

Sheffield



Links 168: December 2013



Membership renewal: see page 5

SU3A Executive Committee

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3 Knowle Court, Button Hill, Sheffield S11 9HH		chair@sheffieldu3a.org.uk

Vice-Chair	t.b.a.
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Minutes Secretary	Ann Barclay	(0114) 230 4327
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Membership Records Officer	Lorna Baker	(0114) 236 9025
8 Thornsett Gardens, Sheffield S17 3PP		members@sheffieldu3a.org.uk

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Database Manager	Clare Chiba	(01433) 659 864
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YAHR Representative	Denise West	(0114) 274 6797
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For queries about membership, joining SU3A, information on Groups etc. see the contacts list inside the back cover

From the Chair

We are zooming, at quite some speed, to the end of another calendar year. For SU3A it has been another successful year, with more members and more Groups. I realize that we are big and that we cannot have the intimacy of monthly meetings for everybody which are enjoyed by other U3As, but to counterbalance that we have such a variety of subject Groups, outings and events that other U3As envy. I try, as do other Executive Committee members, to make contact with as many of you as possible throughout the year and again ask for invitations to visit Groups.

I know that both past Chairmen and I seem to continually talk about volunteers and volunteering but it is the single most important issue that we deal with.

U3A is a SELF-HELP organization: we do not have paid staff running it.

All the work that you see, *Links* magazine, meetings, lectures, lunches, coach trips etc. are run by members in their own time. They get no remuneration, and often very little thanks, for the hours they put in. In order to make their lives easier, it would simply take a few more people to give a couple of hours a week to SU3A. We all know that sharing a job makes it easier and more pleasant. We do not ask you for much money, £10.00 per year is less than many other U3As and certainly less than other organisations, but we do ask for a small amount of your time!

Perhaps you do not feel that you have the skills to help. Do not worry, there are many jobs to be done such as helping at Drop-Ins. There are jobs from making tea to chatting to new members, all of which need new volunteers. We are considering a Volunteers' Charter whereby members sign up to be a volunteer and we promise not to call on them more than three or four times a year. Surely that is not too difficult to promise? We are also aware that commitments to family, holidays and health play a part at our age, so nothing is compulsory. It is not easy asking for help. If we do not get people coming forward, then we will close eventually. The volunteers we have are tired. They have served their time and often have no-one in the wings waiting to step up and take over. So, as you are enjoying your next U3A event or outing, give a thought and decide to contact us to offer a few hours of your time. It is fun. It must be, or none of us would do it.

*Cover photo: A Brocken Spectre that appeared when Jackie Davies completed the Munros.
Read all about it on page 11*

A few Sheffield members recently attended a Study Day on Jane Austen held by YAHR (Yorkshire and Humber Region). It was a very good day with an excellent speaker. There are more study days in the pipeline. Some may be held in Sheffield so keep your eyes and ears open as they are well worth attending.

Two of us went to the U3A Annual Conference in Nottingham. This was a busy and informative conference with very good keynote speakers including John Bercow, the Speaker of the House of Commons, who, we were very pleased to tell everyone, had visited Sheffield to give one of our lectures. The Lecture Series held each month at the Showroom Cinema is going from strength to strength with an excellent quality of speaker on a wide variety of topics and it is free. Details are always on the back cover of *Links*.

Let us hope that the coming of winter does not mean that too many of our events are hit by inclement weather. We only had to cancel one event last winter which goes to show how hardy we are in Sheffield. The increase in the use of email has meant that we can now contact over 80% of members if we have to cancel an event. If you do not have a computer, try to arrange to be an email buddy with a friend who has email so that they can inform you of any cancellation notices.

I wish you all a Happy Christmas and do have an active and busy New Year.

Jean Stevenson

Chair

You will need to renew your membership

Just follow these simple steps:

- 1. Find the envelope that this *Links* came in and read the address label.**
- 2. If your membership number is greater than 6,000 cut out the form on page 5.**
- 3. Complete the form and send the form and a cheque to Lorna Baker.**

Do it now as late renewals will incur a surcharge of £5.00

Sheffield University of the Third Age

2014 Membership Renewal Form

Regd. Charity No 703147

Name (1): (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms):

Date of birth: (dd/mm/yyyy) ____ / ____ / ____

Email:

Address:

.....

