

KEYWORD & DISTRICT



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



NEWSLETTER No 10: June 2011

For your own safety and that of others, please note the following safety guidance, which is also displayed at Open Meetings. Thank you



FIRE PROCEDURE Open Meetings

Keyworth Methodist Church

Nominated Stewards:

In the event of a fire evacuation, nominated Stewards who are Committee Members will assist in evacuation of the premises in order to ensure safe exit of all members from the Church and Hall.

Fire Evacuation Procedure:

- 1) If you hear a whistle and a call, please leave the building quickly and safely.
- 2) Please follow any instructions given by the Stewards, who will direct you to the nearest exit.
- 3) Please keep moving, and do not stop in the aisles, foyer, on the steps or on the pavement.
- 4) Please do not go back for personal belongings, because this could impede evacuation, and put yourself or other people at risk.
- 5) Please do not seek to help less mobile members unless you have been asked to do so by one of the Stewards, since this could interrupt the process of people making a safe exit.
- 6) Please make your way to **the Assembly Point, in the Plough Inn Car Park**, which is 25 metres to the right of the Church and Hall.

Fire Precautions:

- 1) **Fire Extinguishers** are located in the Hall, Kitchen and Church.
- 2) **Fire Exits** – In addition to the main Church Entrance, there are three other highlighted exits from the building:
 - a) Directly out of the Hall via the west side door.
 - b) Via the small rear room 2 (The door has key and bolts).
 - c) Via the Vestry, when a key holder is present.

DIARY DATES - OPEN MEETINGS 2011

All Open Meetings are held at The Methodist Church, Selby Lane, Keyworth, from 2pm. Take the opportunity to read the notice boards regarding future U3A events and natter with friends.

Tea, coffee and biscuits are available. Please note that no food or drink is allowed in the Church itself, and care must be taken when moving furniture in Church. Thank you.

28 th June	Albert Ball VC, WW1 Aviator	Brian Fernley
26 th July	The Black Death: Bubonic Plague?	Dr Kinsey Dart
23 rd Aug	Growing Old – disgracefully	Pam Wisher
16 th -19 th Sept National Conference and AGM East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham University		
27 th Sept	Readings from Shakespeare	John Cox
25 th Oct	BBC East Midlands Today	Carol Hinds
22 nd Nov	A Drop in the Ocean	Dr Stephanie Henson
20 th Dec	Christmas: True Victorian Style	Jo Carter

Front cover image: *A Summer Garden - Sheila Kingdom*

Back cover image: *Keyworth & District U3A Committee 2011*



Keyworth & District U3A is a registered charity no. 1138354.

www.keyworthu3a.org.uk



LOTTERY FUNDED

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

It is difficult to know where to begin and more importantly, where to stop!

At the time of writing it is just one month since the AGM and election of the new committee and I am pleased to report that there has been a seamless transition. Our thanks must go out to the retiring committee for the establishment, over two years, of a thriving U3A with nearly 400 members. Our thanks go to Barry Hull, who as Chairman guided us through the formative years; to Barbara Wallace who, as Vice Chairman, Interest Groups Coordinator and New Horizons Leader has seen the formation of over 30 groups and given us many enjoyable outings and functions. John has also been Secretary for 12 months, taking over from Valerie Petef who did a lot of the weighty work in formulating the Constitution and registration with bodies like the Third Age Trust, HMRC etc., Jackie Fisher, as Treasurer, set up bank accounts, masterminded the successful application for Grant Aid from the Lottery and has left our accounts in a healthy state, whilst Howard has edited the Newsletter from the start and has set a very high standard. In addition to which he was also Membership Secretary.
THANK YOU ALL.

To the Future – I hope that more members will become involved in attending Interest Groups and Open Meetings. If there is nothing of interest to you - LET US KNOW. If you feel isolated - LET US KNOW. How about sharing your interests by starting a new group? Contact Sue O'Donoghue.

I urge you to make use of our excellent website www.keyworthu3a.org.uk which is kept bang up to date, with full information on events, dates and times and contact details etc.,etc. Those who attended the May Open Meeting will know that we have extended the Hall/Church booking until 5pm to enable you to further explore new Interest Groups and purchase vouchers for New Horizon events.

Finally (phew), we have a vacancy on the committee for a Speaker Finder for Open Meetings. It is not onerous and we have plenty of contacts in the pipeline, with the programme for this year already filled. I hope that this has not been too painful for you and promise to be briefer in future. Enjoy your U3A.

Ken Doyle

p.s. Meet your new Committee..... see page 6

2nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 26th April 2011

Apologies were received from Barry Hull. Chaired by Ken Doyle, the members of the leaving committee were thanked for their work in establishing this successful U3A.

Current membership stands at over 350: it was proposed that membership of this group is capped at 400, after which a waiting list will be established; members renewing will be honoured, the cut off date 1st June 2011. The Chairman promised the Committee would maintain vigilance about the possible effects of capping membership from experience elsewhere.

John Fallon was thanked for his support in account keeping, and for his continued support. The accounts were accepted; there will be no increase in subscription next year.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2011-12

Chair	Ken Doyle	0115 974 3612
Vice-Chair	Roy Turnbull	0115 937 3561
Secretary	Lorraine Donovan	0115 937 2804
Treasurer	Roy Turnbull	0115 937 3561
Groups Co-ordinator	Sue O'Donoghue	0115 937 2989
Membership Secretary	Lesley Dittmer	0115 937 2766
Programme Manager	Ken Doyle	0115 974 3612
Publicity Officer	Jean Ainscough	0115 937 3419
Newsletter Editor	Sheila Kingdom	0115 937 3068
Website Co-ordinator	Peter Edge	0115 937 2437
	Keith Barton	0115 937 3068
Committee Members	Barry Hull	01949 81598
	Jackie Mullins	0115 937 6176
	Kath Oakley	0115 937 4296

After the business part of the meeting was concluded, Mel Matthews gave an interesting and amusing talk on "The British Post Box", report p9.

