

DONCASTER

u3a

Registered Charity No. 1074577



June - July 2021

From the Chair



I think we can see some light at the end of the tunnel at last!

With luck we will be able to get back to our groups very soon. If the “road map” goes as expected then by August all our groups will be up and running fully. Of course, traditionally, most of our groups don’t operate in August so I suppose we can really look forward to September.

We have some changes coming in our management committee too. Our Groups Co-ordinator Vanessa Whaley will have completed her time on the committee in May and will be standing down. The role of Groups Co-ordinator is to be taken on by Diane Williams, who has taken on the role previously.

Vanessa has done an excellent job and will be sorely missed by all of us, group leaders and committee members alike. She has approached the role with absolute commitment and dedication. Our heartfelt thanks go out to her.

David Bryan has been co-opted on to the committee as a new member and for those members who have not met him there is a photo and a few words included in this newsletter. He brings a vast amount of experience with him and I am certain he will be a great asset.

RESTARTING OUR GROUPS.

Several people have asked how and when we are going to get back to normal meetings of our groups. The simple answer is that, to a large extent, it is up to our group leaders and members.

Obviously, the current government restrictions must be adhered to, but as an organisation we only ask that group leaders let the groups co-ordinator know exactly what they are planning and ensure that the required risk assessments are sent to her for approval.

For insurance purposes we ask that each group leader gets members to sign a simple form just once, at first attendance at a particular group, after which the group can go about its business in as normal a manner as possible. The forms will be held by group leaders.

This may sound a little daunting, but I can assure you that it really is not that difficult. If any group leader needs advice on completing the risk assessments, then do not hesitate to contact either the groups co-ordinator or me. (details at the back of this newsletter).

As far as venues are concerned, the individual groups are responsible for deciding where they meet.

We have been in touch with the organisers of Priory Place, and we hope to use it for our general meetings, at least for the time being. The upstairs space is big enough and accessible by a lift. Plans are in place to keep the venue going even though it no longer functions as a church, though these plans are not

finalised and things may yet change.

We are planning a general meeting there on June 21st which I really hope people will make the effort to attend. I am fairly sure most of us will have had our two vaccinations by then so it will be wonderful to meet old friends again.

Our AGM is to take place there in July.

Details of these meetings are given elsewhere in this newsletter.

The ever-popular Prego café is also a regular venue for some of our groups and they are expecting things to start up again as soon as they are allowed. They have a diary in place so the upstairs room can be booked.

I wish you all well and must give a very special thank-you to the committee and all who have been running zoom groups during the pandemic. I understand that some of these may continue as an additional offering to our normal activities. If you are running such a group and it is intended that it continues for the foreseeable future, then please let us know so that it can be included in our literature.

Stay safe!

Chris Woolven

WELCOME

A warm welcome to our new members
Margaret Allott and Colin Jeynes

Creative Writing Competition

The U3A are organising a National Creative Writing competition again this year. If you are interested, competition information and rules can be found at

<https://u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes/creative-writing-2021>

How it works

- In summary, your story must be your own, individual, original work, in English, a maximum of 1500 words, and not submitted anywhere else.
- Your submission must be on the theme of: **UNEXPECTED**
- The rules - you must read these fully. Any submission which does not meet these will not be considered.
- All submissions will be judged by group judging panels and the best story from each group will be compared to decide on an overall winner.

The submission portal is now open. Stories should be submitted via the link at the top of the web page (all entries need to be submitted this way to be accepted).

The deadline for submission is 12 noon on 28th May 2021.

Cover photo: Cromer by Chris Woolven - Digital Photography Group

GROUPS - UPDATES / NOTICES

INTEREST GROUPS

Contact group leaders to find out about current arrangements for meetings.

NB: Please be aware of Government guidelines/rules. If any group leader is considering restarting face-to-face meetings they must contact the Groups Co-ordinator for advice before doing so.

GENERAL MEETINGS

Please check your emails as arrangements are changing as we move out of lockdown. Would members with email please ensure that those who do not have email are informed of future plans for meetings as and when they are known.

17th May: DNA and Criminology by Diane and Chris Woolven. (On Zoom)

Chris and Diane will be presenting an abridged version of their popular summer school course, with a brief introduction to the biology of DNA followed by an explanation of the vital place it plays in modern criminal investigations.

The talk was well received by Barnsley U3A last month. It is in two parts. The first will be to give a brief introduction to DNA and the part it plays in all life on our planet, while the second part will go on to explain how it plays an essential role in modern criminal investigations.

Diane and Chris both studied genetics at university.

21st June: The History of the NHS by Jeff Jacklin at Priory Place Methodist Church 2.00 p.m. (Doors will be open from 1.30 p.m.)

Please support the event and help us get back to 'Normal' again.

19th July: AGM followed by an open meeting at Priory Place Methodist Church 2.00 p.m. (Doors will be open from 1.30 p.m.)

