



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

LEIGH BELFAIRS

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair: Maryann Perry
Vice Chair/Membership: Glenis Daynes
Treasurer: Paul Stalham
Secretary: Vivien Fletcher
Minutes Secretary: Maureen Eldred
Catering: Clare Blaney
Committee Member: Judith Goodenough
Group Coordinator: Chris Hawkins
Group Support for New Groups: Sharon Foreman
Membership Secretary: Elaine Lennon
Speaker Secretary: Freda Fitzpatrick
Webmaster/Newsletter Editor: Janet Monk

Issue No 10 November 2019

Welcome to this our 10th Newsletter...we are in double figures now!

Our monthly committee meetings are well attended with all members contributing towards our success.

We will soon need a new Chairperson, Vice Chair and Group Co-ordinator. Our three year stand is coming to a close and we MUST all stand down at the next AGM. If you feel this role is something you would be interested in please speak to us. You are more than welcome to attend one of our meetings to get an idea of what is involved.

Leigh Belfairs U3A will collapse unless we fill these roles.

A message from our Chair.

Now that the nights are drawing in and the weather is getting colder we are again thinking of our Christmas arrangements.

Our Christmas lunch will be on Thursday 5th December at Affinity Restaurant in Leigh. We are at the moment fully booked, with the restaurant accommodating 70 of us. If you missed the opportunity to put your name down but would like to come, I do hold a waiting list, so please let me know.

There is also our Christmas tea to look forward to, which is on 18th December. This year it is complimentary but we do have to limit the numbers to 80 to accommodate us all seated at tables.

Those of you that are coming will already have a numbered ticket, which you will need to bring to gain access. The doors will not open until 1.45pm which will give the committee enough time to prepare the hall.

If you find yourself unable to attend either of the above events, do please let one of the committee members know as we can then offer this to the next person on the waiting list, even if this is at the 11th hour. It will be very disappointing to find ourselves with empty spaces that someone else could have taken advantage of, simply because we were not advised of a cancellation.

In October Jan Eaton and Elaine Lennon organised a fantastic quiz night with a fish 'n chip supper. This was very well attended and they were able to donate £100 to our U3A which will go toward the Christmas raffle prizes. We would like to thank them both, and their husbands, for organising a great evening. They might even be thinking about doing a repeat quiz in the New Year!

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas

Maryann

The poppies knitted by our 'In Stitches' group raised £73.80 for the Poppy Day Appeal, a fantastic amount for this very worthwhile cause.

A speaker from Havens Hospices visited us in October and gave us a very informative talk on how the Hospice runs and some of the hurdles they face on a day to day basis when tending to adults in their hospice in Westcliff. They are very much looking forward to relocating to the new purpose built premises that will shortly be completed in Prittlewell. Our members raised £52.50 for the hospice and we received a very nice 'Thank You' letter from them. Should you feel you would like to be more involved with Havens Hospices, they are always looking for volunteers and there are many and varied opportunities for you to become involved. If you think this is something for you, or you would like some more information, do please give them a call on **01702 220305**.

Just so that you can get an idea of the groups we run they are listed below

Book Club / Busy Bees Craft Group / Floral Art & Design / Grumpy Old Men / London Walks / Outings / Psychology / Shakespeare / Bridge for beginners and the more experienced / Current Affairs / Garden Group / In Stitches / Local Theatre Outings / Luncheon Club / Poetry / Pub Lunches / Sugar Craft

If you feel you would like to host a new group, do please have a word with Sharon Foreman, or indeed, any of the committee members who will be more than willing to help you.

Our forthcoming meetings and outings are shown below but just to recap.....

In August a charity called Practical Action gave us a very interesting talk on the work they are doing in developing countries advising people how they can help themselves to have a better life by using technology to find practical solutions to poverty. It was an eye opener as to how using everyday products that are available to them can in fact help them to live a more comfortable life.

In September Steve Galler entertained us with a talk and songs from Cole Porter and Richard Rogers.

October saw a representative from Havens Hospices give us a talk on the work they do and how they are looking forward to relocating to their new purpose built premises in Prittlewell.

The committee look forward to seeing you at our next gathering.

Here's a summary of our meetings and events over the next couple of months...

Wednesday 18th December meeting: Saffron Summerfield writes her own songs. She will be performing these and telling anecdotes and stories from her career in music. Hopefully we will be able to have a good old sing-a-long.

Wednesday 15th January meeting: Sally Lawrence, who used to be a Continuity Announcer for Channel 4 TV shows in the 1990's, will entertain us.

Thursday 6th February: Outing to the Brick Lane Music Hall to see an Adult Pantomime - including afternoon tea. Fully Booked.

