

Littleborough u3a Newsletter February 2024

Dear Friends,

There's a lot of news in this issue including the tenth anniversary celebrations, a plea for new committee members and someone to help organise lunches, a new list of outings, a pair of lost glasses and a few jokes to keep you on your toes. You will need your diary to hand to plan for the things you can do this year. So read on...

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1. News

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Anniversary Celebration event

Bookings are now open. Below are the details you need:

Saturday December 7th 2024

1-4pm

Rochdale Town Hall

There will be a special buffet lunch, music and entertainment in an iconic venue. Also a bar to buy drinks.

Members can book from February onwards. If places remain, members may also book for a close family, friend, spouse from the March monthly meeting. One non-member booking per member.

Members' places are subsidised and will cost £20 per head with a £10 non-refundable deposit payable on booking your place. Non-members who want to come with a member will pay the full cost which is £32 - £16 deposit payable on booking. Please note that we need to link all non-members to the member they are accompanying so we need the member to make the booking.

Members can book a place at the monthly meetings from February 12th onwards, by email to Sue Temperley (suetemperleyu3a@outlook.com) or phone Sue on 07517434368

Payments can be made

- by bank transfer to: Sort Code 20-72-67; Account number: 93984028. Please enter Town Hall in the reference box.
- By card at monthly meetings
- By cash at monthly meetings
- By cheque.

A Cyber Alert – this note is particularly for group convenors but we can all take note and check our email contacts lists.

We have been contacted by an ex-member who recently received a phishing email purporting to come from the personal email address of one of our group convenors. Could all group convenors please remember that the u3a expects convenors to only email members of their group via the secure, GDPR compliant Beacon system. Please can group convenors make sure that they are not keeping saved contact details for members in their personal email accounts – and particularly ensure that they are not holding onto the details of members who have resigned from the u3a.



Plastic, plastic, plastic – doing our bit to save the planet!

From October of this year there will be a ban on single use plastics – which includes the cups that we use for our tea and coffee at our monthly meetings. Please can members remember to bring their own cup whenever possible. We understand that it is not always very convenient but we are going to have to change our ways over the next few months so let's start now



Littleborough u3a Membership Renewals 2024/2025

Members with emails. You should have received your renewal notice on 29th January. If you have not received this, please check your spam. If you require another copy, please contact Mike Rowley. Email; membership.littleboroughu3a@gmail.com
Once you have renewed, you will receive a confirmation invoice with a pdf copy of your Membership card.

Members without email. You will have collected or received your renewal notice in the post or with the February newsletter. Once you have renewed, you will receive a Membership card either by post, hand delivered or included in your Newsletter mailing.

Any queries, please contact Mike Rowley email; membership.littleboroughu3a@gmail.com

Phone; 07703 459422

Please inform Mike if you **do not** wish to renew your membership. This will stop you receiving reminder emails or phone calls.

U3a AGM and an urgent call for new committee members



This year our AGM will be held on **Monday June 10th at 2pm** in Littleborough Coach House.

As usual, we will be electing the committee for the year ahead. This year, because of changes in personal circumstances and the terms of office, **we need to replace both our Treasurer and our Secretary.** These are vital roles on the committee.

Please do let me – or any other member of the committee – know if you are interested in finding out more about what these roles entail. The current Treasurer and Business Secretary will be happy to have a chat and we can arrange for you to shadow them if you like. This will give you time to decide whether you want to stand for election in June. If we have more than one volunteer there might be a way of working together.

It will be obvious to you all that we simply can't run without these key roles. Please give it some serious thought.

Third Age Matters u3a Magazine

Over the years we have collected money from a handful of members who have chosen to receive the Third Age Matters magazine by post. The number of members who take the magazine no longer justifies the work required to organise the list and the magazine is now available for all members to read or download online. We have, therefore, decided not to renew the subscriptions this year. Instead here is the link to the online publication: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/publications>



And lastly – have you lost your glasses?

Has anyone lost a pair of prescription glasses, maybe when leaving the Beetle Drive? These were found outside Cuppacinos and have been handed into Hare Hill Court where they are being kept behind the reception desk.

I really love my furniture. Me and my recliner go way back.

2.Monthly Meetings



I thoroughly enjoyed the trek around the boundary of Littleborough at our January meeting. Mark made it really interesting with lots of little stories along the way. Here is the map of the boundary of Littleborough.

The free online web resource for old OS Maps is provided by the National Library of Scotland at:

<https://maps.nls.uk>

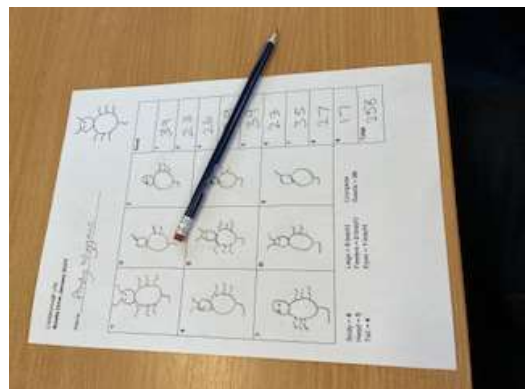
The February monthly meeting is on Monday February 12th at 2pm in Littleborough Coach House and features **Roger Brown** talking about '***The Great American Songbook***'. Roger is a well-known musician in Stockport and Manchester, performing with Manchester Jazz among others. He has made a special study of American music including Gerschwin, Kern and Cole Porter. He will be bringing his keyboard to perform for us. This promises to be both entertaining and educational.

