

### CONTENTS

#### Page 2

Theatre and Music

#### Page 3

Moorcroft Pottery

News from the Groups  
Garden Visits Group  
Local History

#### Page 4

Notice of the AGM  
Nomination Papers

General Meetings

### FROM THE CHAIR – Lynda Harris

This is the last piece I will write for Kanuta as Chair of our U3A as my term of office comes to an end in May. After three years in the post, the AGM will be the point at which I will step aside and let someone else lead and develop our branch of this exceptional organisation. I am also leaving the Committee after having been a member for six years

When I took over as chair in 2013 my priority was to maintain the high standards set by those before me and ensure that you had the best possible experience of our U3A. I hope I have achieved that. Our membership has certainly increased and the number of activity groups has grown from 43 to 55 and I am sure that this trend will continue. My highlight was last year's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the production of the book and the celebration tea but I have also enjoyed so much more.

I cannot quite believe how quickly these three years have gone. Yes, they have been very busy but it has been a great experience. I do have to say, though, that I am looking forward to retiring again. I will be continuing as an active member of some groups but I will be re-engaging with things that have 'been on hold' for the past three years and spend more time with my very supportive and understanding husband, John, whose engagement with our U3A mirrors mine!

Finally, I must thank all the members of the Committee who have served with me because their hard work and support has been immense; the Coordinators who are at the heart of our organisation; and all of you. Thank you for being members and making us successful and for all your kind and supportive comments.

I wish all of you, our U3A, and whoever succeeds me, all the very best for the future.

### DAVID DENNE

It is with great sadness that I have to let you know that David died on Wednesday night during a short stay in hospital. David joined the Committee as a co-opted member in July 2011 and became Deputy Treasurer in August 2012. In that role he administered the finances of our Activity Groups with efficiency and accuracy and his contribution in that and as a general member of the Committee will be greatly missed. Our thoughts are with his wife, Eileen, and their two sons.

### CHANGE TO TEAS

A big 'Thank You' to Ann Taylor who has been coordinating the provision of teas at the monthly General Meetings for the past three years after a couple of 'dry' months. All of us who enjoy this refreshment are very grateful to her. Personal circumstances have meant that Ann can no longer continue with this commitment. We are fortunate to have two new volunteers to take over in July – Jessie Bunyan and Margaret Oliver.

# THEATRE AND MUSIC TRIPS

SPRING/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](mailto:info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk).

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## 'TALENT'

A comedy written by Victoria Wood

**Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30 pm**  
**New Vic Theatre, Newcastle under Lyme**

**Cost £26.00, including transport**  
**Coach leaves bus station at 6 pm**

This is the 1978 play which was Victoria Wood's first big success, winning her first BAFTA nomination and the Evening Standard Award for Most Promising Playwright. Some of the original songs will be included, so it should prove an enjoyable evening. Tickets will be available at the April General Meeting but **please book by 21<sup>st</sup> April**.

## 'SINGING IN THE RAIN'

A new production of an old favourite

**Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30 pm**  
**Octagon Theatre, Bolton**

**Cost £35.00, including transport**  
**Coach leaves bus station at 5.45 pm**

A new Octagon Theatre production of the well-known 1952 musical, made famous by Debbie Reynolds and Gene Kelly. The Octagon promise us the familiar songs, live music, dancing and, of course, the rain! - which we remember from the original. If it reaches the high standards of the productions that we have seen at the Octagon, it will be wonderful! Tickets will be on sale at the April General Meeting and again at the May General Meeting (if there are tickets still available). **Last booking date 21<sup>st</sup> May**.

Tickets for these two productions will be available at the April General Meeting, or they can be reserved by sending a cheque, made payable to Knutsford U3A, with a booking form to Mrs M Hinde, 1 Warford Hall Drive, Great Warford, Alderley Edge, SK9 7TR. Telephone 01565 872643.

**NB** Please write the performance you have booked on the back of your cheque.  
If you choose to send a stamped, addressed envelope, we will confirm your reservation, otherwise you will only hear from us if your booking was NOT successful.

