



Registered Charity No 1095635

Letter from the chair

SETTLE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 2/17 November 2018

www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk

Hello

As I write it is a beautiful crisp and bright autumn day, shorter of course now the clocks have been turned back. At this point we can usually console ourselves with the prospect of lighter, longer days beginning slowly again in just a few weeks. Before that though we have the cheerful prospect of Christmas lights and festivities - not least among those being our U3A CHRISTMAS SOCIAL on Thursday 13TH DECEMBER 2018 at 10AM. Previous Newsletter writers - at this time of year - have often reflected on the joys and well-being that is the run up to Christmas and also that it cannot always be so, for all of us, every year. I imagine we will try to spare a thought, a word or deed for others especially - but also indeed for ourselves. Being kind to ourselves sometimes when times are difficult, must surely be okay too. Just a thought!

As mentioned in October's Newsletter, we have to think ahead and about 'succession' - our U3A being future-ready. Those who heard Sue Stokes speak at our A.G.M, will recall her talking, in part, about this. Yorkshire and Humberside Region (YAGR) have regular Development Days which Committee Members can and do attend when we feel it is useful. Recently these have been about Co-ordinating Groups, Treasurer's role and shortly one for new Committee Members. I am going to another session which is about sharing good ideas across the region. These are freely available, interesting and supportive. Some of the sessions are open to all U3A members and if you are just faintly interested please come and talk with me about the possibility of joining in. I may have written along these lines before but it does no harm to raise it again, I hope.

Asking questions or sharing your ideas can surely be an extraordinary way to continue learning. I hope you are all enjoying your Group interests/activities. Finally, if you have not seen our Family History Groups 'GraveYard' project (displayed at Holy Ascension Church Settle, inside at the far right hand side, light switch on the wall) about the lives of those in the 'ancient' graves, I would recommend a visit.

Kind regards.

Jackie

December Meeting: CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

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

Thursday 13th December in the Victoria Hall

Presentations by The Groups

Mulled Wine/Juice and Mince Pies served in the interval

Appeal for ARABIC speakers & ESOL teachers

A new project in Settle is appealing for voluntary help to welcome a refugee family from Syria to our town. The **Refugee ReSETTLEMENT Community Sponsorship Group** is working on an application to the Home Office & expects a family to arrive in a few months' time.

We will need people willing to help with English conversation but a first priority is to help the family to learn English. We also need interpreters to start with. If anyone can offer help please contact the Project Leader, Paul Kelly on settle.refugee@gmail.com

Once the family arrives there are many ways you will be able to help from driving people to appointments to helping with computers.

The Facebook page is 'Refugee ReSETTLEMENT Group'. If you could like and share it this will really help us to get the word out. There is additional information on there.



Wednesday 14th November at 7.45pm Settle, Victoria Hall

LAND OF MINE (15)

Wednesday 5th December at 7.45pm Settle, Victoria Hall

SUMMER HOURS (12)

NEWS FROM AND FOR THE GROUPS

New Course starting in January!

RETRO STRETCH AND TONE

Perfect for the new year, new you! Provisionally this will be twice a month for an hour on a Friday morning at the Catholic Hall. Look out for further details next month.

GREAT LIVES

Keith Bradshaw gave a moving account of the lives of a brother and sister well known in Germany, Hans and Sophie Scholl. They were born in 1918 and 1921 respectively and were enthusiastic supporters of Hitler when he came into power in 1933 and they joined Hitler youth. Soon they became disillusioned and started the dangerous activity of printing and distributing anti Nazi leaflets. Somehow they evaded detection till 1943 when they were arrested with a colleague, suffered brutal Gestapo interrogations and were then executed by guillotine.

Keith had put a lot of effort into his presentation so it was a pity that only nine of the twenty five people signed up for the group heard him.

Thank you Keith for a fascinating tale of a couple previously unknown to me who showed true bravery in following their consciences whatever the consequences.

Great Lives talks held in the Castleberg Room at the Victoria Hall on the third Wednesday of the month are open to all U3A members so, if one might interest you, do come along even if you have not signed up for the group.

Members may well remember Alec Guinness playing the part of Colonel Nicholson in the Bridge over the River Kwai. Colonel Nicholson was based on the real life of Colonel Toosey, a man whom John Parry met and who will be the subject of his Great Life on Wednesday, 21st November. *John Parry*

ALNWICK BREAK

On 1st October 24 Settle U3A members arrived at our accommodation near Alnwick, Northumberland to freshly baked scones and tea. Over the next 2 days the walkers enjoyed 2 quite diverse walks in excellent weather. The 1st from Rothbury, over the Simonside hills took in a hill fort and cup and ring stones at Lordenshaws and later dropped down off the hills to walk and back along the river Coquet.

The 2nd, linear walk, from Beadnell to Craster, was a coastal walk across the quiet sandy beaches facilitating a lunch stop at the Ship Inn at Newton by the Sea and passing Dunstanburgh castle. A few were tempted into the famous smokehouse at Craster to acquire some kippers.

The whole group enjoyed each other's company over evening meals. *Nita Hart*



DRY STONE WALLING

10 members took part in what perhaps was more of a taster event than an intensive course. The weather was great and so were the cups of tea! Rob encouraged us to have a go in a very laid back way. Much discussion took place. But walls were built and remain standing.

Debi Burridge

DOWN



COMING



NEARLY



HURRAY!



Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by
FRIDAY 7th Dec 2018 to: Chris Taylor
christine@castlebergh.plus.com Tel: 01729 823975
Copy 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.