NEWSLETTER

Issue November2016

Web Address: www.hucknallu3a.org.uk

The meeting is held on the second Wednesday of the month starting at 1.30pm at the Hucknall Leisure Centre.

Message from our Chair

Hello and Welcome to the November Newsletter

In July and August we asked members for some feedback on the Newsletter, the Monthly Meeting and Interest Groups. Based on the returns here is a summary of that feedback.

Newsletter

1. Overall the member returns reflected a high level of satisfaction with the Newsletter.
2. It is rather too long and some articles could be shorter.
3. It is interesting to find out what the interest groups are doing.
4. Some advertised events are over by the time the newsletter is published.
5. Encourage members to read it online.
6. It would benefit from a limited revamp.

There was some support for the Newsletter to be solely about future events but a significant majority favoured a mix of activity reports and future events.

Based on the feedback we request that group activity reports on previous events are limited to 200 words plus one photograph or 250 words without a photograph and where possible we will try to avoid situations when the advertised event has already taken place. However we welcome and would like to encourage longer articles and photographs for the website.

The committee extend their thanks to Steve Lawrence who patiently puts together and distributes the Newsletter each month.

Cont…….

FUTURE SPEAKERS

December 2016 - Christmas Social

11th January 2017 - Peter Hammond - "So you think you know Nottingham"

8th February 2017 – Vince Eager – "My Life as a Musician"

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Please forward articles for the next Newsletter to hucknallu3anewsletter@live.co.uk by 28th October 2016

Message from our Chair (Cont….)

Monthly Meeting

1. The majority of returns supported the current time slot with a small number suggesting a 1pm start and a 3.30pm finishing time (to avoid school traffic)
2. A small minority suggested the speaker first as they have grandchildren responsibilities.
3. Some information in the Newsletter does not necessarily need repeating at the meeting.
4. One comment requested that information should be given about committee activities and decisions.

We acknowledge that for some members the timing is not perfect but it would be virtually impossible to please all members in relation to the meeting times and since most people are generally happy with the current situation it remains unchanged.

There is now a more prominent committee notice board in the 'Board Room' which displays the latest committee meeting minutes.

Interest Groups

1. The Interest Group notice boards are useful but some information is limited or out of date.
2. Many members would be interested in some short 4/6 session learning activities.
3. Leading groups is quite a daunting idea; would there be any help in setting new groups up?

Group leaders take on the responsibility for organising a group and its activities as volunteers and we recognise that and value their contribution. By agreement keeping the board up to date and/or writing about the group activities for the Newsletter and website could be a job that a group member (s) does to assist and support the Group Leader.

Through Siobhan Lee the Groups Coordinator there is a system for receiving ideas for new groups , initiating the process of setting up a group and supporting the volunteers who will be the Group Leader and those who volunteer to assist the Group Leader.

Best Wishes,

David Rose - Chairman

OUR SPEAKER(s) THIS MONTH

Stephen Walker – " The London Boys; child labour in the Leen Valley Mills"

In the 18C. it became normal practice for workhouses and parish guardians of the poor to apprentice pauper children to industrial employment. Dickens "Oliver Twist" was written as a commentary on the practice. Linby parish records record the burial of forty children described as "A London boy at Mr Robinson's mill. This talk explores the myths and realities of the London Boys, based on Stephen's 4 year research project.

COMMITTEE CORNER - Notes from our Committee

We met on the 2nd of November at the John Godber Centre.
The good news is that due our healthy financial situation, much of it due to a substantial 'cash back' from Riviera Travel following a U3A group holiday, we are reducing the annual subscription for 2017/18 to £15.00. The other good news is that our co-opted committee member Diane Heenan is making a good recovery following some health problems.
We revisited the issue of non U3A members attending trips and Interest Groups.
We no longer have a waiting list and the policy since that time 3 years ago is that non members are not allowed to attend groups or trips prior to joining Hucknall U3A.
We thanked the social committee for organising the Hog Roast which was another popular and successful event. The running order for the 14th December monthly meeting was finalised and our Groups Co-ordinator Siobhan Lee reported two new start ups for January: Modern Foreign Languages and Wine Tasting 2. Business Secretary Barrie Saunders gave feedback on his attendance at the recent AGM of the Nottinghamshire Groups meeting which is the main forum for Notts U3A's to share ideas and expertise to help the development of their own groups and to support the formation of new county U3A's .

