

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN – Carole English

One of the most successful things in the range of activities and events taking place in Knutsford U3A is the outings which have grown in popularity since our first visit which was to Gorton Monastery in October 2009. I can still remember how nervous I and the other organisers were as we set off on that day. Would all go without a hitch? Our fears were unfounded then and so it has continued.

Perhaps we are now being foolish in giving ourselves some more sleepless nights but we have decided to try holidays for our members. We are starting 'small but interesting' with a long weekend in London in from 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> May 2013. It is being organised through Tailored Travel, a company who specialise in group holidays and used by many U3As. Some of us have been with Leek U3A on Tailored Travel holidays and have been impressed by the organisation and attention to detail.

Full details and brochures will be available soon but I can tell you that we will be staying in Central London and, although various excursions and sightseeing trips will be on offer, members will be welcome to "do their own thing" and explore and enjoy London on their own. The outings sub committee are hoping this will appeal to members and who knows; next year London, and then the rest of the world!

I am sure that you will have noticed that this month's Kanuta is a bumper edition reflecting the many interesting and varied thing taking place. Many thanks go to the members who have contributed to this edition. I am sure you will all enjoy reading about the visits, holidays and reviews.

## RICHARD WIGLEY

Richard Wigley's talk to the Music Appreciation Group and other U3A members on Monday afternoon 16<sup>th</sup> April was fascinating. He introduced himself by telling us that he started his musical career as a bassoon player and this brought him to Manchester to join the Hallé. We learnt a little of his own career as a musician before he asked for questions from the audience so that he would tell us what we wanted to hear - a great idea.

He is the general manager of the BBC Philharmonic and he took us through the organisation and management of the orchestra, how he decides on visiting conductors and soloists and on the selection of pieces that will suit them and his orchestra. He consults with his musicians and with the other Manchester orchestras but the final decision is his and he must have a 5 year plan. He told us a little about the new studio at Media City, which sounds an excellent venue, and that they are all gradually accepting and enjoying it.

There was a good audience to hear his delightful talk. He is clearly a talented musician and an excellent manager - a rare combination.

A huge thank you to Sue Hopkin for arranging his visit.

Sheila Cowley

## CHESHIRE'S CHIEF CONSTABLE – DAVID WHATTON

At the General Meeting on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> we were honoured and enlightened by a talk entitled “*What are the Police for?*” by David Whatton, the Chief Constable of Cheshire since 2008.

‘Polis’, originally a Greek word meaning ‘city-state,’ came to mean that citizens themselves were to be responsible for law and order, and Mr. Whatton said he was proud today to *serve* rather than to *police* society.

His condensed history of the police force through the centuries took us from Roman and Saxon times to the 13<sup>th</sup> century when justice was still administered by the state without benefit of jury or judge. For many decades the duty of a constable, an unpaid citizen, was to keep the peace, to arrest and then guard criminals. Officers became old and corrupt, and in the mid 16<sup>th</sup> century parishes paid for more competent guardians.



Carole with the Chief Constable

Such a poorly organized system was to collapse in the face of demographic changes caused by the Industrial Revolution, and in 1829 Sir Robert Peel introduced a new system to protect person and property. Every area over 4,000 inhabitants was to create a Constabulary – and history records that Cheshire was the first by two weeks to fulfil this obligation. Peel’s principle ‘*Police are the Public and the Public are the Police*’ was strongly endorsed by Mr. Whatton who then brought us up to date with his own personal agenda.

While prevention of crime is paramount, Mr. Whatton stressed the need for the police to engage in an effective and ongoing dialogue with local people, and to be transparent and accountable to them. The Chief Constable is held to account for how his budget is spent according to locally determined need.

We learnt that less than 1% of households are subject to violent crime such as rape or burglary. Complaints regarding noise, drugs, anti-social behaviour and lost property are more constant issues. Out of 22,000 calls for help, 40% were not for safety. In 60% of the cases the police were able successfully to resolve the situation.

Mr. Whatton strongly supports the restorative justice conference where the offender is brought face to face with the victim. The former often appears genuinely surprised and even appalled to realize the extent of the damage he has inflicted not only on an individual, but also on his family. Such conferences have reduced the number of re-offenders from 80% to 20%.

In Cheshire the Chief Constable is responsible for 3,417 miles of highway, one of the longest stretches in the UK. Training officers is obviously of great importance. Although an imposing physique may be an advantage for a policeman, of more importance is his sense of discretion in coping with any given situation. Schools are frequently visited to instil a trust in the police force of today.

The Chief Constable concluded his talk by reiterating his wish for constant cooperation with his officers in every respect, literally mixing with them on the beat. In the hands of such a compassionate and dedicated individual we felt assured of the future of our community.

