

Mansfield and District U3A Newsletter



Walkers at Newstead

Established 1999
Registered Charity No. 1164177

July 2018

Website: www.u3asites.org.uk/mansfield/home

Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/mu3a2016

Welcome from your Chairman *Sheila Whalley*

As I write this, we are experiencing a heat-wave ('flaming June') and it's time consuming having to water the garden every day. Let's hope there will be some sunshine left for our annual picnic which we have on August 21st instead of the monthly meeting.

Members bring delicious food to share but bring your own drinks and plates! The quadrangle at Queen Elizabeth Academy already has outdoor tables and benches. There will be outdoor games if you want a bit of fun and if the weather is inclement, we move indoors.

I found a note in the suggestion box from a member saying how very much she had enjoyed the Quiz and could there be one every 2 months? You can have one by all means – if you organise it! If you would like a particular social event, please put a note in the suggestion box.

Hopefully we will have some new committee members for September. The U3A cannot exist without a committee – imagine a ship without a captain and crew! The committee only meets once a month for two hours from 10 am to 12 noon; we have a coffee before we start and another half way through. Drop in to see what we do.

Words from the Editor *Mike Allen*

The Membership Renewal form is printed in this month's edition on the back page. Please fill in one for each person, detach it and hand it in. Subscriptions have to be paid by the September AGM.

Don't forget to fill in both sides! Many of you have forgotten and that's no good to us – we must keep it 'legal'. What we need is another mocking phrase like '*Elf and Safety*' to describe the contortions we have to go through, perhaps '*Rools and Regs*' or even '*Drools and Dregs*'?

Because of the forms on the backpages, space is restricted. Photographs of the Garden Group visit and the Theatre trip to Tolethorpe will be on the website later.

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Cover photo by Mike Allen

Mansfield U3A AGM

The Committee gives notice that the 19th AGM of Mansfield and District U3A will take place on Tuesday 18 September at the *1861 Suite* at 11.00 am after the normal monthly meeting.

All members are invited to attend and to elect the committee for the following year. Sheila Whalley will be retiring as Chair and Jacqui Hampshire has been nominated as Chair for the next two years. Three long-standing members of the Committee will be retiring as their terms of office have finished and a number of new committee members will be elected.

The current committee hopes that members will come to the AGM and show support for Mansfield U3A and its committee by their attendance. You all know how vital the committee is to us.

Members are reminded that any nominations for the Committee (proposed and seconded) and any motions to be introduced should be given to the Business Secretary as soon as possible as there is no formal meeting in August.

The Agenda for the AGM, together with the officers' reports, will be published on the website before the AGM and in September's Newsletter.

Speakers

July Meeting Val Jeffries

The speaker today is Trevor Marsh with a talk entitled '*Spycatcher*' – an intriguing title to start with! The talk is about espionage and the people and events involved in it in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

He was a Home Office intelligence analyst but assures me he wasn't a spy. But as I replied, "Well you would say that, wouldn't you?"

June Meeting

The Highway women of Nottingham Margaret Burlinson

Six women, each having a most interesting and yet different background, were named as highway women, in a most inspiring & historical talk given by Claire Lyons at the June meeting.

Each of these women, bored by their home lives or abused by their husbands, managed to make snap decisions to be 'wild and naughty' on their way to becoming most successful in their different ways, robbing the wealthy of their money, jewellery, clothes and the like.

However, most of these highway women came to an unfortunate end either by being deported to Jamaica or by being imprisoned and eventually executed by hanging at Tyburn or Newgate.

The escapades in the 17th century of one woman, a real 'lady', Lady Katherine Ferrers, led to a novel by Magdalen King Hall called '*The Life and Death of the Wicked Lady Skelton*'. In turn this was made into a film '*The Wicked Lady*', starring Margaret Lockwood, James Mason, Patricia Roc & Michael Rennie in 1945. (Who can remember collecting these filmstars' signed photographs? Some of us are that old!)

