

# DONCASTER



Registered Charity No. 1074577



December 2018 - January 2019



## From the Chair



How quickly the months fly by! As I write we are facing the changing clocks bringing us long dark evenings which I'm sure none of us welcomes. Meanwhile I am out in the garden in short sleeves in very beautiful warm weather – hard to believe we are already well into preparations for our Christmas Event in December. Home grown entertainment replacing an external speaker gives us a chance to relax over some light refreshments and even lighter entertainment - ably managed once again by Chris Woolven. Maybe even an opportunity to sing a few Christmassy songs.... Tickets are now on sale. The other aspect to the occasion is the purchase and preparation of the food. We would like some non committee members to help with the planning for this. Please contact me or speak to me at the November GM.

As reported in the previous newsletter Chris Woolven has taken on the role of Business Secretary and has now been co-opted onto the committee. This is a new role for Chris but one which I'm sure he will carry out with his usual enthusiasm. Thank you Chris for offering your services. We also have a Minutes Secretary, Mark Frost. Mark has taken on this role alongside Publicity which he has done for a while and we are grateful for his contributions.

I have recently walked the Cotswold Way, something that was booked over a year ago, but unfortunately it meant I missed the October GM. I have written a separate report of the walk. Thank you to the committee for so ably coping without me!

My appeal for assistance with the organisation of trips in the last newsletter has brought an offer of help from Vanessa Whaley. Vanessa has very quickly organised a trip to Wentworth Garden Centre for an opportunity to indulge in afternoon tea preceded by browsing through their Christmas displays. The trip to York in October was blessed with fine weather for those who went spent time in Yorvik, the Castle Museum, Treasurer's House or just hit the shops. I went too and thoroughly enjoyed the day. A bargain at £6 return.

There are various organisations in Doncaster looking for volunteers to work with them. One is Age UK. You may have seen their representatives at the last General Meeting or Saturday drop-in, and another is Speak With IT. Age UK want volunteers to help those who have become cut off from society to re-integrate. If you would like to help then please call in at their Priory Place office or phone them on 01302 811174. Speak With IT is an organisation I hadn't heard of before, but they help people who have suffered a stroke or other head injury. Like Age UK, they train their volunteers but these are quite specific roles - to visit people in their own



homes to improve their communication skills. They currently have 4 people in Doncaster who they are helping. If you would like to get involved please contact James Major on 01924 888608.

Scottish Country Dancing are having a Christmas Celebration with a difference – we are all invited! The date is 21st December and the time will be 10 a.m. at their usual venue, the Baptist Church Hall, Chequer Road. Thank you for extending this generous invitation. I am looking forward to it. More details in this Newsletter.

Yorkshire and the Humber Region (YAHR) have now posted details of their 2019 summer school on their website. You are able to register an interest now and bookings will open in January. See their website for details.

I hope you will all have a very enjoyable Christmas and New Year and look forward to reading about the activities of our U3A groups in this and forthcoming newsletters.

*Wendy Hattrell*



## VENUE CHANGES FOR GENERAL MEETINGS

Many of you will have heard by now that the Trades Club closed its doors on Sunday 28th October for good. This is a blow for us but even more so for those who worked there or were members or shareholders.

A committee meeting was called at short notice to decide on suitable venues for the November and December meetings - we will then consider where we should meet next year and keep you informed as we go along.

The **19th November General Meeting** will be held in the Mansion House, upstairs in the Chamber which is carpeted rather than the Ballroom that isn't. If you wish to use the lift rather than the stairs please ask for directions when you arrive. If you would prefer level access avoiding the outside steps then please ask in the Tourist Information Office who will direct you to a side entrance. As previously, the meeting will start at 1.30 p.m. and tea and coffee will be available. Sherelle Hawes will be talking about Genealogy.

The **17th December Christmas Event** will be held at the **Catholic Club** starting at 1.30 p.m. **strictly ticket only** (the Mansion House is not available). Again the meeting will be upstairs - there is a Stannah Stair lift to assist anyone who would find the stairs difficult. The address of the Catholic Club is Waterdale, it is opposite the old County Court. The nearest parking would be in the old Southern Bus Station.

