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FROM THE CHAIR

Is it Spring, Winter or Summer? In the last week we've had the lot, so here's hoping it settles soon into a decent late Spring at least!

You will have had advance notice of the AGM on May 10th at 2.15 and we look forward to meeting members then, with an entertaining talk by Ron Hutchinson on "Life through the rear view mirror, chauffeuring the aristocracy" to follow!

We have a new initiative to help new members feel more welcome when they first join. You may remember when you first joined U3A, perhaps feeling a bit daunted coming into the church for the first Members Meeting or going into an Activity Group for the first time. Even getting on the coach to go on a trip can be a bit scary when everyone else seems to have people they know to sit with and you don't yet. The ideas for our new initiative came from our recent session for Co-ordinators and members of the various committees and teams that make our U3A work well. We have created a Welcome Team, comprised of 6 members from the Committee and Co-ordinators of groups. They will do 3 things to see what might work. New members will be given the names and phone numbers of the Welcome Team on joining, so they can have a chat with someone when they want to. At each Members Meeting two of the team will be near the door to welcome people and, if someone would like it, can help them find a seat. There is no obvious way to identify who is a new member so don't be too surprised if you get an extra friendly welcome after 10 years of membership! Thirdly, they will have a special table for new members in the tea room so that they can meet other new members if they choose to. We would like your help please in making new people feel welcome and part of our U3A, so they don't feel nervous for long. Just a smile and introducing yourself when someone you don't know comes to sit near you will be a great help, whether at the Members Meeting, in your group, or on an outing. I'm sure most of you do so but extra smiles and a friendly word would be lovely! Thank you!

Christine Jones, Chair

MEMBERS' MEETINGS

Knutsford Methodist Church
Second Thursday of every month starting 2.15pm

May 10th

AGM

Ron Hutchinson will speak on 'Life through the rear-view mirror – chauffeuring the aristocracy'

June 14th

Anne Beswick will speak on The History of the Garden

Formerly a Biology teacher, Anne is now an award winning garden designer. She writes on gardening matters for a number of publications including the RHS Garden magazine, the Times and Amateur Gardener. She has also been speaker on Woman's Hour and is now a green badge tour guide.

12th July

Nigel Linge, Professor of Telecommunications at the University of Salford, will give an illustrated talk on 'How Manchester Cotton wired up the World. He will talk about how engineers and businessmen in the 1850s overcame huge problems in laying the first copper telegraph cable under the Atlantic, which then spawned a revolution in global communications.

Tea Rota for helping to serve tea at Members' Meetings



This has been in operation for over a year now. Margaret Oliver and Jessie Bunyan kindly oversee the provision of refreshments at each monthly Members' Meetings but need help to continue running this service. If your activity group has not already provided two helpers to help them serve tea at Members' Meetings don't worry, your turn will come! Stuart Allan and Evelyn Brown have taken over the running of the helpers' tea rota and will be in touch with group co-ordinators on a (roughly!) alphabetical basis to ask them to find two volunteers from their group to help serve tea at specific Members' Meetings. It is not an onerous task and you will be provided with instructions as to what to do. If each group provides two volunteers when requested your turn will only come around every 5 years!

Please be prepared to help out when requested so that provision of tea/coffee can continue each month – we can't leave Jessie and Margaret to do it all!

THEATRE AND MUSIC TRIPS

Spring/Summer 2018



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.

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'QUEENS OF THE COAL AGE'

Written by Maxine Peake

Tuesday, July 10th, 7.30 pm
Royal Exchange, Manchester

Cost, including transport, £36.00
Coach departs 6 pm

'A powerful play, full of Northern wit'

A new play, written specially for the Royal Exchange theatre, **'Queens of the Coal Age'** is the true story of four ordinary women, in 1993, facing the closure of the Parkside Colliery pit. They take a tour of the pit and refuse to come up! I am sure the talents of Maxine Peake will make this a dramatic and entertaining evening.

Tickets for 'Queens of the Coal Age' have to be ordered by May 8th.

LA FILLE MAL GARDEE'

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET RETURNS TO THE LOWRY!

Thursday, October 25th, 7.30 pm
The Lowry Theatre, Salford

Cost, including transport, £46.00
Coach departs 6 pm

Spectacular classical ballet combines slick comedy, a clog-dancing dame, a super cute pony with a serious story of young love at its heart. Frederick Ashton's pastoral frolic is billed as 'the sunniest, funniest English masterpiece', and is nothing but a delight.

