

MORE NEWS AND REQUESTS ABOUT GROUPS

Literature and Society

I already run this group on the first Thursday of the month. Recently I have had several people wishing to join the group. During 2019 I tried to run a second group, but had insufficient interest, but recently more people have contacted me. In view of this I will offer a second group to meet on the morning of the second Thursday of the month. We meet at my house in Charlton Kings and there is a B bus stop close by.

The group is a book group, but instead of the book of the month being a given title, there is a topic and each person selects a title that covers the topic, but also shows an aspect of society. Part of the interest is in finding the book; people often read something they would never have thought of trying and really enjoy it. This can include both fiction and nonfiction.

The following is a list of the topics we will be covering in 2020:

- the Western (we have a genre topic each year)
- China
- school days
- non Christian religions
- holidays

In October the topic will be books around Black History Month.

One topic from last year was 'Academics' and people read Mary Beard's 'Women and power', C. P. Snow's 'The Masters', David Lodge's 'Changing Places', J. M. Coetzee's 'Disgrace'. Other topics from last year include food staples and transgender.

This is a group for those who enjoy the challenge of taking a topic and reading books they might normally avoid.

For my benefit the topic list would be common to both groups.

Could people who have contacted me before, please do so again? I think we need at least 6 to make a group viable. My contact details are in the Newsletter. Sheila Tomkins

The Music Theory group

The Music Theory group meets on the third Friday of each month at 10:45 at a member's home.

We now have a few vacancies and would welcome new members.

We are an informal and friendly group, interested in learning about music from a basic level. Whilst some members are quite knowledgeable many of us had no musical background. Some of us could not read music when we started but have enjoyed learning. We have ukulele players, members of choirs, late learners of instruments and some who are proficient in one instrument but are now learning another or have never learnt to play an instrument!

We are lucky enough to have a wonderful mentor who helps us on our way and opens the world of music up to further understanding. This is a learning set but is certainly not dull nor boring!

We would welcome new members and would support them to join, depending on their individual experience and knowledge – or lack of it !

Please contact Sue Pearce, contact details in the Newsletter.

Cheltenham Caravan and Motor Home Group

This group has been running for just over a year now. We have about eighteen members in the group. We have had five outings to campsites near Taunton, Wells, Sidmouth, Bridport and Leominster.

We take it in turns to choose an area and a site, and then members book their own pitches. We always have a meal at a pub and often a game of Boules or a perhaps a game of table tennis. Sometimes we have a walk led by a group member. Visits to National Trust properties, local beauty spots and local gardens are popular. Evenings are often spent chatting over the day's activities, helped by coffee, wine and nibbles, with all of us squeezed under someone's awning. On a chilly May evening one lady even brought her duvet to keep warm!

Our first trip next year is likely to be to Abergavenny in March. In May we are venturing abroad to France!

New members are always welcome to join the group. The only thing you need is a motor home or caravan. For more details, or to join our friendly group, please ring Linda and John, contact details in the Newsletter.

Ambling group

We have decided not to have an amble in January, but amble **leaders are needed for** both halves of February. Volunteers, please, to Peter or Sarah. Contact details in the Newsletter.

MOTO (Members on their own)

Are you a single member of Cheltenham U3A? Do you sometimes wish you had other people to go to social events with, or just others to chat to on a regular basis? With our MOTO group we aim to put members in touch with each other and to arrange get-togethers and outings.

We have a regular monthly meeting on the first Wednesday from 10.30am at St Matthews Church. Why not come along and find out more?

There is going to be a Christmas meal on **Wednesday 15th January 2020** at the Everyman Theatre. They have space for 50 people with a lift to all floors and accessible toilet facilities.

Price £19 for two courses or £23 for three courses, including crackers.

Please contact Marie or Sue for further details. Contact details in the Newsletter.