

MARGARET'S HOLIDAYS

10 day coach holiday to Poland - 16–25 September 2009

All balances, insurance and passport details have now been forwarded and received by Leger Holidays. There is still time to tell me of any special requests you need for this coach holiday. I shall be arranging a meeting as soon as I have received some maps and other information from Leger.

10 day coach holiday to Germany and Austria 26 June - 5 July 2010

We still have places for three couples on this holiday. Basic price is £979 if you choose Category 3 seats where the accommodation for one night in Oberammergau will be in a guest house. We now have 42 people going on this trip so if this number can be maintained I shall be able to deduct at least £60 from the original price. Just to emphasise that this is excellent value for what is included. If you would like to join us I will need £400 ASAP and your insurance details. Please look at the notice board where you will find more details. Just a reminder for the 42 who have already paid their £150 deposits that I will need insurance details along with a cheque for £250 before the end of July. Please refer to the June issue or see me for information about Leger's own insurance.

5 day holiday to Eastbourne 10-14 May 2010

Cost £220 (for those sharing) £233 (singles) (entrance fees to gardens not included)

This is primarily a holiday for the gardening group because we hope to visit a number of gardens during our time there. I have persuaded the hotel proprietor to extend the number of single rooms from 6 to 12, the last 4 having to pay £40pp supplement. In fairness to all those who choose to have a single room I have divided this supplement between all 12 passengers. Depending where you were on the list, I have had to put some requiring a single room on a waiting list. So that no one is disappointed it would help if some of those who signed up for a single would be willing to share.

I shall need £50 as a deposit for hotel and coach no later than the October meeting please.

Website editor: David Ling,

mansfieldu3a@aol.com or 01623 822994

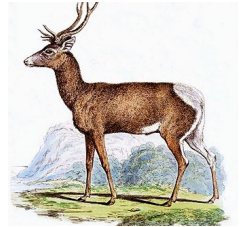
Editor: Eileen Allin

Please send items for next newsletter to eileen.allin@ntlworld.com

by 4 September 2009 or ring 01623 473662

MANSFIELD & DISTRICT

U3A



UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Established 1999

website: www.mansfield-u3a.org.uk

Newsletter

Vol 4 No 9 JULY 2009

Subscriptions - due September 2009

A reminder that subscriptions for the new year will be due at the September meeting. They will remain at the same level - £15.00 for full membership, £12.50 for Associate membership (those members who have paid a full subscription to another U3A). Cheques to be made payable to Mansfield and District U3A.

If a cheque includes a subscription for someone other than those named on the cheque please write the names of everyone covered by the payment on the reverse of the cheque.

Thanks
Treasurer

Pauline Boucher,

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

10th Anniversary Buffet Lunch

This will be held on Tuesday 18 August 2009 here at the Oakham Suite, Nottingham Road. The cost is £8.50 and tickets are available today from Pauline Boucher.

British Horological Institute

Clock and Watch Museum - Upton, near Southwell

The Science and Technical Group will be visiting the British Horological Institute Watch and Clock Museum at Upton Hall, Upton, near Southwell on Friday 24th July at 1.30 p.m. There will be a guided tour of the exhibits and time for questions at the end of the tour. Any U3A members who are interested are welcome to join the visit - cost £5.

For further information contact Ian Boucher on 01623 644798 or e-mail ian.boucher@hotmail.com

Picnic in the Park 2009

As the Australian soap opera theme song goes “If you’ve got friends and neighbours – all the world is a happier place” and this was proved once again at the second annual picnic held in Rufford Park by the North Notts Neighbourhood Group of U3As. Mansfield, Ashfield, the Dukeries, Hucknall, Newark and Sherwood members got together in style and ably demonstrated what their interest groups got up to. Hucknall members dressed for the part in costumes to reflect their interests and Mansfield Pudding Club ladies provided samples of their culinary skills. What a pity our Belly dancing group was not ready in time and perhaps a future Sci-Tech group could rustle up a couple of astronaut suits! The prospects are endless.