April Canning



## AMBLERS VISIT TO GRASMERE



After months of planning and organisation four cars were driven northwards from the Knutsford area on the morning of Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April and met at Grasmere to begin a visit which exceeded all expectations.

The aim of the visit was to combine a walking holiday with experiencing some of the cultural aspects of the Lakeland life. We were extremely fortunate in having very good weather as in the four days we had to wear waterproofs for only 20 minutes.

Our accommodation was 4\* quality with excellent food and we were seated at one long table which made conversation very easy. Our walks were through a variety of localities were very enjoyable and it was good that we could all share knowledge of plants, trees, birds, landscape and historical detail. The introductory walk followed the river through Grasmere then branched out across fields and through wooded areas before returning to the hotel and sampling our first fantastic meal.

On the Wednesday we walked along Grasmere and Rydal Water where our walking rule of “3 miles no stiles and flat” had to go by the board as many sections of the path were stony, streams ran very freely across it and the terrain was anything but flat. Our biggest challenge was when we came to a sheer rocky outcrop which we could not walk past because of a significant rise in water level so we had to scramble across the 20 + feet. We stopped for lunch at a tea shop near Rydal Hall. We arrived at the tail end of a thousand walkers so by the time we were served there was very little left. Our adventure was not over as there was only ONE toilet – for ALL. We survived. Back to Grasmere by bus, using our bus passes. In the afternoon the party split. Some went to Blackwell and some to see Allan Bank which is being restored by the National Trust.

Thursday morning was spent walking in the Langdales. We followed the river then went up a steady gradient into very attractive forest areas. We came upon a quarry with attendant noisy machinery shattering the peace-but this is another side of Lakeland life. Our lunch stop was at a very unusual tea shop called ‘Brambles’ which was reached through a Co-op store. In the afternoon we all visited ‘Brantwood’ which had been the home of John Ruskin.

Friday took us for a final walk along Elterwater. It was glorious walking along in beautiful sunshine beside calm water. After coffee at ‘Chesters’ we went our separate ways home.

Our thanks to Sheila Fitches for all her work in planning and organising this trip. Could such a wonderful stay ever be repeated?

Frances Cogger

### Calling all Members in Lymm

**Heulwen Emsley has recently moved from Knutsford to Lymm and would like to make contact with other Knutsford U3A members living there.**

**Heulwen's phone no. is 01925 759265.**

## WALKING HOLIDAY – LLANGOLLEN

The walking group – 10 members – went to Llangollen this year, a place I had not visited since my honeymoon 50 years ago! We had mixed weather but it was mainly sunny in the afternoons and we did not really get very wet.

We met at Trevor for lunch on the first day and had a lovely walk through the countryside to the south of the Dee but first we walked across the Pontcysyllte aqueduct over the river. The walk over this amazing feat of engineering by Thomas Telford should be attempted only by those with a good head for heights as it is 1007 feet long and towers 126 feet above the river. In Llangollen we had tea and cake and this was to be the first of a regular ‘afternoon delight’ after our walking. Although we stayed at four different B&Bs we all met for our evening meal and chose a different restaurant each night.



The second day was rainy to start with but we walked (me with an umbrella!) along the canal to Trevor where we stopped at The Sun for a coffee. Although it had stopped raining the first very steep path was muddy enough to be quite challenging. We continued to walk up the side of the valley to a path which took us towards Castell Dinas Brau – a superbly position ruined castle overlooking Llangollen. The views from there would have been terrific but we declined the steep climb to find out!! After lunch we made our back to town for tea with Welsh Cakes – what else. That evening four of us went to the local theatre to see an amateur opera performance of The Scarlet Pimpernel which we all thoroughly enjoyed while the rest of the group had a long and very convivial meal.

On the Thursday we got the bus to Berwyn but no bus passes for us in Wales. We walked to the Horseshoe Falls, which were not nearly as impressive as we had expected, and then on to Llantsyllio church. The countryside was lovely – even in the showers – and from our coffee stop in the sunshine we had great views stretching some considerable distance. By the time we arrived at the pub for lunch we were quite wet and muddy but the staff were not at all bothered. They were obviously quite used to it. On the way back we passed the ruins of Valle Crucis Abbey and called in at the Eisteddfod Pavilion. Three members of the party had left us at lunchtime so it was a smaller group for the Italian Restaurant.

On the last day we all met at Trevor again and did a long, steady climb up to the Panoramic Walk high above Llangollen with fantastic views of the Vale of Llangollen in both directions. It was a lovely sunny day and a fitting end to the holiday.