Meet your new Committee

Officers

Chairman: Ken Doyle (previously Programme Manager): Born Dublin and previously lived on Merseyside. Married to Sylvia with two sons, a grandson and three granddaughters. Retired Telecommunications Account Executive. Interests include walking, golf, badminton, sailing, motor racing.

Vice-Chairman, Treasurer: Roy Turnbull: Born Bury, Lancashire, where I lived and worked in the area prior to relocating to Keyworth in 1969. Married to Frances with two children and four grandchildren. Retired Company Secretary/Accountant. Interests include walking, cycling and caravanning.

Secretary: Lorraine Donovan: I took early retirement in 2000 after working for IBM for 33 years: Marketing Events Co-ordinator, and latterly Building and Office Services Manager. Since retirement the Ramblers Association has been my biggest love, walking many miles every week with our local group: on the committee, I produce two Walk programmes each year, providing Rushcliffe Ramblers with at least 60 walks every year. I also love travel, reading, music and the theatre. K&DU3A is now also very important to me, opening up many more exciting interests and opportunities.

Committee Members with responsibilities:

Groups Co-ordinator: Sue O'Donohue: Working history was in housing development for Anchor Trust, a social housing association working with older people. Retired three years ago. A resident of Keyworth for fifteen years, and previously of Willoughby-on-the-Wolds. My role is to support groups and identify additional opportunities as well as acting as liaison for New Horizons.

Membership Secretary: Lesley Dittmer: Born in Leeds; married to Brian with two sons; have lived in Keyworth for 39 years; retired Tracking & Assessment Co-ordinator at Nottingham Trent University. Enjoy walking, photography, gardening and travel at home and abroad.

Publicity Officer: Jean Ainscough: Keyworth resident since 1966. My claim to fame is that I am married to Roy and we have four children (all living locally) and five grandchildren. I fill my time with - cooking, reading, theatre, aquafit exercise, learning to play the ukulele and helping out at the school of one of my grandchildren.

Newsletter Editor: Sheila Kingdom: Born in West Bridgford, lived in Keyworth 1960s. After Loughborough Art College and a spell on the Wirral, returned to Nottingham 1974. Previously Clinical Manager of specialist residential service in northwest, returned to Keyworth 4 years ago. Now part-time, self employed trainer after 30 years nursing in various forms. Parish Councillor. Interests: neurology, LD, the built environment, local & social history, drawing, crafts and textiles, gardening.

Website Manager: Peter Edge: Originally from Manchester, I came to Nottingham to work in IT department at Boots and moved to Keyworth in 1976. My wife Jean is from North Wales and we have two sons, Paul and Andrew who are now living in Lisbon and London. Interests include technology, travel, gardens, architecture, bridge, golf, badminton.

General Committee Members:

Jackie Mullins: Born Surrey, lived all over including New Zealand, now Keyworth. Many strings to her bow: mother of 4, grandmother of 12 who are busy producing and now great grandmother of 4. Interests: lots, and always willing to delve into something new.

Kath Oakley: Amongst other things I teach food and wine and enjoy both. A Parish Councillor, I also enjoy Keyworth U3A, which has given so much pleasure to so many folk and it is an immense asset to our village.

Keith Barton: Retired 1990 but has never stopped being a teacher. Lived in Keyworth since 1960, Parish Councillor for many years... Life-long passion for architecture and archaeology.

Barry Hull: Prof. Barry Hull, B.Eng, M.Met, PhD, C.Eng, FIMechE – Professor Emeritus. Background in Materials Engineering; was Dean of Engineering and Computing at NTU. I hold both an Established Chair and a Personal Chair from different universities. Founding Chairman of K&DU3A, co-opted member. My interests: films, music, computing, medieval history and wargames.

Vacancy:

A Speaker Finder is needed! Volunteers please!

No previous experience necessary! For more information, please talk to Ken Doyle (previous Programme Manager/Speaker-Finder).

Open Meeting 22nd March “So you think you don’t like Opera?”

Barry Hull welcomed Trevor Impey, who began his talk with 25 ten second snippets of music and asked us if we recognised them. The audience recognised tenors, sopranos, choruses, theme tunes, tunes associated with film, and for some, specifically Saturday morning cinema visits, even in black and white.

Trevor explained how he was “knocked out” by hearing Maria Callas sing on the radio in his formative years, and after hearing Aida, he was “hooked”, widening his appreciation of music to include an eclectic mix of music, (some of which would not be considered to be created as opera) including Scott Joplin, Gershwin, Patrick Moore. Explaining that Opera is defined as “a form of dramatic art in which music plays a predominant part”, and a work – opus - generally has a theme, our preconceptions were challenged by gently exploring typical prejudices by recognising that music plays an important part in the lives of people all over the world, is presented to us in many ways, of which opera is often not clearly distinct from more popular musical forms; is often derived from respected novels and writers and is both classic (beginning in the late C16th) and contemporary, setting scenes, painting pictures and creating powerful emotions, both on and off the stage, across the whole emotional scale.

