

## Notes on meeting 12/07/2017

Please note important information at the end of this email

Hello Everyone

Once again there were just 9 of us for the meeting on 12th July, with 9 apologies.

We reviewed the previous meeting's notes and additional comments were made re the **Saving/Making Money** topic.....

- If you have a hearing aid, it's possible to purchase a disabled Rail Card pass for £20.00 which is valid for two people. The second person is classed as a carer and there are no age restrictions.
- Tesco vouchers can be used to purchase Rail cards.
- Voucher code app available for smart phone.
- Waitrose card, app on phone, gives 20% off up to 20 items purchased.

### **Agony Corner:**

No new items

### **Topic for the Day:**

**'Email Issues'**. Whilst it's more than two years since we covered this topic, it's one that regularly comes up in Agony Corner. We had two sessions, late in 2014 and early 2015 and I'd previously recently reissued PDFs of the presentations at that time as an aide memoir (qv last email). We had a very productive discussion today.

- Going around the table, we noted that some used the general Yahoo and Gmail addresses, some as supplied by their ISP and two had their own domain name. This later is very useful when changing ISPs as the same one can be used whoever you are with.
- For accessing email, it varied. Some were using the online web mail service of their ISP, some on line with Yahoo and Gmail and some PC based such as Windows Live Mail and Outlook. We debated the pros and cons of each.
- We discussed POP3 and IMAP and their specific uses.
- We examined the Gmail web page in detail and noted that it's appearance and apparent functions were different depending on what device (PC, tablet, phone) was being used.
- Gmail is particularly good at identifying spam and it's wise to check this folder if an expected email has not arrived.

### **Important Group Information:**

At recent meetings I have mentioned that I believe that the time has come to make changes as to how the group is run. A Computer Group has been running in one form or another

since the start of Stowmarket U3A 27 years ago (!) so I'm reluctant to abandon it completely. There is definitely a need to change the format, however, because as time goes by people's needs change and improvements (?) in technology complicate matters further (hence the change last year to 'Computing & Technology'). Looking back on a newsletter from 2002 and without the internet available at the meetings, it seemed to be the case that individual members had skills in different subjects (like Word, Excel, Publisher, Photo manipulation and the like) and were prepared to take sessions on these topics or sometimes even run separate regular classes away from the main meeting. To some extent, this was still the situation when I joined in 2007, but has diminished considerably as time goes by.

I've been looking after things since late 2010 and would ideally like to hand over to someone else, but for a variety of reasons that's not been possible. So – in thinking about how we could move forward and spread the load somewhat - it occurred to me that perhaps we could look at running the group online either with a Q&A blog – on our Wordpress site - or perhaps a more organised forum. Members could post a query and anyone of the others who had an answer or solution could reply. I floated the idea and it seemed quite well received.

We decided to set up a small working party, Dave P, John H, Ann W and myself, to look at this idea in more detail. We have already had one meeting and have scheduled another for the end of the month. Following this there will be an **extraordinary meeting in September**. Whilst we will have the usual Agony Corner session, the main part will be devoted to a discussion on the working party's conclusions and hence how we, as a group, go from here.

### **Next Meeting:**

As above, **Wednesday 13th September**, 2.00 pm at the Scout Centre.