



Hucknall

NEWSLETTER

Issue September 2009

Web Address : www.hucknallu3a.org.uk

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Message from our Chairman (Richard White).

Welcome to our September meeting, and a special welcome to visitors and new members. Just a short update on membership. With existing and new members we now stand at 198.

On Friday 14th August 31 U3A members and 9 Rotarians visited Glasgow and The Edinburgh Tattoo. Fortunately the weather improved as we arrived in Edinburgh and remained pleasant though windy for the Tattoo. An enjoyable experience for us all. Forging new friendships, and renewing old ones was the order of the day. The friendship and fellowship we all shared made for a memorable and unforgettable occasion.

The proposed cruise to The Baltic next year has at present attracted interest from 45 U3A members their family and friends. I am at present negotiating with 4

travel companies to obtain the best deal. The proposed date was 1st to 15th August. I am now aware that the same itinerary is available at a reduced price in May, 9th to 23rd. I will price both, then we will have a choice as to which date we would wish to travel.

Seven cars full of U3A members had a most interesting and at times thought provoking but enjoyable experience when we all entered into the challenge set by Mary and Graham Reeson on Sunday 24th August, our first U3A Car Treasure Hunt leaving Hucknall market place at 2pm arriving 2 hours 45 minutes later at Rolls Royce Hucknall to clock in. The winners were our very own Vice Chair John Ellis and his good lady Viv. We all shared good friendship and fellowship, plus a little rivalry, but our thanks for this most enjoyable adventure must go to Mary and Graham. We all look forward to future events with anticipation, and I hope more members take up the challenge and share what I would hope to be at least an annual occasion. If any members know of a

speaker who would be enjoyed by our U3A, please speak with Dorrie Kirton, and we will see if they are available to attend future meetings. We your committee are there for you the members.

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I may not be in attendance at our September meeting as I will hopefully have had a much needed hip replacement. I hope to be out of hospital the day before the meeting, and if I can possibly attend, I will do so. Your Vice Chairman John Ellis will be taking the meeting. Please give John the support you have always given me.

Ashfield District Council – Christmas Party Grant

It is with much pleasure that we can announce that we have received a grant from the Members Community Support Scheme (via Councillor Gordon Riley) of £300 towards the cost of purchasing a new projector, which will give us added value and improve our services to the Interest Groups.

Future Speakers

9th September – Peter Sherlock – Children of Chenoble.
14th October – Danny Wells – Cooks Tours.
11th November – Maureen Rushton - Stars of the Silver Screen.
12 January – Hillary Ward – Clockwise Round the Cape.
10 February – Robin Cousins – Occupation, What's my Line.
10 March – Pam Wisher – Messing about on the River.

Dates of Meetings

The U3A usually meet on the second Wednesday in the month but watch this space for any changes.

Dates for 2009

9 September, 14 October, 11 November, 9 December.

Dates for 2010

13 January, 10 February, 10 March, 14 April, 12 May, 9 June, 14 July, 11 August, 8 September, 13 October, 10 November,

Our first Christmas party held in December 2008 was considered a success and we hope to make our 2009 Christmas party even better.

As a one off we have decided to change the venue from Central Methodist to the Liberal Club on West Street in Hucknall. For those who are not familiar with the Liberal Club it is a short distance from the Market Place off South Street. It will be held on our regular Wednesday 9 December but a little earlier to incorporate lunch. We are making arrangements to have hot drinks available but the bar will be open for other refreshments.

We are planning to have some entertainment after lunch including carols with the Salvations Army.

We will be making an announcement at the September meeting and asking members to put their names down for the party.

News from the Interest Groups.

Walking Group A

September's walk was a circular walk in an attractive area of unspoilt villages, secluded rivers and woodland starting from Boughton pumping station. 21 members strolled across Boughton Brake, through Walesby Forest to the junction of the rivers Meden and Maun and then on to the

village of Bothamsall. After a lunch stop beside Bevercotes Beck an abundance of blackberries proved too much for many members and they had to be collected before a brief walk into Walesby village and a swift half in the Carpenter's Arms.



On leaving the pub the ladies spotted a house with a table outside advertising apples and plums for sale, £1 a bag, and managed to buy the entire stock. Going to be a lot of pies and crumbles around next week. Only one mile to stagger back to the car park under the constraint of beer and fruit.

Yet again, despite a forecast of rain, the walk was completed in fine weather, the rain starting about 5 minutes after we were all in the cars. Must be doing something right.



History Group

Please note that the new venue for the History Group meetings is The Scout Hut at the back of the Church Hall and the meetings will commence at 2.00 pm.

Wednesday 16 September : Shopping. What are your memories of shopping? Where did you shop? What products were available? Were you a shop assistant? Did any of your ancestors own a shop?

Wednesday 21 October : Nottinghamshire Church of England Project and Church Records.

National Trust Group

Our second visit was just as successful as the first. We visited two National Trust properties: Little Morton Hall and Biddulph Grange Gardens. A short shower didn't spoil the day at all and judging from the positive feedback of those who went everyone enjoyed looking round the stunning gardens and quirky Tudor house complete with moat.