Once again this was a very good holiday for the U3A intrepid walkers – rain or shine. The walks were quite tough in places but the views were always worth the effort and we all had a very enjoyable time – great location, great walks and great company. Our thanks go to Margaret, Tim, Carole and David for planning and leading the whole thing.

Judith Shirley



## REVIEW OF THE VISIT TO HAWORTH ART GALLERY

On Wednesday 28th March - 46 of us left Knutsford in beautiful Spring sunshine to travel up to the Haworth Art Gallery in Accrington. We stopped at Sycamore Farm near Burnley for lunch, which was very good.

The Haworth Art Gallery was originally known as "Hollins Hill" and was built in 1909 for William and Anne Howarth. After William's death in 1913 followed by Anne's in 1920, the house, including paintings and antiquities, was bequeathed to the people of Accrington.

Joseph Briggs, a local man, went to America in 1891 when he was 17 years old. Quite by chance he met Louis Comfort Tiffany who was the leading American exponent of "Art Nouveau" style glass. In 1893 Joseph began to work for Louis Comfort Tiffany and worked his way up in the company. In 1933 the fashion for Art Nouveau had waned, and the factory closed but before the remaining glasswork was sold or destroyed, Joseph Briggs sent a shipment of 140 pieces of vases, tiles and mosaic samples to Accrington, his birthplace. In 1951 a number of the pieces were transferred to the Haworth Art Gallery.

The highlight of our day out was seeing the collection of "TIFFANY GLASS". It was stunning and many of the pieces of glass were designed by Joseph Briggs. Some of the vases were huge with magnificent colours intertwined. The translucency of the mixed colours and flowing lines of the "Art Nouveau" period were truly amazing.



The outing was an outstanding success and as usual up to U3A's high standard.

Ros Allday

## THEATRE AND CONCERT GROUP 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL TO WONDERFUL TOWN.....

.....when a coachful of Knutsford U3A enjoyed a Wonderful evening, at the Wonderful Lowry.

The musical play Wonderful Town premiered in 1953 where it won five Tony Awards. Leonard Bernstein's music and a wonderfully witty script have ensured longevity for this first class entertainment. However we were very lucky to be part of a rather special revival. In the theatre pit we had the Halle Orchestra under Sir Mark Elder and on stage the mature talent of Connie Fisher. She may have got her break on a reality show but she earned every clap of the applause on Wednesday night. Her performance had all the energy and comic timing the role required and her singing, together with stage sister Lucy Van Gasse, was delightful.

The audience loved the vibrant energy of the dance routines; the quality of the dancers and the costumes was unsurpassed in my experience. But perhaps the best received number of the evening was the pastiche of an Irish (Oirish) ballad. It had us all laughing and clapping.

The night couldn't have gone ahead without Margaret's efforts. Many thanks to her for all her hard work and also admiration for her calm when our original coach failed to show. Our thanks also to the laterally minded McCarthy Coach Company and the Police. Both organisations played their part in the success of our evening.

Pauline Hales

## VISIT TO THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM

The National Memorial Arboretum was conceived as a living tribute to the war time generations of the twentieth century and as a gift to their memory for future generations to reflect upon and enjoy. From the start it was seen as a place of joy where the lives of people would be remembered by living trees that would grow and mature in a world at peace.

The project began with no money, no land, no staff and no trees. The National Lottery, in the form of the Millennium Commission, granted some forty per cent of the funds needed and this was matched by thousands of donations, both large and small, from a wide variety of organisations both military and civilian, men and women, corporate and voluntary. The 150 acre site of reclaimed land was kindly leased for a peppercorn rent and has been transformed into a magnificent, well tended parkland within the National Forest in Staffordshire. Planting of the trees only began in 1997 but there are now many thousands.

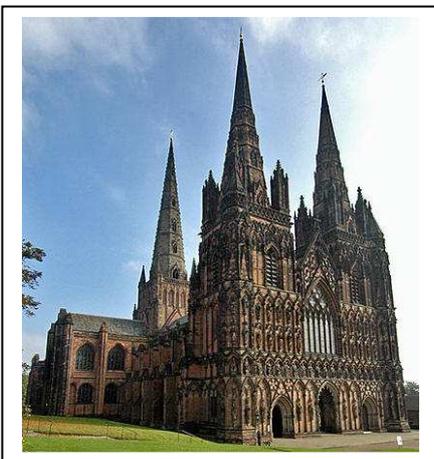
We were taken on a walking tour of the many memorials, Military, Civil Services (Police, Fire Brigade, Ambulance), Charities, Local organisations and Overseas organisations by an enthusiastic and very knowledgeable guide. Some members chose to go by road train around the site.

