



# NEWSLETTER

Issue December 2018

Web Address: [www.hucknallu3a.org.uk](http://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 write my final message from of the year it is a good time to say thank you to so many people and also to reflect on another successful and busy year for the Hucknall U3A.

Thanks firstly, must go to you the members who make the U3A. Whether, you attend the monthly meeting or attend one or many Interest Groups, then you are the lifeblood of our U3A.

Your Executive Committee has met monthly and worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of the U3A at a time when we have seen many challenges especially in relation to Privacy Policies and Data Protection.

It has been a very busy year for the Social Committee who have produced some wonderful Social Events especially the magnificent Ten Year Celebrations. Again we owe them all a huge thank you.

Behind the scenes Steve Lawrence has continued to work tirelessly to produce our Monthly Newsletter, often under intense pressure to meet time deadlines.

All of our Interest Group leaders have given freely of their time and also deserve a big thank you.

Alan Snape has also worked very hard to encourage new members to join in as fully as possible with our activities while also still finding time to set up new Interest Groups.

We have also enjoyed an excellent series of Speakers and Entertainers over the year who also deserve our thanks.

The December meeting features our Groups Showcase, a feature which is both enjoyable and also shows the wealth of talent in the Hucknall U3A.

It just remains now for me to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Barrie Saunders, Chairman**

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Please forward articles for the next Newsletter to [hucknallu3anewsletter@live.co.uk](mailto:hucknallu3anewsletter@live.co.uk) by 28<sup>th</sup> December 2018  
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## OUR SPEAKER THIS MONTH

**No Speaker this month – Christmas Social**

### **Future Speakers**

9<sup>th</sup> January – William French "The Butler"  
13<sup>th</sup> February – Mark Walsh "Comedian, Musician and Speaker"  
13<sup>th</sup> March – Ian Morgan "Footpads, Kings and Highwaymen"

## COMMITTEE CORNER - Notes from our Committee

Due to printing deadline issues, there is no Committee Corner this month but you can catch up with our December Executive Committee in the Committee Minutes which will appear on the website, after being formally approved in early January.

Barrie

## Hucknall U3A Membership Renewals

The membership renewals for 2019/2020 will be implemented in February 2019. The subscription fee will be £15.00 for full members and £11.50 for associate members. Renewal letters will be sent out by email where possible in January, all others members will receive their renewal letter by post. Will you please ensure your payment is made before the end of February, cheques made payable to Hucknall & District U3A.

There will be a box in the Youth Wing at the February meeting for cash payments and cheques (please put them in an envelope with your renewal letters).

## Hucknall U3A 2019 Calendar & 2018 Mug

Not Black Friday or Mega Monday.

It's Mug and Calendar Christmas Lunch and annual Showcase event very special offer!

2018 is a special year and to commemorate it we have available a limited number of printed mugs.

On sale as you leave the Christmas Lunch on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and on Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> December

Cost: Great value at £4.00 each



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And our very own calendar to keep track of all U3A events, child care duties, medical appointments, lunch dates and other social occasions a must buy also at the special event price of **£4.00**



On 16<sup>th</sup> March 2019 we have organised an Irish Night at the JGC, featuring Kelly's Heroes.

Tickets will be on **SALE** for £8 at the January Members meeting (members only) and at the February Meeting

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# THE SOCIAL SUB COMMITTEE CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2019

## 16th March 2019 - Saturday

### IRISH NIGHT

Tickets: £8	Time: 8 - 10.30pm
Doors open:	7.30pm
Entertainment:	KELLYS HEROES
Catering:	Bring Your Own Food

## 7th June 2019 - Friday

### QUIZ NIGHT

Tickets: £7.50	Time: 7 - 10.30pm
Doors open:	7.00pm
Quiz Master:	JOHN ELLIS
Catering:	Supplied

## 28th SEPTEMBER 2019 - Saturday

### NORTHERN SOUL NIGHT

Tickets: £ TBA	Time: TBA
Doors Open:	TBA
Entertainment:	NORTHERN LINE SOUL BAND
Catering:	Bring Your Own Food