CHAIRMANS LUNCH

This is a date for your diaries. The next lunch to commemorate all our Past & Present Chairman is on **February 26th 2017** at Portland College. It will be a traditional Sunday lunch as usual.

All our previous events have been thoroughly enjoyed by all so please come & see me In the Board Room to get you names on the list! Geoff Cree

'Short Course' Learning and Raising Awareness Opportunities

1. 'Driving in the 3rd Age' an interactive 2 hour course

Wednesday November 30th at the John Godber Centre in the Main Hall from1pm to 3pm

Provider: East Midlands Road Safety Officer Autumn Rose (No relation ...)

The format of the session is a presentation, which uses interactive handsets, this lasts approximately 30-45 minutes, depending on questions. We then break up for smaller activities which are: road safety bingo, information table, alcohol demonstration and Kwik Fit discussing ,demonstrating and explaining tyre safety (they don't sell anything). Participants move around these different activities and have the chance to ask questions one to one; this is often the time we have refreshments as well before we come back together for an interactive Highway Code quiz to end the session.

Cost: £2.00 to cover room hire and light refreshments

Sign up at the November Monthly meeting on the 9th or by contacting

David Rose 0115 9537679 /07931658793 or drose.57@virgin.net

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2. A 1 hour session on : Raising Awareness around Alzheimer's and Dementia

Members can attend **either Tuesday 31st January** 11am to 12noon John Godber Centre Byron Suite

Or Monday 1st February 11am to 12noon John Godber Centre Studio

Provider: Jane Zdanowski on behalf of the Dementia Friends organisation.

Jane covers many aspects of these conditions and any questions are welcome from participants.

Please sign up for **either** date at the November / December or January monthly meetings

Christmas Social - Monday 5 December 2016

The last few remaining tickets will go on sale at the November monthly meeting for the 'Christmas Social' which is being held in the Main Hall, John Godber Centre, Ogle Street on Monday 5 December 2016. Tickets are £11.00 each and include a two course meal and entertainment. When purchasing your ticket you will need to know your menu choices for your main course and sweet and as in previous years you will also have to reserve your seat. It would be helpful if payment could be made by cheque made payable to 'Hucknall & District U3A'. Tickets are available to members only.

For menu see last month's newsletter. For anyone with special dietary needs, please make it clear when purchasing your ticket.

DOORS WILL OPEN AT 11.30AM FOR A PROMPT 12 NOON START WHEN THE FOOD WILL BE SERVED, FOLLOWED BY THE ENTERTAINMENT, SINGER TONY GOLD AND DAVE MOYLAN, FINISHING APPROXIMATELY 4.15PM.

Technology Support

Windows 10 Updates. (Based on frequently asked questions to Reg Franks)

During September and into October there was a significant update to Windows 10.

This has now changed the page layouts on desk top. There are changes to where you can find *Shutdown and Restart*

Option 1: Left click onto the Windows icon you will now see on the bottom left side a power icon click on here to restart or shutdown.

Option 2: Left click on Windows icon then go to the top left of the page and click on the icon with three lines which is labeled *Expand.*

Once clicked on you will see the Power icon at the bottom select and either restart or shut down

Option 3: Move your mouse pointer to the Windows Icon and right click now select the shutdown or sign out and then select shutdown or restart.

Reg

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Holocaust Centre Visit

On Wed. 5th Oct. several of us from Hucknall U3A joined with others in our region to visit the centre for a specially planned day for U3A. The education team, headed by Louise Stafford, met with some of us during the summer and we planned the day. It was something new for the centre and has not been done before.

