

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

# Mansfield and District U3A Newsletter



Established 1999

## October 2011

*Website:* [www.mansfield-u3a.org.uk](http://www.mansfield-u3a.org.uk)

*Noticeboard:* <http://mansfieldu3a.blogspot.com>

## **Welcome from your chairman**

WELCOME to the first meeting of the new U3A year, a year that I hope you will find both interesting and eventful.

And thank you for electing me as your Chairman. I am lucky that I have an excellent committee to back me up, and they, and you, will no doubt bring me to book should that ever be necessary!

However excellent they are, they will at some time have to retire as their term will be up. They might also *want* to retire after serving the U3A well. Do not be surprised, therefore, if you are approached to consider joining the Committee. An organisation such as ours can only exist when there are enough volunteers to do the jobs.

More people want to join the U3A, and it is expanding rapidly – Sutton in Ashfield has begun successfully, Ravenshead will have its inaugural meeting in November, Worksop and Retford forge ahead and Dukeries, the ‘mother’ of us all, has doubled its membership. Within the next year, another 7 groups could be formed in Nottinghamshire alone.

And we could so easily increase the number of our members if we had more room! The number of people wanting to join any U3A is not a problem. The number of active members may well be.

I am sure that we can show the way with members who are actively involved!

Please don't forget to pay your annual, and reduced, subscription of £12.50. The absolute last date is Tuesday, November 15th, but please pay today (or as soon as possible by post) so that we can open our waiting list to some of the many patient prospective members who are eager to join us.

Remind those who are not here, if you would, lest their membership lapses.

*Mike Allen*

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## **Speakers Corner**

YOU MAY remember that Simon Croson, our speaker today, was supposed to speak last April. Although Simon had booked our meeting in his diary, I didn't know that he had flown to Ascension Island on a photography brief for the RSPB and was out of touch!

In fear of a speaker-less meeting, I hurriedly booked the Cedar Wildlife Sanctuary, only to find Simon had returned in time!

This time around, Simon has not disappeared to remote parts of the world and will be here to talk about ‘The Beekeeper’s Year’ – he is passionate about bees and their survival. Plus, he’s bringing some honey for sale!

*Mike Allen*

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## **Dates for your diary** (*Check the website for more information and updates.*)

**Mon. 5th Dec:** CHRISTMAS LUNCH. Oakham Suite ([NB Change of date.](#)). Details from Norma Shillinglaw (466934)

**Sat. 7th Jan 2012:** NEW YEAR SOCIAL at the St John's Centre, Mansfield. Details from Rita Turner (660003)

**Sat. 25th Feb:** ANNUAL FUN QUIZ NIGHT at Queen Elizabeth's School. Details from Pauline Boucher (644798)

## Holiday Updates

### Thursford Christmas Spectacular – 7th to 9th December

Itineraries with pick-up times and excursions will be ready for the November meeting.

### Rhine Cruise to see Floriade and Keukenhof – 10th to 14th April 2012

I now need just 3 more couples for this holiday to fill the boat with 68 passengers (**£399 main deck, £419 promenade deck, £55 single supplement**) so don't forget friends are welcome on this good-value holiday that cannot be repeated for another 10 years.

The variety at the Floriade site will be especially attractive to flower arrangers and flower and vegetable gardeners; besides which, it is really good value for money. (*Ask me for a detailed itinerary if you haven't collected one or seen it on the website already.*)

The completed detached page about your insurance details, together with your £50 deposit (*payable to Sherwood U3A*) should be handed in no later than the November meeting. If you choose to take the brilliant offer of £19 insurance from the company (no age limit) then add this to the £50 deposit. Should you need to declare any medical problems then see me or ring me for the name and telephone number of the person concerned.

### Cotswold Gardens Holiday – 6th to 10th July 2012

This holiday is fully-booked but please add your name to my waiting list if you'd like to be told if vacancies arise. Please pay your £20 deposit in January to secure your place for this holiday (*cheques payable to Mansfield U3A*). Confirmation of the garden visits will be given by the Garden Visits group as soon as the 2012 prices have been announced.

### Croatia by air to the Istrian Peninsula – 30th September to 7th October 2012

I have now booked us into a different hotel, the Pical in Porec, and need 3 more couples to keep the same rates of £699pp with a single supplement of £65. Full details are on page 9.

