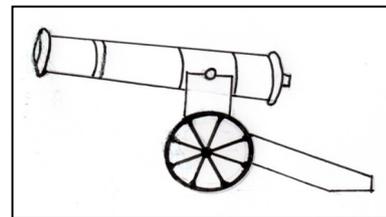




THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



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Retford U3A

Membership No. 822/801/10

www.retford-u3a.org.uk

NOT SO IDLE TIMES

Retford U3A Newsletter - JUNE 2019

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Perhaps in the midst of all this political turmoil and negative headlines we need to look for some respite or inspiration. Having said that the weather is not exactly helping! But help is at hand through your membership of a growing, thriving organisation – Retford U3A – where there's lots to get involved in helping you to foster new skills and make new friends!

We currently have 43 Interest Groups for members to get involved with but sometimes we have to suspend Groups either through lack of interest or lack of a leader, for example: Landscape & Social History, Geology and Orienteering. So if anyone has any interest in any of these or indeed has ideas for new groups please let us know. In that way we keep the organisation vibrant and current.

Don't forget either that we have a relationship with other local U3As especially Worksop, Dukeries and Ollerton where members can attend their Groups providing, of course, that they check beforehand that there is space and that they pay the appropriate attendance fee. Also there is lots of information on other U3A websites that might be useful as well as the Nottinghamshire Network of U3As and the National websites. You can find links on the Retford U3A website.

Some of you might remember that a

couple of years ago we ran a series of workshops covering subjects like Advanced Motoring, Computer Scams etc. The Committee thought it a good idea to see if there was a demand within the membership for other topics to be covered in this way. If so you might like to put a note in the Suggestion Box at the next or subsequent meetings for the Committee to consider.

Our new website manager, John Orledge, is doing a great job in tidying up the website and we will, among other things, endeavour to resurrect the Events and Trips sites so if Group Leaders or other members have anything they might feel is suitable for inclusion please let John know.

Can I also congratulate David Lee for providing us with an excellent and eclectic series of speakers at our General Meetings. There is far more to this than meets the eye and David does a lot of work behind the scenes making sure that everything runs smoothly and people turn up when they're supposed to etc. The last speaker at the May meeting, Emma Sheardown, was truly inspiring and was the first in my recollection to receive a standing ovation! My only regret was that there weren't more members there to hear it. A list of speakers for the rest of 2019 is on the website so please come along and support.

Cheers Chris

MEET THE COMMITTEE

Roy Evans - Vice Chairman

Recently elected Vice Chairman, Roy Evans, has been involved with Retford U3A for the last five years. Responsible for running both the Family History Group for four years and the Military History Group for the last three years. Roy has found being involved with both groups very fulfilling.

He can be contacted either at the monthly General Meetings or by e-mail vice-chair@retford-u3a.org.uk or 01777 702097, should you want more information on these two interest groups



NEWS FROM INTEREST GROUPS

ARCHTECTURE GROUP

On a wet Wednesday morning approx 30 people left for the Architecture Group's outing to Halifax. Fortunately the rain stopped and we arrived in Halifax in brilliant sunshine. The first destination was a visit to the Piece Hall but first we all gathered in for coffee at Blondins. We were then split into 2 groups for a very informative tour of the Piece Hall.



"The Piece Hall is a Grade I listed building in Halifax. It was built as a cloth hall for handloom weavers to sell the woollen cloth "pieces" they had produced. It opened on 1 January 1779, with 315 separate rooms arranged around a central open courtyard. The Piece Hall reopened on 1 August 2017, after a £19 million restoration project started in 2014."

After the tour we had 2 hours to wander through the floors of shops. The rooms once used to sell cloth had now been converted into individual shops. Ranging from chocolate to gin, soap to jewellery, hair dressing to music - something for everyone.



Meeting at Halifax Minster later we were again given an enlightening hour long guided tour of the minster. Tea was served too, as an added bonus! A wonderful enjoyable day out and a big thank you to the organisers.

Next outing is Wed, 24 July, to Belper, Strutt's Mill, World Heritage Site, and town. Visit Architecture group table at the general meeting.

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

A large number of members attended the June meeting despite the bad weather. We were informed and updated on the History of the Mary Rose from Kathy Powis from the Mary Rose Trust.

She brought lots of memorabilia and photographs of the new museum to the ship in Portsmouth, much of it raised through the National Lottery and donations. Kathy was also an advocate for Portsmouth as a holiday destination due to its historical and naval background including the city's modern aspects.

During question time, one of our members explained that the large yellow framework which surrounded and supported the ship during the raising and continues to support it in the museum was made by Jenkins, a well known Retford company. This was a fact Kathy was unaware of.

In July we look forward to Sam Glasswell coming to show us Retford Museums collection of The Autochromes of Stephen Pegler a Retford man who produced early colour photographs.

In August, David Skillen talks about The American Civil War and in September Ann Hickman will inform about The Royal British Legion.

We look forward to seeing you.

All are welcome

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.

Items for inclusion in the July edition can be sent in any time but no later than Friday 19th July

NEWS FROM INTEREST GROUPS

FUN WITH FLOWERS GROUP

This month we used an oasis foam ring, cut in half. Then used small flowers and foliage and displayed the two halves as a lazy 's'. Alternatively some used one half of the ring for the flowers, and completed the ring with trailing foliage and medilino sticks.



KNIT AND NATTER GROUP



On 22nd May members of Knit and Natter group visited Doncaster Royal Infirmary premature baby unit with blankets and hats knitted by the group which were very gratefully received.

