



Registered Charity No 1095635

SETTLE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 10/15 July 2017

www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk

Letter from the Chair

Dear Fellow Members,

Most of our interest groups (but not all) have ceased their activities in order to enjoy a summer break. We now look forward to the 2017/2018 U3A year. I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of our Open Meeting on Thursday 10 August at 10.30 am when we renew our annual membership as well as sign up for participation in groups from September (or October) onwards.

As it was so beneficial last year we shall again use the Friends' Meeting House for membership renewal. Go there first, after which make your way for coffee/tea in the Victoria Hall and for signing up for groups.

For 2017/2018 there are likely to be one or two new groups which you may like to consider. The large majority of our groups will be continuing into next year. Whilst you will probably wish to continue with a familiar group why not consider as well something new and perhaps challenging for you so that you push out your personal boundaries? Most of our groups are able to welcome new and additional members and will benefit from new faces and new minds.

Anyone interested in joining the committee, please speak to our secretary, Anne Webster. Enjoy the summer.

Ian Tennant

August Meeting: Thursday 10th August in the Victoria Hall Joining, Renewals and Signing up for Groups

Coffee served from 10.00 am

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP – YOU CAN DO IT ON LINE!

This year we have started using some software developed by the national U3A body for the recording of membership, accounts and group activities. It is being used by over 100 U3As throughout the country already. We are starting to use the system called 'Beacon' for membership and groups information but not fully for accounting yet. Over the next few days you will see some changes to the list of options on the website on the left hand side of the home page.

There is a 'Members area' which gives the members access to their personal information which you can modify if there is a change to be made. Renewing membership and new members joining can be done on line and there are instructions on the website for doing that. The system uses 'PayPal' but you don't need to join 'PayPal' to use it. You can still pay for membership using online banking or cash or cheque.

Group information can be accessed through the system and there is a calendar available if it gets used by the group leaders and others. Online joining of groups is currently not activated until we can assess when best to allow that facility.

We expect the system to be robust but no doubt we will find a few teething problems but I would ask you to have a look and use it as much as possible and let me know if you are having problems with it. Thanks are due to David Holdsworth for providing the software we have been using so far and will continue to use some of it for a while until we are thoroughly used to the new system; also to Frank Woodhams for his work on the existing webpages and to Paul Cochrane for continuing that support. We are in the process of changing the webpages to make them look more like webpages we have got used to, but that is going to take a little more work and testing before we release that on you all. Thanks for your cooperation and patience.

Keith Waterson

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

GREAT LIVES

At our June meeting Paul Cochrane gave a very informative talk about William Smith, someone who deserves to be far better known than he is. William Smith was born in rural Oxfordshire in 1769, the eldest son of a blacksmith. He left school at 11 and eventually became a surveyor and developed an interest in rocks and fossils. He was employed in surveying land for canals and also in the search for materials like coal, iron ore and limestone without which the industrial revolution could not have happened. He travelled thousands of miles on horseback and in 1815 produced a coloured geological map of England, Wales and Southern Scotland which is remarkable similar to modern geological maps. Being the son of a blacksmith, Smith was ignored by the geological establishment who belonged to the upper classes. William Smith died in 1839 while on a lecture tour. He is rightly regarded as the father of geology. Our next meeting will be on September 20th when Chris Petrie will talk about Captain James Cook.

Keith Bradshaw

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS

Reminder - LaOB Rochdale trip - coach leaves Cricket Club at 9 am Thursday 27th July, return about 5.30 pm. Thanks are due to Jim Woodward-Nutt for the very interesting June visit to the watermills at Little Salkeld & Acorn Bank. The write-up on the Group web page should be available by the time you read this. Following the above Rochdale visit this month, there will not be a visit in August and the planning meeting for next session will be in September when members are urged to bring their suggestions for and offers to arrange future visit.

Elizabeth Evans

ART APPRECIATION

This Group needs a new leader/coordinator. Please contact Debi Burrige 825922 debi.burridge@gmail.com if you could consider this.

DANCE EXERCISE TO LATIN MUSIC

Wednesday afternoons from 2 - 3 pm in the Victoria Hall from November. There will be 2 taster sessions September 20th and 27th.

Is it dance? Is it exercise? Is it what we'd all secretly love to try when we watch 'Strictly' and Craig says 'fabulous hips darling!?' It's all three!! This group aims to enjoy the pure joy of Latin music and Latin dance moves, adapted to an exercise class format. Ideal for those who already love exercising to great music - but beginners, non-dancers, and those with two left feet are particularly welcome as we'll all be starting from scratch and building this together. Just bring a bottle of water, your sense of adventure and a willingness to have a go. We'll work on some basic steps from the likes of salsa, merengue, bachata, cha cha cha...then add some style as we go, and turn it into some fun dance

exercise routines. There may even be a bit of tango or Charleston thrown in. You will always take it at your own pace so no pressure. You can either aim for your own personal calorie burn...or just enjoy the fun of dancing 'like we do when no-one's watching' (safe in the knowledge that everyone else will be doing the same!)

Further details at the August meeting or contact Debi Burrige as above.



PHILOSOPHY GROUP

The photo indicates that the philosophy group is alive and well. We meet regularly as we have done since Settle U3A began with two of the original members still attending. When we meet - on the first and third Thursdays - we discuss the works of the leading western philosophers. Anyone who cares about the things that really matter is welcome to join.

Roy Anderson

TRAMPS

Wednesday 6th September 7.45 pm
Victoria Hall, Settle
THE BLACK HEN (12A)

Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by

Friday 4th August 2017 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.