



NEWSLETTER

Issue May 2018

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

As I sit at home writing my first Chairman's message to everyone at the Hucknall U3A, the seasons are steadily moving from Spring, with the April showers, to hopefully the long and warm summer days ahead. It is a time of change also at the Hucknall U3A, not just with a new Chair but with three new Committee Members being voted in at the April meeting.

Now is a very appropriate time to thank our outgoing Committee Members, Alan Snape, Sue Spolton and Marilyn Gretton. Committee Members' work often goes under the radar but all three members have put in endless hours of often unseen work on behalf of the Hucknall U3A. They all deserve a huge thank you and will be missed on the Committee.

We have been very fortunate to find three excellent new Committee Members in Angela Cornish, Mark Jackson and Sandra Green. All of them already possess the skills and knowledge to smoothly take on their new roles. Sandra, for example, has extensive experience in her role as Minutes Secretary. Angela has also already begun her role as Webmaster by creating new web addresses for all the Committee and has spent many hours with Sue Spolton to ensure a smooth transition into the role. Mark has already attended a regional meeting and is working on new technology which is becoming increasingly used by local U3A's.

We have a very strong Committee in place and especially with former Chair, David Rose still working with us and we are in a good position going forward. I would also like to express my appreciation to everyone on the Social Committee, who not only organised a wonderful afternoon to celebrate our tenth anniversary but continue to plan and organise so many popular social events for members.

In addition we have an army of Interest Group Leaders who, very ably supported by Co-ordinator, Siobhan, provide the huge range of activities that we are all able to enjoy.

Special thanks also go to the Newsletter Editor, Steve Lawrence, who works incredibly hard to produce our monthly Newsletter. Retiring Chair, David Rose has also been an excellent Chair and I am delighted that he will be staying on as a Committee Member.

Finally, a big thank you to all of our U3A members who attend and support so many groups and activities and indeed are the heart of our U3A.

Just to conclude, you will be aware that because of very untimely health issues I was absent from the April meeting, so may I thank you all for voting me into the role of Chair. I was due to have an operation to counteract a problem in my left eye last week but unfortunately this has now been put back until May 10th, ironically my birthday, so it may be June before I will be leading the Monthly meeting but I look forward to taking to the stage in June and the months ahead.

Barrie Saunders

OUR SPEAKER THIS MONTH

Mike Storr – 'Masters of Mirth': some favourite comedians through the ages

Please forward articles for the next Newsletter to hucknallu3anewsletter@live.co.uk by 1st June 2018

Future Speakers

13th June- Dr Ann Featherstone 'Fools and Horses' – the Victorian circus
11th July - Jo Colby 'Between Stairs'

COMMITTEE CORNER - Notes from our Committee

The committee met on May 2nd 2018

Barrie welcomed the new committee members, Angela Cornish the Webmaster, Sandra Green the Minutes Secretary and Mark Jackson the Business Secretary. There were no apologies.

It was agreed that Andy Smart the speaker at the AGM was an excellent choice. The minutes of the AGM were agreed and 197 members attended the meeting. Speakers are currently booked for the remainder of the year.

Angela the new webmaster appreciated the support from Sue Spolton during the transition She suggested that we update the Policies and Documents section of the website adding the Hucknall U3A constitution and the AGM minutes. Some Interest Groups website information would also benefit from updating.

The financial accounts for March, previously circulated, were discussed and Christine reports a slight increase in room hire charges at both JGC and the Leisure Centre. She is also in a dialogue with the bank around a form of online banking as many of our providers are moving away from cheques.

Philip the equipment manager confirmed that we keep a record of all our equipment and its whereabouts.

David is currently setting up some workshops and 'one session' interactive talks to complement the Interest Groups and the monthly speaker.

Siobhan supported Angela's observations about some group information being dated and will comment on this at the Group Leaders meeting tomorrow Thursday 3rd at 12.30 when the guidance booklet will be made available to all group leaders.

Marguerite reported that membership stands at 453 with 11 on the waiting list.

16 new members joined last month and Alan Snape has been busy with support and guidance for them.

The database of members is planned to be password access only.

