

DONCASTER



Registered Charity No. 1074577

April - May 2019

From the Chair



There are two main issues facing your Trustees/ Executive Committee at the moment – one is to find a suitable home for our monthly General Meetings and the other is preparation for our Annual General Meeting.

We are hopeful that we will be able to return to the Trades on a regular basis but currently we are unable to get an agreement for a regular booking. We will put the Trades down as our meeting venue for the AGM – but in the knowledge that it may have to be changed.

Many of you said that you liked C-View (the old Art School) but unfortunately it proved to be too tight a squeeze to use as a regular GM venue. However, the management there are very helpful and the costs are reasonable so it could prove to be a good venue for larger group meetings. It is wonderful to see so many of you turning up for our General Meetings as we switch to different venues and try things out. I think the wartime spirit of 'Keep Calm and Carry On' is very much to the fore at the moment and I am grateful to you for that.

On the other hand, AGMs are traditionally poorly attended – too boring? Well this time we would like you to join in a facilitated debate on how you would like your U3A to develop. We have a wonderful organisation but are we using it to its best advantage? What changes would you like to see taking place? How should DU3A evolve over the next few years? We would very much like you to come along on 20th May and have your say.

As always, we are looking for people to come and join us as Trustees on the committee. It is a two-year cycle so some who have completed their two-year term would like to stand down. This includes our Treasurer who has seen our accounts through a transition as we move towards accounting for all group monies in our annual accounts. This isn't a post where you need accounting qualifications – just a head for figures and an enthusiasm to keep up with the income and expenditure over the year. Nomination forms for this and other committee / officer positions can be obtained from Chris Woolven – our secretary.

Prior to the AGM we have a Group Leaders meeting on 2nd April in Priory Place Methodist Church at 12.30 p.m. and this will be followed by a New Members meeting at 2.00 p.m. in the same room. Perhaps 'New Members' is a bit of a misnomer as we welcome anyone who would like to find out more about U3A and particularly those who have not yet joined any groups or would like a group starting that we don't already have.

For those who are interested in the programme of outings proposed for the Travel Group – I have had one or two enquiries. Please join the Travel Group and come to the meetings. You will then be sent the information that Vanessa Whaley has compiled for members.

Interesting times ahead for DU3A. We hope you will come and make your views known.

Wendy Hattrell

Annual Subscriptions Renewal - Reminder

Membership fees are due on 1st April 2019 and are £14 per member, £24 joint membership (single address). An additional £4 will enable members to receive the 6 published newsletters by post.

Cheques are preferable though not essential, and should be made out to DU3A. Your membership number will be the same for as long as you remain a DU3A member.



If you wish to pay your subscription by post, please remember to include a Stamped Addressed Envelope when you send it to: DU3A Membership Secretary, at the address on page 22.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to our new members

**Elizabeth Allison, Paul Allison, Rose Gauden, Janet Goodband,
Sue Hobbs, Christopher Morgan, Jacqui Morgan, Robert Waller,
Patricia White, Jenny Whittaker, Mike Whittaker, Eric Wood,
Pauline Wrennall,**



COVER PICTURES:

Error in the February/March 2019 newsletter:
The cover photo of Askern Winding Wheel was
taken by **Bill Dixon** - Digital Photography Group.
My apologies to Bill for the error.

This newsletter
Tree bark, Hidcote Gardens by Bridget Thompson Digital Photography Group

Doncaster U3A Annual General Meeting

Monday 20th May 2019

Venue – Trades Club – 1.30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of AGM 21st May 2018
4. Matters Arising
5. Chairman's Report
6. Secretary's Report
7. Treasurer's Report and appointment of Auditor
8. Group Co-ordinators' Report
9. Adoption of Reports
10. Election of Members of the Executive Committee
Officers: Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer
Other members of the Executive Committee
11. Close of meeting. The next AGM will be on Monday 18th May 2020 at 1.30pm

After the AGM there will a facilitated discussion on the direction DU3A should take in the future.

Sunday Lunch

HILTON GARDEN INN: – 28th April at 1.00 p.m.

Prices are: £17.00 for 2 courses: £21.00 for 3 courses
Tea and Coffee not included

The menu will be available from Sunday 14th until Friday 19th April. Please contact me to choose from this menu or to let me know if you are unable to attend this lunch.