Postcode: Tel No:

Name (2): (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms):

Date of birth: (dd/mm/yyyy) ____ / ____ / ____

Email:

I / We attach a payment of £ for membership at **£10.00** per person.

If you do NOT wish to receive the national U3A News tick here:[...]

Please note that members not renewing before 28 February 2014 will be deemed to have resigned.

There will be a late renewal charge of £5.00 after this date.

Gift Aid Declaration

If you are a UK taxpayer Sheffield U3A can claim back tax on your subscription(s) provided that your current annual tax bill is more than the tax reclaimed (£2.50 on an £10.00 subscription). If so, please complete the declaration below:

I,, (*print name*) am a UK taxpayer in accordance with the above and wish Sheffield U3A to treat the above subscription(s) as Gift Aid donation(s).

Signed: Date:

**Please make cheques payable to: *Sheffield U3A* and send to:
Mrs Lorna Baker, 8 Thornsett Gardens, Sheffield S17 3PP.**

Volunteers needed for a study of language and ageing

Healthy volunteers from any educational background are needed to participate in a study which investigates how language skills change as people age.

Participants will be asked to complete a series of new linguistic tests.

The information collected from this research study will be beneficial for establishing normative performance on new language tests and help to better understand the difference between patterns of deficits typical of normal ageing and those disrupted by disease, for example Alzheimer's disease.

Your participation will consist of two sessions, each lasting approximately half an hour and can be arranged at your convenience.

This study has ethical approval from the University of Sheffield Medical School Ethics committee.

Supervisor: Prof. Annalena Venneri, Department of Neuroscience
Translational Neuropsychology Group, Royal Hallamshire Hospital

If you wish to be part of this study or require more information please do not hesitate to contact:

Caroline Carta

ccarta1@sheffield.ac.uk

(0114) 271 1597

U3A 2014 Diaries

Ideal for Christmas presents.

Still just £2.00 including postage. Check your last copy of *Links* or check the website, www.sheffieldu3a.org.uk, for an order form.

Events

Study Day: World War 1

Friday 4 April 2014 10.00 for 10.15 start

Weston Park Museum, Western Bank, S10 2TP

The morning will consist of two lectures divided by a coffee/tea break. Our two speakers will be Dr Matthew Stibbe (Hallam University Department of History) whose expertise is in German History of the first half of the twentieth century and Dr Miriam Dobson (Sheffield University History Department) a specialist in Russian History. They will be able to offer perspectives on the War from the German and Russian points of view.

At the end of the morning lunch can be purchased in the Museum café.

From 14.00 onwards participants will be free to view the Museum's First World War exhibition. Members of the learning team at Weston Park, responsible for curating the exhibition, will be in attendance to answer any queries. The focus here will be on more local experiences of the War and should provide an interesting contrast to the morning lectures.

The museum can accommodate an audience of 60. Cost for the day, including mid-morning refreshments, will be **£5.00** per person.

Please complete the form on page 24 if you would like to attend.

Linda Evans



'Gassed' by John Singer Sargent on show at the Imperial War Museum



A Sunday Lunch

Sunday 19 January 2014 at 12.00

Brighten up a January Sunday by joining us for lunch on Sunday 19 January 2014. This time we are returning to Ego restaurant on Surrey Street. Ego's menu includes fish, meat and chicken dishes as well as pasta and pizzas. There is also a fixed price menu which costs £12.95 for 2 courses.

Please arrive at 12 noon for a 12.30 start. Choose and pay for your meal on the day.

If you wish to join us, please complete the form on page 22 and return it to Jane Whitehead with a small SAE by Monday 6 January 2014.

Please ring (0114) 230 9312 for further information.



The Beetles Return Again!

Saturday 15 February 2014 at 13.30

By popular request, we will be having another Beetle Drive on Saturday 15 February 2014. It will be held in the upstairs room at the Central United Reformed Church (CURC) on Norfolk Street at 13.30.

The cost is **£12.00** per person.

For a change, it will be held **in the afternoon** and will include an afternoon tea. There will be prizes for winners - and losers.

If you fancy spending a few hours drawing beetles, return the form on page 22 to Jane Whitehead, enclosing your cheque made payable to **Sheffield U3A Weekenders** and a small SAE by Tuesday 4 February 2014.

Please ring (0114) 230 9312 for further information.

The Weekenders Group is an open one requiring no specific membership.

