



Registered Charity No 1095635

# SETTLE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 10/17 July 2019

[www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk](http://www.settledistrictu3a.org.uk)

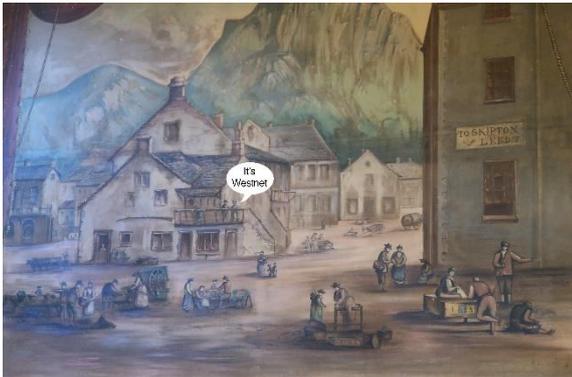
## Letter from the chair

**Hello,**

I hope you are enjoying the good weather. The wider implications of climatic variables perhaps concern us. Maybe there is potential for a future U3A activity to consider such matters?

In the meantime, there is our Open/Enrollment Meeting - Thursday 8th AUGUST, when new and current members can also sign up for Groups. We have many (in fact all are!) interesting Groups. Perhaps you want to return to one you enjoy and/or look at something new to quench your curiosity. An enrolment form can be downloaded from the website and signing up to groups can be done on-line but if you like to browse and chat too then FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE followed by VICTORIA HALL are the places to be on 8th AUGUST from 10 am.

I have been talking with many members over recent months particularly and am struck again by how much everyone values U3A with all its interests and opportunities including friendships, on offer. Some have now come forward to fill the vacancies on Committee which is good (Phew!). There are many others who support and are involved in making things work well, who are not Committee Members, of course. Never feel you cannot suggest ideas or volunteer your skills, otherwise. The ethos of U3A is do things ourselves for ourselves - by our membership for our membership.



Another 'string to our bow' is accessing WestNet events. I know some go regularly to the bi-annual Summer School to be held this August in Easingwold. The WestNet Summer History Trail in Settle last month, was well attended by up to 60 people from each area - great fun on a glorious sunny evening. There will be another chance to visit Leeds Re-cycling Centre and also visit to Drax Power Station.

Have you read your copy of Third Age Matters? The new format was more inviting and interesting and seems to have met with general approval. There is an on-line version of 'Sources' now which gives information and photographs of U3A activities up and down the country. The recent edition has a piece about our own Shared-Learning Project with Holy Ascension Church - a Family History Group initiative - 'Curious Tales from the Graveyard'. Book launch to follow! Hoping to see you soon,

**Jackie**

**August Meeting: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August in the Victoria Hall and The Friends' Meeting House from 10 am**  
**OPEN MEETING FOR JOINING, RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP AND SIGNING UP FOR GROUPS**



The Ribblesdale Area Moving Picture Show

**Wednesday**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Aug 7.45 pm**  
**Victoria Hall, Settle**  
**C'EST LA VIE! (15)**

*Please keep copy to approx 150 words and submit for the next newsletter by*  
**FRIDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 to: Chris Taylor [christine@castlebergh.plus.com](mailto:christine@castlebergh.plus.com)**  
**Tel: 01729 823975**  
*Copy will be acknowledged by email. Wherever possible, the full account is used but occasionally it is necessary to edit the piece to fit the printed copy. The full submissions will be used on the website version.*

## NEWS FROM AND FOR THE GROUPS

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Again, this year renewals can be made by BACS (Sort Code 40-40-31 Acc No: 21384406), cheque or cash **though no longer by PayPal which has been found to be too expensive and inflexible for our system.** The committee has decided to hold the rates at the same level as last year namely £15 per person or £29 for couples living at the same address but those that can afford it are actively encouraged to make a voluntary small donation of up to £5 a head which still gives extraordinarily good value to members.

### BRIDGE GROUP



### GEOLOGY GROUP - Norber erratics

Twelve members of the Geology group visited Norber erratics on Tuesday 18th June. We walked from Austwick up to the erratics and spent some time walking through the area and examining the way they have protected the limestone pedestals that some of them sit on.



Looking over the wall we could see where most of the large Silurian greywacke boulders had been transported from by the ice in the last Ice Age and dumped in the limestone pavement at a slightly higher level. We returned to Austwick via the unconformity between the Ordovician rocks and the Carboniferous limestone, a gap of over 60 million years when the area was being eroded during the Devonian period.

**Keith Waterson**

## BIRDWATCHING GROUP



Redstart –  
A Bolton  
Abbey  
treasure

The Group's June meeting took us to Strid Woods at Bolton Abbey where we enjoyed good views of a wide range of birds. On the river we saw a family of Common Sandpipers, and Grey Wagtail, Oystercatcher, Swallow and Sand Martin, amongst others. In the woods we found Blackcap, Nuthatch, Siskin, Treecreeper, Willow Warbler and many more. The highlights were very close views of nesting Redstart, Pied Flycatcher and Spotted Flycatcher.

The Group completed the first year of its latest incarnation at Malham Cove on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. As well as the spectacular Peregrine Falcons we were treated to the year's first views of Green Woodpecker.

The Group is now looking ahead to the 2019-20 season which opens with a trip to Nosterfield Wetlands in September. For more information check out the Birdwatching Group's page on the U3A website or contact Group Leader:

**Les Chandler on [Ichandler52@gmail.com](mailto:Ichandler52@gmail.com).**

### GREAT LIVES

Our final meeting of the 2018/19 season in June was given a superb and moving presentation by Keith Bradshaw on the subject of Wilfred Owen, one of the most influential of the WW1 poets. Born in 1893, he was teaching English in the south of France when war broke out in 1914 and witnessed the poor treatment of returning French wounded. Back home he joined the army and was gazetted as second lieutenant in the Manchester Regiment and saw action on the Western Front in 1916/17. In no-man's land he suffered the effects of a nearby shell explosion, producing what was later called shell shock. Recouperating in the Craiglockart War Hospital near Edinburgh he met Siegfried Sassoon and was inspired to write his most influential work there-notably the savagely honest "Anthem for doomed youth" and "Dulce et decorum est" which showed the carnage of trench warfare. Returning to the front line, Owen was awarded the Military Cross for bravery, but

was tragically killed just one week prior to the Armistice in November 1918.

The Group's first meeting of the new season will be on Wednesday 18th September (Victoria Hall 11.00pm) when Chris Petrie will talk about the life of Samuel Plimsoll.

*John Jebson*

## **FAMILY HISTORY GROUP**



The end of year outing for the Family History Group didn't go very far this year - to the graveyard at Holy Ascension Church. We celebrated one year's work on the 'Curious Tales from the Ancient Graveyard Project' by having the first 'Graveyard Tour' by researcher Sarah Lister, learning about the sinners and saints from the church who had been buried in the graveyard.

There were some amazing stories and we really enjoyed ourselves, and thanks to the Church for their great hospitality. It was a fitting end to a busy year, and we look forward to more discoveries next year. The book of the stories unearthed during the project will be published soon and further graveyard tours will take place over the summer.



Sarah Lister – project manager and forthcoming Giver of Graveyard Tours