REGENT HOTEL: – 19th May at 1.00 p.m.

Prices are: £12.50 for 2 courses: £14.50 for 3 courses
Tea/Coffee extra

The menu will be available from Monday 6th until Sunday 12th May. Contact me to choose from the menu or to let me know if you will not be attending this lunch.

Eileen Dickson

GROUPS - UPDATES / NOTICES

DINING OUT

The next meeting of the Dining Out group will be on **Tuesday 16th April** at **Movida Restaurant** on Priory Walk at 6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. It will be their party menu which they are providing at a reduced price of £12.95 per head and will comprise of a variety of dishes which will be brought to the table.

If you wish to attend this meal please send your cheque for £12.95 made payable to DU3A to Joan Condron to arrive no later than Saturday 6th April or I will be at the drop in session on Saturdays from 11a.m. until 1.00 p.m.

Carole and Joan

(Please do not contact Carole due to her illness)

TENPIN BOWLING

Next meetings: **19th March, 21st May**

GROUP LEADERS & NEW MEMBERS MEETINGS

Priory Methodist Church - Thursday 4th April

The **Group Leaders** meeting will start at 12.30 p.m. with lunch followed by a meeting at 1.00 p.m. for an hour.

New members will be invited to join us at 2.00 p.m. in order to meet Group Leaders and be given information about the various groups and DU3A.

Diane & John

CARD MAKING

As from the last Monday of March (25th) the group will start at 12.30 p.m. and run until 2.30 p.m. We will still be meeting in the main hall of Priory Methodist Church.

Janet Evans

LOOKING AT ART

Meetings start at 1.30 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING

March General Meeting venue: Trades Club

Crown Green Bowls

Now that the warm winter has almost passed, we look forward to the wintry winds and rain of an early spring, but the weather doesn't seem to deter our merry band of bowlers. After the clocks spring forward on March 31st, we will be moving the starting time from 1.30 to 2.00 p.m. on Thursday afternoons at Haslam Park. The competition is fierce, the humour ever-present, but we would welcome new members, male and female, to join us. Not yet tried playing bowls? Come along and give it a go!

George Kirk

LOVE OF NATURE

Denaby Ings - 5th February 2019

On a very frosty morning 16 members met at the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Reserve in the Dearne Valley with binoculars at the ready to locate and identify birds. We had been alerted to a recent sighting of a great grey shrike but realistically weren't expecting that it would still be around.

When everyone had arrived we set off into the reserve and almost straight away came to a feeding station where we saw several blue tits, great tits and robins feeding on fat balls. The lake to the left of the footpath was frozen solid with, initially, not one bird in sight. To the right of the footpath through the tree line we could see the river where the water was flowing freely allowing several tufted ducks to swim upstream.

As we continued walking round the reserve we could see several birds on the surface of the water including shelduck, mallard, coot and black-headed gull. Behind them were several trees and perched on their branches were seven or eight cormorants and two heron. We lingered awhile discussing the finer aspects of cormorant ID then continued following the path round the lake back to the car park.



On the way we came across several hazel bushes bearing their catkin. Anne Windell took this photo of them.

We then adjourned to a nearby pub 'The Pastures', where we enjoyed a well earned lunch. (The carvery looked particularly good?)

Nora Boyle



DINING OUT



On Tuesday 19th February the Dining Out group met at Cactus Jacks Tex Mex restaurant on Hallgate for our first outing of 2019. The food was excellent, served by efficient and friendly staff. In fact one of our members said it was the best of our Dining Out meals he had attended. In spite of it being midweek it was very busy with a lovely ambience. If you have not tried it yet it is well worth a visit!

Carole and Joan.

REPORTS FROM GENERAL MEETINGS



As speaker finder I have to admit it's very difficult to get it right to suit everyone.



Our January speaker, Robert Wood, was a perfect example. The talk 'Gemstones and Crystals' wasn't at all what I expected but it was given with confidence if a little 'drifting' occasionally. I personally didn't quite understand what he was trying to get over. There were however a lot of people interested in speaking to him at the end and looking at the stones etc. that he had brought to sell.