Marjorie

NEW GROUP

A new beginners recorder group is starting in Worksop. NO PREVIOUS MUSICAL EXPERIENCE will be necessary. You do not need to be able to read music, and a selection of instruments (descant, treble & tenor) will be available to newcomers to try before buying their own. All music will be provided - most written especially for this group, it will be EASY but rewarding. Players may move on to more advanced groups in both Worksop and Retford, but only if they wish to.

The group will meet for the first time on Wednesday, 19th June, at Crown Place Community Centre, Worksop. The car park for the Centre is off Trent Street, sat nav code S80 1TB. The group will meet every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, each session will last for 1 hour, between 10.30-11.30 am. Don't worry if you can't make the first (or any other) meeting - it'll take a few meetings to get things underway. The cost will be £1 per session, to cover the cost of the hire of the hall and any other incidental expenses.

For more info. please contact the co-ordinator, Catherine Williams
email: c.williams@sheffield.ac.uk

WORKSOP U3A CINEMA GROUP

The film showing to all U3A members on Thursday July 11th is YESTERDAY
Venue: The Savoy Cinema Worksop Time: Showing 14.00

A 2019 British musical fantasy comedy film. Jack Malik is a struggling singer-songwriter in an English seaside town whose dreams of fame are rapidly fading, despite the fierce devotion and support of his childhood best friend, Ellie. After a freak bus accident during a mysterious global blackout, Jack wakes up to discover that The Beatles have never existed. Performing songs by the greatest band in history to a world that has never heard them, Jack becomes an overnight sensation with a little help from his agent.

Price £4 pp with complimentary tea/coffee.
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.



Month	Speaker	Subject
June 27th	Roger Brown	History of Jazz
July 25th	Linda Hamilton NHS	Screening Services
August	TBA	TBA
September 26th	David Bell	The Plague Doctor - Eyam
October 24th	Philip Caine	From Barrow to Baghdad
November 28th	Tony Barber	Social History of the St Leger
December TBA	Steelspantastics	Steel Band

WEBMASTER TIPS

Computers and The Internet – How To Enjoy and Stay Safe

There is no doubt whatsoever that computers have totally changed the way we live and have had a major impact on all our lives. From simple tasks like writing letters to more complicated tasks like putting spacecraft into orbit, computers are everywhere.

Similarly, the Internet has opened up the world to millions of people. Tasks like ordering your shopping, reading the news, keeping in touch with family and friends, checking the latest share prices and finding information are all available to those with a computer and an internet connection. And, of course, Retford U3A uses the internet and emails more and more in an attempt to communicate with our members.

But, of course, we all know that for all the advantages of the above, there has to be a downside. And that is usually in the form of people who do their utmost to spoil things for other people. And in the computer world, that usually means viruses.

Viruses are pieces of software that are designed to do harm to your computer, anything from removing all your files to locking your computer for ransom.

So how can you stay safe? The best way is to install anti-virus software on your computer; there are lots of free and paid-for versions available. But the problem with the free ones is that they do not usually scan for viruses in 'real-time', that is, as you are using your computer. So, if you are using the free versions of anti-virus software, it is strongly recommended that you run a complete scan of your computer at least once a month to detect and remove any viruses from your computer.

The reason for the above is certainly not to put you off using your computer and the Internet but merely to make you more aware of the possible pitfalls of using them.

John Orledge
Retford U3A webmaster



MILITARY HISTORY

Outing to East Kirkby on July 11th. We now have 43 confirmed places who have booked and paid. The bus is a 48 seater, so if you have been thinking about going and are worried there may not be places, please think again, and let me know if you want to go. I shall be at general meeting on Thursday. We meet at Kettlewell's yard at approx 8.15 and intend leaving around 8.40, arriving at East Kirkby around 10.15. The Lancaster will be taxiing twice, at 11.00 am and 13.30 pm. I suggest we leave East Kirby around 15.30, arriving back at Retford around 17.00.

May 'Field Trip' 2020 is to be to Belgium, staying at Ypres. We will be restricted on the number of rooms we have available and have 27 people who want to go on this trip. There are only 5 twin rooms left. The basic cost of the trip is £370 pp if you are sharing a twin room. We only have one double room left, and all the single rooms have now gone. We will be going on three excursions, and the cost of those will be around £25, so the final cost will be £395 per person for the five days.

The itinerary will be displayed at the general meeting, and if there is a cemetery you would like to visit or would like us to place a 'Poppy Cross' on your behalf if you can't go, please let me know.

If you are interested in Belgium, give me a ring, or drop me an e-mail and I'll get back to you.

vice-chair@retford-u3a.org.uk or 01777 702097 **Roy**

WALKING GROUPS

Strollers	Jean Winder 01777 817777
Email	walking-strollers@retford-u3a.org.uk
Next walk	Tues 16th July, meeting in Thoresby courtyard at 10.30. lunch at Bay Tree Restaurant
Moderates	David Richardson 01427 891500
Email	walking-moderate@retford-u3a.org.uk
Next walk	Mon 1st July, start time 10.00am
Meeting at the Red Hart, Church Street, Misterton, DN10 4AH. Toilet facilities available before start. Food after the walk at the Red Hart.	
Striders	Contact Tom Bell 01777 710969 or Geoff Marsh 01777 702634
Email	walking-striders@retford-u3a.org.uk
Next walk	Mon 15th July. Location to be decided.

Why not join us on our annual **Summer Stroll** on Aug 5th, this year to Haworth, linked with 'The Railway Children' film. We'll be taking bookings at the General Meeting. Preferable payment is via cheque made out to Retford U3A.

For those interested, a showing of 'The Railway Children' will be on Monday, 22nd July at 6.30 pm at The Well, £1.50 per person to go towards the cost of hiring the room.