We hope you will understand that the next few months are not going to be easy as we all adjust to a new venue - as always we welcome your views - but we know we cannot replicate the convenience of the Trades. We may have to try a few different places before we finally settle on a new home.

*Wendy Hattrell*

# GROUPS - UPDATES/NOTICES

## DINING OUT ★★★★★

The first outing of 2019 will be held on Tuesday 19th February at Cactus Jacks Mexican restaurant on Hallgate at 6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m. The menu is available to view online. Could you please let Joan have menu choices and a cheque made payable to DU3A by Thursday 7th February at the latest.

Please do not contact Carole due to her continuing ill health.  
*Carole and Joan*

## LOOKING AT ART ★★★★★

Looking At Art will not meet in January.

*Janet Gleadall*

## LOCAL HISTORY ★★★★★

Local History will not be meeting in December.

*Janet Gleadall*

## STROLLERS ★★★★★

The first walk of 2019 will be on January 24th at Lakeside, meeting in the Cheswold car park at 10.30am.

*Allen and Brenda Whittaker*

## SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING ★★★★★

On Friday 21st December the Friday morning dancing group are offering an open invite to all DU3A members to join their Christmas party, 9.45 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. at the Baptist Church Hall on Chequer Road - it's free to all, tea/coffee/cake provided. There will be lots of easy dances to Christmas music, so bring flat shoes if you might be tempted to join in - or you can just come along to chat, watch the dancing, and see what we get up to. We will be singing along to some of the music, so hopefully something for everyone. All we ask is that you phone me to book a place, so we know

how many to cater for. Oh - and if coming by car, parking is free for 2 hours on the streets nearby.

*Geoff Tagg*

(Contact number in the back page)

## PINS & NEEDLES ★★★★★

The Pins and Needles Group will meet just once in December - on the 11th.

*Anne Windle*



## DISCUSSION ★★★★★

We are now meeting every Wednesday at the earlier time of **11.15 a.m.** We continue to meet at the Red Lion, with most members staying to enjoy a meal afterwards.

*Linda Simpson*

## THEATRE ★★★★★

The Theatre and Discussion Group has been renamed Theatre Group

*Monica Dawson*



## TENPIN BOWLING ★★★★★

Future meetings: Tuesday 20th November, Tuesday 15th January

## CHRISTMAS LUNCHES ★★★★★

Sunday 25th November

Sunday Lunch: Earl of Doncaster 1.00 p.m.

Wednesday 5th December

Living History - Prego - Sandwiches and cakes - after the regular session

Monday 10th December

Criminology: The Regent Hotel 12.30 p.m.

# Sunday Lunch

No meeting in December

THE REGENT HOTEL – 27th January 2019 at 1.00 p.m.

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

Menu available Monday 14th until Monday 21st January. Please contact me to choose from the menu or to let me know if you are unable to attend this lunch.



*Eileen Dickson*

# Welcome

**A warm welcome to our new members**

Barry Atkinson, Valerie Bell, Montague Cuthbert,  
Rosamund Dunston, June Harrison,  
Jacqueline Hart, Ann Hind, Linda Saxton







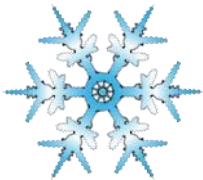
# Striders



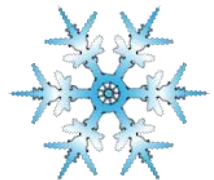
On a fine September day the fab four set off in Pete's car for Derbyshire. After a traffic hold up on the motorway, mist in Chatsworth and a road closure we arrived at Hassop old train station – now a book shop and café. Following the obligatory coffee we started walking along the Monsal trail – the old London to Manchester line - towards Bakewell. The fog had cleared and it was an ideal day for walking. After about 3 miles we arrived at Haddon Hall. We then proceeded to cross the road and start walking up a steep field. Near the top we turned round and had a wonderful view of the Hall and the Derbyshire valley. At the top we came to one of Wendy's favourite pubs – the Lathkill Hotel in Over Haddon. Her window seat was unavailable initially but it was free before we left! A magnificent view and the food was very good. After lunch we crossed some more fields, went down some lanes and arrived at Bakewell. From here we climbed a very steep hill to reach a track which eventually took us back to the Monsal trail and the café. Following the obligatory cup of tea we set off home. Good walk, weather and company. Thank you.



*John Weston*



# Digital photography



The Digital Photography Group is starting a new format for the monthly meetings. Each month will have a different project. Members take photos based around the project which are then shown at the next meeting.

The topics are:

January	- Food
February	- Black and white photos
March	- Water
April	- Mechanics and Machinery

There will also be short talks on topics requested by members, given by other members of the group.

New members are always welcome whatever their camera and, should anyone need help with their camera, group members are always ready to help.

*John Wheeldon*

# THEATRE

September and October saw three visits by the Theatre Group to *The Cast*.

The first was to an adaption of Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes; *Sign of Four*. This was a very well-produced, fast paced production. The talented actors not only took on several roles each but provided the musical background to the production. Each actor seemed to play several instruments. The play succeeded in recreating the Gothic background to the play and was very enjoyable.



In early October we attended a matinée performance for a change; this time a production of Othello set in modern times. As usual Shakespeare's exploration of the themes of love, jealousy, prejudice and manipulation translated well into a modern setting. The theatre hosted many school parties and it was enjoyable to see how well behaved they were, obviously enthralled by the production.



Later in October we went to a completely different type of production: *You Win Again*, a tribute to the Bee Gees. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this romp down memory lane.

Monica Dawson

# DINING OUT



On 16th October we met at San Remo Italian restaurant on Nether Hall Road for our last outing of 2018. It was a very convivial evening with Nino bringing out a tambourine and some wigs. The food and hospitality were good on another very enjoyable evening for the group.

We would like to wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Carole Lewis and Joan Condron



# STROLLERS

October meeting at Sandall Beat.



# CROWN GREEN BOWLS



As the season approaches the year end and we anticipate that either the winter rain or the inevitable white blanket will make it difficult to propel our round spherical objects in a horizontal direction towards the object Jack, we can reflect on a very eventful six months in 2018. Our numbers have increased to a steady 8, most of them managing to attend fairly regularly to enjoy the fresh air, exercise, and camaraderie. Our newcomers Andy, Dave, and Peter have joined Graham, Guy, Tony Snr, Tony Jnr, and myself, and we share the facilities on the day with some of the ex-Doncaster Probus Club members. On occasions we have been delighted to welcome some of our DU3A members who just want to see if this game of "Marbles for Oldies" is a suitable way to exercise their bodies.



In October we tested our growing expertise by inviting some members from the Danum Probus Bowls Section to provide some testing opposition in the form of a match consisting of three pairings. The result was 2-1 in our favour. We were highly delighted and are looking to make this a regular fixture on a home and away basis from next year.

## CALLING ALL MEMBERS.

Our sessions are on a Thursday afternoon at Haslam Park, Bessacarr, starting at 1.30 p.m. in the winter, reverting to 2 p.m. when the clocks change in the Spring. We are a very social bunch, and will welcome any and all who want to 'have a go'. We can never guarantee the weather, and sometimes sessions have to be cancelled as late as an hour before starting time, using emails or texts, but usually it's just a matter of common sense. Bowls can be provided. Come and enjoy the exercise and the fun. My contact number can be found on the inside back page of our newsletter.

*George Kirk.*



# Christmas Event



## Monday 17th December:

Panto: '**Cinderella - The Sequel**', Singing and Refreshments.

Places are limited due to fire regulations.

**Ticket holders only.** If you would like to attend please contact Chris or Diane Woolven to purchase a ticket. £4.00 per ticket.

Venue: The Catholic Club, Waterdale





# STROLLERS



We have been leaders of the Strollers for a few years now and thoroughly enjoyed it. The members have increased to around 20/25 for each walk, with most people staying for the meal afterwards.

We have been very lucky that other members have helped us by organising and leading walks, including Pat and Dave Burton. They have now kindly agreed to take over leadership. Please support them, as we will continue to do so.

You are such a great bunch of 'Happy Wanderers'. Long may we enjoy each other's company and the fresh air together.

