

Milford & District U3A Monthly E-Newsletter: October 2020

Despite all the challenges that we have faced with Covid, lockdown and social distancing we are pleased to report that our U3A is still active and attempting to make the most of the situation we find ourselves in. Some groups have taken to meeting online, with enthusiasm, and others have managed to meet in various venues despite being restricted to the “rule of 6” and having to very carefully following the guidelines laid down by U3A Head Office and hall protocols. We do so hope that eventually more groups will return to actual meetings’ but we ask you to bear with us until such time as it is safe to do this.

I have three items to mention:

1. The Monthly Talk on THIS FRIDAY 9th at 2pm

Naturally we cannot meet at Milford Village Hall, but the talk will take place online via Zoom for those of you who would like to try it. Anthony Poulton-Smith will be talking on “**The Origin of Place Names**”.

Ever wondered why our towns and villages are so named? Anthony will examine the origins of the names with which we are so familiar with a special emphasis on Surrey. This is not just a dictionary but a history and will prove invaluable not only for those who live and work in the county but also visitors and tourists, historians and former inhabitants, indeed anyone with an interest in Surrey.

The talk will last for approximately 25 minutes with a Q/A session to follow.

We do hope that you will support this activity: it’s a first for us and we want to show the speaker that we have an enthusiastic group of members. If you want to join the talk please email Alan Day webmaster@milford-u3a.org.uk by Friday morning at the latest. He will then send you an email with the zoom link which you will need

to click on from 1.45pm onwards. Don't click on it any earlier as the virtual "doors" won't be open!

2. Barbara Broad RIP

"We were all shocked to hear of Barbara's sudden death in August. Barbara was an incredibly busy lady both in and outside of the U3A. She was a lifelong fan of Bridge and Classical Music, but also had an interest in the Vountary sector in relation to teenagers, particularly young women. Barbara decided that retirement was an ideal opportunity to try out a whole range of new interests, and she joined several local U3A's to try out new language, music and cultural experiences. In some of these groups she would take up a back role of helping with refreshments, but she was also happy to step in on occasions to act as a temporary leader, and had helped run the Current Affairs group whilst Robin Bailey was indisposed.

Barbara never join the committee, mainly because the meetings clashed with her Bridge club, but over the years she made a significant contribution to Milford U3A. Barbara had taken over the role of Talks Co-ordinator at a time when attendance was very low, and through her efforts a varied programme was put together which more than doubled the numbers regularly attending. Before her death Barbara had put together the programme for 2020/21 and, whilst there have been some minor changes, the programme that you will enjoy this year is one that she created. Barbara will be missed by all those who knew her."

John Oakey

3. **Vacancies.** Yes, I'm afraid we are still short of members to get involved in the running of our branch. Following the resignation of our membership secretary we are in desperate need of a replacement to help co-ordinate the membership renewals. If you would like more information please contact Kirsten at membership@milford-u3a.org.uk Gilliam Martin has taken over the role of Monthly Talks Coordinator so we need someone to take over her previous role as publicity coordinator. Please contact Gillian at publicity@milford-u3a.org.uk

Finally, you are receiving this email as you are still on our U3A membership list. If you are no longer wish to be a member please let me know so we can adjust our records and thus prevent you receiving any further unnecessary emails. Please note that anyone who has not paid their subscription by October 16th will

automatically have their contact details removed from our Beacon system.

Jan Honeysett

(Tel. 01483 429615 secretary@milford-u3a.org.uk)