

KANUTA

The Newsletter of the Knutsford and District



March 2017

General Enquiries and Webmaster: info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Newsletter contributions: newsletter.knutsfordu3a@gmail.com

CONTENTS

Page 2

AGM

Page 3

General Meetings
Outings Committee
U3A 2018 diaries

Page 4

Theatre & music trips

Page 5

Visit to Port Sunlight

Page 6

Summer School Information

Page 7/8

News from the Groups

Art Appreciation Group 2
Bridge Group
Wine Group 2
Scrabble Group
Local History
Ideas for New Groups

Page 8

Booking form for Theatre
and Music

FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the Spring edition of Kanuta, now edited by Sue Allan. I would like to thank Sue for taking this role on, and give grateful thanks to Tricia Pepper who has done a great job as Newsletter Editor till now.

All organisations, including Knutsford U3A, need a blend of people to get involved in making things happen. Some have great experience of U3A membership and have carried out various roles making our organisation successful, and some bring fresh perspectives and different experiences to the mix. Nothing happens without members being willing to offer to get involved, or respond when asked to consider helping out. All U3As are based on the principles of self-help and learning, including learning about new roles and ways of helping out! Of course, many of us are limited at times by what life throws our way, and don't have the time or opportunity to do more.

We are so lucky to have members who put in the time to lead our 57 Activity Groups, or to be members of our main Committee, the Outings and the Speakers Committee, or be our technical wizards and refreshment co-ordinators, as well as other members carrying out key roles. Thank you so much to all of you.

The Outings Committee is keen to recruit some more members to help with the superb range of outings that they organise. You will find an item in this newsletter about this.

You will also see that the AGM will be coming up in May. We are looking for 3 or 4 new members to join the main Committee. New people would not be expected to take on specific roles. We meet on the fourth Thursday afternoon of most months. If you might be interested in finding out more, you are very welcome to phone me for a chat on 01565 633435, and come to one of our meetings as an observer, before the AGM so you can see what we do. It's a great way to learn about our organisation and be part of a team helping to keep it running effectively.

Christine Jones, Chair

**Notice is given that the
11th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of Knutsford and District U3A will be held on
Thursday 11th May 2017 at Knutsford Methodist Church at 2.15pm.**

All members are invited to attend the AGM which is an important meeting. On this occasion it will be followed by Eric Newton who will talk about his 'Life and Times of a Busker' with clarinet accompaniment.

At this AGM the Committee will put forward proposals for two changes to the current constitution as follows:

1. Clause 3 Object

This Clause currently reads:

- i) To advance the education of the public and in particular the education of older people no longer in full time gainful employment in Knutsford and its surrounding locality.

The proposed change is as follows:

Clause 3 Charitable Purposes

- i) To advance education and in particular the education of people not in full time gainful employment who are in their Third Age (being the period of time after the first age of childhood dependence and the second age of full time employment and/or parental responsibility) residing in Knutsford and its surrounding locality.

In this constitution 'people in their Third Age' has the meaning set out above.

This change will bring us into line with the current wording recommended by the Third Age Trust, our National Body.

2. **The second proposal** is to change the quorum required at our formal meetings including our AGM. We are proposing that we change this from 20% of the membership to 15% of the membership of Knutsford U3A. The reason for this change is, now that our numbers are increasing, to make it easier to ensure that the AGM is quorate and that this rule is satisfied.

The AGM will also include elections for the Committee and reports from the Chair and from the Treasurer.

Committee

The following Committee members are willing to continue to serve and are not due to stand again this year: Christine Jones, Barbara Arnell, Barbara Brady, Colette Ashworth, Sue Allan and Margaret Wilford.

John Funnell and Veronica Gordon are willing to stand again but, having served a 3 year term, are standing again for re-election.

Tricia Pepper is resigning from the Committee having served her 3 year term.

In order to bring our Committee to full strength we are seeking nominations for members to join the Committee. Our Chair, Christine Jones, is happy to discuss the possibility of standing for the Committee with any member who is interested. Please contact her on 01565 633435.

Please send nominations to Sue Allan, Secretary, by 26th April 2017 at the latest.

Email: secretary.knutsfordu3a@gmail.com Post: 8 Bracken Way, Knutsford, WA16 9BU

MEMBERS' MEETINGS

Knutsford Methodist Church
Second Thursday of every month starting 2.15pm

March 9th

Speaker: Dr Bernard Loveday

'Progress in the Treatment of Cardiac Disease'

Dr Loveday is a physiologist and studied at Kings College, London. He furthered his research interests at the Radcliffe Infirmary in Oxford. His main research interest has been in the field of cardiovascular disease in all its manifestations. After several years he was invited to join ICI to help lead the research programme in open heart surgery, going on to join the teams in Liverpool and Manchester. Dr Loveday has told us that there will be 'no gory pictures' as his talk is based on the general aspects of the exciting developments in the last 70 years with the inclusion of the wonderful contribution made by fine engineering.

