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## FROM THE CHAIR – Lynda Harris

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May turned out to be a really good day for the start of our tenth year. Following the AGM we had an excellent and informative talk by Ernie Rea. He certainly made the events in Nigeria, Somalia and Kenya easier to understand. We then had our Anniversary Tea (also see Page 4) in the wonderful space that is St Johns Church and, from the comments received from members on that and the Anniversary Book, both were successful.

At the AGM we said goodbye to four members of the Committee and a tribute to them is on page 3. Four new Committee members were elected: Pauline Constantine, Ruth Funnell, Mavis Norden and Patricia Pepper.

It was also necessary for me to make an apology. In the book we left off Georgina Blackburn as a past Committee member and how we came to do that I will never know because Georgina was a very active, enthusiastic and committed member of the Committee for a number of years. So despite all the checking, re-checking and proof reading we did, mistakes still slipped through so, as well as being a very specific and fulsome apology to Georgina, this is a general apology for any other mistakes that might come to light.

During the past few months two Coordinators, Fred Owen (Geology) and Mavis Norden (Pilates), have passed on their responsibilities to others. We thank them for all the work they have done over the last few years for two very popular groups.

Finally, my grateful thanks to Tricia Pepper who has undertaken to produce Kanuta this month.

## 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, 31<sup>st</sup> March, the Coordinators (or Treasurers) of all the groups which have financial transactions were required to submit an Income and Expenditure Statement to David Denne who is responsible for administering these funds. The Coordinator (or Treasurer) can then share this information with the members of the group.

## BLACKPOOL

Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup> 2015

Time to get out your "Kiss-Me-Quick" hats as we are off on an evening visit to Blackpool Illuminations, starting in posh Lytham St Anne's with a Fish and Chip supper. Full details and booking in September.

# THEATRE AND MUSIC TRIPS

SUMMER 2015



## BOOKING

**PLEASE** use a **separate booking form** (page 6) 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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## 'H.M.S. PINAFORE' Gilbert and Sullivan

And A Day Out in BUXTON, Derbyshire

**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2.30 pm**  
**The Opera House, Buxton**

**Cost, including transport, £37**  
**Coach leaves bus station at 9.15 am**

There are still some tickets left for a matinee performance of 'H.M.S. Pinafore', by the fully professional National Gilbert & Sullivan Company, in the lovely Georgian Opera House in Buxton starting at 2.30 pm.

I have booked a Guide to lead a gentle walk around the town to explain the Georgian history of Buxton, at 11.00 am, lasting 45 minutes to an hour, with plenty of stops. Cost £6 a head, which is optional and additional to the £37 for the opera.

I only have 2 places left on the 'Little Tram' at 12 o'clock, which is also an additional £6.

Coffee and lunch are available on a 'Buy Your Own' basis, either at the Pavilion Gardens, next door to the Opera House, or at many venues in the town. Or bring a picnic to eat in the attractive gardens and buy an absolutely delicious ice cream!

We would expect to be back in Knutsford by 6 pm.

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### **BOOKING FORM FOR BUXTON**

I/We would like ..... seats for H.M.S. Pinafore @ £37 a head, including transport Total £ .....

I/We would like ..... places on guided walk @ £6 a head Total £ .....

I/We would like ..... places on the tram ride @ £6 a head (only 2 @ 12 o'clock available) Total £ .....

Name ..... Telephone .....

Address .....

..... Post code .....

Email .....

Please return the form, with cheque made out to U3A Knutsford, to Margaret Hinde, 1 Warford Hall Drive, Great Warford, Alderley Edge, SK9 7TR. Tel. 01565 872643

## **THE CRUCIBLE**

By Arthur Miller

**Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Royal Exchange, Manchester**

**Cost, including transport, £35**  
**Coach leaves bus station: 5.30 pm**

Arthur Miller's powerful classic, first produced in 1953, examines the witch hunt that took place in 17<sup>th</sup> century Salem, Massachusetts (reminiscent of the Pendle Witches' trial that we heard about during our visit to Lancaster Castle in May). The play also reflects the fear of communism in 1950's America. It should prove a gripping and dramatic evening.

Please note the early start – Sorry, but the **performance starts at 7 pm.**

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

Octagon Theatre, Bolton

'An Enemy of the People', by H. Ibsen

**Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

The Lowry, Salford

'The Sound of Music' (Saturday matinee)

### **THANK YOU**

This year we are losing four members Committee members:

Tessa Gurney joined the Committee in 2012 and has been a very supportive member during that time. We particularly appreciate her exemplary minutes as a record of our meetings.

Pauline Hales joined in January 2013 and became Speakers' Coordinator soon after. She has provided us with a wide range of speakers and, by researching them carefully including hearing them speak, has tried to ensure a quality which has been appreciated by everyone. She has experienced frustration when an organisation has changed the speaker at the last minute thus negating some of her research.

