

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SETTLE DISTRICT U3A

will be held on
Thursday September 10th 2009
in the Victoria Hall starting at 10.30 am
(Coffee will be available from 10 am)

The main business will be to receive the Committee's Report and Accounts and to elect officers and one other committee member to serve from 2009-10.

Nominations for election must be made on the required form (available at today's meeting, ie August 13th, and subsequently from me) and must reach me at least 14 days before the AGM. Also, if member wishes to put forward an item for the agenda please contact me in writing by Friday 27th August.

Gillian Walton, Secretary

There will be an opportunity to enrol for interest groups/classes for the coming year (from 10.30 am).

FALCON MANOR DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT

Friday Sept 4th - 7pm for 7.30pm

There are still a few places for this outing. Please let me know as soon as possible if you want to come. I am collecting money today or you can send me a cheque payable to Settle District U3A for £10 per person to S Wolfenden, Smithy Croft, Rathmell, Settle, North Yorkshire. BD24 0LA.

Menu lists are available today (the monthly meeting) and you can also access them on our website. Print them off and let me have your choice plus cheque by post. However I must know by August 21st at the latest. Do try to come. I am sure you will have a very pleasant evening. Shirley Wolfenden

If members change their email address please could they inform the Membership Secretary
Pat Smith patdsmith@f2s.com

All copy for publication in the next issue needs to reach the editor
Sue Simpson e-mail: susanmsimpson@btinternet.com (Tel: 01524241271)
by Fri 27th August. Copy received by e-mail will be acknowledged.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE SETTLE DISTRICT

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends

Last month I represented Settle District at a meeting of the Ridings Forum in York, a group of almost all the Yorkshire U3As who meet quarterly. The Forum provides an opportunity to discover what is happening in other parts of the "broad acres" and share ideas on common problems. Incidentally I wonder how many people are aware that the UK now has 731 branches of U3A comprising 224,000 members (China has 4.5 million members!). This statistical information is courtesy of chairman Beryl Toplis.



- Hornsea is the newest group in Yorkshire with just
- 40 members up to press.
- Sheffield's 2700 members have their own problems! 161 groups of which 37 are walking groups, with no

premises able to hold more than a small fraction of their total membership. Only 105 members turned up for their last AGM!

- York (1100 members) have tried decentralising their accounting, asking each group to manage their own accounts up to a ceiling of £1000. It was pointed out though that this probably falls foul of the latest Charity Commission guidelines.
- Barnsley (506 members) have organised holidays in Scotland and Ireland for their members, while Wakefield's Yorkshire History group organised tours of Wars of the Roses battlefields.
- All representatives present were very interested in our new Climate Change group. It's something no one else has tried, so progress will be keenly awaited!

September sees our own AGM with the offices of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary up for re-election. Other Committee members are elected with 3 year terms with no one due to stand down this year, but there is a vacancy as our constitution allows 12 members, and insists that at least one new committee member is elected annually. We have not yet found a successor to Shirley as Treasurer. Be sure that she and I are capable of serious arm twisting to fill this vital role for our organisation! Nominations for election as officer or committee member on the appropriate form must be in the hands of the secretary at least 14 days prior to the AGM please.

With best wishes

John Jebson

Newsletter

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

FAMILY HISTORY

Good News! We now have someone to look after the Family History Group.

Jean Asher has kindly volunteered to take over from the Cullingworths.

Many thanks to Jean

Even more good news! The current issue of Radio Times has a free offer of some family history software. It is in a pull-out in the centre pages. **David Holdsworth**

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS: Visit to Wray Thursday 30th July

After a very wet morning the 18 members of the group were glad that the sun shone for their interesting afternoon walk around Wray (just over the border in Lancashire) with Emmeline Garnett. She has lived in the village for 30 years but spent some time in Stainforth as a child.