In order to “give it a go”, it was suggested that the opera virgin

- ✓ Choose a work with “big tunes” such as Carmen, Fauste, La Boheme....but don’t sit waiting for the familiar tune; absorb the dramatic and musical effects created by the venue, sets, costume, characterisation, orchestration
- ✓ Become familiar with the story and become involved
- ✓ Sit in the balcony or higher, rather than the stalls (opera is spectacular)
- ✓ Invite a knowledgeable opera loving friend along
- ✓ Try three before deciding; it is probably best to avoid Wagner’s Ring at an early stage.
- ✓ Recognise that the cost is comparable with that of a football match
- ✓ Most importantly, listen with your heart

The vote of thanks was given by Ken Doyle.



Open Meeting 26th April The British Pillar Box Mel Matthews

A philatelist for 40 years, and with a 50 year interest in pillar boxes, Mel gave a humorous and informative, illustrated talk about pillar boxes, which could be said to have originated in the early C16th. In Florence Cathedral, the Duomo, a box was provided for people to write to their priest, denouncing their neighbours...In the C17th, captains of ships passing through the Cape of Good Hope would leave messages to be collected by those travelling in the opposite direction; now in Cape Town Museum, Cape Stones (with five or six languages inscribed on them) record the first sort of postal system.

In 1635, a postal system began from Dublin to London. The cost was based on distance travelled and the number of sheets involved, and was paid by the recipient, the outside being marked as paid. Copies of several documents were shown, including one dated 22nd June 1669, costing 6d: Ireland to North Wales leg of the journey cost 1d, another 1d to pay for transport across the Menai Bridge) was the first of several such documents shown.

All mail was directed through London: in 1674 it cost 2d to send from Henley to London. The price of mail was increased and the prefix "Royal" attached (there were wars to pay for). A letter travelling between 60-100 miles cost 6d. Increased demand required a more reliable service: early users included lawyers, clergymen, and parliamentarians (MPs had free postage).

In 1680 the forerunners to post offices were established and Bellmen charged 1/2d to take correspondence to the Receiving House. The idea of having boxes was initially tried in Paris in 1635, a further attempt was more successful in 1778 when six boxes were installed, the system was extended to provincial towns and villages in France (funded locally), in 1829.

Early British post boxes still exist throughout the UK: a William IV example (Baldock, Herts 1850) was reused later by being reversed and marked VR.

As the demand for a postal service increased, reform was needed: in late 1839, a uniform 1d anywhere and up to 1/2oz weight proposed: the government imposed a 4d uniform charge (in Scotland an additional 1/2d charge was made, dependent on the number of wheels of the vehicle transporting the letter). Marks in red denoted that the postage was paid, and in black, that the cost was to be collected by the postman.

On 10th January 1840 the first 1p post marked envelope was produced (the recipient paid 2d); four months later pre-paid letter sheets were available for 1¼d (to include the post and the stationary, rather like our present aerograms): but the design was lampooned. Roland Hill devised the adhesive stamp: the pre-payment 1d black appeared on 6th May 1840, and was changed to red the following year.

Anthony Trollope was not only an author but also a Post Office Surveyor, he had seen the boxes in France and introduced seven in the Channel Islands, the first in the UK. The original style was a six-sided box painted maroon (green was used originally on the mainland). Regional variations (locally made, unique examples) were produced and no expense spared. In Western Region, John Butt (Glos) designed an 8 sided box (1853-56), in Birmingham, the giant fluted Smith & Hawkes Eagle Foundry produced designs by Edge in 1855: 3 prototypes were made, but the unacceptable design was revised and appeared in 1856 (Eton, Muddiford, Warwick, Birkenhead, now listed. They are repainted every 3 years).

The original vertical aperture was changed to a horizontal one, and several variations can be seen, still in use, around the country: Derby District (East Area) adopted a design by Handyside, to be seen in the Museum of Lincolnshire Life. Early boxes had information about the tariff, times of collection and distance from the nearest Receiving House in miles, furlongs and yards.

The size and capacity of post boxes evolved over time as demand for a postal service increased and production costs fell, (due to the increased availability of coal and iron) in the late 1850s. A standard plain box was required and by 1866 there were three sizes, with five alterations in the design ("Penfold"). The colour changed in the UK from green to red in 1874 (initially the 10 boxes in London were repainted; it took 10 years to change throughout the UK). In Ireland they are green; In Guernsey, blue; in Jersey, and throughout the Commonwealth, red. The Royal cypher and the words Post Office were reintroduced (1883) after an absence since 1879 ("Anonymous") and the cylindrical Victorian post box we all recognise appeared, though there are some variations (e.g. the one at Chelsea Hospital has 2 slots); wall boxes (1859) saved space, particularly in rural settings; the increase in mail in the capital led to the elliptical double width box in Cheapside, London (1899).

Not much has changed in the last 100 years, though supermarket post boxes are fibreglass. Postmasters may still order the “Penfold” model. All are numbered in order to identify them, and some are dated (Tollerton).

The vote of thanks was given by Tony Robinson.

The first meeting of the new Committee followed the Open Meeting.



Open Meeting 24th May The Restoration of Wollaton Hall

Ron Inglis, (Senior Manager, Museums and Galleries, Nottingham City Council) outlined the work undertaken with £9m financial support from Heritage Lottery, other project partners including the EMDA, with a fascinating and well illustrated presentation of this two year project.

A spectacular Elizabethan mansion in the heart of Nottingham, Wollaton Hall It is a prominent Grade One Listed building, designed by Robert Smythson (whose memorial is to be seen in nearby St Leonard’s Church), built by Sir Francis Willoughby between 1580 and 1588 for his family. Now a prominent Grade One listed building, the stunning Hall houses the city's Natural History Museum along with reconstructed room settings.

The building (in the English Renaissance style, its central tower and flanking turrets) is considered to be a masterpiece. Repaired and remodelled in 1801 by Sir Jeffery Wyattville and later occupied by the Middletons, the interior of the building is as attractive as its exterior.

