

APRIL MEETING

"AN AUDIENCE WITH CLARA SCHUMANN"

Readings from her letters and diaries
with recorded piano music.

Diana Spratt

Thursday 11th April 2013
Victoria Hall 10.30am
(Coffee from 10.00am)



SKYFALL (12)
Austwick Village Hall
Fri 15th March 7.30pm

LAD : A YORKSHIRE STORY
Settle Victoria Hall
Thurs 28th March 7.30pm
www.tramps.org.uk

'LEST THEY FORGET'

Thursday 6th June
A study day on writing your life story.

VENUE: Oxford Place Centre **LEEDS**
Further information is available from
Kate Helm: 01274 482495 or
kate.helm1@btinternet.com

**SETTLE ORCHESTRA
SPRING CONCERTS**
SETTLE Parish Church
Saturday 16th March 7.30pm
Christ Church SKIPTON
Saturday 23rd March 7.30 pm

Overture:
Morning Noon and Night - Suppé
Horn Concerto no 4 - Mozart
Symphony no 4 in Dmin - Dvorak
Soloist:: Chris Helliwell
Conductor: Howard Lorrimer
Tickets from Cave and Crag or at the door
(item contributed by member)

If you wish to make a contribution to the Website, Frank Woodhams is the **WEBMASTER** and the person to contact on: f.woodhams@uea.ac.uk
Please check the website regularly for up dates and new information.

Copy for publication in the next issue **should** reach the editor Sue Simpson by **Friday 5th April** e-mail: susanmsimpson@btinternet.com
(Tel: 01524241271) Copy received by e-mail will be acknowledged.

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

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RAMPTON

Dear Friends

It was good to see so many members at the 'Archaeology of the Romans' group meeting in February. Tony gave a most interesting illustrated talk about the Roman Ilkley to Kendal road with particular reference to traces of the road still visible near Settle. Attendees were encouraged to come to the March meeting, prepared to discuss his presentation and how to take forward our interest in this topic.



This newly formed group reminded me how lucky we are in Settle and District U3A that there are so many and varied groups to attend. Bridge and Archaeology of the Romans are the latest two groups to start up. But, I am aware that one or two groups may be finishing in the summer, either because they have come to a natural end, or because the current group leader

is unable to continue in that role and no-one has yet offered to step into the breach.

U3A groups are about the improvement and/or entertainment of participants and, as our latest two diverse new groups clearly demonstrate, there is nothing to stop a new group starting up at any time. So, have you ever wished that there was, for example, a drama, or current affairs or croquet group?! What new group would you join? Why not put a suggestion in the Suggestions Box?

Of course, groups need volunteers to lead or facilitate them but this does not have to be an onerous burden, or the responsibility of just one person. Two people who share enthusiasm for the same subject or activity can co-lead a group, or a group could have a facilitator, rather than a teacher or leader and encourage other attendees to organise and run a meeting. A group can adopt its own style of operation and does not have to meet every week or month, or continue beyond a number of months or sessions.

And finally, a suggestion that groups might like to bear in mind. One group leader mentioned to me recently that her group wanted to ask a teacher to come and help guide their activities. This teacher would need to be paid a fee and whilst the group members were happy to pay for this, she asked if a contribution towards this fee could be made out of our U3A funds. The committee decided that while any group can employ a teacher for one or more meetings, our U3A funds could not be used to pay any fees or costs. However, to reduce such costs for a group the committee suggests that a group advertises that a speaker/teacher is coming to their next meeting and that it is open to all U3A members for a given charge. In this way the group numbers may be swelled and thus help to reduce the cost per head.

Nita

REGIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

There are still some places available on the Regional Summer School, 5 – 8 August at Wentworth Castle. Ideas for new Groups. Full details are available on the YAHR website, which is linked from our own U3A website.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

ART APPRECIATION: The last meeting for this 2012/13 year was on Tuesday when we used a series of Channel 4 documentaries which explored the Grayson Perry tapestries entitled 'The Vanity of Small Differences'. To create these 6 enormous tapestries he had spent time with groups of people in England that he felt encompassed the working, middle and upper classes to find out what they thought "taste" was and how it manifested itself in their lives. He based the theme of the tapestries on the Hogarth paintings 'A Rake's Progress', casting his central character as Tim Rakewell, who is born into a working class background, goes to university and moves into the middle classes. From here his success in the internet world makes him enough money to climb into the world of celebrity but his downfall comes in the shape of a fast car crash and death. It was a fascinating insight into the background and execution of the tapestries, which should be on display at Leeds Art Gallery sometime in the near future.

The group will be visiting Cartwright Hall Art Gallery on 23rd April for a guided tour by one of the curators. If anyone would like to join us, please contact me (01274 482495) for more information.

I have enjoyed facilitating this group and have learnt a lot and I'm pleased that Debi Burrige has agreed to take over from me when the sessions start again in October. **Kate Helm**

**Kate has done a sterling job in keeping the group going following in the footsteps of Frank Gordon. Many thanks Kate. (Ed)*

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE ROMANS: The next meeting on March 25 will be a discussion of the 'A65' talk and also one on future meetings format. Thank you.