Mark has been researching Data Protection and the Beacon System adopted by several U3A's. More information on this will be available at a later date after some committee members have been shown some elements of Beacon as used by Carlton and Gedling U3A.

Mark, Siobhan and Marguerite took part in a 'Keeping it Legal' training event in Birmingham on the 1st May.

Discussions about possible changes to the format of the monthly were initiated and will continue in subsequent months.

Social Sub Committee
HOG ROAST with Acoustic Union



Friday 29th June 7pm to 10.30pm: Cost £10 each

Tickets on sale at the May meeting for U3A members only

GROUP COORDINATOR

Thursday May 3rd saw nearly all the Group Leaders and some of their group helpers meet for an informal lunch at the John Godber Centre.

The lunch was firstly as a thank you from the committee for the work they all put in to keep our groups running so well. Also as a launch of the new Group Leaders Guide book.

If you are thinking of starting a new group or a second group to one that is full please talk to Siobhan who is happy to help.

NEW GROUPS& OTHER NEWS

New group proposal – Pickleball '1 hit and you're hooked'

What is Pickleball ?

It is now the fastest growing sport in North America and shortly will be in Europe. It's great for all ages, especially those wishing to keep active in later life.

Please forward articles for the next Newsletter to hucknallu3newsletter@live.co.uk by 1st June 2018



Pickleball is a racket sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and table tennis. It is easy to learn, fast-paced and extremely fun to play due to the long rallies that occur throughout a game.

Pickleball is almost always played in doubles, although singles is also very popular and fun to play, especially for those looking for a greater challenge.

Typically a PB session is 2 hours - depends on the number interested

It's not hard on the joints at all but you do need reasonable balance.

Don't forget - This is a '1 hit & you're hooked game'.

Check out this link to: pickleballchannel.com

INTERESTED? – Please sign up at the May monthly meeting

Further details will follow.

Workshop Sessions

These are 1 session events and the cost is a nominal £1.00 to cover room hire

1. Confirmed for August 17th 10.30 to 12 noon Main Hall John Godber Centre

The work of the East Midlands Immediate Care Team-What do we do?

East Midlands Immediate Care Scheme covers the whole of the East Midlands.

Our volunteer doctors turn out at all hours, in all weather, 365 days a year, and respond to an average of 4 life-threatening emergencies a day.

Our intervention saves lives, and that's why we do what we do.

Presented by: Dr Tim Gray MBE EMICS Chairman

Please sign up at the May and June monthly meetings

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

ADVENTURE BEFORE DEMENTIA

There were five of us arrived at Woodside Riding Stables on a lovely sunny morning on Wednesday 18th April. After registration we were given a hat to wear and then they brought the horses through,

it wasn't until we had to get on them that we realised how big they were, thankfully there was a mounting block and we were helped on by the staff.

We were taken into the paddock and taught how to make them stop and start and how to turn them left and right and then we went on the hack.

It was a lovely walk through the woods in Bestwood Country Park; the sun was shining through the trees, the horses were well behaved (mind you one of the horses was trying to get amorous with another which could have been a bit embarrassing), apart from that they were well behaved, the staff were friendly and helpful and we thoroughly enjoyed it.



Marguerite

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

We meet at Titchfield Court from 1-3 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Our Co-ordinator, Janet Gibson, gives us a title, sentence or just a word to inspire us to write a piece of around 500 words which we develop at home and then read out to fellow members at the next meeting, for constructive criticism and appraisal. After a short tea-break we then do a ten minute writing exercise.

The Creative Writing Group held on Tuesday, 24th April had an unusual session of listening to three short pieces of music whilst at the same time writing down what this brought to mind etc. We also read out our pieces held over from March and did a short exercise on "Happiness is....."

It has been decided to move our venue from September. Therefore May, June and July sessions will be at Titchfield Court as usual; there is no session in August and from September we shall be meeting at The Liberal Club, West Street which hopefully will be a little more convenient for us transport-wise.

The next Creative Writing Group will be on Tuesday, 22nd May. Why not give it a try? New members are very welcome to join us, just bring pen and paper!