In comparison, I found the February speaker, Keith Whatlin, fascinating to listen to. He took a potentially dry subject 'The History of English Architecture' and spoke with great knowledge and enthusiasm. Although the venue was far from ideal because it was impossible for members to sneak in and out regarding things that had to be done, it didn't faze Keith at all and he was thrilled with the feedback our members gave him at the end of his talk.



Jess Parkinson



Criminology group goes to court

..... 29th January 2019, wintry showers, cold, bleak day.

It didn't dampen our enthusiasm though, because we were going to the ITV studios at Media City, Salford Quays to take part in the filming of Judge Rinder.

A celebrity judge, renowned for his compassion, fun and knowledge of the law.

What an entertaining afternoon we had. It started with lunch at the Italian, then a round about trip to the studio itself, some decent signage would help that, and entertainment from the studio staff. Albeit, we did arrive early as instructed so were a little miffed at the delayed start, but once the action started it was well worth the wait.

Subsequent to strict security we eventually got seated in the 'court'. It looked exactly like a court room to us except for the cameras, lighting, backdrop, water and chocolate bars.

The audience itself was entertaining. It seems Judge Rinder has a vocal, flamboyant following. Most of them had visited previously and some quite a few times so there was some jovial banter between the crew and the participants. Unbeknown to us there was a competition for the best dressed there. We were a wet, bedraggled few from Doncaster. We didn't stand a chance.

Judge Rinder came and spoke to the audience prior to the start and advised us that he expected that we should look very intelligent, wise and attentive, just in case he needed to ask any questions regarding the case.

Of course that sounds like us anyway!!!!



We listened to three cases, all involving money. i.e. he paid, said it was a loan, she thought it was a gift, etc. Three cases but three very different events, personalities and decisions.

I was surprised at how the cases developed. Judge Rinder was very good at ensuring he had all the correct facts. He had obviously studied the cases prior to the filming. He was standing for no mischief!

As the cases unfolded, Judge Rinder confirmed that we, the audience, understood the details of the law and why conclusions were different in differing cases. One of the cases was a particularly harrowing problem around personalities, relationships and misunderstanding but Judge Rinder used not only his knowledge of the law but his wisdom and compassion which did leave us all with a very nice feeling. We did question though why some people would want to air their problems on television!

All in all a well worth it trip, despite the awful snowy conditions.

Some travelled with us that were equally entertained by the Lowry Gallery, Imperial War Museum, shops, studio tours....

Well worth a sightseeing trip.

Vanessa Whaley



Possible New Group STRETCHERS

A recent suggestion for a new group has been for one that is 'a little more' than 'Strollers' but 'not as much' as 'Striders'.

Tony Hodge and Vanessa Whaley have taken up the challenge to provisionally set this in motion.

It has been decided provisionally, to run the group on the second Tuesday of the month and to walk between 4 - 6 miles, preferably a circular walk starting and ending somewhere close to an eatery for lunch/coffee/snack on our return. The start time would be 10.00 a.m. and preferably fairly local.

We both are under the illusion that most of us have a 4 - 6 mile walk that we enjoy that is local, with easy parking, and close to somewhere to eat.

What we would like to do is collate the walks so that we always have a walk in hand therefore sharing the workload and some of the organisation.

If you are interested please contact either of us at:

Tony

Vanessa

QUIZ GROUP

Group leader Jane had us all guessing when she came up with a very different format for one of our February quizzes. Instead of our usual 30 questions from the selected question master for that week, Jane brought in 24 unusual objects for us to identify or guess the use of the item. The quizzier with the highest marks only got about half of the answers correct. It was quite a challenge.



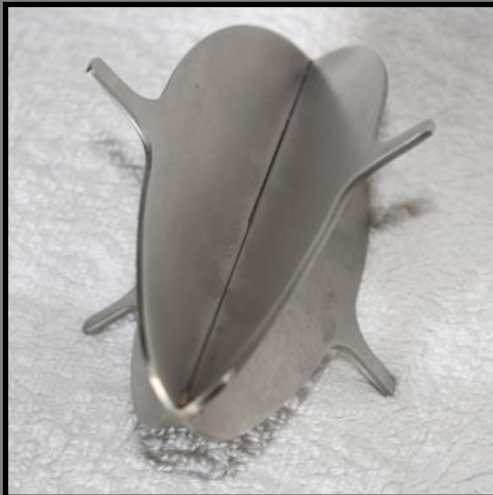
Item 1

Item 2

Four of the objects are pictured here.
How well do you think you can do?

Answers on page 19

Mike Bowser



Item 3

Item 4



National Limerick Day 12 May 2019

There once was a farmer from Leeds,
Who swallowed a packet of seeds.
It soon came to pass,
He was covered with grass,
But has all the tomatoes he needs.

There was an odd fellow named Gus,
When travelling he made such a fuss.
He was banned from the train,
Not allowed on a plane,
And now travels only by bus.

There was a young woman named
Bright,
Whose speed was much faster than light.
She set out one day,
In a relative way,
And returned on the previous night.

There was an enchanting young bride,
Who ate many green apples and died.
The apples fermented,
inside the lamented,
and made cider inside her inside.

A man and his lady-love, Min,
Skated out where the ice was quite thin,
Had a quarrel, no doubt,
For I hear they fell out;
What a blessing they didn't fall in!

At 16 I sighed as I hoped
For a bike like a Harley. I groped
In my pocket for cash
And bought something less flash;
Then I sat on my moped and moped.

As 007 walked by
He heard a wee spider say, "Hi."
But shaken, he shot
It right there on the spot
As it tried to explain, "I'm a spi ..."

There was an old man from Milan,
Whose limericks never would scan.
When told this was so,
He said, 'yes, I know.
'But I always try to get as many syllables
into the last line as I possibly can.'

Can you do any better?

Membership renewal 2019/20

Full Name/s:

Address:

Please tick the appropriate box:

Single membership: £14.00

Single membership with posted Newsletter: £18.00

For couples living at the same address:

Joint membership: £24.00

Joint membership with posted Newsletter: £28.00

Please make cheques payable to Doncaster U3A .

This slip should be returned with your payment to: The DU3A Membership Secretary, (see page 22 for the address) or handed over at a General Meeting. If posted please remember to include an SAE for the return of your Membership card.

Membership Renewal slip: see previous page

(New members - please contact the Membership Secretary
for a New Members form)

I'VE BEEN BANNED FROM TESCO'S

Yesterday I was at my local Tesco's store buying a large bag of 'My Dog' dog food for my loyal pet and was in the checkout queue when a woman behind me asked if I had a dog.

What, did she think I had an elephant? So, since I'm retired and have little to do, on impulse I told her that no, I didn't have a dog, I was starting the Dog Diet again. I added that I probably shouldn't, because I ended up in hospital last time, but I'd lost 10 kilograms before I woke up in intensive care with tubes coming out of most of my orifices and IVs in both arms.

I told her that it was essentially a perfect diet and that the way that it works is to load your pockets with 'My Dog' nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry. The food is nutritionally complete so it works well and I was going to try it again. (I have to mention here that practically everyone in the queue was now enthralled with my story).

Horrified, she asked me if I ended up in intensive care because the dog food poisoned me. I told her no, I stepped off the kerb to sniff an Irish Setter's arse and a car hit me.

I thought the guy behind her was going to have a heart attack he was laughing so hard. I'm now banned from Tesco's.

Better watch what you ask retired people. They have all the time in the world to think of daft things to say.

Forward this now, (especially) to all your mature friends... it will be their laugh for the day.

Seen on Facebook

PINS & NEEDLES

It's a delight to know that a project I started last year (just collecting different material, going through the stock in various shops, should I just get a metre of this? will it blend with what I already have?) has been finished.

I was pleased with my choice of colours. The quilt is being gifted to a relation who's room is in shades of grey and magnolia, so I think the colours I've chosen will blend well.

Now moving on to the next project, in fact already started, but at this time I have no idea what it will turn into. I have decided to do some paper piecing in shades of pink!

Watch this space

Anne Windle



Future General Meetings:

18th March 2019	Speaker: Pat Osborne Topic: Queen Victoria – some surprising facts
15th April 2019	Speaker: John Hoare Topic: Acorn to Oak (National Trust)
20th May 2019	AGM
17th June 2019	Speaker: Davis Bell Topic: The Plague Doctor



I have just read the U3A newsletter which is emailed each month from the National Office. If you would like to subscribe to this monthly newsletter go to:

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter> - and sign up.

Wendy Hattrell

More information about the National U3A can be found by clicking on the tabs at the top of the sign-up page.

Mike Shaw



I have been painting since I was a teenager in Sheffield in the 1960s. Although I undertook no formal art training I was inspired and advised by the art teacher at my secondary school, Clarence Helliwell, who allowed me to use the art room in my lunchtimes and free periods.

My great grandfather, David Payne, was a successful professional artist in Derby and Sheffield. He painted Queen Victoria's Jubilee visit to Derby which hangs in the city art gallery. Although my father did not pursue an artistic career, he inherited an ability to draw expertly and encouraged me to do the same.



I sold my first painting in the Sheffield Graves Art Gallery Open Exhibition in 1965 for 20 guineas which was very encouraging. That same year I was awarded a scholarship to study geography at St Edmund Hall, Oxford. Painting took a bit of a back seat then although I exhibited at exhibitions there, selling work to fellow students and some academics, including the then Warden of New College, Sir William Hayter.



After getting my degree, I studied for an MA in Town and Regional Planning at Sheffield University from 1968 to 1970 when I got a job in the Planning Department of Norfolk County Council. On Local Government Reorganization in 1974, I moved to Broadland District Council. My time in Norfolk led me

to develop an affection for the Norfolk countryside and coastal scenery which provided many good subjects.

I moved to Doncaster for a post in the planning department in 1977, continued painting and joined Doncaster Art Club. I became the Club's Chair in 1995 and haven't yet found anyone to take over the role! Since retirement, from my final professional 20 years as a Planning Inspector, I have had more time to spend on Club matters and to paint.

I work principally in oils, but also enjoy watercolour and pastels. I concentrate mainly on landscapes and townscapes, with occasional seascapes and harbour scenes also. It is said that I am possibly best known for painting



trees and foliage and I certainly find such subjects challenging in any season. Although self taught I have benefited greatly from the advice and companionship of fellow members of the Art Club.



*Mike is a member of Doncaster U3A and is hoping to exhibit around 30 of his paintings at the Scicluna Deli just next to Doncaster's market. The tiny exhibition space in the coffee shop holds a monthly changing show by a collection of very different artists, some local, some not, but all creating wonderful small works to view and to buy. Mike's pictures will be on display during **March 2019** so do go along to the Deli. (Monday to Saturday, 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m). 10 per cent of sales will go to Scicluna's chosen charity 'Let the Children Live'. Further information about future deli artists can be found at:*

<https://www.artatthedeli.com>

YOUR U3A NEEDS YOU!

If you are relatively new to Doncaster U3A please don't hang back from getting involved. U3As are not like other organisations. We need the new members who, in the main, are younger and have skills and enthusiasm to offer, to move fairly quickly onto the committee or to help with organising groups. Inevitably as members get older, many have already 'done their bit' and find it more difficult to organise and use technology. U3As have never been sit and listen organisations so please contact any member of the committee if you would like to know more. We are a friendly group and are always looking for helpers....

Wendy Hattrell

PUZZLE PAGE

BRAIN () **R**AND
ACE () **M**INK
RANG () **R**UB
CASE () **M**ILK
JUST () **M**OON

For each pair of words replace the letters that are coloured with one other letter to form two new, good English words.

Put this new letter in the brackets between the pair of words.

e.g.

COAT () LAMP

becomes

BOAT (B) LAMB

TRACK () **T**ALE
OUT () **M**AST
OVER () **T**OMB
ORE () **S**OFT
DALE () **R**ANG

When you read the letters in the brackets downwards, in each set, four new words will be formed.