CURRENT ZOOM MEETINGS

Basic French • Digital Photography • Discussion • Easier French • Family History • French 2 • Gardening • German • History • Literature • Love of Nature • Quiz • Scattergories • Zoom Art • Committee meetings • General meetings

OUTDOOR MEETINGS

Crown Green Bowls • Love of Nature • Stretchers • Walking Cricket

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

We are well on course to ensuring a covid-safe venue, plus safe socially distanced dancing. We are arranging a couple of test sessions towards the end of May, together with friends from the Doncaster SCD society - and aiming to open to all members of our u3a group from June 4th. We will have to keep an eye on numbers, to maintain appropriate distance - so please do not just turn up - we don't want to turn anyone away. If I haven't spoken with you about restarting, or you would like to join, please do get in touch by email or phone.

Geoff Tagg

BASIC FRENCH AND EASIER FRENCH

These 2 groups are both returning to real meetings from May 21st. Easier French will be at Prego. At the time of writing, I am still sorting out a venue for Basic

French. Basic French has space for a couple of new members, whilst Easier French is presently at capacity.

Geoff Tagg

PLAYREADING AND PHILOSOPHY

These 2 groups have been running on Zoom, but that has now ended. I hope to restart actual meetings for both in June - I will contact existing members when plans are sorted. Both groups could accept a couple of new members.

Geoff Tagg

Experiences as a committee member for U3A

As I leave my role of committee member and reflect on the past two years, it is with some sense of achievement, thankfully.

During my working life I had the opportunity to be on committees, mostly, because I needed to convince commissioners of why I needed more money but my first venture on a committee for a voluntary body following retirement proved to be a bit of a disaster. With that in mind I wasn't sure why I had accepted a second venture with U3A.

Fortunately this experience was favourable. (I can't answer for how the other committee members saw it though) .

It's basically a group of people with lots of ideas and thoughts on how the organisation can develop and thrive. There's highflyers and well experienced, eager to get going. Then there's the steady members saying 'WHOA' and then the middle of the road members helping us all find the balance. And it works.

I truly wish to thank the other committee members because I have learnt such a great deal. I thank them for sharing their experience and knowledge, showing patience with me, accepting my opinion and making me feel worthy.

Whilst on committee I took on the role of Group Co-ordinator and although its been a funny couple of years with Covid, lock-down and now lifting of restrictions, it's been an honour to get to know some of the lovely people that maintain the backbone of the organisation.

Without the continued energy and dedication of the group leaders the committee would find it nigh on impossible to continue and develop. So, well done and keep doing what you're doing because you are doing a fantastic job.

So, thank-you to all of you, group leaders and committee members for allowing me to feel a useful member of a great organisation.

It was a favourable experience. One that should be given a try.

Vanessa Whaley

August - September 2021 Newsletter

Articles for the August - September newsletter need to be received by

Wednesday 30th June.

Please send news of group activities, articles, photographs, etc. to

du3newsletterbmt@btinternet.com

DU3A COMMITTEE

David Bryan



I joined U3A about 3 years ago. I only found out about it from a chance meeting with members from another group whilst visiting Brodsworth Hall at that time but would have joined much sooner if I had previously been aware of U3A.

I have always had a wide range of interests and currently join in, when allowed, with the Brass Band (torturing the cornet), Photography, History, Walking Cricket, Natural History, Gardening and Tenpin Bowling groups and used to occasionally 'drop in' to the Saturday morning group. I am very much hoping to join the Table Tennis group, if and when that gets off the ground, and wouldn't mind starting an ice skating group, if that is a viable option.

My other interests include motor cycling and boating, which I hope to do more of this year.

THANKS

I would like to thank all of those leaders who have encouraged and supported their groups to use Zoom. I have really enjoyed the History and Discussion Groups together with the General Meeting talk and look forward to them. I look forward to joining Philosophy. The team who have organised Doncaster U3A during these last difficult months are to be congratulated on their hard work and the difference it has made for their members.

Sally Chamberlain

Whose Job Is It?

It's the story of four people named **Everybody**, **Somebody**, **Anybody** and **Nobody**.

There was an important job to be done and **Everybody** was sure that **Somebody** would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but **Nobody** did it.

Somebody got angry about that, because it was **Everybody's** job.

Everybody thought **Anybody** could do it, but **Nobody** realized that **Everybody** wouldn't do it.

It ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done.....

