



Ringmer

Learn, laugh, live

Newsletter for Autumn 2020

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This year we held a different AGM. Rather than a single meeting it has taken the form of a process over several weeks finishing with a Zoom session on Wednesday 12 August. Members received all the information that is normally given out at an AGM and had the opportunity to ask any questions. Then they were given the opportunity to vote. This has enabled every member to take part and vote if they wish. There are three members who are not on the web and they were asked if they wanted to take part.

As the AGM process is now complete we can report the outcome. I am encouraged by the participation which far exceeded the AGMs for the past two years where only 22 and 33 members attended. This year 88 members voted and 20 members joined the Zoom session to hear the result. One of those was in France and another in London. The wonders of modern science! You can read about the outcome further in this newsletter. I hope that you will agree that this process has been as democratic, if not more so, than in previous years.

I do hope that you will continue to put your faith in Ringmer U3A by rejoining now. I appreciate that the future of interest group meetings looks uncertain at present, but we will return to our meetings schedule and meanwhile we will do all we can to help members with their particular interest. Perhaps more zooming.

Do continue to keep safe. Best wishes,
Ian

<p>Enrolment Form attached</p>

You can ONE - Send completed Enrolment Form and a cheque to Ken OR
you can TWO - Pay through online banking (use your name as “Reference”) and either
scan completed form & email or just email all the details on the Form

Full details are on page 2 and on the attached Enrolment Form

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Results of AGM Voting on the Five Proposals

1. **It is proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the 2019 AGM.**

Votes - For 83 Against 0 Abstain 5 Carried

2. **It is proposed to reduce the Annual Fee for full members to £8, (after 1st January £6) and the Annual Fee for Associate Members to £4.**

Votes - For 85 Against 2 Abstain 1 Carried

3. **It is proposed that Sue Tibbenham be the Independent Examiner of Ringmer U3A accounts for 2020/21.**

Votes - For 88 Against 0 Abstain 0 Carried

4. **It is proposed that Deirdre Booth be elected on to the Executive Committee for 2020-21.**

Votes - For 83 Against 1 Abstain 4 Carried

5. **It is proposed that the following current members be elected en bloc on to the Executive Committee for 2020-21 (Ian Loughborough, Sylvia Coleman, Kay Fitzgerald, Ken Boot-Handford, Jill Collins, Keith Moore and Tim Polwart).**

Votes - For 86 Against 0 Abstain 2 Carried

Voting was carried out over a one week period using a Google Form. The results were verified by Keith and Ken.

Farewell to Jon

As many of you know Jon and Pam Elphick are leaving Ringmer so Jon has left the committee and the post of Newsletter Editor. We thank him for his contribution over several years. He has produced our Newsletter which is excellent. It is a vital method of keeping us all in touch. Jon also has an eye for detail and this has been most useful with proof reading material before we send it out. We will miss him.

Membership Renewal

As you might imagine this year membership renewal may be a little different due to the pandemic. There will be the traditional way of doing it: write out a cheque to Ringmer U3A and return the completed form with the cheque to me. My address is on the form.

Alternatively, to avoid contact it will be possible to: pay by bank transfer (details are on the form - make sure you add your name as reference!) and either send me an email with a scan of the completed form, or just send me an email with all the information the form asks for. The email address to use is on the form. We will consider that if you pay the subscription you are agreeing to the Terms and Conditions of membership, so signatures will not be needed.

I will send you an email confirming membership - note that this may be several weeks after you renew, to give time for the Treasurer and I to tie the payments and forms together.

Ken Boot-Handford

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Future Meetings

We live in uncertain times and our ability to hold interest group meetings is dictated by government restrictions. These restrictions are regularly changing and we receive advice from national U3A as to how we can proceed. This advice is passed to all Convenors so that they can assess what is possible for their particular group. Both Convenors and members are required to conduct a risk assessment before any meeting and further details are on the national and Ringmer U3A websites.

