



Registered Charity No. 1137780

February 2018 Newsletter Melton Mowbray U3A

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At the meeting this month on Thursday 15th February 2018

Speaker	Follies, Fantasies and Foibles - a look at some Landmark Trust Properties Rosemary Beney
Display	The Christmas Show
Catering	Peter & Barbara Simpson, Sue Davies, Margaret Brewer and Ann Scillitoe

General Notices

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's time to renew your membership for 2018. A membership form is being sent with this newsletter and copies will also be available at the monthly meeting on 15th February.

The committee has also decided that the amount for postage of membership cards and newsletters should be increased to £8.00. The cost for having membership cards only sent by post remains at 60p. Please ensure that you make your cheque out for the correct amount.

Membership Secretary

CAR PARKING AT MONTHLY MEETINGS

Following January's highly successful "Meet the Groups" meeting, the Indoor Bowls Club management have, once again, complained about our use of their car park on 18th January. So many U3A members parked up in the Bowls Club car park that many of their members were unable to park up and were subsequently late for their matches.

In February and March, the Bowls Club have events on that make it imperative that they have full use of their car park at the same time as our monthly meeting. So please avoid using the Bowls Club car park in February and March. If possible, please consider car sharing for those meetings, and, as usual, we will be able to park in the B & Q car park.

Alan Barton Chairman

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

The Twenty Second Annual General Meeting will take place at the Baptist Church at 10.00am on Thursday 15 March 2018.

In addition to the election of officers and committee members, the business will include:

The approval of the minutes of the 2017 AGM

The presentation and approval of the Statement of Accounts for 2017

The appointment of an Examiner for the 2018 Accounts

Any other business notified in writing to the Secretary by Friday 16 February 2017

Further information

Officers and members will stand down as usual at this year's AGM. They are eligible to stand for re-election provided they do not serve for more than three consecutive years.

The elections will be for Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and five members (Membership Secretary, Groups Co-ordinator, Speaker Secretary, IT Advisor and Newsletter Editor).

There are vacancies on the Committee for Membership Secretary, IT Advisor, Treasurer and Groups Co-ordinator. Anyone interested in taking on any of these roles is invited to contact any current member of the Committee. If these posts are not filled the Melton Mowbray U3A will be unable to continue after the next AGM.

Nomination forms are available from the Secretary. Completed forms must be with the Secretary by Friday 16 February 2017. Nominations can only be made and seconded by a paid-up member.

Members are reminded that the present Committee has offered the opportunity for any member thinking of seeking election to shadow the existing member in his/her role in the time available before the close of nominations.

**William Pead, Business Secretary
3rd January 2018**

U3A TEA & COFFEE ROTA

The rota of volunteers to serve the tea and coffee at the monthly meetings is almost complete for 2018. BUT we need MORE volunteers to cover for holidays and any extra meetings that we may have.

If you feel that you would like to help, it's usually only once a year, please see:

Ann Scillitoe, Vera Mowbray or Sue Pymm



Group Activities



2018 PROPOSED OUTINGS

18 April Wednesday

A visit to Stratford on Avon including a guided tour on the coach.
Price £24.00

6 June Wednesday

Trip to York with a stop at the Railway Museum for those wishing to visit, then into York for those wishing to see other sights.
Priced £22.00

11 July Wednesday

A visit to Hampton Court, House and gardens
Price £38.00 which includes your entrance fee to the house.

7 November Wednesday

A trip to London, arriving approximately midday and departing at 6pm
Price £24.00

The Outings table will be open for bookings at the February meeting. If you require any additional information please contact **Pauline or Linda**

THEATRE GROUP

MATILDA

There are still tickets to be collected. The performance is on Wednesday, 14th March 2018. Please speak with Angela Fielding.

WAR HORSE Nottingham 4th April 2018. The coach will be leaving Wilton Road car park at 6.00pm. Please collect your tickets and pay the coach fare (£14.00) as soon as possible and **definitely** by the **February** meeting. Contact Lynda Middleton.

BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

A visit to the Symphony Hall at Birmingham to hear a performance by the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra has been arranged for Wednesday, 2nd May 2018. The programme is Sibelius Second Symphony, plus Strauss and Prokofiev. We would leave Melton Mowbray by coach at 10.00 a.m., which will enable us to listen to the pre-concert talk at 1.00 p.m. hosted by a CBSO musician, followed by the concert at 2.15 p.m. and afterwards we could have Afternoon Tea with a question and answer session with Edward Gardner in the foyer (usually only available to members). The cost of the trip will be £37.00 (ticket in the Circle), £16.50 (Afternoon Tea) plus transport £22.50 - £29.00 (depending upon the number going, or we may be able to go by car if a small number and sufficient drivers). The coach will leave Birmingham at approximately 6.00 p.m. Please contact Angela Fielding.

