

The Newsletter of the Knutsford and District U3 A



October 2013

Email: info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk Web address: knutsfordu3a.co.uk

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FROM THE CHAIR - Lynda Harris

Unusually at this time of year we have an edition of Kanuta on consecutive months as there are always changes to groups that need publicising. You will see that our list of Activity Groups has had to expand on to two pages. I don't think you would have thanked me if I had reduced the size of the type any further to accommodate the new groups on offer this autumn. We now have 47 groups covering 32 different activities.

The extra space available on pages 8 and 9 does mean that we have room for even more groups and, with a membership of 592 at the last count, we are always open to new ideas. Looking at what other U3As offer we could try maths, history, chess, Shakespeare, culture and religions and even belly dancing! Yes, one U3A does offer that. Whatever the new idea might be the coordinator is key to putting it into practise and on page 3 I have outlined what that role could entail.

It is not as onerous as you might think. Please give it some thought and let me know if you think you could add an activity to our list.

MIDLAND HOTEL MANCHESTER WITH TOUR AND TEA Wednesday 27th November 2013

Guided tour of The Midland Hotel with Barbara Frost, a qualified Blue Badge guide for the North West. She has taken a particular interest in the history of The Midland Hotel which was built at the turn of the century for The Midland Railway Company. She will outline details of the building and recounting stories of the many famous guests that have stayed there. This will be followed by afternoon tea at the Hotel.

The coach will leave Knutsford Bus Station at 12.45 and we will leave Manchester for our return journey at 4.45 pm. The cost of the outing is £19 per person, to include coach fare, tour and afternoon tea.

Cheques made payable to Knutsford U3A should be sent with a completed Booking Form (Page 10) to Carole English, 49 Cranford Avenue, Knutsford WA16 0EB Tel. 01565 625815.

CHETHAMS SCHOOL OF MUSIC Tuesday, 29 October 2013

This will be a very interesting visit with a tour of the medieval buildings of this internationally famous music school followed by a concert. The cost of £17.00 also includes a lunch of home-made soup and sandwiches, cake and tea and

We leave Knutsford Bus Station at 11 am and should be back in Knutsford at approximately 4.30 pm.

To book please send a cheque, made payable to Knutsford U3A, together with a booking form (Page 10) to Margaret Cole, 43 Garden Road, Knutsford, WA16 6HT, Telephone 01565 633569.

THEATRE AND MUSIC TRIPS

AUTUMN 2013









BOOKING

PLEASE use a **separate booking form** (Page 10) 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

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Saturday, 14th December, 7.30 pm At The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester Cost, including coach travel, £42.00 Coach will leave Bus Station at 6 pm

This may seem quite expensive, but I have actually reduced the price by £5, as I have made a slight profit over the year. Christmas present to thank you for your support!

This is billed as 'An exquisite concert of carols and seasonal classics, (Handel, Bach, Mozart etc. as well as carols,) performed in full 18th century costume in an evocative candle-lit style setting'.

I have reserved good centre front stalls, so do come and start your Christmas in style!

THAT DAY WE SANG by

by **Victoria Wood**

Wednesday, 8th January, 7.30 At Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester Cost, including travel, £33.00

Coach will leave Bus Station at 6 pm

The popular Christmas Show at The Exchange is Victoria Wood's 'big-hearted and nostalgic' musical about 1960's couples remembering the day that, as poor Manchester children, they famously recorded 'Nymphs and Shepherds'. Previously performed in 2011, with great success, there are too many adjectives to quote! – 'poignant, funny, melodious, humorous, uplifting....etc.' – A love story with songs and dancing.

War Horse Tickets

As there are over 70 tickets to give out for the visit to 'War Horse', I will have your tickets at the October and November meetings for you to collect.

This is not essential, but I think it would help our boarding of the two buses if you could do so.

Margaret Hinde

THE ROLE OF A COORDINATOR

The main tasks involved in being a coordinator would probably come from the following list:

- Keeping up-to-date records of group members
- Keeping the members of the group informed
- Ensuring accurate financial records are maintained
- Ensuring that the annual financial return is submitted
- Chairing the meeting
- Chairing planning meetings
- Keeping the U3A Committee informed
- Keeping the web manager informed

There are different types of coordinator:

1. Coordinator/Tutor/Expert

This coordinator has some expertise in a subject or skill and is willing to share that with a group. Examples in our U3A are:

German French
Geology Bridge
Drawing and Painting Computers

2. Coordinator supporting a Tutor/Expert

This coordinator looks after the administration of the group and leaves the specialist subject matter to the tutor or expert. Examples of these are:

Both Spanish groups

Pilates

Calligraphy

3. Coordinator with Members' Participation

This coordinator is a facilitator as the members of the group play a very active role in the groups' activities. The coordinator will probably chair a planning meeting where a programme of events is put together. S/he then ensures that one of the group members takes responsibility for each meeting. Examples of these are:

All Walking Groups Local History
Garden Visits Antiques

Wine Tasting Art Appreciation Groups

Outings Book Groups

Do you have an interest or subject you would like to pursue?