Ms Lyons, through her light hearted but passionate talk, together with her amusing anecdotes and visual aids kept us interested throughout. What a pity if some of you missed it!

Tour Of Britain Cycle Race

We've had a request from Mansfield Council for volunteers to help with the Tour of Britain cycle race on Saturday 8 September when Mansfield is hosting the stage 7 finish. Around 20,000 visitors will arrive on the day and volunteers are needed to ensure that 120 riders have a safe race in our district.

Helen Sisson of the organising committee says, "We really need help from our community to steward the event. We are looking for fit and active people over 16 years of age to help man road closures, direct visitors to safe crossing points and give out information on the day. There's more information on our website www.mansfield.gov.uk/tob. I hope you can encourage U3A groups to get involved."

If anyone in U3A would like to help – or if you have family or friends who might be interested – contact Helen via the website or on 01623 463199.

Recognition for a U3A Member!

Marie Barrow, a member since last year, is pictured at the Queen's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. She was nominated by her work colleagues for her 44 year service to the DWP.



GROUP NEWS

The Editor has learned that Gordon Howlett will continue his valuable role as Leader of the **Art Group**. Thank you, Gordon, for carrying on – the group is too valuable to lose.

Philip Tucker will be taking over the **History Group** from Dave Drew and I am sure that the members will have plenty of ideas to suggest for meetings!

Local History

'*Entertainment*' was the theme of July's meeting, with Sue Howlett giving us the history of the Palace Theatre in all its guises from 1910 when it was built on 'the Broadway' of Mansfield – three theatres within 50 yards! The ups and downs of its career, from 'posh' cinema to derelict theatre, to its re-emergence as the Civic Theatre and then the Palace Theatre of today was fascinating. Sue's depth of research was admirable and the history remarkable.

Sue Longden followed with the story of the other cinemas and theatres of Mansfield – a far larger number than expected – the New Grand, the Plaza, the Victoria Hall and others now long gone. They all seemed to have started with aspirations of glory and reached their heyday in the 1st World War with the huge number of soldiers at Clipstone, but then became cinemas or dance halls or snooker halls or even a church as reality crept in and television changed the face of entertainment forever.

Both speakers (with Andrea's brief reminiscence) presented a fascinating and interesting story of the past.

The ROBIN HOOD LOTTERY

Don't forget to buy your weekly ticket for the *Robin Hood Lottery* on the web-page below and win a prize ...possibly (though the odds are better than the National Lottery!).

It will help the U3A as well – we'll get £26 pa if you buy a ticket a week for a year – a great addition to our funds. Investigate Mansfield U3A's Lottery page on:

<https://www.robinhoodlottery.co.uk/support/mansfield-and-district-u3a>

Key to Meetings details:

This table shows the day of the month, time and frequency using the first two letters of the day, followed by numbers 1 - 5 to represent the week number. The final letter M (or F, W or V) indicates that the group meets monthly, fortnightly, weekly or at variable intervals.

So 'Tu2, 2.30 - V M' would mean a group meeting on the 2nd Tuesday at 2.30pm Monthly but with Variable finish times.

All members are invited to contact the relevant Group Leader if they would like to participate in any interest group or attend an event. **NB: * indicates a waiting list.**