Our 2014 programme includes more open-air Shakespeare in Stamford, a visit to the BBC in Salford, a day at the races and trips to a couple of stately homes. Look out for details in future issues of *Links*.

Friday Lecture Programme 2013-2014

Venue: Showroom Cinema 4 (unless stated). Free (unless stated).

Refreshments from 09.30. Lecture from 10.30 to 12 noon.

Half-price parking at Q-Park with a voucher from the Box Office.

20 December O Little Town of Bethlehem

Jenny Bywaters

The experiences of a volunteer in Jerusalem and the West Bank as part of the World Council of Churches' Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme

17 January

New Wine in Old Bottles



Prof Peter Blundell-Jones, Department of Architecture, University of Sheffield

Conversion of old buildings as policy and memory rather than as compromise.

21 February

The Brutal Reality of Climate Change

Dr Aaron Thierry, Department of Animal and Plant Science, University of Sheffield.

Enquiries: *Shelagh Woolliscroft* *(01246) 416 139*



Attention !

Did you renew your membership?

See page 5

Watch Out ! The MOOCs are about

The world of online learning has been developing at a great pace. The latest innovation is *MOOCs*. MOOC stands for Massive Open Online Course.

MOOCs are high quality, multimedia courses produced by leading universities around the world, delivered to the desktop via a browser – and they are completely free. They cover a wide range of subjects from poetry to quantum mechanics and dinosaurs to philosophy and range in length from a couple of weeks to several months. The first MOOC ran in 2012 and was expected to have 2,000 students. It had 156,000. One provider in the US now has over 5 million students around the world on 535 courses from 107 partners in 12 different languages.

The main providers have been edX and Coursera in the US but now the UK is launching its own project, FutureLearn, as part of the Open University.



Most of the courses for FutureLearn will start in the new year but some are being tested now and U3A members are already helping with this.

Sheffield University is involved in FutureLearn and they are planning a MOOC called *The Country House* to be written by Professor Jim Fitzmaurice. This will launch in spring 2014.

The course will be based on houses in the Yorkshire region and SU3A has offered to help. It is likely that volunteers will be needed to try the course before it is officially launched so if you think you would enjoy helping with this project then email the editor at links@sheffieldu3a.org.uk to register your interest.

Denise West

Stop Press: Just arrived on FutureLearn

Shakespeare's Hamlet: text, performance and culture: University of Birmingham

Good brain, bad brain: Basics: University of Birmingham

Exploring our oceans: University of Southampton

Exploring anatomy: The human abdomen: University of Leeds

Understanding drugs and addiction: King's College London

Good brain, bad brain: Parkinson's disease: University of Birmingham

U3A Walker Compleats (!) Munros

YES – that is how you spell it! – as in compleat angler!

This autumn Jackie Payne of Walking Group F climbed Ben Lomond and in so doing joined a group of compleatists who have climbed 282 Munros, mountains in Scotland each one with a minimum height of 3000 feet.



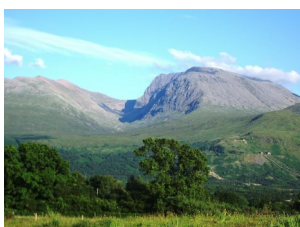
Jackie celebrates !

Despite starting off in grey cloud and drizzle, conditions cleared somewhat at the summit and the occasion was made even more memorable by the appearance of Brocken Spectres. A Brocken Spectre occurs when the shadow of an observer cast against mist or cloud below a ridge is surrounded by what appears to be a circular rainbow. Whilst this phenomenon is not so rare, one can walk a lifetime without seeing one, let alone repetitions of one!

Understandably champagne corks were popped at the summit where Jackie's fellow walkers (27 in total) included 12 members of Walking Group F, of whom no fewer than 5 were also compleatists!

Family and friends from both England and Scotland continued the celebrations in the evening when 30 people sat down together for a well-deserved dinner at the Rowardennan Hotel.

Many congratulations to Jackie – a great personal achievement, but testimony also to the support and affection which our Group members provide for each other – just one more example, albeit a very special one, of the advantages of getting involved in SU3A.



Group News

New Groups

New Social Group

It has been suggested by a member that there is a need for more chance for members to meet and chat. It is felt that the monthly Drop-In is not often enough and does not afford the opportunity to simply make friends.

