

KANUTA

Newsletter
April 2024

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Newsletter contributions: newsletter.knutsfordu3a@gmail.com

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From the Chair

I hope you're all enjoying the first signs of spring – daffodils, tulips, blossom etc – hopefully the weather will realise it's Spring soon!

Renewal time has come round again although at only £12 for a year's full membership of Knutsford u3a I hope you'll agree that it's a bargain this year. If you can, please renew on-line as this saves a tremendous amount of work for the Membership Secretary. This time last year I (as Membership Secretary then) was inundated with forms and cheques. Processing these takes up a hefty chunk of time and every membership renewed on-line saves a lot of time which is much appreciated.

Our Groups Supporters, Stuart Allan and Marian Goddard, are still working hard at setting up new groups. Our Italian group is up and running and a Photographic Group and a new Book Group are in the early stages of being set up. We're also hoping to start a Pickleball group so keep your eyes open for information about this. Our Groups are the lifeblood of our u3a and we are always interested to hear new ideas for groups so please contact a member of the Committee if you have any.

As you will see in the Members' Meetings section, our Members Meeting on 11th April will be held in St Vincent's Church Hall as there is maintenance work going on in the Methodist Church. This will, hopefully, only affect this one meeting.

Our Outings and Visits Committee have, as usual, planned some very interesting visits for this Spring/Summer which I hope many of you will enjoy.

Best wishes to you all.

Sue Allan
Chair

Membership Renewal

(due 1st April 2024)

Many thanks to those of you who have already renewed. It is quick and easy to renew on-line. Just go to the 'Membership' section of our website knutsfordu3a.co.uk and at the bottom of the page click on 'Beacon Membership Renewal' to go to the 'Renew On-line' page. Here you will find the Terms and Conditions of Membership followed by a final link to the Knutsford u3a Members Portal.

To log into the portal, you will need the e mail address and password you used when you registered for the Beacon Portal. If you need more help, there is a link you can click for more information towards the bottom of the 'Renew On-line' page.

PayPal

We encourage all who can to make their renewal payment through PayPal. Please take a look at the article on the next page where our webmaster, Tony Roberts, describes the benefits of PayPal.

Gift Aid

Last year we started claiming Gift Aid on members' subscriptions where they were eligible and this has enabled us to reduce the subscriptions this year.

- We can claim Gift Aid if you have paid the same amount or more in Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the tax year and you
- make a Gift Aid declaration that gives us permission to claim it.

The Gift Aid will be 25p for every £1 of your subscription so the tax we can claim on £12 will be £3.00. This will help us to keep subscriptions as low as possible. You can Gift Aid your subscription by ticking the Gift Aid box when you renew on-line or, if you renew by cheque, ticking the Gift Aid box on the paper form. We would be grateful if those of you who are taxpayers would consider ticking the Gift Aid box.

Please note that if each member at the same address is a taxpayer and wishes to Gift Aid their subscriptions you should NOT use the on-line facility to pay both subscriptions together. You can still renew online but each taxpayer should pay their own subscription and tick the Gift Aid box to allow us to claim Gift Aid. If you are unsure whether you will pay enough tax, please do NOT tick the Gift Aid box.

If you pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in a tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all your donations it is your responsibility to pay any difference.

Once you have renewed, please let us know if you:

- want to cancel your Gift Aid declaration.
- change your name or home address.
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

For those of you who cannot renew on-line there is a printable Membership Renewal form at the end of this edition of Kanuta or you can download the form from our website.

Helen MacAlister Smith
Membership Secretary

The Benefits of a Personal PayPal Account



Most of you will be aware of PayPal but are perhaps wary of using it. I have been using PayPal regularly for 21 years and I can thoroughly recommend it as a safe and convenient way of paying on-line. Renewing my u3a membership takes a few minutes and it saves our volunteers time and effort as well.

- PayPal is easy to use – it is a very straightforward way to send money to friends, family and businesses.
- There's no need to enter all your financial information every time you shop.
- PayPal uses details from your existing Credit / Debits cards but you only have to enter your name, address and card details once at the time you set-up your PayPal account. You can add or change cards at any time.
- PayPal encrypts your bank and credit card information, keeping that information safe.
- Using PayPal gives you an extra level of security and fraud prevention. If you pay for a purchase using PayPal that ends up being fraudulent, PayPal will help you get your money back.
- There are no hidden fees for using PayPal on-line.