LAST () **R**ASH
ARE () **G**RANGE
LIST () **S**OCK
ITCH () **R**IDER
SHIN () **P**EST

CART () **B**EAN
HEAR () **S**LOT
DARN () **S**HOT
PAST () **B**RAN
EAR () **W**ARE

Solutions to February - March's puzzles

SEQUENCES

1. 1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 **34**
Each number is the sum of the two previous numbers
2. 3 5 7 11 13 17 19 **23**
All numbers are prime numbers
3. 28 38 49 62 **70**
The number added to the sum of its individual digits creates the next number in the sequence
4. 64 81 100 121 **144**
Numbers squared 12x12
5. **Y Y H L Y E Y T R R R R R**
(December) The final letters of the months of the Year
6. **A P A T G C L V L S S C**
(Capricorn) The first letters of the signs of the Zodiac

TENPIN BOWLING



A great start was made to this year's bowling programme at our January session at Doncaster Bowl. A good turn out made for an enjoyable afternoon and two new names on the winners 'podium' - Chris and Vanessa, looking very pleased with themselves.

There was then a further surprise presentation when overall winners for 2018 were announced - Chris Field for the ladies and yours truly for the guys!!! No one was more surprised than me.

The next dates for our meetings are 19th March and 21st May. So why not come along and make it a good turn out again followed by a bite over in the Cheswold for those who fancy it.

Mike Bowser



SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

2	7	8	1	3	4	6	5	9
9	3	1	8	5	6	4	2	7
6	4	5	7	2	9	3	8	1
1	5	9	3	6	2	8	7	4
4	2	3	5	7	8	1	9	6
8	6	7	4	9	1	2	3	5
5	8	6	2	1	7	9	4	3
3	1	2	9	4	5	7	6	8
7	9	4	6	8	3	5	1	2

2	1	7	4	5	8	6	9	3
5	9	8	6	1	3	7	2	4
6	4	3	9	2	7	5	1	8
4	7	5	2	8	1	3	6	9
9	8	1	7	3	6	4	5	2
3	2	6	5	4	9	8	7	1
7	3	2	8	9	5	1	4	6
1	5	9	3	6	4	2	8	7
8	6	4	1	7	2	9	3	5



Welcome to the April - May culture page

Just a few ideas for up and coming things you may like to do.

The Dome

Saturday 20th April 7.00 p.m. [Stars of Les Miserables](#), featuring the Barricade Boys

Saturday 27th April 7.00 p.m. [The Simon and Garfunkel Story](#)

Tuesday 7th May 7.30 p.m. [Bill Bailey](#) – Larks in concert, Travellers' tales and comedy

Friday 10th May 7 p.m. support Doncaster Breast Cancer: [Aurora Fashion Extravaganza](#)

Call 01302 370777 or visit <https://www.dclt.co.uk/whats-on>

Grimsby Auditorium

Monday 20th May 2 p.m. [Sentimental Journey](#) with music from the 40's 50's 60's & 70's

Call 0300 300 0035 or visit <http://grimsbyauditorium.org.uk/whats-on>

Cast

Tuesday 30th April to Saturday 4th May – [Turn of the Screw](#), The original inspiration for The Woman in Black

Friday 10th May 7.30 p.m. [Big Girls Don't Cry](#) – Four Seasons tribute

Sunday 19th May 7.30 p.m. [Kate Rusby](#) a Yorkshire born folk singer

Call 01302 303959 or visit

<https://www.castindoncaster.com/Pages/Events/Category/whats-on>

Bawtry Phoenix Theatre

Thursday 9th to Thursday 16th May – [Relatively Speaking](#), comedy play

Call 01302 710825 or visit <http://www.bawtrytheatre.co.uk>

Sheffield Theatres

Wednesday 29th May to Saturday 1st June – [The Comedy about a Bank Robbery](#) (Lyceum)

Tuesday 11th to Saturday 22nd June – [Kinky Boots](#), musical (Lyceum)

Call 0114 2496000 or visit <https://www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk/whats-on>

Sheffield City Hall

Friday 3rd May 7.30 p.m. [Michael Ball](#)

Wednesday 3rd July 7.30 p.m. [Il Divo](#) in the Oval Hall with a mix of Opera & Pop

Call 0114 2789789 or visit www.sheffieldcityhall.co.uk

The Little Theatre

Saturday 8th June – [Two Pianos](#) - Rock and Roll Experience

Call - 01302 340422 or visit DoncasterLittleTheatre.co.uk

Rotherham Civic Theatre

Tuesday 28th to Wednesday 29th May – [Sherlock Holmes, The Sign of Four](#)