Over 70 people attended. After an initial introduction to the centre and how it began, we were given packs and other free gifts to keep and then arranged into groups to be escorted around the exhibition, which was challenging and informative. There is so much to see! We had tea and coffee available throughout the day and a lovely soup and sandwich lunch.

After lunch, we went into two different groups of our own choice, ranging from art work to faith discussion, to the meaning and relevance of the holocaust for today and so on. The groups were thought-provoking and a great time to share and make new friends.

One of the highlights of the day was a talk by Dr. Martin Stern, a holocaust survivor. He was 7yrs old when by a sheer miracle he escaped the gas chambers. His story is fascinating, courageous and truly awe-inspiring, as are so many of the survivor talks. To hear such people is very moving and humbling, and it makes one realise how so many survived by chance and against all odds – therefore having to deal with their own survival in the years of freedom to come, which is not easy.

The peaceful gardens and memorials there enhanced the meditative and challenging day, as did the cairn of stones – a poignant symbol of the loss of so many children. Everyone left feeling different and privileged to share in this truly memorable visit.

Our ticket also allows us to revisit at our leisure, so many left intending to go again. Thank you to the Holocaust centre team.

Ann Murray

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

THE ARTS GROUP

For the latest information on cultural activities in our area including Films, Concerts and Plays etc please let me add your e mail address to our ever growing list so that I can send you an up-to-date calendar and weekly bulletins. Contact alansnape@hotmail.co.uk or tel./text 07940146542

BREAKFAST GROUP

The next breakfast will be at Beauvale Priory on Friday Dec 9th. Once again Beauvale will be decorated for Christmas & we will finish off with a toasted teacake.

CANASTA GROUP

If you are a new U3a member and either play Canasta or would like to learn this interesting game, you are welcome to join our group which meet at the Tesco café on the 1st Friday each month at 7pm till 9pm.There are no charges and free tea and coffee are available with biscuits. Just come along and introduce yourself to me, Co-Ordinator, Doreen Newton.

CHOIR GROUP

To new U3a members. Our U3a Choir meet on the 1st and 3rd Wed of the month in the Studio room at the Godber Centre Ogle Street, at 1.30 and 11.30 respectively for 2hrs. Come, join us and give it a try. Doreen Newton, group leader.

CRAFT GROUP

At our meeting on 21 November, Janet Robinson will be showing us how to make a beautiful gift tag for a special gift.

You will need to bring your scoreboard, 1/2" Circle Punch, glue and glitter. Also if you have any of the following, please bring these as well although Janet can supply them if you haven't got them in your stash.

Card with a small Christmas pattern - it needs to be a heavier weight than paper, Bakers Twine, Small Bells, Christmas wooden buttons, Co-ordinating ink pads and Wooden embellishments or toppers

CYCLING GROUP

The 3rd Wednesday of the month is our longer ride and on the 19th we ventured out on a rather undulating (hilly!) route into Derbyshire via Jacksdale and Codnor Park reservoir.
We experienced an unprecedented 4 punctures which were mainly due to the sharp tree debris littering the off road sections. Fortunately we had enough spare inner tubes and top mechanics John Gibson and Terry Hill to cope with the problem.
The next longer ride weather permitting is on the 16th November.
Our usual weekly Wednesday rides continue and we meet outside the Leisure Centre at 9am, we are usually back before 12 noon and new riders are welcome to join us. *David and Irene*

DISCUSSION GROUP

At the October meeting the topic of our discussion was the 'State of the National Health Service'.

This allowed the members to air some of their views on current reports in the media and even some suggestions for improvement in the service.

Next month's meeting will be on November 7th at 1.45pm in the John Godber Centre. The topics for discussion will be ' To review the proposal for the re-introduction of Grammar Schools' and 'The general impact of University fees '. Interested in this discussion? See me at the U3A meeting.

There will not be a meeting in December. We'll meet again in 2017. Date to be confirmed.

Christine Beer (leader).

GARDENING GROUP

Our last meeting for 2016 will be on the usual 3rd Tuesday of the month i.e. November 15th when our speaker will be Helen Crowfoot talking about Victorian walled Gardens. Any U3A member is welcome to come along – our meetings are held in the Byron Suite at The John Godber Centre on Ogle Street and commence at 2.00 p.m. with admission £2. After this we will next meet on Tuesday February 21st 2017.