April 13th

Speaker: Adam Keppel-Garner

'The Past, Present and Future of Town Clerks, Town Councils and Knutsford Council's role in shaping Knutsford'

Adam Keppel-Garner is Knutsford's Town Clerk and he will be speaking on the background of his role and on local issues.

May 11th

AGM

Speaker: Eric Newton

'Life and Times of a Busker' with clarinet accompaniment

Following our AGM this is something quite different from the topics covered by our speakers over the last few months. Sit back and enjoy being entertained with music and anecdotes of an interesting life.

OUTINGS COMMITTEE

We know how many of you enjoy the outings and we enjoy organising them

BUT

It would be good if we could have one or two more people on the Outings Committee.
If you think you could contribute please get in touch with **Tim Donnelley on 01565 633569.**

2018 U3A Diaries

Just a note to inform everyone that a block order for 2018 U3A diaries will not be placed this year. Anyone wishing to obtain one can order from the Third Age Trust website www.u3a.org.uk.

THEATRE AND MUSIC TRIPS

SPRING/SUMMER 2017



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.

.....

A day at the Theatre!

'ANNA OF THE FIVE TOWNS'

Thursday 15th June
New Vic Theatre, Stoke

Cost £32.00, including tour, lunch and transport
Coach will leave bus station at 10.15 am

I have booked a late morning, 12 noon, tour 'behind the scenes' at the New Vic Theatre in Newcastle under Lyme. This will last an hour and we will follow it with a light sandwich lunch and then the matinee performance of the play. Hopefully a nice day out! Please note this does not include morning coffee but there should be plenty of time for you to buy your own in the theatre café before the tour.

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Arnold Bennett, one of Stoke on Trent's great literary figures, the New Vic have adapted one of his most popular novels. Set in the Potteries, 'Anna of the Five Towns' tells the story of a spirited young woman who, though courted by a desirable bachelor, prefers to struggle to gain her independence, against the wishes of a tyrannical father. It's a strong, gripping story!

I am restricted by the theatre to 40 tickets so, as I suspect this might be popular, I suggest you try to book in good time! Tickets available by post, as above (use booking form at the end of this Newsletter), or on sale at the March General Meeting.

Date for your Diary:

Friday 30th June at 7.30 pm – 'Around the World in Eighty Days'

A return visit to this wonderful production because we all loved it so much last time! Booking information to follow.

VISIT TO PORT SUNLIGHT
Thursday 27th April 2017

Six years ago we visited Port Sunlight and thought it was time to return.

We will leave Knutsford Bus Station at 9.15 and on arrival in Port Sunlight we will have tea or coffee. A guide will then join our coach for a one hour tour of this interesting village which was built by William Lever for the workers in his soap factory.

At the end of the tour you are free to explore the various aspects of the village highlighted by the guide, including the Lady Lever Gallery. There are a number of options available for lunch: Tearoom in the Museum which serves light lunches, Restaurant in the Garden Centre, Bridge Inn Pub and the Restaurant in the Lady Lever Art Gallery. We will be leaving at 3.00 to return to Knutsford.

The cost is £13 and this includes the coach travel, the guided tour and refreshments on arrival.

To book please send the completed booking form and a cheque made payable to Knutsford U3A for £13 per person to:

Lynda Harris, 10 Lindop Close, Knutsford, WA16 8AY.

I will also be taking bookings at the Members' Meeting on Thursday, 9th February and, if you know of any U3A member who does not have email, would you please let them know of these details

Booking Form

I/We would like places(s) for the Port Sunlight visit and enclose a cheque for £.....

Date and Time: Thursday 27th April at the Knutsford Bus Station at 9.15 a.m.

Name and Address with postcode

Phone number

e-mail

Phone number in case of emergency

Please send this completed form and cheque made payable to Knutsford U3A to Lynda Harris, 10 Lindop Close, Knutsford, WA16 8AY

North West Region of U3As



Registered Charity No: 1159091

invite applications for their Residential Summer School 29th August – 1st September 2017 At Newton Rigg College, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 0AH

An opportunity to learn in the inspiring setting of the Lake District



Newton Rigg College is located close to J40 of the M6 and less than five minutes' drive from Penrith Railway Station. The campus, which is just ten minutes from Ullswater, has modern facilities, student en-suite rooms with Wi-Fi access. Food is locally sourced and prepared on the premises. A large room is available for meeting and socialising. There will be entertainment on the second evening and a "Gala Dinner" on the third and final evening.