Could you be a Coordinator?

We do hope so!

The Committee would help set up a group and provide on-going support

Please contact Lynda Harris on 01565 621058

GENERAL MEETINGS Held at Knutsford Methodist Church Second Thursday of every month starting at 2:15 pm

10th October Elizabeth Williams from the Gaskell Society

14th November Christopher Widger, Countryside Manager National Trust

U3A DIARIES for 2014 will be on sale at the General Meeting in October.

Price £2.50

FOR YOU INFORMATION

MEMBERS OF THE OUTINGS COMMITTEE

 Barbara Arnell
 01565 651132

 Evelyn Brown
 01565 653684

 Margaret Cole
 01565 633569

 Jean Ellis
 01565 651222

 Carole English
 01565 625815

 Lynda Harris
 01565 621058

 Margaret Hinde
 01565 872643

Please contact any member of this committee if you have an idea for an outing.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL – September 2013 to 2014 – REMINDER

To renew your subscription please use the renewal form below and send it, with your cheque for £15 per member and a stamped addressed envelope for your membership card(s) to our Membership Secretary: Veronica Gordon at 38 Carlisle Close, Mobberley, Knutsford WA16 7HD. If you prefer, you can renew in person at the meeting on 10th October.

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Membership Renewal: 2013/2014
Please find enclosed my cheque (payable to Knutsford U3A) for: 1-2 (Select as applicable) members @ $\pounds 15$ each - \pounds together with a SAE for my/our membership card(s)
Name(s)
Address
Postcode Telephone
Email address(es)

NEWS FROM GROUPS

ART APPRECIATION 3

This small but enthusiastic group started in the spring and we would welcome new members. We meet on the fourth Monday in the month at 2 pm and the next three dates are 23rd September 2 pm 28th October and 25th November. Contact **Ros Allday on 01565 632323**

ASSERTIVENESS TRAINING

Muriel Robinson has a small group of members who are interested in this **short course** (not a long term commitment) but would welcome a few more. The dates of the meetings, which will be held in Room 5 of the Methodist Church, have been set for 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th October. Please contact **Muriel on 01565 631410** or at info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk

BEGINNERS BRIDGE

Following the successful Beginners Bridge classes last winter with eight members 'graduating' to Friday Bridge by June, a new group will start in October on alternative Wednesdays between 10 and 12. Anyone interested should contact **George Tyror on 01565 633057**. A few more people are needed to make the group viable.

COMPUTER GROUP

The aim of the group is to help members who have some basic computer skills, explore what a computer can do and in the process become more confident in their use. The subjects covered vary and depend upon the wishes and needs of the group. There are a limited number of spaces currently available. To be eligible you need to be using Windows Vista, Windows 7 or 8. We do not cover Apple-Macs and iPads.

We will be restarting on Tuesday 24th September at 2 pm and then on alternate Tuesdays until Christmas. If you are interested please contact **Robert Watson or Margaret Joscelyne** (01565 633147) as soon as possible.

CROWN GREEN BOWLS 1

Our Tuesday morning meetings have been a great success this year with membership now up to 18. The weather has been particularly kind to us, and to make it even more interesting in August Wilmslow U3A

challenged us to a match. To mark the occasion we played for their "Bowls in the Park" cup, which we won by a narrow margin. They generously supplied delicious refreshments and we had a most enjoyable afternoon.

We organised a return match at The Railway in September, which included refreshments, and we were again successful.

There is no doubt Wilmslow want to get their revenge and recover their cup, so hopefully in May next year we will meet again!!

Betty Montrose



The Cup Winners

FAMILY HISTORY

A meeting of the Family History group was held on 13th September to explore how the group could move forward following Mary's resignation. In a very positive meeting many ideas were put forward. It was decided that the group would 'go into hibernation' for the rest of this year to allow for some enquiries to be made and then be re-launched on Friday 10th January at 2 pm.

In the meantime I would like to compile a new list of members who are interested in this group and who wish to be included on any future communications. If you are interested please contact me, Lynda Harris via email at info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk or by telephone on 01565 621058. I look forward to hearing from you.

