

Countesthorpe U3A Newsletter



Oct-Nov 2012

Issue 2012/5

Chairperson's Letter

(Tel: 277 4187)

Dear Friends

We'll soon be back to GMT . . . and that means . . .

- autumn is here – gardens need tidying, fruit trees/bushes pruning, and vegetable plots digging;
- daytime walks need more preparation with waterproofs rather than shirtsleeves, boots rather than light sandals;
- equally, it's time to be out in the evening more – theatre, opera, and concerts.

It's great that our U3A helps us with all this – each of us giving time and effort to help provide all this sort of activity for each other. We should all be grateful to the various group leaders who make all this possible.

On the “intellectual” side – what happened this month in the past?

Today in 768 AD, Charlemagne was crowned King of the Franks and in 1986 the musical *The Phantom of the Opera* had its first performance at Her Majesty's Theatre in London. (Our visit is this November!)

Let's keep on enjoying the activities we can do – there is so much that we can do and share. Remember - no day is wasted when we learn something new.

From

Barry Hillyard
Chairperson

Countesthorpe



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

DIARY DATES: Oct-Nov 2012

| Date | Group | Activity | Venue/time |
|--------|------------------|--|--|
| 9 Oct | Monthly Meeting | Italian, Head to Toe (<i>wine tasting</i>) Sue Lobb | Village Hall from 1.30 pm ('speakers' 2.15 pm) |
| 10 Oct | Flower Arranging | | Village Hall 2 – 4 pm |
| 14 Oct | Solo Lunch | Kilworth Springs Golf Club | Noon for 12.30 pm |
| 15 Oct | Creative Writing | Talk by Dr Kevin Paterson | 2 - 4 pm at Brook Court |
| 16 Oct | Travel | Houses of Parliament | 8.00 am from Village Hall |
| 16 Oct | SWANS | Cosby Road Circular, via Hill Lane | 10.30 am on corner of Linden Av/Winchester Rd |
| 17 Oct | Literature | Any Adam Dalgliesh novel by P D James | 2 - 4 pm at Brook Court |
| 18 Oct | Archaeology | Huntingdon | 9.00 am from Village Hall |
| 19 Oct | CHEWS | Main meeting + weigh-in | Carole's home, between 9.15 and 10.15 am |
| 22 Oct | Folk Dancing | | Village Hall 2 – 3.30 pm |
| 25 Oct | Walking (CARE) | 5 miles from The Elephant & Castle, Thurmaston + lunch | 9.30 am from Village Hall |
| 26 Oct | Discussion | Should we have the right to end our lives? | 10 am at Anne's home |
| 29 Oct | Ethnic Dining | Winleys, (Bull's Head), Cosby | 7.00 pm at Winley's |
| 6 Nov | Archaeology | Welford Rd Cemetery visit | 9.30 am from Village Hall |
| 6 Nov | SWANS | Blaby Heritage Trail (<i>But subject to swap with 20 Nov walk - see What's On</i>) | 10.30 am in Bouskell Park car park |
| 12 Nov | Folk Dancing | | Village Hall 2 – 3.30 pm |
| 13 Nov | Monthly Meeting | Nurses Who Went to War Wendy Eccles | Village Hall from 1.30 pm ('speakers' 2.15 pm) |
| 14 Nov | Flower Arranging | | Village Hall 2 – 4 pm |
| 16 Nov | CHEWS | Main meeting + weigh-in | Marlene's home, between 9.15 and 10.15 am |
| 18 Oct | Solo Lunch | Venue TBA | Noon for 12.30 pm |
| 19 Nov | Creative Writing | Theme: TBA | 2 - 4 pm at Brook Court |

| Date | Group | Activity | Venue/time |
|--------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 20 Nov | SWANS | Bradgate Park | 10.30 am in Hallgates car park |
| 21 Nov | Literature | Perfect People - Peter James | 2 - 4 pm at Brook Court |
| 23 Nov | Discussion | Is Britain a Democracy? | 10 am at Jackie's home |
| 26 Nov | Folk Dancing | | 2.00 – 3.30 pm Village Hall |
| 27 Nov | SWANS | Christmas Lunch | Glen Parva Manor, 12.30 pm |
| 29 Nov | Walking (CARE) | Approx 5 miles, details TBA | Leave 9.15/9.30 am from Village Hall |

KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN'T GET TO MEETINGS?