The weather was glorious, the Dukeries Bell ringers rang out in style and the jazz band eased us through the afternoon.

The comments have been good – and all being well - I think we can look forward to another Picnic in the Park in two years’ time. I wonder how many neighbours we shall have by 2011? Worksop U3A gets off the ground later this year to make at least one more but there are still lots of spaces around the marquee sides.

So to all Mansfield U3A members who came along - and particularly to those members who generously gave their time and energy and helped out in any way – thanks a bunch!

Rita Turner Chairman – NNN Group of U3As

Visit to Newby Hall and Gardens 25 June 2009

After spending a splendid day at Newby Hall and Gardens, I feel I can speak for everyone on the coach when I say a very big ‘Thank you’ to Jean Hedges and her helpers for organising such a wonderful day for us.

The variation of flowers, colour and designs of the gardens were superb and I felt I could have walked in the grounds forever.

As we waited to go into the Hall, my thoughts were, ‘Do I really want to do this?’ – it was so beautiful outside. But, one foot inside the Hall and I realised what I would have missed.

We were taken on a tour and, from entering to coming out, we were surrounded by beautiful décor, furniture, pictures, china, tapestries and antiques and we had views of the grounds from upstairs windows. It was breathtaking.

On comment I overheard was ‘I can’t take all this beauty in at one go’.

Once again, a big ‘Thank you’ to Jean and those who helped her and may I be the first on your list should you ever go again.

Marion Owens

Holiday at the Queen's Hotel Llandudno 6 - 13 June 2009

A message to all U3A members - So where were you? What kept you? Do you know what you missed?

Everyone knows that Margaret Burlinson and the 'Little Runner' can organise first class holidays down to the last meticulous detail. The eight days holiday in Llandudno and North Wales is a shining example of their skills, leaving 41 of us and the driver tired but happy at the end.

How we filled our days

- Snowdonia National Park - Betws-y-Coed, Llanberis and the Electric mountain, the Slate Quarry, the train, the mountain for the walkers.
- Anglesey - Carnarvon and Beaumaris, castles, bridges, and sailing to Puffin island.
- Portmeirion - colourful village and gardens, wooded walks, mountains and sea meeting at the shoreline.
- Bodnant Gardens - beds and borders, glorious rose beds, the canopied laburnum walkway, hillside paths, trees, waterfalls and streams.
- On the two free days, we explored, took local buses, walked the promenade, climbed the Orme, visited museums, shops and nearby Conway etc etc.
- On the Llangollen Canal - homeward bound in a narrow boat with a huge lunch included, crossing the Pontcyslite Aqueduct, 126 feet above the River Dee in an almost waterfilled iron trough a few inches wider than the narrow boat.

The U3A's spirit of adventure lives on!!

The hotel was comfortable, spacious and welcoming. The food was very good and well presented with various choices.

There was evening entertainment in the hotel but those who went out found more entertainment in abundance - the Welsh Male Voice Choirs, other mixed Choirs and entertainers, soloists and the wonderful ballet (Wuthering Heights).

To Margaret and Janet, thank you for all your hard work and for giving us such a lovely holiday.

Oh! I almost forgot - 39 out of 41 people met no rain all week in Wales, not a drop! The two who did not join the bus one day got soaked to their walking boots!

A final message to all U3A members. Now you know what you missed!

Art Appreciation Group

On behalf of the members of the Art Appreciation Group I would like to thank Pauline for the wonderful day out at Derby Museum and the Joseph Wright exhibition.

A good day was had by all, the exhibition was brilliant and so was the weather. Once again, thanks Pauline, for the great day out.

Fred Brown

Website Update

I hope you like our new and continuing site updates, building on the excellent foundations laid by Alan Radford, Glynis Benford, John O'Leary and others. I've tried to make it easier to use, even if you don't have your own modern computer, as it should now work properly on web phones and that old, slow computer you inherited!

