



**SETTLE DISTRICT**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
Issue Number 8/13 May 2015

Registered Charity No 1095635

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

**Letter from the chair**

*Dear friends,*

We are into May already and it is getting round to the time of year when we think about the big meetings in August and September. In August we have the first of the enrolment meetings and all groups have a chance to show what they do, usually in the hopes of attracting new members. By then we should have a better idea as to which new groups are hoping to start. So far we have a number of people wanting to join a painting group, one for psychology and three for play reading. If you want to join one of these and wish to have a say as to when the group meets, you need to let the committee know now. By the August meeting it may well have been decided.

By the AGM in September we will need to have names for the 2015/2016 committee. A number of current members of the committee will have served their term and will have to make way for new faces. Please start thinking about whether you could help here or perhaps you know someone who would be good but it just had not occurred to them. In either case please have a quiet word with any member of the committee. It is not onerous. We meet once a month shortly before the Thursday speaker meeting and are then on duty at that meeting if we are available.

We have a notice board where Pat Taylor puts the notices. Please stop and have a look when you go through to the kitchen for your coffee at the Thursday meeting. If you are interested in U3A events beyond the Settle area, that is the place to look. National events are found in your copy of U3A Matters which comes to you by post and our own newsletter will tell you about our local news. If you still need information of any sort, just ask.

**Alison**

**June Meeting: Thursday June 11th at 10.30 a.m. in the Victoria Hall**  
**'How Manchester Cotton Wired up the World' with Nigel Linge**  
**Coffee served from 10.00 am**



The Ribblesdale Area  
Moving Picture Show

Wednesday 27 May 2015 7.45pm Settle, Victoria Hall  
**FILL THE VOID (12)**

**Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by Friday 5th June 2015 to:**  
**Chris Taylor [christine@castlebergh.plus.com](mailto:christine@castlebergh.plus.com)**  
**Tel: 01729 823975**  
**Submissions will be acknowledged by email**

**NEW GROUPS:**  
So far, people have expressed interest in these new groups to be started: **Painting, Comparative Religions, Play Reading, Science, Psychology, Badminton/Table Tennis**  
Contact Groups' Organiser Paul Cochrane email [pfc76543@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pfc76543@yahoo.co.uk) or any other member of the committee if you would like to join any of these or would be interested in any other to be established.



# NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

## LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS (LAOB)

The next visit is to the **John Rylands Library** and **The Victoria Baths** in Manchester on **Thursday May 28<sup>th</sup>**. They are both stunning examples of Victorian architecture and interiors. (See their websites). The coach leaves the Cricket Club at 9.20am and aims to arrive at the Library by 11.05am. There are 30 minute tours (20max) at 11.15 and 11.45. There is a cafe on site and plenty of eating places nearby for coffee and lunch (this can be pre-ordered and menus will be forwarded to those booking) Places on the tours will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

The coach leaves at 1.15 for Victoria Baths and this tour lasts an hour and a quarter. After this there will be a break for refreshments or visit to the shop. The coach leaves for home at 3.30pm arriving approx 5.15pm. **COST** is £10 - £13 for coach, depending on numbers. Entrance to the Library is free but a donation of £1 is suggested. Victoria Baths £5 per person and tea and biscuits £1.50.

I would like all money in by May 20<sup>th</sup>. Full cost is £21.50. I need to know if you wish to pre-book a meal in John Rylands Cafe and/or have coffee/tea and biscuits at Victoria Baths.

Please book with me by email, phone, post or hand delivery; I will be at the Thursday meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> May.

**Sally Edwards**

Pant Cottage, Pant lane, Austwick, LA2 8BH

Tel: 015242 51696.

email.swedwards@austwick.org

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April the 'Looking at Old Buildings' group travelled to Blackwell, the Arts and Crafts House near Bowness on Windermere by Bibby's coach. On arrival we were given a 20 min talk on the history of the house and the architect Mackay Hugh Baillie Scott, one of the visionary Architects of the Arts and Crafts movement. Even members who had visited the house before found this information very interesting. We were lucky to visit on a very beautiful, sunny day and after looking around the house we could enjoy the sunshine in the garden looking down Lake Windermere.

**John and Linda Lister**

## GREAT LIVES

At our April meeting, Jim Woodward-Nutt gave a first-class presentation on the life and work of

Isambard Kingdom Brunel, the great Victorian engineer. Having worked with his father on the Thames Tunnel, Isambard then went on to design the Clifton Suspension Bridge and as Chief Engineer of the Great Western Railway, brought the line to the West Country via a network of tunnels, bridges and viaducts. He designed three great ships, each revolutionary for its time-Great Western, Great Britain and Great Eastern. In addition to these achievements he re-designed many of Britain's docks. Unsurprisingly perhaps he died of a stroke, brought on by overwork, in 1859 aged 53.

Jim's talk brought home vividly the skill and achievements of the man, even to the non-engineers among us!

Our **next meeting** is on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Victoria Hall (11.00am) when I will share my thoughts on the 20<sup>th</sup> century's most notorious "femme fatale" -Wallis Simpson.

**John Jebson**

## CIRCLE DANCING

The Circle Dance group spent an enjoyable morning recently learning some Russian Circle Dances under the guidance of Helen Brooks, a circle dance teacher from Cumbria. Russian dances are noted for the changing patterns formed by the dancers, and the wonderful folk music.

Sessions have now finished for the summer, and hopefully will recommence in the Autumn.

**Gillian and Pat**

## GEOLOGY

Our Geology Group, sometimes known as "Ageing Rockers", on their fourth annual Field Trip was this year to the Northumberland Coast. The picture above shows the members who went on the trip beside Lindisfarne Priory. We spent three nights near Holy Island, visiting sites from the Scottish Border south to near Newcastle, to view the varied Carboniferous features beautifully exposed along this coast. We contrasted the geology of Northumberland to ours, of the same age, around home in the Dales.

**Paul Cochrane**

## The Regions Summer Schools

A reminder that these are taking place and there are places still available for some courses. Please see the web site for details.

[summerschool@yahrU3A.co.uk](mailto:summerschool@yahrU3A.co.uk)

**Hilary Baker**