

CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS

Newsletter No 4

7th January 2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

In times of crisis, opportunities for learning multiply. People may change and methods of learning are adjusted. Climate Conversations, along with all other U3A interest groups, will have our imagination tested on how to learn, enjoy ourselves and, at the same time, rigorously follow prevailing regulations.

CONVERSATIONS LAUNCH

As you know, Climate Conversations will be launched on Monday, 24th January. The form the launch will take is uncertain because of the coronavirus pandemic and learners' safety. Remainder of this newsletter will be devoted to current thinking how to proceed.

FIRST SUBJECT FOCUS

'Farming in the Community' and the impact of climate change was a natural subject for our rural community to consider. Arrangements had been made for the Hyde's farm at the top of Sandford Avenue to be the focus for attention on 24th January. Brenda and Sid Hyde had led a presentation on a U3A Local History programme in 2011 at which I was present. (Gaerstone Farm had been under the Hyde's stewardship for over 50 years) Brenda and Sid were brilliant. Brenda had agreed to lead our conversation at The Yew Tree. Sid was unwell at the time. Brenda's children and grandchildren were also invited.

BEREAVEMENT

It is extremely sad to report, that Brenda Hyde's husband, Sid, passed away just before Christmas. Heartfelt sympathy has been passed on to Brenda on behalf of our Group. Understandably, Brenda does not now feel she is able to join our conversation on 24th January. However, Brenda has invited a further approach later in the year and I was pleased to agree on your behalf.

TRIBUTE TO THE SID AND BRENDA HYDE

As mentioned earlier, both are known as leaders at a U3A event. Notes were gathered at an event over 10 years ago on 'Farming in the Community'. The information they both shared was inspiring and the reason why an invitation was extended to 'Climate Conversations'. Brenda is comfortable, at the right time, to share views on climate and environment with special reference to farms.

FIRST CONVERSATION MEETING?

Do we go ahead with our first conversation at The Yew Tree on the 24th Jan? Some U3A groups continue to meet, whilst others are reverting to zoom or postponing until Feb. I am willing to lead the conversation but not on zoom. The views of David, Barbara, and Mike would be most helpful. Sylvia and John have apologised for absence. "When two or three are gathered together" is fine by me. Please let me have your view by Wed 19th Jan.

Sylvia has confirmed that each U3A Group must decide for itself whilst also complying with government recommendations.

2022 PROGRAMMED CONVERSATIONS

Feb 21st – 2nd Longmynd Scouts - C Stretton:
Apr - Church Stretton School: July 18th – CS & York. All subject to confirmation.

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