I realise this is a long way ahead, but in order to retain the excellent seats which I have booked, I have to pay for them by the end of June, so please order as soon as you can. They will be on sale at the monthly meetings in May and June.

Booking forms for both events are at the end of this Newsletter.

OUTINGS

CHINESE TERRACOTTA WARRIORS COME TO LIVERPOOL!

and

A TOUR OF St GEORGE'S HALL

Monday, 2nd July

Coach departs bus station 9 am prompt

Finally (and not without difficulty!) we have obtained a group booking for the popular Terracotta Warriors Exhibition in Liverpool. For the first time in over 30 years, figures from China's famous Terracotta Army are on display outside London. The exhibition reveals almost 1,000 years of Chinese history and features more than 180 special artefacts including, of course, ten of the famous life-size warriors. We will visit the exhibition in the afternoon.

In the morning we have arranged a guided tour inside St Georges Hall. The Hall, a magnificent entertainment venue, is described as the finest neo-classical Grade 1 listed building in Europe. Following the tour we will have a 'soup and sandwich' lunch, in the café of St George's Hall.

The cost of the whole day will be £33 (members only at this stage) and this includes entry to the Terracotta Warriors Exhibition, the guided tour of St George's Hall, your lunch and 'door to door' coach travel.

To book please send your application form and cheque for £33 per person, made out to Knutsford U3A, to Fran Cogger, 71 Parkgate, Knutsford, WA16 8HF; 01565 228503. Bookings will also be taken at the Members' meeting in May. We only have a limited number of tickets, so suggest that you book as soon as you can.

If you make a booking for this outing please keep these details for future reference.

Booking form for this outing is at the end of this Newsletter.

New 'Welcome Team'

You will have read in the Christine Jones' introduction about the ideas for making new members feel welcome to our U3A in general and, in particular, at the Members' Meetings. The members of this new team are:

Evelyn Brown (Co-ordinator)	01565 653684
Stuart Allan	01565 632904
Pam Bolland	01925 753391
Evelyn Flett	01565 653048
Irene Hardy	01565 633348
Pat Lee	01565 653309

If you are new to Knutsford U3A and would like a chat regarding the activities and meetings please feel free to call one of the above.



Are you aged 65 or older?

WE NEED
YOUR HELP



A student at the University of Chester, Helen Leyland, has contacted Knutsford U3A with a request for help to complete some research as part of her PhD at the University of Chester in collaboration with Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust. She grew up in Knutsford and is very grateful to the Chair for allowing her the opportunity to publicise her research in her home town.

The research is looking at the experiences of those who have accessed support from a professional such as a Counsellor, Psychologist, Psychological Therapist or Bereavement Services. In particular it is looking at the experiences, thoughts and feelings about health and well-being and alcohol usage in adults aged 65 and over who have utilised these services. It doesn't matter how much or how little alcohol is consumed, she is interested in all experiences.

The research includes answering a short questionnaire about health and well-being and alcohol usage. There is also a one off face to face interview with Helen herself which will ask more in depth questions about experiences and thoughts around alcohol use. The research has received ethical approval from the University of Chester and all relevant bodies in relation to the NHS.

Working in the NHS, Helen is bound by NHS codes of conduct; therefore any information gathered will be kept strictly confidential and will be used solely for educational purposes.

If you would like further information or to offer to take part in her research please don't hesitate to contact Helen directly on:

07967 763848/07884 332553 or hrleyland7@outlook.com

Possible South Cheshire Cluster Group Musical Collaboration Project

The possibility of musicians from several local U3As getting together to make music was discussed at a U3A Cluster group meeting in March.

If anyone is a musician who is interested in finding out what is going on with regard to this project please contact David Boothroyd, Chair of Biddulph U3A on 01782 379092

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Geology

Please note that the new co-ordinator for this group is Mark Barley. Tel: 0161 929 9438

Cycling

Here is a report from the cycling group describing one of their rides last month:

'Seven of us set out from Tatton Park Knutsford gate at 10am, led by Ian. We slowly climbed the rise out of Rostherne village to cross over the old Chester road and from this point we cycled along lanes few had been on before, which was most interesting. Skirting around the village of High Legh, we crossed over the A50 for our refreshment stop at High Legh Garden Centre. That was of course after the scratching of heads in the car park, trying to work out how the 'cycle parking frame' worked! None of our bikes would fit into the spaces, without fear of damage. Perhaps we misjudged, and it was, actually, a climbing frame for toddlers! Thumbs up for the newly refurbished café, light and airy with plenty on offer, brown teacakes and scrumptious cherry scones! Onward south towards Arley and Bate Heath before heading east beneath the new underpass at the M6 junction, then waded through the floods of Moss Lane, onto Green Lane, then Tabley Road back to Knutsford. Many thanks to Ian for leading us on a great new route, it was a 16 mile round trip.'



