



Registered Charity No 1095635

Letter from the chair

SETTLE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER Issue Number 5/16 February 2018

www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk

Hello

The days are lengthening and the snowdrops have arrived but best not to turn the heating down, apparently a severe cold spell is due from the east.

News on the international, national and local front may engage thoughts. There are plenty of issues that take or indeed need our attention - sometimes our direct involvement. Similarly, within U3A. As always, I urge keeping in touch locally, regionally and nationally via our Notice Board, TAM Magazine and Websites or simply talk with your U3A friends/Committee.

An ongoing aim of U3A is we are open to all people and abilities in their third age - to 'learn, laugh and live' so Committee are looking at actively publicising and reaching out locally; more details shortly. In the meantime our New Members Meeting is set for 2pm on 22nd February at The Friends' Meeting House and something to look forward to.

At our last Monthly Meeting I mentioned someone had enquired about a Creative Writing Group - YAHR are holding a Study Day in March on exactly that subject, open to all. Please remember that whatever the interest - and we have gaps in sciences, history, archaeology and music - we can each be leaders and learners, there is largely no distinction. Wide ranging support is available for anyone with an idea - please speak with Debi (Groups Co-ordinator).

Reading Pam Jones (National Chair) in the most recent TAM, she refers to plans being afoot to 'live stream' via YouTube more U3A events so more members can benefit. If that either horrifies or confuses you then be assured, you are not alone. A positive view is that it is something new to enquire about and understand if/how we might in time, use such a medium. YAHR is about to run a Social Media Study Day. Watch this space!

Finally, I am slowly but enjoyably taking the opportunity to visit as many groups as I can (as well as the ones I am in!) - Art Appreciation is my next treat in store.

With warm regards, Jackie

Items of interest from further afield:

WestNet Quiz Night - Gargrave Village Hall 6pm on 16th March - pie and peas supper - £5 - contact Kate Helm at kate.helm1@btinternet.com

YAHR Creative Writing Study Day- Priory Centre in York -10am on 22nd March.

March Meeting: Thursday 8th March in the Victoria Hall 'The Year of the Gamekeeper' with Russell Bury Coffee from 10am



Fri 16th February at 7.30 pm Austwick Parish Hall HIDDEN FIGURES (PG) Fri 23rd February at 7.30pm Ingl Comm Centre BRIDGIT JONES' DIARY (15) Wed 7th March at 7.45pm Settle Victoria Hall MARGUERITE (15)

Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by FRIDAY 2nd MARCH 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 few people have contacted me about this so I plan to have an initial meeting - Monday 26th February at 2pm in the cafe at Limestone View - with a possible start after Easter. If anyone else is interested please let me know. Debi Burridge, 825855 debi.burridge@gmail.com

GREAT LIVES

At the January meeting Michael Clark gave a most interesting illustrated talk on his former home, Rochford Hall, Essex, which was the original home of Sir Thomas Boleyn, father of Anne!! It was a privilege to all that heard it thank you Michael.

John Parry

At our January meeting Keith Bradshaw gave us an excellent account of the life and times of Elizabeth Fry, who worked tirelessly for prison reform, having seen women housed in appalling conditions in early 19th century Newgate Prison and on the convict ships bound for Botany Bay. She organised work parties to provide clothes and other vital necessities for the women and their children. She later devised nursing standards for hospitals at home and in Europe where she travelled extensively and was lauded in the Low Countries, Denmark, France and Germany. Florence Nightingale confessed herself inspired by Elizabeth's pioneering work. She died in 1845 of a stroke aged 65.

By complete contrast John Parry will talk at our next meeting (Wed. 21st Feb 11.00am) about the Dukes of Durham (not Hazzard) who rose from subsistence farming in pre- Civil War America to found the famous Duke University, one of the country's great centres of learning.

John Jebson

WEEKENDERS GROUP

The next meeting is on Sunday 11th February at 2pm in the lounge at Limestone View, contact **Chris Benn** for further details 01729 824880.

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS (LAOB) TALK FOR ALL U3A MEMBERS

On Thursday February 22nd at 2pm in the Victoria Hall, Settle, James Innerdale, a Conservation Architect, will give an illustrated talk to the group and all members of the U3A are invited to attend.

Hilary Baker

BOOK GROUP



Reading where ever we are, whatever the weather and in between (or perhaps instead of) other pressing activities, is what we do.

Recent books include Bill Bryson's The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid and When Breathe Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi - each autobiographies. The first set in 1950's America, a living author about an era in which he grew up and the latter published posthumously, written primarily by a young neurosurgeon again in America.

We have enjoyed Under the Greenwood Tree by Thomas Hardy and Mary Barton by Elizabeth Gaskell. Both set in 19th century Britain giving insight into life and political issues of the day. Modern fiction - Stoner by John Williams again set in USA about an 'ordinary' College tutor - in USA it was deemed too British. - All The Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr (goodness another American writer), set in WW2 France.

February's book - An Unequal Music by Vikram Seth.

Jackie Allott

**THEATRE TRIP - for all U3A members
RUDDIGORE by Gilbert and Sullivan-**
Saturday 11th August; Royal Hall, Harrogate;
£45.00

Bookings can be made on 01729823978 or email:- michaelcullingworth@gmail.com

payment must be made 5 weeks prior to performance. **Cheques** to be made payable to Settle Rotary Club and sent to 7 Townhead Croft, Settle BD249LG **All performances are Matinees**

For full programme of other theatre trips, see last month's newsletter.