DINING IN GROUP

Today the intrepid 7 met for 'a light lunch' in glorious hot sunshine (25 degrees) in Maureen and Colin's beautiful garden. The light lunch was nibbles with prosecco, 3 courses followed by cheese which no-one could manage and coffee and chocolates. I don't know how they managed it tripping in and out like young gazelles. Oh we do like to enjoy ourselves!

Pauline and Mick

FUN WITH LANGUAGES GROUP

Our April meeting went well despite a few being away on holiday. We prepared and performed role plays in Italian, to build confidence and practise the language skills more. All joined in with good heart amidst much merriment. Some good Italian characters were emerging!!! Well done, everyone.

If anyone new wants to join us the meeting on May 10th at 10.30 at JGC in the Byron Suite would be a good time to join, as we are doing a revision French class then will go on to add to our French repertoire. Please bring all your old French sheets to the meeting. If anyone new is interested, please let me know and I can sort out sheets for you. Liz and I look forward to seeing you on 10th May and do not forget the meal at Moda to practise our Italian is on 17th May at 6.30.

Liz & Ann.

GARDENING GROUP

The group that went to The Beeches on April 10th enjoyed a beautiful garden with an amazing selection of spring flowers in full bloom. The owners were very knowledgeable and gave lots of hints for growing the right plant in the right place. A small group also had a history lesson with a visit to the Mausoleum next door to the garden, built by the 4th Duke of Newcastle, and which was for a time the local parish church. Everyone enjoyed the cake and tea and there was the opportunity to buy plants and take away a little bit of Milton.

Our speaker on 17th April spoke about garden design from earliest times to present day and made us realise just how fortunate we are with the variety of plants that are available to us today.

Our next meeting will be the trip to the Dorothy Clive Garden on May 15th, leaving Hucknall at 10-00am. The coach for this is now full.

At the May U3A meeting we will be taking names and monies for the June trip, on the 19th, to the Norwell Nurseries and Garden, leaving Hucknall Market Place at 10-30am. The cost is £12-50 and includes a tour, talk and tea facilities. Members will need to take a lunch as there is no cafe, just drink facilities.

Also at this meeting we will be taking names and monies for the July trip to Castle Ashby. The cost will be £15-00 and will leave Hucknall Market Place at 10-00 am. All are welcome to our meetings and we look forward to seeing you on our trips.

Anne

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. I am always happy to hear about your recommendations for reasonably priced venues.

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 round! 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. And please offer a contribution towards the

cost of petrol if possible. When putting your name down, if the menu is available, could you please indicate your menu choices at that time. .

On April 25th we went to Ego @ The Ashfields with its beautiful interiors. Food was good also! The Quiz was won by John Orosz and Peter Hindle.

On May 23rd we are trying something different and going to Yamas Tapas at Thurland Street, Nottingham. See the menu on the U3A website.

In June (27th) we are going to the Duke of Wellington in Kirkby and in July we hope to be at Ciao Bella Mansfield again

For any information about the Lunch Group, please contact Sandra Green (sandra.green80@ntlworld.com or tel. 0115 8408132) For any information about the Lunch Group, please contact Sandra Green (sandra.green80@ntlworld.com or tel. 0115 8408132)

MOVEMENT TO MUSIC GROUP

For any queries regarding this group please contact Sue Saunders on (0115) 9559842 or sue_saunders49@yahoo.co.uk

MUSIC FOR PLEASURE GROUP

The meeting of the Music for Pleasure Group this month was a celebration of the 80th birthday of one of our members, Jean. Our host, John, had chosen a suitable selection of music from each of the decades of Jean's life, from the 30's up to the present day. There was a diverse programme consisting of early jazz, popular music of the day and music from the musicals. Everyone enjoyed casting their mind back to the tunes they could remember, although many of us protested that they were 'before our time'! We did have fun guessing the name of the performers though.

There was our by now usual interval spread of buffet food, which we all enjoyed as we presented Jean with gifts of flowers, cake, wine and an 80th birthday balloon!



Thanks, as always, to John, our host.

NOT SO GRUMPY OLD MEN

Late March found the Not So Grumpies digging the dirt with a trip to JCB. Our visit began with a brief and interesting presentation (biscuits and beverages provided) detailing the history of JCB, from the very first trailer produced by Mr JCB in a lock-up garage to the very latest machinery and vehicles produced for a variety of sectors, including agriculture, heavy products, government and defence.