HISTORY GROUP (FAMILY)

The Family History Group is meeting again on Friday November 11th but visits may be arranged. Under One Roof is a good venue where we have access to computers and light refreshments are provided. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the FH meeting but in the meantime I am usually available at the main meeting for a chat about research.

HISTORY GROUP

The Group's next meeting is on 16th November at Central Methodist Church at 2pm. This meeting is members own research into Nottinghamshire Houses/buildings and the last time we did this we had some wonderful members telling us about houses or buildings that were amazing. We learned a lot. Please think of a building you could talk about.

Please remember that we have no meeting in December but we start the new year 2017 with a flourish when Jodie from Mansfield Museum is coming to talk to us. I am sure those of you who went on the museum tour will remember how brilliantly Jodie showed us round the building.

LUNCH GROUP

The Lunch Group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 12 noon (unless otherwise stated) at a different restaurant each month. The menus vary in price and content but hopefully average out over the year at a reasonable cost. It is an opportunity for members to meet together socially and try out different restaurants which, as individuals, they may not have had the chance to try before. We always have a quiz which is usually related to the venue or its theme. We hope you will find something of interest to your "taste" and look forward to meeting up with you each month. We are always grateful when members can offer lifts to non-drivers but could members contact the drivers directly please where possible, as it is getting to be a big job phoning around! Of course, I should be happy to find lifts for new Lunch Group members and I would also be grateful if drivers could indicate to me that they are willing to offer lifts. When putting your name down, if the menu is available, could you please indicate your menu choices at that time.

On October 26th we enjoyed an excellent lunch at the Four Bells Inn at Woodborough when the winners of the Colours Quiz were Alan and Colleen Snape.

The next three lunches will be as follows:

On November 23rd – The Embankment at Trent Bridge. Again the menu is on the U3A website.

On December 22nd (Thursday not Wednesday) – Albert Hall, Nottingham Christmas Lunch. There is still a chance to book for the Lunch at the November meeting, cost £19.

Our first lunch in the New Year will be on 25th January at the Griffin's Head, Papplewick. A £5 deposit is needed for this lunch (at the November meeting please). Menu will be available on the website at

the end of November.

MUSIC FOR PLEASURE GROUP

The Music for Pleasure group met on Tuesday 28th October when the music contained a Welsh theme. Artists included (inevitably) Tom Jones and Shirley Bassey, also Katherine Jenkins, Aled Jones, Charlotte Church and the Band of the Welsh Guards. The list also included, perhaps surprisingly, Catherine Zeta Jones duetting with Alfie Boe. There were more items from Alfie Boe and from Gareth Gates, both of whom were subsequently discovered not to have been of Welsh origin, but whose music was nonetheless appreciated amongst the mix.

There was the, by now customary, combination of music and conversation enjoyed by all the members. Delicious home-made treats were provided by Peggy during the interval.

The next meeting will consist of the group's pre-Christmas meal at the Broomhill on Tuesday 29th November. It was decided not to hold a meeting during December when many people have a fairly busy social calendar in the run-up to Christmas.

Plans for meetings during 2017 were discussed. A Music Quiz night was proposed for the January meeting. 2017 plans also include an evening with music provided by violinist Jenny Beaumont.

Thanks, as usual, go to John, who has hosted the Music for Pleasure group since its inception.

PUB QUIZ & LUNCH GROUP

Our October Quiz was on the 10th and unfortunately we were a couple of teams down but the winning team was "Something Different" and the runners up were "Whatever ". Questions were based on Dogs' Names, Colours, Cockney Rhyming Slang and Books & Authors. Did *you* know that the longest river in South Africa was the Orange River? Me neither!

The subscription is £1 per person which covers each team's Quiz sheet and a raffle ticket for each member. There is a cash prize for the first and second team, with a £5 pub voucher for the raffle, along with a Bumper Bag containing donated items, for which our thanks are given to those who donated.

