

## Some questions for you from Sue

Hello everyone. Summer is now behind us and I hope I find you all fit and well and ready to make the most of our Autumn meetings and group activities.

I should like to extend a warm welcome to our new members and if I have not already met you hope to do so soon.



Sue enjoys talking to members, here at Bastille Day

Time has flown and I can't quite believe that this is our third Autumn as the Holme Valley U3A and that we now have over 300 members and 40 groups running, with a couple more groups in the pipeline. This is great news but it does bring with it challenges:

- **How do we keep in touch with each other?**
- **How do we accommodate members wanting to join groups that on the face of it are 'full'?**
- **How do we ensure a smooth handover when the tenure of our present committee expires?**

This newsletter is one of our four 'big' quarterly newsletters, complimented in between by smaller monthly newsletters. These are sent out electronically to those who have so requested and in the post to those who have not.

*As an aside, sending copies electronically is not only hugely cheaper but less labour intensive for your committee so if any of you feel that you can move from paper copies to electronic copies please let us know.*

Information is also given out at our monthly members' meetings which are held on Friday mornings between 10 and 12 in the main hall of the Holmfirth Methodist Church, usually the second Friday of the month. We also have a speaker or other entertainment at these meetings and of course the meetings give an opportunity for our members to socialise over a 'cuppa'

I know however that for various reasons not all of you can make these monthly meetings, some because you have other commitments on a Friday. Unfortunately we cannot vary the day of these meetings or usually the date because the Church hall is booked at other times and we feel very fortunate to have secured a regular 'slot' at this excellent venue.

We have agreed that we will try and summarise more about the Friday meetings in the quarterly newsletter for those who can't attend.

# Holme Valley



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Quarterly News for Holme Valley U3A members.

September 2016

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Minutes are taken at the monthly meetings and at our committee meetings. Copies are available to any member who wants a copy by phoning Jenny 07548992144, but we do ask you to provide a SAE if you want them posted to you.

You can also get in touch with us via our e-mail or our phones below or via group leaders.

Some of our groups have about as many members as the group's leader feels able to accommodate and are therefore classed as full. So what to do if you want to join? Please speak to the group leader or groups' coordinator Shirley as there are a number of possibilities such as forming additional groups or splitting groups or putting your name down on a waiting list.

As your committee we love what we are doing but at times we can find ourselves stretched. We are also conscious that in the not too distant future we will need to hand over to new people. So what we would like is for you to come along to one of our committee meetings to get a flavour of what's involved, maybe shadow a committee member or lend a hand. Jackie Green has kindly offered to help Shirley (groups' co-ordinator), Jenny (membership secretary) and Anne (IT and Newsletters) would also welcome some assistance. So if you would like to attend one of the committee meetings (first Wednesday in the month Holmfirth Methodist Church) let us know.

Looking forward to talking to you soon

*Sue Steeples*

Chair, Holme Valley U3A

## To contact us:

- **[hvu3a1@gmail.com](mailto: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. Jackie is now assisting Shirley and can be reached on 07585 660486**
- **Jenny deals with membership 07548992144**

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## Friday meetings open to all

**Fri Sep 9th** 'The workings of Parliament' a talk by JASON McCARTNEY MP (postponed from July)

**Fri Oct 14th** Readings by Holme Valley U3A Creative Writing Group. Led by group leader Dot Foster.

**Fri Nov 11th** Speaker TBC

Our regular open **monthly meetings** are at **Holmfirth Methodist Hall**, 10.00am until noon each second Friday. The entrance is through the main church entrance, so we have space to make you welcome. There are reports from our committee and we start with a cup of tea so you can chat to other members.

## Please note there will be no Friday morning meeting in December.

Instead we will gather together on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**. Our Christmas get-together this year will be at 7pm and held in Meltham Sports and Social club. Simon Woods will entertain us. Cost guaranteed to be no more than £15.

## What did you miss?

We were delighted to welcome John Wallace to our June meeting, who entertained us with a well-informed history of the music hall. Of course his talk needed some examples, so he used a variety of string instruments to share some music hall songs, some of which we had the chance to join in.

Shirley included a reference to the Bastille Day event on 14<sup>th</sup> July – more about that on our next page. Ian informed us of the national U3A Annual conference, held in Nottingham end of August.

Sadly our July meeting had to be cancelled as we had double booked with Art Week. We will be looking out for the clash next year.

There was more for us to join in at our August meeting, where Barnsley U3A chairman Alan Swann introduced us to various memory improving techniques. We all discovered how to count in Japanese by associating each number with something visual, with other 'association' techniques giving us a clue how to solve card tricks and memory games. A most entertaining morning, complete with an update on theatre trips, the Christmas do, plans for days out and a report on that Bastille Day fun.

**Holme Valley U3A** <http://u3asites.org.uk/holme-valleyhvu3a1@gmail.com>

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## Bastille Day

The U3A Boules group and French group joined up with the Honley Petanque group to celebrate Bastille Day on July 14th in true French style with food, wine and music. The sun shone on us, the company was great and our boules skills were put to shame by visitor Didier Chasson, pictured here giving us a very useful lesson. A memorable day and great fun for all of us.



## Days Out

After Beamish our next trip will be on **Wednesday 14th December to Castle Howard and York**. Further details and a booking form are now available.

Trips are being planned for next year, but we would appreciate your thoughts on the December 2017 trip. We have some ambitious thoughts! There is a survey available so please can you share your wishes.

If you are receiving this by post you should have both the survey and details of Castle Howard enclosed. For email users, the details will be sent by a separate email. You can also download them from the 'days out' tab on the website.

## Your groups: Autumn plans

The successful **Latin group** is improving all the time, so when one or two new people expressed an interest we thought about another group for beginners. We could hand on books from the existing group. Let Shirley know if you are interested.

The potential **bridge group** looks like it could be Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoon. Let Shirley know if you are interested, letting her know which of those days suit.

The next **Family History** course will run from September 15th until October 20th and the following one from November 3rd until December 15<sup>th</sup>. Courses are held at Meltham Root Cellar where there is access to excellent on-line facilities. Contact Shirley or group leader Joan Firth [mandj51@talktalk.net](mailto:mandj51@talktalk.net) to book a place.

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## Our groups

Ambling	First Friday each month	Ambling (2)	Third Monday each month
Art	Tuesday a.m. 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> weeks each month	Art	Monday a.m. 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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	<a href="#">Digital Photography beginners</a>	Future course possible
<a href="#">Digital Photography Group</a>	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	Sept and Nov start dates	Folk Dancing	1st & 3rd Thurs
French	2nd Thurs each month 2-4pm	Games group	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday p.m.
Gardening	Monday monthly	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 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> )
Walking (moderate)	Thursday a.m. (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> )	Walking (moderate2)	Thursday (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> )

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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