A thorough appraisal of the building revealed necessary structural work, often required as a result of earlier insensitive and inappropriate repairs.

It was an opportunity, (if not a necessity on the grounds of health and safety) to examine high level structures, stonework, statuary, plasterwork, decorative work, and the plumbing; also to restore and re-arrange the Prospect Room (closed since the 1950s), Lady Middleton’s Salon, the Dining Room, Camellia House (the earliest example of a cast iron building, reputedly studied by Paxton before he built the Crystal Palace) and the Stable Block (built 1743). In the process, several historical features “buried” by earlier restoration emerged, and have been revealed and enhanced in order to present the building to the public in an accessible and interactive way: not only was the fabric of the building reviewed, but the

whole visitor experience: the restoration of much-loved natural history exhibits, and their relocation in more appropriate and accessible settings, the careful consideration of period-appropriate decoration and the installation of a lift.

Restoration involved the replacement of rotting pipework, damaged woodwork and plasterwork and degraded stonework fabric with specialist materials in order to safeguard the building and its contents for the future. Remaining monies will be used for CCTV in the Park, and work to the Industrial Museum and Stable Block will improve facilities. Reflecting the local heritage of coal, lace, transport, industry and commerce, working with local areas of expertise (the Costume Museum, Trent University, Transport Heritage, Ruddington Framework Knitter's Museum) to enhance the existing displays to provide a comprehensive appreciation of the aesthetic, mechanical and technical history of the city and county, including its role during WW2: the US 508 Parachute Regiment used the building during 1943-44. The discovery of a reconnaissance photograph taken by the Luftwaffe which prompted an excavation, sadly did not reveal sufficient personal artefacts.

The 500 acres of Deer Park, gardens and lake, continue to be managed to conserve the wildlife, and at the same time to be accessible to visitors.



The vote of thanks was given by Ken Doyle.

NEW HORIZONS NEW HORIZONS NEW HORIZONS

Please note that all vouchers will be sold on a 'first come first served' basis.

JULY Thursday 21st: RHS Garden Show, Tatton Park.

(£34 per head) includes transport by hired coach and entrance fee. Coach leaving Village Hall car park at 8am, will be leaving Tatton Park 4pm, return at about 6.30pm. **ONLY A FEW PLACES REMAINING** Vouchers on sale: You may pay by cheque written to 'Mrs J Fisher', 0115 937 2898

AUGUST Monday 15th: Trent River Cruise. SOLD OUT

Bus (leaving Village Hall car park at 11.30am) will carry 16, with everyone else travelling "car share".

SEPTEMBER Thursday 8th: Barnsdale Gardens. Rutland.

Cost £16.50 which includes travel by bus and entry. Vouchers will be on sale at the JUNE open meeting. Lorraine 0115 937 2804

OCTOBER Thursday 6th: Galleries of Justice, Nottingham.

Cost £7 and includes entry plus tour. Travel by public transport, to arrive at venue by 11.00am. Tour lasts approximately 1½hrs. Vouchers will be on sale at the AUGUST open meeting. Kath 0115 937 4296

NOVEMBER Thursday 17th: Taylor's Bell Foundry, Loughborough.

Depart Village Hall car park 12.45pm in order to arrive at the foundry by 1.30pm. Cost £9 includes entry, guided tour and a contribution to the cost of petrol: we will be travelling by car share. Vouchers will be on sale at the AUGUST open meeting. Fran 0115 937 3561

DECEMBER Wednesday 14th: The Christmas Party!

£4.50. Vouchers for this popular event will be available at the OCTOBER open meeting. Contributions of food and offers of help will be welcome.

DRIVERS NEEDED!

If you are under 70 (or over 70 and have retained your D1 entitlement) with a clean driving licence and would be willing to be available occasionally as a mini-bus driver, please contact the Groups Co-ordinator, Sue O'Donoghue 0115 937 2989

If you have any suggestions for other outings and events you might like to see on the list, please contact any of the above members. You can access an up to date copy of this list on www.Keyworthu3a.org.uk.

NEW HORIZONS NEW HORIZONS NEW HORIZONS

THANK YOU:

Keyworth & District U3A are indebted to BGS for allowing their accommodation to be used for computer groups, both for their tutorials and storage of laptops.

Many members have been able to master the hitherto complex world of the computer in comfortable, appropriate “working conditions” ‘the committee feels that thanks are long overdue.

We are sure you will all join us in expressing our gratitude to such a large organisation that is seen as an integral part of the local community.



THIS IS U3A - A CELEBRATION

You are the U3A and the reason for the celebration!

The National Conference and AGM to be held at Nottingham University in September, will be reported on in a future issue...

THEATRE GROUP

A Saturday matinee in March - a number of us visited the Lace Market Theatre in Nottingham, a treat in itself, to see *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* by Muriel Spark. I for one had completely forgotten the story line – and was reminded of it in a very enjoyable fashion. The cast is made up of amateur performers but they excelled themselves in this production. We all enjoyed it immensely.

Three of us went to The Playhouse in April to see *Oedipus* adapted by Steven Berkoff. The set looked like the Last Supper (to me, anyway) and there the actors remained for the most part, seated around the table telling the story and somehow conveying it to all of us. At the beginning I thought that I would never get the hang of it but it got better and better; a very enjoyable evening at the theatre. We had an adventure afterwards too but that is not relevant to this resumé.

Sue Manley

CRAFT GROUP – WEAVING

creativity, conversation, reflection.....