*Margaret Burlinson* (01623 632632538, email: marburl@lineone.net)

### Warner's Thoresby Hall (23rd January 2012 to 27th January 2012)

Please give me your balance today (*cheques payable to Mansfield & District U3A, dated 1st November please*) and collect the registration form you'll need when you check in at the Hall. (I'll tell you how to fill them in).

*Terry Whitehead* (01623 626991, email thoresby2012@yahoo.co.uk)

*Updates and more details about these holidays are available from the organisers and the website ...*

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## Recent Events

### ***Garden Visits Outing to John's Garden at Ashwood Nurseries***

IT WAS AN 8 o'clock start on 2nd September and an overcast morning but as we travelled the sun came out. Sweaters, coats and umbrellas were left on the coach. Checking in was soon over and it was difficult holding everyone back – the tea shop was calling.

We'd been told that it was good and it certainly is. The cakes were ... "wow" and such a choice.

Walking around the nursery was a joy – beautifully laid out, such a large variety of plants for sale and excellent quality.



Soon it was lunch time; no packed lunch for us, it was back to sample the tea shop yet again (ask John about his cream scone; it was huge but he did save me a small piece!)

It was now time to assemble for our guided tour of John's Garden. Following a brief history of the nursery and John's plan to landscape his private garden behind the nursery we were off. Yet again it was another "wow", in fact a "BIG WOW". Covering three acres and bordering the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal it is in such a beautiful setting and a fabulous garden.

Strolling around, listening to Brian's commentary and seeing the vast amount of planting was such a joy. Joined by Poppy the dog we waved to passing narrowboats and marvelled at the stunning planting and landscaping. All too soon the tour was over.

It was back to the nursery for last-minute purchases and just enough time to have a final cup of tea and a cake (of course!) overlooking the gardens and "sheep".

Norman, our driver, gave us a lovely smooth drive home though he did remark he ought to have a sign on board explaining: WARNING PLANTS ON BOARD!

Unloading our many purchases back in Mansfield we all agreed it had been a fabulous day out and we must return.

*Karen Troop.*

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## **Groups News**

### ***Local History***

THERE WAS an excellent response (41 members) to the inaugural meeting of this new group last month, when members discussed an outline programme that included such diverse topics as the development of entertainment and the theatre locally, employment, education, local government, neighbourhood crime, commerce and industry – including market trading, textiles and coal mining.

The group's next meeting on 21st October will include presentations on the theme: *'Mansfield and District, the beginning'*.

Jean Dalton, Carole Justice, Marjorie Smith, Max Clarke, John Hufton, Ray Reader, Jean Kirk and Sue Robb will be talking about subjects of their choice.

It will also plan a programme for the future, I hope!

*Glenis Carr, Groups Coordinator*

***This group has a new web page that includes numerous links to sources that may help our budding historians***

### ***Wine Group 2***

SOME TIME ago, Saga magazine called the Argentinian white grape 'Torrontes' the new Pinot Grigio. In fact, given the quality of a lot of the supermarket Pinot G, Torrontes is the better choice. But it takes a lot of searching out.

After a lot of looking, Ken and Norma found three bottles in Bawtry's 'Rhythm and Booze' wine shop. Not sure about the pun, but perhaps the place is worth a visit.

The best 'version' of the grape came from Ann et Vin in Newark – Vida Organics, 2009, at £8.20, although we would have been happy to drink any of those from Bawtry – Las Moras Pacha-Mama (£7.69); Chakana (£7.75); Elementos (£5.49).

***Continued on page 9 ...***

## Key to Meetings details:

THIS TABLE 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. The final letter M (or F or W) indicates that the group meets monthly, fortnightly or weekly.

So “**Tu2. 2.30 M**” would mean a group meeting on the **2nd Tuesday** at **2.30 pm** monthly.

The main Mansfield and District U3A meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month (except for August and December) at the Oakham Suite, Nottingham Road, Mansfield from 10 am - 12.30 pm.

