

CHRISTMAS

2020

IN WASHINGTON VILLAGE





The last of 2020..... I hope

The year 2020 started off well but went seriously downhill in March, but we did manage to do some new things. We learned how to Zoom people, and queue socially distanced, all new concepts to us all. We went into shops, banks and other premises with masks on, last year we would have been arrested.

The committee of our u3a have been having virtual meetings since April when we began to use a form of Zoom. We have now upgraded to a better version and so we can hold monthly meetings.

Our first monthly meeting was our December Christmas meeting. This seemed to go quite well. Those who attended seem to have enjoyed it. We had a speaker from the police about cybercrime and scams. Linda Carr showed a very moving slide show of our activities even during lockdown. We had a brilliant Christmas quiz produced by Diana Clark, and the production ran very well. The committee decided it ran so well we are going to run more monthly meetings on Zoom with speakers and other activities.

The next monthly meeting will be 12th of January. We are arranging a speaker for this meeting, details to follow.

Anyone who would like some help with Zoom please contact me or a member of the committee and we will arrange some, one to one help. There also workshops run by the u3a on the Trusts main web site, just go to the site, log in and choose what you want to learn, it is all FREE.

Some of our groups can use the Zoom we have for sessions, the Camera and Computer Group have been using it for a few months, please get in touch if you want to use it for an u3a group and we will set it up for you.

I would like to thank the members of the committee for the hard work they have done this year. They have all had to learn new skills and how to use the technology we need to function as a u3a. It has been a very steep learning curve for us all. Thank you again. **Keith**

HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

The 2020 Journey of Washington U3A (with a nod to TS Eliot)

A hard year we've had of it
Just the worst year in our memories
It's been a journey, and such a long journey
Through summer and now in winter
Through worries and through lockdowns
A hard time we've had of it.

We've missed our meetings
We've missed the friendship
But our U3A is still here for you
Zoom meetings, newsletters
And the hope that next year
All will be well and we'll meet again

And here comes Christmas
Memories of last year's Geordie Nativity
Dancing from Maureen's ladies
Different this year, we meet by Zoom
But the message is just the same
Best wishes to all for a safe and happy Christmas
Diana Clark



Ready For Customers. I saw this window in Durham in a little teashop and felt it sent a definite message of being ready for the lifting of restrictions, *and for the future.*

The lockdown has been a time to enjoy activities such as local walks, baking from Mum's Bero Book and enjoying the change of the seasons as we continued through the pandemic. At first we could hear the birds singing and cross the road without traffic, then the summer flowers and autumn colours. As we continue through the winter we look forward to Spring, having the vaccine and then going wild! **Happy Christmas Everyone, Elisabeth Came**

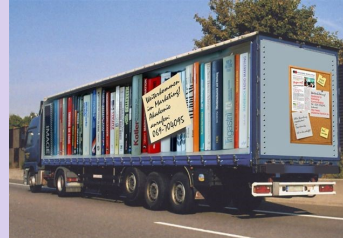
INDUSTRY!

Here are seven pictures of German trucks whose trailers are decorated to look like the sides are missing and the products they are hauling are painted on the sides and back..

The first one is of a bottle of beer and looks so real, like it is coming out the side of the trailer...



The third is of Pepsi cases and they are all stacked on the ceiling, and the bottom of the trailer is empty...



The remainder you can work out for yourself!

QUIZ – Find Ten Entertainers

1. A wise seaside partner in Lancashire. (4,9)
2. In a small town in Oxfordshire, and on the way to the moon "..... We have a problem". (7,7)
3. A shilling and optimism. (3,4)
4. Early morning in a Nice place? (4,6)
5. He asked his wife where he should meet her and she said, "David, I am within the walls". (5,8)
6. James thanked the right stag. (5,7)
7. Queen next to a group of trees (8,4)
8. Would you take her to court for her doggedness? (3,6)
9. The first half of an English rugby world-cup winner meets the second half of Nevada's biggest city. (6,5)
10. Tyssedal, not a Norwegian god, just a confused TV presenter who is sometimes



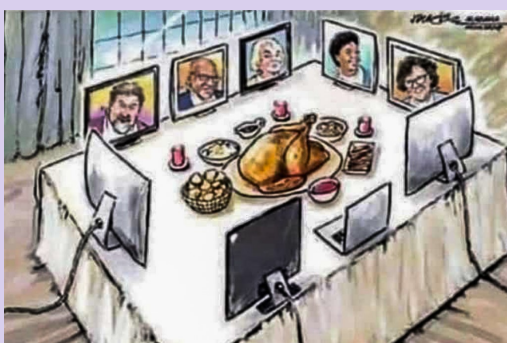
It'll end in tiers...

A doctor was addressing a large audience. "The material we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here years ago. Red meat is awful. Soft drinks corrode your stomach. High-fat diets can be disastrous, and none of us realises the long-term harm caused by the germs in our drinking water.

"But there is one thing that is the most dangerous of all - and we all have, or will, eat it. Can anyone here tell me what food it is that causes the most grief and suffering for years after eating it?"

After several seconds of quiet, a 75-year-old man in the front row raised his hand and said softly: "Wedding cake".

CHRISTMAS 2020?



A man goes to the optician for his annual eye test. The optician puts a contraption on his face and asks him what he can see.

"I see empty airports and empty football grounds" he says. "I see closed theatres, closed pubs, closed restaurants." "That's perfect", says the optician. "You've got 2020 vision". 😊



Photography Group Virtual Meeting on ZOOM – Photos of Boats and Ships



OUT AND ABOUT THIS MONTH

SENIOR BEHAVIOUR

- It's ok to talk to yourself- you sometimes need expert advice
- Lately you've noticed people your age are so much older than you
- Growing old should have taken much longer
- Ageing has slowed you down but hasn't shut you up
- You still haven't learnt to act your age and hope you never will
- Fashion style is clothes that still fit
- Your biggest lie – I don't need write that down I'll remember it.
- Your greatest wish – put yourself in the



From the National Newsletter

U3A Radio Podcast Episode 2

Our second episode of U3A Radio Podcast is out on our YouTube Channel. [Listen to it now.](#)

The podcast is made by talented U3A members, Ela, Nick and Peter, who all have experience in radio. In this episode, they talk to the winner of the National Creative Writing competition, a U3A member and author who refers to herself as the 'real Joan Collins' and other amazing members who make up our movement.

This is going to be a monthly radio podcast, released on the 17th of each month at 6am. [Subscribe to our YouTube channel here.](#)

If you have a story that you think would work as part of the U3A Radio podcast, [get in touch.](#)