



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK

The holidays are here.



## NEWS BITES! DEC. 2018

Sharing ideas across 32 U3As in Nottinghamshire

### U3A-Grouptalk

As an aid to group leaders and U3A members organising specialist speakers and visits, we have created an online forum. U3A-Grouptalk is designed to make it easier for people to share information and ask questions of similar groups in other U3As. From Bird Watching, through History to Science and Technology and Engineering, there are many groups where visits and specialist speakers really make the difference. The ability to learn from other similar groups helps all of us to enrich our U3A experience. The forum is built in Google Groups and is very easy to set up and use. Give it a try and see if it works for you. Any problems or suggestions, please post in the forum (preferably) or you can email me on [paul.fileman@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.fileman@btinternet.com)

### Science and Technology

It is planned to hold a meeting for Nottinghamshire U3A members (and those nearby) which already run a Science and Technology interest group, and similar groups such as "How do they do that". We welcome anyone who is considering starting such a group. We will describe how existing groups are run and exchange recommendations of speakers, visits, and the range of topics covered. It is hoped that a network of links between such groups will be established as an ongoing source of information, to assist to the development of groups.

The meeting will take place on Thursday 21st February 2019 2pm - 4pm in room 2 at the Centre at St Peters, Sheepwalk Lane, Ravenshead, Nottinghamshire, BG15 9FD. To reserve your place, please contact Alan Paul, Ravenshead U3A, [alanpaul7833@gmail.com](mailto:alanpaul7833@gmail.com). Possible numbers 30 maximum. Room hire has kindly been agreed by Ravenshead U3A. Paul Martinez, Network Support Officer.

### Beacon—Peer Support Event

Hosted by Carlton & Gedling U3A

Richard Herrod Centre

Foxhill Rd, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 1RL

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 10.30 – 12.30

£ 3 p/p for room hire and coffee/biscuits (pay on the door)

up to 3 people per U3A

Plenty of car parking space

This event is suitable for non-users of Beacon, or where U3As are already using Beacon for Technical people (webmasters and administrators), Treasurers, Membership Secretaries, Group Co-ordinators / Convenors.

Could each U3A please contact me at [lynne.jaremzenko@ntlworld.com](mailto:lynne.jaremzenko@ntlworld.com) with the names of the three people attending and details of which of the 5 sessions above they wish to participate in.

### Welcome—Wollaton

Over 130 people attended the launch meeting of Wollaton U3A in November. There were quite a few members of Beeston U3A as helpers or as participants and a big thank you is due to Sue Blackley, Margot Gale and colleagues from Beeston who made the whole meeting go with a swing. Ten people signed up on the day to join the new Steering Committee and an even larger number (eighteen no less) offered to help run interest groups. From the evidence of the show of hands, the large majority of the participants are not currently members of any U3A. The success of the Wollaton launch so far seems to provide further evidence that people can be attracted to the a new U3A based in their local community. Fingers crossed for the first proper meeting of the U3A on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. Paul Martinez, Network Support Officer.

### National Subject Advisors

National Subject Advisors are a great resource for Convenors—especially when thinking of setting up a new group but also to help with revitalising existing groups. A list of them can be found on the TAT website and TAM publishes details of new appointees.

We have at least one such National Subject Advisor within the Notts Network—who knew?

Geoff Futcher is the NSA for Comedy and Humour - "I have been running my own group for about six years, and was only encouraged to do this when I discovered, somewhat to my surprise, that there was a Subject Advisor in place. Following the 'retirement' of the last one there has been a gap of quite a few months, and I felt that this should be filled. My details are of course on the U3A National web-site, and I should be pleased to hear from anyone who is having difficulty getting their interest group off the ground, is contemplating starting one, or who is looking for fresh ideas for an established group. [geoff.futcher101@virginmedia.com](mailto:geoff.futcher101@virginmedia.com)

In addition to contacting Geoff to help you with a Comedy or Humour Group, if there are any other National Subject Advisors within the Notts Network then Newsbites would love to hear from you

If your U3A would like to host a Peer Group event please contact Paul Martinez [pkmartinez14@gmail.com](mailto:pkmartinez14@gmail.com)



Please forward items for News Bites to [lynne.jaremzenko@ntlworld.com](mailto:lynne.jaremzenko@ntlworld.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.