Thank you all again.  
*Allen and Brenda Whittaker*

# TENPIN BOWLING

It's that time of year when the outside is a cold and unwelcoming place and sitting at home in front of the box with the central heating on 40° is more attractive. So here is your chance to get your winter exercise. November 20th is the next session of Ten Pin Bowling, so why not give it a go.

Well done to Chris, who was top scorer for the ladies at our last games. I am pleased to say that I got my own form back and, despite record numbers playing, I topped the men list!



So let's see a good turn out at 3 p.m. on the 20th at the Doncaster Bowl and maybe join us for a bite at 5 p.m. in the Cheswold.

(By the way the number of guys last time was three !!!)

**STRIKE !!**



## Future General Meetings:

21st January 2019

Speaker: Robert W Wood:  
Topic: Gemstones & Crystals

18th February 2019

Speaker: Keith Whatlin  
Topic: The History of English Architecture (local theme)

# CRIMINOLOGY

## VISIT TO THE NATIONAL JUSTICE MUSEUM, NOTTINGHAM



Barry the Judge

Peter in the Pillory



On the 12<sup>th</sup> September a group of about 30 members plus partners and friends visited the National Justice Museum in Nottingham. On arrival we were each given a wrist band with a name on and told that when we went around the museum to look out for the names as they were names of people who, at one time, had been incarcerated in the prison.

Beneath each name was a synopsis of their crime and the punishment they had received. I don't think any of us expected to see that they even put young children in there. One was in for the accidental death of another child while they were playing a game.

If you were unfortunate enough to be in there, the regime was very harsh.

While we were there some of our members took part in a mock trial. Barry was the Judge (dressed in full costume). Pete was a witness and some others were on the jury. It was good fun.

There is also a small shop where you can buy souvenirs and booklets explaining all about the exhibits and life in there. There is also a café (staffed by people with learning difficulties).

It is well worth a visit if you fancy a day out, and not too expensive.

In all, a good day was had by all who went.

Joyce Clarke

Scold's Bridle



Gibbet





To see more photographs about the visit go to the [DU3A website](#) and click on the 'Criminology' group page.

## First Light

Throughout the long night I'm unable to sleep  
Around me the shadows, the darkness grows deep.

Tossing and turning and still wide-awake,  
I wish for the morning and new day to break.

Sleepless and anxious, cares grow through the night  
But may vanish like mist in the dawning's first light.

So rising though weary to face a new day,  
Night's troubles and stresses will soon melt away.

By Marjorie Utley

Contributed by Sue Levan (Writers Group)



# Photography Competition



**1st** (Member's vote)

Yvonne Aspinall

Mr Yu's Garden, Shanghai

**2nd** (Member's vote)

Anne Windle

Passion Flower



**3rd** (Member's vote)

**1st** (Photography Group vote)

Sue Coote

Houghton Gardens



**2nd** (Photography Group vote)

Peter Coote

Felixstowe



With thanks to everyone who took part.



## Welcome to the **December - January culture page**

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

### Cast

Fri 30<sup>th</sup> November to Mon 31<sup>st</sup> December: **Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood**

Call 01302 303959 or visit

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

### Rotherham Civic Theatre

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January: **Dick Whittington**

Call 01709 823621 or visit [www.rotherhamtheatres.co.uk](http://www.rotherhamtheatres.co.uk)

### Lyceum Theatres

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December to Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January – **Peter Pan - Pantomime**

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January to Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January – **GHOST - the musical**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January – **Benidorm Live**

Call 0114 249 6000 or visit <https://www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk/whats-on>

### Sheffield City Hall

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January in the Oval Hall – **Islands in the Stream**

The music of Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers

Call 0114 2789789 or visit [www.sheffieldcityhall.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldcityhall.co.uk)

### Doncaster Mansion House

**Mansion House Open Days** – FREE ENTRY

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. & Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### The Earl of Doncaster

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December – **Afternoon Tea and Dance:**

2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tea served at 2 p.m. - £19.95pp

Call 01302 361371 or visit [www.theearl.co.uk](http://www.theearl.co.uk)

