

Issue No 7/4  
JANUARY 2009



**THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF THE  
THIRD AGE  
SETTLE  
DISTRICT**

*Registered Charity*  
No 1095635  
[www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk](http://www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk)

**FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Dear Friends



I hope everyone has had a wonderful Christmas. The U3A December Social was, in my opinion, certainly a fine curtain raiser to the festive season. Though very different from previous years, it did allow individual members as well as the Groups, to show off their talents, and the use of the stage allowed all performers to be clearly visible from all parts of the hall (particularly important during the trailblazing panto!) My grateful thanks once again to all Group leaders and members for their hard work and commitment. Comments please to any Committee member on how you think we could match or even surpass

the event next year.

It is particularly important I think, to recognise the value of the Victoria Hall to our organisation, especially in the light of the disclosure in the "Herald" of the huge financial shortfall (£10,000) that the Hall management faces until April 1<sup>st</sup>. Incidentally this is not simply sensational press speculation; the Chairman of Trustees confirmed the figure to me. We now have 20 groups regularly using the premises and it is difficult to see how these could be physically accommodated elsewhere, and the additional charges payable at other venues could present us with a real challenge at current membership subscription rates. Your committee will therefore give urgent consideration to helping the Victoria in any practicable way.

One or two people have asked committee members about the insurance position of U3A activities and the Group Leaders who run them. As a member organisation we are covered by the policy negotiated nationally by the Third Age Trust which insures individual U3As and their activities against proven liability. This is of course in addition to building and vehicle insurance covering premises and excursions. If anyone has individual concerns please contact me or our secretary Gillian Walton for further clarification/investigation.

With best wishes  
John Jebson

## NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

**Digital Photography:** The group has spent last term discussing the basics of using a freely available computer program (Picasa from Google) to import photos into a computer from digital cameras, organise them, crop, make simple enhancements (e.g. lighten/darken, adjust colour) and then emailing and printing them.

This term Frank Higginson is going to run some sessions on camera basics, such as the effects of shutter speed, aperture and focal length on the image, etc., and look at what makes a good picture, whether it is an informal 'snap' or a more formal picture. We may then go on expeditions to take local pictures which we will then discuss and publish on a web site.

If you would like to join the group we meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 9.30 am in the Victoria Hall.

**Frank Woodhams**

**Family History:** Just a reminder that the next meeting is on Friday 23 January at 10.30 a.m. at the Victoria Hall.

**Margaret Cullingworth**

**French:** Both groups responded positively to Shirley Wolfenden's request for items to be presented at a U3A do-it-yourself Christmas Entertainment but then the questions came : WHAT? and CAN WE FIT IT IN? WE'RE SO BUSY! No problem! Such talent revealed itself, or talent hidden heretofore in Settle. Jean Lavelle offered to write a pantomime script in French, Margaret Cullingworth offered to do the costumes, husband Mike Cullingworth (of, it seems, years of pantomime dame experience) offered to take part,

David Holdsworth offered to do computer-generated audience prompts, Terry Lavelle offered to play the piano and every member who was not otherwise booked up on the day offered to do whatever was required. There were two rehearsals and Red Riding Hood, or Le Petit Chaperon Rouge, was performed on the Victoria Hall stage, enjoyed hugely by the cast and, it seems, by fellow U3A members. It's not every day the opportunity comes to watch a stripper!

***Olwyn Bolger***

**Line Dancing:** The first session of 2009 will be on Thursday 15th January, 10.30am. All sessions in January will be in The Victoria Hall. New members are always most welcome.

***Eileen Bamford***

**Looking at Old Buildings:**

29th JANUARY 2009 - VICTORIA HALL 2pm.

A talk will be given by Don McLellan, Buildings Conservation Officer for the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. One of his latest projects is to survey and photograph the "furniture of the dales" - features such as barns, sheep shelters, 6,000 traditional farms and walls. Don's talk will probably cover his in-depth survey of the many listed buildings within the National Park. This should prove to be very interesting and a wonderful opportunity to hear about the work being done to preserve such precious places. ***Ruth Evans***

The 'Looking at Old Buildings' programme for the year is now available on the website. I will try to remember to bring some hard copies to the January meeting for those people who do not have access to a computer.

***Margaret Cullingworth***

**Great Lives:** Please join us on January 21<sup>st</sup> at 10.30am for our first 2009 talk. Subject: **"The Duke of Wellington"**

***Jean Imrie***

**Madrigal Group:** The next meeting will be on Tuesday 20th January at 10.0am. at St John's Methodist Hall ( Primary Room

) ***Alan Hemsworth***

**Walking Group:** The Spring programme is now available on the website and copies will also be found in Settle Library and Tourist Information Office. Hard copies should be available at the January meeting.

**Margaret & Michael Cullingworth**



*A Helping hand at Dunsop Bridge*



*Autumn Splendour at Hurst Green*

Scenes from two of the Autumn Walks

**THEATRE TRIP**

Ilkley Playhouse

Monday January 26th 2009

We will leave Settle Cricket Club Car Park at 6pm prompt.

**STOP PRESS**

**'ART**

**APPRECIATION'S**

next visit is to Abbot Hall, Kendal on Jan 20th to see 'Robert Bevan and the Cumberland Market Group', meeting there at 2.00.'

**Frank Gordon**

**JANUARY WALKS**

<p><b>January 13</b> Malham – Janet's Foss – Cawden 3-4 miles</p>	<p><b>January 15</b> Austwick – Settle 7 miles</p>
<p><b>January 27</b> Reservoir Walk (Fewston or Swinsty or both) Approx. 3 or 5+ miles</p>	<p><b>January 29</b> Hellifield – Settle</p>

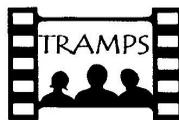
### INTERMEDIATE FRENCH

Well done everyone who helped with and/or appeared in "Le Petit Chaperon Rouge". Who said learning French wasn't fun! We'll try to do a little more to while away the winter months meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month starting January 14<sup>th</sup>!

Bon Courage **Anne Richer**

### Christmas Day Sponsored Swim

I achieved 100 lengths of the pool which exceeded the mile! Thank you to those U3A members who so generously supported me. I raised £133!  
*Sue Simpson*



The Ribblesdale Area  
Moving Picture Show

TRAMPS presents –

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 7.30  
Bentham Victoria  
Inst

**ST TRINIANS (12A)**

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 7.30  
Langcliffe Institute  
Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 7.30  
Clapham Village  
Hall

**MAMMA MIA (U)**

Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 7.30  
Clapham Village  
Hall

**IN BRUGES (12)**  
[www.tramps.org.uk](http://www.tramps.org.uk)

### Copy date for next issue of Newsletter

All copy for publication in the next issue needs to reach the editor  
(Sue Simpson e-mail: [susanmsimpson@btinternet.com](mailto:susanmsimpson@btinternet.com))  
by Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009  
(Tel: 01524241271)

All copy received by e-mail will be acknowledged.