Well, as **Nobody** has put the kettle on, **Somebody** had better get on with it. xx

Submitted by Carolyn Richardson

GENERAL MEETINGS

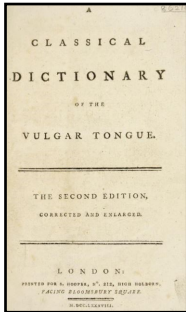
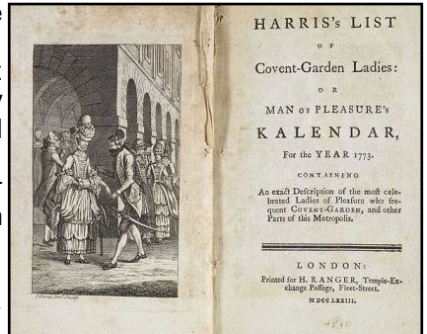
15th MARCH: Zoom Meeting

Sex, Secrets, Scandal & Salacious Gossip of the Royal Court 1660 to 1830

Sarah Slater, a guide, lecturer, tour guide and state apartment warden at Hampton Court gave us a very interesting face-to-face talk on Zoom. We were able to ask questions at the end.

Sarah talked about all the naughty bits of history including royal mistresses, prostitution, sexual diseases of the time and the methods used to prevent STDs and unwanted pregnancies. It was fun, rude and informative. In 1515 Cardinal Thomas Wolsey built Hampton Court Palace as a party palace. When he fell out of favour with the king, he gave the palace to Henry VIII. Hampton Court was lived in by all subsequent monarchs until King George III. Some of it was rebuilt.

Many of the kings had official mistresses. We learnt about 'Harris's List of Covent Garden Ladies', the yellow pages of Georgian society that listed prostitutes attaching a description and a ditty to each one. The prostitutes had to be nominated for inclusion. They couldn't pay for an entry. About 8,000 copies of this best seller were sold each year at a cost of 2/6 each (about £10 nowadays). It can still be purchased.



We were also introduced to the book 'Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue' by Francis Grose. Grose was one of the first lexicographers to collect slang words from all corners of society, not just from the professional underworld of pickpockets and bandits. He and his assistant Tom Cocking took midnight walks through London, picking up slang words in slums, drinking dens and dockyards and adding them into their 'knowledge-box'. 'The Vulgar Tongue' was recognised throughout the 19th century as one of the most important collections of slang in the English language. It can be found on the internet.

<https://publicdomainreview.org/collection/a-classical-dictionary-of-the-vulgar-tongue-1788>

Bridget Thompson

21st APRIL: Zoom Meeting

Memories are made of this.

Congratulations to the Speaker Finder for booking the very interesting speaker Alan Swann. Alan, who is incidentally from the Barnsley branch of the U3A, gave our Doncaster U3A, a talk on MEMORY, or more correctly, the lack of it.

After a life time lived with a fairly decent memory recall, this past few years have seen my memory deteriorate. Friends tell me they have the same experiences, especially with recalling names. This made the subject very apt for many of us. It was also reassuring in that Alan gave us hints, on how to improve our memory.

At the end of Alan's talk, I, for one came away more hopeful, by being able to learn, and recall, how to count to ten in Japanese. This is now my party piece.

Betty Alexander



Danum Gallery, Library and Museum is all set!

The new building is at the junction of Waterdale and Chequer Road in what is now called the Civic and Cultural Quarter. The official opening was 17th March, but in these strange times it was not an opening as we know it, but a virtual tour, allowing us to explore the building and see its features and exhibits from our own armchairs. By moving an arrow, we can move around the building and look at different elements. At various points information pops up with background information.

Rather dangerously, (I mean, who can forget Boaty McBoatface?), the public was asked to submit suggested names for the building and then asked to vote for a favourite. Thank goodness sense prevailed and the chosen name was Danum Gallery, Library and Museum..... it does what it says on the tin!

The building will be a place of learning and creativity, where the community can be inspired. It is a modern building set over four floors, filled with light and built around the front and tower of the old High School for Girls, which has been encased in glass to preserve it. At night it is lit up and looks spectacular. The huge increase in size will allow art exhibits to be displayed, which have 'til now been locked away from public view.

There are many parts to this new building;-

- The children's and adult lending libraries
- Museum packed with fascinating collections
- Art Gallery full of impressive works, some loaned from the likes of the British Museum.
- King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry Museum
- A high quality education space
- A lovely café
- Training, meeting and conference facilities

There is also the return of two rather special trains, coming home to Doncaster! (see next page **)

Perhaps some U3A groups will be able to meet there!

If you would like to take the virtual tour, please use the link below:-

<https://www.heritagedoncaster.org.uk/dglam>

Paula Harmer



Looking Back

It was a big mistake to return to my old house, I mean, what did I expect to gain, all it did was stir up old memories.

Memories of broken furniture, flickering fire light, the table covered by the Daily Herald, sadness made tolerable by knowing you were safe and amongst your own kind.

The air-raid shelter had gone and there's a modern patio where our coal house used to be.

I notice a large white conservatory has been built on what used to be my Grandad's house next door, god knows what he would have made of it: different worlds.

No kids are playing under the street light that's just flickering into life.

And of course no chickens are wandering about, pecking and scratching; what we now have is a fake lawn and a sodding water feature!

Oh look, they've even taken our pig sty down: you could cry.