U3A DIARIES 2012 ONLY £2.00

will be available at the August Open Meeting:

bright red cover, notes page, a page marker and perforated page markers

KEYWORTH & DISTRICT U3A GROUPS

A - N

GROUP	LEADER	Telephone	E. mail
Architecture	Keith Barton	937 3068	keithbarton@keithbarton1.free-online.co.uk
Bobbin Lace	Margaret Morrison	937 2424	marg.j.morrison@ntlworld.com
Book Group	Sue Malpas	914 7761	suemalpas@hotmail.co.uk
Classical Music Appreciation	Alan Spooner	937 2754	alan.spooner@virgin.net
Cooperative Gardening	Pat O'Neil	937 4543	patanno@btinternet.com
Computer Beginners; Intermediate	Peter Tomlinson	937 2707	pntomlinson@aol.com
Crafts	Jackie Fisher	937 2898	handjaf@virginmedia.com
Cycling	Roy Turnbull	937 3561	roy.turnbull@ntlworld.com
Drawing	Barbara Jones	937 2260	
Family History	Clare Franklin	937 3790	clare.franklin@virgin.net
French Conversation	Tony Robinson	914 0775	tonyjackie1@ntlworld.com
German	Barbara Henson	937 2707	piper1077@aol.com
Heraldry*	Vic Taylor	937 5459	chrisandvic@keyworth51.freeserve.co.uk
History of WW1	Chris Close	937 2032	christopherclose@btinternet.com
Humour Group*	Roy Ainscough	937 3419	roy.ainscough@btinternet.com
Latin	Chris Lillee	937 4383	awbn60@dsl.pipex.com
Needlecraft	Rosalie Jones	937 4025	rosjones@pcbod.com

KEYWORTH & DISTRICT U3A GROUPS

N - Z

GROUP	LEADER	Telephone	E. mail
New Horizons	Sue O'Donoghue	937 2989	j.odonoghue@ntlworld.com
Play Reading	Angela Harris Jean Allton	914 3450 914 6865	paulharris19@ntl.com jeanallton@yahoo.co.uk
Relaxercise	Penny Kimmins	846 9407	two.kimmins@ntlworld.com
Scrabble	Jean Ainscough	937 3419	ainscoughjean@hotmail.com
Singing For Fun	Gill Wilcockson	937 2046	wilcockson665@btinternet.com
Social Bridge	Pat Murfet	937 4607	pat10murfet@btopenworld.com
Spanish Beginners	Sue O'Donoghue	937 2989	j.odonoghue@ntlworld.com
Theatre Visits	Sue Manley Marlene Mackie	937 2366 937 7248	suzieburd@tiscali.co.uk marlene@homecall.co.uk
Ukulele	Neil Marriott Barry Hull	846 5795 01949 81598	neil@themarriotts.net johnbarryhull@btinternet.com
Walking: 5-7 Miles	Roy Turnbull	937 3561	roy.turnbull@ntlworld.com
Walking: <3 Miles	Gloria Wright	937 3633	
Water Colour Painting	Megan Little	937 4418	mhlittle5@hotmail.com
Wildlife	Neil Pinder	914 4896	n.pinder@ntlworld.com
Wine Tasting	Doug Miles	937 5219	doug.miles@ntlworld.com
Yoga Style Exercises	Jayne Cowper	937 7278	

Information about activities is also on our website: www.keyworthu3a.org.uk
and see the Third Age Trust website for activities further afield.....

GROUP MEETINGS CALENDAR

For groups that meet infrequently or in unspecified locations, contact the group leader;

BGS – British Geological Survey

MH – Members Homes

CL – Centenary Lounge

SW – South Wolds

FR – Feignies Room

VH – Village Hall

KMC – Methodist Church Hall

VHCP – Village Hall Car Park

LH – Leader's Home

WH – Webster Hall

FLEXIBLE GROUPS	VENUE	WHEN	LEADER	PHONE
Cooperative Gardening	MH	Irregular monthly	Pat O'Neil	937 4543
Social Bridge	MH	Irregular	Pat Murfet	937 4607
Theatre visits		Irregular	Sue Manley Marlene Mackie	937 2366 937 7248
Wildlife		Irregular	Neil Pinder	914 4896
New Horizons	MH	Irregular	Sue O'Donoghue	937 2989

MONDAYS

TIME	GROUP	VENUE	WHEN	LEADER	PHONE
0930	Relaxercise	WH	Weekly	Penny Kimmins	846 9407
1000	History of WW1	KMC	1 st Mon	Chris Close	937 2032
1000	Crafts	KMC	4 th Mon	Jackie Fisher	937 2898
1100	German	LH	Weekly	Barbara Henson	937 2707
1400	Bobbin Lace	MH	Weekly	Margaret Morrison	937 2424
1400	Family History	KMC	3 rd Mon	Clare Franklin	937 3790

TUESDAYS

TIME	GROUP	VENUE	WHEN	LEADER	PHONE
1000	Play Reading	FR	1 st Tues	Angela Harris Jean Allton	914 3450 914 6865
1000	Ukulele	KMC	Alternate Tuesdays	Neil Marriott Barry Hull	846 5795 01949 81598
1000	Cycling		3 rd Tues	Roy Turnbull	937 3561
1000	Drawing	FR	2 nd and 4 th Tues	Barbara Jones	937 2260
1015	Walking 5-7 miles	VHCP	2 nd Tues	Roy Turnbull	937 3561

TUESDAYS continued

TIME	GROUP	VENUE	WHEN	LEADER	PHONE
1030	Walking 2-3 miles	VHCP	3 rd Tues	Gloria Wright	937 3633
1400	Book Group	MH	Monthly	Sue Malpas, Pat, Martin Baker	914 7761 846 9558
1400	Scrabble	MH	2 nd Tues	Jean Ainscough Sue Brittain	937 3419