Interest Group	Meetings	Meeting Places	Leader/Contact
<b>Art Appreciation</b>	<b>Mo1, 2.00 - 4.00 M</b>	<b>Baptist Church, Rosemary St.</b>	<b>Pauline Boucher</b> 01623 644798
Next Meetings: 7th November – Female Artists; 5th December – Xmas Poetry Soirée, 6.30 at Pauline's			
<b>Beginners' Bridge (With Ashfield U3A)</b>	<b>Mo, various dates, 6.30 - 9.00</b>	<b>Enviro Centre, Derby Rd College, Mansfield</b>	<b>Maxine Rose / Edith Senior</b> 01623 654022
Next Meetings: 10th & 31st October; 14th & 28th November (Also Acol sessions at the Mechanics Institute – <b>Th, 10 - 12.30 W</b> )			
<b>Chat and Stitch</b>	<b>Mo3, 2.00 - 4.00 M</b>	<b>St John's Centre, Mansfield</b>	<b>Marion Owens</b> 01623 634408
Next Meetings: 17th October; 21st November			
<b>Current Affairs *</b>	<b>Tu2, 2.00 M</b>	<b>Oakwood Suite, Annexe Nottingham Rd.</b>	<b>Norma Shillinglaw</b> 01623 466934
Next Meetings: October 11th; November 8th. (No meeting in December)			
<b>Digital World</b>	<b>Fri2&amp;4, 2.00 M</b>	<b>Stanton Hill Baptist Church, Skegby</b>	<b>David Ling</b> 01623 822994
Next Meetings: Oct. 14th & 28th; Nov. 11th & 25th; Dec. 9th. Topics: 'Streetwise' – <i>by Oct. 23rd please</i> ; 'Sunsets' – <i>by Nov.20th</i>			
<b>English Country Dancing *</b>	<b>Sa3, 2.00 M (except as below)</b>	<b>South Forest Leisure Centre</b>	<b>Jean Kirk</b> 01623 480207
Next Meeting: 15th October			

All members are invited to contact the relevant Group Leader if they would like to participate in any interest group or attend an event. **NB: \* indicates a waiting list.**

<b>Interest Group</b>	<b>Meetings</b>	<b>Meeting Places</b>	<b>Leader/Contact</b>
<b>Family History</b>	<b>Tu4, 10.00 M</b>	<b>St John's Centre, Mansfield</b>	<b>Pat Blackwell</b> 01623 481745
Next Meetings: Oct. 25th – Talk by Peter Hammond; Nov. – 22nd Food & Sweets			
<b>Film Studies *</b>	<b>We1, 1.30 M</b>	<b>Joy's home</b>	<b>Joy Crowe</b> 01623 645400
Next Meetings: 2nd November; 5th December			
<b>Garden Visits</b>	<b>During the Summer</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Marion Thornton</b> 01623 651528
Next Visits: TBA			
<b>Gardening</b>	<b>Tu1, 10.00 M</b>	<b>St Peter's Centre, Mansfield</b>	<b>Avril McGee</b> 01623 452688
Next Meeting: Nov. 1st Norwell Nurseries – <i>'Fabulous Foliage'</i> by Dr Andrew Ward			
<b>Holidays (Home &amp; Abroad)</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>Margaret Burlinson</b> 01623 632538
Next holidays: 7th - 9th December – <i>Thursford Spectacular</i> ; 23rd - 27th January 2012 – <i>Thoresby</i> (See Terry Whitehead); 10th - 14th April 2012 – <i>Rhine Cruise</i>			
<b>Introduction to Internet use</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Stanton Hill Baptist Church</b>	<b>Terry Whitehead</b> 01623 626991
Next Meeting: Contact Terry			
<b>Local History (New group)</b>	<b>Fri3, 10 M</b>	<b>The Rushley Inn Nottingham Rd</b>	<b>Glenis Carr</b> 01623 627735
Next Meetings: Fri. 21st October – Members' presentations <i>'Mansfield and District – the beginning'</i> ; 18th November – TBA			
<b>Luncheon Club</b>	<b>Th after 3rd Tu, 12.30 M</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>David Ling</b> 01623 822994
Next Meetings: Oct. 20th – The Hostess, Sookholme; Nov. 17th – Barker's, Clumber Christmas special: December 15th – Fine dining at Launay's (£16 for 2 courses.)			
<b><u>Music Groups</u></b>			
<b>Classical Music 1 *</b>	<b>Th2, 2.00 - 4.00 M</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>	<b>Alan &amp; Marlene Radford</b> 01623 427934
Next Meetings: 10th Nov. – The String Quartet with Peter; Dec. 8th – Your favourite music at St John's			