Rod Howgate joined in September 2009 and has been a tower of strength throughout. He has been Vice Chairman since June 2010 and was in the forefront of organising our Showcase in 2012 and the Anniversary Tea. He was a great support to Carole and has been an invaluable support to me. The Committee will miss him.

Margaret Hinde has been on the Committee for eight years, since March 2007 and was Membership Secretary until the summer of 2012 and a founder member of the Outings Committee. As part of that she managed the enormous increase in the popularity of the Theatre and Concert visits and her efforts are valued by the many who go, some of whom join our U3A just for that purpose.

Each was presented with a token of our thanks and gratitude.

Lynda Harris

### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

**Knutsford Methodist Church**

**Second Thursday of every month starting at 2:15 pm**

11<sup>th</sup> June

Alistair and Janet King – Shire Horses of Cotebrook

9<sup>th</sup> July

Simon Cork – Life and Times of Andrew Carnegie

10<sup>th</sup> September

Dave Thomas – Anderton Boat Lift

## A DELICIOUS TEA IN AN EXCITING NEW VENUE

The newly-refurbished, light, bright interior of St. John's Church provided the attractive setting for our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tea. Long tables, covered with white tablecloths, set with pretty china and decorated with charming arrangements of yellow roses and swaying yellow and blue balloons, made a colourful and welcoming sight, which drew much appreciative comment from the arriving guests.

Following Ernie Rea's informative and thought-provoking talk entitled Understanding the Role of Islamic Extremism in Africa, over 130 members and guests made their way to St John's. We were pleased to welcome the Mayor, Cllr Neil Forbes, and his Mayoress, Jenny Carley from U3A NW Region, and, of course, our female triumvirate: Muriel Robinson; Monica Beswick and Margaret Weltman, who kick-started the whole thing ten years ago.



Anniversary Cake

The holders of other drawn tickets were given the pretty table flower arrangements which Lorraine Dorsett had kindly produced.

We do have to thank Lynda for this memorable occasion. After the idea was conceived she did most of the planning and organising and ALL of the worrying! I do hope Lynda that you managed to enjoy it all as much as we did.

How about an annual event after every AGM?

Margaret Hinde



From left to right – Margaret Weltman, Monica Beswick, Muriel Robinson

Muriel welcomed us all in her usual charming and articulate manner, and reminded us of our early beginnings. We heard brief words of congratulation and encouragement from the Mayor and Jenny Carley and finally we could have our, by now very welcome, tea. Plates of sandwiches, scones and cakes kept arriving – I doubt if many of us needed much supper that evening! To add to the party atmosphere we were entertained throughout the afternoon by the well-chosen, live music of Les Berry and his quartet.

Our anniversary cake was not quite big enough to feed us all! So a draw was made, using our ticket numbers, with Barbara Austin being the lucky winner.



Lynda Harris and the Mayor, Cllr Neil Forbes

## NEWS FROM GROUPS

### ART APPRECIATION GROUP 2

We meet at 7.30 on the third Thursday of the month and new members are welcome. We are currently viewing Waldemar Januszczak's DVD of "The Impressionists" and then we will study individual artists.

Jennifer Harrison

### GEOLOGY

David Skinner is keeping this group active by organising meetings for a revised group to plan new activities for the autumn and winter. Please contact him on 01565 632483 if you wish to join the group.

### LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015** - Visit to Sudbury Hall, Derbyshire (by coach).

**July/August – NO MEETINGS**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015** – to be advised

Jean Ellis

### MUSIC APPRECIATION

Pupils from Chetham's will be performing an afternoon concert on **Thursday, 17th September 2015**.

Tickets, which cost **£5**, will be on sale at General Meetings: 11th June, 9<sup>th</sup> July and 10<sup>th</sup> September.

Susan Hopkin

### TAI CHI

Our two Tai Chi groups have moved to a new venue – the **Knutsford Sports Club** on Mereheath Lane. We meet weekly on Thursday afternoons: Group 1 from 3pm to 4pm; and Group 2 from 4pm to 5pm.

New members are welcome. If you are interested in some gentle exercise that can help to reduce stress, and improve balance and mobility, please contact the appropriate Co-ordinator: Yvonne Baker (01565 651204) for Group 1; or Evelyn Flett (01565 653048) for Group 2.

### WALKING GROUP 4



Some of the members of Walking Group 4 – The Three Milers – enjoying a recent walk around Lower Peover on a beautiful spring day.

Margaret Empson

## POSSIBLE NEW GROUP

### FILM

Evelyn Brown is keen to give members the opportunity to go to the cinema with others to see a mutually agreed film and discuss it afterwards in the Curzon café. If you are interested would you contact Evelyn on 01565 653684. A meeting will then be arranged to discuss the finer points of how this group will be organised.

# 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 £ .....

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