WEDNESDAYS

TIME	GROUP	VENUE	WHEN	LEADER	PHONE
1000	Needlecraft 1 & 2	LH	Alternate weeks	Rosalie Jones	937 4025
1000	French Conversation	FR	Weekly	Tony Robinson	914 0775
1400	Wine Tasting	CL	Fortnightly	Doug Miles	937 5219
1400	Singing for Fun	KMC	3 rd Wed	Jackie Mullins	937 6176
1415	Music Appreciation	CL	Fortnightly	Alan Spooner	937 2754
1600	Beginners Spanish	SW	Weekly	Sue O'Donoghue	937 2989

THURSDAYS

TIME	GROUP	VENUE	WHEN	LEADER	PHONE
1100	Computer Beginners	LH	Weekly	Peter Tomlinson	937 2707
1400	Architecture	FR	3 rd Thurs	Keith Barton	937 3068
1400	Water Colour Painting	KMC	2 nd & 4 th	Megan Little	937 4418

FRIDAYS

TIME	GROUP	VENUE	WHEN	LEADER	PHONE
1000	Cycling		Last Friday	Roy Turnbull	937 3561
1000	Yoga Style exercises	VH	Weekly	Jayne Cowper	937 7278
1400	Latin	FR	Weekly	Chris Lillee	937 4383

New Groups* starting September 2011: Humour (Roy Ainscough); **Heraldry:** (Vic Taylor) date, venue t.b.a. Please contact the group leaders

Groups Restarting Sept 2011: Philosophy (Alan Morris); **Latin** (Chris Lillee).

A BUMPER TRIP TO THE MOTOR HERITAGE MUSEUM



'Engine it goes brrmmm, brrmmm
Engine it goes brrmmm, brrmmm
Front seat, back seat, boys and girls
Take you riding in my car'

Riding in My Car (Car Song) – Woodie Guthrie

The motor car is over one hundred years old and is one of the world's most influential inventions, and The Heritage Motor Centre motor museum in Gaydon is home to the worlds greatest collection of British Cars!

On Monday, the 7th of March, nine car enthusiasts left their 'car widows' at home, and fulfilled their childhood dream of seeing over 180 of the greatest cars ever to be seen on the roads of Britain. With a personal guide provided by the Museum, we walked the time road, which covers development of the motor car from the 1890s to the present day, and shows how the shape of the car has altered and how roads themselves progressed, from Victorian dust and dirt to today's smooth tarmac.

Over the years, major changes for the motorist and motor car occurred, from driving licences to speed limits. From as far back as 1830, many fervent inventors ('mad scientists') sought to develop a transport vehicle that didn't require rails to run. The development of the internal combustion engine had to wait until a fuel was available to combust internally.

Gunpowder was tried but strangely enough didn't work out! Even coal gas was tried. Coal gas was generated by heating coal in a pressure vessel or boiler, and a Frenchman named Etienne Lenoir patented the first practical gas engine in Paris in 1860 and drove a car based on the design from Paris to Joinville in 1862.

His one-half horse power engine had a bore of 5 inches and a 24 inch stroke. It was big and heavy and turned over at just 100 rpm. Lenoir died broke in 1900.

Even after the invention of the petrol engine, cars were expensive, large, unwieldy, unsafe contraptions, largely based on the popular bicycle design of the time. In 1908, Henry Ford produced the Model T, 'Tin Lizzie', which is now recognised as the first affordable car to open up road travel for the middle classes. Exhibits range from the weird three wheeled Wolsey Autocar, which was thankfully discontinued in 1900, to an Aston-Martin DBS Supercar used in the recent James Bond Film A Quantum of Solace.

My personal favourites ranging from the sublime to the stranger than fiction were the 1959 MG EX 181, which broke the class land-speed record at Salt Lake Flats with a speed of 255 mph, and the 1985 Sinclair C5, which was driven by a washing machine engine and powered by a truck battery. If you need a break from perusing cars, there's also a Sci-Fi Exhibition covering the Star-Wars and Star-Trek Films.

Every one of us had a great day, and the group that I was with extended our motoring pleasure by getting lost on the way back to Nottingham!

Barry Hull

ARCHITECTURE GROUP



During the course of the summer, in addition to the regular monthly meetings (where we shall be considering the contribution to the built environment made by specific architects), we shall be exploring the Lace Market and expect to visit the Museum of Buildings at Avoncroft. Later, we hope to visit London for a Walk through a Thousand Years of History.

Keith Barton

FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP

Our happy group has now been in existence for 8 months and its enthusiasm is evidenced by the regular attendance of all its original members.



Clockwise: Brian Dittmer; Lesley Dittmer; Marcel LaFrance; Neil Franklin; Stuart Bailey; Pam Cheshire; Chris Mason; Tony Robinson; Pat O’Neil; Nigel Morley; Charlotte James. (others, away:-Judith Peters; Jean Heathcote; Sue Kemmer; Ann Thomas; Malcolm Thomas).

We are fortunate to have 2 language mentors who ensure that any language problems that arise during sessions, are solved immediately. Judith Peters (former teacher of French at The Nottingham Girls High School) generously guides us through such difficulties as conjugation and all other matters grammatical; whilst Marcel LaFrance, francophone Canadian from Quebec, has introduced us to such subjects as the “Manufacture and consumption of Maple Syrup “ and the delights of the “Sugar Shacks”, and lately has conducted us through some traditional French songs. What next? Members have, in this short time, each in turn, taken on the task of subject choice and directed the work for their session. In our efforts to improve conversational skills we have discussed such subjects as: Finding Directions, Shopping, French Wine, Idioms, Special Quebecois, Friendship, Cathedral Architecture; Retirement, William & Kate. On a recent visit by a French Group to Keyworth, members were congratulated on the improvement in their spoken French since the last time they met. We therefore look forward to completing our first year with even more success.