Call 01709 823621 or visit www.rotherhamtheatres.co.uk

The Earl of Doncaster Hotel

Sunday 19th May & Sunday 23rd June: 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.:

Tea & Dance – 40's 50's & 60's music

Call 01302 361371 or visit www.theearl.co.uk

Cusworth Hall

Exhibition ends Tuesday 31st December 2019:

Estates of War, Doncaster Country Houses

Call 01302 782342 or visit

www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/culture-leisure-tourism/what-s-on-at-cusworth

Doncaster museums

Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery – Chequer Road

Doncaster Air Museum – Dakota Way behind Vue cinema

Call 01302 761616 or visit www.southyorkshireaircraftmuseum.org.uk

Ashworth barracks – Cedar Road, Balby

Call 01302 850198 or visit www.ashworthbarracks.co.uk

The Trolley Bus Museum – Belton Road, Sandtoft

Call 01724 711846 or visit www.sandtoft.org.

The Vulcan Experience - Fourth Avenue, Finningley

Call 0845 1247285

Hope you find something to enjoy.

Barnsley and District U3A Spring School

Thursday and Friday, May 2nd and May 3rd

For details contact Beth Rudkin (contact details on page 22)

WANTED

The Association requires another Speaker Co-ordinator to plan for the General Meetings from May 2020. If you are interested please contact Jess Parkinson or Wendy Hattrell.

..... continued from page 10: Quiz group: ANSWERS

Item 1: Pom Pom maker

Item 2: Inkwell

Item 3: Lemon squeezer

Item 4: Uniform protection from button polish

Striders

It was to be the February walk so we didn't want to venture too far in case of adverse weather. Diane and I decided on Clumber Park and a walk we have done before - a figure of 8 - so we can make use of the cafe and people don't have to travel too far.

Forgetting that the cafe doesn't open until 10, we headed off on the most beautiful morning beside the lake before cutting through the trees and across the causeway to pick up the lakeside again. We stopped at the coffee 'van' near Hardwick Village and took in the breathtaking views across the lake while we sipped our coffee. Not a breath of wind to disturb the surface of the water and full sun on our faces. So much for bad weather - we had hit the beautiful and unseasonably warm weather in February and were loving every minute.



To give our legs a bit of a stretch we headed east before circling round to walk along the ever impressive Lime Tree Avenue, not yet in leaf, but still magnificent. It wasn't long before we found the footpath we needed to complete the morning circuit back to the cafe and lunch where we chose to sit outside - in February!

For those who wanted to do a bit more, a circuit of the lake beckoned after lunch.

Next month will be the last fourth Tuesday Striders and we have decided on a walk in the grounds of Chatsworth. After that we are going to switch to the first Thursday of the month, when we think more people will be able to join us.

If you would like to come along you will be welcome. Just contact either Diane Woolven or myself.

Wendy Hattrell

YAHR Bulletin

We have just published the 'Bulletin' - our regular Regional news sheet.

You can view it from the home page of our website yahrU3A.co.uk

One of our YAHR U3As is putting on an event that I would like to draw your attention to:

Swanland U3A is holding an event entitled **"To the Manor Born"** on May 2nd in Cottingham. This is about visiting country houses with a focus on Burton Agnes.

You can see further details about this event by clicking on:

<https://yahru3a.co.uk/u3a-news>

Neil Stevens (YAHR Web Manager)

Oak Apple Day

29th May 2019

Oak Apple Day, also known as Royal Oak Day, used to be a public holiday in England. It commemorated the anniversary of the day that King Charles II returned to London from exile overseas after the Restoration of the English Monarchy. Although it is not an official holiday anymore, it is still informally celebrated in some areas.

The Battle of Worcester took place in 1651 during the English Civil War. The future Charles II of England managed to escape the Parliamentarian troops by hiding in an oak tree in Boscobel wood. A Parliamentarian soldier passed directly below the tree but did not notice Charles. The tree was later named the Royal Oak.

After the Restoration, Parliament declared May 29 (the King's birthday) a formal public holiday. It was named Royal Oak Day or Oak Apple Day.