The Armed Forces Memorial was constructed to provide recognition of the men and women of our Armed Services who have lost their lives in conflict or as a result of terrorist action or on training exercises since the end of the Second World War. Since then the men and women of the Armed Services, often supported by the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and the Merchant Navy, have taken part in more than 50 operations and conflicts across the world, often as part of United Nations, NATO or other international coalitions. These actions have ranged from hot war to peacekeeping; from humanitarian assistance to fighting terrorism; from the jungles of Malaysia to the storms of the South Atlantic; from the streets of Aden to the streets of Northern Ireland.



It is not just Service men and women who have made sacrifices. Behind every name on the Memorial there are the wives, husbands, partners, parents, children and colleagues who loved them and who live with the pain and consequences of their loss every day.

We enjoyed a good waitress served lunch in a private room at three large tables enabling members to do what they do so well, chat!



We then travelled to Lichfield Cathedral which dates back to the 8th century when Chad arrived with a Saxon mission. After Chad's death pilgrims visited and the first Cathedral was built. Subsequently two further Cathedrals have been build on the site, each larger to accommodate the increasing numbers of pilgrims.

The present Gothic Cathedral is magnificent and we were enabled to appreciate it by expert guides.

After tea and biscuits (we were well fed!) we travelled back and Freda Froehlich was given a round of applause for her excellent organisation of the trip.

Peter Butler

In the February edition of the Newsletter **Antiques** provided an article which gave an insight into their group. As part of this series, those groups for whom **WORDS** are the essence of their work have provided information which has been collated into the following article. My thanks to all those coordinators concerned. Lynda

## THE POWER OF THE WORD

### BOOK GROUP 2

There are 12 members who meet every four to six weeks in members' homes. The group is full.

Our choice of titles is suggested by members of the group and what we read next is agreed democratically but, being in the group does encourage us to try books we would not normally read.

The books we read and enjoyed are:	More controversial as to whether we liked or not:
Hilary Mantel; Wolf Hall	William Boyd; Any Human Heart
Irene Nemirovsky; Suite Francaise	Ian McEwan; On Chesil Beach
Thomas Hardy; Mayor of Casterbridge	Aravind Adiga; The White Tiger
Anthony Trollope; The Warden	Iris Murdoch; The Sea The Sea
F. Scott Fitzgerald; The Great Gatsby	A.S. Byatt; The Children's Book
Arnold Bennett; The Old Wives Tale	F. Scott Fitzgerald; Tender is the Night

We discuss plot, characters, ideas, writing. Is the book a classic? Is it likely to become a classic? Our group is very articulate and the discussions are interesting and stimulating and we are all now confident enough to express our opinion, even when it differs from everyone else's. The most disliked books provoke the most discussion and that also applies to the most disliked characters. One of the most hated characters by some of the group was Logan Mountstuart the hero or anti hero of Any Human Heart.

### BOOK GROUP 3

At present we have eight enthusiastic members who attend regularly so we do have room for one or possibly two new members. Our choice of books varies widely and, as we have two men in the group, there is no "Chick Lit". Some of our choices have resulted in long discussion. Reading and discussing a translation of "The Iliad" might well have resulted in a group trip to Greece were the situation there only more stable!

We tend to choose books by general agreement with all suggestions welcome. Over the next few months we will be reading "The Secret Scripture" by Sebastian Barry and "Arthur and George" by Julian Barnes with a Dickens promised for the autumn.

### SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Don't be put off by the name - you certainly don't need a background in science to enjoy this group as these quotes from a non-scientist show:

"I like the books which help me to make direct connections between the ideas in them and the world

around us, which I guess is what most popular science books set out to do anyway.”

“I've enjoyed reading books which I wouldn't have 'found' myself, and discussing them, even though I have sometimes been out of my depth when some scientific concepts have been discussed”

“I enjoy getting a bit further [in understanding] than simply sharing the 'Wows' which I find myself voicing all the time”

“These Thursday afternoons have been a real pleasure.”

Our group members' favourite two titles to date have been “Darwin's Island” by Steve Jones and “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” by Rebecca Skloot. Why not try them? We have space for a couple more members and would particularly welcome more non-scientists!

## **PLAY READING**

There are fifteen of us at present and the meetings take place in members' homes. Normally at least ten members attend each session.

Comedies are very popular, but most types of plays are read including those by Alan Ayckbourn, Arthur Miller, Oscar Wilde and J.B.Priestley.

Scripts are obtained from theatres and libraries. One of the difficulties is being able to obtain sufficient copies of suitable, previously unread, material. This is an increasing problem and the present nominal cost to members attending each session will soon need to be increased and paid for in advance by all members of the group irrespective of attendance. Judging by the pleasure the meetings seem to provide, however, the revised costs should still be well worthwhile.

