



Welcome to our March Interest Groups Online News Extra

Photo: by Modern Greek group member, Sheila

Dear Interest Groups Online member,

Your language skills may be tested this month as we have contributions from both the German and the Modern Greek groups, giving you a flavour of the languages and how the groups enjoy learning about their chosen countries. The edition also has an eye on foodstuffs, even down to the mini quiz and Ann's smartphone artwork. You can also enjoy **our 'longer reads'** on the website.

How is your IGO group celebrating the start of Spring? Please get in touch at interestgroupsonline@u3a.org.uk to let me know what you're up to, I'd love to include this in next month's News Extra.

Best Wishes,

Helen, Editor of the Interest Groups Online News Extra

Group News

Do any of these groups interest you? You can join any of these groups by following the instructions on the [Interest Groups Online website](#)

Astronomy

Don't have a telescope? No problem. Very little knowledge of astronomy? No problem. The group members are all at different levels of knowledge, but we are constantly learning. We all simply share a fascination for the cosmos.

Group members all contribute in some way to the meetings. If a member cannot use PowerPoint, then they tell the group about a news article, TV programme or show a film clip.

We have been known to involve music and films too. Members are always willing to support others such as producing slides for a member to give a talk.

Come along and share in the awe and wonder around us.

Group Leader, Catherine

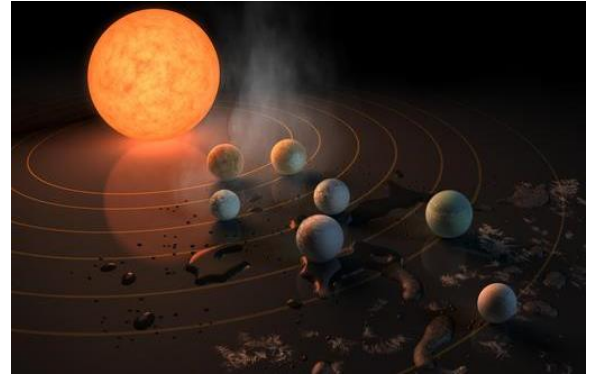


Photo credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech



Photo credit: Pexels

Talking Art

'I know nothing about art'. This is a comment many members make, yet they do know a great deal from daily life, whether it be a choice of paint colour or an advertisement, it's all art!

Our members are always learning from and inspiring each other.

We are interested in all things concerning art from abstract to Romanticism, sculpture to pre-historic art and art linked to music and literature. Members contribute in many ways and there is always discussion or other ways to get involved. We have storytelling, word searches, videos to watch and exhibitions or news articles to share.

So, come along and explore art and be amazed at how much you know and how fascinating it is – you will be very welcome.

Group Leader, Catherine

Why I Love Interest Groups Online...

"Ich freue mich sehr, dass ich mit u3a meine deutsche Sprache mit anderen Menschen üben und verbessern kann. Wir lesen auch zusammen und lernen neue Wörter."

"I very much enjoy that I can practice and improve my German with other people in the u3a. We also read together and learn new words."

Barbara, leader of Interest Groups Online's German Group
Read more from Barbara below.

Other News

Recipes from Austria

Kaiserschmarrne, Viennese potato salad...
have you ever tried Austrian food?

Barbara, who is the group leader of Interest Group Online's German group, travels to Austria often, where she can flex her German language skills.

One of the highlights for her is the food, and she's shared some of her favourites on the Interest Groups Online Noticeboard.

Read the full article from Barbara [on the u3a website](#).



The News Extra Quiz – March Food Based Mini Quiz

Question 1

What is the professional name of the cook born in 1935, Dame Mary Rosa Alleyne Hunnings?

Question 2

What are the key ingredients of Tzatsiki?

Question 3

Who wrote "How to be a Domestic Goddess: Baking and the Art of Comfort Cooking"?

Question 4

Aside from pasta, what are the key ingredients of a carbonara sauce?

Question 5

In what decade did Delia Smith first publish her Complete Cookery Course?

See all the answers on [the Interest Groups Online noticeboard](#)

Conversations with: Anne, a member of Modern Greek Conversation group

We would love to hear about your experience with IGO – share it with us by emailing interestgroupsonline@u3a.org.uk



Photo credit: Anne

"It can be challenging but, ultimately fun and satisfying to be able to read Greek words on the many signs and advertisements you see as you wander around a town or village in Greece, Southern Cyprus or the enchanting Greek islands.

Of course, it helps if they are already translated for you. You may not understand all the words, but you can often make a good guess at their meaning.

In Greece and Cyprus, Easter is the biggest religious festival of the year. You may not initially be able to work out what the word "Καλό" means on the Easter Egg. It is mainly translated to mean "good" (although in this case it would be translated as "Happy"), but you may be able to guess what "Πάσχα" means due to its closeness to the English "paschal" and the French word for Easter "Pâques" – that's once you know the Greek letter "Π" is equivalent to our letter "P" of course!

Greek is an exciting language.

If you want to learn Greek, join us in the Interest Groups Online Modern Greek language group – you can [join on Beacon](#).

What have you been doing in your Interest Groups Online group this month? Let us know and send us pictures to feature in the April Interest Groups Online News Extra.

Get in touch by emailing Helen at interestgroupsonline@u3a.org.uk



Group Notices

You can join any of these groups by [logging into Beacon](#).

New Groups

The IGO Team are currently analysing the results of our New Groups Survey, which offered members the chance to propose ideas for new groups that you want to see. The top two requested groups were History and Family History.

History Group – Start Up Meeting

On Wednesday 19 April at 2pm, we will be hosting a start up meeting for members interested in joining a History group. At this initial meeting, you will have the chance to discuss all the potential aspects and elements of the new group, and how it will be run.

To join this first meeting, please [log into Beacon](#), click 'interest groups online u3a groups', and scroll down to the 'History Start Up' group. You can then click 'Join Group'.



Photo credit: Pexels

Family History Group

This group has been newly formed by Dawn, a great group leader with lots of experience in the field. Dawn will work with members to set the programme for forthcoming meetings, and will guide you through all the resources you need to help you complete your own family tree. Join [by logging into Beacon](#), and please get in touch if you have any problems logging in.

Existing Groups with Space

Railways

This group is for people with an interest in Railways, large or small, new or old, UK or abroad. Each session, a group member or an outside contact gives a talk on something railway-related. It might even be possible to arrange a real rail outing!



Have you renewed your IGO membership for the 23-24 year? Renew on Beacon by **31st March** to ensure you can still be a part of IGO's groups. If you are having trouble renewing, please email interestgroupsonline@u3a.org.uk