THE LITTLE MERMAID. Thursday 3rd May at 2.30pm at Curve, Leicester. The Northern Ballet's beautiful new ballet takes you on a journey beneath the waves.

Choreography by David Nixon and an original score played **live** by the Northern Sinfonia. Tickets are **£23.00 each** payable as soon as possible to secure your seat. In order to accommodate everyone's requests, I have reserved some seats in the front of the Circle and some in centre Stalls

Contact the Theatre Desk at the monthly meeting for War Horse or The Little Mermaid or Lynda on lynda.middleton@hotmail.co.uk

GUYS AND DOLLS

A visit to the Kilworth House Theatre is being planned for June 2018. Please put your name down asap. A coach will be provided. We have usually picnicked prior to the performance. Please contact Lynda Middleton.

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S RUDDIGORE

40 tickets have been reserved for the matinee performance of the G & S comedy Ruddigore at Buxton Opera House on Wednesday, 1st August 2018. The cost of the ticket and transport will be £38.00. Please contact Colette Marshall at the Theatre Desk.

FOUND

*A pair of **black gloves** was left on the coach after the performance of 'Scrooge' on 13th December. Please collect from the Theatre Desk or email Lynda*

lynda.middleton@hotmail.co.uk

BIRD WATCHING GROUP

The next meeting of the Birdwatching Group will be at Kirby Bellars at 10.30 am on 23 February. Please meet near the church at the end of Main Street in Kirby Bellars. Jan and Roy Cleaver (contact details janroy2@talktalk.net) have kindly offered to organise this meeting in my absence.

Jennifer Widdowson jenniferwiddowson@yahoo.co.uk

RECORDER GROUP – NEW GROUP!

Playing the recorder is a great activity as it is fun, sociable, cheap and keeps your brain and fingers nimble. Recorders exist in many sizes, the most popular being the descant, the treble, the tenor and the bass. These four together can make beautiful music. There is quite a bit of interest in starting a recorder group and anyone is welcome to join, whether they are a beginner or a more experienced player. We have not yet set a definite time, but it looks as though Friday mornings or afternoons suit the most people.

Contact Jenny Russell at jennyrussell13@gmail.com.

COMPOSER OF THE MONTH

The meeting planned for 3rd January had unfortunately to be deferred. The subsequent meeting featuring the composer Hans Rott did take place on 24th January as planned.

7th February Kodaly 28th February Dowland (deferred from 3rd January)
7th March Lekeu

Contact John Playfer email john@playfer.org.uk

AMERICAN STUDIES

Our next meeting will be at 2.30pm on Thursday 15 February at Tesco's

The subject is USA's relationship / influence on the rest of the American continent

Chris Lawman chris.lawman@btinternet.com

HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting of the history group will be on Friday February 16th at 2pm at Sage Cross Church;

The Speaker will be Peter Watkins and his subject will be the Archaeology of Welby Church.

All are welcome if you are a paid-up member of the U3A.

Anne Purvis Committee Member

SINGING GROUP

In any members of the original U3A Singers still have their black folders and would be willing to donate them to the new group, they would be gratefully received.

Please contact Jenny Poulson or Alan Barton if you have a folder to donate



Luncheon Groups



LUNCHEON GROUP 'GK'

The group will be celebrating the Chinese New Year on Tuesday February 20th. Please ensure you arrive at Jasmine House by 6:30 pm.

Any queries contact me on gilliankilpatrick@googlemail.com

LUNCHEON GROUP 'S'

The lunch club will be dining at THE SAMWORTH CENTRE on February 15th. Usual arrangements, contact me if you can't make it, as you may be charged.

Marjorie Shaw

marjorie.shaw@sky.com



Walking Groups



2ND MONDAY WALKING GROUP 12th March 2018

Meet at the "Queens Head" Inn, Billesdon. 10:15 for 10:30 start.

Walk Leader: Geoff Harris
Group Co-ordinator Geoff Harris

1st THURSDAY WALKING GROUP 1st March , 2018, Cossington approx. 6 miles

Likely to be muddy. Decision to be made on the day for alternative at Watermead Park.

Please meet at the the Hope and Anchor PH, Wanlip Road, Syston, LE7 1PD ready to walk at 10am.

Food is available without booking at the pub.

**Walk Leaders: Bob McLellan
Co-ordinators: Wendy & Stuart Posnett**

4TH MONDAY WALKING GROUP 26th February 2018

Please meet at The Kings Arms, Hathern (LE12 5LD) at 10 am for a 10:15 am start.

**Walk Leader: Di Green.
Group Co-ordinator: Jennifer Gregory.**

3RD WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP – MARCH WALK (5 miles)

The March walk will be from West Leake on March 21st 2018. Meet at the Star Inn, West Leake (LE12 5RQ) 10:15 for a 10:30am start.