Whilst the Executive Committee see this as a good idea, they do not have the resources to organise such an event. If you are interested in meeting weekly, fortnightly or monthly in town to chat to fellow members and maybe make plans for more socialising, please let one of the Committee, the Chairman, Secretary or General Coordinator know. Their contact details are inside the front cover of *Links*.

We will collate the numbers and pass them on.

Members would be responsible for organising venues and keeping in touch with each other. Once established, the Group would be self-sufficient, self-run and members would be expected to help each other in the day-to-day running of such a Group.

Rummikub

A new Group is opening in the SE and more members are required. If you would like to come and give us a try you would receive a warm welcome. Members of an existing group will be there to help you learn how to play.

We intend to meet on alternate Monday afternoons at 14.00.

The venue is close to the Waterthorpe tram stop. If you are interested please phone Barbara Steel on (0114) 247 4696

Woodworking facilities

We have had a tentative offer of premises in a cellar which is dry and fitted out for woodworking (bench, tools etc.). If any woodworkers need the facilities and can resurrect this cellar's usefulness then, in the first instance, get in touch with me, General Coordinator, and we can plan an assessment of its suitability.

Jim Walker

groups@sheffieldu3a.org.uk

(0114) 236 9687

Italian for Beginners

It is hoped to start a new class of Italian for beginners in January 2014 using the BBC publication Talk Italian 1. The course deals with holiday situations such as introducing yourself, buying drinks, finding the way to places of interest, booking into hotels, ordering in restaurants, buying clothes, using local transport etc. and there will be a lot of role playing practice in class. The structures of the language are presented in these contexts. Students will need the course book and preferably the accompanying audio material to listen to at home. The classes will probably be an hour and a half long, with a break in the middle.

If you are interested in joining the Group please get in touch with me. I have not yet found a venue for the Group (8 – 12 participants would be good) but it may be in the Hunter's Bar area.

Mel Kingsley *melkingsley@onetel.com* *(0114) 230 2701*

Racketball (Stocksbridge)

Racketball is the UK's fastest growing sport! It is played on any regular squash court and is similar to squash. In racketball players use a larger ball, which does not need warming up like in squash, and a shorter racket is used.

The fact that the ball is bigger, more bouncy and does not need warming up means that the rallies last longer as the ball moves more slowly giving the opponent more time to react and get to the ball. The shorter racket also helps with hand/eye coordination making the ball easier to strike. Overall this makes the game much easier to pick up than many other sports like squash or tennis. There is more information at www.uk-racketball.com.

We would like to start a new SU3A Group at the Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre. It is possible that we may be able to access some funding for coaching and free equipment hire for the first few weeks. One of our fellow SU3A members who is a racketball player is willing to help get the Group up and running.

If you are interested please contact me - letting me know any days when you cannot play.

(There is also a fantastic indoor bowling green at the centre if anyone wants to set up a bowling group.)

Elaine Smith *elainesmith390@gmail.com* *(0114) 288 8634*

New Members Welcome

Story Writing Group



Ever thought of writing? We offer a friendly group meeting monthly on a Tuesday in S11 for a mixture of short story writing and/or exercises.

Take your first writing journey by contacting:

Margaret Briddon Coordinator mebridd@aim.com (0114) 262 0501

Indian Veggie Buffet

Out-Of-Town Curry House Gets Top Vote

Every month sixteen members of the Indian Veggie Buffet Group venture to a different curry house in the region. The menu is discussed with the manager or the chef to see if any specialities can be supplied or created. Four main dishes with various accompaniments are normally chosen and these are distributed down the table so that each person can sample the dishes on offer. All the dishes are meat-free. This is an opportunity for meat eaters to experience varieties of vegetarian food.

Members recently voted on the ten restaurants visited since the Group started last autumn. The highest score achieved was by 'Little India at Lover's Leap' located at Stoney Middleton. This was the only out-of-town venue in the survey. Other venues to score well were Cutlers Spice at Gleadless in second place and Kashmiri Aroma at Woodseats in third place. We like newcomers to join us if numbers permit on the evening.

John Wragg

Coordinator

(0114) 229 5181

Racketball

Our photo shows one of our racketball groups relaxing as the rain poured down outside. Have you ever thought of giving racketball a try? Why



not? It is a game easy to learn and fun to play. Join one of our friendly mix of beginners and erstwhile racket players, in pleasant surroundings, with equipment and tuition provided, Monday morning or Thursday afternoon. Call Peter Keen (0114) 236 4914 or Peter Hawksworth (0114) 230 7678 for more details.

