

Newsletter

Issue No 7/2 NOVEMBER 2008
**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
SETTLE DISTRICT**

Registered Charity No 1095635
www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends

My quest to explore the range of activities we offer led me recently to meetings of two very different groups. Beginners German does "what it says on the tin" with Alison Tyas offering members the chance to work through the 'Teach Yourself German' course book. Alison covered Germanic pronunciation and showed us how to use the vocabulary acquired to cover registration by name, address etc. at an imaginary hotel reception. Mathematical Puzzles, though likely to be best appreciated by people with reasonably advanced mathematical skills, is a fascinating and challenging group which on my visit successfully demonstrated the geometric/algebraic formulae required to measure the volume of liquid at a given level in a tilted conical vessel. David Holdsworth leads the group and by means of quips and humorous asides helps to lighten the discussions. Further information on both groups can, as always, be found on our website:- www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk by following the links to the appropriate group. New members are always welcome.



One of the main services provided by the National Office for its associated U3As is the Resource Centre. This consists of a substantial and growing collection of non-book materials (DVDs, videos, audio CDs etc.) intended to support U3A groups by providing a postal loan service of desired items to supplement locally available printed matter. Lists of subjects they cover are readily available from the Centre and further information can be obtained by e-mailing the manager, Elizabeth Gibson at: resource.centre@u3a.org.uk or by calling 020 8315 0199 (Tues-Thurs only).

I would be very interested to hear of any group or individual who has used or tried to use this service—and with what level of success. Conversely of anyone wishing to use the service who has found their subject area lacking.

With best wishes, John Jebson

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Art Appreciation

Our next visit will be on **Tuesday 18th November**. I propose going to a new venue for us, the Brewery Arts Centre at Kendal, for an exhibition forming part of the Kendal Mountain Festival and featuring the following:

JIM CURRAN:- 'Unashamedly concerned with visual appearance, illusion, light and structure. His paintings are a distillation of memory, photography, drawing and observation.'

FREYA HORSLEY:- 'Often focuses more on the experience of being in the landscape than on the geographical specifics of a site, exploring the less tangible aspects of the land - sounds, space, light, wind, weather, movement. Freya will be showing her new work "Himalaya" '.

MICK MASON:- 'Is a medically qualified photographer and mountaineer. Mick has been taking a camera with him into the mountains for as long as he can remember. His work is a creative response to the mountain environment in which he finds such inspiration'.

DOUG SCOTT:- 'During a lifetime spent amongst the world's most spectacular and extreme places, Doug has always carried a camera—his photography is as stunning as his climbing has been ground breaking'.

Should be a refreshing and varied show.

Meet at the Centre at about 2.00pm - entrance is free! **Frank Gordon**

Circle Dancing

Please note that as the Victoria Hall will not be available on **7th,14th, and 21st November**, the sessions will be at **Langcliffe Institute**. We will return to the Victoria Hall on **28th November & 5th December**.
Gillian and Pat

Family History

Welcome to both old and new members. The first session on 24th October provoked an informative discussion on sources for obtaining information to pursue family history and it was agreed that at some point a trip would be arranged to the Chorley Family History Centre at the Mormon Church. The next meeting will be on **Friday 28th November at Victoria Hall at 10.30am**, when it is hoped we can arrange for a speaker. Don't forget to bring your list of sources, which we can then collate and distribute to our members.
Margaret Cullingworth

Great Lives

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 19th November at 10.30am in the Victoria Hall. Mr Frank Higginson will be giving a talk on Cicero - to which all are welcome.

Jean Imrie

Heraldry

The next meeting of the Heraldry Group will be on **Thursday 20th November at 10.30am in the Victoria Hall**. Peter Marshall will be showing his slides of Heraldry in Scotland entitled 'Sauntering through Scotland'. Anyone interested in the subject will be welcome. There will be no meetings in December or January. The next meeting will be in February - more news in the January Newsletter.
Hilary Baker

Listening to Music

The next meeting will be at Smithy Croft, Rathmell at **2.00pm on November 17th**. If anyone needs directions, please contact me on 01729 840882. **Shirley Wolfenden**

Looking at Old Buildings

Just a reminder about the meeting arranged for **Thursday 27th November at the Quaker Meeting House at 2.00pm**. For those people who do not know this venue, go through the gate ignoring the first door and follow the path round to the extension.

Margaret Cullingworth

Madrigal Group

1st and 3rd Tuesdays 10.00am - 11.30am at the Friends' Meeting House. We have now had three meetings and a picture of our potential is emerging. Numbers fluctuate, but with a hardcore of 12-14 we have a fair balance of four voice parts and have worked on various styles of composition, ranging from 16th C 'rounds' and madrigals to folksongs and Victorian tear-jerkers. Although at almost maximum strength, anyone else interested in this type of singing should contact Alan Hemsworth.

Alan Hemsworth

Poetry Appreciation

We have welcomed several new members this year and have got off to a lively and stimulating start. The next two meetings - **Thursdays 13th and 27th November will be at 2.00pm at the Friends' Meeting House** and the meeting on **Thursday 11th December will be at the Victoria Hall**.

Jean Stevens

Walking Groups

On Tuesday 28th October a group of walkers set off from Dunsop Bridge in dull but fine, cold weather, for what was to be a straight road walk along the valley and back. After passing the children's playground the path took us through woodland and over the river to reveal a beautiful wide valley. The Autumn colours of the trees and the hills were wonderful. However, when we got to the turning point there was an information board showing footpaths and the consensus of opinion was that we should continue further. We were well rewarded for our trek along the muddy path by the beautiful waterfalls that were revealed. We had some difficulty crossing a stream but it was worth the effort. This was followed by a somewhat boggy traverse of the hillside which was offset by the scenery. After a short break for refreshment on a bridge over the river, the return journey was uphill along a metalled road to return to the point where we had turned off and a brisk walk back to Dunsop Bridge, where further refreshment was taken at Puddleducks Café. All in all a very pleasant and satisfying day out.

