

Adult Education Online Coronavirus Emergency Programme 2020

Tuesday 28 April	5pm	Making sense of Coronavirus statistics: A navigation guide to the quantitative news on coronavirus Every day, the media provides statistics about the epidemic: how many new cases, cumulative cases, deaths, cumulative deaths, masks, tests, etc. Dr Valeria Rueda will discuss how to make sense of these statistics. Why do the numbers differ across sources? How far can we trust the official figures of confirmed cases? Are mortality data better? <i>(This session is designed especially for those with no background in statistics or maths.)</i>
Wednesday 29 April	3.30pm	Coping with home schooling: strategies and ideas Dr Debra Costley will suggest and discuss some strategies that could be used by all parents to support children learning at home during a period of uncertainty, drawing especially on her experience of teaching and research with children on the autism spectrum.
Thursday 30 April	7pm	Multiculturalism and integration: the problem of Islamophobia In this session, we will discuss claims that 'multiculturalism' has failed, and that British Muslims lead separate lives, with Professor John Holmwood . He believes these claims are false and have fuelled a 'nationalist' discourse that risks polarisation, and will use the Birmingham 'Trojan Horse' affair as an illustration.
Tuesday 5 May	5pm	Nottingham's Green Spaces 2: The Forest and the Arboretum The two largest of the post-1845 green spaces were The Forest and the Arboretum. In this session we will discuss their value and public use with Professor John Beckett , and ask questions about what role green spaces play in modern urban settings.
Wednesday 6 May	3.30pm	Grow Your Own Easy Greens Under Lockdown Worried about accessing fresh vegetables under lockdown? Learn and discuss with Alison McGrath how to grow quick nutritious greens at home, with or without a garden, and share tips and ideas with others.
Thursday 7 May	7pm	Amazon vs the corner shop: what Coronavirus tells us about the geography of the economy Explore with Professor Andrew Leyshon how the Covid-19 pandemic has revealed important vulnerabilities in economic distribution networks. They are often long-distance and fragile, and their rise has had important implications for our economy in general, and the long-term resilience of local economies in particular.
Tuesday 12 May	5pm	Telling Stories about Grief: Learning from the Greeks and Romans In the ancient world, storytelling could form part of a process in which negative emotions became catalysts for positive change. In this session, we discuss with Professor Helen Lovatt what we can learn about handling crisis and grief from Virgil's account of the Fall of Troy and the founding of Rome.

Wednesday 13 May	3.30pm	Learning to have a better relationship with our selves: Our potential for growth through crisis Explore our inherent potential for growth, even in a crisis, with Emma Tickle . Crises are opportunities for transformation: human beings have an inherent capacity to change and adapt even to painful events. In social isolation, economic pain, even grief and anxiety generated by coronavirus, we want to connect with others. Connection with ourselves is also an important resource: self and inter-personal awareness help us make more appropriate and creative adaptations to reality.
Thursday 14 May	7pm	The 1918-19 'Flu Pandemic – What Happened in the East Midlands: 1: Prevention and Cure A hundred years ago, millions died from 'flu. Hospitals were overcrowded. There was a call for volunteers. Drawing on her Nottingham PhD thesis, Dr Joan Knight will discuss the similarities and differences between responses then and to Covid-19. What can we learn from the comparison?
Tuesday 19 May	5pm	How British soldiers coped on the battlefields of France and Flanders during the First World War In this session we explore with Dr Ross Wilson how the soldiers of the British Army adapted to endured the experience of the Western Front: morale, camaraderie, discipline and courage – “Tommifying the Western Front”.
Wednesday 20 May	3.30pm	Pharmacy at the heart of your community Pharmacy has been at the forefront of the pandemic as more and more people consult about their symptoms – seeking reassurance, buying over-the-counter medicines, making sure they have enough prescription medicines. Discuss the changing role of pharmacies with Professor Claire Anderson . Situated in the heart of most communities, pharmacies are often open when other health care professionals are unavailable. Their traditional role of compounding and dispensing prescriptions has recently developed into clinical services such as stopping smoking, vaccination, contraception and sexual health.
Thursday 21 May	7pm	My family tree Have you always meant to do prepare your family tree, but never quite got around to it? With the lockdown, maybe you really have no further excuses. Explore how to do it with Professor John Beckett .
Tuesday 26 May	5pm	Why do some people not vaccinate their children or their pets? Vaccination is often regarded as a medical success story, yet some people choose not to vaccinate their children or pets. In this session, we can explore and discuss the reasons why with Dr Pru Hobson-West .
Wednesday 27 May	3.30pm	Routine: Friend or Foe? From the beginning of the lock-down the advice coming our way stressed the importance of having a routine within our daily lives, even if we were confined to our homes. In this session we will discuss the nature of 'routine' with Dr Anne Emerson . Is it as important as people say – and if so, why? Can understanding more about the nature of routine help us to adopt its positive aspects, without being overwhelmed by 'sameness'? Anne builds on her work with people on the autism spectrum who experience a need for predictability, and consider the extent to which this applies more broadly.
Tuesday 28 May	7pm	The 1918-19 'Flu Pandemic – What Happened in the East Midlands: 2: Carrying On? In 1918-19, very little closed down (in wartime, it was people's duty to 'carry on'). Pubs, churches, factories, businesses and public transport were kept open. Dr Joan Knight will explore what this tells us about how society should balance public health and economic cost