As DC Andy Kevan, from the Cheshire Police Cybercrime Team, told us at our members' meeting last January, PayPal is one of the most secure on-line payment services. If you would like to set-up an account please click on the link below to start the process.

<https://www.paypal.com/uk/webapps/mpp/account-selection>

Tony Roberts
Webmaster

Committee Members 2023/2024

Name	Role	Email address
Sue Allan	Chair	chair@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Adrian Long	Treasurer	treasurer@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Mark Barley	Secretary	secretary@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Stuart Allan	Joint Groups Supporter	groups.supporter@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Roger Brown	Publicity	via info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Irene Hardy	Events Co-ordinator	via info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Robert Watson	Vice Chair, Beacon Administrator & Tech Team Leader	beaconadmin@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Helen Smith	Membership Secretary & Accessibility Officer	membership@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Wendy Brooks	Refreshments Rota Co-ordinator	via info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Georgina Blackburn	Welcome Co-ordinator	via info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Anthony Axon	Speakers Committee Chair	via info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk
Marian Goddard	Joint Groups Supporter	via info@knutsfordu3a.co.uk

Members' Meetings

Knutsford Methodist Church (**except the meeting on 11th April**).

Second Thursday of every month starting at 2.15pm prompt

Please aim to be seated by 2.00pm

Please note:- The April member's meeting (on Thursday 11th April) will be in the hall at **St. Vincent de Paul Church, Tatton Street, Knutsford, WA16 6HR.**

Please be seated by 2pm.

11th April

The speaker will be **Neil Tomlinson**, Co-op Estate Planning Manager, who will give his talk 'Tax, Care and Toy Boys'.

This will be about protecting your family's nest egg, inheritance tax, LPAs and stopping a sideways disinheritance. Whilst the message is serious; our Speaker's delivery is informal, humorous and delivered in plain English.

9th May

Howard Barlow will give the second part of his photography talk; a follow up on his fascinating talk last year. He will be telling us more stories and showing his amazing photos of famous musicians, stars and politicians together with pictures of life in Salford in the '60s.

13th June

Dave Thomas will give a talk on the Egerton family who have owned the Tatton estate for some 360 years from 1598 up to the death of the last Baron Egerton in 1958. Dave volunteers as a 1940s Teamsman at the farm at Tatton working with Shire horses.

11th July

AGM – Our AGM will be followed by **Tom Jones**, giving his talk 'It's a Guide's Life'.

Tom was born in Chester and his admiration for the city led him to become a city of Chester guide, a role he has been doing for 21 years.



Dates for your Diary



Friday 21st June

A visit to the **Llangollen Viaduct** which includes a trip across the viaduct in a narrow boat and, after lunch, a one hour train ride.
Full details of the itinerary, timings and cost are to follow.

Thursday 26th September

An evening performance of 'War Horse' at The Lowry.

Tuesday 26th November

An evening performance of Matthew Bourne's 'Swan Lake' at The Lowry.



Theatre and Music Trips



A DAY IN BUXTON

Including a matinée performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's
'The Gondoliers'

Saturday, 27th July, 2024, 9:30 am
Buxton Opera House

Cost, including travel, morning coffee
and central stalls seat in the Opera House
Coach departs the bus station

£45.00
9:30 am

NOTE the £45 cost does **not** include an optional guided walk. That requires a £12 pp supplement.

Leaving Knutsford at 9.30 am, we should arrive in Buxton by 10.30 am, when we have coffee and biscuits in the Pavilion Gardens restaurant (included in your price).

At 11am we will be met by guides, who will take those who wish to, for a guided walking tour of central Buxton, lasting a little over an hour. This walk costs £12 and needs to be booked on your order form please.

You are then free to find your own lunch in the cafés around Buxton or bring a picnic and sit in the delightful Pavilion Gardens. Plenty of seating available, and delicious ice cream!

