

RETFORD U3A TIMES

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Well what a Summer it is turning out to be!

Whether it's the weather – with record breaking temperatures (although I'm sure that most of us would welcome a drop or two of rain to liven up our parched gardens!); or sport – with football, tennis, cricket etc; or politics or holidays there is so much for us all to talk about. There is no doubt in my mind that the warm weather coupled with success of our young England footballers have, among other things, lightened the mood of the nation and causing discussions between family and friends. On the other hand the whole debate around Brexit and the controversial visit of the American President causes more serious discussions no matter which side of the fence you sit!

But the important thing is that healthy chats about this and that are good for the soul and it serves as an important reminder that this is what the U3A is all about. Our ethos is to learn from each other and to have fun while we are doing it. That's why I am so looking forward to our meeting in July which as you know will take on a different format and showcase the many different Interest Groups that our hard-working Group Leaders, ably assisted by our Group Coordinators, organise. We will all be able to get ideas about other groups that maybe we hadn't considered before and equally tell others about our own activities in the groups that we belong to. Hopefully there will be something for everyone!

I want to thank everyone involved in putting this together but especially David Lee who picked up the baton when it looked like the idea might not come to fruition and through a lot of hard work, diplomacy and cooperation has made it happen and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Please note that there will not be a meeting or a Newsletter in August but we will resume

again on 27th September. However there will be a departure from the 'norm' in the shape of a social event – again organised by David Lee – namely a 'Picnic in the Park' on 16th August and full details are on page 4. Hopefully the weather will be kind and you will be able to come along!

One final notice is that, after thinking about my role as Chairman long and hard, I have decided to step down at the next AGM in April 2019. It is not a decision I have taken lightly but feel, on balance, after a 2 year stint it is the right thing for me to do. We now have a good period of time to find a successor so if you are interested in taking on the role or know someone who is then please let us know.

In the meantime I hope you all enjoy the rest of the Summer and chatting about whatever takes your fancy!

Cheers Chris

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 20th October



Tickets will be available to purchase at the General Meeting next Thursday or by contacting Glennis Evans directly.

Ceilidh

There are a few tickets still available for the Ceilidh on 22nd September 2018 at Claborough Village Hall. These can also be purchased at the General Meeting or by contacting Glennis Evans on

01777 948194
or
social@retford-u3a.org.uk



NEWS FROM INTEREST GROUPS

FUN WITH FLOWERS GROUP

Pictured below are some of our ladies with the summer garden trug baskets they produced at our July group session.



The Fun with Flowers Group meets on the second Thursday of the month 1 - 3 pm at Hallcroft Community Centre. New members always welcome.

Contact Sally Barker on 01777 708643

COFFEE MORNING



Retford U3A Coffee morning is organised on the first Wednesday morning of each month from 10.30 – 12.00 in the West Retford Hotel. Lots of conversations take place and new friends are made. We sometimes have a quiz session. Occasionally we enjoy a meal out. At the meeting in July 2018, we had two tables full of members enjoying a lovely meal. New members are always welcome. Plus if you would like to meet up with others more than once a month why not join the Buddies group as well. Look on the website for more details of both groups.

COMPUTER GROUP

New sessions will commence on Tuesday 11th September from 4.00 – 6.00 pm in Grove Street Methodist Church. Pat Trotter

VISITS

A few members enjoying a blue badge tour of Oxford



ARCHITECTURE GROUP

This group will now meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the afternoon, commencing at 13.45 at Garden Room, Trinity Hospital, Hospital Road, Retford. Please note the change day and time.

On Monday 27 August a visit to Idle Valley Study Centre Cafe. Following our coffee morning last year, we are planning another Bank Holiday visit on our last Monday morning meeting. Meet 10.30 for coffee and a chat about the Architecture Group. I will also try to get some information on the construction of the Study Centre. It is a very interesting building and worthy of our attention. Afterwards, perhaps a walk around the nature reserve or maybe lunch from the cafe's inviting menu board. Thelma

MILITARY HISTORY GROUP

Five day trip to Normandy, 7th to 11th May 2019. More details at the General Meeting and in September newsletter

GENERAL MEETINGS

July 26th U3A Groups - see page 4
 August 16th Picnic in the Park - see page 4
 Sept 27th Mike Storr - "Masters of Mirth"

NEWS FROM INTEREST GROUPS

WORKSOP U3A CINEMA GROUP

9th August at the Savoy
"Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again"
Sequel to Mamma Mia!



5 years after the events of Mamma Mia!, on the Greek island of Kalokairi, Sophie is running her mother Donna's villa following Donna's death a year prior. Sophie's relationship with her husband, Sky has been turbulent for some time, causing her to doubt that she can survive without her mother. With

Tanya and Rosie's guidance, Sophie learns about Donna's past, including how she fronted The Dynamos, started her villa on the island, met each one of Sophie's dads, Sam, Bill, and Harry, and raised a daughter without a mother's guidance. She also has an unexpected visit from someone she has never met: her estranged grandmother, Ruby Sheridan (Cher). **Text supplied by third party**

*Doors open 13. 15; Showing 14,00
Car parking for 4 hours £1.50 refunded with voucher against ticket price if parked in either car park behind the Town Hall or Newgate Street East.*

MEET THE COMMITTEE



Paul Bacon - Membership Secretary

I was born in Old Brinsley (where they filmed Sons and Lovers) and had to move to New Brinsley when our house was condemned due to subsidence. I've always lived in Nottinghamshire and now reside in North Wheatley. I left school wanting a career in child care but was persuaded to enlist on a catering course instead. After 25 years in catering I spent 3 years studying for a degree in Systems Analysis and then promptly became a house dad for 4 years. I then studied for a PGCE and spent my last 15 working years as a primary school teacher.