Our next visit on 25 September is to the grand Nostel Priory famed for the Adam interiors and fine collection of Chippendale furniture and not forgetting the landscaped park and gardens.

Also in September, Sunday the 13th, we have a car sharing visit to Kedleston Hall. If you are interested in offering a lift to others or in having a lift please contact

Sue Spolton for further details. We are hoping to see the 'Hollywood display' featuring the costumes of Keira Knightley who starred in 'The Duchess'. If you are not a National Trust member there will be an entrance fee of £8.18.

In October we will be visiting two properties: Baddesley Clinton and Packwood House near Solihull. This trip is also fully booked but I am collecting names for the waiting list should anyone drop out.

If anyone is interested in joining the group contact the co-ordinator by phone or email. You may like to join our emailing list to find out about future events.

Sue Spolton
nationaltrust@topmarks.co.uk
Tel: 0115 9553863

Water Colour Painting Workshop

The Watercolour Group has just had its first meeting after the summer recess and started a new 'Watercolour Workshop'.

For our current members and anyone interested in joining the group, we usually meet on the first Monday of the month at Titchfield Court, Orchard Street, Hucknall at 1 pm.

The dates for the remainder of this year are as follows:

Monday 5 October 2009
Monday 2 November 2009
Monday 7 December 2009

If you are interested and

would like to join in, please phone Rose Ridley on 0115 952 9898

French Conversation

The next meeting for the French Conversation Group is on Tuesday 15th September 10am to 12 o'clock. Please note we will now be meeting in The Scout Hut at the rear of The John Godber Centre, Ogle Street, Hucknall. There is ample parking in the John Godber car park. Everyone welcome, if you would like to join us, please contact Dianne White on 0115 9631307.

Lunch Group

Twenty-nine members went cruising on the River Trent on 26th August. Although the weather was not good it was to our advantage as the interior of the Nottingham Princess Riverboat was very warm and so we welcomed the odd spot of rain as we stood on the upper deck. We had an excellent meal on board with unlimited coffee to follow, whilst we watched the riverbanks drift by. The route from the Park Yacht Club at Colwick took us as far upstream as Wilford Church (which we were told was 14th century) then we turned round and went downstream as far as Holme Pierrepont. On the way it was refreshing to see the undeveloped countryside and riverbanks which housed many types of bird life.

There was a party from the Nottingham Kidney Patients Association on the lower deck, with an overspill of

eight of their members joining us on the upper deck. During the cruise the U3A ran a light-hearted quiz which was won by Albert Briggs and the KPA ran a raffle which raised well over £100. There was a very jovial atmosphere and after a three hour cruise we disembarked to re-discover our sea legs and travel home. We plan to have a Christmas Cruise in 2010 (this year's Christmas event is already booked at the Nottingham Playhouse and Cast Restaurant).

In September we go to The Lakeside for lunch and in October to Rumbles, the catering college in Sutton in Ashfield where the students prepare and serve the meals. November will see us "at home" at The Griffin's Head at Papplewick so if you are interested in joining us please put your name down at the next U3A meeting or contact Sandra Green on 0115 8408132 or email sandra.green80@ntlworld.com.

Diabetes Support Group

Due to the summer holidays and other events, this group has not met in August or September but hopes to meet again on 6th October to catch up and re-motivate ourselves for the winter. For further details check the noticeboard at the next U3A meeting.

Hucknall Reading Group

This meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 2-4 pm and the next

date will be 7th October when we will hopefully have read "The Year of Wonders" by Geraldine Brooks (the story of the Plague village at Eyam in Derbyshire) and "Missing You Already" by Pauline McLynn (an emotional story around the subject of Alzheimers – sound depressing but the reviews say it "questions the importance of life and the way we must all live". Any suggestions for a book you can recommend? Contact Sandra Green (0115 8408132).

Whist Group (evening)

From October 2009 the group will meet twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. Meetings are at the Rolls Royce Social Club starting at 7.15 pm.

Square Dancing

We now have 8 members interested in learning to square dance should anyone else wish to join us you will be very welcome. We meet on Monday evenings at the Mapperley Community Centre, 8pm to 10.15pm any one interested please contact John Ellis on 01623 620743.

Pot Luck



The photograph is of 6 Pot Luck members with BBC East Midlands Today weather presenter Des Coleman on 'the beach' in Nottingham's Market Square during the Nottingham Big Night Out. The Group enjoyed the beach, music, magic tricks and a meal in Weatherspoons. A most enjoyable time was had by all.

Reminder to Co-ordinators

Please ensure that all persons attending your Groups are members of the U3A. If a none member is injured whilst undertaking a Group event etc. they will not be covered by our insurance policy and it may invalidate our cover as well.

Forthcoming Attractions

MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

10 Sept. 2009 at Rolls Royce Social Club, this event will start at 7.30pm prompt so please be there in good time, doors open at 7pm

ASHFIELD U3A RACE NIGHT

Saturday 10 Oct. 2009
7pm for 7.30pm start
Ashwood Centre Kirkby In Ashfield (Near Community Hospital)
£5 incl. buffet

You don't need any money, monopoly money supplied
Bring your own drinks
Contact Barrie Jackson for tickets tel. 01623 750466.