## 2nd DECEMBER 2019 - Monday

### THE CHRISTMAS LUNCH & SOCIAL

Tickets: £11	Time: 12.15 - 3.45pm
Doors Open:	11.30am
Entertainment:	TBA
Catering:	Supplied

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## **NEW GROUPS, WORKSHOPS & OTHER NEWS**

### **NEW GROUPS**

#### **BEGINNERS FRENCH GROUP - APPEAL FOR A FRENCH TUTOR**

We have sixteen members who are keen to start up a Beginners French class in the New Year. However, they need a person/tutor/teacher to get the group up and running successfully. Ideally we would like a French Teacher or someone who is fluent in conversational French.

If you feel that you may be able to help please contact Alan Snape on 07940146542 or by email at [alansnape@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alansnape@hotmail.co.uk). Your support would be greatly appreciated. Alan Snape

### **NEWS FROM THE GROUPS**

#### **ARTS & FILMS INFORMATION GROUP**

To receive a regular update of the Arts Information Calendar showing upcoming events in the Nottingham area contact Alan Snape on 07940146542 or [alansnape@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alansnape@hotmail.co.uk)

The calendar includes events at The Royal Concert Hall, The Broadway Cinema, The Bonington Theatre/Cinema in Arnold, plus news of International live transmissions of Opera, Ballet, and Theatre. If you have news of local entertainment events and would like them included in the calendar please pass on the details to Alan.

#### **BREWING SCIENCE & HISTORY GROUP**

16 of us had a very interesting and educating tour around The Castle Rock Brewery on 27th Nov. Learning more about the science of the brewing process and how different beers and tastes are developed by three degree of roasting the barley and using a varying mixture of hops. We also learned the history of the brewery from its original setup in 1977, through its development and growth to the present day. The tour concluded by sampling several different beers including a Mango Milkshake flavoured one, definitely an acquired taste. Many thanks to our guide Peter and to our member Mark for organising. A good day had by all.

Our future outings are to be Hucknall Fri 21st Dec, meeting in the Beer shack, Fri 18th Jan around Canning Circus area and in February, we are looking at visiting The Notts Archives for a talk on 'Pubs and Beer Houses' by the Notts Family History Society.

#### **CHOIR GROUP**

2018 has been a tough year for the choir. Our recently widowed Musical Director suffered a stroke and was absent for some time, with difficulty Margaret, our accompanist, generously took both roles, and soldiered on with us. Our founder and co-ordinator of eight years felt unable to continue, and numbers generally have been down, due to ill health or injuries. Thank you for setting us on our way, Doreen, and we hope things soon pick up for you, and for everyone. Nonetheless, we have two potential concerts to arrange, and have performed three concerts in the last few weeks, which we've enjoyed, and for which we've received some very nice compliments and thanks. We're pleased Christine is well and back with us, and I'd like to thank both her and Margaret for all their efforts and patience this year. We have a few new members, but should welcome more, and with a new programme of songs planned for the new year, this would be a good time to join us.

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We begin 2019 with our first meeting on the third Wednesday of January, members please note the time and date, 11.30 on the 16th January. Merry Christmas Everyone!

## **CREATIVE WRITING GROUP**

We meet from 1-3 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Our venue is the Liberal Club on West Street. Members are given 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 or something similar.

In November our homework for January was to choose a photo from a group of "faces" depicted and write about what the photo told us. It was surprising how different the stories were. Members had also contributed their personal Christmas anecdotes for a booklet the Group had produced for the December Showcase meeting. We had also entered a Christmas Tree on behalf of the U3A for the Church Tree Competition. This was entitled "Create the 'write' words for Christmas" and included fans made from U3A publicity leaflets with pens hanging from them, accompanied by "words for Christmas" hanging from the branches. We did our best! New members are very welcome to join us on Group sessions, just bring pen and paper! There is no meeting in December but the January meeting will be on Tuesday, 22nd January.