Now a truly multinational organisation, JCB manufactures machines on several continents and also designs and develops its own engines.

The photos show NSGOM members queuing for a test drive in the Mobility version of the Dieselmex Streamliner (a car that at over 350mph holds the land speed record for a diesel-powered car) and proudly showcasing the latest Union Jack livery for the post Brexit European market.



On April 24th we had an interesting visit to a niche manufacturer the John Taylor Bell Foundry in Loughborough.

It was reminiscent of a Dickensian scene of heat dirt and dust(according to some of the group who can still remember 'the good old days').

It was impressive to see the skill of the workforce who not only design cast and tune new bells but also refurbish and refit bells for churches and other organisations.

The bells in Hucknall Parish Church were cast there in 1958.



PUB QUIZ & LUNCH GROUP

The Pub Quiz & Lunch is held on the second Monday of each month at The Nabb Inn. 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. Could I remind you to please check sell by dates on food items for the bumper bag. Please note the maximum number of members per team is five – if there are six of you, could you please divide into two teams of three!

Donations of raffle prizes or items for the Bumper Bag would be gratefully accepted. Just pay the subscription on arrival, then order your lunch at the bar and put your thinking caps on. There is a small table 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.

For any information about the Pub Quiz & Lunch, please contact Sandra Green
(sandra.green80@ntlworld.com or tel. 0115 8408132)

SCIENCE GROUP 2

At our April meeting our guest scientist was Terry Hill who presented some interesting facts about the challenges posed to humans wishing to actually travel to and then spend some of their 'Life on Mars'.

Back on Earth group members Ann and Ian Murray then took the group on a 'spin' around the Hadron Collider and explained some of the cutting edge technology that enables researchers to accelerate particles to almost the speed of light before colliding them and how this helps our understanding of the nature of fundamental particles and our universe.

Thanks to Terry, Ann and Ian

This month Friday 18th 2018 10am to 11.50 am JGC

Part 1: 'Guns, Germs and Steel' the theory advanced by medical physiologist and evolutionary biologist Jared Diamond (DR)

Part 2: Short presentations by group members on your current 'homework' –please bring them along.

David Rose

THEATRE GROUP

On April 4th a group of us went to see 'Cilla The Musical' at the Theatre Royal I think most of us who went thoroughly enjoyed the show. Kara Lily Hayworth who played Cilla had a fabulous voice.

Seven of us went prior to the theatre for lunch to the Alchemist a newish restaurant in Nottingham, I can recommend the food it was very good but possibly a little expensive for lunchtime.

Thanks to Barbara for organising a lovely afternoon



WATERCOLOUR GROUP

The next meeting of the watercolour group will be on Monday 14 May (the first Monday is a Bank Holiday) at the usual place Titchfield Court, Orchard Street, Hucknall starting at 2pm.

Patrick our Tutor is arranging a 'beginners' course which will be held during our two hour session, this will be available for existing members and anyone interested in joining the group.

We have also been invited to enter the 'Byron Festival' art competition which can be in any medium, the theme is 'Newstead Abbey or Byron', the closing date is the end of June.

If you are interest in more information both for the beginners course and the 'Byron Festival' please contact Rose either via the website or at the monthly meeting.

WALKING GROUP (MID LENGTH)

Our walk in April was a 6.5 mile circular starting from The Cross Keys Pub in Epperstone. Led by John and Sue Beharall, it was a lovely rural walk with gentle rolling fields and good views of the countryside. We had the usual mud but our group is well used to that! The weather was great and for the first time this year we had lovely sunshine, apparently ordered by John! The walk concluded with a drink in The Cross Keys.

Our next walk will be on Monday May 21st a Gonalston circular, led by Dave Kay and Ian Raynor.

WALKING GROUP (SHORT LENGTH)

14 members enjoyed a pleasant 4.5 miles walk around the National Watersports Centre and Skylarks nature reserve followed by a meal at The Goose at Gamston. Lovely weather and great company



The walk this month starts from Bleasby. The distance is about 4.5 miles mainly level along the river with some gentle undulations on reasonable ground.