LOCAL HISTORY

Thursday 26 September 2013: Talk "Tabley Old Hall" by Sarah Webb. Sarah gave us an excellent tour of Tabley House last year.

Thursday 24 October 2013: Visit to Toft Hall – also Toft Church.

Thursday 28 November 2013: Talk "The Story of Arighi Bianchi" by Nick Bianchi.

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

Thursday 23 January 2014

Talk "The History of Great Budworth" by Charles Foster

Other U3A members are welcome to join us for any of these meetings. Contact: **Jean Ellis** on 01565 651222

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Claire and pupils from Chetham's School of Music are unable to make an October or November date this year for their Knutsford U3A Concert. They and I are very disappointed as we were getting into a routine of expecting them at that time of year. However, Claire has promised to bring pupils to us in the Spring Term and as soon as I have a confirmed date I will let you know.

Sue Hopkin

WALKING GROUP 3 - MEDIUM WALKS

We are the medium length walkers, 4 to 5 miles, always in the morning, generally finishing with a drink and snack at a pub, or a picnic in the summer. We have just put our new programme for October to March on the U3A website. We have kept the walks fairly local and easy for the winter, though we do get more adventurous in the summer months!

We generally have about 5 or 6 people walking and would welcome a few more. We walk on the first Thursday and third Friday of each month, meeting at 9.30 am at the Dog Wood layby on the Mobberley Road. If you would like more information, please contact **Margaret Hinde** on 01565 872643

MONEY ON OFFER

The success of the many outings our U3A has organised has meant that a surplus has accumulated over time. The Outings Committee want to share this with other groups by subsidising related activities you might not normally undertake but which you are keen to do.

The Art Appreciations groups visited Kendal, some of the walkers are doing a navigation course, others linear walks, Geology have expressed interest in a field trip and Local History would like to visit Whitmore Hall in Staffordshire. Most of the money will go on coach travel.

If you have an idea for your group discuss it with your coordinator who can then contact Carole English.

REVIEW OF SPEAKERS

"The examiner is ready for you now"

Member John Coffey and his friend, John Reade, entertained us wonderfully at September's general meeting. The thought of exams might send chills down the spine but this account of sitting music exams and of how they are assessed, was highly entertaining.

A jazzy performance of "Maple Leaf Rag" started us off, and demonstrations of the different components of a music exam were given using keyboard and violin. The organisation of exams was described: what a lot of work there is behind the scenes. We participated in the aural tests and I think we deserved at least a Merit! This was an excellent mix of information and music – thank you, Johns!

Tessa Gurney

REVIEW OF OUTINGS

WORLD OF GLASS

We all had different reasons for going on the trip to The World of Glass at St Helens. Some of us were there to add to our knowledge of industrial history and some of us just wanted an interesting day out with amicable company. My reason for going was to delve into the life experience of my ancestors who were St Helens glass blowers in the mid-19th century.

We stepped back in time to 1887 when we entered the Victorian Cone Building, the world's first continuous

glass making furnace (a lot chillier than 126 years ago!) We then donned our hard hats to explore the underground tunnels beneath the furnace and learned lots of facts about cooling systems and gases and the heat of the bricks, and how tar deposited on the bricks was cleaned at the weekends creating toxic black smoke (causing my great-great grandmother to do her washing midweek)...



We watched a glass blower create a beautiful dish out of molten glass and an excellent film which described the journey of glass from ancient

Egypt to present times. We saw fascinating examples of glass objects which crossed many cultures. Also interesting for me was hearing the recorded memories of the old folk of St Helens and to learn that glass blowers were considered "the aristocracy of the working class" and "a very good catch for their daughters"!



We rounded off our day with a trip to view the landmark sculpture 'Dream' by Jaume Plensa, created as a memorial to Sutton Manor Colliery which was closed in 1991. Standing 20 metres high, in the form of a girl's head with her eyes closed in a dream-like state, it stands out against the sky, a reminder of the former motto of St Helens – ex terra lucem (from the earth comes light).

St Helens has much to be proud of, with its hard-working people and innovative leaders, and I thoroughly enjoyed my 'ancestral' trip. Our thanks go to Lynda Harris for organising this.