At 2.30 pm, the performance of 'The Gondoliers' starts. This takes place in the beautiful Georgian Opera House designed by Frank Matcham, opened in 1903, and perfectly restored in 2001. The interior is a treat in itself! 'The Gondoliers' is part of the International Gilbert and Sullivan festival, performed by the world renowned National G and S Opera Company. I doubt if Gilbert and Sullivan need any introduction from me!

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

Places for this day out can be reserved by using the booking form on page 8 of Kanuta or call me on 01565 872643.

Any remaining places will be available at the Members' Meeting on Thursday April 11th

Margaret Hinde



Hidden Talents



The talks are held in Knutsford Methodist Church at 2.15pm prompt. Please aim to be seated by 2.00pm.

On **Thursday 25th April** Adrian Long will describe how he climbed The Matterhorn with his son in September 1999 to celebrate his 50th birthday.

The Matterhorn 4,300m high (14,107 feet), ever since it was first climbed by Edward Wimpier in 1864, has been an objective for all mountaineers and a classic mountain peak known to everyone. For the ascent Adrian and his son traversed the mountain ascending the Italian ridge to the summit, and the Hörnli ridge in descent. A wonderful outing in perfect conditions with the Pennine Alps spread out below them. You will see some amazing photographs which cover the climb both in the ascent and descent including great images of the summit.

News from the Groups

Drawing and Painting Group

We meet on Monday mornings 10 to 12 in Toft church hall. We don't have a tutor, but help one another when we can. Members use a variety of media and choose their own subject. We would welcome a few new members. If interested contact me on 01565 652948.

Jill Board

Photography Group

This is a new group. No previous photographic experience is needed and all sorts of cameras will be welcome! It is envisaged that this will be an informal, non-judgemental grouping of enthusiastic photographers who enjoy sharing their pictures and are willing to help others develop their skills and style. It would also perhaps be fun to arrange "field trips" to put some of our new skills into practice.

The first meeting of this new group is on Tuesday 2 April at 10.15 in Room 5, Knutsford Methodist Church, Princess Street WA16 6BY. At this meeting, members will discuss where and when we should meet and the topics which people would like the group to cover.

Marian Goddard

Recorder Group

The Recorder Group meets every fortnight on Wednesday afternoon at 2.15 at 61 Boothfields WA168JY.

We play a variety of music and beginners are very welcome. You need a descant (or any other) recorder, a music stand and enthusiasm!

Carol Goodwin

Beyond our u3a

Members may be interested in a couple of local events which are run in support of local charities

Friday April 26th

Wednesday 15th May



Friday April 26th, 7.30pm
Spring Concert
the Earth we Share

Alteri Choir
David Jones, Director
Aya, Organ

Elgar
Sibelius
Grieg
Britten
Bach

Supporting East Cheshire Hospice and Macmillan

Tickets £16
Cash wine bar

Ticketsource.co.uk/Alteri

St John's Knutsford WA166DH
Alterichamberchoir.com



Knutsford Little Theatre
presents an Amateur Production of

ALLO 'ALLO

**LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY
I SHALL SAY THIS ONLY ONCE...**

by **Jeremy Lloyd**
and **David Croft**

SPECIAL CHARITY PERFORMANCE
In support of Knutsford Lions charity fund

Directed by April Johnson

WEDNESDAY 15th MAY Doors open 7.00 for 7.30pm
£12.50

Tickets from knutsford.lions@gmail.com or 07770415630

This Amateur Production of "Allo 'Allo" is presented by special arrangement with SPANGEL TRENCH LTD a Concord Theatricals Company

Booking Forms

Please note that for insurance purposes, people attending events should be members of the u3a

PLEASE use a **separate booking form** and a **separate cheque** for each booking

- 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
- Send your form and cheque **to the organiser as noted for each event**

Unless you send an SAE, you will only be contacted if your booking was NOT successful.
For further information contact the organiser (details on the booking form)