## **CYCLING GROUP**

Weather permitting rides will continue every Wednesday until the 19th December which will be our

'Festive Breakfast Ride'. This year arranged by Irene to the Leen Valley Golf Club following an appetite inducing circuit of about 15 miles.

We start again in 2019 on Wednesday 9th January. David and Irene

## **DISCUSSION GROUP**

The topic for our meeting on the 3rd December was "Do we live in the patriarchal society"? As you can imagine this proved a lively debate and as the only man present for most of the discussion I felt rather beleaguered. However the discussion was conducted in good humour and many interesting points were raised, including equal pay, gender equality, the role of women in today's society (particularly with the introduction of many labour saving devices – giving more time for women for other activities), the traditional role of women, and the disparity between sections of commerce and industry, particularly in relation to the pay gap. It was noted that studies have been made in this respect but more needed to be done. Women make up 50% of the population but not in the Board Rooms of industry or in Parliament. It was pointed out that changes had been made in the developed world but many other countries see the role of women in society rather differently, either for religious or cultural reasons. We concluded by agreeing that what women were really looking for was equal opportunities within society. The topics for the next meeting: -

1. Should there be time limits/restrictions for advertising leading up to Christmas, Easter etc?
2. The Power of the Media
3. Should drivers over 70 be subject to a medical as to their fitness to drive? There will be no meeting in December.

James Spray

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## **FUN WITH LANGUAGES GROUP**

The group met in November when we practiced our short play for the Christmas Showcase event, amidst great fun and laughter. All enjoyed the morning and we have some budding actors around. everyone joined in so well so congratulations! We just have to pull it off on the day! This is 12th December 2.0 till 4.00pm at the Leisure centre. I have Emailed members information about the other rehearsal times.

The 20th November will be our meal at French Living and the usual language meeting on 13th December in JGC at 10.30 will be our Christmas nibbles event. Please bring along the items you volunteered or anything you would like to share.

2019. We are always open to new members so feel free to come along for a taster session. Our meeting in January will be 10th at JGC at 10.30 in the Byron Suite. We shall be continuing with Spanish so please bring along your sheets for a revision session to start the new year. If you are new and want to come sheets are available. Please Email Liz Attenborough or me, Ann Murray for any information.

A happy and peaceful Christmastide to one and all. Ann and Liz.

## **GARDENING GROUP**

In spite of a cold, miserable afternoon we had a good turnout for the November meeting. We talked about which favourite plant we would absolutely have to have in our garden and why, and what plant we were in human form. This raised a few laughs as we tried to guess the plant that members were describing. It was interesting hearing the reasons for choosing plants and lots were because they reminded us of other people. So our gardens are full of memories as well as flowers, vegetables, shrubs, trees and weeds!

After all this, members were rewarded with cake of the vegetable kind. Recipes for the four cakes will be available at the next meeting.

Just a reminder, the next meeting will be on Tuesday 18th December, at 1.30pm (not 2.00) until 3.30pm at the John Godber Centre. We look forward to seeing you there. Anne

## **HISTORY GROUP**

There is no meeting in December – too near Christmas.

For the January meeting I have booked Denis Hill to come and tell us about the History of Ashfield. I am sure a lot of you already know Denis who used to work at Ashfield District Council and is a fantastic historian.

My brother Michael, whom most of you have met, has a new talk called British Connexions in Europe (without a mention of Brexit) so I have asked him to come and speak to us again.

Please don't forget we need to organise meetings and visits for next year. Check on the lists for meetings next year and mark up your favourite places to visit so I can get buses ordered and bookings started.

Maureen Newton

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## **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 would love to hear about your recommendations for reasonably priced venues as we have been going for nearly ten years and are running out of new venues!

When putting your name down, if the menu is available, either at the meeting or on the website, could you please indicate your menu choices at that time.

On November 28th we went to Holly Tree Farm Carvery just off the Strelley Bypass where we had a lovely Carvery meal with excellent service from the staff. The quiz winners were June Williamson and Doreen Werle. After I read out the quiz answers, a lady from another table came and asked if she could have it for her group! My fame widens.

