

From the Chairman

Spring has Sprung!

I don't know about you but for me the clock change bringing lighter evenings always seems to signal that Spring is here and together with an abundance of sunshine seems to give a mental and physical boost. For many out comes the list of outside jobs, decoration, repairs and gardens; others are looking forward to holidays. Our U3A holidays are well booked and if you are still thinking, be quick and check out any remaining vacancies.

Groups generally are flourishing and leaders and hosts do a great job. From time to time though circumstances change and hardworking members have to take a step back for a host of reasons. So, if you are thinking that you might like to make a more significant contribution to the well-being of your U3A please do have a chat with me, entirely without commitment, to check out the opportunities.

Your new committee has met and we welcomed aboard new members: Teresa Woods as speaker secretary, Jennifer Attwell as committee member and Tom Waterworth dealing with publicity. It is always good to have new voices and ideas to help us remain a dynamic organisation.

Finally, just so you don't all start asking if I have done a runner, I am away from 22 April to 31 May returning the day before Chairman's garden party hoping for better weather than last year which forced us into the village hall. Meanwhile make the most of the longer lighter days and the sunshine.

John Hooper

Wymondham U3A - The story so far...

In 2021 it will be our 20th Anniversary.

How did we get from the first ideas to the reality of where we are today?

Were you there at the beginning - we would particularly like to talk to some of our founder members - or at any key stages in our development? We are looking for old documents, photographs, newspaper articles or anything else which will help our research. If you are able to help, please speak to either Stuart Crowther or Gilly Spencer at Coffee Mornings or Open Meetings.



Members of the Moderate Walks group on their fiftieth outing

Social News

Tramps' Evening - the Social Committee invite you to 'A Tramps' evening. Come along to Central Hall on Friday 3 May at 7.30pm. There will be food, fun and drinks all for £10. Dressing up (or should it be dressing down?) is optional. There will be prizes for the best (worst) tramp and trampess.

The Mid Norfolk Railway trip is also on Fri 3 May at 2pm (tickets £7).

Last chance to purchase tickets for the April Lunch on Mon 15 April at 12.30.

Outstanding balances for the Paignton Holiday must now be paid. Two Twin/Double rooms are available.

Fri 19 July 7.30pm - Quiz Night in Central Hall Teams will consist of 4 members and the entrance fee will be £10 per team. Nine teams needed to make event viable.

All bookable at Open Meetings and coffee mornings.

Visit to the Undercroft of the Norwich Bridewell Museum on Thur 16 May

One tour at 10.30 and if there is enough demand another tour at 11.00. Cost £8.80 per person, reduced if have a Norwich Museums Pass. Book with Georgette at open meetings or coffee mornings - preferably with the correct money. You can also book by emailing Georgette@ValeMail.eu or telephoning 01953 505434 or 07867 681830. Please note the access to the Undercroft is by a steepish staircase and the floor is rather uneven.

U3A Wymondham member, **Judith Beckett**, asks members to consider signing a petition to make Tuttlés Lane East & West subject to a 30mph speed limit. To sign go to: <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/make-tuttles-lane-30mph>

Groups - possible new groups:

- a new photography group is being planned
- one of our members, Ian Anderson, is considering starting a canoeing group
- a member wishes to start a group to learn Latin.

If you are interested in any of the above groups please let me know. I am at most coffee mornings or email me at lorna.gplead@yahoo.co.uk.

Lorna

Sailing at Nancy Oldfield Trust, Neatishead, starts again in April and dates for the season have been circulated to the group.

The group is full but three dates are being offered as taster sessions to less able sailors and people who have always wanted to try sailing but are not sure about their confidence.

The trust, an RYA approved sailing base, has the facilities to support less able sailors and all equipment is supplied, including instructors.

The Taster Sessions are on 28 May, 9 July and 20 August, 10.00 - 1300, cost £11.00/head, paid to the trust (transport not included). For further information and to book a place email arnew@hotmail.co.uk. Places are limited for safety reasons.

Curious Crafters - in January we celebrated our first birthday. During the year we have tackled a variety of crafts. We have made flowers from fabric and maps, printed bags and tea-towels using Indian block prints, created hedgehogs from books. We have also learnt ribbon embroidery, dry felting and Blackwork. For Christmas we made two different baubles and snow globe Christmas cards. Anyone in the group can lead a session and share their knowledge of a craft. This year we have our first away day to Dotty Pottery at Hellesden Barns. As the group meets at my house, numbers are limited and we have a waiting list.

Jennifer Attwell

Knit and Natter - if you come to a coffee morning on a Thursday at Central Hall you cannot fail to notice the ladies busily knitting, sewing, crocheting and chatting. We are making lap blankets, hats, scarves and other items. Recently we have been supporting the Rosie project at Addenbrookes Maternity Unit and the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital Maternity Department. We also support the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and many worthy causes; so you can see why our ladies fingers never rest. If you have any spare wool please donate it to this very good cause. We are still awaiting our first man.....

Vivienne Dollimore and Wendy Bowles

Members who have recently joined:

Anne Allyson, Julian David Allyson, Nesity Capper-Starr and Beryl Garnham

Moderate Walks - Happy Wanderers

Monday 18 March saw 19 members of the group gather outside the 'Bird in Hand' Wrenningham, for the fiftieth walk since the group was formed in October 2014.

Benefiting from yet another fine & sunny day - only once in the Group's history had a walk been cancelled due to severe weather conditions - this outdoor loving group enjoyed a steadily paced walk through the countryside between Wrenningham & Hethel, passing the historic Hethel Thorn (over 700 years old) before pausing for coffee in the grounds of All Saints Church, Hethel, which dates back to 1100, and then on to the finish.

These walks, which usually take place within approximately half an hour's drive from Wymondham, are mainly within Norfolk but with the occasional foray into Suffolk eg Bungay. Usually held on the third Monday of the month, we leave the start point at 10.00, have a short stop for coffee around 11.15 and a further stop for a packed lunch about 12.30 before heading back to the start point to finish between 1.30 - 1.45. However, on this occasion, we celebrated this landmark walk with a very pleasant meal & beverages at the Bird in Hand.

On average our walks cover 7 miles, along cross-country paths, lanes and occasional riverbank paths with a few stiles to be negotiated along the way.

There is still capacity for new members in the group and should you be interested please contact the Group Co-ordinator, Lorna, who will pass on your details to our group leader, John Hooper.

Stuart Crowther

The speaker in May says...

"The talk is called 'People Power Part 2', a history of portraiture in the Modern period (that is, from the late 19th Century to the Present). We will be looking at portraits by a host of artists such as Van Gogh, Cezanne, Picasso and more contemporary artists such as Lucian Freud, David Hockney and Maggi Hambling."

Officers of U3A Wymondham (2018/19)

Chair - John Hooper - johnhooper66@btinternet.com

Joint Vice-Chair - Paul Findlay -
ap.findlay@btinternet.com

Joint Vice-Chair - Gilly Spencer -
gillyflour4@gmail.com

Secretary - Georgette Vale - georgette@ValeMail.eu

Treasurer - Stuart Crowther -
stuartcrowther@aol.com

Membership Sec. - John Spencer -
wymu3amem@outlook.com

Groups Co-ordinator - Lorna Tomlinson -
lorna.gplead16@yahoo.co.uk