

Chairman's Report March 21st Monthly meeting

The Chairman welcomed 140 members and guests to the March meeting. Several new members attended this, their first monthly meeting.

The Chairman drew attention to the Privacy statement on the forms and explained the reasons why the two boxes needed to be ticked. He assured everyone that the data base is used by Beccles U3A to keep in touch with our members and allow us to forward members addresses in order for them to receive the magazine "Third Age Matters". This is part of the Capitation Fee paid to the Third Age Trust by Beccles U3A.

The Convenors will be requesting to see their members' new 2018/19 membership cards at their first meeting in April. We need to ensure that everyone is a fully paid up member whether they are in a group, go on visits or attend the monthly meetings. Sam Mauger, the CEO of the U3A reinforced the importance of this when she attended the Convenors Meeting on 9th March at the Waveney House Hotel.

The Chair requested that members should allow the monthly speakers to complete their talks followed by any questions and the vote of thanks before leaving.

The Renewals session was very successful last Friday 16th March as over 200 members renewed their membership during the morning. In addition several groups promoted their Group Interest and were pleased to gain new members to their groups. The Groups Coordinator was also at the session manning the Groups table and has supplied the following report:-

At the renewals day last Friday, people were asked to indicate which new groups they would like to see and to sign up to them if they were interested.

The new groups were:-

Archaeology, Cribbage, Yoga/meditation for beginners, Latin, Beginners Italian 2, Beer appreciation, Wine appreciation, Computer confidence, Line dancing, History (not local history)

Paul is hoping to get some of these off the ground in the next few weeks. All those members who left their details will be contacted.

There is a new French group entitled "Tourist French for absolute beginners" It starts on Friday 13th April. If anyone is interested please contact Kate O'Brien via the Bird.

English Country Dance - Wednesday 28th March. The English Country Dance Group is holding a special open meeting. They will be dancing to the River Hundred Band at the Quaker Hall from 10am - 12 noon. U3A members and prospective members are invited to attend.

In Mu Gurbtt's absence, Diane Dungate introduced the speaker Dr Joy Hawkins, and gave the vote of thanks.

