



Registered Charity No 1095635

# SETTLE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 9/17 June 2019

[www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk](http://www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk)

## Letter from the chair

Hello,

Apparently the Dalai Lama said 'Choose to be optimistic. It feels better.'

I certainly felt happy and positive during a recent visit to our Singing for Pleasure Group. It was a great way to feel some optimism. No need to worry about knowing the words as those are projected. Singers only needed to project their voices with abandon and Cate's encouragement!

I shall continue to visit Groups if I can although many will soon be taking a summer break. Despite good intentions it has not been possible to go to, anywhere near, all our 35+ Groups. As usual, in a couple of months it will be time to sign up again in August, according to our interests. Now is the time perhaps, to think about starting another such Group yourself, together with someone else maybe. Music, Astronomy, you name it? The sky and your imagination are pretty much the only limits.

There is soon to be a display of findings about those remembered in the stained glass windows at St. Alkelda's Church, Giggleswick for their weekend event of 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> June. Eileen highlighted this Family History Group project last month. I hope you manage the short trip there to learn more.

Optimistically, I must return to the matter of our future Committee. We have had interested members coming forward and together with those already on Committee many of the responsibilities should be covered. Further nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary are still however needed ahead of our AGM in September. I am optimistic (!) that some of you will now be interested to talk some more about those opportunities.

Last but not least - 10th June is just about the last day to book your place on our **SUMMER HISTORY TRAIL - from 6pm on 19th JUNE 2019**. This is a WestNet event, hosted by Settle District U3A. It is hoped we will join together to give a very warm welcome to those from other U3A's in the area. Full details are on our Website.

With warm wishes (and ever hopeful a little warmer summer).

Jackie

**July Meeting: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019**  
**'Have Guitar – will Travel:**  
**Travel Experiences and Famous Faces'**  
**with Neil Smith**  
**Coffee from 10 am**



The Ribblesdale Area  
Moving Picture Show

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 7.45 pm Victoria Hall, Settle**  
**FELICITE (12A)**  
**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Aug 7.45 pm Victoria Hall, Settle**  
**C'EST LA VIE! (15)**

*Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by*  
**FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> July 2019 to: Chris Taylor**  
**[christine@castlebergh.plus.com](mailto:christine@castlebergh.plus.com) Tel: 01729 823975**  
*Copy will be acknowledged by email. Wherever possible, the full account is used but occasionally it is necessary to edit the piece to fit the printed copy. The full submissions will be used on the website version.*

## NEWS FROM AND FOR THE GROUPS

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

The new membership year starts on the 1st July when subs are due although most members renew at our open meeting on Thursday 8th August when the new season of groups will be on display. This year renewals can be made by BACS (Sort Code 40-40-31 Acc No: 21384406), cheque or cash though no longer by PayPal which has been found to be too expensive and inflexible for our system. The committee has decided to hold the rates at the same level as last year namely £15 per person or £29 for couples living at the same address but those that can afford it are actively encouraged to make a voluntary small donation of up to £5 a head which still gives extraordinarily good value to members.

### MONDAY EXERCISE GROUP

This group is taking a break for the summer. It hopes to reconvene in the Autumn but desperately needs a new leader. The group has managed for some weeks with group members leading the sessions. It is a social group as much as a gentle exercise group and is very much appreciated by the members. Is there anyone in our U3A who feels they could help or might know someone who could? Let me know, **Debi Burridge** 825855 [debi.burridge@gmail.com](mailto:debi.burridge@gmail.com)

### RETRO STRETCH AND TONE

Reluctantly it has been decided that this group will not now take place in September. Apologies to all who showed interest.

### BIRDWATCHING GROUP



Wren –  
hunted on the  
Isle of Man

May's indoor meeting looked in depth at 'Woodland Birds', focusing on their songs and calls and how they look and behave. Group members also discovered some amazing things about our woodland birds. The Long-tailed Tit, for instance, constructs a nest which expands naturally to accommodate its growing

brood of chicks. The Wren is the gigolo of the bird world, building several nests and then housing a different female in each. But it gets its come-uppance on the Isle of Man where according to folklore it must be hunted and buried to mark the winter solstice. And how did the Goldcrest come to be crowned as the King of the Birds? By hiding in the Eagle's tail of course - at least that's what Pliny and Aristotle tell us, and who could argue with them!

The Group's next meeting is on Tuesday 2nd July when we'll be visiting Malham Cove. As well as the spectacular Peregrine Falcons, which should be very active around their nest site on the limestone cliffs, we'll be hoping to see several other special species including Restart, Green Woodpecker and Little Owl.

For more information about the U3A Birdwatching Group and its activities contact Group Leader **Les Chandler** on [lchandler52@gmail.com](mailto:lchandler52@gmail.com).

### GREAT LIVES

At our May meeting we had the unusual situation where our speaker, Carolyn Scales, is the niece of her subject - Daphne Oram. To hear about such a musical innovator from a family perspective added another fascinating dimension. Daphne was one of the very first British composers to produce electronic sound and was a co-founder of the BBC Radiophonic Workshop. Her Oramics technique used drawn sound to create the electronics sounds. She was the first woman to set up a personal electronic music studio in 1959 and felt confident enough to turn down requests from the Beatles and Rolling Stones for a musical collaboration! All her equipment is now owned by a Trust and is preserved at Goldsmith College.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 19th June (Victoria Hall 11.00am) when Keith Bradshaw will round off our season with a talk on the life and work of one of our most notable war poets-Wilfred Owen. All welcome.

*John Jebson*

### POSTER DISTRIBUTION

Can anyone offer to distribute some of the posters for the Thursday Meetings around the Settle District, however short a distance, either on foot or by car? Please see any member of the committee for details.