



Registered Charity No 1095635

Letter from the chair

Dear Members,

My allotment has produced the last of its bounty for this year. It is tidy but all that is left and overflowing with plenty are the water-butts. Clearly autumn is here. Time to take it easy, settle with a good book, make a break for some winter sun or do what interests you. However - Christmas is around the corner and whatever else you plan - the Christmas Social must be a highlight. A showcase of talent and entertainment!

Of course, taking it easy is not the same as being idle. We have people to meet, places to go and things to learn and gift to others. I read an article addressing the complexities of downsizing and retirement that mentioned how our organisation has added much to that stage in life. I think the U3A is given increasing publicity for those listening - but some may not be hearing the message or feel hesitant so anything any of us can do to spread the word would help keep our U3A vibrant and all our lives richer. The Christmas Social is for members only but joining can be at any time of the year. Continuing the theme of change and energy, Yorkshire and Humberside Region has a new and as always supportive committee, keen to keep us thinking and informed. The YAHR Development Day in November is about sharing what we do well. To that end Sue or I hope to be there and bring back ideas to suit our needs. Information will go on the website. Any observations would be welcome - to me or committee members.

I am hoping to try the MOOC - Massive Open Online Course. More of that in the New Year. It would be good to hear from others who have done or plan a course and would like to share their experiences.

Finally, if you are reading this then it will be either on-line or a paper copy of the Newsletter - please remember to collect or cancel should you not require a paper copy. I sincerely hope you keep reading in whatever format.

Best wishes - Jackie

December Meeting: CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

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

Thursday 14th December in the Victoria Hall

Presentations by The Groups

Mulled Wine/Juice and Mince Pies served in the interval



The Ribblesdale Area
Moving Picture Show

Wednesday 6th December at 7.45 pm
Victoria Hall, Settle **IRREPLACEABLE (15)**

Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by Friday 8th December 2017 to: Chris Taylor 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.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS

Our October visit to Towneley Hall was most enjoyable and huge thanks are due to Hilary Baker for her excellent report which you will find on the Group Web Page of the main Settle

District U3A website as it is no longer possible to put these very interesting members reports into the newsletter because of lack of space. You can access the website from the library computers if you are a library member.

photos of Towneley Hall



the kitchen

John Bentley



panelling on the small section of the wall to the right behind the table

Joan Schofield

Following this month's speaker meeting about Lancaster Castle we have provisionally booked and paid a deposit to visit this castle with a guided tour as our November visit on Thursday 23rd November BUT at the time of writing we still have not got the required minimum of 20

members wishing to participate despite my urgent communication to all members last week so we cannot guarantee that we can run this visit because until we know if we can fill the 24 seater coach we would need, we can't confirm further details though the total cost per member would be a maximum £20 per head the cost of the tour being £6.50. We would leave from the Settle Cricket Club Car Park at about 9.30 for a tour at 11.00am and other options for the day beyond that could be explored if we get the necessary numbers.

Because of renovation work there is no café at the castle and no facilities to eat a packed lunch if the weather is inclement and at present no coach or car parking so the coach would drop us & then park elsewhere but could pick us up to go somewhere else later – even for lunch.

If you opt to join us after you have read this but haven't already been in touch with Ruth or myself, please would you bring enough cash to the speaker meeting in readiness or make your own arrangement with Gill Rawlings who has kindly volunteered to organise this visit but in any case it must be paid by Friday 17th at the latest!

I'm sure it would be a most interesting visit – armed as we will be from Nigel Neil's talk!

Elizabeth Evans

GREAT LIVES

During our October meeting John Jebson gave a very informative talk about Lady Nancy Astor, the first woman to sit as an M.P. She was born in Virginian, USA, in 1879. Her first marriage at 18 soon ended in divorce. IN 1904 she moved to England and married Waldorf Astor in 1906 by whom she had 6 children. Waldorf was elected as the Conservative MP for Plymouth, being replaced by Nance in 1919 when Waldorf became a peer. Despite having little personal rapport with Labour MPs, Nancy was concerned, like they were with the poverty and social injustice of her day and the promotion of women's rights. In April 1941, Plymouth was heavily bombed. Immediately, Nance and Waldorf, now Lord Mayor, arranged shelter for the homeless and organised food parcels from America and Canada. Nancy lost her seat in the 1945 election. She died on 2nd May, 1964, the Confederate flag by her side.

Keith Bradshaw

At our next meeting at 11 am on Wednesday 15th November in the Castleberg Room of the Victoria Hall, Frank Rhodes will explore the life of Lawrence of Arabia and if it's half as interesting as the talk he did about Lord Palmerston last year we are in for a treat.

GROUP LEADERS

Please note that Debi Burridge (Groups Coordinator) has moved to 17, Brockhole View, Settle, BD24 9AQ, 01729 825855, mobile and email the same as before.

WEEKENDERS GROUP

Meeting this Saturday, 11th November at Limestone View. Contact Chris Benn
chris.benn101@gmail.com