The main changes so far, since the last meeting, are:

- I have updated the site layout, added a search facility to help find things and a 'Contact Us' tab to simplify emailing our officers.
- There are now 50 new pages, including a new, comprehensive 'What's On' that will always show a complete diary for the next two months.

My priority now is to work with the Interest Group Leaders so that their content is brought up-to-date and in the style they want.

I'm grateful to those who have emailed me material already but there's still much to do as we have over 30 Interest Groups that all have out-of-date or incomplete entries on 4 pages, so it can't all be done at once!

(I must also record my appreciation of the support I have had from the committee, especially Sylvia Slack and Pauline Boucher, and from our new hosting company.)

I'll be happy to chat over anything about the website AFTER today's meeting and will be at the Lunch Club table as usual. (Please bear in mind that I'll be busy before it starts and during the interval though!)

Website editor: David Ling

Ponder on these imponderables for a minute

- If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?
- If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?
- If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models denoted, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?

Key to Meetings details: This shows the day of the month, time and frequency using the first two letters of the day, followed by numbers 1-5 to represent the week number. Final letter M (or F or W) represents monthly, fortnightly or weekly meetings respectively. So "Tu2. 2.30 pm. M" would mean a meeting on the second Tuesday at 2.30 pm monthly. The main monthly U3A meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month (except for August and December) at the Masonic Hall, Nottingham Rd, Mansfield from 10-12.30pm.

GROUP	MEETINGS	MEETING PLACES	CO-ORDINATOR
ART APPRECIATION	Monthly various days	St Johns Centre Mansfield	Pauline Boucher 01623 644798
Next meeting: Friday 31 July - Art and Poetry Summer Soiree - Pauline and Ian's Tuesday 29 September 10am-12 noon, St John's Centre			
BEGINNERS BRIDGE	Mo last in the month 6.30pm M	Enviro Centre Derby Road College Mansfield	Edith Senior 01623 654022
Next meeting:			
CURRENT AFFAIRS	Tu2. 2.00pm M	Friends Meeting House Mansfield	Norma Shillinglaw 01623 466934
Next meeting: 11 August			
CHAT and STITCH	Mo3. 2.00pm M	St John's Centre Mansfield	Marion Owens 01623 634408
Next meeting: 21 September			
CYCLING	Su3 M	Various	Peter Thirkettle 01623 628136
Next meeting:			
ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING	Sa3. 2.00pm M	South Forest Leisure Centre Edwinstowe	Jean Kirk 01623 480207
Next meeting: .			
FAMILY HISTORY	Tu4. 10.00am M	St Johns Centre, Mansfield	Pat Blackwell 01623 481745
Next meeting: 28 July			
FILM REVIEW	We1 1.30 pm M	St Johns Centre, Mansfield	Joy Crowe 01623 645400
Next meeting; 5 August. Please contact Joy for details of films			
GARDEN VISITS	Visits during the warmer months	Various meeting places	Jean Hedges 01623 621081
Next meeting:			
GARDENING GROUP	Tu1. 10.00am M		Avril McGee 01623 452688 Freda Cooper 01623 621173
Next Meeting: 4 August.			

