

Holme Valley



News for Holme Valley U3A members.

June 2016

Summer greetings

Apologies if this reaches you a little later than usual. I have just returned from a holiday. We are going to try and simplify our communications a little. As with this issue, your quarterly newsletter will continue to include at least one article and more general news about how we are developing. The interim monthly updates will usually only include details of the monthly meetings, information about groups and trips. Those will be posted to you if you need it and added to the web-site so we can send a link by email. Any information that needs circulating in between those times will only be sent out by email. If anyone would like help opening an email account and accessing/replying to emails please let one of the committee know.

Having just returned from a little sun, I was interested to learn that two of our U3A members have also joined a group in Spain. The membership consists of between 350 and 450 members of all nationalities, but mainly ex pats, and language doesn't seem to be a problem. When I asked for examples of the work of other U3As at our last meeting this wasn't quite what I anticipated, but you can read more about their activities and that of a couple of other groups overleaf.

I am sure as U3A grows we will also expand our activities and there are a couple of ideas 'under development' at the moment. But growth also means we need to keep reviewing our administration. The committee recently looked at the challenge of maintaining an efficient joining and renewal system. We are very grateful to Jenny for all the hours she spends making sure our current system works, but we might be able to do more. We are therefore looking at a range of online membership systems to help manage the various tasks involved in operating a U3A. They also want to find ways of making it easier for members to sign up for groups, trips etc. and to improve communication. They will keep you updated with progress made.

Anne Baldwin

Newsletter editor

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Ideas for the future?

I am sure anyone who has delved into 'Third Age Matters' will have seen the wealth of activities potentially on offer. It is clear there is no shortage of imagination in the third age.

Gillian and Tony Wilson have joined a U3A in Spain. The weather allows them to undertake a range of activities including a monthly picnic where everyone takes their own and once a year they go river rafting. They also have groups doing ten pin bowling and trips out to go liqueur tasting, visiting a candle making factory etc. In celebration of this U3A nearing their tenth birthday a dinner dance is being planned to celebrate.

- ❖ **If you are abroad, the Third Age Trust international committee has a list of U3As around the world which would welcome a visit.**

The scale of the Sheffield U3A was something we found out about at our AGM. This well established group runs a number of different trips, including a European Travel Group. Perhaps the inclusion of those opportunities explains why they also have language courses in Italian, Portuguese and German alongside various levels of French and Spanish. Their European History course might also create some interest in learning by travel.

There are other newcomers to Yorkshire and Humber U3A and it is reassuring to see several starting with similar ideas to our own. In the recently formed Leyburn group, courses on Ancient Greece and Calligraphy might be ideas we could borrow. Newly formed Selby U3A also include Calligraphy along with a session listening together to radio plays.

We have already heard how Barnsley gained their first 'ology' with the study of humour, otherwise known as gelotology. Their listing also include Cosmology, but for those who prefer it there is also snooker, perhaps not to be combined with the wine tasting group.

Finally, I spotted a couple of reference to Care Homes whilst searching through web-sites. Some U3As have groups that meet in homes, so that residents can join in activities easily, whilst not too far away, Todmorden U3A has a 'concert party', rehearsing most weeks and then putting on a show for Care Home Residents.

- ❖ **Do feel free to share your favourite thought for a new local group. Even if we haven't the capacity to set it up yet, we can still keep ideas ready for the future.**

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Forthcoming Friday meetings

All our monthly meetings take place at Holmfirth Methodist Hall, usually on the second Friday of the month. We start at 10.00am with an opportunity to talk to the committee and other members over tea or coffee. If you are using the Co-op car park, please allow for the meeting lasting until noon. We use the Church hall entrance so we can register you in the foyer.

Below are the topics for the next few Fridays.

Fri June 10th **Speaker: John Wallis,
The Golden Age of Music Hall and Variety**

Fri July 8th **Speaker: Jason McCartney MP 'The workings
of Parliament**

Fri Dec 16th **Add to your diary now for our Christmas
special**

To contact us:

- **hvu3a1@gmail.com will always be passed to the appropriate person**
- **Group leaders keep in touch direct with their members**
- **523717 or 07739460861 will reach Shirley who coordinates groups**
- **Jenny deals with membership 07548992144**

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Ambling	First Friday each month (not July)	Ambling (2)	Third Monday each month (not July)
Art	Tuesday a.m. 2 nd and 4 th weeks each month	Art	Monday a.m. 1 st and 3 rd weeks
Birdwatching	Various. contact Shirley	Boules	Wednesday p.m. 1.30. weather permitting
Bowling	Monday pm	Creative Writing	Thursday 1-3pm
De-stressing your life	Monday p.m. Fortnightly 1.15-3.45	Digital Photography beginners	Future course possible
Digital PhotographyGroup	Thursday p.m. Monthly, 1.30-3.30,	Discussion group	Monday a.m. Alternate Mondays
Drama	Wednesday p.m. currently on hold	Early Bird Dining	Meals once a month
Family History	Future courses possible	Folk Dancing	On summer break
French	2nd Thurs each month 2-4pm	Games group	1 st and 3 rd Tuesday p.m.
Gardening	Monday fortnightly	Gentle movement	Tuesday p.m.
Indoor sports	Thursday 2pm	Jewellery	Monday fortnightly,
Latin	1st & 3rd Thurs 2.30-4.	Maths is Fun	Tuesday a.m. Weekly from 11-12
Music Appreciation	Tuesday p.m. Last Tuesday each month	Reading Group 1	Wednesday p.m. 1st Wed each month
Reading Group 2	Tuesday p.m. 2nd Tuesday 1.45-3.15	Singing	Thursday a.m. Weekly 11.00
Spanish	Wednesday a.m. 1st and 3 rd Wed	Tai Chi	Wednesday p.m. Weekly 2-4
Textile Crafts	Wednesday p.m. 2nd & 4th Wed 2-4	Theatre trips	Various times and open to all
Ukulele	Friday a.m. fortnightly Fri 10.30	Walking (easy)	Thursday (2 nd and 4 th)
Walking (moderate)	Thursday a.m. (1 st and 3 rd)	Walking (moderate2)	Tuesday a.m. 2nd and 4th Tues

Members are asked to contact the group leader if they wish to join in. All contact details available from Shirley and supplied to all when joining/renewing.

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