Tony Robinson

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

The 40 strong membership continues to be successful, with numbers attending from 23 to 14. Interestingly, at our 21st meeting (21st February) there were 21 of us.

A wide variety of social history related topics have been covered in recent months. Two of our members gave us an insight into researching **Mining Records**. Living in the Midlands, many of us have ancestors who worked down the pits. It was a very hard life, particularly for the children employed. Often wages were paid in tokens, to be spent in the shop or the pub, both owned by the mine owner. In the 1841 Census for Underwood and Selston, Ann Lindley found that both her great great great grandfather aged 70 and a 10 year old in the family were listed as colliers. Sue Saunders told us about her family who worked mostly in the pits at Annesley and Newstead, where the miners' houses were "meaner" than those in Leicester. In 1877 there was a fire in the Annesley pit, which was diverted at first, but then had to be put out. There was no legal requirement to check the air even in 1887.

We had very entertaining presentation entitled, "**Did a Keyworth Man meet Napoleon?**" by Howard Fisher about a certain Thomas Church, who came from Keyworth. During his varied military career he was sent in 1815 to guard Napoleon on St Helena. He was discharged from the army at the age of 45 and presumably returned to his roots. On a similar theme, Neil Franklin and John Fallon talked to us about researching **Military Records**. (Many records from WW1 were lost in a WW2 air raid). The National Archives (Kew) have lists on line of the documents they hold; finding copies of newspapers of the time can produce articles about incidents where local lads were involved, which may give more information than a service record. Sue Highley told us how to access **Wills** and what sort of information these can give us: to confirm relationships between members of the family and to provide more of a flavour of the family.

I gave a talk about **Upstairs, Downstairs**, focusing more on Downstairs, who would not be there if it were not for Upstairs! We also had a wide-ranging discussion on reading historical novels for their Social History. And two groups visited the Family History Centre in Wilford. Thank you to Gill Watson for organising that. We meet in the Methodist Hall on the third Monday in each month. (NB we will not meet in August and December).

Clare Franklin

RENISHAW HALL ...and so much more.....

On Thursday, 5th May, 26 members of the Keyworth & District U3A boarded a coach for a trip to Renishaw Hall, located near to Sheffield, but in the county of Derbyshire.



We arrived at Renishaw after an excellent journey of about an hour, to be welcomed by Cheryl, and started with a guided tour of the Hall itself.

The publicity brochure states it is "Derbyshire's best kept secret": Renishaw has been in the Sitwell family for nearly four hundred years and is still a family home; they have always been collectors and this is evident as you walk around the house: there are many beautiful objects to see; furniture, artwork, china, glassware, all within the lovely framework of a family home with a flat screen TV and a collection of remote controls, just like the rest of us! Most people visited the excellent café for lunch, and some had their own picnic, after which the gardens beckoned, and what a treat they were. Sir George Sitwell loved Italy with a passion: Over 100 years ago he created what is today considered one of the most important Italianate gardens in Britain. The wonderful Spring weather that we have had made our enjoyment of the gardens much better than expected, many flowers and shrubs were in full bloom, from magnolias, azaleas and rhododendrons, to old fashioned roses and the laburnum tunnel. There was a large collection of statues, in all parts of the garden, with secret areas as well the more open areas with water features.

I was quite worried before the trip that the early good weather we have been enjoying would mean that the bluebells would have gone over, but we found swathes of them in the woodland area. Some of us enjoyed a walk around the lake, and found the Old Sawmill and 'Negroes Cave'. The Sitwell Museum provides in-depth historical information on the family; there were plants for sale, and of course a gift shop. It is a beautiful, peaceful place, and well worth a visit. I recommend it to all of you.



Lorraine Donovan



Stop press

Shorter Walks group: New Leader: Gloria Wright 0115 9373633

Heraldry Group: Earlier this year we had a brilliant taster from Vic at our open meeting so this new group will seek to clarify and demystify the origins of heraldry. The group will include trips to places of interest as well as the open debate sessions. Contact Vic Taylor 0115 9375459

Home Brewing: Due to a disappointing response this course will not be proceeding, help and advice is available from Chris Mason 0115 8460821

Humour Group: Will be starting soon. Join in the fun and find out what makes us laugh, the history of humour and how humour varies between nations. Contact Ron Ainscough 0115 9373419

CYCLING



Since the last Newsletter we have completed a number of varied rides. A Nottingham urban ride included Wollaton Park, the University grounds, central Nottingham and the canal. During March we enjoyed two contrasting rides. Some flat pleasurable cycling along the banks of the River Trent, the Beeston Canal and Sawley Marina, and some hilly cycling around Burton on the Wolds, Seagrave and Hoby. April provided some magnificent sunshine for our off road ride along the Cloud Trail (Worthington to the centre of Derby and return). Our May ride took us to Zouch, following field paths along the side of the River Soar to Loughborough and then following the canal path to Barrow on Soar for lunch. The return to Keyworth was via Burton on the Wolds.



Roy Turnbull

WALKING GROUPS

Longer Walks:

Our March walk was another section of the Grantham Canal from Kinoulton to Colston Bassett before returning to Kinoulton via field paths. For the April walk we stayed local by completing a Keyworth, Thurlby Lane, Widmerpool Lane, and Lings Lane circular. Ken led a May circular walk starting at Normanton, to Sutton Bonnington and West Leake.



Short Walks:

The March walk was to Cotgrave Park and the April walk, the last organised by Barbara prior to her move to Yorkshire, focused on the Prestwold area. Both Barbara and John will be sadly missed for their good company and the work they put in to ensure the success of the group.