Garden visit - Annesley Woodhouse			
GROUP	MEETINGS	MEETING PLACES	CO-ORDINATOR
HOLIDAYS, BREAKS, DAYTRIPS	3-4 times a year to plan holidays	As announced	Margaret Burlinson 01623 632538
Poland 16-25 September 2009 Oberammagau 2010 Eastbourne 10-14 May 2010 Contact Margaret for details			
INVESTMENT – GOLDEN GROUP	Mo2 11.00am. M	Forest Lodge Hotel Edwinstowe	John Florence 01623 471840
Next meeting: 10 August			
INVESTMENTS- PLATINUM GROUP	Mo1. 11.00 am. M	Forest Lodge Hotel Edwinstowe	Jill Pullan 01623 400545
Next meeting: 3 August			
LUNCHEON GROUP	Thursday after U3A meeting 12md. M	Various venues	David Ling 01623 822994
See David to book a place for 23 July Vhojon, Mansfield 20 August Full Moon, Morton			
MUSIC GROUPS			
MUSIC 2	Mo4. 2.00 pm. M	Various members homes	Eric Prescott 01623 631160
Next meeting: 27 July at Ray and June's. Music from the 40s and 50s			
POPULAR MUSIC APPRECIATION	Tues 4. 2.00pm M	St John's Centre Mansfield	Peter Haynes 01623 451053
Next meeting Music covered will be Jazz, Swing, Country and Folk.			
CLASSICAL MUSIC 1	Th2. 2.00pm. M	Various members homes	Marlene/Alan Radford 01623 427934
Next meeting: 13 August Debussy			
CLASSICAL MUSIC 2	Mo4. 2.00 pm. M	Various members homes	Peter Crabbe 01623 624224
Next meeting: 27 July at Peter's Composer - Schumann			
PUDDING CLUB	Tu1. 4.00pm. M	Various	Sylvia Slack 01623 633981
Next meeting: 4 August			
READING 1	Th3. 2.00pm. M	Co-ordinator's home	Peter Dawson 01623 882191
Next meeting: 23 July			
READING 2	Tu3. 2.00pm. M	Co-ordinator's home	John O'Leary 01623 421642
Next meeting: 21 July			
SCIENCE AND TECHNICAL	Tu1 1.30pm M	Baptist Church Albert Street Stanton Hill	Ian Boucher 01623 644798
Next meeting: 4 August The workings of a computer Jill Pullan			

GROUP	MEETINGS	MEETING PLACES	CO-ORDINATOR
SCRABBLE	Mo2. 2.00pm	Co-ordinator's home	Brenda Thurkettle 01623 628136
We play to enjoy the game, but not too seriously as to make it hard work!			
TAI CHI	Mo1-5. 9.30am. W	St John's Centre Mansfield	Cliff Laycock 01623 481985
St John's Centre in Mansfield from 9.30am-10.30am. Please see Cliff Laycock for full details			
THEATRE VISITS	Various dates and times	Various venues and coach points	Michael Allen 01623 653345
Next meeting: 10 August			
TREASURES	Various dates and times	Various venues	Joy Crowe 01623 645400
Next meeting: 10 August			
WALKING GROUPS			
HIKERS (5½ - 8 miles)	(i)Th1. 9.30am.M (ii) Mo3.9.30am.M	Morrisons car park at Mansfield Woodhouse	Peter Thurkettle 01623 628136
Thursday 6 August Castleton Ashton 8 miles Monday 17 August Stanage Edge 7½ miles			
WALKERS (4 miles approx)	We4. 10.30am. M	Various meeting places	Sylvia Slack 01623 633981
Next meeting: 22 July Felley Mill Meet Felley Mill Lane			
STROLLERS (2 miles approx)	We2. 10.30am. M	Various meeting places	Geoff Davies 01623 623556
Next meeting: 12 August Hardwick Lakes Meet at Hardwick Inn overflow car park			
WHIST GROUP	Saturdays (various) 7.30pm. M	St Philip Neri Community Centre	Edith Senior 01623 654022
Next meeting: 12 September New members welcome			
WINE APPRECIATION 2	We3. 7.30pm. M	Various members homes	Ron Britton 01623 456855
Next meeting: 19 August Sauvignon Blanc at Mike's			
WINE APPRECIATION 3	Tuesdays (various) 7.30pm. M	Various members homes	Ron Britton 01623 456855
Next meeting: 28 July Australian Cabernet Sauvignon at Jill and Malsom's			

St John's Scarecrow Festival

The Mansfield U3A display at St John's Scarecrow Festival had two scarecrows - one a hiker negotiating a stile, the other an elegant lady from the luncheon group. A big thank you to Pete and Brenda Thurkettle, David and Julia Porter, Colin Slack and Hilary Hamilton Ross for making these on our behalf. They certainly generated a lot of interest about the U3A from people visiting the festival.