<b>Interest Group</b>	<b>Meetings</b>	<b>Meeting Places</b>	<b>Leader/Contact</b>
<b>Classical Music 2</b>	<b>Mo4, 2.00 - 4.00 M</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>	<b>Peter Hart</b> 01623 620940
Next Meetings: 24th Oct. – Woodwind at Mike's; Nov. 28th – Opera at Mary's			
<b>Music 2 *</b>	<b>Mo4, 2.00 - 4.30 M</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>	<b>Eric Prescott</b> 01623 631160
Next Meetings: 24th October; 28th November. (Ring Eric for details of venue)			
<b>Popular Music Appreciation</b>	<b>Tu4, 2.00 - 4.00 M</b>	<b>St John's School, Mansfield</b>	<b>Peter Haynes</b> 01623 451053
Next Meetings: 25th October; 28th November Next Concert Visit: TBA			
<b>Pudding Club *</b>	<b>Tu1, 4.00 M</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>	<b>Sylvia Slack</b> 01623 633981
Next Meeting: November 1st at Janet's. (No meeting in December)			
<b>Reading 1 *</b>	<b>Th3, 2.00 - 4.00 M</b>	<b>Peter Dawson's home</b>	<b>Peter Dawson</b> 01623 882191
Next Meetings: 20th October at Sylvia's; 17th November			
<b>Reading 2</b>	<b>Tu3, 2.00 - 4.00 M</b>	<b>Ravenshead Library</b>	<b>Joan Hufton</b> 01623 511713
Next Meetings: 18th October; 15th November			
<b>Science &amp; Technical</b>	<b>Tu1, 1.30 - 3.30 M</b>	<b>Stanton Hill Baptist Church, Skegby</b>	<b>Ian Boucher</b> 01623 644798
Next Meetings: 1st Nov. – <i>Tins &amp; Cans</i> by John Hufton. (No meeting in December) Next visit: TBA			
<b>Scrabble</b>	<b>Mo2, 2.00 - 4 .00 M</b>	<b>Brenda Thurkettle's home</b>	<b>Brenda Thurkettle</b> 01623 628136
Next Meetings: 14th November			
<b>Singing for Fun</b>	<b>Th2&amp;4, 6.30 - 8.00 F</b>	<b>Brunts School, Mansfield</b>	<b>June Fell</b> 01623 623547
Next Meetings: TBA Next Performance: TBA			
<b>Tai Chi</b>	<b>Mo, 9.30 - 10.30 W</b>	<b>Temp Venue The Rushley Inn (for 8 weeks)</b>	<b>Cliff Laycock</b> 01623 481985
Next Meetings: Oct. 17th, 24th & 31st; Nov. 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th			

<b>Interest Group</b>	<b>Meetings</b>	<b>Meeting Places</b>	<b>Leader/Contact</b>
<b>Theatre Visits</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Mike Allen</b> 01623 653345
Next visit: 30th November – Oddsocks 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' at Thoresby			
<b><u>Walking Groups</u></b>			
<b>Hikers</b> <i>(all-day, 6 - 8 miles)</i>	<b>Th1 &amp; Mo3, 9.30 F</b>	<b>Tesco car park, off Oak Tree Lane</b>	<b>Peter Thurkettle</b> 01623 628136
Next Meetings: 17th Oct. – High Peak Trail; Nov. 3rd – Calver/Stoney Middleton			
<b>Strollers</b> <i>(a leisurely 2 miles)</i>	<b>We2, 10.30 M</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Barbara Massey / Marion Thornton</b> 01623 628357 / 01623 651528
Next Meetings: 9th Nov. – Quarry Lane Nature Reserve. (No walk in December)			
<b>Walkers</b> <i>(an easy 4 - 5 miles)</i>	<b>We4, 10.30 M</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Sylvia Slack</b> 01623 633981
Next Meetings: 26th Oct. – Hardwick; 23rd Nov. – Sculpture Trail. (May change)			
<b>Whist</b>	<b>Various Sa, 7.30 M</b>	<b>Chatsworth Drive, Mansfield</b>	<b>Edith Senior</b> 01623 654022
Next Meetings: October 22nd; November 26th; December 17th			
<b>Wine Appreciation 2*</b>	<b>We3, 7.30 M</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>	<b>Mike Allen</b> 01623 653345
Next Meetings: Oct. 19th – Supermarket Chianti with Mike & Hilary; Nov. 16th – Chardonnay with George & Mavis; Dec. 14th – Xmas Party			
<b>Wine Appreciation 3*</b>	<b>Tu4, 7.30 M</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>	<b>Graham Allin</b> 01623 473662
Next Meetings: Oct. 25th – Wine Society Exhibition Wines with Barrie and Lynne; Nov. 22nd – Sherry with Jill; Dec. 17th – Xmas celebration with Eileen & Graham			

## **BOOK TABLE REPORT**

The take for September was £66.77, which was a record. This brings the total amount this year (January to September) to £385.92 – up from £341.19 in the same period last year.

