

MARCH MEETING

**"CAN YOU BELIEVE
YOUR EYES?"**

GRAHAM ALCOCK

Thursday 14th March 2013

Victoria Hall 10.30am

(Coffee from 10.00am)

MEDIA CITY AND CONCORDE

I had a great deal of interest in the above visits but unfortunately I haven't been able to book them. Media City was booked up until early August and the BBC staff were not the most helpful. Consequently I have decided to wait until later in the year and then try to book for some time in September. If you are still interested please keep an eye on the newsletters.

Shirley Wolfenden

CHECKOUT THE WEBSITE

Thank you Group leaders for up-dating your sections of the website. Members, it's up to you now. Please check the website regularly for updates and new information.

I have just returned from a fabulous twelve days searching for the Northern Lights by sailing up and down the coast of Norway with the Hurtigruten Line. I found the advert in U3A News, so was not surprised to be in the company of a dozen or so other U3A members from around the country. The holiday was arranged by Northumbria Travel and we were extremely well looked after. It was an amazing experience and one I would be happy to repeat sometime in the future.

Sue Simpson

Copy for publication in the next issue **should** reach the editor Sue Simpson by **Friday 8th March** e-mail: susanmsimpson@btinternet.com (Tel: 01524241271) Copy received by e-mail will be acknowledged.



The Ribblesdale Area
Moving Picture Show

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY (U)

Austwick Village Hall

Fri 15th Feb 7.30pm

SKYFALL (12)

Austwick Village Hall

Fri 15th March 7.30pm

LAD : A YORKSHIRE STORY

Settle Victoria Hall

Thurs 28th March 7.30pm

www.tramps.org.uk

If you wish to make a contribution to the Website, Frank Woodhams, is the **WEBMASTER**, and the person to contact on: f.woodhams@uea.ac.uk

DALES NAVIGATION COURSES

There are introductory, intermediate and advanced courses available for those who enjoy walking. They cost £40 per person per day.

If you would like to know more about these day courses for walkers in the Dales run by John Nolan, further details are available on the website:

www.dalesnavigation.co.uk

Issue No 11/05
February 2013



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE SETTLE DISTRICT

Registered Charity No
1095635

www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk

RAMHML0302

Dear Friends

Despite some icy conditions earlier in the week, 10 of our new members (about a third) joined the committee for afternoon tea and cake on 23rd January. It was good to chat and put faces to names in a very informal way. I hope you all enjoyed the afternoon as much as I did.

The following week I was delighted to attend the initial meeting of the Roman Archaeology group. The next three meetings, on Monday afternoons at 2.00 pm in the Castleberg room, Victoria Hall, will be on 25 February, 25 March and 22 April. Subsequent dates will be confirmed in later newsletters. If you missed the first meeting don't worry, just come along to the next one. The group's leader, Tony Burnett, hopes that future meetings will include speakers and on-site visits

as well as illustrated talks. He is keen to encourage group members to volunteer to lead future meetings and is happy for any U3A member to come along to a speaker meeting. At the next meeting on 25th February, Tony will give an illustrated talk on the Roman Ilkley to Kendal road.

On a slightly more serious note, Paul Cochrane (Group Leaders co-ordinator) and I had a meeting with representatives of the Victoria Hall in mid December. It was a very amicable meeting but I think the following points raised by the Victoria Hall representatives are worth repeating here.

- * Jacqui, who works in the box office and Alan, the caretaker, are both volunteers who work 16 hours a week at the Victoria Hall.
- * The Victoria Hall is now being run on business-like lines.
- * U3A and the Victoria Hall are mutually useful to each other. The income received by the Victoria Hall from U3A is appreciated but U3A is only paying commercial rates for room hire; it is not subsidising the Victoria Hall and has no right to "dictate" any conditions. Groups must accept that it is sometimes necessary for a meeting to be held in a different, though suitable, room to the one normally used where Victoria Hall business needs require this.
- * It is important that group leaders submit accurate booking forms and that a meeting finishes and attendees leave at the stated time. This is particularly important where a group meets in the afternoon as a Victoria Hall volunteer may come specifically to lock up at that time and have other, personal commitments to attend to immediately afterwards.
- * There are plans and ideas to improve the Victoria Hall in the future which I cannot go into here but which I am sure we are all going to appreciate in time.

And finally, please remember that we now have a suggestions box at monthly speaker meetings! Any ideas or suggestions for improving our U3A in accordance with the aims and principles of U3A are welcome.

Nita



NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

ART APPRECIATION: At our January meeting, Frank Gordon gave us an entertaining talk about his background in art, starting with his schooldays and on through art college to teaching. He showed some examples of how his style has developed over the years and some of the influences on his own work. He talked about how his work changed when he moved to Giggleswick and explained how he works on a painting, changing it until he is fully satisfied with it. His work has been exhibited in a number of galleries in Yorkshire and he has completed commissions for magazines. It was a most enjoyable meeting.

