

NEWSLETTER



Issue January 2017

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

After quite an eventful 2016 the committee and I wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year

During December we had some events to look back on and to celebrate.

The Christmas meal was as popular as ever and the feedback was that it was a great occasion with an excellent meal in a very convivial atmosphere. Thanks again to the Social Sub-Committee for their first class organisation.

The 'Showcase' monthly meeting on the 14th was an ideal platform for some of our Interest Groups to demonstrate their talents – a report follows later in this newsletter. Thanks to Siobhan for co-ordinating this and for all the members who performed on the day.

Finally our 'Cycle of Life' Christmas tree displayed at the Christmas Festival was awarded 1st place out of 61 entries. It was a great team effort and the fantastic contributions of the Interest Group based decorations that went on the tree were really creative.

Thanks to John and Sue Gibson of the Cycle Group who put it all together on our behalf.

Hucknall U3A really has got talent.

David Rose - Chairman

FUTURE SPEAKERS

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

8th March 2017 – Paul Casper – "George Formby"

12th April 2017 – Diane Mannering – "Send us Some Women"

Please forward articles for the next Newsletter to hucknallu3anewsletter@live.co.uk by 27th January 2017

OUR SPEAKER THIS MONTH

Peter Hammond – “So you think you know Nottingham”

Peter Hammond who is a qualified archaeologist and an experienced local and family historian. He has many tales and will speak about “So you think you know Nottingham”.

COMMITTEE CORNER - Notes from our Committee

The committee met on January 4th 2017

The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed as a true document with no changes.

An update from Barrie Saunders our Business Secretary confirmed the renewal of our Public Liability Insurance for 2017. If any of our meeting venues request proof of this copies are available.

Renewal of our Public Performance Licence was also confirmed.

Our Treasurer Christine Berril reported that arrangements were in place to produce and verify our annual financial accounts for January to December 2016.

The process has started for membership renewal and details will be sent out to members early in February.

Since 2018 is the 10 year anniversary of Hucknall and District U3A we decided that all members for 2017-2018 will receive a complimentary U3A diary for **next year 2018**

David Rose is to take over the responsibility for Gift Aid from John Ellis who was kind enough to make the successful application to set this up and who has organised our submissions from its inception.

Our thanks go to John for doing this. It is a cost effective way of enhancing our income.

January Sale 50% off (who can resist that?)

The remaining 2017 U3A Diaries will be on sale at the bargain price of £1.00. They will be available on the ‘signing in’ table at the January meeting.

If any committee member or group leader is still to receive their diary please collect it from me at the meeting.

David Rose

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Renewals are due by the 1st March 2017. Each member will receive by post a letter in January 2017 containing a renewal invitation and a 2017/2018 renewal form.

For those members who wish to bring their renewal form and cheque to the general meeting rather than posting them, there will be a box in the Youth Wing reception in February, please ensure that your cheque and renewal form are attached or in an envelope. Marguerite

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THANK YOU

A big thank you to all the people who took part in our first 'Showcase'.

The artwork from our water colour group and the creative writing group on display at the back of the hall showed what diverse talents we have at our U3A.

The event started with a skit from our drama group, which had us all in stitches. Our choir then delivered some truly wonderful Christmas themed tunes. The break made short work of the sausage rolls and mince pies, everyone hurried back to be in place for our very own ukulele orchestra which were every bit as good at this event as they were at the hog roast. The singalong was so funny I am thinking of putting it to the committee that we have to sing it at every monthly U3A meeting. The afternoon was rounded off by a fashion show of jumpers, cardigans and handbags.

Thank you to the audience for coming to support the groups who took part and especially for taking part.



Raising Awareness of Dementia Sessions- A 'one off' learning opportunity

1. Tuesday 31st January 2017

2. Wednesday 1st February 2017

The time for both these free sessions is from 11am to 12 noon on both days in the Studio at the John Godber Centre

Please note the content is identical and there are 2 sessions to enable members to choose the day which is most convenient to them.

Currently 17 members have signed up for Tuesday and 9 for Wednesday .Places are still available on both days and names can be added at the main meeting on the 11th January. David Rose.

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Driving in the 3rd Age November 30th 1pm to 3pm

I really wasn't quite sure what to expect. However I had no need to have worried as it was a very interesting afternoon. The two ladies from The East Midlands Road Safety Partnership who presented the slide show were very entertaining and made the questions on road safety fun. We had a big beefy fireman who chipped in on certain questions and a driving instructor who put us right on a few important driving points and answered questions. After a welcome cuppa and mince pie, we were invited to chat to the Kwik-fit Tyre man, who was giving out free goodie bags, looking at general aids to motoring, including a shiny copy of the Highway Code.

