



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

SARUM U3A NEWSLETTER

Website: www.salisburyu3a.org.uk

March 2013

Number 211

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Dear Members

AGM time has come round again. A time when it is good to look at the year that has past and take stock.

Sarum U3A has had a good year. Excellent Coffee Morning speakers, an increase in membership and the many and varied group activities on offer. This, of course, has meant that many people have been involved in giving up their time to bring us extra pleasure, entertainment and friendship.

Here I would like to say how greatly we appreciate all they do and say a really big thank you from all the members to everyone who has contributed to the running of Sarum U3A in the last year.

THANK YOU SO MUCH for all you have done.

I'm sure we all look forward to the coming year.

Best wishes

Jenny

PLEASE REMEMBER

As this month we have the AGM followed by our speaker, please remember that our Coffee Morning may last a little longer than usual.

It would be appreciated if you would organise your late morning commitments accordingly.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Please note that coffee is served from 10.00am

Wednesday March 20th

A very busy coffee morning, we have the **AGM** which will include a presentation to Phyll Babb, followed by :

A talk by **John Bowman : Oman - Jewel of the Middle East**

John spent over 35 years working in construction management in the oil & gas industry, retiring at the beginning of 2011. His work took him and his wife all over the world but in particular the Sultanate of Oman where he worked on four projects totalling 11 years between 1979 and 2011. During this time he saw the Sultanate evolve from a poor and desolate place to a 'first world' country with excellent schools, medical facilities, road network, 21st century new towns, villages etc, etc. A fascinating country,

populated by wonderful people

Wednesday April 17th

Fred Swift ; 'A year in the life of a beekeeper' .

I thought this an appropriate topic for a Spring meeting. Today we welcome Fred the Wiltshire Beekeeper, this is now your chance to learn more about the interesting world of bees, bee-keeping and the vital work they do in the pollination of a great many of our crops and flowers.

There is a link from our meetings web page to The Wiltshire Beekeeper web site for those of you who would like more information and I have asked Fred to bring along some local honey and beeswax candles for anyone who would like to buy them .

Viv Johnson

BUSINESS SECRETARY

On the Notice Board this month :

Notification of a U3A seminar on *Marketing Self-Published Books*.

Date : 26 March 2013

Venue : National Union of Journalists, London

Cost : £25

More details from Gordon Pardy on 01722 504295

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Tony Munday, our Membership Secretary, is recovering from heart bypass surgery in Southampton General Hospital. We send Tony our best wishes for a speedy recovery

GROUPS

Firstly, a slightly unusual request:

Jan Going, at jan.going@ntlworld.com, is now proud possessor of a ukulele. Unfortunately she can't play it. Is there a hidden George Formby out there who can play it, and is willing to form a group so that she and others can learn? Please contact Jan and also

Mike & Pauline Watts, our Groups Organisers,
01722 322116

New Group : *Using your camera*, summer term.
Peter Read is starting a new group which will start
on **March 29th**. It will include outside trips to photo -
genic spots. More details on the web page.

Striders Walk, Thursday April 4th

Please meet at the Bat & Ball pub, Breamore, A338
Ringwood road for a 10 am start. The walk is 5 to 6
miles, past the Miz Maze, and on to Whitsbury.
Perhaps we'll see some bluebells (might be too
early). If you would like to join us, and for lunch, ring
Pat Cliffe on 01722 710308.

Walkers, Thursday March 28th

Please meet at the White Hart pub car park at
Bishopstone ready for a 10 am start. (Explorer 130
068258). We will walk up onto the drove track and
back, returning through the village to the White Hart
for lunch. Approx 4.5 miles. Please phone Maureen
on 01722 324690, or Marilyn on 01722 320216 by
Tuesday 26 March if you would like to join us.

Strollers March Walk

Probably to Grovely Wood. For details please ring
either Viv Spencer on 01725 512133, or Liz Kemp
on 01722 414514.

Sarum U3A Croquet

There are a few vacancies left in SARUM U3A
croquet group (open also to Salisbury and Spire
U3As) for the 2013 season, on Wednesday after-
noons from April 3rd to September 25th inclusive, at
the sports ground near Skew Bridge in Wilton Road.
The cost, payable in cash, is £10 to join for the sea-
son and £1 each time you play.

If you would like to attend as a visitor (once per sea-
son), from Sarum, Salisbury, or Spire U3As, to see
if you would like to join, please come and pay £1 on
the day.

Any enquiries please to:

Margaret White
01722 320806
marannwhite@hotmail.com

U3A Fine Dining Group

Nine intrepid gourmets braved a murky and misty
visit to the New Forest to lunch at 'Les Mirabelles'.
This restaurant called Le Frog (a bit of Gaulish hu-
mour) offers traditional French cuisine and is locat-
ed on the edge of the common at Nomansland. I am
pleased to report that it was well worthwhile as we
all enjoyed an excellent lunch from the extensive set
menu (3 Courses at £21.50). The choice ranged
from Duck to Sea Bass with stuffed chicken, sea-
food Lasagne, calves liver, and Beef fillet. Starters
and Sweet courses also met with widespread ap-
proval with a few innovative dishes such as 'field
mushroom with pig's trotter' adding interest. In
keeping with the University ethos of U3A the hard

work comes at the end of the meal (socialising al-
lowing). Clear heads are needed to work out a
score based on food quality, variety, service, ambi-
ence and value for money –which is then added up
and a mean value calculated! Les Mirabelles came
out at 27/30 which is several points higher than the
average for this seasons dining and most of us gave
an unprecedented 9 or 10/10 for food quality. So we
all departed into the mist in a very happy frame of
mind, admiring the ponies on the hoof rather than
on the menu. We all look forward to our next outing
in April to the south coast.

Bryan & Janet Griffiths

Salisbury U3A Science & Technology Group

*This group meets informally on the last Monday of the
month at Harnham Memorial Hall, Watersmeet Lane,
East Harnham, at 10 am. £1 to cover hall hire. Just turn
up.*

Monday March 25th

Untold stories of WW2 and LiDAR
Lawrence Shaw,
LiDAR Officer on the HLS project.

*(LiDAR is Light Detection and Ranging, an optical
equivalent of radar. HLS is Higher Level Steward-
ship, an initiative in environmental management.)*
Hope I got that right! Ed.

Salisbury & District U3A Visits

Please see the Notice Board at the Coffee Morning
on visits, notably Wednesday May 15 to Chartwell,
Kent, Churchill's home for many years.

Contact : John Ewington on 01722 500699
or : john.ewington@ntlworld.com

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions for the April Newsletter should reach
me no later than midday on **Tuesday April 9th**

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Editor

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