The next Pub Quiz will be on Monday, 14th November. Just pay the subscription on arrival, then order your lunch at the bar and put your thinking caps on. There is a Dingbats quiz just for fun, followed by the Quiz itself and then lunch, followed by the answers and the raffle. We are limited to 36 seats so please come early as it's first come, first served for seats in the alcove area.

The December Quiz will be on Monday, 12th December and if you wish to book the Christmas lunch at The Nabb then please do so at the November Quiz.

READING GROUP

Due to illness the venue for the October Reading Group was Kate Jackson's home; many thanks Kate for stepping in at the last minute.

For any information about the Lunch Group, the Weekenders Group, the Reading Group, or the Pub Quiz & Lunch, please contact Sandra Green (sandra.green80@ntlworld.com or tel. 0115 8408132) or check out the Hucknall U3A website.

SCIENCE GROUP 2

Last month Helen Rose gave a presentation on the life and work of Robert Koch who is acknowledged to be the 'father' of modern microbiology and a pioneer of hypothesis testing by experiment.
The second half of our meeting led on from this and was about the way scientists work "The Scientific Method'
Our next meeting is on November 18th and the group will put the scientific method into practice by carrying out some small scale investigations. *David*

THEATRE GROUP

The Red Shoes, Theatre Royal, 9th March 2017, 2pm, Tickets £29.50

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night, Theatre Royal, 5th April 2017, 2pm, Tickets £28.50

War Horse, Royal Concert Hall, 21st March 2018, 2pm, Tickets £52.50 to be paid by August 2016

Free Lunchtime performances: In the Dress Circle foyer. No need to book come in from 12.15pm.
Thursday17th November: Great Opera Arias from Opea North Associate Artist.
Monday 12th December: Christmas carols and seasonal songs from NTU chamber choir.

I have 10 tickets to see Aljaz and Janette from Strictly in a show called "Remembering Fred", paying tribute in song and dance to the legend Fred Astaire. It is on at the Royal Concert Hall, on Wednesday evening the 19th April 2017, and the tickets are £35. I would like to know if anyone is interested before I confirm the booking, so please let me know a.s.a.p. It is an evening performance and is only on for one night. Regards Barbara

WALKING GROUP (MID LENGTH)

Our October walk ventured to the east of Nottinghamshire, to the village of Car Colston, near Bingham, which is reputed to have the largest village green in England, with a handy pub at the edge.We set off in perfect weather towards Bingham, and made our way to Scarrington, best known for the horseshoe sculpture, which is 17 feet high and 19 feet 6 inches in circumference at the base. It is the largest known stack of used horseshoes in the world, and the present pile of some 30,000 horseshoes was constructed between June 1945 and April 1965. Built by George Flinders, who was the blacksmith for 31 years at Scarrington Forge, it is estimated that the weight of the stack is 10 tons.

After the picnic stop, we continued to Screveton, where the 'Sweepers' are located on the edge of the village. These were made by Pirate Technics, a firm based in the village. It took eight artist six weeks designing the four figures, which took part in London's Southbank Centre's Festival of Neighbourhood.

These figures, with the tallest standing at 23 feet, represent an old woman and a young boy and have been dubbed 'The Sweepers'. One of our members is included in the photo for comparison! They were made to celebrate the community spirit that followed the London riots two years ago, when neighbours helped each other by sweeping up the mess. Each has a metal pole through the bodies to keep them upright, and they are constructed with internal scaffolding supported by timber. This has been encased in chicken wire before being decorated with artificial topiary.

Another enjoyable and interesting walk in good weather, with thanks to John and Sue Beharall for organising it. Our next walk is at Eakring on November 21st.

WEEKENDERS' GROUP

A copy of the programme will be on the Hucknall U3A website. All events organised by either the Lunch Group or the Weekenders Group are open to all U3A members, regardless of whether they are regulars or not. Obviously, places are sometimes limited so it's first come, first served; I should be grateful if you could let me know if you are interested in these events as soon as possible so that I can let other members know if I have places left.

