



Registered Charity No 1095635

# SETTLE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 2/15 November 2016

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

## Letter from the chair

### Dear Fellow Members,

Christmas is just around the corner. In fact it's about 6 weeks away. This evokes very mixed feelings for many of us. For some of us the past year has seen the death of a loved one be they a family member or close friend. For others there has been the joy and happiness of welcoming a new small person into our family. Either way at Christmas we can celebrate the life of a person who has passed away or the life of a young baby with all of his or her life ahead.

These thoughts have reminded me of the gross inequality and social injustice which exists so starkly in our country and in the world. Christmas is a happy time for some people; it is not a happy time for so many. I'm sure that, like me, when thinking about these matters you feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the problems facing this country and the world. One feels very small and insignificant and impotent.

Yet each of us is not insignificant or impotent. We all have strengths. Today I read an article by George Monbiot in The Guardian of 2 November. He has been touring the country in the past few weeks talking to many people about loneliness and mental health. What has he found? On the one hand he's found that our mental health services are in a shocking state. On the other hand he has been heartened by the extraordinary force of human kindness shown in many different ways, particularly by individuals and by people working for voluntary organisations. This brings me to the thrust of this article. As Christmas approaches let's all think of what we can do to help others. Let's think "outside the box". The hand of friendship and caring can be extended in many small ways. One could visit a lonely neighbour or perform a practical task for someone who can't undertake it themselves. One could send a small donation to one or more of the many charities who will put it to good use. One could telephone an acquaintance who would welcome the contact. The "extraordinary force of human kindness" can be applied in many ways. So, let's each of us think about this for ways in which we can demonstrate the human kindness which is in each of us.

Ian Tennant

## December Meeting: CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

(Members Only – PLEASE BRING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD/NUMBER)

Thursday 8th December in the Victoria Hall

Presentations by The Groups

Mulled Wine/Juice and Mince Pies served in the interval



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 8pm

Bentham Town Hall

Eddie the Eagle (PG)

Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2016 to: Chris Taylor [christine@castlebergh.plus.com](mailto:christine@castlebergh.plus.com) Tel: 01729 823975 Submissions will be acknowledged by email. Wherever possible, the full account is used but occasionally it is necessary to edit the piece for the printed copy. The full submissions will be used on the website version.

**PRINTED NEWSLETTERS** We have updated our lists of people without email and those who have expressed difficulty printing out the newsletter and now have nearly 90 printed copies done each month. Please collect at the Thursday meetings your named copy and any others you can help with delivery. Those uncollected are now left in the foyer of the Victoria Hall until the next Thursday meeting. Please let us know if you do not require a printed copy any more.

**SETTLE LIBRARY** - Settle library is hosting a series of free lectures by Kathleen Kinder entitled the History and Development of the English Novel, on three Wednesday mornings, November 16th, 23rd and 30th from 10.00-11.30 am. Refreshments will be provided. A small donation is suggested. All are welcome. Please book your place at the library or phone 01609 534536

*Kathleen Kinder*

**DEPOSITING 50ps** - Please would those who put money in the little safe make sure that it will not spill out as I pick it up. Seal envelopes completely and don't over fill the little money bags that the bank give you. I have had one or two spills and coins are hard to find on the floor of the cupboard. But thank you for your cooperation. The system is working well.

*Alison Tyas*

**YAHR STUDY DAY** This may be of interest to members: to be held on Wednesday, 15 March 2017. The subject will be "Saltaire, a World Heritage Site" with conducted tour around Salts Mill, the paintings at the Mill, with special reference to David Hockney, a tour around the model village and The United Reform Church

## **NEWS FROM THE GROUPS**

### **LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS (LAOB)**

Our meeting on Thursday 24th November will be visiting two interesting mills in Leeds: Armley Mill which was a textile mill is now an industrial museum, and Thwaite Mill, which has two large waterwheels which ground flint for pottery and later chalk for putty making.

The coach will leave the Cricket Club at 0930 and return around 17.30. The cost is £20.

Please book and pay at the meeting on Thursday 10th November.

**Contacts – 01729 851808 or email:  
jim@woodward-nut.co.uk**

Several members of the group enjoyed an interesting and informative visit to Leeds, first of all the the Leeds Club which was established in 1852 as a Gentlemen's Club. This provided a meeting place for eminent surgeons and professional business people. We enjoyed an excellent lunch in one of the many rooms which are now used for a variety of functions, including business meetings, conferences and wedding receptions that are usually held in the all white ballroom. The other parts of the club are still decorated in their original colours. Because of dwindling membership the club closed in the early 2000s but re-opened to the general public in 2013.

Our second visit was to the Leeds Library which opened in 1768. We were taken on a tour which included the Old Librarian's Office that houses very old and rare irreplaceable books. There we were able to handle a book which was published in 1433 and was presented to the Library in 1839. The final visit was to Mill Hill Unitarian Chapel in City Square where Joseph Priestley was once a Minister and its prestigious congregation included members of the Lupton family, forebears of Arthur Lupton who lived in Settle for many years. The building has many Victorian stained glass

windows and family pews.

Thanks to Saida Simmons for organising this visit.

*Margaret Cullingworth*

### **GREAT LIVES**

At our October meeting Keith Bradshaw gave a most interesting talk on that great churchman John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement. Together with brother Charles his first missionary work was in the colony of Georgia in America - not a success due to the hostile reaction of the colonists. His first sermon back home was to coal miners at Bristol at an open air meeting in 1739. Then throughout the country he preached outdoors due to hostility from the C of E and the landed gentry who viewed with suspicion his audiences of predominantly working class. Mob - violence against Wesley and his supporters was a frequent occurrence in the early days but throughout his life Wesley, even as a comparatively old man rode 4000 miles or more each year to preach, organising a circuit of fellow Methodists in each area. In total he preached more than 40,000 sermons. He died in 1791 aged 88 having founded a movement which derived its greatest support from working class people and which still endures today.

Our next meeting will be at Victoria Hall (11.00am) on Wed. 16th November when Pat Taylor will offer her thoughts on the life and work of that great anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce.

*John Jebson*

**THE SPANISH GROUP** has made a good start under its new leader Trisha Robinson, contact her for further details- [trisharobin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:trisharobin@yahoo.co.uk) 01729 822675

**THE YOGA GROUP** would welcome new members-contact Monica Jenkins, who is a qualified teacher, 01729 824963