If you do, then perhaps you would be kind enough to take them a copy of the monthly What's On and the bi-monthly Newsletter. There are always spare copies in the display stands in the lobby.

Also, Group Leaders are encouraged to take a few copies for people in their groups who do not come to the monthly gatherings, so that they are kept up to date with what's happening and can join in if they wish.

U3A GET WELL CARDS

If anyone knows of anyone in the U3A who is ill and who would appreciate a 'Get Well Soon' card from friends in the U3A, then please telephone Sheila Holmes on 277 2131 with the details.

Words, Words, and More Words!

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Pythagoras' theorem | 24 words |
| The Lord's Prayer | 66 words |
| Archimedes' Principle | 67 words |
| The Ten Commandments | 179 words |
| Gettysburg Address | 286 words |
| US Declaration of Independence | 1,300 words |
| US Constitution with all 27 amendments | 7,818 words |
| EU regulations on the sale of cabbages | 26,911 words |



METAL DETECTING GROUP

A new group has been proposed – metal detecting – which is quite a departure from anything the U3A has offered before! We already have names of a few people who are interested, but more are needed to make the group viable.

If you might be interested, please ring Marlene on 277 9162 (preferably in the evening) and, subject to sufficient interest, she will arrange a meeting to decide how best to take this idea forward and establish this new activity group.



Autumn in the Alps 31 August – 7 September 2013

Our annual visit to Wengen in the Bernese Oberland in 2013 will be in the autumn - offering an opportunity to enjoy a different season in our favourite Swiss alpine village. As usual, all flights and transfers are included in the price, which starts at an estimated £492 per person – though this will vary according to your choice of accommodation. Choose from B&B or half board at the Bernerhof Hotel, or self-catering in the next door Residence Hotel.



Flights are now being booked, so reserve your place without delay. See Jenny in the small lounge for a full information sheet, or download from our website if you have internet access. Flight payment of £120 (payable to Countesthorpe U3A Travel) to accompany booking, with hotel deposit required in March and balance in July.

Jenny Mills 277 2041

FOLK DANCING

We will be gathering for some not-too-serious folk dancing on Mondays, 22 October, then 12 and 26 November with, as ever, the emphasis on English Country Dancing with various other styles to enjoy from time to time.



Everyone is welcome, so come along with your comfortable shoes and a smile to Countesthorpe Village Hall between 2 pm and 3.30 pm

Details from Patsy Paterson on 277 6259

www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk

Our official website gives the basic information about our U3A, plus a very comprehensive 'What's On' section, pages for each Activity Group (some of which change regularly to include reports on recent events, or other items), ways to make contact with us, and access to lots of pictures including many from outings and holidays. See also the STOP PRESS on the homepage for up-to-the minute news. You can also download the current Newsletter and a printed version of What's On in case you couldn't get to the monthly meeting, plus other information as relevant within other pages or What's On items..

News/changes to: email: jhawkins45@talktalk.net or tel: 277 6330, or to 30 Marston Crescent, Countesthorpe.

Please be assured that the printed bi-monthly Newsletter and the monthly update 'What's On' will continue just as usual!

U3A 2013 DIARIES

With smart blue cover, ribbon page marker and perforated corners as well as notes pages, this is an essential to ensure you don't miss any of our activities!

Price remains unchanged at £2- available from Sue at the desk

POMPEII EXHIBITION
At the British Museum, London
Thursday, 2 May 2013

AD 79. In just 24 hours, two cities in the Bay of Naples in southern Italy were buried by a catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Preserved under ash, their rediscovery nearly 1.700 years later provided an unparalleled glimpse into the daily life of the Roman Empire. From the bustling street to the intimate spaces of a Roman home, this exhibition will take you to the heart of people's lives in Pompeii and Herculaneum.

Just 53 seats available on this coach trip departing at 9.00 am from Village Hall, with possible additional pick-up points in the Square, Cross-roads (nr College) and Western Drive. £26. Book with Jenny at Travel desk in small lounge. (*Trip organised by Barry*)

ARCHAEOLOGY

A guided walk of the trackbed at the Mountsorrel Railway Project was undertaken on Friday, 21 September, led by a volunteer from the Project. This was interesting and informative, in spite of the persistent drizzle which worsened towards the end of the walk! We will be following progress with interest, as the project continues!