Meet at 9.45 for a 10am on 17th May at the Wagon and Horses Gypsy Lane NG14 7GG

Parking permission has been granted and the food in this pub is 'good value and good quality'.

Liz Edwards /David Rose

WEEKENDERS' GROUP

The 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. Unfortunately for the Weekenders Group at the moment we have to limit numbers to a maximum of 16 for outings and 12 for Social Evenings and Coffee Club. So its regulars 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. Lunches are open to as many people who would like to join us. I should also be grateful for volunteer hosts for the Social Evenings; if you volunteer it means you would only have to do it once every two years!

March Coffee Club was on the 31st when our topic of conversation was our Travelling Tales, many of which were hilarious! Our April Coffee Club will be on Saturday, 28th when we will be planning the May to August programme.

We had a trip to Dobbies and MacArthur Glen on Saturday, 14th April and, as last year, it was a lovely sunny day. We had a quiz on the bus which was won by June Williamson and Doreen Werle. As it was Grand National Day we had a sweepstake which was won by Pauline North. We had an April Social Evening on 21st April (with a St. George's Day flavour) at the home of Ruth Houldsworth and the quiz was won by Lindsay Smith. Many thanks to Ruth for hosting us

For any information about the Weekenders Group, please contact Sandra Green (sandra.green80@ntlworld.com or tel. 0115 8408132)

HUCKNALL & DISTRICT U3A INTEREST GROUPS

May 2018

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 1stWednesday 13:30
 3rdWednesday 11:30

CREATIVE WRITING 4thTuesday 13:00

DISCUSSION 1stMonday 13:45

DRAMA 4thFriday 10:00

FILM CLUB Thursday 10:30& 13:00
Friday 19:15

HISTORY 3rdWednesday 14:00

MUSIC FOR PLEASURE 4thTuesday 19:00

NATIONAL TRUST Various dates & times

READING (BOOKS)* 1stWednesday 14:00

SINGALONGA 3rd Tuesday 10:30

THEATRE various dates

UKULELE 2nd& 4thMonday 10:00

UKULELE FOR BEGINNERS TBA

ACTIVE WELLBEING

ADVENTURE BEFORE DEMENTIA - Various

CYCLING Every Wednesday 9:00

GROWING OLD DISGRACEFULLY* Various

GRUMPY OLD MEN Various

NOT SO GRUMPY OLD MEN Various dates

MOVEMENT TO MUSIC Thursday 10am

KURLING 2ndSunday 3-5pm

SEATED EXERCISE 4th Monday 10am

WALKING (LONG) 1stTuesday 10:00

WALKING (MID)* 3rdMonday 10:00

WALKING (SHORT) 3rdThursday 10:00

FOOD & DRINK

DINING IN 1stTuesday

***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

INTERNATIONAL DINING As Arranged

LATE BREAKFAST 1stFriday 09:15

LUNCH GROUP 4thWednesday 12:00

PUB QUIZ & LUNCH 2ndMonday 12:00

WINE APPRECIATION* 3rd Monday 19:30

WINE TASTING * 3rdWednesday 19:30

HOBBIES & PASTIMES

CANASTA 1st& 4thFriday 19:00

CRAFT 1 * 3rd Monday 13.45

CRAFT 2 2ndTuesday 14:00

GARDENING 3rd Tuesday 14:00

HOLIDAYS various dates

KNITTING & CROCHET 4thTuesday 14:00

MAH JONG 2ndFriday 19:00

POT LUCK * 1stWednesday 19:30

RUMMIKUB 1stMonday 2:00pm

SCRABBLE 4thThursday 14:00

TABLE GAMES 3rdFriday 19:00

WATER COLOUR 1stMonday 14:00

WEEKENDERS various Sat & Sun.

LANGUAGES

FRENCH CONVERSATION* 3rdTuesday 10:00

FUN WITH LANGUAGES 2nd Thursday 10:30

SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

BIRD WATCHING 2ndTuesday 10:30

SCIENCE 1 4thThursday 10:00

SCIENCE 2 3rdFriday 10:00
