



Registered Charity No 1095635

Letter from the chair

SETTLE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 7/16 April 2018

www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk

Hello,

Spring has sprung and with longer days, there is hope the weather could improve too.

Firstly, a reminder that at our April Speaker Meeting we also have an Exhibition of Work by our Art Group. You may want to arrive in good time for this extra-special 'viewing'.

I have continued to visit as many Groups as I can. Great Lives, led by John Jebson heard an excellent talk by Paul Cochrane on James Hutton - deemed to be one of the first Geologists (before the term was devised). What struck particularly was the range of connections to be made when looking from the perspective of any Great Lives - social, literary, historical, scientific, political etc., and that has to make for a fascinating and stimulating session, any time and by any measure. I have also been to the Needlework and Natter Group led by Alison Tyas. A very pleasant way to spend an afternoon with interesting and genial conversation. We were all knitting this time but the Groups knowledge of needlework skills is pretty boundless - hopefully ensuring skills are continued.

I also try to regularly attend Dance Exercise led by Janet Rougvie. An energetic and energising routine to 'salsa/modern' music not normally on my radar - which stretches me at least, in more ways than one. I am pleased to say this is a mixed class of women and men on occasions. Great fun.

Do you recall how you first heard about U3A - by word-of-mouth or some publicity? On 13th and 14th April we are holding Publicity Event at Booth's - our U3A Notice Board with an hourly member's rota to engage with interested shoppers. Volunteers essential – please contact Anne Webster 01729 824844, amw.1@btinternet.com.

Please continue to keep an eye on National, Regional and West-Net events that may interest you. Settle District U3A was part of the team that came THIRD in the recent West-Net Quiz - we are certainly moving up the scale.

On that note - I wish you well!

Jackie

May Meeting: Thursday 10th May in the Victoria Hall
'Counting Culture, conserving Lancashire's hidden history'
with Heather Davis
Coffee from 10am



The Ribblesdale Area
Moving Picture Show

Fri 20th April at 7.30pm Ingleborough Community Centre **SULLY (12A)**
Wed at 7.45 2nd May at 7.45pm Settle Victoria Hall **A MAN CALLED OVE (15)**

REMINDER: To all groups who need to use parking of cars for outings, we are using The Rugby Club until the end of April for a trial period instead of the Cricket Club.

Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by
FRIDAY 5th May 2018 to: Chris Taylor christine@castlebergh.plus.com
Tel: 01729 823975 . will be acknowledged by email. Wherever possible, the full account is used
but occasionally it is necessary to edit the piece for the printed copy.
The full submissions will be used on the website version.

NEWS FROM AND FOR THE GROUPS

CREATIVE WRITING

A new course of Creative Writing is planned for later in the year. It will be a course for all writers or would-be writers, and members will be encouraged to develop their own areas of interest in a supportive group. Exercises, suggestions and homework will be geared to individual needs and there will be plenty of fun, inspiration, discussion and feedback. All that participants are asked to bring are pens, paper and an open mind.

Jean Stevens

The meeting on Monday 30th April is now cancelled in light of the above.

GREAT LIVES

At our March meeting Paul Cochrane gave a most interesting presentation on the life and work of the 18th century Scottish geologist James Hutton, dubbed the "Father of modern geology". His studies of medicine, chemistry and agriculture led him to study soil composition on his family farms from which he determined the passage of soil sediments to the sea to form sedimentary layers on the ocean floors. He formed the theories of geological upheavals over eons of time as heat and pressure of volcanic actions brought the ruptured rock layers to the surface of the earth - "a constant cycle of earth formation". His book "The Theory of the Earth" revolutionised the study of geology and his work was later taken up by friends following his death in 1797.

By complete contrast I will be talking about the life and works of the "Queen of Crime"-Agatha Christie- at our next meeting on Wed. 18th April (Victoria Hall 11.00am)

John Jebson

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS (LAOB)

We regret that the planned visit to **Fulwood Barracks and Hoghton Tower near Preston on 26th April** has had to be postponed because of Graham's illness so that we have re-scheduled it for the visit on 26th July. This was due to have been to Raby Castle which on investigation we have judged to be too far and too expensive.

So there will be no visit this month. We do wish Graham a speedy recovery and thank him for arranging it.

Ruth and Elizabeth

The Looking at Old Buildings Group plans to visit Cumbria on **Thursday May 24th**. We shall travel by coach, first to **Gleaston**

Watermill, near Ulveston, where there is an excellent cafe serving light lunches, and then on to the **Stott Park Bobbin Mill**, where we will learn how bobbins for spinning were made. More details will be in the next newsletter. Please keep this date in your diary.

Jim Woodward-Nutt

GEOLOGY

Dry Rigg Geology visit, March 2018

Our guides Mik Cardus and Michael Lambert were incredibly enthusiastic and informative. Both are from a line of local, quarry families. We were told about the history of the quarry – Dry Rigg was the first quarry in this area, dating from 1739, the way the quarry operates including respect for the local environment and flora and fauna, the products it produces for road construction and maintenance, and the reason for its importance – only 6 quarries in the UK produce high PSV (skid resistant) stone, with dwindling supplies, and this is one of the best. For many years, Dry Rigg has had very high environmental credentials and is 'show-cased' for this. We viewed and learnt about a restoration area, and then went down into the quarry to look at its interesting geology, its methods of operation and restoration. On return, we watched a presentation about blasting techniques including that morning's blast.

Pat Higginson (organiser)

Dry Rigg Quarry face