Interest Group	Meetings	Meeting Places	Leader/Contact
Afternoon Teas	Sa2, 3 - 5 M	Various	Sheila Whalley 01623 453908
Next Meetings: <i>Check with Sheila at the monthly meeting</i>			
Antiques and Collectables *	Tu2, 10 – 12.00 M	Stanhope Centre, Mansfield	Pat Blackwell 01623 481745
Next Meetings: <i>No meeting August; 11 Sept.: 'Anything with Wings!'</i>			
Art	We3, 10 – 12.00 M	Big Barn Lane Methodist Church,	Gordon Howlett 01623 627423
Art Appreciation	Mo1, 2.00 - 4.00 M	Stanhope Centre, Mansfield	Pauline Boucher 01623 644798
Next Meetings: 2 July: <i>Sport – a new subject</i>			
Bridge	Mo, F 6.30 - 9.00	The Rushley, Nottingham Road	Joan Hufton 01623 557488
Term starts: <i>22 Jan 2018, and then fortnightly until 30 July. See webpage for dates.</i>			
Bowls	Tu 2.00 W	Mansfield Bowls Club, Chesterfield Road	Jennie & Dave Drew 01623 555012
Outdoor Training: <i>From Tuesday 1 May 2018 at 12.15 pm at Mansfield Bowls Club</i>			
Chat and Stitch	Mo3, 2.00 - 4.00 M	St John's Centre, Mansfield	Doreen Storer 01623 407731
Cinema	Varied	Odeon Cinema, Mansfield	
Craft Workshop	We4, 2.00 - 4.00 M	Ruth Colley's home	Ruth Colley 01623 472010
Current Affairs	Tu2, 2.00 - 4.00 M	St John's Centre, Mansfield	Norma Shillinglaw 01623 466934
Family History	Tu4, 10.00 - 12.00 M	Stanhope Centre	Peter & Brenda Corbett 01623 424535
Film Studies *	We1, 1.30 - V M	Joy's home	Joy Crowe 01623 645400
Garden Visits	Summer Months	Various	Marilyn Dibble 01623 634805
Next Visits: <i>Tuesday 2 October: Brodsworth Hall & Gardens, Doncaster</i>			
Gardening	Tu1, 10.00 - 12.00 M	St Peter's Centre, Mansfield	Janet Whitlam 01623 635607

Interest Group	Meetings	Meeting Places	Leader/Contact
Next Meetings: 4 Sept: <i>Neil Timms – The World of Ferns</i> ; 2 October: <i>Visit to Brodsworth Hall</i>			
Golf	Last Friday of Month	Various	Paul Mann 01623 615416
Next Meeting:			
History	We3, 10.00 - 12.00 M	M'field Bowling Club, Chesterfield Road,	David Drew 01623 555012
Next Meeting: <i>tba</i>			
International Dining	We2, 7.00 – 7.30pm M	Various	Jacqui Hampshire 01623 239210
Next Meeting: <i>tba</i>			
Local History	Fri1, 10.00 - 12.00 M	Bridge Street Methodist Church, Mansfield	Bob & Sue Longden 01623 486903
Next Meetings: 3 August: <i>No Meeting</i> ; 7 Sept: <i>Electricity and Gas</i>			
Luncheon Club	Th after 3rd Tu, 12.00 - 2.00 M	Various	
Next Meetings: <i>tbc</i>			
Mini Breaks	Various		Jacqui Hampshire
Next Break: Sunday 23–Tuesday 25 September 2018: <i>Terracotta Warriors Exhibition in Liverpool</i> ; Thurs. 28–Sat. 30 November 2019: <i>Thursford Christmas Spectacular</i> .			
Music Groups			
Classical Music 2	Mo4, 2.00 - 4.00 M	Leader's house	Mike Allen 01623 653345
Next Meetings: 23 July: <i>20th C. English Music</i> ; 27 August: <i>No Meeting (Bank Holiday)</i>			
Music 2 *	Mo4, 2.00 - 4.30 M	Members' homes	Norma Shillinglaw 01623 466934
Popular Music Appreciation	Tu4, 2.00 - 4.00 M	St John's Centre, Mansfield	Liz Ellis 01623 644429
Pudding Club	Tu1, 4.00 - 6.00 M	Members' homes <i>Alternately at Sylvia's and Janet's.</i>	Sylvia Slack 01623 633981
Read a Little Aloud	Fri2, 2.00 - 4.00 M	St Peter's C. Centre, Bellamy Road	Sheila Haslam 01623 627764