This month the books that had been unsold for 3 months went to the British Heart Foundation in Sutton, who thankfully were able to collect as there would have been no room in the car for Lilian too and she didn't fancy walking or clinging to the roof.

Thanks to all those who helped and also to those who thrust cheques for Thoresby at me while I was selling books as well.

*Terry Whitehead.*

## ***Continued from page 4***

By the way, I've just returned from Southern Italy – Puglia, Calabria and Sicily. I won't bore you with a discussion of the many varieties of local grapes, but if you should come across a Nero d'Avola red from Sicily or a white Locorotondo from Puglia, buy and drink them – delicious.

*Mike Allen*

## ***Holidays***

### CROATIA BY AIR – to the Istrian Peninsula, 30th September to 7th October 2012

We will now be staying half-board at the excellent Hotel Pical, ten minutes walk from the centre of Porec and 130m from the beach at a cost of **£699** (add £65 for the single supplement).

Six superb excursions have been included – a day cruising the Eastern coast, a day to Plitvice National Park, a day to the caves of Postojna and Opatija, a day by boat to Cres, a half-day to the Brijuni Archipelago and an absolutely magnificent trip to Lake Bled in Slovenia. (This is a bonus – the company are doing me a favour.)

We shall be flying from Birmingham to Trieste (in Italy, but only just over the border) and all transfer costs are included in the price! (Other quotes are well over £800 and include only three excursions – and we would still have to pay for transfer costs!)



*Lake Bled*

(Pick up a full itinerary from me today if you want one or download it and full details of all our holidays from our website.)

The company's optional insurance costs £46.

*Margaret Burlinson* (01623 632538 or email [marburl@lineone.net](mailto:marburl@lineone.net))

## ***Luncheon Club***

OUR NEXT lunch, on October 20th, is at Ray and June Reader's choice of **The Hostess at Sookholme**, which many members will know as a popular venue for U3A events. It has had extensive refurbishments since the Lunch Club's last visit so long-standing members may find this lunch especially interesting. They will be offering two courses for just £10.50.

Then, on November 17th, Fred and Pam Brown will be introducing us to the new **Barker's Restaurant in Clumber Park** for a fine-dining lunch to prepare us for the festive season.

## **CHRISTMAS IS COMING!**

Deposits of £10 each are due today please if you've reserved your place for the highlight of our gastronomic year – *Joyeux Noel*, or Happy Christmas in the French style, at Launay's in Edwinstowe – on Thursday December 15th. There'll be four fine-dining courses to choose from for those with good appetites and exploratory tastes with costs from just £16 for two. A few places are still available so don't miss-out!

*David Ling*

## ***Theatre Visits***

THE FABULOUS Oddssocks are back with their version of *'The Merry Wives of Windsor'* at Thoresby, and I've booked 12 tickets for Wednesday 30th November.

So far, 11 people have expressed interest, so there's 1 ticket left. However, I reckon I could get more tickets if anybody else wanted to go, so get in touch on 01623 653345 as soon as possible.

*Mike Allen*

## **Beware**

I RECEIVED a call from a 'representative' of BT, informing me that he was disconnecting me because of an unpaid bill.

He demanded payment immediately of £31.00 or it would be £118.00 to re-connect at a later date and wasn't even fazed when I told him I was with Virgin Media. (Allegedly VM have to pay BT a percentage for line rental!)

I asked the guy's name – he gave me the very 'English' John Peacock with a very 'African' accent and his phone number, 0800 0800 152.

Obviously the fellow realized I didn't believe his story so he offered to demonstrate that he was from BT. I asked how and he told me to hang up and try phoning someone; he would dis-connect my phone to prevent this. AND HE DID!

My phone was dead; no engaged tone, nothing; until he phoned me again.

Very pleased with himself, he asked if that was enough proof that he was with BT. I asked how the payment was to be made and he said by credit card, there and then.

I said that I didn't know how he'd done it, but I had absolutely no intention of paying him, I didn't believe his name or that he worked for BT.

He hung up.