1st October was a Weekenders day out; coffee in Nottingham, followed by lunch at Yates's (not enough staff on and some food had to be sent back as too cold) then an excellent guided tour by Millie at The Malt Cross, St. James's Street, followed by thunder, lightning and heavy rain but we still enjoyed the day.

Our theme for the October Coffee Club was "a most unusual holiday souvenir" and final plans were made for our visit to the Southwell Minster Winter Craft Fayre and lunch on 5th November and our trip to Melton Mowbray Victorian Christmas Market on Sunday, 4th December. We also plan a Film & Pizza Night on 12th November (places limited).

New Group

Fun with Languages will start on Thursday 12th January 10.30am – 12.30pm in the downstairs bar at the John Godber Centre, Ogle Street, Hucknall

Please contact Ann Murray rockin.rev@ntlworld.com or Liz Attenborough e.attenborough@sky.com if you have not already put your name down

HUCKNALL & DISTRICT U3A INTEREST GROUPS
November 2016

For further details contact Siobhan Lee, 0115-9550119 or check the website at www.hucknallu3a.org.uk from there you can email the respective Group Leader

ARTS

CHOIR	1st Wednesday 13:30 3rd Wednesday 11:30
CREATIVE WRITING	4th Tuesday13.00
DISCUSSION	1st Monday 13:45
DRAMA	4th Friday 10:00
FILM CLUB	Thursday 10:30& 13:00 Friday 19:15
FAMILY HISTORY	2nd Friday 14:00
HISTORY	3rd Wednesday 14:00
MUSIC FOR PLEASURE	4th Tuesday 19:00
NATIONAL TRUST	Various dates &times
READING (BOOKS)*	1st Wednesday 14:00
THEATRE	various dates
UKULELE	2nd & 4th Monday 10:00

ACTIVE WELLBEING

CYCLING	Every Wednesday 9:00
GRUMPY OLD MEN	Various
NOT SO GRUMPY OLD MEN	Various
KURLING	As Arranged
WALKING (LONG)	1st Tuesday 10:00
WALKING (MID)	3rd Monday 10:00
WALKING (SHORT)	3rd Thursday 10:00

FOOD & DRINK

DINING IN	1st Tuesday
INTERNATIONAL DINING	As Arranged
LATE BREAKFAST	1st Friday 09:15
LUNCH GROUP	4th Wednesday 12:00
PUB QUIZ & LUNCH	2nd Monday 12:00
WINE APPRECIATION*	As Arranged
WINE TASTING *	3rd Wednesday 19:30

HOBBIES & PASTIMES

CANASTA	1st Friday 19:00
CRAFT 1 *	3rd Monday 13.45
CRAFT 2	2nd Tuesday 14:00
GARDENING	3rd Tuesday 14:00
HOLIDAYS	various dates
KNITTING & CROCHET	4th Tuesday 14:00
MAH JONG	2nd Friday 19:00
POT LUCK *	1st Wednesday 19:30
RUMMIKUB	1st Monday 2:00pm
SCRABBLE	4th Thursday 14:00
SPORT SPECTATOR	various dates
TABLE GAMES	3rd Friday 19:00
WATER COLOUR	1st Monday 14:00
WEEKENDERS	various Sat & Sun.

LANGUAGES

FRENCH CONVERSATION* 3rd Tuesday 10:00

SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

BIRD WATCHING	2nd Tuesday 10:30
SCIENCE 1*	4th Thursday 10:00
SCIENCE 2	3rd Friday 10:00

Technology Support Available Tues /Wed 10am Thursdays 2pm

***Indicates group full. If you are interested then contact Siobhan who will happy to help you set up a further group.**

Please be aware that some Interest Groups have a limited number of places due to activity, venue etc.

Group Leaders are normally available in the Board Room at the monthly U3A meetings to answer any questions that you may have about their group. Their contact details are displayed on the Interest Group Information Board.

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Please forward articles for the next Newsletter to hucknallu3anewsletter@live.co.uk by25th November 2016