Some groups have held meetings using video conferencing, such as Zoom. If face to face meetings of larger numbers are not possible from September, then we hope that more Zoom meetings can take place. This can be done free for 40 minute sessions of up to 100 participants. However, the committee will look to see if there is any value in Ringmer paying for longer sessions. Some members who already have a Zoom membership have kindly offered the use of that membership when they are not using it. If any other members are in a position to help in this way then that would be appreciated.

Please remember to let your Convenor(s) know that you wish to remain with that group(s) for 2020/21 otherwise you will not know what is going on. Also if you cease membership then you will drop out of email information about any activities.

Welcome to Deirdre

I extend a warm welcome to Deirdre Booth who has now joined our committee. It is extremely good of her to volunteer to help out. Initially Deirdre will take on the role of Committee Secretary. Hopefully others will follow her lead as we still have four vacancies on the committee.

30th Anniversary

Thinking caps on please. We must celebrate the fact that Ringmer U3A has been going for 30 years. Clearly no gathering can take place at present, but we must be ready for the day when that becomes possible. Please do let your committee have any thoughts that you might have on this.

Open Day?

Our Open day should have taken place last Wednesday, but this was not possible due to the current pandemic. Your committee is determined to hold a similar event once it is safe to do so and members also feel safe to attend. Meanwhile we will continue to use the web and our Newsletters to keep members as informed as possible. If you are interested in joining a new group could you contact the Convenor so that you can go on their list of members or on their waiting list. This way you will be informed when it is possible to hold an event.

Ringmer U3A Committee 2020

The elected members held a Zoom meeting on Friday 14 August and agreed the following appointments:

Chair: Vacant, **Vice Chair:** Ian Loughborough, **Secretary:** Kay Fitzgerald, **Committee Secretary:** Deirdre Booth, **Treasurer:** Sylvia Coleman, **Membership Secretary:** Ken Boot-Handford, **Sun Representative:** Jill Collins, **Newsletter Editor:** Vacant, **Groups Coordinator:** Tim Polwart, **Webmaster:** Keith Moore, **Beacon Administrator:** Ken Boot-Handford.

Contact Ian if you would like to join the committee, initially without any specific responsibility.

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A	S	T	P	O	E	T	R	Y	S		<i>Astronomy</i>
S	S	Y	K	E	E	R	G	I	C		<i>Genealogy</i>
W	H	T	T	A	G	O	Y	S	H		<i>Yoga (x4)</i>
A	U	S	R	T	L	E	A	C	S		<i>Theology</i>
L	I	S	Y	O	G	A	N	I	L		<i>Poetry</i>
K	L	E	E	M	N	E	O	A	E		<i>French</i>
I	S	H	O	A	R	O	P	G	W		<i>Walking</i>
N	T	C	T	F	G	A	M	O	N		<i>Welsh</i>
G	E	N	E	A	L	O	G	Y	E		<i>Chess</i>
A	S	T	R	O	N	M	Y	O	G		<i>Greek</i>

Interest Group Subjects Anagram

1. Orgy path hop = Photography
2. Hayloft my iris = Family History

Answers to July Wordsearch, Anagram and Bob's Quiz

The July Newsletter can
be found on our website

1. Ringmer Horticultural Club
2. 1264
3. Waiting for Godot
4. Ophelia
5. Rupert Bear
6. Lewis Carroll
7. Lawn Tennis
8. A net
9. Snow stopped play
10. Platform 9 ¾ Kings Cross station
11. Quincey
12. The Godfather
13. Morris Garages
14. Mobile Army Surgical Hospital
15. Finland
16. Crossword Puzzle
17. Chinese (Mandarin), Hindustan, Spanish
18. Sheltering from the rain/ using an umbrella
19. Clay pipe
20. Mary Quant
21. Old Kent Road and Mayfair
22. Richmal Crompton
23. Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor
24. An overcoat
25. Tim Berners-Lee
26. Duchy Originals
27. C S Forester
28. Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
29. BBC
30. Saint George is their patron saint.

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