and she will send you an email with a zoom link so that you can join the Quiz.

DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING - VIA ZOOM

DATE: Tuesday 1 December

TIME: 11 am

SPEAKER: Ann Donnelly - Film show N Ireland Screen, Digital Film Archive.

This is our first attempt at holding our monthly meeting via Zoom. We encourage you to support us by taking part and seeing/chatting with your BU3A friends.

Ann Donnelly will speak about the history of Ballymoney and surrounding area.

NB: Irene will send an email to all members, prior to Tuesday

1 December. (Meeting Room will be open from 10.30 am.)

UPDATE RE: COVID – from NACN

WHAT YOU CAN DO/NOT DO!

[StayHomeSaveLives](#)

I have been identified as a '**close contact**' via 'HSCtracing' text or through the StopCOVID app

? What does this mean? Go home Stay home

Can I go to the shops?	No ✗
Can I go to work or school?	No ✗
Can I go out for a walk or exercise?	No ✗
Can I meet up with friends outside?	No ✗
Can I go into my garden?	Yes ✓
Can I visit my friends or family?	No ✗

Does this mean I will definitely get COVID-19?

No but you are at risk – a 'close contact' is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

How long do I need to stay at home?

As a close contact you need to self-isolate at home because you are **at risk of developing symptoms in the next 14 days** and could spread the virus to others before the symptoms begin.

If you develop symptoms book a test.

www.pha.site/coronavirus

Regards

Veronica McKinley

Health Improvement Officer

NICHI Project

Northern Area Community Network

The Old School House

25 Mill Street

CUSHENDALL

BT44 0RR

TEL: 02821772100/ MOB: 07545697899

E: health@nacn.org/ Web: www.healthallianceni.com

FB: www.facebook.com/NorthernAreaCommunityNetwork/ Twitter: [@AreaNorthern](https://twitter.com/AreaNorthern)

SUPPORT AVAILABLE FROM THE THIRD AGE

TRUST – more commonly known as TAT. It is the national charity which supports all U3As.

N I Region of U3A Update (See attached)

Read for yourself the current issues, ideas, seminars, learning workshops, and competitions (such as the National Poetry Competition). See attached. You can access lots of information at:

- 1 The Third Age Trust's Newsletter.**
- 2 The Third Age Trust Facebook page "Keeping in Touch".**
- 3 Learning Programme- National Office 2020 2021(attached)**