We tried out the drinks table, only cold tea was on offer masquerading as alcohol! As an additional special treat we were given the opportunity to sign up for a free one hour driving assessment. We then settled down and did a quiz on the Highway Code. It was very hi tec, we used remotes and were able to record our answers on a screen. Wow. Overall it was a good and helpful afternoon and we may all benefit and be better drivers. (even better drivers? Ed.). Barbara Ives.



SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Dates for your Diary 2017

Saturday 3rd June – Quiz Night and Supper – Brush up on your general Knowledge and supper too!

Saturday 21st October – Jazz Night with the great "Phoenix Jazz Group".

Monday 4th December – U3A Christmas Social. Entertainment and meal, Fun Friends and FOOD (again)

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NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

THE ARTS GROUP

To be included in the circulation list of our monthly calendar of Films, Plays, Concerts and such please drop an e mail to alansnape@hotmail.co.uk and for further information contact Alan on 07940146542.

DINING IN GROUP

Our 'Dining In' get together was very festive affair with the men all in red shirts and Malcolm in the full monty (santa suit) and Conrad in a very jaunty elf hat with bells and lights. Our theme was red silver and gold and everyone followed this dress code and looked very Christmassy. We played 3 quiz games and everyone won a prize. We all indulged in a plethora (well it is Christmas) of food, drink and presents and are now eager for 2017.

Happy New Year everyone from all of us. Pauline and Mick.

DRAMA GROUP

The Hucknall U3A Drama Group meet at our Group leaders home on the 4th Friday of each month at 10.00 for 2 hours. We do play reading and every so often rehearse a short playlet to present to the rest of our U3A. Should you wish to join our group of currently 8 members please contact group leader Janet Stevenson 9636168 or Alan Snape on 9273524 or alansnape@hotmail.co.uk.

GARDENING GROUP

Our first meeting of 2017 will not be until Tuesday February 21st and as usual will be held at the John Godber Centre, Ogle Street, in The Byron suite commencing at 2.00 p.m. when our speaker will be Steve Wright from Burton Joyce. All U3A members welcome. Further information available from Group leader Alan Snape 07940146542 or alansnape@hotmail.co.uk.

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

On December 22nd we went to the Albert Hall, Nottingham for our Christmas Lunch which as usual was superb and the staff were excellent. Our quiz was a "guess the Christmas song" which was won by the team made up of Pat Rose, Christine Chadwick, Kay Burton and Sue Tongue. The Christmas Sweepstake was won by Sue Foss, with runners up prizes going to Sylvia Turner and John Berrill. Twelve of us then followed it up with a visit to the Nottingham Playhouse for a performance of Aladdin. Oh yes we did! Many thanks to the Lunch Group members for their very kind gift and cards and I look forward to many more good company in 2017.

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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. The menu is on the website. On February 22nd we are hopefully returning to Mr. Man's Chinese Restaurant at Wollaton Park but this is yet to be confirmed,

NATIONAL TRUST GROUP

Two trips have been planned for March and April. Booking for the March trip will commence at the January monthly meeting.

Wednesday 29 March 2017

We will be visiting Belton House, Nr Grantham and depending on the weather we could be in for a real treat with a vast expanse of daffodils in the grounds. The fare including the driver's tip is £7.00. There are guided tours below stairs but you will have to book on these on arrival. We will be leaving Hucknall Leisure Centre at 9.30 am.

Friday 28 April 2017

Our second trip of the year will be to the charming Helmsley Market Town, near the North York Moors and Beningbrough Hall, Nr York. We had planned to go to Beningbrough Hall last year but due to circumstances beyond our control we never made it. So fingers crossed that this time we will be successful. The fare is £10.00. We will be leaving Hucknall Leisure Centre at 8.00 am.

PUB QUIZ & LUNCH GROUP

Our Christmas Quiz was on Monday, 12th December, unfortunately (but not unsurprisingly) there were only eighteen members present. Donations of "Christmassy" raffle prizes and Bumper Bag items were gratefully accepted and there were enough prizes for everyone to be a winner! There was a Christmas Lucky Dip bag also The quiz was quite hard but the winning team with 20 out of 25 points was "The Christmas Trio" with "Whatever" team coming second. Our January Quiz will be on Monday, 9th January at 12 noon.

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. 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.

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.