Each play reading is on a very informal basis, with everybody seated, and no acting skills are required. At present there are only four men in the group so male parts are sometimes read by females and everybody enjoys the challenge of playing the part of someone much younger or older than themselves. There is rarely any time to discuss each play, as it is often a struggle to read right through in one session, but approval is nearly always registered by those attending.

Our group is full but if anybody is willing to start a second group, and take on the role of coordinator, help and guidance will happily be provided.

## **POETRY READING**

The Poetry Reading Group has 16 members 14 of whom regularly attend and take part. The group think 16 is large enough for the moment. If there are other U3A members interested in joining, a second group can be started. We are a friendly group with a good cross-section of ages and interests.

Over the past two years we have each taken a turn in choosing a poet, whoever makes the choice gives a brief overview of his or her life and work and then we all choose one of his/her poems to read out. The traditional poets are usually the most popular. If time allows at the end, we all read a poem of our own choice, from any poet we wish. Although some members are anxious about reading out loud initially, they soon gain confidence and join in as it's not a competition, its enjoyment! At the group meeting near Burns Night one member came along in full highland dress (including dagger) and recited Burns' Address to the Haggis, from memory.

The programme is organised a few months in advance so members know what's coming along and

can prepare. The individuals in the group choose the poets. We have chosen a wide selection of poets over the years, Dylan Thomas, Jenny Joseph, Rudyard Kipling, Thomas Hood, Robert Frost, May Sarton (one of our members is writing a book about May Sarton), Omar Khayyam, Hilaire Belloc, John Betjeman, Sir Walter Scott, Shakespeare, William Wordsworth, Wilfred Owen, Louis MacNeice, Philip Larkin, Edward Thomas, Ogden Nash, Dannie Abse, and this month John Masefield.

## **WRITING FOR PLEASURE**

Each month we agree a topic for the next meeting and during the month we write a piece, usually a short story, based on the topic up to 2000 words. (This format is not really suitable for those wishing to write a novel, or their family history!) At the following meeting we each read out our work to the rest of the group. The atmosphere is friendly and any comments are made in a gently constructive manner – in fact there is much laughter at most meetings. The topics are very varied, ranging from stories based on a picture, an opening sentence, a key word or phrase e.g. 'overheard' and 'revenge is a dish best served cold' or a list of words which have to be incorporated in the piece.

We have done three special activities. A plot suggest by one member, was divided into defined chapters and each chapter was written by a member, generating a much longer story. We have written poems – featured in a previous U3A yearbook and last year, a short play written by one member as four monologues was expanded as a group exercise with six following duologues. 'The Standishes', a tale of a dysfunctional family, was presented as a short play to a U3A general meeting.

This group may be more challenging than others, in that members need to generate a piece between each meeting which is not easy but it's amazing how, when staring at a blank sheet of paper or computer screen, some inspiration seems to come to one's fingertips! For those who were good at English at school, for those who would like to compensate for the bad teaching they received, for those who could write superb factual reports – 'but I haven't a creative bone in my body' – in fact for anyone – let us prove you wrong.

We currently have six members and we are always glad to welcome newcomers who would like to try their hand at writing short pieces in a friendly, encouraging atmosphere – so let's hear from you! It's interesting how often new members graduate from autobiographically based pieces to true fiction as their confidence and experience expands. In time hidden talents emerge to generate imaginative and entertaining stories – a satisfying experience for both the writer and the listeners.

## **SEPTEMBER**

On 13<sup>th</sup> September this year, the date of our General Meeting, our U3A is holding a **ROADSHOW** at the Civic Hall in Knutsford. The purpose of this event is to inform Knutsfordians what we do in the U3A.

This occasion will also give you the opportunity to renew your subscription which is due on 1<sup>st</sup> September. You will be pleased to know that the subscription fee remains at £15 per member. There will be a renewal form in the August/September Newsletter which, along with your stamped addressed envelope and cheque, can be posted to our Membership Secretary.

More details will follow later in the summer.

# Plays - Opera - Musicals - Concerts

We have arranged two outings this Summer, both to matinee performances. The first to the Annual three week Gilbert and Sullivan Festival in Buxton in August. The second to 'Swan Lake' at The Lowry in September.

## DAY OUT IN BUXTON

**Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Cost £33.00**

### **'THE GONDOLIERS' - Gilbert & Sullivan**

The coach will leave Knutsford Bus Station at **10.30 am.** to give you time for a stroll round Buxton's delightful town centre. There are plenty of places for lunch around the Opera House, or you could take a picnic to eat in the delightful Pavilion Gardens.

'The Gondoliers' will be performed in the charming Georgian Opera House, by a professional company, performance commencing at 2.30 pm. The coach should be back in Knutsford by 6 pm.