BOOKING FORM – ‘A Day in Buxton’		Organised by Margaret Hinde
<p>Event: ‘A Day in Buxton’ Date & time: Saturday 27th July 2024, departing Knutsford Bus Station at 9.30 am PROMPT</p> <p>I/We would like to book the following places:</p> <p>..... place(s) for ‘A Day in Buxton’ at £45pp £ (This includes coach travel, morning coffee on arrival and your seat for The Gondoliers)</p> <p>..... place(s) for the <u>optional</u> ‘Guided Walking Tour’ at £12pp £</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total £</p>		
Name and Address <u>with postcode</u> of all attending		
Phone number	e-mail	Phone number <small>In case of emergency on the day</small>
<p>Send this completed form and cheque made payable to Knutsford and District u3a to Margaret Hinde, 1 Warford Hall Drive, Great Warford, Alderley Edge, SK9 7TR Telephone 01565 872643</p>		

Knutsford and District u3a

Full/Associate Membership Renewal Form

1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

When filling in this form please note the Gift Aid option and read the privacy statement overleaf. The form should be returned to our **Membership Secretary, Helen MacAlister Smith, 38 Ashworth Park, Knutsford, WA16 9DL**. Your membership card will be emailed to you. If you do not have an email address please include a stamped addressed envelope so that it can be posted to you.

Name	
Email*	Telephone
Address	
Postcode	
Emergency contact tel no (please get permission from your emergency contact person before giving their number)	

*To reduce costs, the committee will communicate with you via email where possible.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The membership year runs from 1st April to 31st March. The Fee for 1/4/2024 – 31/3/2025 is £12.00 for a Full Member and £8:00 for an Associate Member (a person who has full membership of another u3a). The full fee includes a membership fee paid to our national organisation, the Third Age Trust, which provides a wide range of services and benefits, including liability insurance cover. **Membership fees are payable by cheque to KNUTSFORD AND DISTRICT u3a.**

If you wish to renew as an Associate Member please state the name of your main u3a

GIFT AID – you can make each £1 of your subscription worth 25p more to us at no cost to yourself. To qualify for Gift Aid you must pay income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount that Knutsford & District u3a reclaims on your subscription and donations in a tax year. Please tick a box below as appropriate.

I am a UK tax payer and wish to Gift Aid this and all future subscriptions and donations that I make to Knutsford & District u3a unless I notify you otherwise. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

I do not wish to Gift Aid my subscriptions and donations.

Please notify the membership secretary – membership@knutsfordu3a.co.uk – if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration
- Change your name or home address
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

PLEASE TURN OVER

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

All members must:

- Abide by the Principles of the u3a movement.
- Act in the best interests of the u3a and never do anything to bring the u3a into disrepute.
- Abide by the terms and conditions of the constitution.
- Treat fellow members with respect and courtesy at all times.
- Comply with and support the decisions of the elected committee.
- Advise the committee of any change in your personal details

I wish to renew my membership of Knutsford and District u3a and confirm that I will abide by the terms of membership as stated above. I confirm that I have completed the form myself.	
I wish to renew my subscription as a FULL / ASSOCIATE member (delete as appropriate) . I enclose my cheque for £12.00 (£8.00 for Associate Members).	
Signed	Date

If you no longer wish your data to be used for the direct postal mailing of Third Age Trust magazines please email membership@knutsfordu3a.co.uk.

Membership records are held on computer and comply with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the General Data Protection Regulations 2018. These records are used only for purposes directly connected to u3a activities, and are not revealed to third parties.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Knutsford and District u3a requires members to provide their personal information so that you can be kept informed about events and activities that are offered as part of your membership. In collecting your information Knutsford and District u3a will:

- Store it securely
- Use it to communicate with you as a u3a member.
- Share your information with Activity Group Co-ordinators, for those groups that you are a member of.
- Send you general information about the Third Age Trust*

*The Third Age Trust is the national office to which all u3as are affiliated.

Principles and Ethos of the u3a

Applicants should note that the u3a is a self-help organisation run by volunteers. In the light of this, members are encouraged to participate both in their Activity Groups and in the running of the organisation as a whole and consider whether they can volunteer in any of the roles required to facilitate the stability and continuation of the organisation. These may include Committee membership, Activity Group co-ordinator, membership of sub-committees, tea rota helper etc.

If you would like more information regarding ways to participate please tick the box below and give brief details of what you would be interested in:

.....

Please note that all members take part in Knutsford u3a activities at their own risk