### Simply Voices

Present their **Christmas concert**

Simply Voices is a large local choir who sing for fun and charity. Join them on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at Hall Cross Academy School, St Michael's Road, Bessacarr, Doncaster DN4 5LU. Doors open 7 p.m. Tickets are £6 and can be purchased on the door. For more information please call Jess on 01302 539628

### Fancy some Christmas shopping

Walkers Nurseries Christmas Market – 21<sup>st</sup> November – 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Leeds Christkindelmarkt (German Market) – 9<sup>th</sup> November to 22<sup>nd</sup> December

St Nicholas Fair, York – 14<sup>th</sup> November to 24<sup>th</sup> December

Sheffield Christmas Market – 14<sup>th</sup> November to 24<sup>th</sup> December





# Walking the Cotswold Way

There are long distance walks all over the country – denoted by green diamonds on Ordnance Survey maps. Since my husband's retirement we have walked one a year, initially organising B and Bs ourselves but latterly using a company to do this for us – thankfully they also move our bags each day so we only have to carry a small rucksack with our needs for the day.



**The start**

The Cotswold Way starts in Chipping Campden and finishes in front of Bath Abbey, a total of 102 miles. There were 5 of us walking the whole route with the addition of a sixth for 4 of the days. We walked for 9 days in total with the longest stretch being 15 miles.



**The Cotswold Way**

We knew that the start, with bright blue skies and sunshine, would change in a couple of days to storm Callum with 50 mile per hour winds and driving rain so we made the most of the good weather as we went through Cotswold scenery with the deep honey coloured stone, typical of that area, contrasting beautifully with the leaves, still green and the now revived grass. On the first day our route took us past the Broadway Tower well known from photos and television programmes. It is also an area of long barrows, previously only known to me through history lessons, but we visited two on our route and there were others marked on the maps.



**Broadway Tower**

The end of our second days walking was spent at Cleeve Hill Hotel where we had a good view over Cheltenham from our bedroom as the sun went down over the Malvern Hills. The red sky at night was telling us something!! The following morning we struggled to walk in the fierce winds and the rain felt like needles hitting our faces. What should have been glorious views had disappeared as we battled our way to the highest point of the whole walk on the top of Cleeve Common. Thankfully we then entered woodland where walking became easier – but no dryer! That was also one of our longest walking days but the rain did stop in the afternoon although the wind was as strong as ever.

We had a brief respite the following day and the sun came out as we again walked through mile after mile of beautiful beech woods giving us a golden carpet underfoot. We diverted to take a look at Witcombe Roman Villa, a sizable plot, so presumably a wealthy individual, and then rejoined the path towards Painswick and an award winning B and B that offered to do a load of washing for £3. An offer that we eagerly took up.



**Belas Knap Long Barrow**

We were now about half way and had left behind the 'chocolate box' Cotswold villages. The stone colour had lightened and we were into farming communities. Our grandest B and B was Nibley House where they are

making the house 'work' by offering Weddings, Christmas lunches and family celebrations as well as B and B. We had walked all day in the rain to get there so were glad to see our bags waiting in the hall as we took off our boots and climbed the grand Georgian staircase to our rooms. The following day was a day of



**Nibley House**

Monuments. The path has been designed to take in viewpoints and places of interest, so doesn't usually take the direct route! Rain dogged us on and off for all the middle section and those with older waterproofs were having to change into dry clothes at lunch time. The frustrating thing was not being able to see the views. The walk follows a ridge with view points marked at frequent intervals – had we been a week earlier or later we would have been able to enjoy all of those views.

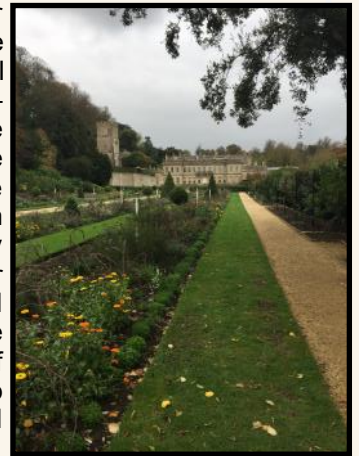
One thing we did enjoy was a visit to Dyrham Park, a National Trust property with extensive formal gardens where the café was our lunch stop. Earlier that morning we had walked through the beautifully landscaped grounds of Doddington Park, the home of James Dyson. According to the locals he had spent millions on renovating the grounds and the property.



