

# HOLYWOOD & DISTRICT U3A MONTHLY MEETING

# U3A GENERAL MEETING by ZOOM

# Friday 19th March 2021 @10.30 via Zoom

# Martyn Todd will speak on The Strangford Stone in Delamont Country Park

Further Zoom link details will follow via email to all members.

# **GROUPS INCLUDE:**

AMBLERS BOOK READING COFFEE & CHAT

CHOIR CANASTA

FINE DINING

CREATIVE WRITING BOWLS

LOCAL HISTORY

LOOSE ENDS OUT & ABOUT CINEMA

GARDENING SHORT STORIES
POINTS OF VIEW

#### **AMBLERS**

Unfortunately with travelling restrictions and limits on numbers meeting as a group it is not possible to meet in March. I hope you are all taking your daily exercise and it may be possible to meet in April.

Joy

#### **BOOK READING GROUP**

Unfortunately, the Book Group is not currently meeting via Zoom at this time. The convenor misses them very much and looks forward to the day when we can get together again. Hopefully, that possibility is closer on the horizon now.

#### **BOWLS**

Bowling both Outdoor and Indoor are conserved there will not be any play. Hopefully we will have more information for April News Letter.

Brian Cheyne

### **CANASTA**

I hope you are all keeping your Canasta up to scratch online. As soon as the Golf Clubhouse opens I will ask for a date for our return. In the meantime I hope everyone is keeping safe and well.

Joy

### **CHOIR**

I hope everyone is well and coping with these very strange times. It looks as though it is going to be a while before we can actually meet up again so I was thinking that as most of you should have the Cool Choir Book of Popular Songs with the CD why not pop the CD on and have a wee bit of a sing ?! In the meantime stay safe .

Barbara

#### **COFFEE AND CHAT**

How I miss our coffee and chat mornings. I am reduced to talking to the dogs! Hopefully the coffee shops will open soon and with the vaccine we will get back to some sort of normality.

Joy

#### **CREATIVE WRITING**

We have been using prompts chosen by the convenor to stimulate our writing and the writers rose to the challenge with great success. All the members wrote amazing pieces, three having theirs included in the latest H@H issue.

For March, the group was again given a prompt, this time with Mothering Sunday in mind: 'My mother used to. . .', but they could choose to write about a mother, a grandmother, or any woman who has inspired them. Using this prompt is not mandatory, purely voluntary, as our writers have separate projects they are working on! We read and discuss all works submitted by the group, have great fun and amazing discussions, and learn so much every month, in two hours! (The convenor now knows what 'hallions' are.)

And if you're thinking about giving writing a go, new members are always welcome. Please contact the convenor for more details.

# **EXPLORING THE SHORT STORY**

During our March meeting via Zoom the group will be reading and discussing two short stories on the theme of isolation/alienation, quite befitting given the lockdown that seems to be lasting forever.

Even without the added curtailment of freedoms, many people have often experienced a sense of isolation or alienation from the societies they inhabit, either consciously or unconsciously. These are beautifully explored in Katherine Mansfield's 'Bliss', written in 1920, and John Galsworthy's 'The Japanese Quince', published in 1910. And yes, the two were specifically chosen to examine the differences between a male and a female character's experience with these themes. The discussion ought to be quite lively. (It usually is!)

New members are not currently being sought for this group. However, those members who were part of the group pre-lockdown are welcome to return at any time!

Please contact Denise.

#### FILM CLUB

Maybe not so long now to get back to the cinema.

#### **FINE DINING**

And to having dinner in a restaurant!

#### **GARDENING GROUP**

We are having a Zoom talk on the AFTERNOON of Mon 1st March as well as our monthly Zoom meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> March. The e-mail invites will be issued closer to the date of the talks.

- Mon 1<sup>st</sup> March at 2.15pm Jimi Blake "A Beautiful Obsession A plantsman's journey in his own garden" Note the later time in the day for this Zoom talk.
- Mon 15<sup>th</sup> March at 10.15am: The Insomniac Gardener aka Rosemary Maye "Colour for all seasons"

Please note that new members are very welcome. To join see the Gardening Group section on the Holywood District U3A website.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Mar @ 2.15am and Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Mar @ 10.15am.

# **LOCAL HISTORY**

The next History Group meeting is on Wednesday, 3rd March at 10.30am.

Phillip Orr will tell us about The History of Stricklands Care Village in Bangor.

We hope you can join us then.

Audrey will send out the zoom details on Monday, 1st March.

#### **LOOSE ENDS**

It is exactly a year since our last outing on 15th March. As you will appreciate, it is not possible to arrange any events for some time to come, but the vaccination rollout continues, giving us hope of an end to these interminable lockdowns. Until then, stay safe and well.

Sandra and Valerie

#### **Points of View**

29 March at 10.30-11.00. Topic "Cancer treatment or Covid-19? Who decides?"

In order to receive the necessary Zoom invitation participants are asked to make contact with Eric on <a href="mailto:groups@holywoodu3a">groups@holywoodu3a</a> or through the Holywood U3A website.

Best Eric

#### Zoom

Our Regional Representative, Valerie Cobain, has very kindly arranged for the possibility of The National U3A providing a tutorial (by zoom) just for Holywood U3A, on the use of Zoom.

I mentioned this at the General meeting on Tuesday and there does seem to be some interest. So would you contact me at <a href="mailto:groups@holywoodU3A.org">groups@holywoodU3A.org</a> if interested to allow us to assess numbers.

Many thanks.

Sharyn

# March U3A Zoom Calendar

Zo	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY		UR- DAY
		1	2	3	4		5	
		Gardening Group. Jimmi Blake. A Beautiful Obses- sion. 2.15pm						
	7	8	9	10	11		12	1
				<b>10.30am</b> U3A Exploring the Short Story.				
	14	15	16	17	18		19	2
		10.30am U3A Gardening Group. The Insomniac Gardener aka Rose mary Maye "Colour for all seasons"		10.30am. U3A Creative Writing		General Meeting 10.15am. Marty Todd . The Stra ford Stone in De lamont Park.	yn ang-	
	21	22	23	24	25		26	2
		10.30am U3A Points of View. Zoom Topic. Cancer treatment or Covid-19? Who decides?"						
	28	29	30	31				