



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

Registered Charity No
1095635

www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk



Dear friends,
Thanks to all who took part in or helped with the December Christmas meeting. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and, like me, found the warm mulled wine and punch very palatable!
The sharp-eyed amongst you will have noticed that in the last Newsletter there was no resume of the December committee meeting. This is because the committee concentrated on the arrangements for the Christmas meeting and there was therefore nothing newsworthy to report. A summary of discussions and decisions of interest will recommence from January onwards.
I don't usually make New Year resolutions but this year I have made one: To visit some of the groups to which I am not signed up. I had a lovely time at the Singing for Pleasure group last year and am keen to find out and report on what else I am missing out on!
For those of us who enjoy dancing, please remember a new dance group is starting up in January. If you are interested in ballet or tap dancing do come along to the inaugural meeting on 20th January at 2.00pm in the Victoria Hall. I am sure it will be fun.
The committee hopes to invite all our new members, people who joined Settle District U3A last autumn, to a coffee morning in February. Personal invitations will be sent out by e-mail to those for whom we have an e-mail address and by hand or post to everyone else. The purpose of the coffee morning is to provide an opportunity for new members to meet the committee and each other, ask any questions and share any thoughts or ideas about or for improving this U3A.
Happy New Year everyone. Nita

FEBRUARY MEETING
Thursday 13th February 2014
Victoria Hall 10.30 am

**'A Life spent
watching paint dry'
with FRANK GORDON**

Coffee served from 10.00am



The Ribblesdale Area
Moving Picture Show
Wednesday 29 January
2014 7.45pm
Settle, Victoria Hall
**La Source Des
Femmes (15)**
<http://www.tramps.org.uk>

GREAT LIVES

Our next meeting will be on 15th January 2014 at Victoria Hall, 11.00am start, when Alan Hemsworth will give a talk on the life of that fine Bradford-born novelist and playwright **J.B.Priestley**. Everyone welcome.

CIRCLE DANCING starts again on January 17th

EXERCISE SESSIONS begin again on January 8th Gillian Walton

GEOLOGY GROUP

The next meeting is on Tuesday 21st January at 14:00 in the Castleberg Room, Victoria Hall.

The plan is to talk about "**Geological Time**". We'll first look into the sheer unimaginable length of geological time and next at the story of how ideas of this time-scale developed. Then, we'll discuss how, during the 20th century, the time-scale was fixed and finally how the age for planet Earth was established.

Paul Cochrane

WALKING GROUP

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year. Just a reminder that the **next Planning Meeting takes place on Thursday 23rd January at 11 a.m at the Quaker Meeting House**. This will be followed by the usual Jacob's Join and all are welcome. We are in need of more volunteers to lead walks.

Margaret Cullingworth

Copy for publication in the next issue should reach **Chris Taylor** by **Friday 7th February** e-mail: christine@castlebergh.plus.com (Tel : 01729 823975). (Please note corrected phone number)

Copy received by e-mail will be acknowledged.

News from The Groups

Great Lives

Josiah Wedgwood 1730 - 1795

How do presenters select a Great Life? John Jebson came upon the Wedgwood museum by chance, dug further and was so fascinated by the man himself that he decided to share his research with the Group. The result was a stimulating and entertaining talk.

Josiah Wedgwood was born in Burslem, the youngest of eleven children. His father died when he was nine and his eldest brother became head of the family "pot" works.

In 1744 Josiah became apprenticed to his brother. Clay was dug from the sides of the road leaving holes which are the origin of today's potholes but the family firm was under capitalised and not forward looking so Josiah soon went on his own.

Josiah struggled with a smallpox induced physical disability for most of his life. He paid his staff well and provided housing, health insurance and retirement benefits, together with schools for their children.

His superior wares were the first items of pottery to be bought mainly for ornaments by the aristocracy and royalty, and the sale of slight seconds at reduced prices.

Josiah died in 1795 but the firm lives on as a bye-word for quality. Thank you John for keeping us enthralled.

JOHN PARRY

GEEKS WANTED

Are you a geek? Does your spouse understand your computer systems?

If the answers are "Yes" and "No" respectively, please visit:

<http://www.settledistrictU3A.org.uk/dh/U3A/geek.htm>

If you do not understand your spouse's computer systems, it might be wise to have a look yourself.

DAVID HOLDSWORTH

New Dance Group

To all you wanna be dancers, my name is Marjorie. I have danced all my life and taught for more years than I care to remember. At present I teach adult ballet and tap. I believe everyone has the right to dance to their ability. The new classes will be friendly, relaxed and the art of dance will be taught with, hopefully, some fun. So please come along and try our ballet & tap class.

An Inaugural Meeting will be held on 20th January 2014 at 2.00pm in the Victoria Hall.

Regional and National News

The November newsletter from Yorkshire and Humber Region U3A is now on their website which can be accessed by links from our own website (other links).

There are also details of regional study days held in Doncaster on March 6th Marketing and Publicity and March 27th Effective use of IT within U3As.

North West Summer School 26/27 August 2014 Newton Rigg College near Penrith; Archaeology, Art (Colour), Creative Writing, Geology, History of Ideas/Literature, A Musical Journey, renaissance to Romanticism, Digital Photography.

More info: u3asites.org.uk/north-west book by 31 January

National Summer Schools 2014

1. **Harper Adams University, Telford, Shropshire 14-17th July;** Ancient Civilisations of the Americas, Canal history, Cinema History, Creative Writing, Current Affairs, Drama Through the Ages, France Today, Latin, Philosophical Metaphysics, Recorder Ensemble
2. **Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester 18th -21st August;** Arts and Architecture, Digital Photography, Drama, Gardening, Literature, Music, Poetry, Science, Singing for Pleasure

Other National Events

1. **Adult Learners Week Awards – www.alw.org.uk/awards/2014**
Closing date for nominations of an inspirational learner or innovative learning project is 30th January
2. **Media Training Day for U3As 11th March 10.30am – 4pm London**
3. **U3A Study day at National Gallery 27th March 11am -3pm**
Exploring 18th Century painting
4. **Spring Concert at the Queens Chapel of the Savoy 30th April**
5. **Staying Sharp at the Royal Society 21st May**

More information about national events is available on the national website (linked from our own site) or at the monthly meetings or from Pat Taylor

taylorpatanne@aol.co.uk

or 01729 825483

PAT TAYLOR (SECRETARY)