



Registered Charity No 1095635

SETTLE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 3/15 December 2016

www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk

Letter from the chair

Dear Fellow Members,

With Christmas fast approaching we can now take stock of the past year in the life of Settle District U3A. We continue to be a vibrant organisation with our range of interest groups, our Thursday monthly meetings, plus other special events and visits. It's good that we regularly start up new groups, for example the Ukulele and Beginners Spanish groups are new this year, but also our range of established groups continue to go from strength to strength. We've also recruited a considerable number of new members this year.

What continuously surprises me is that people one meets in Settle and adjacent villages say that they've never heard of Settle U3A. Why is this? Those of us who are in membership and closely involved with our U3A cannot credit that this might be the case. But one meets people who say "I've never heard of Settle U3A" and "What does U3A stand for?" and other such comments.

As members we all know of the benefits that U3A membership provides. Perhaps all of us should look out for people "no longer in full-time employment" who might benefit from becoming members. This applies as well to people who have recently moved to live in Settle and nearby. Do look out for anyone whom you think might enjoy our activities. Talk to them about Settle U3A. Invite them to come. Bring them along. Tell them about friendship, companionship, gaining new knowledge, contributing to our organisation, taking part in play-reading, having conversation in French, learning about tectonic plates, playing table tennis, painting pictures, singing, dancing, exercising, visiting old buildings, making cards, hearing about great lives, walking in the lovely Dales, and of all the other activities we promote.

Again may I offer my most sincere thanks to all our Group Leaders and to our Committee Members without whose enthusiastic inputs Settle District U3A would not function. To all members may I wish you a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas with all good wishes for a grand U3A year in 2017.

Ian Tennant

January Meeting: Thursday 12th January in The Victoria Hall at 10.30am
'The Internet is not Magic' with David Holdsworth
(Coffee from 10am)

Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by Friday 6th January 2017 to: Chris Taylor christine@castlebergh.plus.com Tel: 01729 823975 Submissions 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.

PRINTED NEWSLETTERS We have updated our lists of people without email and those who have expressed difficulty printing out the newsletter and now have nearly 90 printed copies done each month. Please collect at the Thursday meetings your named copy and any others you can help with delivery. Those uncollected are now left in the foyer of the Victoria Hall until the next Thursday meeting. Please let us know if you do not require a printed copy any more.

THE AUTISM COURSE

The talks given by Phoebe Caldwell on communication with those on the Autistic Spectrum were very well received. Over fifty people attended each session which were open to all. Parents, grandparents and carers came from a wide area.

Phoebe's long experience was evident in the short videos which were shown of her engaging in Intensive Interaction. This is responding to those on the autistic spectrum who have no speech, by making similar sounds and gestures to those which they use. Usually this is the first time anyone has been able to make contact with them in a way understandable to them.

I wish this information had been available when our son was born in 1970.

My thanks go not only to Phoebe for her time and commitment but also to members who helped on the two days.

Gill Rawlings

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS – S.O.S.!

The Victoria Hall is booked for the meeting on January 26th which was to have been open to all U3A members, but the speaker, Gaby Rose, Buildings Conservation Officer from the Yorkshire Dales National Park, has had to cancel.

There is therefore an **URGENT** appeal to all members to see if there is someone willing to take her place. January has not usually been a good time for an outdoor visit so previous such meetings have been popular.

If you can help, please contact Ruth on 01729/825454 or email her on

ruth.evansltd@hotmail.com as I will be away for the rest of the month from next week. Thank you.

Elizabeth Evans

GREAT LIVES

For our November meeting Pat Taylor gave us a very interesting talk on the life of William Wilberforce, well known for his efforts to abolish the slave trade in the British Empire. Wilberforce was born into a wealthy Yorkshire family in 1759. He was elected as MP for Hull in 1780 and soon after became an evangelical Christian, which strongly influenced the rest of his life. He was also influenced by John Newton (the writer of 'Amazing Grace') who had been the captain of a slave ship. Starting in 1787 Wilberforce made numerous attempts in Parliament to get the slave trade abolished and finally succeeded in 1807. Wilberforce was helped by the fact that he had few financial worries until his final years which were spent in relative poverty due to financial mismanagement by his eldest son. He died in 1833.

Keith Bradshaw

Our December meeting will take place on **WEDNESDAY 14th** at Victoria Hall at 11.00am (**Please note the earlier than usual date**) when a guest speaker- John Harrop - will talk to us

about Publius Terence, a writer of comedy plays in second century BC Rome. All welcome.

John Jebson

YOGA

Class on 14th December will begin at 10.00 a.m. instead of 10.30 a.m. Next term classes will revert to the normal 10.30 a.m.

Monica Jenkins

WALKING GROUP

To date 13 people have advised me that they wish to go on the Christmas walk / lunch at Knight Stainforth on Tuesday 10th January, meal at 12.30pm. If any other walkers or U3A members would like to go, please let me have your names by 31st December. You don't **have** to walk to Knight Stainforth, it is fine if you simply want to drive there!

Nita Hart e-mail: bandnhart@btinternet.com

ART APPRECIATION

Our January meeting (Tuesday 3rd) will be a talk by Frank Gordon about the exhibition at the Royal Academy - Abstract Expressionism. I recently managed a very quick visit to it and it certainly gave me lots to think about.

Debi Burridge

NEW GROUP FOR THE NEW YEAR - ARCHAEOLOGY IN BRITAIN

Tutor ALAN KING

This course will consider man's relationship with a range of subjects including British geology, vegetation, our changing climate and dating. We shall focus on the subject's British chronological framework up to 1000 AD then increasingly deal with the Dales environment including the caves.

This is a ten session course to be held on **1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 2-3.30 pm** in the Castleberg room at the Victoria Hall, **starting January 4th.**

Please contact Alan for further details or to book a place - acmking2@gmail.com