We hope to go to The Hutt in January so see the details on the website.

## **PICKLEBALL GROUP**

The regular Thursday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm will continue until December 13th when we will hold a fun end of term doubles tournament.

In 2019 we restart on the 10th January. David Rose.

## **PUB QUIZ & LUNCH GROUP**

The Pub Quiz & Lunch is held on the second Monday of each month at 12 noon 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, please divide into two teams of three and invite a new member to join you!

Donations of raffle prizes or items for the Bumper Bag are gratefully accepted. Just pay the subscription on arrival, then, if you wish to eat, 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. The November Pub Quiz on the 12th November was packed with 36 members wracking their brains; this was won by CornerWise with runners up Minus Two. The next Pub Quiz will be on Monday, 10th December

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## READING GROUP

In November we read the autobiography by Chris Packham - "Fingers in the Sparkle Jar". In December we had a fuddle and a brief discussion on the books we had read this month.

We also attend talks put on by Hucknall Library with guest authors, which can be very enlightening. The Library also has a "Crime Café" on the second Tuesday of each month, with guest speakers as well as discussions.

## SCIENCE GROUP 2

At our November meeting the group attempted examples of the tasks set in selecting suitable trainee astronauts based on the book 'Ask an Astronaut' by Tim Peake.

We also had a visual review of some of our sessions and topics over the last 12 months and shared some for suggestions for 2019.

Derek Blower then gave an interesting talk on the pioneering work of Dr Archibald McIndoe and the 'Guinea Pig Club' - Rebuilding Bodies & Souls

In September 1939, the arrival of Archibald McIndoe in East Grinstead changed the history of the town, its hospital and the lives of those he touched, forever.

The 649 Allied Aircrew treated at the Queen Victoria Hospital knew that they were, "just a guinea pig for the Maestro." The pioneering treatment of burns patients by McIndoe and his team has gone on to underpin modern plastic surgery as we know it today. McIndoe's interest in his men did not stop with his surgical procedures. He knew if the men were to have any future he needed to help them recover their place in the world too. More information can be found at [www.historylearningsite.co.uk](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk)

Next Meeting: Friday December 21<sup>st</sup> JGC 10am to 12 noon. 'The science of Sight and Hearing and methods of alleviating age and genetic related defects'. Guest Presenter Janet Archer from Specsavers. David Rose

## THEATRE GROUP

The Full Monty – Theatre Royal, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – 2pm, Tickets £28.00  
 Dr Dolittle – Theatre Royal, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019, 2pm, Tickets £39.50  
 Kinky Boots – Theatre Royal, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019, 2:30pm, Tickets £57.50 (Cheaper if >10 people)  
 Avenue Q – Theatre Royal, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019, 4pm, Tickets £38.00

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## WALKING GROUP (SHORT LENGTH)

Christmas came early for 23 short walkers with a local 4.5 mile circular trek over Beacon Hill, Misk Hills via Misk Farm and back along Long Lane to The Nabb Inn for a 'Festive Fayre' meal.



Next Walk: Thursday January 17th 2019 Happy New Year!

## WALKING GROUP (MID LENGTH)

In November our walk was from The Unicorn Hotel and Pub at Gunthorpe Bridge. Our 5 mile circular took us along the River Trent to Burton Joyce, where we had coffee by the river and then returned via a different route. Most people hadn't walked in that direction before and were surprised to find out how pleasant the views were. As this was our last walk of the year, all 31 of us had lunch at The Unicorn, which was very efficiently served and most welcome.

We have several new walk leaders for next year, which is great news because it takes the pressure off our regulars. I would like to thank everyone for their hard work; we have a great team and a thriving group.

All our walk leaders met at the beginning of November and we have 2019 mapped out.