The group rides twice a month and, with Spring approaching(!) if you would like to join this social cycling group please contact the co-ordinator, Pat Lee, on 07769 877293.

Local History

The Local History group is in danger of closing unless a new Group Co-ordinator can be found. If you are interested or would like further details and to discuss the matter please phone Margaret Wilford on 01565 654689

Architecture Group

The Architecture Group looks at different styles of architecture through the ages and studies various periods in greater detail. We would welcome more members to the group to enhance the topics we cover with their input and to contribute to our lively discussions.

The group meets at 3pm, usually on the last Tuesday of the month in the Knutsford Town Council office. Our next meeting is on 22nd May (due to Bank Holiday).

If you are interested in joining or want to know more about the activities of the Group please contact:
Trevor Hosking (Co-ordinator) on 07950 414490 or
Stuart Allan on 01565 632904.

Walking Football

This group is running successfully but would welcome new members to join our regular sessions so that we have enough players to make the games more enjoyable.

Sessions are held at 2.00 – 2.45 pm on alternate Tuesdays at Egerton Youth Club on Mereheath Lane. The dates for the May sessions are 1st, 15th and 29th May.

If you would like more information or to join the group please contact:
Stuart Allan on 01565 632904

Tennis

This group has started meeting at Knutsford Tennis Club on Mereheath Lane on Monday mornings at 9.30 am. Everybody is a beginner or hasn't played for years so the standard is not high! Please come along if you would like to try it out.

If you would like more information or to join please contact the Group Co-ordinator, Sonia Amos, on 01565 651029

Play Reading Group

Meetings are normally held in members' homes on the last Friday of each month, starting at 10.00 and finishing about 12.30 pm.

A variety of plays by authors such as Alan Ayckbourn, Noel Coward, Arthur Miller and Terence Rattigan are read. Copies are normally obtained from the library at a cost of £1 each and the person hosting the meeting is paid a total of £3 as reimbursement for tea, coffee and biscuits provided. Each group member pays £5 every 5/6 months to cover these costs irrespective of how often he or she attends.

Readings are quite informal, with everyone seated, and no acting skills are required. There is rarely any time to discuss any play as sometimes we struggle to read right through in one session.

There is room for some new members and anyone interested in joining the group should get in touch with coordinator Peter Willgoose (01565 631255 – peterwillgoose@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

If you are interested in joining any of these groups there is more information about them on our website or you can phone the Co-ordinator concerned.

Architecture

4th Tuesday afternoons at 3pm,
Heath Room, Council Offices, Toft
Road. Co-ordinator:
Trevor Hosking 07950 414490

Art Appreciation 1

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

Art Appreciation 2

1st Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm
Co-ordinator: Jennifer Harrison
Tel: 01565 633578

Book Group 1

4th Monday of each month 2 – 4 in
members' homes
Co-ordinator: Rosemary Binns
Tel: 01565 633670

***Full**

Book Group 2

Monthly on Thursday from 10.30 – 12
in members' homes
Co-ordinator: Monica Beswick
Tel: 01565 651515

Book Group 3

1st Thursday of each month at 10
Co-ordinator: Freda Froehlich
Tel: 01565 633045

Book Group 4

2nd Tuesday of each month at 10
Co-ordinator: Pauline Hales
Tel 01565 650214

***Full**

Book Group 5

3rd Thursday of each month at 10 - 12
Co-ordinator: Evelyn Brown
Tel: 01565 653684

Bridge

Fridays at Toft Cricket Club.
9.10-10am Tuition play.
10-12 Duplicate play.
Co-ordinator: Jenny Saint
Tel: 07703741603

Calligraphy

Alternate Tuesdays 2 – 3.30 or
Alternate Wednesdays 7 – 8.30
Coordinator: Angela Eccles
Tel: 01625 861314