We went 'round the spout' to visit the former silk/cotton/bobbin mill, the school where Bryan Holme, the founder of the Law society, spent his school days, and the Victorian church. We heard about the terrible flood of August 8th 1967 when several cottages were washed away, as well as a bridge, when the River Roeburn burst its banks, but no lives lost. This is commemorated in a lovely garden and pebble mosaic made by local artist Maggie Howarth with help from the school children and using pebbles from the river. The village was 'planned' in the 12th century by the Lord of the manor as an overflow from Hornby. There used to be many farms but now only one is left in the centre of the village. Many of the lovely houses have wonderful datestones, about which Emmeline is an authority. There are two pubs, a post office and shop, and tea-rooms. Wray seems to be a thriving place with a good community spirit which can be seen in the annual Scarecrow Festival in May which raises money for the well-used village hall. **Debi Burridge**

For Your Diary: The next visit will be on **Thursday 1st October** to Appletreewick, where Sandy Weatherhead will give us a guided tour of the village and hopefully arrange for the group to see the interior of at least one of the buildings. Further details in next month's Newsletter.

There will be a meeting on **Thursday 22nd October** at 2 p.m. at Victoria Hall to discuss visits for the next session. The current format seems to work well and it is hoped that this will continue. **Margaret Cullingworth**

NEEDLEWORK AND NATTER:

We start again on September 16th.

Alison Tyas

WALKING GROUPS:

Thursday Walking - Our last Outing before Our Summer Rest (!!)

Some years ago, Keith and I were walking with Ramblers Holidays on Madeira and, at the beginning of the holiday, our guide told us that we had to acquire Madeira

knees over the next two weeks ready for the last walk which entailed a climb up to a hidden valley and a descent by an unmentionable number of steps. Here, in Yorkshire, we chose to lead the last walk of our U3A term, hoping that by then our group had acquired the knees to cope with it. No problem! We climbed from Chapel-le-Dale up the steep path leading to the top of Ingleborough, a steady ascent of an hour and a quarter, then turned onto the ridgeway walk that leads to Park Fell trig point. (Four of the group decided to finish the climb up Ingleborough and joined us later, descending on another path.) From here, we continued to Colt Park Wood and turned down along the high, tussocky paths that led past Scar Close and eventually back to Chapel-le-Dale, a round walk of about 9 miles. On the way up Ingleborough, we passed an enormous sink hole, Braithwaite Wife Hole, and, on the way down, the vast rocky tree-lined cleft of Great Douk Cave. Wild flowers were everywhere - tormentil, white bedstraw, meadowsweet, speedwell, a few late milkmaids, common spotted orchid, eyebright, wild thyme, heather, bog asphodel, bugle, betony, and, we thought, the orange fruit of the cloudberry. An interesting walk, members said, and aren't we lucky to live where we do?

We have had some wonderful Thursday walks this session, and some wonderful socialising on the way, and cups of tea and scones to round them off.

Thank you, everyone.

Olwyn and Keith Bolger

The new programme is now on the website and there should be some hard copies at the August meeting for those who do not have a computer. Copies will shortly be available at Settle Library and Tourist Information. The first Tuesday walk on **8 September** will be four miles from Kildwick which will be led by Alan Hemsworth. There is some uphill walking at the start and it ends with a level walk along the canal towpath. The first Thursday walk on **3 September** will be Stockdale Circular (8.5 miles) led by Keith and Sally Waterston.

M & M Cullingworth

NEWSLETTERS

Your newsletter is available at the big meeting in the Victoria Hall on the second Thursday of each month. You can also see it on the web - www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk.

If you are not able to get to the meeting and want a paper copy, please either:

- ask someone to collect yours
- arrange to collect it from my house or
- give me a stamped, addressed envelope.

My house, Quaker Garth, is opposite the Victoria Hall.

I usually manage to deliver to houses in Settle and Giggleswick. Langcliffe and Long Preston people usually get theirs as well and sometimes Hellifield, but not any others and we cannot guarantee to deliver any.

If a copy is not collected or delivered for 3 successive months, I stop naming one for you, but I always have spares at the meeting. If you prefer to save paper and see it on the web, please let me know and I will cross you off my list.

Alison Tyas (01729 822313)