Margaret Cullingworth

Thursday 16th October - Wansfell Pike

This Lakeland walk commenced from Troutbeck Church passing through the village and up the steadily ascending ancient track named Nanny Lane, providing a reasonable gradient to the summit of Wansfell Pike at 1500ft. Our group of 12 members were met with strong gusts on the summit ridge causing a noticeable wind-chill factor. Though rather hazy conditions obscured long distance mountain views, the comparatively nearby Langdale Pikes - notably Harrison Stickle and Pavey Ark - were clearly visible, while Lake Windermere and its islands looked lovely. The descent to Ambleside's outskirts, for so long a toy town beneath us, was followed by the walk back through the autumnal colours of Skelghyll Wood by the notable promontory of Jenkin's Crag and a low level return to Troutbeck, where the cups of tea dispensed at the village post office were very

welcome. The weather, threatening for a while, finally broke with the walkers less than 100yds.from their vehicles, so was too late to spoil the ramble of approximately 7 miles.

John Jebson



Windermere from Wansfell Pike



Autumn Walkers (see U3A web for more pictures)

U3A members might like to know about

Anchor Staying Put

This is a locally based small repair service aimed at older people and it is supported by Craven District Council.

There is no charge for labour. The customer only has to pay for the materials used.

NB. They do not do decorating or gardening.

Examples of what they have done are:- repairing the side gate, affixing a key safe outside the front door and repairing the outside light.

Further information can be obtained from:-

Staying Put Craven

Craven District Council Offices

Granville Street

Skipton BD23 1PS

Tel. 01756 797181

E-mail: stayingput.Craven@anchor.org.uk

Web: www.stayingput.org.uk

Audrey Daykin

North Craven Building Preservation Trust

“WASSAIL” at THE FOLLY

Saturday 13th December 10.00am - 12 noon

Music by Alan Hemsworth and Friends

Free admission - Mulled Wine and Mince Pies £2.50

(Members' Recommendations)

NEXT MONTH'S THURSDAY MEETING

THURSDAY 11th DECEMBER

10.00 (COFFEE) FOR 10.30am

****IN-HOUSE ENTERTAINMENT
FROM THE GROUPS****

****JACOB'S JOIN LUNCH****

*Please bring a dish or plate of savouries, sandwiches, salad
etc or a dessert to share*

Editor's Note:

Hello everybody - I'm new to this but I would like to say thank you to all who have sent me items for this newsletter **and** for the good wish messages too! Please bear with me until I get my act together. Pam is a hard act to follow and I am grateful to her for advice and suggestions. I love what she did with the features bit in the middle and would like to build on this in future, though as I don't live in Settle, I don't have the same 'knowledge'. Incidentally I have come to this position by default really. As a result of walking with John Jebson. I think I said I was willing to help with the newsletter if necessary (what one commits to in a boggy bit of moorland - when one's defences are weakened!). So, lo and behold I find myself with a formidable job description! However I do have help – Elizabeth Evans has agreed to help and is actually taking on the substantial task of printing the newsletter and stapling the bits together. Alison Tyas is a brick and amazingly tells us how many copies to print and so far seems willing to continue the distribution arrangements. Thank you Alison!

I joined the French group (and U3A) three years ago when I retired and had time to spend on me! I feel very committed to the whole movement and want to make some contribution. I think the French group is great - everyone else is so expert - and I am so, well, ex-'O' level French 60's style, but they have made me feel welcome and have increased my confidence tremendously, If only I'd had teachers like Jean and Olwen when I was at school, I'd have been A*!

As for the newsletter - it's **your** news so please keep it coming in. Also I would love to

have items of interest to 'fill out' the features. Between us we have loads of stuff to share - experiences, thoughts, poems?, anecdotes, memories and *RECIPES!* Browsing through my Mum's hand written recipe book for her recipe for special 'Bonfire Parkin' made me realise how many hand-me-down recipes we must have between us! Please let me have your secrets to publish in these pages. Spell check tells me that my grammar is at fault! Who cares - anybody want to be editor?

Sue

ANNUAL THEATRE TRIP TO KESWICK

At 8.30am on Wednesday 15th October a party of 30 assembled at the Cricket Club. The weather the previous day had been dreadful, so we were all rather apprehensive. However, God knows His own and the weather was much improved. Bibby's supplied an almost new 35-seater coach which was obviously much more economical for us than a 50-seater coach. After an hour and a half we arrived in Grasmere for a short but very pleasant coffee break.

We then proceeded to Keswick where we had 2 hours to visit the town or enjoy a walk by Derwentwater.

The play 'Arsenic and Old Lace' is an old favourite farce. It was extremely well acted by the professional cast and seems to have been enjoyed by all. We arrived back in Settle at about 6.30pm after a 'Grand Day Out'.

Janet and Brian



This is what the French Group is REALLY about!

TRAMPS presents -

Fri 21st Nov-Langcliffe Institute
THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS

Fri 28th Nov-Austwick
MAMMA MIA

Sat 6th Dec-Low Bentham Victoria Institute
INDIANNA JONES IN THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL

Sat 13th Dec-Settle Victoria Hall
WALL-E

SETTLE ORCHESTRA

IN CONCERT

AT

THE PARISH CHURCH

SETTLE

29th NOVEMBER

featuring talented local young soloists in popular concerto movements.

Support your local orchestra

Copy date for next issue of Newsletter

All copy for publication in the next issue needs to reach the editor
(Sue Simpson e-mail: susanmsimpson@btinternet.com) by Thursday 4th December.

All copy received by e-mail will be acknowledged.