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## THE LOWRY

**Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Cost £ 34.00**

### 'SWAN LAKE'

#### **Performed by the Birmingham Royal Ballet**

The coach will leave Knutsford Bus Station at 12.30 pm. as the performance commences at 2.00 pm. I don't think Swan Lake needs any introduction from me! I have reserved good seats in the Circle.

Cheques for either, or both, of the above should be made payable to Knutsford and District U3A and sent to Margaret Hinde, details over the page.

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### **Booking form for The Gondoliers and/or Swan Lake**

Name/s: ..... Tel: .....

Address: .....

Email: .....

**Event** (Please delete if not required)

**1. The Gondoliers at Buxton. Sunday August 12<sup>th</sup>.**

I/we would like ..... Places @ £33.00 each. Cheque enclosed £ .....

**2. Swan Lake at The Lowry. Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup>.**

I/we would like ..... places @ £34.00 each. Cheque enclosed £ .....

## GENERAL MEETINGS

Held at Knutsford Methodist Church

Second Thursday of every month starting at 2:15 pm

Free to U3A Members: £1:00 for Non-Members

14 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Ernest Rea</b> presents Radio 4's discussion programme Beyond Belief, which examines the place of faith in today's complex world. For 12 years he was head of religious broadcasting responsible for programmes across radio and television. The title of his talk is "Arab Spring? Where movements disagree".
12 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Mrs. Norma Walmsley</b> on the subject entitled "The King and I" and is about her life as the governess to the children of the Sultan of Brunei.

## NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

All contact details for the groups are on the back page

**Antiques:** We will meet at 10.30 on 14<sup>th</sup> June at Oakwood, Tabley Road to discuss the theme "fabrics".

We plan to visit Macclesfield Silk Museum in July - date to be arranged.

Contact: Tessa Gurney if you would like to be included.

**Music:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 1.45 pm. Songs from the Musicals; using recordings of popular works, composers and songwriters, also optional Fun Quiz. Room 5 upstairs Methodist church rooms.

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 1.45 pm. 'The Viola - 'Licence to Kill!' Piero Gasparini, has been playing with the Hallé orchestra for 25 years and he will give us an insight into life as a member of this well-known orchestra.

There will not be a meeting in August

Contact: Susan Hopkin

### Booking form for The Gondoliers and/or Swan Lake

Please send the booking form with a cheque made payable to Knutsford and District U3A, to:

Mrs M. Hinde  
1 Warford Hall Drive  
Great Warford  
Alderley Edge  
SK9 7TR. Tel: 01565 872643.

If you enclose a stamped addressed envelope I will confirm your reservation. Otherwise you will only hear from me if there is no available place.

## YOUR COMMITTEE

### **MURIEL ROBINSON** **NEW MEMBERS LIAISON**



Although born and brought up in Scotland, I now call Knutsford 'home' after living here since 1980. I have worked in a number of jobs all of which have been concerned with interpersonal skills. For fifteen years I served as a Staff Welfare Officer in a government organisation where I initiated pre-retirement courses to help employees. When I retired I ran similar courses for companies and organisations and heard about the U3A.

By chance, I met Margaret Weltman and Monica Beswick and they agreed to be involved and in 2005 Knutsford U3A was launched. I now enjoy French Conversation, Antiques, Walking with the Amblers, and acquiring knowledge from attending the Wine and Bridge Groups. I hope to continue to expand my interests, when time permits.

My two children have provided me with six grandchildren and through them I attempt to keep in touch with current trends and they are very impressed with the scope and range of our activities. Last year I re-joined the Committee and became responsible for New Members Liaison which gives me the chance to meet the new members and assist them in any way I can. It is a job I greatly enjoy.

### **TIM DONELLY** **TREASURER**



I have lived in Knutsford for half my life. Although born in Wilmslow I was brought up in Didcot, having lived also in Hampshire and London. Margaret, my partner, and I joined the U3A more or less at its inception.

Three years ago I became treasurer and a member of the Committee also the Outings team.

I attend wine appreciation and art appreciation and I walk with group 1, when time permits. On a personal note I have two sons both with children; 2 boys in London and 2 girls in Canberra. I enjoy cycling, being a member of Cycle Knutsford, I also try to play golf and I have been a season ticket holder at The Royal Exchange Theatre and Manchester City for 25 years.

Finally, you may wonder what expertise I can bring to the U3A. My only explanation is I did run my own small business for 30 years.

### **MARGARET JOSCELYNE**



Although a Londoner by birth, I have lived in Knutsford for nearly forty years. Most of my working life was in Northwich, where I was a partner in a Dental practice and in Chester as a member of the Board of the Health Authority in its various guises.

