

KANUTA

The Newsletter of the Knutsford and District 

June 2016

General Enquiries and Webmaster: info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk

CONTENTS

Page 2

Committee Members
2016-17

Thank You

Final Accounts

Page 3

Theatre & Music

Page 4

Harewood House

General Meetings

Page 5

News from the Groups
Family History
Mah Jong
Local History
Music Appreciation

Page 6

Booking Forms

FROM THE NEW CHAIR, CHRISTINE JONES

I have enjoyed being a member of Knutsford U3A for the last 6 years, and joined the Committee just a year ago. I am the Coordinator of the Family History Group, as part of its small Planning Team, and I have lived in Knutsford for the last 35 years.

Lynda has stepped down from being Chair for the last 3 years, and you may not all realise just how much time, hard work and expertise she brought to our organisation. She combined the roles of Chair, Secretary and Newsletter Editor, and nobody, least of all me, could follow her splendid period of office in the same way.

In fact, I don't intend to try, as I see the leadership of this amazing organisation as one of shared responsibility, rather than being dependent on one person working extremely hard and investing a vast amount of their time. We now thankfully have a full team of Committee members with a wide range of experience, so we are in a good position to build on the success of the last 10 years.

I have not committed to a 3 year period as Chair, as there is no requirement to do so, and who knows what life will bring us in our third age? I will be chairing Committee meetings and the next AGM, but you will see a variety of people sharing the role of welcoming members and speakers to the monthly General Meetings.

U3As are based on the principles of lifelong learning, self-help, and members contributing what they can, when they can. All the Committee members and Activity Group Coordinators provide leadership and development of the organisation, and we need to appreciate all of them for their contributions of time and effort. Those who organise the wonderful theatre trips and outings make a real impact on our U3A and our enjoyment in being members.

Within the wider membership, there are many people who help in all kinds of ways that may not be recognised by everyone. There are those who contribute in practical ways, for example by making teas for their groups and at General Meetings, and those who fill envelopes with printed Kanutas for members who can't access email. We have technical wizards who run our excellent website, and support the General Meetings.

Members join U3A to learn, but also to make new friends and socialise with people. Those who turn to smile at unfamiliar faces at General Meetings and take the time to welcome new members into their groups make a crucial contribution to the success of Knutsford U3A. All of us have a contribution to make to this brilliant organisation

Thank you all, I look forward to working together.

Christine Jones

KNUTSFORD U3A COMMITTEE FOR 2016/17

Christine Jones	Chair
Sue Allan	Secretary
John Funnell	Treasurer
Veronica Gordon	Membership Secretary
Patricia Pepper	Newsletter Editor and Publicity
Barbara Arnell	
Colette Ashworth	
Barbara Brady	
Adrian Dean	
Barry Ross	
Margaret Wilford	

THANK YOU

Ann Taylor – Ann joined in April 2013 and has been a constant source of support and ideas throughout and for ensuring that we have the provision of teas at the General meetings. We thank Ann and wish her and her husband all the best for the future.

Mavis Norden – Mavis joined the committee this time last year and her year in office certainly has been a busy one. She took on the role of Speakers' Coordinator for the General meetings and has certainly provided us with a variety. This is a time consuming job and we thank Mavis for her commitment.

FINAL ACCOUNTS

The audited final accounts are now on the website. As the monies held centrally for the Activity Groups were not audited, they are not included in these accounts but dealt with by the individual groups.

At the end of the financial year, 31st March, the Co-ordinators (or Treasurers) of all the groups which have financial transactions were required to submit an Income and Expenditure Statement to John Funnell. The Co-ordinator (or Treasurer) can then share this information with the members of the group.



THEATRE & MUSIC TRIPS



SUMMER 2016

BOOKING

PLEASE use a **separate booking form** and a **separate cheque** (made payable to Knutsford U3A) for **each performance** and send to Mrs Margaret Hinde, 1 Warford Hall Drive, Great Warford, Alderley Edge, SK9 7TR. For further information telephone 01565 872643 or email info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk.

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HAYDN - 'THE CREATION'

Saturday, 24th September 2016
The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester

Cost £37.00, including transport
Coach departs bus station 6 pm

This comes highly recommended and I'm sure it will be wonderful! BBC Philharmonic conducted by their chief conductor, Juanjo Mena, with the CBSO chorus and three soloists, performing Haydn's choral masterpiece, 'The Creation'.

'Music of monumental grandeur, laced with sparkling melodies and soaring choruses'

This should make a memorable opening to our new season. Not cheap! But I have booked some excellent centre stalls.

Please note that tickets have to be booked before 20th July. They will be available at the June and July General meetings, or by post to Margaret Hinde at the address above.

'TWO PENCE TO CROSS THE MERSEY'

A moving and heart-warming tale

Wednesday, 2nd November, 2.30 pm
Stockport Plaza

Cost £34.00, including lunch and transport
Coach will leave bus station at 12.15 pm

First, the theatre – The Plaza is the finest Art Deco theatre in the region. Built in 1932, it retains all its original style but has recently been completely refurbished with new theatre seats and facilities. I have booked a 'soup and sandwiches' lunch for us all to have in their atmospheric café before the matinee performance. So you will notice your price includes this lunch!

The play, 'Two Pence to Cross the Mersey' is based on successful autobiographies, written by Helen Forrester about her childhood, growing up in Liverpool through the Great Depression. Her life in Liverpool is in marked contrast to her earlier, middle class life in Southern England. In 2015 this production had a successful 6 week run at Liverpool's Royal Court and is now being taken on a National Tour.

Tickets will be available for purchase at the June and July General Meetings, or please send your cheque, payable to Knutsford U3A, to Margaret Hinde, as detailed above.