## 'CYRANO DE BERGERAC'

**Saturday matinee, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2.30 pm**  
**Theatre Clwyd, Mold**  
**am**

**Cost £30.00, including transport**  
**Coach leaves bus station at 11.15**

Margaret Hinde has to finalise numbers on **11<sup>th</sup> April**. If you are interested in this, please telephone Margaret to check if any tickets are still available on 01565 872643.

## **MOORCROFT POTTERY FACTORY and TRENTHAM GARDENS**

**Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 8.45 am**

### **A Busy Day with Two Contrasting Visits!**

After an early coffee stop 'en route', we will have a guided tour around the original Moorcroft Pottery Factory, seeing all aspects of the hand processes used 100 years ago to produce the pottery – which are virtually the same as those used today. Hopefully there will be time for a short visit to the Museum and visitor centre shop, with some 'seconds' available.

The coach will then take us to Trentham Gardens. Here there is a good choice of restaurants and you are free to **buy your own lunch**, or you could bring a picnic and eat it in the gardens.

Trentham Gardens provides an excellent opportunity for some retail therapy! There is a large garden centre and an attractive shopping area with over 60 small and varied retail outlets, all of which you visit without a charge. Or, you might wish to visit the large and attractive gardens, which have been expensively refurbished in the last few years. You will need to pay an entrance charge of **£8.75** for the gardens (we have **NOT** included this charge in your initial booking price).

The coach will leave Knutsford Bus Station at **8.45 am** and will return by 4.30 pm.

The cost per person, to include coach travel, coffee and the visit to Moorcroft Pottery is **£18.00** (see above for other costs, payable on the day).

To book please send a completed booking form, together with your cheque made payable to Knutsford U3A, to Mrs Margaret Hinde, 1 Warford Hall Drive, Great Warford, Alderley Edge, SK9 7TR. Telephone 01565 872643. Bookings will also be taken at the April General Meeting.

## **NEWS FROM THE GROUPS**

### **GARDEN VISITS GROUP 2016**

The first visits of the season will be on:

Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> to Parm Place, Great Budworth

Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> Dunham Massey, staying for lunch

For details of the other visits planned for April and May please see the website.

If you wish to be added to the mailing list please email Jean Heap [info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk](mailto:info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk) or telephone 01565 633661.

### **LOCAL HISTORY**

Thursday 28 April 2016 - "Knutsford Prison and Workhouse" by Elizabeth Morris

Thursday 26 May 2016 - "The Household Accounts of Arley Hall". Talk by Charles Foster

Thursday 30 June 2016 (note later date) - Guided Tour of Arley Hall

Contact: Jean Ellis 01565 651222

### **WALKING GROUP 6**

Our Walking Group would welcome new members. We walk approximately 3 miles and meet alternate Thursdays.

Contact: Gill Warboys 01565 651858

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE  
10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF KNUTSFORD AND DISTRICT U3A  
WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016  
AT KNUTSFORD METHODIST CHURCH AT 2.15 PM**

The AGM is an important meeting when reports are presented by the Chair and the Treasurer and when we elect the Committee for the year 2016/2017.

The following members of the present committee are not due for re-election and are willing to continue to serve: John Funnell, Veronica Gordon and Patricia Pepper.

Lynda Harris, Mavis Norden and Ann Taylor are resigning from the Committee.

Further nominations can be made on the form below

**The AGM will be followed by the Sandbach U3A Band**

**NOMINATION FORM  
For the  
ELECTION OF KNUTSFORD U3A COMMITTEE 2015/16**

Nominations are invited for election to the Committee of Knutsford and District U3A

I propose ..... who has agreed to stand for membership of the Committee

Name and Address of Proposer
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Name and Address of Seconder
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Nominations are to be emailed to [info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk](mailto:info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk) or posted to: Patricia Pepper, 4 Marion Drive, Mobberley, WA16 7GE by 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

**GENERAL MEETINGS  
Knutsford Methodist Church  
Second Thursday of every month starting 2.15 pm**

14 April	Neil Smith – Musician and story teller – Have Guitar will Travel
12 <sup>th</sup> May (AGM)	Ken Brown – Sandbach U3A Band
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Rob Carroll – Folk Singer and Comedian

# BOOKING FORMS

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.

**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 .....

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Phone number..... E-mail .....

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Phone number..... E-mail .....