Computer Group

Alternate Tuesdays at 3 Autumn and
Spring terms
Co-ordinator: Robert Watson
Tel: 01565 633147

Crown Green Bowls 1

Summer Meetings each Tuesday at 10
The Railway Inn Mobberley
Co-ordinator: Lee Hough
Tel: 07964846269

Crown Green Bowls 2

Summer Meetings each Friday 10.30
The Railway Inn, Mobberley
Co-ordinator: Colin Bowman
Tel: 01565 653242

Cycling

Fortnightly morning cycle rides on
Monday and Thursdays at 10am.
Co-ordinator Pat Lee Tel: 07769
877293

Drawing and Painting

Each Monday between 10 – 12 at Toft
Church rooms
Co-ordinator: Jill Board
Tel: 01565 652948

Full, with waiting list of 1

Family and Social History

2nd Friday of each month at 2
Room 4, The Methodist Church
Co-ordinator:
Allan Jones Tel: 01565 633435
Andrea Lord Tel: 01565 872295

Film at the Curzon

One or two afternoons a month.
Co-ordinator: Evelyn Brown
Tel: 01565 653684

French Intermediate 1

1st and 3rd Thursday of each month
at 2.00pm in member's homes.
Coordinator Jill Board. Tel: 01565
652948 **.Full with a waiting list of 9**

French Intermediate 2

In the process of being started

French to Get By

Each Thursday 10 – 11.30 at Methodist
Church. Co-ordinator: Barbara Brady
Tel: 01565 653764

Garden Visits

Random meetings when the gardens
are open. Planning meetings about
three times a year. Co-ordinators: Karen
Crump Tel: 01565 651474 and Val
Homer Tel: 01565 652282

Gardening

1st Thursday each month at 2.15pm
Co-ordinator: Pam Bolland
Tel: 01925 753391

Geology Group

3rd Monday of each month upstairs at
The Angel 7:30 – 9.30
Co-ordinator: Mark Barley
Tel: 0161 929 9438

German

Fortnightly on Fridays 9:30 – 11 at
Methodist Church
Co-ordinator: David English
Tel: 01565 625815

Italian for Beginners

Small group, meeting on self- help
basis. Co-ordinator: David Millson
01565 750758

Knitting

Monthly on 1st Tuesday at 10 in
members' houses
Co-ordinator: Jane McHarry
Tel: 01565 651036

Local History

4th Thursday of each month 10.30 – 12
at Knutsford Methodist Church
Co-ordinator: Jean Ellis
Tel: 01565 651222

Mah Jong

2nd and 4th Friday each month at 10:00
at Knutsford Library.
Co-ordinator: Sue Lawson
Tel: 01565 734366