SUMMER EVENTS YOU MIGHT LIKE TO BOOK DIRECTLY FOR YOURSELVES

Bookings for these events are not being organised by U3A

Arley Hall

Thursday, 21st July, 7.30 pm

Back by popular demand, The Pantaloons' unique version of **'The Canterbury Tales'**.

Friday, 26th August, 7.30 pm

Another welcome return of The Lord Chamberlain's Men, this time performing **'Much Ado about Nothing'**.

Both these performances take place in the walled garden at Arley. Take a rug or chair and picnic beforehand. Tickets are £14.50 pre booked or £16.50 on the gate. Tel: 01565 777353

Gawsworth Hall has an extensive programme of events in a covered stand. Take a chair and have a picnic beforehand in delightful surroundings. You might enjoy the Green Room's production of Alan Ayckbourn's **'Relatively Speaking'** from 30th June to 2nd July. Tickets £16.50. Tel: 01260 223456

VISIT TO HAREWOOD HOUSE

Wednesday, 20th July 2016

“Harewood is one of the Treasure Houses of England set in the heart of Yorkshire. With rolling ‘Capability’ Brown landscapes, an impressive art collection including works by JMW Turner & El Greco, renaissance masterpieces, exquisite Thomas Chippendale furniture, fabulous Robert Adam interiors, combined with 100 acres of award-winning Gardens and a renowned lakeside Bird Garden”.

Leaving the Bus Station at Knutsford at 8 am.

Guided tour of one hour round the house

There are several choices for lunch - The Courtyard Cafe, The Terrace Tearooms or even a picnic on the lawn.

Coach leaves at Harewood House at 4 pm.

Cost £27.00

Cheques made payable to Knutsford U3A together with the booking form to be sent to Margaret Cole, 43 Garden Road, Knutsford WA16 6HT. Telephone 01565 633569.

GENERAL MEETINGS

Knutsford Methodist Church
Second Thursday of every month starting 2.15 pm

9 th June	Kathy Niblett - Pottery Historian 'Josiah Wedgewood and the Three Ts'
14 th July	Rob Carroll Folk Singer and Comedian
	August – No meeting
8 th September	Dr R M Callender FRPS 'Madame Yevonde, a 1930s Photographer'
13 th October	Steve and Carol Robson Acoustic Musicians
10 th November	Professor Ian Barclay

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

MAH JONG

We are a friendly group offering to 'whet your appetite' for Mah Jong. There is no pressure as you play for yourself – no danger of letting a partner down. It can be addictive!

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month in the Schoolroom in Plumley Methodist Church at 10 am. New members welcome.

Contact: Sue Lawson on 01565 734366

FAMILY HISTORY

We continue to meet every second Friday afternoon in the month, at 2 pm in Room 4 of the Methodist Church. We are open to new people who might like to join our friendly group.

Friday, 10 th June	Talk by Jean Laidlaw of Family History Society of Cheshire - 'Wills'
Friday 8 th July	Movement of Ancestors in Britain
Friday, 12 th August	Social & Quiz – to be held at Plantation Garden Centre, Plumley Moor Road
September	No meeting
Friday, 14 th October	Talk by John Titford, Genealogist & Author - 'How to Write Your Family History' This talk will be open to ALL members of the Knutsford U3A subject to numbers – Booking essential

Contact: Christine Jones Tel: 01565 633435

LOCAL HISTORY

Thursday, 26 th May	Talk by Charles Foster - 'The Household Accounts of Arley Hall'
Thursday, 30 th June	(note later date – a week later than usual) Guided Tour of Arley Hall (Local History Members only)
July & August	No Meetings
Thursday, 22 nd September	To be advised

Contact: Jean Ellis Tel: 01565 651222

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Music Appreciation Group is offering U3A members the opportunity to come to one of our meetings on **Monday, 20th June** @ 1.45pm Room 5, Methodist Church rooms upstairs (there is a lift).

This will be a free event. Tea and biscuits will be available

Lyn Lucas & friends (members of Congleton U3A) will entertain us with a presentation and demonstration of the ukulele.

In September there will be some places available for new members if you would like to join us. I look forward to seeing you there.

Contact: Susan Hopkin Tel: 01565 651839

SOCIAL SINGING GROUP - NOW OPEN TO ALL

Since the 15th of April a Social Singing group has been meeting twice a month in members' homes and for this reason, we have been limited to 10 members. From the **9th September** we are going to meet in a local hall. This means that any Knutsford U3A member will be able to join. Social Singing is a friendly group and we welcome all who would like to take part in our fortnightly sessions singing together. You do not need to have sung in a group before, you do not need to read music and you do not have to have a good voice. There will be no public performance pressures! All you need to do is join us and have fun singing a wide range of songs, from Spirituals via Music from the Shows to more recent songs. Please do not feel inhibited – come along and get all the benefits of group singing. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Friday afternoons of each month at 2 pm in a local space.

Contact: Michael Goldman Tel: 01565 65171.

BOOKING FORM

Please:

- Write the name of the performance or outing on the back of your cheque
- Make your cheque payable to Knutsford and District U3A
- Send a stamped, addressed envelope if you want your reservation confirm
- If you cannot print the booking form, please write a copy of it with ALL the information required and send with your cheque and SAE.

We will contact you if your booking was NOT successful

Booking Form

I/we would like place(s) for the following event and enclose a cheque for £

Event

Date and Time

Name & Address with postcode

.....

Phone number..... E-mail

Booking Form

I/we would like place(s) for the following event and enclose a cheque for £

Event

Date and Time

Name & Address with postcode

.....

Phone number..... E-mail