I dialled 1471 : number withheld.

I phoned his fictitious 0800 number: not recognized.

So I phoned the police to let them know. I wasn't the first but it's only just started apparently, and is escalating.

Their advice was to let as many people as possible know of this scam.

The fact that the phone does go off would probably convince some people it's real, so please make as many friends and family aware of this.

How is it done?

This is good but not that clever. He gave the wrong number – it should have been 0800 800 152, which takes you through to BT Business.

The cutting-off of the line is very simple: he stays on the line with the mute button on and you can't dial out; but he can hear you trying. (This is because the person who initiates a call is the one to terminate it). When you stop trying he cuts off and immediately calls back.

You could almost be convinced!

The sad thing is that it is so simple that it will certainly fool many.

By the way; this is not about getting the cash as this would not get past merchant services – it is all about getting the credit card details that include the security number, so that it can be used for far larger purchases.

*Terry Whitehead*

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*Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.  
Your children get only one childhood.*

## **North Notts Neighbourhood Group**

NINE neighbouring U3As were represented at the Autumn meeting of this group at the Jubilee Hall, Ollerton. These were Arnold, Ashfield, Dukeries, Hucknall, Mansfield, Retford, Sherwood, Sutton-in-Ashfield and Worksop. This is a record and shows the growth of the U3A movement within the county.

Our new county chairman, Liz Wilson, said it was hoped to launch a further seven Nottinghamshire U3As within the next year, the first of these being Ravenshead U3A, which has a meeting on 8th November in Ravenshead Church Hall.

Sutton-in-Ashfield U3A sent its Vice-Chairman, Sue Hastie, who told us of their progress and announced their new website, which has a reciprocal link with ours. So if you have friends in the Sutton-in-Ashfield area please tell them to go along before that too fills up.

The main part of the meeting was used to discuss our annual summer event following in the tradition. The five events so far have been three Picnics in the Park, a Summer Lunch and a Celebration Evening. As it will be the Queen's Jubilee year, suggestions revolved around this.

A further announcement will be made once all neighbouring committees have had the opportunity to discuss this event. In the meantime, if any Mansfield member has a suggestion please pass it on to the committee.

*Rita Turner, Chairman NNN Group*

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## **Nottinghamshire County Network**

REPRESENTATIVES from U3As all over Notts met at Southwell last month at another of these valuable get-togethers that are held several times a year to exchange ideas and learn from each other.

A report was given on the launch of new U3As in the County and support for struggling ones was discussed although most groups had rising numbers of enquiries to join as more people heard of us.

1. The Group Leaders' workshop at Brackenhurst had been a great success, with more than 30 attendees, and more are being planned.
2. The National AGM, held this year at Loughborough, had excellent speakers, much appreciated by members from Mansfield who had attended.
3. A Network Lecture by a well-known speaker is to be arranged.
4. U3As planning events to mark Olympic year were warned that the word '*Olympics*' could not to be used for legal reasons and '*Games 2012*' was suggested instead.
5. A Network concert featuring music and singing groups from all interested U3As is to be arranged.
6. It was agreed to continue the £15 subscription per U3A for next year.

We also discussed the possibility of arranging some shared-learning projects and John Martindale of Southwell U3A has already set-up links with Brackenhurst with a view to working jointly on monitoring wild life. (More info once established.)

The next meeting will be in February 2012 and I'll report again in due course.

*Sylvia Slack*

### **Poet Tree with Mist Aches**

I have a spelling chequer,  
It came with my pea sea;  
It plainly marques for my revue  
Miss steaks eye cannot sea.

Eye strike a quay, and right a word,  
And weight for it to say  
Whether I am wrong or write;  
It shows me strait away.

As soon as a miss steak is made,  
It nose bee fore two late  
And eye can put the error rite  
It's rarely rarely grate!

I've run this poem threw it,  
I'm shore yaw pleased to no  
It's letter perfect in its weigh;  
My chequer tolled me sew.

*Contributed by Pam Oscroft*

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### **Disclaimer**

THE VIEWS expressed here are those of the contributors, only, and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, the committee of Mansfield U3A or the Third Age Trust. Nor can any responsibility be accepted for errors that may occur.

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### **Next Issue**

*PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS for the November issue by email to mansfieldu3a@aol.com, or in typescript to the editor, as soon as you can and by 1st November at the latest. Thanks!*

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**Editor:** David Ling (01623 822994)

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