Tuesday 2 June	5pm	Faith online: religion and the pandemic What is happening to religion in the pandemic? Discuss with Dr Tim Hutchings what faith groups are doing right now to respond to the crisis. How are they staying in touch, and what's happening to them?
Wednesday 3 June	3.30pm	Viking Invasions and Settlement in the East Midlands - People and Places What evidence can we use from the East Midlands to find out who the Vikings were, where they went and what traces they left behind? Discuss these and other questions with Professor Judith Jesch .
Thursday 4 June	7pm	Making sense of religion and pop culture Explore some of the questions about religion and pop culture that academics wrestle with – and how they do it – with Dr Tim Hutchings .
Tuesday 9 June	5pm	Bees and Humans – surviving together in a crisis Honeybees are sophisticated social insects, with huge value to human life through pollination. But they have also come to be dependent on humans. We will discuss with Dr Jane Medwell the role honeybees play in human agriculture and how massive industrial agriculture exploits them. It also explores how honeybees themselves have become dependent on human intervention for their very survival. How can we co-exist with bees to our mutual benefit? What costs will there be for each species?
Wednesday 10 June	3.30pm	Developing my family tree This session, led by Professor John Beckett , is aimed at those who have already been working on their family tree, and would like to share their findings with others and/or to discuss possible source materials they have not previously worked on.
Thursday 11 June	7pm	The crisis of democratic governance. What we can learn from managing the pandemic? In this session, we will consider with Professor John Holmwood how governance over the last two decades has shifted from hierarchical bureaucratic management with local government oversight to a dispersed, networked form of governance by multiple agencies and actors but without strong local government involvement.
Tuesday 16 June	5pm	What kind of history should we teach in schools and how should we teach it? Discuss with Gary Mills how what is taught in schools has changed over the years, and why it has changed. How important have academics, government ministers, parents and teachers been in making decisions about this?
Wednesday 17 June	3.30pm	Quantum technologies are becoming part of our everyday lives New technologies are emerging capable of making computers faster, data safer and sensors able to outperform existing devices. These technologies are based on applying the peculiar physical behaviour of light and electrons described by Quantum physics. Discuss with Professor Melissa Mather what quantum technologies are and how they will affect science, industry and society.
Thursday 18 June	7pm	Remembering the First World War: how societies remembered the trauma of the conflict In this session we will explore how individuals and communities mourned the loss of family and friends after the First World War. With Dr Ross Wilson , we shall examine remembrance through memorials, monuments, film and literature.

Tuesday 23 June	5pm	Chemistry at Nottingham University: From Silicone Invention to Exploding Planos From the initial gift of land to form the University Park campus by Jesse Boot (of Boots Chemists), to the development of Ibuprofen by Dr Stewart Adams, Chemists have always been integral to the University of Nottingham, contributing to the locality and the world. Discuss some of the notable discoveries and achievements of Chemistry at Nottingham University with Dr Sam Tang .
Wednesday 24 June	3.30pm	Reimagining public education in the light of Coronavirus In this session, we shall discuss with Professor Simon McGrath what has happened to education in the pandemic, and what this time tells us about what education adults, youth, children need for the future – and what role the state should play.
Thursday 25 June	7pm	Working with bees Explore with Dr Jane Medwell how humans have manipulated the lifecycle of the honeybee for thousands of years, and examine how some innovations in beekeeping have allowed humans to work with the natural characteristics of bee behaviour. A small group of bee scientists and beekeepers are now looking at more “natural” ways of beekeeping. What have been the effects of the recent, massive expansion of beekeeping? For bees? For us?
Tuesday 30 June	5pm	Sir George Trevelyan and the Spirit of the ‘New Age’ Explore with Dr Sharon Clancy the role and contribution of George Trevelyan, ‘Godfather of the New Age’. He developed his pioneering spiritual education work whilst leading a residential adult education college. Did it achieve its democratic intention – or was it really an elitist project?
Wednesday 1 July	3.30pm	Digital storytelling: communicating and capturing life’s stories in the age of lockdown Dr Charlie Davis explores the potential for digital technologies to connect people across geographical and generational boundaries as they share life stories in an effort to cope with the challenges of living in isolation during the age of lockdown.
Thursday 2 July	7pm	A Path to Sainthood? The Self-Isolators of the early Orthodox Church. Historically, self-isolation has been a path to spiritual as well as physical healing. In this discussion with Dr Monica White we will explore some of the early Christian saints who practised extreme forms of isolation – and the perils and benefits of this unusual form of asceticism.
Tuesday 7 July	5pm	What role should universities have in educating adults? During the 20 th century, universities offered big adult education programmes in their local communities. Adults studied part-time, at work and in their leisure time. This work ended around the millennium. Why? What has been lost? In the light of this coronavirus emergency online programme, discuss with Professor John Holford what universities should be doing to support adult learning in their localities.

Details are subject to amendment or cancellation if the coronavirus emergency rules change.