I joined Knutsford U3A at the inaugural meeting and I am a member of several interest groups and a co-ordinator of two. I wish there were more days in the week, as many groups are of interest. Recently my contribution to the committee has been as chairman of the finance committee and as minutes' secretary.

My husband Chris died nearly nine years ago. My three children were educated at Knutsford High School. With eight grandchildren, granny duty is something to be enjoyed in the holidays, as all the family live some distance away.

I enjoy holidays in this country and abroad with my friend Robert, often I also enjoy meeting friends, going to the theatre and to art galleries and of course, family visits.



**THANK YOU**  
**Jean and Doreen**  
**who have retired from the Committee**



**Jean Ellis** joined Knutsford U3A Committee at the end of 2005 not long after the organisation was formed so she is in fact a founder member of our U3A and a member of the original Steering Committee that got the whole thing going.

At that time all Newsletters were printed and either brought to the general meetings, delivered by hand or posted. Jean played a big part in this distribution, a role she has continued. All of you who receive your Newsletters by post have Jean to thank for putting them in envelopes, affixing stamps and posting.

Jean also took on the role of Groups Coordinator, along with Rod Howgate, helping the groups with any problems and she has played a large part in setting up new groups, notably Book Group 4 and Music Appreciation. Both these groups have gone from strength to strength.

We are lucky that she has agreed to stay on the Outings Sub Committee to help plan excursions and holidays for all of us to enjoy.

Jean has always been a hard working, reliable, helpful and very supportive member of the team and will be much missed at Committee meetings.

Thank you Jean for all you have done over the last 7 years, it is very much appreciated by us all.

**Doreen Steel** joined the Committee in December 2008 and took over as Speakers Secretary in 2010, and has kept us all entertained at general meetings by a wide range of speakers which we have all enjoyed.

Highlights have been Baroness Walmsley, the BBC reporter Kevin Fitzpatrick, Bolton Little Theatre Actors, Lydia Slack and the Chief Constable of Cheshire.

Throughout Doreen has kept her sense of humour, (you can't please all the people, all the time) and has always been at the general meetings ready to greet our speakers with her unfailing courtesy.

Thank you Doreen for everything you have done for Knutsford U3A

**NOTICE**

The audited accounts will be available on the website by mid July.

**LOOP SYSTEM**

Just to remind members attending general meetings who are hard of hearing that a loop system is in place at Knutsford Methodist Church. This is activated when the sound system is in use and hearing aids should be switched to the 'T' position. Please contact the Technical Team if you experience any problems.

**FREE LEGAL ADVICE FOR U3A**

The Third Age Trust has an arrangement with First Assist Commercial Law Care to provide legal advice to U3A members. It is a free service available 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. You need to phone 01455 251 500. You will require a code number obtainable from the Chairman, Carole English or the Secretary, Lynda Harris and you must hold a current membership card to access the service.

**Please keep this page of information. It will be reprinted only when changes occur.**

**Changes are shown in red.**

#### **Amblers**

Walks take place twice a month on Mondays or Wednesdays. Meet at 10 am in the Dog Lodge lay-by on Mobberley Road.  
Co-ordinator: Sheila Fitches  
Tel: 01565 633076

#### **Antiques**

Meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at Legh Arms, upstairs room  
Co-ordinator: Tessa Gurney  
Tel: 01477 533076

#### **Art Appreciation 1**

Meetings on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month 7.30 p.m. Royce Court  
Co-ordinator: Margaret Joscelyne  
Tel: 01565 633147

#### **Art Appreciation 2**

Co-ordinator Jennifer Harrison 01565 633578

#### **Book Group 1**

Meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month 2.00 pm. to 4.00 pm. Members' Homes  
Co-ordinator: Rosemary Binns  
Tel: 01565 633670

#### **Book Group 2**

Meetings monthly usually on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday from 10.30 am to 12.00 in Members' Homes  
Co-ordinator: Monica Beswick  
Tel: 01565 651515

#### **Book Group 3**

Meetings monthly on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 10:00 am  
Co-ordinator Freda Froehlich  
Tel: 01565 633045

#### **Book Group 4**

Meetings monthly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am  
Co-ordinator: Heulwen Emsley  
Tel: 01565 652971

#### **Bridge**

Meetings on alternate Fridays 10.00 am to 12.00 Toft Cricket Club.  
Co-ordinator: Wendy Hurst  
Tel: 01565 722921

#### **Computing**

Co-ordinator: Robert Watson  
Tel: 01565 633147

#### **Creative Video Production**

Co-ordinator: John Napier  
Tel: 01925 754563

#### **Crown Green Bowls 1**

Meetings each Tuesday 10.30 am  
The Railway Inn Mobberley [Summer]  
Co-ordinator: Betty Montrose  
Tel: 01565 873414