At first it looked as though the group would have to disband as a new Group Leader could not be found. However, Gloria Wright has now decided to take on the challenge and along with some offers of help in leading walks, the Group will hopefully continue to thrive. Please give Gloria your support, she is enthusiastic and is currently in the process of putting together a walk programme for the remainder of the year.

Roy Turnbull

“FAREWELL TO BARBARA & JOHN” WALK



April 19th was a glorious day and 17 U3A members of the Short Walks group rambled in the Prestwold area of Leicestershire, before an excellent lunch at the Greyhound in Burton-on-the-Wolds. During the walk, Bill and Sheila led the singing of 'On Ilkley Moor bah tat', in the middle of a cornfield, indicating where our leader, Barbara Wallace, and husband John, would probably next be walking as they head off to their new home in Yorkshire. Our thanks go to both of them for having been the group leaders for two years.

Pat Murfet

WINE TASTING GROUP

With rosé wine seemingly ever more popular, we recently looked again at this style of wine as we did two years ago. It can vary enormously, not least because it can be made from a wide range of grapes.

By way of celebrating the bicentenary of the Charles Cazanove Champagne House – a favourite tippie of Edward VII – we started with their Rosé Brut Champagne and our tasting also included two English wines.

Opinions about these and five other wines, including an unusual Sancerre

made from 100% Pinot Noir, were quite mixed, but a general feeling was that regions such as Tavel, which have specialised in rosé wine for centuries, continue to make the most attractive wines.

Normally, our fortnightly meetings in the Centenary Lounge of the Village Hall on Wednesday afternoons consist of a tasting of six or seven wines linked in some way by region, grape variety or vintage. In recent meetings we've varied the format: members' knowledge and skills were put to the test with a blind tasting and quiz, the winner scoring a very impressive 18/20. We had a fascinating afternoon matching different wines and different types of food, e.g. fish, meat, cheese and chocolate. Some of the combinations that worked well were quite unexpected.

Usually, our tastings cost between £3-£5 and involve wines at most a few years old, but in April we treated ourselves to an afternoon of fine wines, including a 2002 vintage Champagne, a 1996 vintage port and a 1989 Riesling Beerenauslese – delicious! As the broader U3A clearly demonstrates – there are benefits to ageing!

The major event, however, was our Spring Dinner on 29th March. The Centenary Lounge was miraculously transformed into a beautiful restaurant into which 40 members and guests were welcomed with a Champagne reception and canapés, before sitting down to a splendid four-course dinner accompanied by six different wines. A huge amount of effort and culinary skill went into making the evening an undoubted success. I am especially grateful to Sue Brittain, Lesley Dittmer, Sylvia Doyle, Jean Edge, Elaine Fletcher, Neil Franklin, Diana Herrington, Pat O'Neil, Kath Oakley, Jackie Robinson, Rosemary Stevens and John Stuckey for all their hard work.

If you'd like to learn about wine and drink modest amounts of it in friendly and convivial company, we're always delighted to welcome new members.

Please visit our web page for more information:

(<http://www.keyworthu3a.org.uk/kdigwinetasting1.html>) *Doug Miles*



Information about activities is also on our website: www.keyworthu3a.org.uk
and see the Third Age Trust website (linked through our website) for
activities further afield.....



STORY COMPETITION: “My Favourite Decade”

All members are invited to write a short story, (for children, for adults or both), which will be judged by a volunteer panel of three U3A members and prizes of book tokens awarded to the first three members who, in the view of the judges, have submitted the most thought provoking, funny or entertaining story.

The winning stories will be published in the December newsletter; the winning author will be asked to read their submission at the Christmas Party (14th December 2011).

There are a few rules:

1. You may submit any number of entries, but they must be your own work.
2. Please submit entries to Sue O’Donoghue (j.odonoghue@ntlworld.com) by email.
3. The closing date for entries is 22nd November 2011. Identification will then be removed and a pseudonym attached. The stories will then be sent to the judges.
4. (If you do not have access to a computer, you may submit hand written entries to Sheila Kingdom by 25th October 2011 (Open Meeting) and she will be pleased to type up your work and email it, anonymised, to the judges on your behalf.)
5. Stories should be no longer than 1000 words, or two sides of an A4 sheet printed in medium sized print. (A4 has to be reduced to A5 for our newsletter and smaller type would be difficult to read.)
6. Three prizes of book tokens, valued at £30, £20 and £10 will be awarded to those who, in the opinion of the judges submit the best stories.
7. The judges decision is final, irrevocable, definitive and never to be questioned!

Join in, folks, and let’s see your work in print.





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Photographs are taken as a matter of record at U3A events and may be published in the newsletter or on the website. www.keyworthu3a.org.uk

Items for inclusion can be sent by e.mail (in Word format) or ordinary mail (as typed or manuscript documents). If handwriting, please CAPITALIZE any names or unusual words.

Pictures, drawings or diagrams are particularly welcome, but if sending these electronically, please ensure they are in JPEG (jpg) format, sized, where possible, to 5" on the longest side.

If you wish original documents to be returned, please include an envelope with your name on, or s.a.e.

The Editor reserves the right to hold articles over for future editions if necessary.

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This information is also available on our website: www.keyworthu3a.org.uk



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

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Your new Committee: (L – R) Sue O’Donoghue, Keith Barton, Jackie Mullins, Roy Turnbull, Lorraine Donovan, Jean Ainscough, Ken Doyle, Kath Oakley, Sheila Kingdom, Barry Hull, Peter Edge, Lesley Dittmer



LOTTERY FUNDED