A light comes on in our old front room, back then it was kept for show or when the doctor called, it was pristine and we were never allowed in.

A large TV springs to life and a woman draws the curtains.

She doesn't see the ghost, watching, perplexed and resenting all these alterations.

And in the gathering dusk I thought I could hear my dad's pit boots ringing on the pavement in the frosty stillness of this winter night.

I walk back to my car, sit and think and become upset, upset for allowing myself this indulgence.

I start the car giving the old house one last look.

I hit the radio button, the news comes on.

Apparently Boris has spent £100,000 on decorating his Downing Street flat: you give up.

Denis Marsden

Writers group

** continuing on from the previous page, Wendy Hattrell submitted this information:

The space will include an exciting new rail heritage centre showcasing memorabilia from The Doncaster Grammar School Railway Collection and two locomotive engines built in Doncaster - *No. 251* and *Green Arrow*.

You can watch the two locomotives arriving back in Doncaster via the links below:

Watch 'No. 251' arrive at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8586CxgoHgU>

Watch 'Green Arrow' arrive at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TI3U0CT5nfY>

Jokes submitted by John Weston:

Did you hear about the new restaurant called Karma?

There is no menu - you just get what you deserve.

Why do people tell actors to "break a leg?"

Because every play has a cast.

Do you know why you can't explain puns to kleptomaniacs?

They take things, literally.

DONCASTER U3A
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of Doncaster U3A will take place on **Monday 19th July 2021** at 2.00 p.m. at the Priory Place Methodist Church.

All members are entitled to attend and there will be no charge for entry.

Doors will be open from 1.30 p.m.

At the AGM, the committee will be proposing a revised constitution for approval by the members. The full version will be available on our website at least 28 days prior to the AGM.

In the main the changes are simply to bring the language into the modern era (e.g. Chairman replaced by Chairperson).

Other than that, there are two main changes.

- The maximum period between the end of our financial year and the AGM has been increased from 8 weeks to 13 weeks. (Section 10.i)
- The methods of voting have been reworded to include electronic voting. (Section 15.ix)

There are no major changes to our objects and purposes.

NB Proper social distancing will be in place and the date of the meeting is subject to ongoing government regulations and may be changed at short notice if required.

Doncaster U3A Annual General Meeting
Monday 19th July 2021 at 2.00 p.m.
Venue – Priory Place Methodist Church, Doncaster
AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of AGM 2020
4. Matters Arising
5. Chairman's Report
6. Secretary's Report
7. Treasurer's Report and appointment of Auditor
8. Adoption of Reports
9. Election of Members of the Executive Committee
10. Vote on proposal to adopt new constitution.
11. Close of meeting.

After the AGM there will be an open meeting with an opportunity for a general discussion with the committee.

WALKING CRICKET



It was great to get back to the game over the last few weeks.

Meeting friends again after so long was evocative of getting back on the playground after missing all your school friends after the long summer holiday.

We all enjoyed the sound of ~~leather on willow~~ plastic on plastic as we laughed and played together.

It was not quite "Cricket", but it was close enough for us and we all had a thoroughly good time.

If you would like to come along and join the fun, (no prior experience or skill required) then please give me a call or send an email. Details at the back of the newsletter.

Chris Woolven



Pictures by David Bryan

REMINDER

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: 2021-2022

Fee for the year: £14 for an individual and £24 for a joint membership. If you require the newsletter to be posted it is an additional £4 for both individual and joint subscriptions.

See page 22 for details on how to pay by bank transfer.

If you wish your card to be posted to you please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

UBA

Doncaster

A. N. Other

Membership Number 12345



JOINT MEMBER

Membership valid
to 31st March



Out and about with my camera



Photos by John Wheeldon - Digital Photography group

ENJOYING POETRY

Every month I send out a selection of poems to group members, many of whom then get in touch with me to say that they have enjoyed reading them. It's important to read poetry from the past, so this month I included Wordsworth's wonderful poem 'To The Cuckoo' although it caused me to reflect that I don't think I have actually heard a cuckoo for many years now! Equally, it is important to keep up-to-date with current work, reading poems that reflect the diverse world we live in. This is one such; a wonderful poem from the American poet Grace Schulman.

Because

*Because, in a wounded universe, the tufts
of grass still glisten, the first daffodil
shoots up through ice-melt, and a red-tailed hawk
perches on a cathedral spire; and because
children toss a fire-red ball in the yard
where a schoolhouse façade was scarred by vandals,
and joggers still circle a dry reservoir;
because a rainbow flaunts its painted ribbons
and slips them somewhere underneath the earth
because in a smoky bar the trombone blares
louder than street sirens, because those
who can no longer speak of pain are singing;
and when on this wide meadow in the park
a full moon still outshines the city lights,
and on returning home, below the North Star,
I see new bricks-and-glass where the Towers fell;
and I remember my lover's calloused hand
soften in my hand while crab apple blossoms
showered our laps, and a yellow rose
opened with its satellites of orange buds,
because I cannot lose the injured world
without losing the world, I'll have to praise it.*

Like other group leaders I am tentatively exploring the idea of meeting up together again later this year, should the Government allow it. I would love to hear what the group thinks.

