

JULY 2018
ISSUE No 25

Radcliffe on Trent NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 1152459



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Members' Monthly Meetings are held in The Grange : DOORS OPEN AT 2:00pm : Refreshments are served : Group Activities advertised :

Announcements are made at 2:30pm with Guest Speaker at 2:45pm

FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



Well Hello Members. Here I go again! A lot continues to happen with our thriving U3A.

In the category of "need to know" rather than "want to know" I believe we are in a good place with the new data protection legislation (GDPR) and our desire and duty to protect your personal information. Ian Jones ran a follow up session for Group Leaders which was well received. Thank you Ian. It was appreciated! There is plenty of advice on the Head Office website for any group leaders who still feel they need to know more than they do.

Whilst on the subject of "HQ" for those members who seek further opportunities, beyond Radcliffe on Trent, you can find on the national website details of events such as Summer Schools, Educational Events, Workshops and general meetings. It is well worth checking out.

As ever for those members for whom internet access is difficult you will find Committee members and others more than happy to help you access information.

So my mind continues to be exercised by the desire for more groups, more volunteers and given our "golden years" demographic, more youngsters, well comparatively!

I can do no better than quote the outgoing National Chair, Pam Jones, who said: "We must work hard to encourage new members as we need their vitality, energy, and ideas to keep the movement vibrant. But let us not overlook the existing 420,000 members who already do and give so much.

Over and over again I have been told that U3A has given purpose to the lives of members, who, in turn give so much back to the movement.

See you soon.

Malcolm McDowell

IDEAS, OPINIONS, COMMENT AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

The Editorial team is aware that most Newspapers feature a "Letters to the Editor" column — and we don't — yet!

Such a column would enable all members to communicate their ideas, criticisms, suggestions, opinions about the U3A, (compliments always welcome!) this newssheet or anything else, to everyone, including, importantly, the Committee.

We are therefore inviting letters by e-mail or "snail mail" using the e-mail address - news@rot-u3a.org.uk - or for letters or postcards **"The Editors, c/o 4 Lime Close, Radcliffe on Trent, NG12 2DF.** Always quote your membership number.

Anonymous correspondence must have the writers name and address supplied.

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE ! WRITE TO "The Editors"

RoT U3A WEB PAGE

We have over forty interest groups in the Radcliffe on Trent U3A covering a wide range of activities from "Bridge" to "Walking".

See the full list on:- www.rot-u3a.org.uk

FRIENDSHIP & SUPPORT GROUP.

The annual minibus trip this year, using our village's community bus, is to the National Space Centre in Leicester on 13th August.

Fifteen of us are pre-booked in at a discounted group admission cost which includes free parking (usually £3 a day) and a half hour show in the Patrick Moore Planetarium. There are eight exhibition rooms including the rocket tower, a coffee lounge and dining area. so we are looking forward to an enjoyable day out. we blast off at 10:00 hours on 13th August.

The Friendship Group in previous years have used the minibus to visit Crich Tram Museum, Derbys, Richard III Exhibition, Leics and Gladstone Pottery, Stoke on Trent.

Please note that the Community Minibus is available for all U3A Groups to use as our U3A hold the necessary Vehicle Permit.

Rodney Fogg

TODAY'S SPEAKER

David Kissman will be talking about his career in photography



He will explain how, after retiring from full time employment, he found a new interest in photography and will tell the story of how he became involved in sports photography and how it led to a career as a freelancer.

Sharing some stories and some insights into what is entailed and some of the challenges that he faced, he will also talk more generally about photography including club photography and in particular the mysterious world of competitions and judges!

If time permits he will also talk about other types of photography that he is developing including nature and wildlife.

Carol White

Our Spanish Group



Throughout this year the group have found out more about Spain, endeavouring to discuss the state of affairs in Catalonia, aspects, likes and dislikes of films, literature, theatre and television and we have learnt a great deal from watching a film about a lesser known Spanish artist, Joaquín Sorolla. All this to help our speaking and listening skills.

We have discussed what we would do if we won the lottery or had more free time, we have given advice and made suggestions in order to practise our conditional and subjunctive tenses. We have given commands, both friendly and more formal and through this we understand the imperative a little better.

The group have solved puzzles, been introduced to Spanish sayings, customs and songs.

Every lesson has been made informative, interesting and enjoyable by our excellent teacher, Christine.

We finished our academic year with tapas and drinks in the sunshine (see above) and look forward, or perhaps not, to puzzling over the subjunctive. Many of us will take the opportunity to visit Spain, or other Spanish speaking countries, to converse in Spanish, to enjoy the food, drink and the atmosphere of Spain.

This course is a great example of the ethos of the U3A – the education of its members by its members. We are exceptionally lucky to have Christine who, with her great experience and expertise, has provided the group with a sound foundation on which we hope next year to continue to build and extend our knowledge of the geography, history and culture of Spain, its people and the Spanish language.

