



Registered Charity No 1095635

SETTLE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 5/13 February 2015

www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk

Letter from the chair

Dear friends,

One month of the year gone already and judging by the number of envelopes of 50ps coming through my letter box, we are all busy again with our various U3A activities.

I have had a reminder from National Office about paying for tutors for our groups and think it is worth passing some of it on here.

"We believe that lack of internal expertise is not normally a valid reason for paying a tutor. It is surprising how rapidly a group of people can develop, without any significant initial knowledge, into a group who engage in serious study and even research. Being 'all in it together' enhances self-confidence and groups without an expert are some of the most satisfying in a U3A. Having an expert, particularly a paid tutor can easily stifle these highly desirable outcomes"

I agree completely. The friendships that have sprung up as a result of meeting during U3A group sessions is wonderful. If I take, for instance, the German groups. Many years ago I, who used to be able to speak German fluently and was in danger of losing it, decided to have a go at helping others to learn. I had never been a teacher but had used the Teach Yourself books in the past and so started a group for absolute beginners using that. To start with I stuck rigidly to the book but gradually I received helpful suggestions from members of the group and have now the confidence to introduce all sorts of grammar examples as we read simple books and look at a variety of things that members bring. The group has welcomed newcomers over the years and we now know each other well enough for the sessions to be great fun and even hilarious at times. As others with a good knowledge of German have joined us, we have now established another group where we try to speak only in German, discussing a subject or something that we read together. One of these days I hope to start again with another group of absolute beginners. What started out as a bit of a duty has turned into a pleasure, with lots of friends to share the fun.

That is just one example. I know there are many of our groups who enjoy being together just as much.

Alison

March Meeting: Thursday March 12th at 10.30 am in the Victoria Hall
'Leighton Moss RSPB Reserve' with David Mower
Coffee served from 10.00 am



Wednesday 25th February 7.45pm Settle Victoria Hall
AVANT L'HIVER (15)
Thursday 5th March 7.30 pm Community Centre Ingleton
GRACE OF MONACO (PG)

Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit next by Friday 6th March 2015 to:
Chris Taylor christine@castlebergh.plus.com **Tel: 01729 823975**
Submissions will be acknowledged by email

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS

At an indoor event extended to include other groups, the January meeting was an illustrated talk on the Raikes Road Burial Ground in Skipton given by Mrs Jean Robinson. The restoration is ongoing and I hope to arrange a visit there in the future to add flesh to the bones of Mrs Robinson's excellent presentation.
Alan Hemsworth

Two visits have been arranged for **Thursday, 26th February, the first beginning at 2pm.**

1) Castlebergh Masonic Lodge, Chapel Square (formerly the Sunday School for the Methodist Chapel)

2) The Old Courthouse, Station Road. The social committee will serve refreshments (to be purchased separately). Please note that there are a lot of steps leading up to this building.

The total cost for the visits will be £5 per head (which includes the 50p.U3A meeting charge). This must be paid beforehand, to either myself or Elizabeth Evans, the group leader.

Dorothy Hemsworth Enquiries to (01729) 823902

Thursday 26th March 2015

Visit to Heron Corn Mill, Beetham : a working Corn Mill, which also has a Turbine driving an electricity generator. Both will be demonstrated. We have booked a coach, and the total cost will be £15 including admission which also includes refreshments. Numbers are restricted, so please book early through

Jim Woodward-Nutt Tel: (01729) 851808.

WALKING GROUP

VISIT TO HIGHAM HALL, BASSENTHWAITE LAKE DISTRICT, 4th-7th October 2015

There are plenty of places available, but rooms are allocated on a first come first served basis. If you wish to join us you must book directly to **Higham Hall (Tel: 017687 76276) by February 15th.** £50 per person deposit is required. Further details to follow.

A most convivial and enjoyable meal was enjoyed by twenty hardy souls who made their way by various routes to Feizor for our annual lunch, despite the wind, rain and snow!

The new walking programme is now on the website and there will be a copy displayed in the Library and TIC.

Michael and I have decided to step down as Co-ordinators from September and would be grateful if somebody(s) would take over. I would be very happy to give any guidance needed. You can phone me on **(01729) 823978 e-mail:**

curlycully@uwclub.net **Margaret Cullingworth**

THEATRE TRIP

Advance Notice: I have arranged a trip to Harrogate to see **Gilbert & Sullivan's HMS Pinafore** on Thursday 29 August (matinee performance at 2.30 p.m.). The cost will be £35 per person, to include seat, coach and gratuities. Bookings can be made to me at monthly meetings or by 'phoning me on **(01729) 823978. E-mail:curlycully@uwclub.net** More details nearer the time. **Michael Cullingworth**

ART APPRECIATION

On March 3rd Sue Simpson is to talk about Percy Kelly, an interesting but little known Cumbrian artist. Do come along to what will be our last session for this year. However I am investigating the possibility of a group visit to the newly refurbished Whitworth Gallery in Manchester, probably after Easter.

Debi Burridge

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

Friday the 16th of January saw Singing for Pleasure assembling at the Friends' Meeting House. What, on a Friday? Yes, the special event was a joint session with 20 or so children from Settle Primary School (year 3) who had been invited with their teachers to enjoy a joint "sing." The scholars already knew a lot of our songs and we knew most of theirs. Many of the children took pride in being members of the school choir. They sang one song which they had recently performed in front of the WHOLE SCHOOL. Have any other groups been involved with local schools? We certainly enjoyed it.

John Rose

GREAT LIVES

At our January meeting, John Parry gave us a superbly comprehensive presentation on Robert Graves-poet, biographer and novelist. "Goodbye to all that" and the Claudius novels are his best - known works. Less well - known are his acclaimed biography of Lawrence of Arabia and a considerable number of poems. John showed us how Graves considered himself primarily a poet, though he recognised that sales of his poetic work alone would not pay the bills.

The next Great Lives will be on February 18th (Victoria Hall 11.00am) when Alan Hemsworth will speak about Rudyard Kipling.

John Jebson

EXERCISE AND CIRCLE GROUPS :

No meeting in week beg Monday 16th February
Gillian Walton

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP SOCIAL GATHERING

