

From the Chairman Apologies for Absence

Many thanks to Paul Findlay for looking after the February Open Meeting. Sue and I have joined the exodus of members over the next few weeks seeking winter sun in Tenerife. This seems to be a popular venue for members but I am not sure Cairngorm Travel has it on their list of destinations.

A combination of half term, when a lot of us have enhanced grandparent duties, followed by the rapid approach of Easter and our AGM in March rather dictated timing of our break. Mention of grandparent duties brings to mind the work of a vast army of grandparents and the extent to which it dictates the activities of quite a few members. It made me think that it would be an interesting bit of research to investigate the level of grandparent commitment by U3A members. The results could be fed into a number of areas of health and social welfare and would constitute a piece of educational study by the U3A. Watch this space.

Our AGM is coming up in March and I would encourage members to come to that open meeting. We keep the AGM part as brief as possible but it is the opportunity for members to make comments and ask questions. Some nominations for offices and committee have been received but I would welcome interest from others as well. Details are on the website.

Membership card holders, both on lanyards and clip-ons so that your membership card can also be used as a name badge, have been acquired and I have seen a number in use. May I encourage you to use them?

I am writing this in the middle of the coldest period of the winter following all the mild weather but I have seen a few snowdrops and the daffodil bulbs are beginning to shoot up so hopefully Spring and warmer weather may not be far behind. Meanwhile "take care".

John Hooper

Teresa Woods

I would like to go on the Cotswolds Holiday from 28 - 31 Aug and need a fellow member to share a room with me. If anyone is interested please see me, or John Dollimore, who will introduce us.

Members who have recently joined

Jill Atkins, S A Finch, John Hickson, Karen Maran, Hugh Slade and Kathy Slade



from Kaleidoscope King's Lynn U3A magazine - King's Lynn Town Guides offer walks around town. This shows visitors from U3A Wymondham on their tour.

Social News

Sun 24 March - Lunch on the North Norfolk Railway. All outstanding payments, seat allocations and menu choices should be made or confirmed at the Feb Open Meeting. (2 places left)

Holiday in South Wales starting Mon 6 May - final balances now due and should be paid at the Feb Open Meeting.

Fri 3 May - Tramps evening - (change of date)

Fri 19 July 07.30pm - 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.

Scrabble during Coffee Mornings

Anyone want to join a Scrabble group playing during the Coffee Mornings? If so, please contact Lorna or one of the players.

Discovering Norwich

no meeting in February

Thur 14 March 10.30pm visit to Norwich Cathedral for a guided tour, cost £5, pay Sylvia Vickers or Lorna by 7 March.

Luncheon Group

This group will need a new leader from April this year as I will be taking up the leadership of the Theatre Group. Nobody from the current Luncheon Group is willing to become leader. So, would anyone like to join and become leader? For more information please ring 01603 810969. Sadly, unless a new leader can be found the group will close. Heather Moulton.

Officers of U3A Wymondham (2018/19)

Chair - John Hooper - johnhooper66@btinternet.com
Vice-Chair - Paul Findlay - ap.findlay@btinternet.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

Stitchcraft group - meeting at the Station Bistro

Time to do a craft using a needle -any type of needle

Ideas shared

Time to try a new craft

Crochet, knitting, patchwork, sewing

Handicrafts galore

Cakes- lovely cakes, bought and enjoyed

Really popular group hence the waiting list

Always made to feel welcome and cared about

Friday- 3rd in the month

Time for everyone to enjoy their craft

Secret Santa and the Easter Bunny also put in appearances at the group!

Jennifer Attwell

Sussex vineyard tour 9-11 July

With English vineyards reporting record crops in both quantity and quality there will be plenty to see for anyone interested in wine. This tour will visit four very different Sussex vineyards in three days.

Travelling by luxury coach and staying at Eastbourne's

Afton beach front hotel we can expect to see how some of the finest English wines are produced and get an opportunity to taste some of the many award winning products.

There are six double/twin rooms still available. The cost is £250 per person. For further information or to book contact Bill Yeates

01953605107 or yeates.ws@gmail.com

WEA Day School: New Directions in Jazz -

Sat 6 April - for more information contact Ros

Krieger on 01953 600639 or at rkrieger@talktalk.net

- or <https://www.wea.org.uk/>

Quiz Night North Wymondham Community Centre

Sat 23 Feb - 6.30pm for a 7.00 pm start - £5 per person which includes a free raffle ticket - teams of up to 6 per table - bring your own food and drink. Fliers available from Brenda at Feb Open Meeting.

Calling All U3A Members....

Still want to practise those skills you exercised at work?

Wymondham Day Care Centre is looking to recruit trustees for its management committee. We are a registered charity whose aim is to promote the continued independence of the elderly, helping to combat loneliness and isolation. The Day Centre also provides a valued break for carers. More information can be found at <https://www.wymondhamdaycentre.org.uk> Trustees are responsible for governing the Centre and directing the work of our manager and staff.

If you are interested, please contact our manager, Pearl Elvin, on 01953 604306, email wymdcc@gmail.com or drop in to the Town Green Centre on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

History For The Curious: a sideways look at history

There are two groups meeting in the afternoon on the first Tuesday and the third Monday of the month.

There are no vacancies in either group at the moment.

A member from each group has contributed to this article and each has referred to my cooking - the group meeting gives me an opportunity to bake some biscuits and cakes. (*Group Leader - Ros Krieger*)

Group 1 has continued to thrive. We have an eclectic approach to history and in the past have focused on topics ranging from slavery to coal mining to dentistry. During 2018 we have been researching Britain during the post-Roman period and the history of the different religions while currently we are looking into the history of scripts.

There are six in the group and we meet each month for a couple of hours - with a short tea break (this is significant as the group leader, in whose house the group meets, is an accomplished cook).

At the end of each session we agree how to divide up the forthcoming subject between us. Periodically we take time to consider the next major area we wish to focus on: normally the subject will have emerged during our current discussions. (*Pat Kingerlee*)

Group 2 has been investigating the British Empire with this topic ending with the group answering the question: "Are you proud or ashamed of the British Empire?" As you can imagine this prompted some debate but after research that included British Empire building in North America, Australia, New Zealand, India, West Indies, South Africa, Burma and the Middle East, the group were well informed to understand the pros and cons and state their views on this question. Not only did this improve our history knowledge but it also improved our geography knowledge as well! The group is currently investigating the demography of the British Isles from Pre-Roman period to end of 20th century. This topic will focus on populations by investigating three main demographic processes: birth, migration, and ageing (including death). We are progressing through the centuries and are currently looking at the Tudors and Stuarts. As you can see, these are both very diverse subjects but equally enjoyable to learn about. Oh and Ros's excellent home cooking continues to excel with its birth in the kitchen, its migration to the dining room and its death in our mouths!

Members of both groups and Alan Browne's History Group also enjoyed a visit to West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village in July. It was a very hot day but this did not deter the enthusiasm of the group who found the visit to be very informative including a guided tour around the village dwellings enabling the group to gain a better understanding of Anglo-Saxon life. (Thank you to Mike for organising this trip - Ros). (*Mike Stopp*)