Having a quiet drink in the hotel bar a man hears a soft voice say "You're looking good this evening" He turns but can see nobody. The voice comes again: "I do like your shirt". "Who is this" asks the man in a loud voice and the barman comes over. "I keep hearing a voice" says the man. "Oh, yes" says the bartender, "it's the peanuts. They are complimentary".

3.Fundraising events, Outings and Foodies

Fundraisers: These are to support the costs of the 10th Anniversary event – and entertain you at the same time of course!

We started with a Beetle Drive last Saturday and it was a bundle of fun. Here are a couple of pictures.



Our next fundraising event is an Open Mic session for budding poets and writers on April 18th at HareHill House. More details soon.

Then comes the play **'One Man two guvs'** at the Shaw Playhouse Theatre. This is the Shaw Theatre Charity night and the ticket price is income for the u3a. This event is open to u3a members and friends and family and we have 66 tickets to sell so please do encourage others to come along. Tickets are £10 each.

There will also be raffles at each monthly meeting (huge thanks to you all for the donated prizes). And the multi-talented Craft Group are working on developing items for sale. Look out for hand made cards and other little gifts from our talented craftspeople.

Outings 2024

Now here are the trips proposed for 2024. A £10 deposit is required for each trip. Please see Sandra at the monthly meeting or email her: (sandrakokocki12@gmail.com)

Tuesday March 19 th	Llandudno – 2 course lunch at the Tynedale Hotel and time in town	£45.50
Monday April 29 th : evening	'One man two guvs' Playhouse Theatre Shaw Charity Night. Open to friends and family.	£10
Thursday May 9 th	Thirsk – free time in town and lunch and The World of James Herriot (admission included)	£29
Tuesday June 11 th	Abba entertainment at Yeadon Theatre with lunch	£60
Thursday August 22 nd	Lune Aqueduct Cruise with fish and chip lunch and time in Lancaster	£43
Tuesday October 8 th	Salisbury Hall (coffee/tea and guided tour) and Barton Grange Garden Centre	£35
Saturday December 7 th	10 th Anniversary celebration in Rochdale Town Hall	£20 Members £32 Non-members

My friend recently got crushed by a pile of books, but he's only got his shelf to blame..



Foodies News

We are looking for a volunteer to organise a Foodies event for April.

This could be anything from Sunday Lunch, Afternoon Tea, Evening Meal.

Whatever you think would be popular.

Support regarding paperwork, promotion etc, will be available.

If you are interested could you contact Sandra or Lynn at the February Coach House meeting or email lynnwild.u3a@gmail.com

We will require volunteers to arrange future events so if you have a date and venue in mind, please get in touch.

Sandra will be organising more Outings this year and we will try to ensure that Foodies & Outings do not occur in the same month, especially when a meal is included with the Outing.

I look forward to having loads of suggestions - Lynn.

Never trust an atom, they make up everything

4.Groups

a) New Groups:

These groups are still looking for members to express an interest in order to start up a new group. We need volunteers to convene groups too so if you are interested, please contact Cindy Drinkwater, u3a Groups Coordinator on cindysdw@gmail.com

- French Beginners – for those who have little or no French
- French Improvers – for those who want to extend their knowledge of French
- Spanish Beginners
- German

b) Group dates:

The regular meeting times for groups are on our website. Where dates or venues vary, group convenors email group members directly so you need to be included as a group member to receive information directly.

PLAY READING GROUP

Our next meeting is **THURSDAY 15th FEBRUARY** at **2pm** upstairs at **Milnrow Library**. Unfortunately Pat is unable to run the group at the moment, so I have offered to convene the group until she is able to return.

If you are interested in joining us, or would like to know more, please email me

suetemperleyu3a@outlook.com

Sue Temperley

Craft Group Meetings

Thursday February 15th: Die Cuts

Monday February 26th: Needle Cases

Thursday March 14th: Using Die cuts to create cards – you need to have attended the February session as well

Monday March 25th: Book Folding

All meetings at Hare Hill House

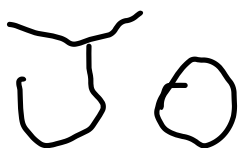
I like having conversations with my grandchildren. Nobody else ever asks me which is my third favourite reptile.

I hope you have managed to find something to interest you, something to smile at and something to remind you of things to do. I also hope somebody has found their glasses!

If you are not keen on the jokes I would apologise but they were mostly chosen by my 10 year old grandson – except the last one which he didn't think was very funny at all.

That's all for today. I hope you are enjoying the slivers of daylight in the early evening and the first signs of spring in the garden.

Very best wishes to you all,



Jo Wiggans

(I need to keep practising my cyber-signature ...)