#### **Crown Green Bowls 2**

[Summer] Meetings each Friday 10.30 am  
The Railway Inn, Mobberley  
Co-ordinator: Petra Pickup  
Tel: 01625 861278

#### **Drawing and Painting**

Meetings each Monday between 10.00 am and 12 noon at Toft Church rooms  
Co-ordinator: Berry Northen  
Tel: 01565 873053

#### **Family History**

Meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month 2.00 pm  
Royce Court  
Co-ordinator: Mary Lipyeat  
Tel: 01565 652635

#### **French [Intermediate]**

Meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month. 2.00 pm. Members Homes  
Co-ordinator: Jill Board  
Tel: 01565 652940

#### **Garden Visits**

Random meetings when the gardens are open.  
Planning meetings about three times a year usually on a Monday.  
Co-ordinators: Jean Heap and Val Homer  
Tel: 01565 633661 and 01565 652282

#### **Geology Group**

Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month in upstairs' room at The Angel 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm  
Co-ordinator: Fred Owen  
Tel: 01606 892690

#### **German**

Meetings fortnightly on Fridays 9:30 am to 11:00 am at Methodist Church.  
Co-ordinator: David English  
Tel: 01565 625815

#### **Knitting**

Meetings monthly on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 10.00 am in members' houses  
Co-ordinator: Jane McHarry  
Tel: 01565 651036

#### **Local History**

Meetings on the last Thursday of each month 10.30 am to 12.00  
Co-ordinator: Jean Robinson  
Tel: 01625 860315

#### **Luncheon Club**

Meetings on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month at 12:15  
Contact: Carole English  
Tel : 01565 625815

#### **Mah Jong**

Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday each month at 10:00 am at The Legh Arms  
Co-ordinator: Marjorie Aston  
Tel: 0161 929 8044

#### **Music Appreciation**

Meetings monthly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday from 1.45 pm to 3.15 pm in Room 5 at Knutsford Methodist Church.  
Co-ordinator Susan Hopkin  
Tel: 01565 651839

#### **Needlecraft**

Meetings monthly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday from 10.00 am to 12:00. Members' homes  
Co-ordinator: Judith Shirley  
Tel: 01565 652448

#### **Philosophy**

Meetings monthly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. Room 5 at Methodist Church 10:30 am to 12:00  
**Contact Anna Smyth**  
**Tel: 01565 651979**

#### **Play reading**

Meetings monthly on the last Friday at 10:00 am to 12:00 in members' homes  
Co-ordinator: Peter Willgoose  
Tel: 01565 631255

#### **Poetry Reading**

Co-ordinator: Veronica Gordon  
Tel: 01565 873762

#### **Scientific Book Group**

Meetings monthly at 2.30 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday  
Co-ordinator: Christine Falder  
Tel: 01565 654721

#### **Scrabble**

**Meetings weekly on Friday afternoons at 2.00 pm**  
Co-ordinator: Avril Slade  
Tel: 01565 633997

#### **Seasonal Cookery**

Meetings monthly on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 10 am to 12.00  
Co-ordinator: Anne Rowland  
Tel: 01625 860290

#### **Spanish**

Meetings each Tuesday, 10:00 am to 11:00 am at The Methodist Church.  
Co-ordinator: David English.  
Tel: 01565 625815

#### **Spanish (Group 2)**

Meetings each Tuesday 10:30 am to 11:30 am at the Legh Arms  
Co-ordinator: Graham Rigg  
Tel: 01565 650130

#### **Speakers Group**

Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm at Legh Arms  
Co-ordinator: David Skinner  
Tel: 01565 63248

#### **Theatre and Concert Visits**

Random meetings dependant upon performances. See Website for full programme details.  
Co-ordinator: Margaret Hinde  
Tel: 01565 872643

#### **Walking Group 1**

Walks on alternate Mondays and Wednesdays. Meet at 9:30 am in the lay-by on Mobberley Road.  
Co-ordinator: Margaret Cole.  
Tel: 01565 633569.

#### **Walking Group 2**

Walks on alternate Wednesdays and Mondays. Meet at 9:30 am in the lay-by on Mobberley Road  
Co-ordinator: Rod Howgate  
Tel: 01625 582924

#### **Wine Tasting**

Meetings monthly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 7.00 pm at St Vincent's Church Hall.  
Co-ordinators: Margaret Joscelyne and David Rowland  
Tel: 01565 633147 and 01625 860290.

#### **Writing for pleasure**

Meetings monthly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday at 10.00 am in members' homes  
Co-ordinator: Michael Goldman  
Tel: 01565 651717