

## March 2016 Monthly Meeting Report

The chair thanked the convenors and their teams for making the Showcase Event held last Friday(11th) at the Public Hall such a success. It was estimated that over 300 people enjoyed the excellent displays and demonstrations. There was a great buzz to the occasion and all concerned were asked to applaud and congratulate themselves on their presentations.

Although some groups attracted new members making them more sound and viable others had to create waiting lists as their groups became full. The issue of waiting lists will be discussed at the next committee meeting. Those on waiting lists were asked to bear with the situation for the time being.

The Beccles and Bungay Journal were at the event and it is hoped that they will give a full report with several pictures in this week's publication.

Andy McMahon (Digital Photography Group) was thanked for taking pictures at the event. These can be viewed in a special Showcase gallery which can be accessed via a link on the Latest News page.

The chair made members aware that nomination forms had been sent out in the recent renewals pack posted to all members. He stated that our constitution allowed for a minimum of 8 people and a maximum of 14 to be on the committee. We at present have 9 committee members but a committee member has announced that she will be standing down at the AGM.

It was emphasised that new committee members would be welcomed. Being a new U3A most of the present committee had come on together. It is important that new people join the committee at the AGM to ensure a continuity of committee members.

Members were reminded to renew their membership for the new 2016-17 year which starts on April 1st. You must be a member to participate in any Beccles U3A activity. Members applying by post should ensure to also enclose a stamped addressed envelope so that their new membership card can be sent to them.

An announcement was made on behalf of the Drawing and Painting Group in respect of a painting workshop/demonstration which is being held next Wednesday (23rd March). This workshop is full. Due to an error some people who attended the Showcase were allowed to enrol for this event. Unfortunately they will not be able to attend as the number of attendees is limited. If there is sufficient support it may be possible to organise an additional workshop in the near future. The next meeting of the painting and drawing group for all members will be on April 13th.

Sandy Perrin (Groups Coordinator) said that Modern Greek, Map Reading and Navigation, Current Affairs and a Travel group were proposed new groups. A Wine appreciation group looks to be started now that it has a convenor.

The speaker for March, Malcolm Wells was introduced by Jacquie Greenfield.