



Registered Charity No 1095635

Letter from the chair

Hello,

I am delighted to be Chair of our U3A and see it as a privilege and responsibility in equal measure. I hope to follow the dedication of all previously in the role with a touch of my own enthusiasm.

As I consider writing my first 'letter' I am aware that I know many of you but by no means all. The same must apply in reverse. Perhaps a little about me would help remedy that. I moved to Settle about 13 years ago. I was born, brought up, educated - and when I think about it - lived and worked in Yorkshire, most of my life. (Although I did manage to have my three offspring whilst living in Cheshire and Northumberland).

I hope to meet and talk with more of you throughout the year. Meeting and getting to know others plus learning new things is a big part of making life interesting and rewarding - and of course, what U3A is about. However at first - and we are at the start of a new 'year' - it may be daunting for some, even if we tell ourselves we are seasoned and open to challenges. So I hope the warmth and welcome we give and receive in our Interest Groups and in the monthly meeting will continue to grow and glow!

It is to that end that we will continue to have a 'meet and greet' person(s) at the monthly meeting. Similarly with the 'cafe-style' seating arrangement in the hall and hope that allows us to circulate and talk more easily with our neighbours over coffee/tea before the speaker. Do keep giving feedback/ideas to Committee members - Sue Simpson (Vice Chair), Keith Waterson (Membership), Debi Burridge (Groups), Keith Bradshaw, Christine Chandler, John Parry (Treasurer), Chris Taylor (Newsletter), Jean Hall (Publicity), Kath Mason and Gill Rawlings (Programme), Graham Cooper (new Committee member) and Anne Webster (Secretary) - we should all be wearing lanyards.

Groups have begun or are about to and hopefully you will go on to enrich and be enriched by your choices. Please tell the leader if you cannot be there, it helps them tremendously to plan ahead. The monthly meeting is open to all - 2nd Thursday 10am for 10.30 am - there is a super range of speakers and topics for 2017/18 to look forward to which you can check ahead on your Membership Card. Also don't forget to look on the Notice Board for other points of interest including WestNet and Yorkshire and Humberside Region (YAHR) events.

Kind regards.

Jackie Allott

REMINDER : THIS OCTOBER MEETING IS HELD AT ST JOHN'S METHODIST CHURCH

**November Meeting: Thursday 9th November in the Victoria Hall
'Lancaster Castle; from prison to heritage asset'
with Nigel Neil**

Coffee served from 10.00 am



**Friday 13th October at 8pm
Bentham Town Hall LA LA LAND (12A)**

From the Deaf Awareness Talk by Debi Burridge at the AGM.

10 points to improving communication for yourself, family, friends and fellow group members.

1. Look at the person you are speaking to.
2. Speak at a reasonable pace and volume.
3. Think about where you are – lighting, background distractions.
4. Cut out background noise.
5. Some words are easy to lipread than others, some are easily confused.
6. Repeat or rephrase.
7. Write things down.
8. Visual clues are important.
9. Use the microphone or loop system.
10. Only one person speaking at a time.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS

Our first visit this season is to **Towneley Hall Burnley on Thursday 26th October**. We will leave by coach from Settle Cricket Club car park at 9.30am returning from Burnley at approx 3.30pm.

After tea/coffee, there will be the first part of our guided tour of the inside of the house followed by a break at around 12.30 when lunch if desired may be purchased – but not arranged on a group basis - from the café before the afternoon tour of the outside.

The cost will be £17.00 per head to include coach fare, driver's tip, tour cost and U3A 50p.

Please register your intention to participate at the monthly meeting on **Thursday 12th – remember this is at St John's Methodist church, not the Victoria Hall** – when I will also take payment (cash only please).

If you will not be able to attend this meeting but want to come please make your own arrangement for this with me as the deadline for this payment must be 21st October (as discussed at our planning meeting). I apologise for not being able to give more advance warning for this as the planning meeting had to be after the publication of the last newsletter in September! Future visits information will always be announced in the newsletter two months before. But watch out for new information at any time via the new Beacon system and the Looking at Old Buildings Web page on the main U3A website.

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GREAT LIVES

At our September meeting we sailed the Seven Seas in our minds, courtesy of Chris Petrie, following the voyages of exploration by one of the nation's greatest seafarers-Captain James Cook. A Yorkshireman by birth, Cook learned his trade initially sailing out of Whitby before joining the navy and undertaking the

three voyages of exploration and surveying for which he is most remembered-to New Zealand and Australia, then to Antarctica and the South Pacific before his final voyage attempting to find the North West Passage round the top of Canada by way of the Pacific. Forced back by ice he sheltered at Hawaii but was killed in a skirmish with a native tribe there in 1779. An excellent presentation.

By complete contrast at our **next meeting on 18th October (Victoria Hall 11.00am)** I will be reflecting on the life and times of Nancy Astor, the first woman MP to sit in the House of Commons.

John Jebson

WEEKENDERS' GROUP

This got off to a good start with 10 members attending the first meeting.

Several ideas for the future were discussed and the next meeting will start in the Cafe at **LIMESTONE VIEW at 11 am on Saturday 14th October**. Come for a cuppa and if the weather is kind, follow this with a short walk round Settle.

Unfortunately because of sudden changes in family commitments Tess is unable to continue as coordinator for this group. I am happy to assist in future planning but cannot take it on full time. Chris Benn is going to keep people in touch by email. Hilary Baker and Margaret Gladwin will do the same by phone for those of you who are not happy with the computer.

I hope all group members will help to suggest activities and venues and assist in planning. Let's keep a good idea going! Tel: 825922

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Debi Burridge

Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by Friday 3rd November 2016 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.