

Subject **Welcome to the May 2020 Newsletter from the vU3A**
From Virtual U3A <admin@vu3a.org>
To Derek <webmaster@buckinghamu3a.org.uk>
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Welcome to the May 2020 Newsletter
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Hello Derek

Welcome to this May edition of our newsletter, we hope that you are still managing to cope with this exceptional crisis we find ourselves in. It is because of this that, the vU3A team have decided to continue with our Open house, of which you are most welcome to join us in our Zoom Chat room which is totally FREE to all.

vU3A OPEN HOUSE

In these days when local U3A groups are unable to meet because of Covid-19 social distancing, vU3A, the virtual U3A is offering a taster of an online way of being U3A.

For a limited time, from April 20th we have vU3A Open House where you can explore some of the opportunities, such as video conferencing, typical activities such as an interactive Juke Box of light music and puzzles, information about how an online U3A might work, and useful links.

Particularly, we would like you to give us feedback about what you need in an online U3A, and what you think of Open House. If you want to be a member of vU3A there is a special reduced rate open for the next three months.

Open House is a taster, free of subscription; go to:

On your PC (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=95d5516b55&e=fe516952d1>)

On your smartphone (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=82a8e75b82&e=fe516952d1>)

If your browser prefers a secure site (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=5be835db23&e=fe516952d1>)

A Note about our Public Wiki (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=1e11652031&e=fe516952d1>) - It's a great way of discovering how we use the Wiki and what you find on there is the same as our Members Wiki, but, there is a lot more of it!

The link above will take you to the Front page and if you look down the right hand side there is the sidebar which contains the Groups list, well a small sample of it, all the links are hyperlinks so click on History (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=dcc7757e1b&e=fe516952d1>) and it will take you to the index page for that group, and so on.

Why not give it a go!

Are you a collector?

Do you have a collection you are proud of?

Some folk have the collecting habit - teddy bears, silver spoons, saucy postcards, sea shells and a hundred other things. If you are one of these and would like to share your collection with others, we'd like to hear from you.

A set of pages has been set up; not a Group since the interests can be so diverse, but the chance to let others see and admire what you have gathered together. You can tell us about how you collect, explain the special features, tell us which are rare maybe give us an insight into why you got involved in your hobby.

But you will need to join the vU3A first!

The May Tree

Hawthorn or 'May' (*Crataegus monogyna*) is rarely in flower on the First of May - it generally blooms closer to the middle of the month. But the 'May-tree' did flower at the beginning of May in mediaeval times when many folk traditions were first formulated. continue reading (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=35c0a00bfc&e=fe516952d1>)

Oak Apple Day May 29th

...Parliament had ordered the 29th of May, the King's birthday, to be for ever kept as a day of thanksgiving for our redemption from tyranny and the King's return to his Government, he entering London that day.

Samuel Pepys (1660)....continue reading (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=5d6ebfc14e&e=fe516952d1>)

Two inspiring women from the Victorian era, both pioneers of their day.

'As medics fight the coronavirus pandemic, their nursing achievements resonate':

Florence Nightingale (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=4af7b9b1e2&e=fe516952d1>) 12 May 1820 – 13 August 1910
Mary Seacole (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=283279354a&e=fe516952d1>) 1805 – 14 May 1881

Can't Do Without it!

'I was going through some of the comments in the Coffee Shop and they started me thinking.....imagine a big bubble over my head!
When my husband and I were married the only 'gadgets' we had were an electric kettle, an electric iron, a mangle that fitted on the edge of the kitchen sink and a Baby Burco cooker. Oh!
and an alarm clock'.....continue reading (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=376a297352&e=fe516952d1>)
A few poems taken from our Members

Fern Hill
Dylan Thomas
Written in 1945, Fern Hill begins as an evocation of Dylan Thomas's childhood visits to his aunt's farm, which expands into dreamlike metaphors and a lament for lost youth.
Read the poem (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=ee02a137b9&e=fe516952d1>)

Computers are funny

' I halve a spelling checker,
It came with my pea see.
It plainly marks four my revue
Mistakes I dew knot sea.'
continue reading (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=97ea43bffe&e=fe516952d1>)
The forgotten Bletchley Park

How genteel spa town of Malvern helped win WWII with experimental radar able to spot Hitler's night-time bombers.

Continue reading (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=6a6a4ea9e5&e=fe516952d1>)
Useful Websites

The Retirement Advice Centre (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=46ae54dc0b&e=fe516952d1>) - 'Taking care of tomorrow today.'
Webopedia (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=2261b00e93&e=fe516952d1>) - Extremely useful site if you are struggling with computer jargon
Age UK (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=a044b0c2cf&e=fe516952d1>) - The UK largest charity working with older people
Citizen Advice (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=b4acf65528&e=fe516952d1>) - For a wealth of very useful information
The Old Farmers Almanac (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=1e1c723dd2&e=fe516952d1>) - If you love Gardening you will love this site.
Arthritis Research UK (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=4c8c6097fa&e=fe516952d1>) - Useful website helpful and informative
Osteoarthritis (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=fcb56a00a9&e=fe516952d1>) - Good informative website
Glaucoma (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=f95c852820&e=fe516952d1>) - The international Glaucoma Association
Stroke (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=fe482fc4ab&e=fe516952d1>) - NHS Choices
Action on Hearing Loss (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=4a75787c06&e=fe516952d1>) The statistics
Tinnitus (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=93e28dabeb&e=fe516952d1>) - NHS Choices
Bowel Cancer UK (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=c74016a9b4&e=fe516952d1>) or NHS UK (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=26ff00b7ff&e=fe516952d1>) - Bowel Cancer
NHS UK Dementia Guide (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=f5df4c91f0&e=fe516952d1>)
Prostate Cancer (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=8432470cc7&e=fe516952d1>)
Resources for Older People (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=e4eac569b8&e=fe516952d1>) - Provide useful leaflets and advice.
VirusTotal (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=bf517764bf&e=fe516952d1>) - Free online service that analyzes suspicious files and URLs and facilitates the quick detection of viruses, worms, trojans, and all kinds of malware.
TrueKey (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=1330f3ac59&e=fe516952d1>) or LastPass (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=20279698f8&e=fe516952d1>) Sign in without passwords.
Everplan (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=a62fa28f7a&e=fe516952d1>) - How to handle the digital life that you'll leave behind, very informative.
Citizens Advice (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=12183ae3c4&e=fe516952d1>) has advice on this subject.
World USA (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=b07328371f&e=fe516952d1>) - connecting with members of USAs throughout the world
USA Online (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=83e26be444&e=fe516952d1>) delivering online learning via the Internet, from Australia
Elder Gym (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=f003c2c44b&e=fe516952d1>) for those moments when you feel a bit of exercise is just what's needed!!
Don't forget to join us in our Open House Zoom Chat Room, hope to see you there soon.
And don't forget, If you find something of interest in this e-newsletter or previous ones, then you will most certainly find something to interest you on our Private Wiki.
If on the other hand you have something to offer then why not join us (<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=952887d2dd&e=fe516952d1>)
<https://virtualu3a.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=719e81fe69d6ba66788462a89&id=dc3cea543&e=fe516952d1> and share it, and if you want to, get it published.

See you on the wiki soon.

Take care and keep safe

Ann

vU3A Team

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