Muchas gracias Cristina por todo tu trabajo duro. Deseo a cada uno un buen verano y espero verles a todos el año que viene. Los mejores deseos para todos. Hasta septiembre.

Madeline Clarke.

REAL ALE GROUP.

Our Group decides which establishment they would like to visit at their regular monthly Real Ale Group meeting in a Public House that is on a bus/tram route.

Because that meeting is on the last Wednesday lunch time each month there is no possibility of notifying the U3A membership of where we next meet through this publication, which by then is already at the printers or been printed for distribution at the U3A meeting on the first Thursday of each month.

So far this season we have been to The Trip to Jerusalem, The Ned Ludd, The Three Crowns, The Trent Bridge Inn and The Kean's Head.

The Group is open to both ladies and gentlemen in RoT U3A...and to be quite truthful we don't all drink real ale in copious quantities, in fact we are all very moderate and enjoy a bar snack/meal as well usually leaving to return to Radcliffe around 1:30-2:00pm.

We regularly meet to catch the 11:22am bus in to town from the Grange bus stop. So if you fancy some friendly company over a drink and a meal, do join us.

Rod Fogg - 07971537119

Knit & Natter Group

We meet once a month, on the second Tuesday (at my house).

In July, we will meet on the 10th, at 2pm.

Our efforts include baby and toddler clothes plus blankets for the Baby Bundle project (run by the Inner Wheel); baby blankets and baby hats for the QMC premature baby unit and Twiddlemuffs for dementia patients. The latter are distributed both to local Care Homes and to the QMC for their dementia ward.

We welcome donations of wool which will be put to good use!

For more information, please contact me.

Jan - 845 7398

jan@addiscott.net

WALKING GROUP



The walking group on their annual Spring "practice walk".

This year we walked the Rossendale Way in Lancashire. Perfect weather, however quite demanding because although it was only a 42 mile circular walk, very little of that was flat.

Hopefully we are all now fit enough to complete The Cotswolds Way in September which is 102 miles long.

Anne McLeod

Geology and Environment Studies Group.

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month.

The third field visit of this year, on 10th July, is to a working quarry at Ketton, near Rutland Water where we will examine Jurassic age sediments and a nearby nature reserve.

We have a few places left. More info from Group Leader at -

www.martinclarke@live.co.uk

TRIPS & OUTINGS

We are arranging a trip on **Wednesday 5th September** to the Dudley Canal.

We will take a 2 hour tour along the full length of the mighty Dudley Tunnel, which includes the remarkable Limestone Mines and Caverns. This is followed by a two course lunch with tea or coffee, before travelling to the Red House Glass Cone (formerly Stuart Crystal) for a tour of the factory. There will be time to visit the shop and café afterwards.

Cost is £45pp. Tickets are very limited & they are on sale at the July monthly meeting.

Steve Harris 9333011 radcliffeu3a.trips@gmail.com

Joyce Bullimore 9333969

FUTURE TRIP FOR YOUR DIARY- Wednesday 28th November

We are planning a trip to Rockingham Castle & gardens with a guided tour round the castle followed by a festive lunch. Price is £40 per person & tickets will be on sale at the September monthly meeting.

Contact **Steve Harris** 9333011 or radcliffeu3a.trips@gmail.com

FAMILY HISTORY DISCUSSION GROUP

We're now having a rest from our lively discussions until **Thursday 20th September** when we will meet as usual at 2 pm in the Ark Room at St Marys Church Hall.

We welcome new members and if anyone would like to join us but needs a bit of help to get started on their family history then I'm happy to run a few 'familiarisation' sessions during the summer.

The amount of information available online – a lot of it free to access – is increasing daily and it's now relatively easy to get started on your family tree. And once started it's also too easy to get hooked – as witnessed by many long-term members of our group!

To arrange a familiarisation session please contact me on

valdave_morgan@btinternet.com.

Dave Morgan

Canasta Group

Held in the Grange, (Dowson room) fortnightly on a Friday starting at 1pm.

We are doing very well; numbers are going up all the time and new players have made tremendous progress. 22 now play regularly and we now have only one table vacant.

We could easily start another group if anyone would like to organise it.

Thank you for supporting me.

Annette Ayres

email: tenbob@greenbee.net

ANYONE FOR JIVING?

Like to try ? Contact Geraldine

On 07772 348077

POETRY FOR PLEASURE

GROUP

The Group recently enjoyed a visit to the Bromley House Library in Nottingham City Centre.



Our guide made the trip interesting and informative explaining that it is a Grade 2 listed Tea House, with original Georgian features and has one of the few remaining city centre walled gardens.

We are a small friendly group meeting monthly who share discussions and readings of a broad range of poetry.

For further information please phone **Anne** on 0115 8 417991

Film Appreciation Group

At our meeting on 4th June one of our members related her experience seeing 'Redoubtable', our May choice of film.

