

NOVEMBER MEETING
Thursday 14th November
"JOSEPH PAXTON"

A talk by JOHN SHEARD
(Preceded by an EGM)
Victoria Hall 10.30am
Coffee from 10.00 am



'LES MISERABLES' (12A)
Austwick Village Hall
Fri 18th Oct 7.30 pm
'BAGDAD CAFE' (12)
Langcliffe Institute
Wed 30th Oct 7.45pm
www.tramps.org.uk

REMINDER

Jane Austen
Fact and Fiction
A STUDY DAY

led by Barbara Morden
Venue: The Bedingfield
Room, The Bar Convent,
Blossom Street, York,
(10 min from train station)
Date: Tues 22nd October
10.30 – 3.30.

www.yahru3a.co.uk

IDEAS FOR FUTURE GROUPS

At the enrolment meeting various groups were suggested including Computer and Art (workshops), Mind Games/Mathematical Puzzles. Would those of you interested in progressing any of these ideas please contact the Chairman (01729 830299) in the first instance by 24th October. **Nita Hart**

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you've not yet paid your 2013 - 2014 membership subscription but intend to join, please could you pay by the middle of October. The membership secretary has to send a return to the Third Age Trust at the end of October. Thank you. **Nita Hart**

U3A CALENDAR AND DIARY 2014
NOW AVAILABLE

U3A WEBSITE

Thank you Frank for the 'new look website'. We hope you are all managing to access the relevant pages. Should you have information to circulate, or wish to update your group website, please contact our webmaster **Frank Woodhams** at f.woodhams@uea.ac.uk

Copy for publication in the next issue **should** reach the editor Sue Simpson by **Friday 8th November** e-mail: susanmsimpson@btinternet.com (Tel: 01524241271) Copy received by e-mail will be acknowledged.

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THE UNIVERSITY
OF THE
THIRD AGE
SETTLE
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NEW
FOR
MEMBERS

Dear Friends

Well, I survived my baptism of fire at last month's AGM! I had not been to an AGM of our U3A before (I think I am usually on holiday) and was pleasantly surprised by how well it was attended. I have also learned a few lessons about how it might be better organised next year!



For those of you who were unable to attend the AGM I can advise you that I was re-elected Chairperson, Roy Gillson as Treasurer and Pat Taylor as Secretary. Nobody stood for election to Vice Chairperson. Keith Waterson (co-opted onto the committee as Membership Secretary earlier in the year),

Hilary Baker (Regional Representative) and Paul Cochrane (Group Leaders co-ordinator) were elected on to the committee. Hilary and Paul required re-election as they have already served for 3 years. Clive Newby stood for election for the 1st time and joins us together with Debi Burridge, Gill Rawlings (both looking after Publicity and Speaker meetings) Sue Simpson (Newsletter Editor) Derek Hewitson and John Parry who remain on the committee. The committee is now at full strength, although Sue has expressed a wish to step down in a few months time and we anticipate Chris Taylor being co-opted to take over Sue's role.

As Summer gives way to a warm but wet Autumn, I am sure we are all enjoying attending a new group or resuming attendance at a favourite one. However, please don't forget about the U3A on-line courses – details in Third Age Matters, Autumn 2013, page 5 and our Yorkshire and Humberside Regional (YAHR) committee has asked me to draw your attention to a mini (2 week) on-line course being run by Leeds University called "Fairness and nature: when worlds collide" beginning on 21 October. This is a free course and you don't have to undertake any of the assessments. To join in, go to <http://futurelearn.com/courses/when-worlds-collide>.

Best wishes
Nita

ROY GILLSON It is with deep regret that since writing the above, we have learned of the death of Roy. Our sincere condolences go to his wife Debi and our thanks to John Parry for volunteering to take on the role of Treasurer.

EGM There will be an emergency general meeting at the beginning of the November Speaker meeting to elect John as Treasurer.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

GEOLOGY & LANDSCAPE GROUP: The first meeting of the Geology group was very well attended. Paul gave us an overview for the Basics of Geology from the incomprehensible times involved to principles of interpretation of the features seen in the rocks.

