

Hello Everyone

I hope you have all been keeping well and have adjusted to our somewhat strange way of living over the past few months.

Your committee has had a meeting to mull over how we see the remainder of the year and into 2021. We enjoyed a socially distanced morning in Victoria Park and decided that we should keep you all up to date with how we see things.

You won't be surprised I'm sure to hear that unless there is a dramatic change in the circumstances of COVID 19, F3A will not be meeting again before January and thereafter only if conditions allow.

Having received information from Simon Plenty regarding the use of the Assembly Rooms, there is a possibility of its re-opening in September. However, the current number of people allowed to meet is 30. There would be all the restrictions we have become used to, mask wearing and hygiene practices, which we feel would hugely limit the way we run our monthly Friday meetings.

Also we considered that many of you would feel anxious about meeting until we have much more positive and definitive information about the control of COVID.

So members, while it is a shame that our monthly gatherings with a speaker, a natter and a cup of tea must continue in abeyance, we hope that you may have been keeping in touch with your individual groups. The Walking Group and Bird Watching and Natural History have resumed their outings in a limited way, which is good news.

The committee will be meeting again at the end of October to review the situation and we will keep you informed of any updates.

On a separate matter, we will be in need of TWO new committee members in the New Year. Our Speaker Secretary, Jean Bryer and our Membership Secretary, Felicity Jones will be resigning. They have both given many years of support to F3A and helped to make the organisation run smoothly, welcoming new members and providing interesting and varied speakers.

It is most important, if F3A is to continue, that we ask you to consider offering your services. Should you feel you would like to consider one or other of these posts, please let me or any committee member know. As a first step I know that Jean and Felicity would be happy to talk through what is involved and how they work.

Finally, the committee is considering having a Zoom AGM in January. More information will be available nearer the time to enable you to take part.

Very many good wishes

Ursula Smallman
Secretary F3A