

Newsletter

Issue No. 5/9, June 2007

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

SETTLE DISTRICT

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends

I am sure that you are aware that come September the U3A nationally will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary and we shall be celebrating our 5th. We have had some considerable discussion, in committee, as to how to celebrate. This onerous task has been assigned to "The Social Committee" - in other words Shirley Wolfenden and me.

Shirley and I did not feel experienced enough to organise a "Cruise" but we have arranged a special event for the evening of Friday, 31 August at the Rugby Club; see the flyer in this *Newsletter* for full information.

This event is being part funded from the Social Account, which has been partly built up from the coffee money from Thursday meetings. Please make a note on your calendars and support what should be a very pleasant evening. Tickets are available from today from Shirley or me.

Sincerely

Janet

Apologies again ...

The Editor apologises to anyone who sent in copy by e-mail for this issue that hasn't been included. Once again my e-mail system has been out of order and though I did try to contact regular contributors, I fear not all the messages got through.

In future (once the thing is working again) I shall *acknowledge all contributions received by e-mail*, so if you don't get my reply you will know that I've not got your message, and perhaps you would send it again by alternative means.

Sorry!

Pamela Servant

FROM THE GROUPS CO-ORDINATOR

Many groups have decided to stop for the summer already so now is a good time to think about the next session. I shall be contacting all group leaders soon about their plans for the autumn.

If you have enjoyed the U3A and have met anyone who could be persuaded to start a new group, please let me know. Group leaders don't have to be able to teach or be great organisers. The groups often run themselves. All I need is someone who is willing to be the named person in a group of people interested in the same subject.

Alison Tyas (01729 822313) Quaker Garth, Kirkgate (opposite the Victoria Hall)

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Family History: At the last meeting of the current session on 27 April Charles Newbould gave an excellent talk about how he had conducted his family history, starting with his card index system and going on to show his computer research. Our members who were unable to attend certainly missed a treat.
Michael Cullingworth

Heraldry: The next outing for the Heraldry group will be on **Thursday 21 June** when we will be visiting Heversham Church and Levens Hall. The latter does not open till 12.00 noon so I suggest a visit to Heversham first and then those who wish to go to Levens have a quick lunch before the visit. Entrance to Levens is £9.50.

Meet at 10.30am as usual in Booths car park.

Beginners Heraldry will meet for its last class on **5 July** at 10.30am in the Victoria Hall.

Hilary Baker

Listening to Music: The next meeting is at 2.00pm on **Monday 18 June** at Janet Stafford's—1 Birchwood Close, Settle, tel 825449. Bring a piece of your choice. Sorry, CDs only. **JS**

Looking at Old Buildings: Twenty-two people made the trip to Burton in Kendal on the beautiful afternoon of 26 April to take a stroll around the many and varied buildings there with local historian Kath Hayhurst. This was very interesting and informative and we learned the history of many of the buildings, the people who lived in them and the trades that were carried out, including a tannery and swill making. There seemed to be many beer houses as well as a number of inns!
Michael Cullingworth

Mathematical Puzzles: We have met twice per month throughout the 2006-7 session, and the assembled members at our 8 May meeting unanimously agreed that we deserve a long vacation. So there will be no more meetings of our group until the 2007-8 session.

Our puzzles have ranged very widely. We had great fun looking at the mathematics of bridges designed by Leonardo da Vinci. Two of our members made models, one in wood and string and the other in Meccano. We also studied lead balloons, but without models. We've done some of the puzzles from *New Scientist*, and also touched upon Lagrange points and Sudoku. Recently we've been intrigued by a puzzle given to Arthur Lupton by Prof Gordon James of Austwick, which is to find whole numbers a , b and N which satisfy the equation:

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2}{ab - 1} = N \quad \text{e.g. } a = 1, b = 2 \text{ and } N = \frac{5}{5} \quad \text{or } a = 1, b = 3 \text{ and } N = \frac{10}{2}$$

And many more besides. And when you've done that, try changing the minus sign to a plus. Our answers to these puzzles, and several more beside can be found on the web at

<http://195.102.20.132/mpU3A>

David Holdsworth

Spanish: There is a possibility of a new group to get together for simple Spanish conversation. Anyone with a little knowledge of the language is asked to get in touch with me.

Alison Tyas 01729 822313

Strollers' Walking: The first walk was a great success, eight members completing the longer walk. Well done everybody. Next one is on **Wednesday 27 June**; meet at the Cricket Club at 10.00am for another local walk.
JS (tel 825449)

The Self-Help Computer group held its final meeting of the year on 23 May, marking the occasion with a “Jacob’s Join” slide show when members brought slides of their choice (on memory sticks) to show. Subjects ranged from aspects of Mt Everest to local churches and to home-produced greeting cards. At routine meetings the members are encouraged to set their own agenda by raising computer-related topics which have caused difficulty or with which they have experienced satisfying success (it does sometime happen!). Hopefully, this gives pertinence to our deliberations and interestingly, most problems are solved when shared in this way with other members of the group.

The group has met immediately following the Wednesday afternoon session for “Beginners” and some have frequently combined the two classes into a 3-hour session.

We keep promising ourselves to deal more thoroughly with aspects of digital photography—but too often time seems to run out! This could well be the subject for a dedicated group on its own as obviously many U3A members are regularly using digital cameras now. Comments invited?

GHP

STOP PRESS

This space is for any urgent items that come too late for the copy date (see below). Please keep wording to a minimum.

Outings: Would everybody going on the Scampston House trip who hasn't yet paid please make sure they do so immediately—to Shirley Wolfenden (01729 840882). Many thanks

Don't miss our
Anniversary Celebration!

**at Settle Rugby Club
on Friday 31 August 2007**

Tickets only £10 from
Janet Stafford and Shirley Wolfenden.

*Full information
on the enclosed flyer*

TRAMPS is planning future presentations for

Friday 21 September (Langcliffe Institute)
Saturday 22 September (Clapham Village Hall)
Friday 19 October (Langcliffe Institute)
Saturday 20 October (Clapham Village Hall)

Watch out for further announcements!

Next month's Thursday meeting

Next month's talk, on 12 July, will be given by

**Peter Watson on
"Medicine and Magic"**

Coffee from 10.00am for 10.30am start in the Victoria Hall

***PLEASE NOTE:** the date for the August meeting is **9 August**
and that for September is **13 September**, and **NOT** as shown in your membership card.
NOT as shown in your membership card*

Copy date for next issue of Newsletter

*All copy for publication in the next issue needs to reach the editor
(Pam Servant, Brayshaw Cottage, 23 Duke Street, Settle—e-mail pms@daelnet.co.uk)
by **Thursday 5 July 2007**.*

NB all copy received by e-mail will be acknowledged.

By the time you're old enough to watch your step you're too old to go anywhere.

Allow me to put the record straight: I am 48 and have been for many years.