The next meeting is on **Tuesday 15th October** when Keith Waterson will look at 'Minerals'. If you have some good specimens of minerals please bring them along for us all to look at, preferably ones that you know what they are and maybe where they came from. The November meeting is being brought forward a week and will be on **Tuesday 12th November** at the usual time and place when Paul will look at 'Plate Tectonics'.
Keith Waterson

GREAT LIVES: Our next meeting will be on Wednesday October 23rd in the Victoria Hall at 11.00am when John Parry will give a talk on the life of "NB - The Man Who Saved Ullswater". Intrigued? Come along to find out more. All welcome! At our September meeting Chris Petrie traced the meteoric rise of Sir Stamford Raffles, born aboard his father's trading ship off the coast of Jamaica in 1781. The limited financial resources of his parents were directed to provide him with a good education, sufficient to secure him a post in the prestigious British East India Company. The majority of his service was in South East Asia, becoming in succession, Lieutenant Governor of Java and Governor General of Bencoolen. He abolished slavery in each territory and made many other social reforms and established cordial relations with local indigenous rulers, helped in no small measure by his command of the Malay language. He is best remembered, of course, for the acquisition and founding of Singapore. He died aged only 44 in 1826. **John Jebson**

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS: Our final visit of the season is to Cliffe Castle at Keighley on Thursday 24th October where I have arranged a guided tour of the building at 2pm. This costs £31 for a group. As you can see, the more that go the less it costs! The Guide is happy to have a group of between 10 and 15. Please let me know if you are going by Thursday 17th October and whether you would like/can offer a lift. I'll take the money on the day. **Debi Burrige** 01729 825922



VISIT TO HOGHTON TOWER

A group of twelve visited Houghton Tower in the Ribble Valley near Preston on 26 September on a very pleasant sunny afternoon. We had an excellent guide who gave a comprehensive history of the hall from its beginnings in 1109 as the home of Harvey Walter who crossed the Channel with William the Conqueror, and was an ancestor of the de Houghton family. There have been three houses on the site, the present one being built between 1562 and 1565 as a fortified manor house with a Pele Tower (which was blown up during the Civil War) and battlemented walls and towers and from its hilltop position commands views of Lancashire, the Lake District and Snowdonia. Restoration of the house took place between 1862 and 1901 though many of the rooms retain their 17th Century interiors. As mentioned in the September Newsletter there have been many royal and distinguished visitors, including James I, who knighted the Sirloin of Beef on 1st August 1617 and rode his horse upstairs to his bedroom. The cost of this visit brought the de Houghtons close to ruin. A William Shakeshaft, thought to be William Shakespeare, was a tutor at the hall. In more recent times the hall has been visited by King George V and Queen Mary and the Duke of Edinburgh. The Buckingham Room contains a Hepplewhite bed and chairs and the King's Room a magnificent Elizabethan bed which has travelled to Williamsburgh in America as part of the Centenary Celebrations there.
Margaret Cullingworth

PHILOSOPHY: The September meeting was well attended and we had an interesting time considering the views of Nagel, Russell and Magee. When we felt we knew what philosophy was we proceeded to discuss the ethics of euthanasia and the treatment of dementia and the elderly. The October meeting was in the Friends Meeting House where our freedom to argue was restricted. The various alleged proofs of God were considered via the writings of Martin Gardener while other aspects of God were accessed via the works of Pascal, Hume, Dawkins and others. Many diverse contributions were made by members of the group but no conclusion was reached. The next meeting will take place on Thurs. 17th.Oct. from 2.00pm. to 4.00pm, when 'Right and Wrong' will be discussed. New members will be welcome.
Roy Anderson

ROMANS IN THE NORTH: The next meeting of the Roman group will take place on Monday Nov 4th, a week later than normal, at 2pm in the Castleberg Room as usual. The subject will be an illustrated talk on "Roman Signal Stations".
Tony Burnett

WALKING: The new programme is now on the website and copies will be in Tourist Information and Settle Library. It was good to see eight of our members at the Tuesday walk from Kettlewell to Conistone. Unfortunately poor visibility obscured the views but the sun came out as we gained height.

Margaret & Michael Cullingworth