<p>Music Appreciation 3rd Monday of each month from 1.45 – 3.15 in Room 5 at Knutsford Methodist Church. Co-ordinator: Tessa Gurney Tel: 01477 533076</p> <p>Needlecraft 3rd Thursday of each month from 10 – 12 Members' homes Co-ordinator: Judith Shirley Tel: 01565 652448</p> <p>Outings and Visits As arranged – see website for details Contact: Lynda Harris Tel 01565 621058</p> <p>Philosophy 3rd Wednesday each month 10:30 – 12 Room 5, Methodist Church Contact: Shirley Dignam Tel: 01565 652958</p> <p>Play Reading Last Friday each month at 10 – 12 in members' homes Co-ordinator: Peter Willgoose Tel: 01565 631255</p> <p>Poetry Reading 1st Tuesday each month at 2 pm at Royce Court Co-ordinator: Veronica Gordon Tel: 01565 873762</p> <p>Scientific Book Group 3rd Thursday each month at 2.30 Co-ordinators: Gill Warboys Tel 01565 651858 and Bob Bateman Tel: 01565 652905</p> <p>Scrabble Friday each week at 2 in Library Co-ordinator: Avril Slade Tel: 01565 633997</p> <p>Seasonal Cookery 4th Tuesday each month 10 – 12 Co-ordinator: Anne Rowland Tel: 01625 860290 *Full, with waiting list</p> <p>Social Singing Meet 2nd and 4th Fridays 2-4pm. Knutsford Sports Club, Mereheath Lane. Coordinator Michael Goldman Tel: 01565 651717</p> <p>Spanish Advanced Each Tuesday, 10 – 11 at the Methodist Church. Co-ordinator: Eileen Denne</p>	<p>Spanish Intermediate Each Tuesday 10:30 – 11.30 at the Jubilee Hall Co-ordinator: Graham Rigg Tel: 01565 650103</p> <p>Table Tennis 1 Each Monday from 10-12 Knutsford Sports Club, Mereheath Lane Co-Ordinator: Andrew Poole Tel: 01565 733332</p> <p>Table Tennis 2 Each Friday from 2-4 at Knutsford Sports Club. Mereheath Lane. Coordinator Andrew Poole. Tel 01565 733332</p> <p>Tai Chi/Qi Gong Every Thursdays from 4-5 Knutsford Sports Club; Coordinators: Evelyn Flett Tel: 01565 653048 Yvonne Baker Tel: <u>Tel: 01565</u> 651204 Full with a waiting list of 5</p> <p>Tennis Monday mornings 9.30 at Knutsford Tennis Club, Mereheath Lane. Co-ordinator Sonia Amos Tel: 01565 651029</p> <p>Theatre and Concert Visits Random meetings dependent upon performances. See Website for full programme details. Co-ordinator: Margaret Hinde Tel: 01565 872643</p> <p>Theatre and Film Discussion 3rd Wednesday each month 3.30 – 5.30 in members' homes. Co-ordinator: Anita Goldman Tel: 01565 651717</p> <p>Walking Football Fortnightly meetings on Tuesdays 2-2.45pm at Egerton Youth Club. Co-ordinator: Stuart Allan Tel: 01565 632904</p> <p>Walking Group 1 Walks on alternate Mondays and Wednesdays. Meet at 9:30 in the lay-by on Mobberley Road. Co-ordinator: Margaret Cole. Tel: 01565 633569</p>	<p>Walking Group 2 Walks on alternate Wednesdays and Mondays. Meet at 9:30 in the lay-by on Mobberley Road Co-ordinator: Tony Roberts Tel: 01565 632735</p> <p>Walking Group 3 - Medium Walks Walks on alternate Thursdays and Fridays. Meet at 9.30 in the lay-by on Mobberley Road Co-ordinator: Margaret Hinde Tel: 01565 872643</p> <p>Walking Group 4 – Three Milers Walks on alternate Monday and Wednesdays. Meet at 9.55 in the lay-by on Mobberley Road Co-ordinator: Mike Cooper Tel: 01565 228931</p> <p>Walking Group 5 – 5 K Walks are twice a month on Mondays or Wednesdays. Meet at 10 in the lay-by on Mobberley Road Co-ordinator: Sheila Fitches Tel: 01565 633076</p> <p>Walking Group 6 – Three Milers Too Walks on Thursdays. Meet at 10 in the lay-by on Mobberley Road Contacts: Gill Warboys Tel: 01565 651858 and Avril Reynolds Tel: 01565 632541</p> <p>Wine Tasting 1 2nd Monday each month on at 7 at St Vincent's Church Hall. Co-ordinators: Margaret Joscelyne Tel: 01565 633147 and John Baldwin Tel: 01565 654285 *Full</p> <p>Wine Tasting 2 1st Wednesday each month at 7.30 St Cross Church Contacts: Maurice and Denise Vallois. Tel: 01565 650286 *Full</p> <p>Writing for Pleasure 3rd Wednesday each month at 10 in members' homes Co-ordinator: Michael Goldman Tel: 01565 651717</p>
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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.

You will be contacted if your booking was NOT successful.

BOOKING FORM – THEATRE AND MUSIC VISITS		
I/We would like to book places for the following event and enclose a cheque for £.....		
Event:		
Date & time:.....		
Name and Address <u>with postcode</u>		
Phone number	e-mail	Phone number in case of emergency
Please send this completed form and cheque made payable to Knutsford U3A to Margaret Hinde, 1 Warford Hall Drive, Great Warford, Alderley Edge, SK9 7TR. Tel. 01565 872643 Cheques should be made out to Knutsford U3A.		

Booking Forms for Outings

Booking Form – Terracotta Warriors and St Georges' Hall		
I/We would like places(s) for the above visit and enclose a cheque for £.....		
Date and Time: Monday 2nd July, bus leaves the bus station at 9.00 am.		
Name and Address <u>with postcode</u>		
Phone No	Email	Emergency phone no
Please send this completed form and cheque made payable to Knutsford U3A to Fran Cogger, 71 Parkgate, Knutsford, WA16 8HF; 01565 228503		

