



Registered Charity No 1095635

Letter from the chair

Hello

Firstly, a big thank you to those who took part in the Christmas Social, too numerous to mention in person but to all participants, back-stage folks and audience. We have so much talent and it was fantastic to see it shine through once again!



With 2018 to look forward to please keep yourself informed about what U3A has in store - for instance our monthly Speaker Meeting. Remember your observations and ideas are always welcome and positively put are what makes such events even better. I am sure you keep an eye on the Notice Board which we aim to keep up-to-date. Such items include WestNet activities - the next being a Quiz Night to return to Gargrave in March, followed in May by the Dragon Boat Race (hopefully) at Saltaire and a mid-summer Town Trail/Quiz in Ilkley. Wider still are Regional and National events - details are on the Website or Third Age Matters magazine. There are lots of interesting things on offer and opportunities to meet like-minded others in the process.

Planned for 22nd February 2 pm - is a New Members Meeting to which all such members are cordially and enthusiastically invited. I understand there are upwards of 40 new members. Individual invitations will be made shortly. The aim is to share information and listen to new ideas so we can build on success and keep our U3A 'fresh'.

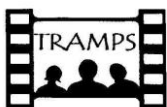
A couple of months ago I mentioned the free Massive Open On-line Courses (MOOC). What have I let myself in for? I plan to enrol with FutureLearn. When and if I complete 'the course', I will report back. Such public resolutions are perhaps risky and I do not plan to let you know my New Year ones (if indeed I made any). We all know we rarely keep them. However we can always be hopeful.....

Wishing you each a very good and stimulating 2018 from all the Committee.

Jackie

February Meeting: Thursday 8th February in the Victoria Hall
'The Riddle of Humpty Dumpty' with Alan Hemsworth
Coffee from 10am

Friday 19th January at 7.30 pm Austwick Parish Hall **DUNKIRK (12A)**
Friday 26th January at 8pm Bentham Town Hall **WITHNAIL & I (12A)**
Friday 26th January at 7.30pm Ingleton Comm Centre **THE FINEST HOURS (12)**



The Ribblesdale Area Moving Picture Show

Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by FRIDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2018 to: Chris Taylor christine@castlebergh.plus.com
Tel: 01729 823975 . Submissions 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.

GREAT LIVES

At our December meeting John Platten gave a most interesting presentation on Bessie Smith, "The Empress of the Blues", one of the outstanding black musicians of the 1920's and 1930's. Her music influenced generations of American singers but following her death in a car crash in 1937, she was buried in an unmarked grave as a pauper and it was left to Janis Joplin in 1970 to provide much of the funding for a permanent memorial.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 17th January (Victoria Hall 11.00am) when Keith Bradshaw will speak on the life and times of Elizabeth Fry, that great prison reformer.

John Jebson

WEEKENDERS GROUP

The Weekenders Group met for a very jolly Christmas meal at the cafe at Limestone View on Saturday 16th December. The food and the company were both excellent. And Mike Driver entertained everyone after lunch with some magic tricks!

The next meeting is on Saturday January 13th at 11am in the lounge at Limestone View. Come for coffee, company and chat.



Debi Burridge



The White Cottage (Percy Kelly)

CREATIVE WRITING

Interest has been shown in a possible new writing group. If you would be interested in participating in such a group, please have a word with **Debi Burridge**. (Groups' CO-ordinator)

THEATRE TRIPS 2018

show:- SUNSET BOULEVARD

when:- February 7th 2018

where:- Alhambra, Bradford

price:- £42.00

show:- Matthew Bourne's Ballet Cinderella

when:- Wednesday 9th May

where:- Alhambra, Bradford

price:- £43.00

show:- CALENDAR GIRLS

when:- Wednesday 29th August

where:- Grand theatre, Leeds

price:- £54.00

show:- MISS SAIGON

when:- Wednesday 10th October

Where:- Alhambra, Bradford

price:- £68.00

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

FEBRUARY LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS

James Innerdale, a conservation architect, has agreed to talk to us on "Looking at Old Buildings" on Thursday Feb 22nd at 2.00pm in the Victoria Hall. All are welcome (not just LAOB members). See you there.

Hilary Baker

ART APPRECIATION

We had a really interesting meeting on Jan 2nd when several members contributed short illustrated talks on some significant and diverse female artists. Among others we had the opportunity to encounter works by Tracey Emin, Joan Eardley, Margaret Hockney and Phoebe Traquair

In December a few of us travelled to Carlisle to see the Percy Kelly Retrospective Exhibition.

It was a gloriously sunny day and members were impressed by the work of this reclusive Cumbrian artist. Highly recommended.

On Tuesday February 6th, Frank Gordon will present a talk on Cezanne and Alma Tadema.

Sue Simpson