At his month's meeting Debi Burrigde gave a fascinating account of Eric Ravilious. Although the group was small we enjoyed looking at the range of books, cards and prints which Debi had brought. The March meeting will look at Grayson Perry's tapestries. **Kate Helm**

CIRCLE DANCING: The Group goes from strength to strength and we are really up to capacity now. There will be no meeting on February 22nd (Half Term). The remaining dates until Easter will be March 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd. **Pat & Gillian**

GEOLOGY & LANDSCAPE GROUP: : Our next meeting will be on February 19th at 14:00 in the Castleberg Room at Victoria Hall. The topic this time will be some interesting, I believe, new research into the inner working of plate tectonics. Since the 1960's plate tectonics has been geology's "unifying theory" and very much the orthodoxy but since its inception there have been some annoying anomalies. Perhaps now there are some answers? **Paul Cochrane**

GREAT LIVES: Our next meeting will be on Wed. 20th Feb. Please note the starting time at 11.00a.m. The subject is to be "Gladstone". Was he the Saviour of fallen women, a Grand Old Man, God's only mistake or perhaps, even, the murderer of Gordon?

Jean Imrie

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE - one of the most celebrated leaders of Western history - was the subject of John Jebson's talk at the January meeting. This ambitious Corsican revolutionised military organisation, rose through the ranks to become General, Politician and later Emperor and saw French domination extend from the English Channel to the Russian border. However, he overreached himself in 1812 when his invasion of Russia turned out disastrously, culminating in his surrender and subsequent exile to the island of Elba. He escaped in 1815 and made his way back to Paris where he was greeted with great enthusiasm and led his forces once more, gaining a victory over the Prussians. However, two days later, on the 18th June, he was defeated by the English at Waterloo. Exiled again, this time to the island of St. Helena, he remained there until his death in 1821 at the age of 52. His body was eventually returned to Paris where he was interred in a sarcophagus under the dome of Les Invalides.

He married twice, firstly to good time girl Josephine (a widow with two children) whom he divorced and secondly, to the 18 year old Archduchess Marie-Louise of Austria, producing a son who became Napoleon 2nd. There was a great deal of detail in this subject which in lesser hands could have been overwhelming but John, using maps and illustrations, produced a most fascinating talk about a man who still has celebrity status. **Alan Hemsworth**

HERALDRY: The next meeting of the Heraldry Group will be on Thursday Feb. 21st at 10.30 in the Victoria Hall when Peter Marshall will be coming once again to give his annual talk. This is always a very entertaining event - this year it will be 'Heraldic Inn Signs'. All members of U3A are very welcome to come along.

The next beginners heraldry will be on March 7th at 10.30 in Victoria Hall. There will be a class in April (advance notice!). **Hilary Baker**

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS: This month's meeting will be at the Victoria Hall on Thursday 28th February at 2pm. Kate Helm will give a talk on "Manningham in Bradford", **Debi Burrigde**

PHILOSOPHY: After several interruptions over Christmas the Philosophy group got underway on 7th Feb with a lively discussion based on an interview with W.V. Quine. Discussion centred on Quine's notion of materialism - that all feelings and emotions are the product of micro-physical changes in the nervous system and the related problem of whether there are two distinct entities, the material body and the non-material mind. The main contributors were Colin, Jonathan and myself, but the chairman ensured that everyone had an equal opportunity to take part. The meeting ended with a discussion on the place of language in the process of thinking and this will be continued on the 21st when an interview with John Searle will be considered. Anyone wishing to be added to our mailing list should contact: Roy on **01524251335** or e-mail scalecol@gmail.com **Roy Anderson**

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

The February newsletter from YAHR ([Yorkshire and Humber Region](#)) is now on their website, which can be accessed by the links from our own website. The newsletter contains two articles from our own members and full details of the Regional Summer School to be held 5th – 8th August at Wentworth Castle near Barnsley. The titles of the courses are: 1. Thinking Fast and Slow. 2. Monks, Sheep and Drains – an Exploration of Mediaeval Monasteries in Yorkshire. 3. Drawing and Painting the Figure. 4. Digital Photography – learning to know your aperture from your ISO. 5. Applied Criminology - High profile cases of the last century. 6. Retirement of the Rocks - Geology in the Region. 7. UK History 1945-1990 - reviving our understanding of the recent past. 8. The Development of Classical Music in England from 1850. 9. Poetry- Studying and Writing Sonnets.

NATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOLS

1. Harper Adams University College, Shropshire 15 – 18 July: art history, cinema history, current affairs, design in art, France, geology, history, poetry, recorder playing
2. The Royal Agricultural College 19 – 22 August: architecture, digital photography, drama, history, literature, music, short stories, singing, theatre history

OTHER NATIONAL EVENTS

U3A Photography Competition 2013 – The topic this year is 'What makes Britain Great?' Closing date 10th May 2013.

The U3A's Inaugural Founders' Lecture, 9th April, London

Royal Institute - U3A Explores Science, 25th March

U3A Spring Concert 'Vivaldi Gloria', The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, London, 17th April

Elgar "Unveiled", The Elgar Birthplace Museum, Worcester, 21st May

Royal Zoological Society of Scotland - 'Primatology', Edinburgh Zoo, 5th June,

More information about all these events is available on the national website (linked from our own site), at the monthly meetings in February and March or from Kate Helm (01274 482495/ 01274 482495) or katehelm1@btinternet.com

Also on the regional website are details of workshops for potential group leaders. These will be held in Harrogate in early April and include setting up groups in textiles and Oral History.