Our next walk will be an Architectural Awareness Walk in Nottingham City Centre, on Monday January 21st 2019. Sue Tedstone (Coordinator)

## WEEKENDERS' GROUP

The next Weekenders programme for January to April will be posted on the U3A website in the New Year so please contact me if you are interested in our events. We like to organise a Lunch, a Social Evening, an Outing and a Coffee Club get together each month, plus any other events we might be interested in.

Our November Social Evening was a Winter Warmer at the home of Joyce Crane on the 10th and the Soup & Sandwich followed by Apple Pie & Cream was much appreciated. Many thanks to Joyce for hosting. Our November lunch was at The Broomhill on 18th. We made a Christmas craft item at our 24th November Coffee Club session and ended the month by getting even more into the festive frame of mind with an outing with Christmas Lunch and Panto at Thoresby Hall on 29th. This was followed by an outing to the Blue Diamond Garden Centre at East Bridgford on 7th December followed by our Christmas Social Evening at Lindsay Smith's on the 8th December.

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## **HUCKNALL & DISTRICT U3A INTEREST GROUPS**

### **December 2018**

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

#### **ARTS**

CHOIR                      1<sup>st</sup>Wednesday 13:30  
                                  3<sup>rd</sup>Wednesday 11:30

CREATIVE WRITING    4<sup>th</sup>Tuesday 13:00

DISCUSSION            1<sup>st</sup>Monday 13:45

DRAMA                    4<sup>th</sup>Friday 10:00

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

HISTORY                3<sup>rd</sup>Wednesday 14:00

MUSIC FOR PLEASURE 4<sup>th</sup>Tuesday 19:00

NATIONAL TRUST      Various dates & times

READING (BOOKS)\*   1<sup>st</sup>Wednesday 14:00

SINGALONGA           3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 10:30

THEATRE                various dates

UKULELE                2<sup>nd</sup>& 4<sup>th</sup>Monday 10:00

#### **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

KURLING                2<sup>nd</sup>Sunday 3-5pm

MOVEMENT TO MUSIC Thursday 10:00

PICKLEBALL            Thursday 14:00

SEATED EXERCISE    4<sup>th</sup> Monday 14:00

WALKING (LONG)      1<sup>st</sup>Tuesday 10:00

WALKING (MID)\*      3<sup>rd</sup>Monday 10:00

WALKING (SHORT)    3<sup>rd</sup>Thursday 10:00

#### **FOOD & DRINK**

INTERNATIONAL DINING As Arranged

LATE BREAKFAST      1<sup>st</sup>Friday 09:15

LUNCH GROUP        4<sup>th</sup>Wednesday 12:00

PUB QUIZ & LUNCH    2<sup>nd</sup>Monday 12:00

WINE APPRECIATION\* 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 19:30

WINE TASTING \*        3<sup>rd</sup>Wednesday 19:30

#### **HOBBIES & PASTIMES**

CANASTA                1<sup>st</sup>& 4<sup>th</sup>Friday 19:00

CRAFT 1 \*              3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 13.45

CRAFT 2                2<sup>nd</sup>Tuesday 14:00

GARDENING            3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 14:00

HOLIDAYS              various dates

KNITTING & CROCHET 4<sup>th</sup>Tuesday 14:00

MAH JONG              2<sup>nd</sup>Friday 19:00

POT LUCK \*            1<sup>st</sup>Wednesday 19:30

RUMMIKUB1            1<sup>st</sup>Monday 14:00

RUMMIKUB2            Thursday 13.00

SCRABBLE              4<sup>th</sup>Thursday 14:00

TABLE GAMES          3<sup>rd</sup>Friday 19:00

WATER COLOUR        1<sup>st</sup>Monday 14:00

WEEKENDERS          various Sat & Sun.

#### **LANGUAGES**

FRENCH CONVERSATION\* 3<sup>rd</sup>Tuesday 10:00

FUN WITH LANGUAGES 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 10:30

#### **SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

BIRD WATCHING        2<sup>nd</sup>Tuesday 10:30

SCIENCE 1              4<sup>th</sup>Thursday 10:00

SCIENCE 2              3<sup>rd</sup>Friday 10:00

**\*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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