**Tynedale monument**

Our last night before Bath was spent at Pennsylvania..... no that one, although that must be where the name came from, who knew? This Pennsylvania is near Cold Ashton on the A46. There is nothing nearby and so it was the one evening where our host offered us dinner. After many pub dinners this was very welcome, particularly as by this time I had 3 painful blisters and it meant I could eat dinner in my slippers.

We weren't looking forward to walking into Bath on our final day as we had memories of the final day of the Cumbria Way walking into Carlisle with lots of industrial units either side of the river. We need not have feared – Bath doesn't do industrial, just lots of hills and parks. We had a packed lunch on the edge of the racecourse overlooking Bath and then made our way to the Abbey where we proudly stood for a photo on the floor panel indicating the end. We celebrated with a bottle of Prosecco in the Pump Rooms with our tea and cakes.



**Dyrham House**



**The finish**

We spent time talking about next year and I think it's going to be Ireland. This time I should be able to avoid being away for General Meetings ....

*Wendy Hattrell*

# PUZZLE PAGE

## Word Ladders

Change one letter at a time -  
e.g. CAT→COT→DOT→DOG.

<b>CHASE</b>	<b>GREAT</b>	<b>GAMES</b>	<b>GROWL</b>	<b>TIGER</b>	<b>TRAIN</b>
a	a	a	a	a	a
b	b	b	b	b	b
c	c	c	c	c	c
d	d	d	d	d	d
e	e	e	e	e	e
f	f	f	f	f	f
g	g	g	g	g	g
h	h	h	h	h	h
<b>CATCH</b>	<b>SMALL</b>	<b>CHESS</b>	<b>SNARL</b>	<b>HORSE</b>	<b>BIKES</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>

Try to complete the ladders WITHOUT the additional clues below.

Additional clues:

- 1: a: Discontinue b: Charter c: Lead d: Percolate e: Fruit f: Roost g: Sear h: Mend
- 2: a: Delicacy b: Trample c: Type of Chord d: Test e: Warble f: Kind of weave g: Slops h: Static i: Kiosk
- 3: a: Stares b: Mantles c: Manages d: Middle Sections e: Army Unit f: Cages g: Harvests h: Traverse i: Herb
- 4: a: Develops b: Radiates c: Decelerates d: Gambling machines e: Splines f: Roofing material g: Condition h: Gape i: Trap
- 5: a: Measuring device b: Multiplication c: Becomes weary d: Fathers e: Blains f: Varieties g: Garrisons h: Strong suit i: Counterfeit j: Deep ravine k: Shrub
- 6: a: Attribute b: Area of land c: Search and find d: A very short time e: Hackneyed f: Compose g: Legal documents h: Tarries i: Desires j: Decreases k: Fermented juices l: Tracks m: Finds enjoyable

A word square has the same words that read across and down. For example:

**WORD**  
**OVER**  
**REDO**  
**DROP**

Each of the letters may be used more than once but all letters should be used.

Can you make word squares from the following letters:

4x4 square: **DISETAR**  
5X5 square: **ABDELOPRSW**  
5x5 square: **CDEHNRSTUW**

## Reports from General Meetings

**John Stirling** was **September's** speaker. His talk was entitled **'Theatre to Actors and much more'**. John became a successful child actor on TV working in Noddy, as the headboy with Jimmy Edwards in 'Whacko', with Jack Warner in 'Dixon of Dock Green' and with Sid James in 'Taxi'. He gave up television at the age of 16 and went into radio. He worked with Patricia Hayes in 'Raise a Laugh'. He then became a stage manager and producer working with Morecambe and Wise, Billy Fury, Patricia Hayes, Bob Monkhouse, Marti Caine, and Mark Knopfler and put on variety shows for good causes in the country's biggest theatres and concert halls. Patricia Hayes initiated a turning point in his career when she asked him to write a play for her. He wrote 'Marked for Life'. The play included 12 abused, neglected donkeys which had to be rehomed after the production. His wife Annie took them home but people kept bringing more and more donkeys to them. John has worked with, among others, Anneka Rice, Dame Judy Dench, Marti Caine, June Brown, Edward Fox, Kathy Staff (Norah Batty) for the benefit of neglected and abused donkeys. We learnt that Jean Fergusson aka Marina (Last of the Summer Wine) even owns a donkey called Howard. His wife Annie has done two challenging fund-raising walks in aid of their donkey sanctuary and much good work has been done with disabled children. What was perceived as a talk on the theatre took a very interesting turn as the 'and much more' became evident. A particularly interesting and memorable talk.