My interests with U3A include the cycling group and attending coffee mornings and when time permits, military history and local history too. I enjoy walking and did I mention cycling? I also enjoy travelling and holidays (particularly when they involve ... cycling).

WALKERS CORNER



Strollers enjoyed a lovely walk with ideal conditions and a good meal at the Bluebell Inn Ranskill. Many thanks to Barbara and Beryl for leading, plus Marjorie for supplying the photos that appear to more than adequately display the shared jocularly.



2018 RETFORD U3A SUMMER STROLL - BUXTON, 6TH AUGUST 2018

Come and join us for a 4.75 mile walk, a 2 mile walk or just a stroll around Buxton ,a character spa town. Seats still available either for walkers or non-walkers who fancy a nice day out in this classic spa town. If you've previously indicated a desire to travel but haven't yet paid, we'll be taking monies at next week's General Meeting. Contact Tom on 01777 710969 if you are not attending the meeting. Cost £10, payable by cheque made payable to 'Retford U3A'
Leaving from Kettlewells, Grove Street, Retford at 08.30 am, departing 4 to 4.30 pm from Buxton.

JULY "SHOWCASE" MEETING

On Thursday 26th July the regular monthly meeting will look a little different! The opportunity is being taken to "showcase" many of the group activities that happen as a result of the U3A in Retford. The doors will be open in time for people to assemble in the main hall of "The Well" as usual at 1:30pm.

The program will be as follows :-

- * Chairman's introduction and notices
- * The singing group will perform 4 short songs
- * The poetry group will perform some of their own work
- * The recorder group will perform a number of pieces
- * The creative writing group will also perform some of their own short stories
- * Back to the singing group to lead everyone in "The U3A Anthem" don't worry you all know the tune and the words will be on the screens!
- * Refreshment break and then visit the various displays/presentations in the 2 rooms upstairs and in the main hall.

It is hoped that you enjoy this opportunity to see what is going on and perhaps get interested in something else – beware the lyrics of the U3A Anthem.

AUGUST SOCIAL - PICNIC IN THE PARK

August 16th, Kings Park Retford, 12.30 pm

Most groups it seems 'take a break' and do not even have a monthly meeting. Earlier attempts to organise something (Hog Roast) were only partial successes and booking problems made this not a reliable option.

What to do?

The idea sprung up that we should organise a "none organised" event!!!

Why not suggest that (weather permitting) people just turn up in Kings Park and have a social get together and if they wish bring along their own picnic. In this way there are no costs to be recovered by the U3A and the only cost to the membership would be their own food and drink.

So for those who have asked "What food is being put on and who do we pay for it?" the answer is "none" and "no one".

What has been organised is that Bassetlaw Parks department have been approached for permission for our members to drive into the Park and park their cars so that they might

bring blankets/tables/chairs etc without having to carry them from the Town car parks. The Parks people were very open to this and so the entrance from Hospital Road will be opened for U3A members displaying their U3A badges from 12:30 onwards.

We will provide some volunteer marshals to help sort things out! All we would ask is that you take care of any litter you might create (again we hope to have some volunteers to help with this) and respect the other members of the general public that will also be using the park.

A TASTE OF SPAIN RECIPE

TORTILLA

- ◆ Medium onion, finely sliced
 - ◆ Clove of Garlic smashed and chopped
 - ◆ 1lb plus potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced
 - ◆ 4 eggs beaten
 - ◆ 2-3 tbsps chopped parsley, salt and pepper
1. In an omelette pan, slowly fry the onion and garlic in a little oil with a lid on until the onion is transparent. Remove from the pan.
 2. Meanwhile boil the potatoes in salted water for about 10 mins. Drain and cool
 3. Beat the eggs in a very large bowl with salt & pepper and add cooled potatoes
 4. Add the onion and parsley and mix gently
 5. Lightly oil the omelette pan and heat it. Pour in the egg/potato mixture and cook over a medium heat for about 10-12 minutes. Put a lid on to help cook evenly.
 6. The mixture will be slightly moist on top but the bottom will be browned. Turn the tortilla over, using the lid or a plate. Slide it back into the pan and continue to cook for about 5-6 minutes more. Turn onto a plate.
 7. When cool, keeps well in the fridge wrapped in cling or foil.

NEWSLETTER CONTACT

Design, Production & Printing - Christine Cook
Contact:- newsletters@retford-u3a.org.uk

It may not always be possible to include all articles that are submitted for publication. The editor reserves the right to edit or discount any submitted articles. As there will be no meeting in August or newsletter and as I am away some of September items for inclusion for September edition no later than 8th September. (I may have time when I am back for late inclusions)

Chris