Concerned that she may not get a good seat if she delayed and went for some refreshment, she enquired whether many tickets had been sold.. 'You must be joking' was the jaundiced reply from the front desk.

Most of us who also watched this film in splendid isolation, soon realised why and marked it down accordingly. Was this serious cinema or a nasty dig at Jean Luc Godard, the Nouvelle Vague film director of the sixties, portraying him solely as 'a solipsist with a self destructive streak'? If it was intended to be entertaining cinema it certainly failed spectacularly for most of us. If it was an informed critique, which required prior knowledge of the revolutionary film movement, it also bombed.

Some you win some you lose.....!

We have chosen 'Hereditary,' on from the 15th at the Broadway for our June film. The Graham family try to outrun the fate they may have inherited from their sinister grandmother. 'A deeply unsettling' horror movie' that has 'electrified audiences', (it says here). Yes we don't do easy viewing and we meet to cast judgement on it (or those who chose it?) at 2.00pm on Monday 25th June in the Church Rooms; our last date before the summer break.

David Richards, Group Leader. 07817 660 659

The Third Age Trust and its international connections

When 'Third Age Matters' asked, 'Can you contribute to the education debate?' I thought, 'Yes, I can do that.'

It was a call for members to create a presentation to present at the International conference in Barcelona. Unfortunately my presentation wasn't chosen but as a result I was invited to London for a meeting with international organisations affiliated to EFOS (European Federation of Older Students in Universities) and the Third Age Trust.

Although I knew the U3A is an international organisation, I must admit, I didn't know much about their international connections. My claim to fame is that I sat next to Eric Midwinter, one of the three founder members of the U3A in the UK.

The purpose of the meeting was to inform participants of the process in each other's countries. Ian McCannah gave a talk explaining the UK model of the U3A to many puzzled faces from EFOS. The organisations in their countries are often set up by universities and, in simple terms, provide classes for older people.

Our less formal 'bottom up system' confused many of them. In the Slovak Republic, for example, students receive certificates at the end of three years of study. In Austria, they attend lectures but do not take exams or receive certificates. In Sweden, life-long learning has developed outside the education system and is open to everyone. In Germany, they have a close connection with universities but are not part of the university. Other countries represented were the Netherlands, Poland and the Czech Republic.

There was a lot of talk about study days, lectures, teachers, research and educational programmes; words that are not usually part of our U3A vocabulary. One point that I thought was interesting; the Dutch representative said that many of their students had grown up in the second world war and didn't have the chance to study so this was their second chance.

We debated several questions and found common ground in that we all had problems getting men to join the U3A and finding people to commit to help run the organisation. However, all the organisations, in whichever country, are an overwhelming success, evidenced by the fact that they are growing. Whatever form they take, they are fulfilling a need.

Ann Keen (Past Chairman)

HOLIDAY GROUP



5 U3A members, (plus one daughter) on a River Cruise along the Douro in Portugal in early June. a lovely holiday which included a large amount of port wine tasting.

Anne McLeod

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE:-

You must let the membership secretary know if you change your postal address, e-mail address or telephone number. She has no way to keep up to date if you don't!

Diane Kidger Membership Secretary

radcliffeu3a.members@gmail.com

GROUP LEADERS

**U3A EQUIPMENT IS
AVAILABLE FOR YOUR
MEETINGS**

Ann Littlewood is our Equipment Coordinator. Please contact her to make a booking for any equipment needed for your Group Meetings. (Ann has, upon request, the list of equipment which may be of interest to your Group).

It is essential that arrangements are made in advance for booking Group requirements and thereby avoid (or minimise) conflicting needs. Ann's contact:

Email radcliffeu3a.kit@gmail.com

Tel : 845 1633 or 07762 102759

Tailpiece

Beauty comes in all shapes and sizes - small, large, round, thin crust, thick crust, stuffed crust, extra toppings!

Speaker for September's Meeting

Mike Newbold



Mike first started with amateur dramatics 18 years ago with Carlton Operatic Society and Nottingham Operatic Society, performing at both the Nottingham Playhouse and The Theatre Royal.

He has been a television extra for 13 years and encountered some interesting and strange people.

He will talk about the rules and regulations, the pitfalls, the jargon, pay and his experiences".

Carol White

CLASSICAL MUSIC

APPRECIATION GROUP

The Classical Music Group will be taking a summer break so there will not be another meeting until **Thursday 20th September** in the Dowson Room at the Grange from 10.30 to 12.30. £1.50 includes tea/coffee and biscuits. New members welcomed.

Contact - joyce@bullimore.f9.co.uk.

September's NEWSHEET

Please send your Group's news, articles and photos to our Editors at

news@rot-u3a.org.uk

by **21st August, 2018**

Remember, there is no Newsheet in August.

Thank you

Editorial Team