Lunch will be at the Star Inn.

Group Co-ordinator Rob Issitt



Annual Group Reports



GUITAR GROUP

We've had another good year with numerous successful gigs. In particular we had fun in the sun at the opening of the sensory garden at Gretton Court and a garden party in aid of the Parkinsons Society.

Our biggest audience (180) was at The Stute when we supported the Melstrum Ukelele Orchestra. All our collections have gone to help the Air Ambulance.

It is with sadness that I have decided to hand over the reins of the Guitar Group to new management. I have been Group Leader since the beginning, approximately 9 years ago, so feel that new ideas will be beneficial to the group.

The new management will be:-

Group Leader from 1 January 2018: Pete Matthews

Musical Direction: Dave Coxhead, Brian Howes, Ian Abbott

Treasurer: Stuart Adlington

I will continue as "front man" at gigs.

I wish the new people every success and hope they have as much fun as I've had.

Brian Donovan

Group Leader to 31 December 2017

INDOOR BOWLS (SUMMER)

2017 was the first year for this group

It was run from May to September for those wanting to continue playing indoors whilst others were outdoors at Holwell

We held 19 sessions in total during which a total of 85 members attended (2 was the lowest attendance and 7 the highest)

A total of £239 rink fees were paid to Melton Bowls Club

It is expected that the group will run again during this summer and there will be a notice in the April newsletter giving the start date

Thanks for all those who came along – hope to see you again this year together with some who were perhaps unaware last year that the group was running

Chris Lawman

Email : chris.lawman@btinternet.com

GERMAN GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

Our German Group continues to thrive, meeting twice a month at Tesco on Wednesday afternoons. We currently have 8 members, all of whom come regularly and well prepared. In the last year we have finished the 2 textbooks we were working from- Let's Talk German and Deutsch Direkt and have now started Deutsch Express, a BBC book and audio course written as a follow on from Deutsch Direkt. Most of us prepare a few sentences in German to share with the group. We have also attempted some role play of situations using vocabulary from DK Visual Dictionary. Our group is no longer suitable for beginners but we welcome new members who want to maintain and improve their existing German.

Diane Cherryman

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Welcome to our 36 new members including 30 who joined at or just after the recent Meet the Groups. We were surprised by the number of people wanting to join that day and unfortunately ran out of forms and information sheets etc. All new members should have now received their membership numbers together with an information sheet and a groups list either by email or through the post. If you haven't please let me know. Membership cards can be collected at the next monthly meeting on 15 February.

There are still 145 members who have not yet renewed for 2018, including some group leaders! Forms can be downloaded from the internet and posted to me with a cheque. They will also be available at the meeting on 15 February. Please note if you are paying at the meeting that all payments should be by cheque.

MEET THE GROUPS

A big thank-you to everybody for all the hard work they put into this year's event. It has been voted a great success with over 50 visitors attending and the majority of those becoming new members. I noticed that some people bypassed the check-in desk and did not, therefore, pick up a groups list. If you would like an up to date groups list, email me and I will send you one electronically, or see me at the February meeting.

I took photos of most of the stands which I have sent to the IT lead for the website. They may also be used to publicise next year's event. Please let me or admin know if you have a problem with this.

Please also let me know of any outstanding issues such as long waiting lists, closed groups etc. One issue which was brought to my attention was that of visitors attending groups. The national policy, supported by insurance, specifies that visitors may attend no more than 2 activities before they have to join. These may be monthly meetings or attendance at specific groups. They must join before a third attendance.

Diane Cherryman groups@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk



Final Notices

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE FOR THE MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER:

Latin, Line Dancing, Luncheon Club (GK), Luncheon Club (S)

Contributions to the MARCH 2018 newsletter to be received no later than 28th FEBRUARY 2018. Items should be emailed to editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk or posted to 28 Grantwood Road, Melton Mowbray, LE13 1SB

CATERING GROUP FOR NEXT MONTH'S MEETING ON 15th March 2018 at the Baptist Church: Sue & Peter Morris, Cecil Robinson, Shirley Tomlinson & Susan Pymm

NEW MEMBERS MEETING

We shall be having a new-members meeting on Monday 26th February to introduce you to Melton Mowbray U3A. The invitations and details will be going out the week beginning 5th February.

We shall be inviting new members from October 2017 to date. Our thinking behind this is that those of you have joined since our last members meeting in May and up to October may have already integrated yourselves into the Melton U3A and know all you need to know about Melton U3A. BUT if you fall into that category and you would still like to come you will be very, very welcome. Just contact me at the email address below so I can send you the details.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Trevor Wright Newsletter Editor
editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk