



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

SARUM U3A NEWSLETTER

Website: www.salisburyu3a.org.uk

December 2013

Number 220

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Dear Members

With Christmas coming up, New Year close behind and so many things to remember at this time of the year, first of all a quick reminder to get your tickets (a bargain price of £2 this year) for the New Year Party on January 15.

For the last few months Age UK have not had a representative at our Monthly Meeting. I am pleased to say that from January Norma Stephenson will be available to give and help and advice that anyone may require. Don't hesitate to use her knowledge. Finally may I wish all of you a most enjoyable Christmas and look forward to 2014 being a good year for us all.

Best wishes
Jenny

COFFEE MORNINGS

Please note that coffee is served from 10.00am

Wednesday 18th December

Castles and Roses

Robert Wright will be speaking to us today on traditional Canal boat Art.

Merry Christmas to everyone

Wednesday January 15th 2014

New Year Party

Tickets will be on sale at the December Coffee Morning. Alternatively, on receipt of a £2 cheque made payable to SARUM U3A, and an s.a.e, I will post tickets out to you.

Maureen Pardy, 35 Bishops Mead Close, Salisbury SP1 1RU

The Musical Theatre of Gilbert and Sullivan by Bernard Lockett

Bernard will speak to us on the successful and influential partnership of Gilbert and Sullivan.

Viv Johnson

LOIRE VALLEY WINE TOUR

Sarum U3A's next wine tour is a six day visit to the Loire Valley in France from 14 September 2014.

We travel overnight by ferry from Portsmouth to Caen and will be staying in a 3* hotel in Saumur.

The trip will include many visits to wineries and some sightseeing.

The cost for a group of 30 people will be approx. £625 per person.

If you think you may be interested please let me know on 01722 504295 or at mpardy@hotmail.co.uk.

Maureen Pardy

BUSINESS SECRETARY

At the notice board this month:

A flyer advertising next year's U3A event at the Royal Institution which will take place on Mon 24 March. As usual the programme looks fascinating, with lectures on 'Bubbles: the bath and beyond', 'The conversational racetrack' and 'Biological clocks, light and what happens in a cave'. Tickets cost £20 and are on sale immediately.

Information on the National Summer Schools in 2014. The dates are 14 - 17 July at Harper Adams University, Edgmond, Shropshire and 18 - 21 August at the Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

Gordon Pardy

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Thanks to all who have already sent their renewal form for next year's membership. Do not worry if your cheque has not yet gone through your bank. It is impractical to pay in two or three cheques at a time and your Treasurer would not be happy to have to take a few to the bank every day!

Some members have questioned whether paper renewal is necessary. The main reason that I do it is that, every year, about 25 members drop out for various reasons and I need an up to date list to get membership cards printed as soon as possible after all the renewals are in. I should not have to guess that you are going to stay. The Chair and most of the committee have sent in a form. So can you. How long does it take to write your name and address?!

Cards will probably be available for collection at the February Monthly Meeting (aka Coffee Morning!)

Although the Newsletter Editor sends renewal forms and also sends various information on our behalf, all changes of circumstances, including changes of e-mail addresses, should be sent to me. He has enough to do without having to forward messages that should obviously be dealt with by me.

If you change address, please do not send a direct message to that effect to the editors of the "U3A News". This has to be done in a special format by me otherwise they get cross and send your message back to me and will not action it anyway!

Tony Munday

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SARUM U3A VISITS

Don't delay – buy your tickets today!

We have a few seats left for our visit in April to Tyntesfield and the Herschel Museum in Bath.

Come and see me at the December Coffee Morning or phone 01980 655665.

Judith Copeland

GROUPS

Striders Thursday January 2nd 2014

The walk will be from Longridge, Church Street, Winterbourne Stoke SP3 4SU. Please assemble at 1000hrs for a stride down (and gentle walk back - for those recovering from New Year celebrations) the Till Valley. Light lunch at Longridge. Please confirm attendance for the walk and lunch to John Summerhayes on 01980 620737 or

john@ljssummerhayes.com by 1200hrs 1 Jan 2014

Rummikub

As the first Wednesday in January is New Year's Day, Rummikub will not happen in January.

BIRD-WATCHING FOR BEGINNERS

This group has been running for nineteen years and some of the "beginners" are still attending after ten of them! Our aim is to visit a wide variety of habitats from lakes to river valleys, woodland (including the New Forest) to open downland, in the hope of seeing some of the regular as well as less common inhabitants in their natural surroundings. We also try to make a visit to the coast each winter and end the year in July with a day at the Hawk Conservancy. There are current vacancies on the course which meets at ten a.m. on the first Monday of the month (if Bank Holiday, then second Monday) at 66 St Ann Street.

Contact Geoffrey Knollys on 01722 506656

Jean Lunn

U3A Playwriting Competition

A Third Age Press collection of 45-minute plays: *The Play Reader 2013: yet more plays by thirdagers* has just been published and includes a play by Jean Lunn of Sarum U3A. This is the third in a series intended for photocopying and reading or performing by U3A or other groups. Jean's play, *The Herbert Love Poem Society*, is a tongue-in-cheek story about villagers trying to save a rectory where the poet George Herbert *might* have written a poem for the rector's daughter. Thanks to the mesmeric imagination of one character, the action switches between the 17th and 21st centuries. Jean is a member of the George Herbert in Bemerton Group, and the historical background is mostly accurate, but the love poem and modern characters are, of course, entirely fictitious! Herbert enthusiasts could try to spot the 70 or more references to his poems. More on Pg.50 of the Winter 'Third Age Matters' magazine or www.thirdagepress, where copies can be ordered online or by mail, or ask Jean for further details.

Faye Symington

A Staffordshire group are taking over Salisbury Youth Hostel January 27-30 2014 before it closes down. They are hoping to contact Sarum U3A on Tuesday/Wednesday of that week to meet for a meal there, or some other activity. If you are interested contact Faye on faye@fayesymington.co.uk

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions should reach me no later than midday on **Tuesday January 14th**.

Best wishes for Christmas and for 2014!

Frank Doran, Editor

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