David Harmer

Another song about the lockdown from the Marsh family: 'Totally fixed where we are':
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vYmSAMcwXA8>

Many more of their songs and out-takes can be heard at:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMmgu60G09zrL9JsrFZYgqA>

ART ON ZOOM

The art group continues to meet on Zoom every fortnight, first and third Sunday of the month. So far we have looked at gesture drawing, faces and flowers, with the latest subject being a real stretch - to which we all rose admirably!

Our next meeting, at the time of writing, will be the first Sunday in May, when we will be looking at trees and this will continue at the meeting on the third Sunday in May, to which anyone is cordially invited.

I am hoping that we shall be able to meet in person later in the year, but life is still up in the air and a home for an art group is not proving very easy to locate just yet. When we can meet in person, it will allow people to try materials without buying them as well as sharing work and ideas and seeing demonstrations. That will be a very different prospect from creating in isolation and though there are some benefits in not having to go out and travel to a group, I think the benefits of actually meeting as a creative endeavour will outweigh them.



Here is a lovely, creative picture by one of our members:-

Paula Harmer



U3A Learning events

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



Many online events are being delivered via the Zoom video conferencing/webinar platform, for example:

- 3rd June 2021: The Geology of Britain in the Mesozoic, the Era of Middle Life
- 10th June 2021: Yoga for Balance:

U3A Learning events list a number of workshops, webinars and interactive sessions delivered by members for members, which are free to join. These are in high demand and spaces are limited, particularly for those with an interactive element. At the time of booking please ensure that you are committed to attending to avoid other members missing out on places. If you are unable to attend please cancel your place through Eventbrite.

U3A National Newsletter

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/about/newsletter>

On the website, you can join as a member of Doncaster and you will then be able to receive the full monthly newsletter in your inbox.

Zoom Quiz

I was very dubious about setting up a Zoom quiz but how wrong I was. The first one was really well received with over 40 members registering and normally getting around 20 to 30 taking part each time. I try and make it as light and fun as possible. If you would like to come along to the quiz but feel a little nervous about joining us, please don't hesitate to ring me to find out more.

Jane Page

Regarding the enjoyable part, I usually chip in with my "Whacky answers" Here are some strange answers given by contestants of TV quiz shows:

Fletcher Christian led a mutiny on which ship?The Titanic

In which country would you find a Didgeridoo?Denmark

Which biblical figure was taken from the Garden of Gethsemane to the Mount of Olives to be crucified?Joan of Arc

Andora is completely surrounded by which European mountain range?Himalayas

In which UK city would you find Waverley Station?Germany



SCATTERGORIES

If you would like to play Scattergories, there are a few more places available.

Scattergories is held fortnightly on a Thursday via Zoom. We have two separate groups of 6 to 8 people and we meet at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. respectively. Each group game lasts approximately one hour. Within the hour we usually play 3 or 4 games (10 categories in each game).

Peter and myself host the game and the members in each group are so much fun to be with and we have a giggle. Thank-you to all our members for participating.

The objective of the game is to come up with unique word(s) for each of the ten categories in order to score points. Speed of thinking is the aim and each player has 3 minutes to complete ten categories.

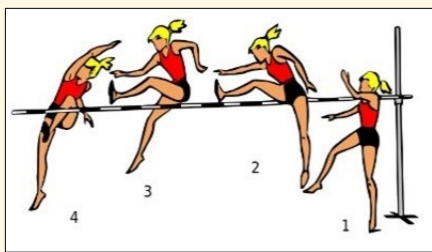
Example: Say the category is 'name an animal' and the alphabetical onscreen dice rolled by the computer is 'C', you might write down 'Cat' which is acceptable but not very original as others in the group might write 'Cat' too. Therefore, you will not score a point where anyone else in the group has the same answer. Caterpillar or Centipede might win you that category.

Please get in touch if you would like to join us. Contact details on page 22.

Anona and Peter Hermes

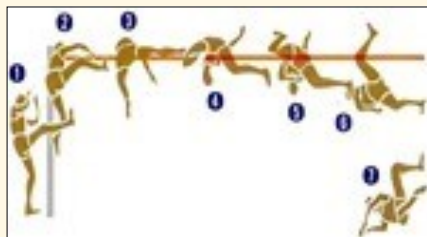
SPORT

My first memory of taking part in sport was in 1962. I was standing in front of a high jump pit with a PE teacher and a large group of girls. It was my first athletics lesson. We had been shown how to raise the bar and told to keep jumping while she set another group off doing the long jump. I was looking forward to my turn. My sister and I had spent some of our spare time making jumps in the garden. Using canes balanced on bricks or anything else we could find we constructed a series of jumps. This was our version of Horse of the Year Show. Like most young girls we liked horses and we would ride our pretend mounts over the obstacles. So, when my turn came to tackle the school high jump I just mounted my imaginary steed and jumped over the bar. The bar was raised inch by inch (no cm in those days) until there was just me left. I had cleared 3ft 6 inch. The teacher finally returned and asked who had jumped the highest. Many fingers pointed in my direction. 'What style do you use?' she asked. Style? What did she mean? 'Show me' she said. I hurdled over the bar. 'Oh it's your own style,' she said in a patronising voice. This was the beginning of my love of athletics. Later I was shown how to jump using the scissors followed by the straddle and the western roll.

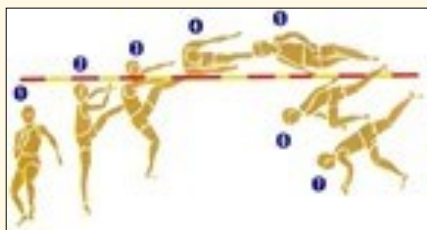


When I was 13, we moved to Bradford and I attended Salts Grammar School. It was the summer term and the Latin house was short of a third leg in the 4X100yd relay for sports day. Can you run asked the house captain? I don't know I replied but I'll give it a go. I can't remember whether we won or not, but I loved running round the grass track.

My parents bought me a pair of red running spikes and some athletic shorts. The spikes were to stop the wearer slipping on the grass (most tracks were grass back in the sixties) but were lethal if you accidentally stepped on someone. I can't believe now that I actually wore the shorts. They were baggy black knickers with a green stripe down the side. Green was my house colour. I thought I looked cool at the time.



The following years I entered every possible event. High jump, long jump, hurdles and middle distance running were my favourite. However, I could not throw. One sports day the team captain asked if I could stand in for the javelin as our competitor had gone home sick. They mistakenly believed that if I could run and jump, I could also throw. How wrong could they be? I tried to explain but to no avail and a javelin was pushed into my hands. I honestly did my best but the javelin came down just a few yards away. It was very embarrassing but at least I got a few points for our house team.



From then on I couldn't wait for summer terms and the opportunity to run and jump. In my final year I was doing the high jump and one by one the other competitors fell by the wayside. Even though there was only me left the teachers kept raising the bar. You might as well see how high you can go. Suddenly there was an announcement over the tannoy. Diane Harris is about to attempt the school high jump record. The whole school were spectating from the banking at the side of the field. Their eyes fell on me. All talking stopped. I jumped scissor style as I found this the most comfortable. The bar wobbled but stayed in place. As I walked out of the sand pit everyone cheered but then it was announced that to be official the vertical height from the centre of the bar had to be measured. I waited tentatively. I got a thumbs up. It was official. I can't remember the height but I know it was just under 5ft

My teacher encouraged me to join Bingley Harriers and I went and joined in their training and competitions. I didn't go as often as I would have liked as we lived on Manor Lane in Shipley so it meant a walk and bus ride to get there. These days children get taken everywhere in cars.



One year I was told that the regional championships were being held. I remember making my own way there on the bus. It was a small venue with a cinder track. I soon realised I hadn't much competition and didn't require much effort to win. However, I was told later that it was a time trial and I was actually racing against the clock. Fortunately, this didn't apply to the high jump as they just kept raising the bar. This meant that I qualified for a place in the Yorkshire sports. This was a different league altogether. By now most competitors were doing the western roll and I was still doing the antiquated scissors. However, I did manage to come 7th.

I enjoyed all sport at school but unfortunately my teacher training college didn't have a track so I joined the college Netball team. I would continue to play this game for the next 40 years and continue to play the walking version today.

*Diane Woolven
Living History*

John goes home from his first day at school, and his mum asks "What did they teach you today?"

" They taught us how to write" says John. Mum says "What did you write?"

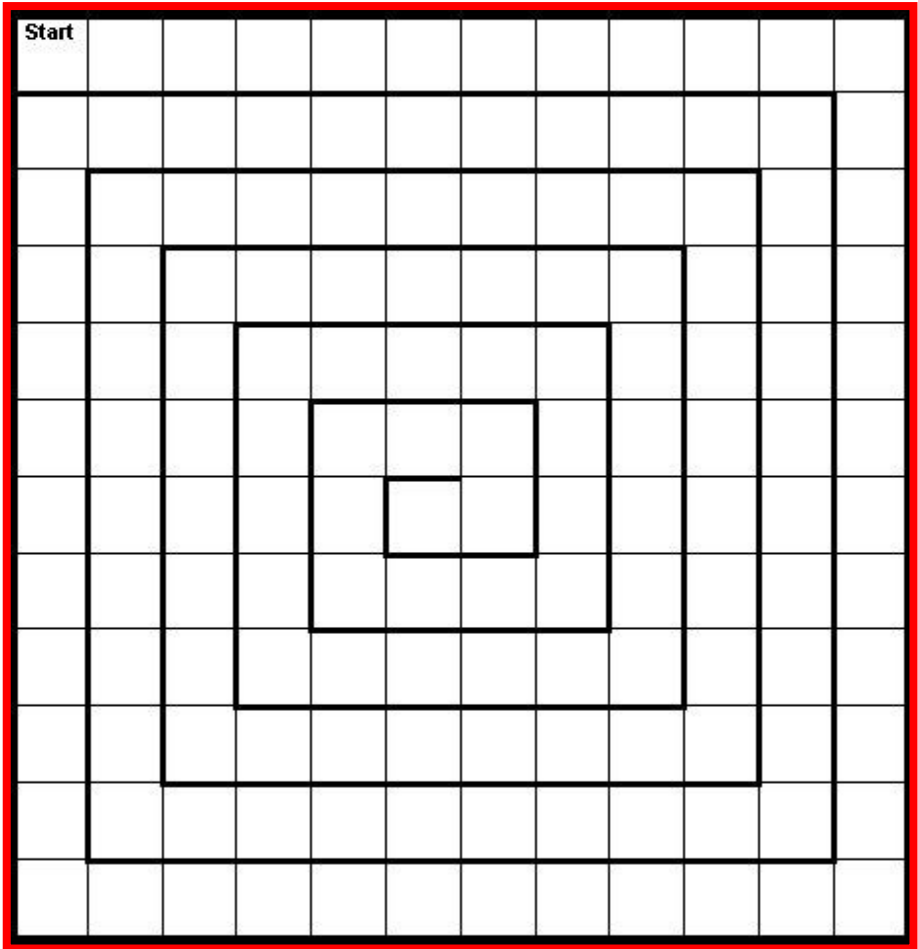
" I don't know" says John "They have not taught us to read yet".

* * * * *

A teacher goes round the class getting to know her new pupils on the first day at school. She asks Ian "What does your daddy do?" "Whatever mummy tells him".

PUZZLE PAGE

Starting in the top left corner of the grid - fill in the grid with the answers to the clues. The last letter of the each word is also the starting letter to the next word.



- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | Self-indulgent (8) | 14 | Unlike (11) |
| 2 | Tiresome (7) | 15 | Counterpart (10) |
| 3 | Harsh (6) | 16 | Rent (4) |
| 4 | Rapture (8) | 17 | Stay (6) |
| 5 | Apex (4) | 18 | Pecked (7) |
| 6 | Complex (9) | 19 | Rot (5) |
| 7 | Vast (8) | 20 | Young (8) |
| 8 | Mop (4) | 21 | Dearth (6) |
| 9 | Smear (6) | 22 | Spleen (5) |
| 10 | Irk (3) | 23 | Wayfarer (5) |
| 11 | Gentleman (7) | 24 | Withdrawal (10) |
| 12 | Motor (6) | 25 | Leathery (5) |
| 13 | Prolong (6) | 26 | Canticles (5) |

Set 1

PIUS
PITS
PITY
CITY
COTY
CODY
CODA
COMA
COME
TOME
TOTE
TETE
TETH
SETH
SITH
KITH
KITE
RITE
RATE
MATE
MUTE
MULE
MILE
BILE
BILL
BALL
BAIL
FAIL
FARL
MARL

Set 3

SPARE
SPADE
SHADE
SHALE
WHALE
WHOLE
THOLE
THOSE
CHOSE
CHASE
PHASE
PEASE
PEACE
PEACH
REACH
ROACH
COACH
COUCH
COUGH
ROUGH
ROUGE
GOUGE
GAUGE
GAUZE

Set 2

LURK
TURK
TUSK
DUSK
DISK
DIRK
DIRT
DART
DAFT
DEFT
DEFY
DUFY
DUFF
TUFF
TURF
SURF
SERF
SELF
SELL
SILL
RILL
RILE
RALE
BALE
BALD
BARD
CARD
CORD
CORN
CERN

Set 4

DEAL
DELL
DOLL
TOLL
TOLD
BOLD
BOLT
BOAT
COAT
COST
HOST
HOSE
HOLE
DOLE
DALE
HALE
HATE
MATE
LATE
LAVE
RAVE
CAVE
CAVY
NAVY

To follow on from Jane's reply and the "sillys" (page 15)..

.....If you think that you can do better try these:

- 1 Which town was the setting for the Sound of Music?
- 2 In which country were the Hobbit films made?
- 3 In which county was Poldark set?
- 4 In which UK country is Line of Duty made?
- 5 In which city are the Morse stories set?
- 6 In which US city would you find the Cheers bar?
- 7 In which country is Mamma Mia filmed?
- 8 In which town is the latest version of All Creatures Great and Small made?
- 9 The subject of a recent film, in which country is Dunkirk?
- 10 In which UK country was the last I'm a Celebrity.... made?