Tony Burnett

GEOLOGY & LANDSCAPE GROUP: Our next meeting will be on March 19th at 14:00 in the Castleberg Room at Victoria Hall. The topic will be "The Precambrian" - the first 4,500 million years or so of our planet's history. Sounds rather ambitious for a one and a half hour session - but we'll see.

Paul Cochrane

GREAT LIVES: "Great Lives" explores the Arts this month, with a talk entitled "Mozart". Please meet on Wed. March 20th, at 11a.m. I hope to see you then. Enough speakers have volunteered to enable us to present a 'Great Life' for each meeting until the end of the academic year. All are welcome to our meetings: class members & visitors.

Jean Imrie

WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE

At the February meeting John Parry gave an excellent illustrated talk on Gladstone, arguably the greatest of 19th century politicians, having been Prime Minister in 4 periods of office totalling 14 years and serving as Chancellor of the Exchequer for a further 10 years in 2 administrations. Born in Liverpool in 1809, son of a wealthy trader, he entered parliament as a Tory at the age of 24 but it is as a Liberal from 1859 onwards that he is best known. His achievements in office were substantial, including the 1870 Education Act introducing elementary education for all, and the secret ballot voting system in 1872. He saw himself very much as a man of the people and as John pointed out was assiduous in his efforts on behalf of "fallen women"- thinking nothing of walking some of London's mean streets attempting to persuade prostitutes to mend their ways. Incredibly he continued this practice even when Prime Minister!

Perhaps his biggest failure, through no fault of his own, was to see his Irish Home Rule Bill defeated twice, and it is tempting to think that many problems in Ireland could have been avoided had he succeeded. He resigned as Prime Minister for the final time aged 84 in 1894 and died 4 years later.

John Jebson

HERALDRY: This month our talk on Thursday March 21st will be given by Alan Hems-worth. After Peter Marshall's talk last month on heraldic Inn Signs, which was superb, he'll probably do a pot-pourri of heraldic interest. I know it will be worth coming! Victoria Hall, 10.30. All are welcome.

April 18th will see the first of our visits this year, probably to Altham Church and to Whalley Church. More details next month. There will be a beginners class on April 4th. Same time. Same place.

Hilary Baker

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS: The visit will be to High Mill, Helmsore, on Thursday 28th March. This is a pair of textile mills, built in 1789; now a museum with a set of working water-powered fulling stocks and other textile machinery. The mill opens at 12.00, as does the cafe, which serves light lunches and snacks. It will take a little over an hour to drive from Settle. Further information from Shirley or Jim on 01729 851808. Please let us know if you plan to come.

Jim Woodward-Nutt & Shirley McCauley

PHILOSOPHY: The philosophy group met on Thursday 21st Feb to discuss John Searle's views on language. After reading an account of a discussion between Bryan Magee and Searle, the interest of the group focused on the role of language in thought and the meaning of words. With most of the group and one new member present, discussion was lively, witty and at times hilarious. Reference was made to Wittgenstein, Plato and members' own experiences of the use of language. The meeting was a useful and enjoyable experience.

The meeting on Thursday 7th March was well attended, with two absentees and one new member. Discussion was lively and wide-reaching with everyone contributing. At the end of the meeting we all had a better idea of Chomsky's thinking and the role of grammar in communication. The recent book I recommended (and wrongly named) was 'Language, The Cultural Tool' by Daniel Everett. ISBN 978-1846682674.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 21st March when we will discuss the Philosophy of science via the dialogue between Magee and Hilary Putnam (ch.12 in 'Talking Philosophy')

Roy Anderson

NATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOLS

1. Harper Adams University College, Shropshire 15 – 18 July: art history, cinema history, current affairs, design in art, France, geology, history, poetry, recorder playing
2. The Royal Agricultural College 19 – 22 August: architecture, digital photography, drama, history, literature, music, short stories, singing, theatre history

OTHER NATIONAL EVENTS

U3A Photography Competition 2013 – The topic this year is 'What makes Britain Great?' Closing date 10th May 2013.

The U3A's Inaugural Founders' Lecture, 9th April, London

U3A Spring Concert 'Vivaldi Gloria', The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, London, 17th April

Elgar "Unveiled", The Elgar Birthplace Museum, Worcester, 21st May

Royal Zoological Society of Scotland 'Primateology', Edinburgh Zoo, 5th June,
More information about all these events is available on the national website (linked from our own site), or from Kate Helm (01274 482495 or kate.helm1@btinternet.com)

Are you interested in drama? We have available a handbook of ideas for drama groups, which was compiled by David Morton, the subject adviser for drama and theatre.

If you would like to know more, or have any other ideas for new groups do let the committee or groups co-ordinator know. Remember you don't have to keep a group going for ever, you could try something new for a few sessions and see how it goes.