



September 2020

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The view from the Chair

Just when you thought it as safe to get back in the water, a second spike. However, you have seen enough on the news, and in the papers for me not to go on about it!

As a U3A we have been limping along, better than some and not as good as others. Some of the groups have started to meet up, although the paperwork can be fairly demanding, so they are using Zoom and other virtual methods. We should like to try a virtual coffee morning, bring your own, but there seems to be little appetite for that, but let me know if that is not the case.

I have been reading on a range of topics, The Ladies of Covent Garden on which the BBS series “Harlots” is based; Peter Geoghagen’s “Democracy for Sale; Dark Money and Dirty Politics” as well as the latest Peter James. In addition I have delved into some books about Sussex in which I found the following:

That the inventor of the torpedo had a daughter who married Georg von Trapp, you know the Sound of Music father with many children

There are only two churches in England, one in Sussex, dedicated to Saint Wulfran

One of the earliest of the great Norman churches is in Boxgrove and contains a series of unique architectural features Arundel castle claims to be the second largest castle in England and was the inspiration for the castle in Mervyn Peake’s Gormenghast. The Roman Catholic cathedral was designed by one Joseph Hansom who also invented the Hansom cab

The owner of Uppark in the late C18th brought a beautiful young “escort” down from London who would dance naked on the dining table to entertain his guests. Emma Hart later to become Emma Hamilton!

Blake as we all know wrote “Jerusalem” whilst living in Felpham, and Parry who later set in the music lived in Rustington

I could go on but I won’t as I will need stuff for the next edition of PV.

Thanks as always to Paul for pulling this all together and thanks to the other contributors, perhaps it will be you next time?

FELPHAM BRIDGE GROUP AN INVITATION TO NEW MEMBERS

This group is **open only to current members** of Arun West, Bognor Regis, Chichester or Selsey **U3A branches** and is run by a small committee of four volunteers. Apart from the annual subscription to one of these U3A branches, there are no extra charges and no limit to our vacancies.

The Covid 19 restrictions mean that our regular Wednesday afternoon meetings at Felpham Village Hall have been curtailed for the foreseeable future. However, we have kept in touch through our mailing list and have continued to send out a weekly email with a 'set hand' Bridge problem. The other good news is that we have discovered Bridge Base Online and also learned how to 'Zoom'. We have therefore been able to continue playing Bridge together on our 'Club Day' and our numbers have actually grown by 30% since March.

Without being too formal, we follow the Standard English 4-card Acol system with its most common conventions, Stayman, Transfers and Blackwood. Our weekly games are both competitive and friendly but no results are recorded or published. Bidding notes are available. Without proper teaching facilities, we expect new members to be able to bid and play without help or undue delay. However, beginners are welcome to ask our advice.

The FBG follows all policies and the spirit of the U3A including its Safeguarding Policy. In particular we do not share any member's contact details except with their express permission. and Blind Copy is used for all mailings. In fact, we now have a separate "Open Contact" list which ***is shared*** between those members who have agreed to be included. This is actually essential for the efficient running of the on-line Bridge and enables members to arrange extra games on other days.

We are able to help newcomers both to learn Zoom and with how to register with "[Basic Bridge Online](#)" (BBO). Each Wednesday from 2 to 4 pm we currently have 6 full tables playing on-line. Here the format is more like Duplicate Bridge but the scoring and the dealing are automatic. Newcomers more used to Chicago or Rubber Bridge can easily adapt. Laptops and PCs are ideal though many people play on their iPads. We operate a system where our usernames are all prefaced by fb (Felpham Bridge) and end with the initial of the surname, e.g. fbfredb for Fred Bloggs. This is essential to keep our group identity and to help recognition between club members.

Those interested are invited to contact their U3A Groups Coordinator or one of us.

Martyn Cornelius (Chair) 01243 827228 / martyncornelius@gmail.com

Clive Grinyer (Membership) 01243 511359 / clivecgr@gmail.com

Here is a sample Set Hand as sent weekly to the Felpham Bridge Group

Answers available to FBG members only.

SET HAND CG Q16(a) Dealer N

NORTH (hcp 12_ltc 9)

♠ J 3 2

♥ A 6 5

♦ 4 3 2

♣ A Q J 10

WEST

♠ Q 10 6 5

♥ 10 9 8 7

♦ Q J 10

♣ 4 3

EAST

♠ 4

♥ Q J

♦ 9 8 7 6 5

♣ 9 8 7 6 5

SOUTH (hcp 20_ltc 4)

♠ A K 9 8 7

♥ K 4 3 2

♦ A K

♣ K 2

How would you bid and play this hand? What is West's best lead?

BIDDING	West	North	East	South



Bongiorno Isobel!

Bongiorno Richard!

For meetings on-line as a foreign language conversation group, the Italian group have the advantage of being small – usually just 7 of us. The numbers might creep up again. At our last face to face meeting in March I remember one cry in anticipation of things to come: “Oh golly, I am going to go mad!”

But there were soon rounds of e-mails between meetings :- some cultural recommendations; some heart-felt off-loading concerning the demands of life; some in Italian but increasingly in English. Yes. But weekly Tuesday meetings continued in between whiles – now on Zoom.

At first the Zoom meetings were rather chaotic but by the third week we had settled into a pattern of a brief opening cheery time of greeting followed by each in turn presenting something prepared and of a calculated length: streamed musical events described and recommended, all the veg. in my garden, Primo Levi - novelist and chemist, the day my daughter parked the car across the tram lines in Milan insisting mistakenly that they were defunct! (family not to be identified).

Well I do have plenty of time to prepare for Italian now as I am not travelling around Arun in the morning to join in speaking German and at the end of Italian thinking I must get off in fair time to eat and go out again to sing : that's how Tuesdays were for me pre Covid. As I said above though, Tuesday Italian spills out onto the internet during the week.

La vita e cambiata.

Ciao Barbara! Ciao Lynn! CiaoPolly! CiaoJoy!
Article by Alan Walker