Answers on page 21

Mike Bowser

As places begin to open up you may be interested in local happenings. For more information about the below events go to:

<https://www.visitdoncaster.com/whats-on/arts-and-culture>

29 May, 26 June

The Doncaster Market Record Fair

A fantastic monthly record fair hosted by Five Rise Record for record and music lovers. The fair currently takes place outside on **Doncaster Market** - Free admission

3 June

Dirty Dancing: An amazing outdoor cinema experience at **Doncaster Rovers Football Club**

4 June

This is **'The Greatest Showman' Sing-a-long** outdoor cinema experience at **Doncaster Rovers Football Club**

25 June and alternate Fridays

Afternoon Cabaret: **Doncaster Little Theatre**

CAST isn't going to let something like a pandemic stop them from bringing some of the best local talent to you! They still can't bring their **Scratch Nights** back in person, so - they've gone digital.

Cast will be uploading to this page: <https://bit.ly/3be1kKv> once a week with some cracking, creative content, so be sure to check that link regularly for new content. There'll be loads of different stuff going on, from photography to music to comedy.

Slow Ways

Are you interested in walking and cycling locally? Lots of us are, but finding good routes isn't always easy.

I recently attended, via Zoom, a presentation on 'Slow Ways'. This is a new initiative, largely developed during lockdown, to link towns and villages for walkers and cyclists. They have approached U3As because they would like help verifying the suggested routes. Their website went live on 23 April.

At the moment OS maps can be used to plan routes but until those routes are walked or cycled we don't know if they are overgrown, been ploughed up by farmers or perhaps have neglected and broken stiles - in other words we don't really know if they make good walks. As people walk and wheel, review, rate, survey and create new routes, using Slow Ways website to record their experiences, this will evolve into a network of 'verified' routes, ones that can be used with confidence. Over time, this will help people with specific needs and requirements easily find routes that suit them.

Slow Ways is a collaborative effort:

70 people helped test the idea at a Slow Ways hack day in February 2020.

700 people helped plot a first draft of the network during the Spring 2020 lockdown.

80,000 people registered to help walk and review routes by Winter 2020

Because of this scale of support, Slow Ways CIC was formed in 2020 as a not-for-profit community interest company. All of the route information that's collated will always be free to browse, search, view, share and download.

They plan that versions of the verified network of Slow Ways walking routes will be released under a Creative Commons license so that people and organisations can freely download, share and innovate with it.

Up for helping? To get started, sign up, then:

1. Choose a Slow Ways route
2. Walk, or wheel it
3. Review it

Slow Ways has presentations on YouTube - you can use a search to find them and their website is

<https://beta.slowways.org>

Keep an eye on your email as I will shortly hold a zoom meeting to discuss using Slow Ways for Du3a walks.

Wendy Hattrell

20 THINGS YOUR MUM USED TO SAY TO YOU...



Were you born in a barn?

Say Pardon, not "What"

I've told you a thousand times

Because I said so

Ask your dad

Move away from the T.V. you'll get square eyes

What did your last slave die of?

I want, never gets

Back in my day...

Carrots make you see in the dark

You wait until your dad gets home!

Who's 'SHE?' The cat's mother

No pudding unless you eat your dinner

Do as I say, not as I do

If your mate asked you to jump off a cliff, would you?

Eat your crusts, you'll get curly hair

You'll take somebody's eye out with that

There's no such word as "CAN'T"

It's like Blackpool illuminations in here

It'll all end in tears



Submitted by Mark Frost

Answers from Quiz on page 19

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|------------|
| 1 Salzburg | 2 New Zealand | 3 Cornwall |
| 4 Northern Ireland | 5 Oxford | 6 Boston |
| 7 Greece | 8 Grassington | 9 France |
| 10 Wales | | |

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>

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	Chris Woolven
Vice Chair	Jane Page
Secretary	Diane Woolven
Treasurer	Derek Marriott
Membership Secretary	Christine Curtis
Group Co-ordinator	Diane Williams
Minutes Secretary	Christine Curtis
Publicity	Jane Page
Beacon Administrator	Wendy Hattrell
Committee	Jill Laming
Committee	John Wheeler
Committee	Paula Harmer
Committee	David Bryan

Activity Groups & Other: Contacts

Group leaders - see printed Newsletter for telephone numbers, or DU3A Website

Newsletter Editor & Website Manager	Bridget Thompson	bthompsonu3a@btinternet.com
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Help the environment and save money by receiving the email version of the DU3A newsletters.

Deadline

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

Wednesday 30th June

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

Monks Printers

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

Prego Café

We would like to thank our friends at the Prego Café for their help over the past years. We wish them the best during this difficult time and look forward to having our meetings there again in the future.

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.....