Royal Oak Day was formally abolished in 1859, but is still celebrated in some parts of the country. It is sometimes referred to as Ooh look, its the King!, Oak and Nettle Day, or Shick Shack Day. On this day, people wore oak apples or oak leaves. Those who failed to do so might be thrashed with nettles or pelted with bird's eggs.

- Royal Hospital Chelsea was founded by Charles II. Historically, a member of the Royal Family visits the hospital in London close to May 29, the hospital's Founder's Day, to review the pensioners, who wear sprigs of oak leaves. In addition, a statue of Charles II, in Figure Court, is partly covered with oak leaves for the day.
- St Neots, in Cornwall, hosts the most lavish celebrations. Events include the hauling of an oak bough to the top of the church tower (where it remains all year) to symbolise allegiance to the Crown. Old Cornwall Society branches are represented with banners and the church bells are rung, while dancing and other entertainments follow and many people attend wearing seventeenth century costume.
- In Great Wishford, Wiltshire, villagers claim their ancient right to collect wood from Grovely Wood on Oak Apple Day. Residents take an oak bough, which is then decorated and hung from the parish church tower. In order to maintain their charter, villagers proclaim their right at a ceremony in Salisbury Cathedral in which they repeat the refrain: 'Grovely, Grovely and all Grovely'. Although the charter requires just three 'Grovelys', there are usually four - 'Three for the charter and one for us'.
- In Castleton, in the Peak District, 'Garland Day' sees the Garland King (Jack-in-the-Green) covered in flowers and leaves and led on horseback through the town, followed by maypole and Morris dancing.
- In the centre of Northampton, the statue of Charles II at All Saints' Church is garlanded with oak leaves at noon.
- Upton-upon-Severn (Worcestershire), Aston on Clun (Shropshire) and Marsh Gibbon (Buckinghamshire) also mark the day.

You can visit the oak tree where Charles II hid at Boscobel in Staffordshire – it is not the original tree but a direct descendant.

Did you know?

- 'The Royal Oak' is the third most popular pub name, and
- multiple Royal Navy warships have been called 'Royal Oak'.

B Thompson



Membership Renewal

The membership renewal slip on page 11 should be returned with your payment to: The DU3A Membership Secretary, or handed over at a General Meeting. If posted please remember to **include an SAE** for the return of your membership card.

Contacting Group Leaders and Committee Members

Group Leaders can be contacted by telephone by clicking on the Blue Bird on their group page on the DU3A website. Go to: <https://u3asites.org.uk/doncaster> then click on the 'GROUP' tab. Go to the bottom of the group page to select the group that you require. Click on the Blue Bird in the top right-hand corner and a form will open for you to write your message.

Committee members can also be contacted via the DU3A website by opening the 'Contact' page and then selecting the appropriate member.

Contact Numbers

DU3A Committee Members

Chair Wendy Hattrell

Vice Chair to be arranged

Business Secretary Chris Woolven

Treasurer John Parkinson

Membership Secretary Jill Laming

Group Co-ordinators Diane Williams

Minutes Secretary Mark Frost

Welfare Carole Lewis

Publicity Mark Frost

George Kirk

Vanessa Whaley

David Smith

Activity Groups & Other: Contacts

Group Leaders: see printed Newsletter or Website for telephone numbers

Newsletter Editor & Website Manager Bridget Thompson

bthompsonu3a@btinternet.com

DU3A Website

<https://u3asites.org.uk/doncaster>

Visit the DU3A website for information about all the current interest groups, latest news/notices, membership information, meetings, social events, monthly calendars and newsletters, help/advice links, links to regional and national u3a and more.....

Prego Café

We would like to thank our friends at the Prego Café for their help over the past years. Not only is the tea, coffee and food excellent, but the free use of the upstairs room for meetings has been a great help to many of our groups. If you haven't been there yet, give it a try!

Monks Printers

We are grateful to Monks the Printers for their help in printing this newsletter.

Deadline

Thank-you to all the members who have sent articles for this issue. Articles for the June - July newsletter need to be received by

Wednesday 1st May.

Please send news of group activities, articles, photographs, etc. to
du3anewsletterbmt@btinternet.com

Help the environment and save money by receiving the email version of the DU3A newsletters.