The ten courses on offer include those which have proved popular in previous years and a number of new courses. Course titles are: **About Beauty, Architecture: The ABC of Cities, Digital Digging for Armchair Archaeologists, Geology of Lakeland Landscapes, Painting with Stitches, Medicine in the 21st Century, Recorder Playing, Russian and Soviet Culture, Science is for Everyone, Ukulele for Beginners**



Full Board Residential Delegate; £275 We include a welcome reception, full board for three nights (including dinner on the 1st September), breakfast, morning coffee and lunch on 2nd September.

Non-Residential Day Delegate: £155 includes lunches, teas and coffees, (excludes breakfast (£8.00) a 2 course dinner (£16.00) and Thursdays' Gala Dinner £24.00. **If any of these meals are required they must be booked in advance and would be subject to an additional charge. Alternatively, Accommodation is available at the Travelodge /local B&B's or Hotels.** Full details of the costs for the school are set out in the Booking Notes.

An Application form, obtained from our Website, must be completed and sent with a deposit cheque for £50. **Any member booking and paying their deposit of £50 no later than 31st May 2017 will attract a discount on the above figures of £35 (Full Board Residential Delegate) and £35 (Non-Residential Day Delegate)**

*Any queries should be directed to Neil Stevenson on 01744 895723 or
ndstevenson@hotmail.com*

Please note: details of Summer Schools in other areas of the country are available on the Third Age Trust website: www.u3a.org.uk.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Art Appreciation Group 2

This meeting is now held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm.

Co-ordinator: Jennifer Harrison 01565 633578

Bridge Group

Members of the Bridge Group were saddened by the passing away of George Tyror in November. George was the leader of our Tuition Group for over 8 years. He will be remembered for his charismatic teaching style and the ease with which he explained difficult aspects of Bridge. George also ran the Beginners' Bridge Group which introduced many U3A members to the game. A good number of these have progressed further in the main Bridge Group. Unfortunately there is no obvious candidate to take over a beginners group, though there are other possibilities locally for new starters to learn.

A further change is the stepping down, for health reasons, of our co-ordinator Dave Rowland. Dave joined the Bridge group just after it was formed by Wendy Hurst in the very early days of our U3A.. Dave went on to help Wendy with finance and logistics and took over as co-ordinator in 2012. We are very fortunate that Jenny Saint has agreed to be co-ordinator. Jenny has led our Improvers Group since 2012 and she will now lead both our Tuition and Improvers groups. Trevor Bithell has kindly agreed to take over as Treasurer at the end of our financial year in March

Wine Group 2

A second Wine Tasting Group was formed in 2013. The Group perhaps will not suit true wine buffs but should provide for those of us who enjoy wine and are keen to broaden our knowledge of the world of wine in an informal atmosphere. The Group meet at 7.30pm at St Cross Church Hall, Mobberley Road on the first Wednesday of the month. Please get in touch if you would like more information.

Contact: Denise and Maurice Vallois on 01565 650286.

Email: info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk

Scrabble Group

The Scrabble Group meets each Friday afternoon in the Library at 2.00 p.m. Sadly, one member has died and others are unable to attend regularly, leaving us with a reduced membership. We would welcome some more Scrabblers and I would be glad to talk to anyone thinking of joining us. The Library is a lovely venue. We pay £1 and are provided with tea/coffee and biscuits by the library staff. We really enjoy ourselves and usually have two games in the afternoon.

Contact: Avril Slade 01565 633997

Local History

Thursday 23rd March

Members' meeting – 'Do you know your Knutsford?' – Fran and Sheila

Thursday 20th April (please note date – one week earlier than usual)

Talk: 'An introduction to Capesthorpe Hall' by a member of Capesthorpe Hall staff

Monday 22nd May

Visit and tour of Capesthorpe Hall (details later)

Thursday 22nd June

Talk – 'Cheshire Rivers' by David Cogger

Contact: Jean Ellis 01565 651222

Ideas for New Groups

Is anyone interested in starting/joining a group for Gardening or Italian for Beginners? Interest has been expressed in both these subjects so if anyone is interested in setting a group up or joining one please contact Margaret Wilford, Groups Supporter, on 01565 654689.

BOOKING FORMS FOR THEATRE & MUSIC

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 confirmed
- If you are not making a booking at a General Meeting, 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.

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