Interest Group	Meetings	Meeting Places	Leader/Contact
Reading 1	Th3, 2.00 - 4.00 M	Peter Dawson's home	Peter Dawson 01623 882191
Reading 2	Tu3, 2.00 - 4.00 M	Ravenshead Library	Joan Hufton 01623 557488
Science & Technical	Tu1, 2.00 - 4.00 M	Stanton Hill Baptist Church, Albert St. Skegby	Ian Boucher 01623 64479
Next Meeting: 6 August: <i>St Peter's Bell Tower Visit</i> ; 4 Sept: <i>Artificial Intelligence: Friend or Fiend</i> by Ian Boucher			
Scrabble	Mo2, 2.00 - 4.00 M	Brenda Thurkettle's home	Brenda Thurkettle 01623 628136
Swimming	Sun1&3, 2.00 F	Fitness Flex Gym next to MTFC	Christine Smith 07859 2469086
Soft Tennis and Table Tennis	Th1&3, 2.00 - 3.00pm	River Maun Recreation Centre	Y & M Kennison 01623 481721
Solo Dining	Th1, 6pm	Various	Sheila Pegg 01623 661401
Next Meeting: Contact Sheila Pegg: sheila.pegg@sky.com			
Tai Chi	Mo, 9.30 - 10.30 W	St John's Centre, Mansfield	Jean Kirk 01623 480207
Next Term dates: 4 June to 6 August			
Theatre Visits	Various	Various	Sheila Whalley 01623 453908
See Newsletter or website for dates & details of visits.			
<i>Walking Groups</i>			
Hikers (all-day, 6 - 8 miles)	Mo3, 9.30 - V M	Various	Tim Spurry 01623 647961
Next Meetings: 16 July: <i>Breedon-on-the-Hill</i> ; 20 Aug: <i>Ashford in the Water</i> ; 17 Sept: <i>Parwich / Bradbourne</i>			
Shufflers (short & gentle)	Th4, 12.00 - V M	Various	Sylvia Slack 01623 633981
Strollers (a leisurely 2 miles)	We2, 10.30 - V M	Various	Barbara Massey 01623 628357
Next Meetings: 8 Aug: No walk this month; 12 Sept: <i>Hardwick Hall (pub overflow car-park)</i>			

Interest Group	Meetings	Meeting Places	Leader/Contact
Walkers (an easy 4 - 5 miles)	We4, 10.30 - V M	Various	Joy & Nick Crowe 01623 645400
Next Meetings: 25 July: <i>Vicar Water & Sherwood Pines (Vicar Water Car Park)</i> ; 22 Aug: <i>The Carrs & Warsop Woods (Carrs car-park on main road)</i>			
Wine Appreciation 2	We3, 7.30 - V M	Members' homes	Mike Allen 01623 653345
Next Meetings: 19 July: <i>German Riesling at Mike's – note change of day / date</i> ; 15 Aug: <i>White Wine Choice by Brian & Barbara</i> ; 19 Sept: <i>Ron & Carole's Choice of Whites</i>			
Wine Appreciation 3 *	Tu4, 7.30 - V M	Members' homes	Graham Allin 01623 473662
Next Meetings: July 24: <i>Sparkling Rosé at Jill's</i> ; 28 Aug: <i>Chateau Neuf Villages at Barrie's</i> ; 25 Sept: <i>Vermouth with Carole</i>			
Wine Appreciation 4 *	Th4, 7.00 - V M	Members' homes	Jane Kockum 01623 407235
Writing for Pleasure	Mo2, 2 - 4 M	Stanhope Centre, Bridge Street, M'field	Hilary Miller/Sue Ford 01623 620067/844286

Jean Hedges: Has anyone recent news of Jean, and in particular, her current address as we would like to send a card to her to wish her well. Information to Mike Allen, please.

GROUP NEWS

Garden Visits

Forty or so members travelled into the depths of Northamptonshire to visit Coton Manor Gardens. After a hot and slow journey down the M1 to J18, we arrived. Set in the middle of some of England's best rural scenery, this small garden of some ten acres slopes down from the 17th C manor house that the present owners inherited. On the way down, you walk through different 'rooms', including a rose garden, a woodland garden, various wet gardens and meadows with borders and a bluebell wood and a group of (real) flamingoes.

The garden is large enough for a gentle meander for an hour or so, followed by a return to the spots that were really interesting. In between times, there was the courtyard cafe with its home-made food and a stroll round the plant nursery. Here, a number of us felt that the plants looked somewhat neglected and dry, although those in the courtyard were more obviously watered and in good condition. By the way, it was good to see that most plants had name tags – for us amateurs, that is a vital aid to our enjoyment. The owner and his wife (the latter hard at work dead-heading the plants, the former having his swim in the hidden outdoor pool) were pleasant and helpful, even though they must have heard the same comments from the 30,000 or so visitors a year that they get.

The four hours there passed pleasantly, and the day was a success in spite of the hot journey both ways – oh, that these places were closer to us! Our thanks to Janet and Marilyn for organising the trip. The next one is on October 2nd to Brodsworth Hall near Doncaster – an English Heritage Victorian mansion, with a Victorian garden. The trip will cost £18.67 (sic!) and includes a tour round

the Hall which has not been restored, but is maintained deliberately with wallpaper coming off – a reminder of past glories gone to seed! A fascinating place.

Sci-Tech Group

Max Clarke will be taking a party of members on a tour of the St Peter's Church Bell Tower on Tuesday 7 August at 2pm. There may be a few places available for non-members on this visit to an important old church, so see Max at the July meeting.

Walkers

The June Walkers Group outing was a circular one from Linby to Newstead Abbey and Papplewick and back. This walk on a hot summer's day was made all the pleasanter by the paths that were shaded, giving relief from the heat.

Eleven of us (a larger group than normal) enjoyed this amble of some 5.5 miles, passing Newstead lake (and the litter on its banks!), resting in the cafe and then walking back via the old road to Nottingham to Papplewick and across the fields to Linby where many of us stayed for a drink or something to eat at the pub.

Trying to photograph the group was like trying to round up cats – no-one stood still for long, but it was a delightful outing, on a glorious day and made up for the February walk in the snow in Mansfield Woodhouse! Thanks once again to Joy and Nick. The July walk will be a return to Vicar Water with the views from the top of the reclaimed pit heaps.

Golf Group

In May, the Golf Group visited Stanedge Golf Club (Paul Mann's choice), a 9-hole course high up in Derbyshire on a day so wet and covered in cloud that nothing could be seen of the views and little of the course itself save the rivers of water running down it and the players!

The June visit was in the glorious sunshine of this summer, the views of Chesterfield, Derbyshire and Sheffield were magnificent and Paul Mann was almost forgiven. Although the greens were poor (unrolled and bumpy), the course played well otherwise and the group enjoyed themselves. The winner was, I think, Colin Bell, but the scores were fairly close.

International Dining Jacqui Hampshire

There is no meeting in August but I'll need an idea of numbers for the September visit (see below) at the July general meeting (or by email to me by the end of August). On Wednesday 12 September, we'll visit *Winner City* on the road to Farnsfield (turn left at the White Post X-roads) – note that this is a Wednesday.

Due to my holiday commitments, I will not be around in October, therefore it would be brilliant if some one could take over for this month. Please just have a word with me. Thanks

Mini Breaks Jacqui Hampshire

Liverpool Terracotta Warriors Sunday 23 – Tuesday 25 September 2018

Please make sure all balances are paid by the July meeting (most have already paid). I will give out the pick up points and times etc at the September meeting. Please make sure I have your contact details should you not be at our September meeting.

PLEASE do not make arrangements for an early evening out on our return as traffic can make a difference to times.