*Bridget Thompson*

*His biography is 'Never work with children or animals - the memoirs of John Stirling' - Memoirs Publishing*



Our speaker for **October** was **Bob Ashton** who spoke at length about **'A Century of Public Transport', 1902 to 2002**. It was very interesting to see the vast changes in the Doncaster landscape over the years. Unfortunately Bob only managed to get to 1952 in the time allocated to him. For the younger members in the audience we sadly didn't get to see many pictures that we could relate to. However it was a detailed account given by a very enthusiastic speaker showing his vast knowledge of the subject.

*Jess Parkinson*

## Solutions to October/November's puzzles



Q	U	A	C	K	B		J		
	N				M	O	V	E	
P	I	C	K			T		W	
	T		I	N	C	H		E	
D			T		O			L	
R		B	E	E	P		G		
A		A			Y	E	A	R	
F	U	S	E				Z		
T		H			E	X	P	E	L

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







Many of us eat and drink more during the Christmas season than at other times of the year. But what are the consequences?.....

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....

- I eat cake because it's somebody's birthday somewhere.
- I don't know if my pants are feeling loose because I am losing weight ..... or the elastic is finally giving up the fight!
- Every guy thinks that every girl's dream is to find the perfect guy.....Please? ..... Every girl's dream is to eat without getting fat!
- We all have that one skinny friend that eats more than a fat person



## ..... FOLLOWED BY THE DIET.....

- I'm on a seafood diet. I see food and I eat it!
- Chocolate comes from cocoa, which is a tree. That makes it a plant. Chocolate is salad!
- Technically if you don't cut a cake and just eat the whole thing with a fork you still only had one piece.
- Diet day 1: I have removed all the bad food from the house. It was delicious!
- Every time I lose some weight, I find it again in the refrigerator.
- Diet Rule 1: If nobody sees you eating it, it doesn't contain any calories.
- Losing weight doesn't seem to be working so I'm going to concentrate on getting taller.
- My diet plan: Make all of my friends cupcakes. The fatter they get, the thinner I'll look.
- I've been on a diet for two weeks. All I've lost is 14 days!
- Did you know 'DIET' stands for 'Did I Eat That!'
- Diet tip: Your pants won't get too tight if you don't wear any!



## .....AND THEN THE EXERCISE

- Exercise! I thought you said extra fries!
- Rabbits jump and they live for 8 years. Dogs run and they live for 15 years. Turtles do nothing and live for 150 years. Lesson learned.
- I'm in shape. Unfortunately that shape is a potato!
- I did a push-up today. Well, actually I fell down, but I had to use my arms to get back up, so .... Close enough. Now I need chocolate!
- I think that tossing and turning at night should be considered as exercise.
- I've been hiding from exercise. I'm in the fitness protection program.
- I need to get in shape. If I were murdered right now my chalk outline would be a circle!



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / EXCUSES

- We all know mirrors don't lie .... I'm just grateful that they don't laugh!
- They say that the body is made up of 90% water, so.....I'm not fat, I'm just waterlogged.
- Did you know .... Chocolate makes your clothes shrink!
- Wouldn't it be so great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for 10 minutes and come out wrinkle free and three sizes smaller!
- A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.
- I try to avoid things that make me fat, like scales, mirrors and photographs.
- I'm not fat. God gave me airbags because I'm precious.
- I'm not fat. I'm just easy to see.
- Just once I would like to read a medication label that says: WARNING: May cause permanent weight loss, remove wrinkles and increase energy.
- We all get heavier as we get older because there's a lot more information in our heads. So I'm not fat, I'm just really intelligent and my head couldn't hold any more so it started filling up the rest of me. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

### REMEMBER:

**NO PAIN, NO GAIN!  
LIVE—LAUGH—LEARN**



# Summer School

Live – Laugh – Learn

## 5th – 8th August 2019

### The Hawkhills, Easingwold

[www.thehawkhills.com](http://www.thehawkhills.com)

Have you started thinking about what you'll be up to next summer?