Barry has arranged a visit by coach to the County Town of Huntingdon, birth place of Oliver Cromwell, on Thursday, 18 October. The cost is £14.

Shirley has arranged a visit to Welford Road Cemetery on 6 November – leaving Village Hall at 9.30 am using shared cars. Cost is £3 on the day, to include tea/coffee. Optional lunch afterwards. This date is now full, but we have sufficient names for a second visit which will be arranged shortly. Watch for details.

If you have any suggestions for future events/activities and if you would like to offer to organise one, please contact June on 277 6330 or by email at jhawkins45@talktalk.net

SCRABBLE

Please note the temporary change to the Group Leader for Scrabble. Shirley Wilding will be responsible for the October meeting, and Leslie Woodward thereafter until further notice.

IT'S CHIPS WITH EVERYTHING NOW!

Having difficulty using 'Chip and Pin' facilities? Did you know that you can opt to use an alternative Chip and **SIGN** facility?

Anyone needing more information should log onto www.paymentscouncil.org.uk or visit their bank.

SWANS

Ten people attended the planning meeting at Glebe Gardens on 25th September and we devised a programme including some old favourites and a few new destinations. Copies of the programme are available from Pamela, or can be viewed on the SWANS section of the website.

NB I have found out that the Bouskell Park Car Park is closed for upgrading so, if it is not re-opened by 6th November, the Blaby Heritage Trail may have to change places with Bradgate (scheduled for 20th November.) If in doubt - give me a shout!

Regarding the Xmas lunch, please see Pamela who has the menu.



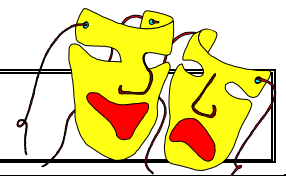
Information from Pamela on 277 2653, preferably 6-7 pm

Latest copy dates for your contributions!

- Wed, 7 Nov for Nov issue of What's On and website
- Wed, 5 Dec for the Dec What's On, Newsletter and website

Editor: June Hawkins (tel) 277 6330, (email) jhawkins45@talktalk.net
or by post to: 30 Marston Crescent, Countesthorpe, LE8 5PY.

THEATRE PROGRAMME



| | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----|----------------------|----------|---------|
| Tues* 30 Oct | Steel Magnolias | £16 | Market Harborough | 6.45 pm | 11 Sept |
| Tues* 20 Nov | Phantom of the Opera | £50 | Milton Keynes | 12.30 pm | 10 July |
| Tues* 11 Dec | Hello, Dolly! | £18 | Curve | 6.30 pm | 14 Aug |
| Thurs 31 Jan | Sleeping Beauty | £25 | Milton Keynes | 12.30 pm | 11 Dec |
| Tues* 19 Mar | The Deep Blue Sea | £16 | Market Harborough | 6.45 pm | 12 Feb |

STEEL MAGNOLIAS: A heart-warming and bittersweet comedy, set in a hairdressing salon which tells the story of six very special friends bonded together by triumphs and tragedies

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: Andrew Lloyd Webber's spectacular and long-running favourite musical goes on tour.

HELLO, DOLLY! Packed with show-stopping tunes, this bold musical extravaganza will start your Christmas season with a bang!

SLEEPING BEAUTY: Matthew Bourne's modern interpretation of this favourite ballet completes his 'Tchaikovsky trio'.

THE DEEP BLUE SEA: (*Terence Rattigan*) Hester left her husband for a semi-alcoholic former RAF pilot, but their passionate affair is fading. Must she live like this, emotionally stranded and desperate, or is there a way out?

June Hawkins – tel: 277 6330 or email: jhawkins45@talktalk.net

*** SORRY, DUE TO ZUMBA CLASSES THERE IS NO PARKING AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY EVENINGS – AFFECTING 'STEEL MAGNOLIAS', 'PHANTOM', 'HELLO, DOLLY!' and 'THE DEEP BLUE SEA'. THE COACH WILL PICK UP AT THE LEYS, THE VILLAGE HALL AND THE SQUARE – TRY PARKING IN CO-OP OR CENTRAL STREET CAR PARK (THIS IS FREE AFTER 6 PM)**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO INDICATE YOUR PREFERRED PICK-UP POINT WHEN BOOKING YOUR SEAT!