Thursford Christmas Spectacular Thursday 28 – Saturday 30 November 2019

3*** Links County Park Hotel West Runton Norfolk. Please put your name on the reserve list should you wish to.

A £50 deposit will be required at the July or September 2018 meetings. Note that insurance is an optional extra at £12.

Dates for your diary (Check the website Events page for more information)

Tuesday 21 August. Annual Summer Fête at Queen Elizabeth's Academy. Come and join in the fun – sharing picnic food, meeting friends and playing games and more. From noon to 3pm.

Friday 7 December. U3A Christmas Dinner at *The Hostess, Sookholme*. £17.50 for a 3-course lunch & entertainment. Booking now open (£2.00 deposit, please). Menu available now.

Subscriptions 2018– 2019. Current members: £15 New members: £17.

Due by September AGM. Cheques payable to *Mansfield and District U3A*.

Please Note: All current members must complete both portions of the Membership Renewal Form to comply with Data Protection laws when paying their subscriptions. Thank you.

Online Banking is now available to members to pay their subscriptions online.

As publishing details for this facility has compromised its security, members are asked to apply to the Treasurer to use it.

Event and Visit Payments

Members are reminded that deposits and payments for events and visits organised by Mansfield U3A and its interest groups are non-refundable, but reserved places may be offered to others.

Please note: if you go on a trip / visit organised by a company, cheques for the event must be made out to the company, not Mansfield U3A.

Changes of Address, etc.

Please contact the membership secretary, Marilyn Dibble 01623 634805, if you've changed your address, phone number or email recently so that she can update our records.

Disclaimer

The views expressed here are those of the contributors, only, and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, the committee of Mansfield U3A or the Third Age Trust. Nor can any responsibility be accepted for members' announcements or any errors that may occur.

Next Issue

Please send contributions for the next issue to michaelallen446@gmail.com or by hand to Mike Allen as soon as you can and by the 1st of the month at the latest. Thanks!

Editor: Mike Allen 01623 653345

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MANSFIELD & DISTRICT U3A MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
2018 / 2019

Full Members £15 Associate Members £11.50 Family Members £30
(Membership must be renewed by the September Annual General Meeting)

Please complete the details **in both sections** and hand the page with your payment to The Treasurer, Mansfield & District U3A at the monthly meeting, or post it to:

Y. Kennison, 24 Abbey Road, Mansfield, NG18 3AF.

The Renewal Form is also available as a download from the website Finance page

Subscription renewals may be paid by cash or by cheque made payable to Mansfield & District U3A.

Should you wish to pay online, bank details are available from the Treasurer

This form must be completed annually however you decide to pay.

DATA PROTECTION

Privacy statement. - To comply with Data Protection laws, we must ask that you initial your consent to the following:

I consent to my data above being used as follows:

- to be stored securely for membership purposes
- to communicate with me as a U3A member
- to be shared with group leaders of my chosen groups
- to be shared with the Third Age Trust for general information to be sent to me
- to be shared with the company that distributes the Trust magazines by direct mail

Initials:

Please show which Interest Groups you have joined so that data can be shared with the relevant Group Leaders:

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Mansfield U3A may take photographs of members engaged in U3A activities for the Newsletter and Website. Should you not wish to be included in any photograph, please inform the photographer. Otherwise we will assume your consent has been given.

You can change your data consent at any time by contacting the Membership Secretary.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Title: (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, Mr & Mrs)

Forename(s):

Surname(s):

Address:

..... Post Code:.....

Tel. Number: Mobile Number:

E mail:

Type of Membership: Full Associate Member Family
Membership. (PLEASE CIRCLE)

If an Associate Member, please state which other U3A you belong to

.....

Gift Aid: Yes No (PLEASE CIRCLE)

If you wish to change your Gift Aid status, please ask for a form or download it from the Finance Page Links on www.u3asites.org.uk/mansfield/home

You can change your data consent at any time by contacting the Membership Secretary.