Our 2017 Summer School at The Hawkhills Conference Centre was such a huge success, we're offering you the opportunity to join us at our 2019 Residential Event!

### The Hawkhills is a perfect place to run our Summer School

Set off the A19 just south of Easingwold and set within a 240 acre estate, the venue boasts well appointed conference facilities and a reputation for first class cuisine as well as a cosy bar, relaxing lounge and conservatory areas. The modern accessible accommodation block provides comfortable, hotel style double en-suite bedrooms with all amenities, and the magnificent landscaped gardens open out onto woods with waymarked walks.

### Course Topics to choose from:

**Landscape Painting**

**Literature**

**Art History**

**Magic Tricks & Skills**

**History of Tourism, Fetes & Festivals**

**Climate Change**

**Philosophy**

**Jewellery Making**

**There'll be an optional sing-along before dinner**

Experience not necessary!

### Costs for our 3 night top class residential Summer School

Full Board Delegate £380

Day Delegate £190

\*\* We are pleased to offer this year's event at the same price as last time \*\*

**More information including preliminary course details are available on [yahru3a.co.uk](http://yahru3a.co.uk)**

### Booking can be made from early January

Follow the links to Events then Summer School 2019

### The aim of our Summer School is to:

- Provide members with new learning opportunities
- Enable our members to explore a topic your U3A may not be able to offer
- Enable delegates, in a magnificent setting, to share time out with other U3A members from across the region and beyond

On the website you can register your interest in the event ensuring that you will be one of the first to hear when bookings open in January.



## **THIRD AGE TRUST:** **National Educational Events**

### **Beneath Your Feet - Hidden Depths of Roman London**

28th or 29th November      11.00 a.m. start      £22.00  
Guildhall Art Gallery, Guildhall Yard, London, EC2V 5AE

### **U3A Christmas Concert 2018 with the Brandenburg Singers and Organ**

3rd December: 2.00 p.m. & 5.30 p.m.    or    18th December 2.00 p.m.  
£19.50

Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, Savoy Hill,  
London, WC2R 0DA

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>



## **What is the Virtual U3A**

The Virtual U3A or vU3A is like a local U3A Group except that its activities take place on the Internet.

An important target group for the vU3a is older people who are isolated through location, illness or immobility - but all are welcome. We have members from around the world.

Members of the Virtual U3A are encouraged to form their own informal learning and discussion groups, choose their own topics and share their experiences in the social areas of the site. It follows the principles of participative learning which have made the U3A one of the most successful educational and social groups for older people.

The vU3A's activities are carried out in writing using a secure, membership only, workspace. The vU3A does not create or deliver formal structured online courses.

For more information visit: <https://vu3a.org>

If you open the website you can subscribe to the monthly newsletter without fully joining the Virtual U3A.(see top right of the Home page)

*Bridget Thompson*



## CONTACTING GROUP LEADERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Group Leaders can be contacted by telephone (see below) or 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

<b>Chair</b>	Wendy Hattrell
<b>Vice Chair</b>	to be arranged
<b>Business</b>	Chris Woolven
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Parkinson
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Jill Laming
<b>Group Co-ordinators</b>	Diane Williams John Wheeler
<b>Minutes Secretary</b>	Mark Frost
<b>Welfare</b>	Carole Lewis
<b>Publicity</b>	Mark Frost George Kirk Vanessa Whaley David Smith

### Other Contacts

<b>Newsletter Editor &amp; Website Manager</b>	Bridget Thompson	bthompsonu3a@btinternet.com
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WISHING ALL DU3A MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES



A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND



## **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.

## **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.....

## **Deadline**

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

**Friday 4th January.**

Please send news of group activities, articles, photographs, etc. to  
[du3anewsletterbmt@btinternet.com](mailto:du3anewsletterbmt@btinternet.com)