SCIENCE1 & 2 GROUP (S)

This month we had a combined event a 'Science of Christmas Quiz'

The teams were a mix of science 1 and 2 members with 35 questions each from Quizmasters David Rose and Rob McEwen. Following the U3A code of practice seasonal refreshments were taken at half

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time, a surfeit of mince pies, cakes and savoury items together with soft drinks tea and coffee. As scientists we are especially keen on healthy eating and so of course salad was available.

Thanks to Christine Berrill, Marguerite Hodgkinson and their helpers for coordinating the food and drink.

All the teams did well but the worthy winners were a team consisting of: Freddie Ridley and John Daniels from group 1 and Alan and Janet Newton from group 2. (See Photo below)



David Rose and James Spray

THEATRE GROUP

Patience by Gilbert & Sullivan Society, Ravenshead Village Hall, 8th February, 14:30, £10.00

The Red Shoes, Ballet, Theatre Royal, 9th March, 14:00, £29.50

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night, Theatre Royal, 5th April, 14:00, £28.50

Remembering Fred, Strictly Dancers, Royal Concert Hall, 19th April, 19:30, £35.00

The Wedding Singer, Theatre Royal, 13th May, 14:30, £37.50

Shirley Valentine Jodie Prenger, Theatre Royal, 24th May, £22.50

West Side Story, Theatre Royal, 31st May, £24.00

Kevin & Karen from Strictly, Royal Concert Hall, 1st June, 19:30, £37.00

Funny Girl, Theatre Royal, 17th June, 14:30, £49.50

The Adams Family, Musical Comedy, Theatre Royal, 28th June, 14:00, £31.50

Out of Order, Comedy, Theatre Royal, 19th July, 14:00, £25.50

Crazy for You Musical Theatre, Theatre Royal, 4th October, 14:00, £32.50

My Fair Lady, Musical Theatre, 25th October, 14:30, £18.00

The Little Mermaid, Ballet, Theatre Royal, 9th November, 14:00, £30.00

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

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WALKING GROUP (MID LENGTH)

Monday 16th January

Our next walk on Monday 16th January will be an easy 6 mile walk, starting from the Bowman Pub in Hucknall.

We will be walking around Bestwood Lakes and the Country Park. Please let Sue Tedstone know if you wish to join the group.

WEEKENDERS' GROUP

A copy of the Weekenders programme from January to April will be on the Hucknall U3A website early in January. 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.

We enjoyed our usual December Coffee Club session (with many laughs at tales of unusual Christmas gifts received in previous years). Our trip to Melton Mowbray Victorian Christmas Market took place on Sunday, 4th December; on the main stage in the market place there was a Rock Choir (superb) and a good soprano singer, plus other music makers and the streets were full of Morris Dancers and members of the public dressed in full Victorian fashion. There was a long queue for the Christmas Tree Festival in St. Mary's Church but well worth the wait to see the attractive and well thought out trees decorated by local organisations and individuals. We bought Christmas bargains at the many street stalls and there was a wide variety of cooked foods on offer.

Our Christmas Lunch was on 17th December with yet another lovely meal at Encounters in Nottingham. We had a Christmas Fuddle at my house on 10th December when we entertained ourselves with charades, a quiz and dingbats and lots of lively laughter and good food. Our Coffee Club and Programme Planning will be on 31st December. So it was a pretty busy end to the year for the Weekenders. The next Coffee Club will be on Saturday, 28th January, 2-4 pm.

U3A HOLIDAYS

Christmas Festive Special, 4th December 2017, Cumberland Hotel Scarborough

5 days.4 nights dinner bed breakfast, plus 2 lunches in resort.

Festive entertainment programme, 2 excursions included.

All rooms with tea coffee and private facilities. Lifts to all floors, great choice on menu.Coach pick up from Mansfield, Sutton and Kirkby.

£199.00pp twin room (£25.00 supplement for single rooms).

Taking bookings ,January, £40.00 deposit cheques made to Alfa Ltd.

Caroline Rhoades, 01623721987 crhoades159@gmail.com

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HUCKNALL & DISTRICT U3A INTEREST GROUPS JANUARY 2017

For further details contact Siobahn 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	4 th Tuesday 13:00
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
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SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

BIRD WATCHING	2nd Tuesday 10:30
SCIENCE 1*	4th Thursday 10:00
SCIENCE 2	3rd Friday 10:00
TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	Tue and Thu 10am Wednesday 2pm

*Indicates group full. If you are interested then contact Siobhan who will be 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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