Lesley Williams

ACTIVITY GROUPS

Please keep these two pages as they will not be included in every edition

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 2nd Thursday of each month between 10.30 am and 12 in Room 5 at the Methodist Church Co-ordinator: Tessa Gurney Tel: 01477 533076

Art Appreciation 1

Meetings on 4th Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm Methodist Church Co-ordinator: Margaret Joscelyne Tel: 01565 633147

Art Appreciation 2

Meetings on 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm Co-ordinator: Jennifer Harrison Tel: 01565 633578

Art Appreciation 3

Meeting on 4th Monday at 2.00 pm Co-ordinator: Ros Allday Tel: 01565 632323

Assertiveness Training

Short course on 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th October. Room 5 Methodist Church Co-ordinator: Muriel Robinson Tel: 01565 631410

Book Group 1

Meetings on the 4th Monday of each month 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm in members' homes Co-ordinator: Rosemary Binns

Tel: 01565 633670

Book Group 2

Meetings monthly usually on the 1st Thursday from 10.30 am to 12.00 in members' homes

Co-ordinator: Monica Beswick

Tel: 01565 651515

Book Group 3

Meetings monthly on 1st Thursday at 10:00 am

Co-ordinator: Freda Froehlich

Tel: 01565 633045

Book Group 4

Meetings monthly on 2nd Tuesday at 10:00 am Co-ordinator: Pauline Hales

Tel 01565 650214

Book Group 5

Meeting monthly on 3rd Tuesday Co-ordinator: Evelyn Brown Tel: 01565 653684

Bridge

Meetings each Fridays 10.00 am to 12.00 Toft Cricket Club alternating Tuition and Improvers. Co-ordinator: Dave Rowland

Tel: 01565 860290

Bridge - Beginners

Meeting on alternate Wednesday mornings at 10.00 am Co-ordinator: George Tyror Tel:01565 633057

Calligraphy

Date of meetings to be arranged Coordinator: Angela Eccles Tel: 01625 861314

Computer Group

Co-ordinator: Robert Watson Tel: 01565 633147

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 2nd Friday of each month 2.00 pm Royce Court. Note next meeting in January Co-ordinator (temp):Lvnda Harris Tel: 01565 621058

French [Intermediate]

Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. 2.00 pm. in 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, Tel: 01565 633661 and Val Homer, Tel: 01565 652282

Geology Group

Meetings 3rd 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 9:30am to 11:00 am at Methodist Church.

Co-ordinator: David English Tel: 01565 625815

Knitting

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

Local History

Meetings on the 4th Thursday of each month 10.30 am to 12.00 Co-ordinator: Jean Ellis Tel: 01565 651222

Mah Jong

Meetings 2nd and 4th Friday each month at 10:00 am St. Johns Wood Community Centre Co-ordinator: Marjorie Aston, Tel: 0161 929 8044 or Vicky Marchini, Tel: 01925 759087

Music Appreciation

Meetings monthly on 3rd 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 3rd Thursday from 10.00 am to 12:00. Members' homes

Co-ordinator: Judith Shirley Tel: 01565 652448

Outings and Visits

As arranged – see website for details Contact: Carole English Tel: 01565 625815

Philosophy

Meetings monthly on 3rd Wednesday. Room 5 at Methodist Church 10:30 am to 12:00

Contact Shirley Dignam Tel: 01565 652958

Pilates

Meets weekly between 9.30 and 10.30 am at the Civic Centre. Co-Ordinator: Mavis Norden

Tel: 01565 640980

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 3rd 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 4th 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 Jubilee Centre Co-ordinator: Graham Rigg Tel: 01565 650103

Theatre and Concert Visits

Random meetings dependent upon performances. See Website for full programme details.

Co-ordinator: Margaret Hinde Tel: 01565 872643

Theatre and Film Discussion

Monthly meeting on 3rd Wednesday at 3.30 to 5.30 in members' homes. Co-ordinator: Anita Goldman

Tel: 01565 651717

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 layby on Mobberley Road Co-ordinator: Rod Howgate Tel: 01625 582924

Walking Group 3 - Medium Walks

Walks on alternate Thursdays and Fridays. Meet at 9.30 am in the layby on Mobberley Road Co-ordinator: Margaret Hinde Tel: 01565 872643

Walking Group 4 – Three Milers

Walks on alternate Monday and Wednesdays. Meet at 9.55 am in the lay-by on Mobberley Road Co-ordinator: Margaret Empson Tel: 01565651737

Wine Tasting 1

Meeting monthly on 2nd Monday at 7.00 pm at St Vincent's Church Hall. Co-ordinators: Margaret Joscelyne and David Rowland Tel: 01565 633147 and 01565860290

Wine Tasting 2

Meeting monthly on first Tuesday at 7.30 pm at Legh Arms. Co-ordinator: Dianne Knott Tel: 07860 272754

Writing for Pleasure

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

BOOKING FORMS

Please:

- Write the name of the performance or outing on the back of your cheque
- Make your cheque payable to Knutsford U3A
- Send a stamped, addressed envelope if you want your reservation confirmed.

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
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
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