Fitness – Tailor Made for You

This U3A Group does exactly what it says on the tin.

Sessions happen three times a week: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings, but check availability. Make contact in the first instance with the Group Coordinator, who will arrange for an informal consultation with the Trainer to discuss fitness levels, injuries, medication, hopes and expectations.

From there the flexible commitment is on a 6-weekly basis, to be renewed as often as you wish. The sessions are small (never more than 6 people) circuit-type groups but with the exercises planned to suit each individual's needs. Not a row of gym machinery or leotards in sight!

If you would like to chat with one of the U3A members who already enjoys and values these sessions then that can easily be arranged. The venue is in Sharrow Head, Sheffield 11 which is easily accessible and has local parking.

Ann Evans

(0114) 348 6607

Passages Theatre Group

This Group has really taken off this year and has produced a number of successful performances.

Under the direction of Sheffield University PhD student Bridie Moore months of practice and rehearsal have been turned into a varied programme of performances.

The Group is part of a Shared Learning Project whereby U3A participates in a research project proposed by another institution, in this case Sheffield University, to produce a piece of innovative and original research to the benefit of both U3A members and to the wider community.

The outcome so far has been the theatre production 'LIFE ACTS' which explores the experience of ageing through improvisations based on the experiences and ideas of group members.

Part of the enjoyment of the group consists in experimenting with various ideas and seeing if they work through rehearsal. Amongst successful improvisations have been dramatic representations of first memories, age discrimination, exploring attitudes to ageing and examining hopes and fears about ageing. The group has also developed musical improvisations to accompany various scenarios.



The major performance so far took place at the University Drama Studio before a capacity audience. Two performances were also held in Sheffield Winter Garden where the group was relieved to find the performance went down well before an uninvited and mobile audience looking for sandwiches and coffees during their lunch breaks. Typical audience reactions have included: 'focused and confident performances of personal material'; 'made me feel more positive about ageing as the cast themselves showed there is still so much you can accomplish'; 'the music was captivating in mood'; 'a deeply moving performance'.

Approximately 20 members attend on a regular basis and vary in experience from absolute novices to those with experience of performing. One of the strong features of the group has been its mutually supportive nature – all members have developed trust and confidence in each other and everyone feels that they have grown as performers as a result.

The project is on-going and new members are very welcome to come and see if membership might suit them.

The Group meets every Thursday at 10.00 at the Rehearsal Studio 1 in Shearwood Road (off Glossop Road).

For more details contact Bridie Moore on blmoore1@sheffield.ac.uk

Wealth and Poverty

In the coming year we plan to concentrate on the economic legacy we are likely to be leaving the grandchildren. This should include a look at issues around health, income, climate change, housing and a lot more.

Do come along if this interests you. We would welcome new members.

We meet at each others' houses on the last Monday of the month.

Contact Angela Jacobovic on (0114) 236 3858 or (after the of end January) Helen Davies (0114) 266 3276

Group News

Video Group

Help needed : Calling Musicians/Composers

The U3A video Group is aiming to make some worthwhile videos in connection with some local charities e.g. Green City Action, and Assist (for asylum seekers).

We sometimes need some music in the films made, and wondered whether there is anyone who might be interested in creating some appropriate music or sounds?

Any offers please contact heatherrostron@hotmail.com

Memory Course Update

The Memory Course has proved very popular and we are just about to start our 7th Course. We are aware that there is still much interest among SU3A members for the course and we are delighted. However, as a team, we have decided to have a break and will not be running another course for a while. More information will appear in later editions of *Links*.

As our team is only small I would welcome enquiries from anyone with a teaching/psychology/medical/counselling background to help present the course or an admin background to help with the organisation.

Stephanie Dixon stephanie.m.dixon@btinternet.com

Civil Engineering Appreciation Group

*Please note that the Coordinator's contact details for this Group are:
Anne Marples tel. (0114) 266 8794*

Report:

Literature Network : Gabriel Garcia Márquez

On October 30 Dr Pascale Baker from the Department of Hispanic Studies, Sheffield University, gave an excellent talk at the Quaker Meeting House on the Nobel Prize winning Columbian author Gabriel Garcia Márquez.



Dr Pascale Baker

Dr Baker concentrated on the two best known works of this author, '100 Years of Solitude' and 'Love in the Time of Cholera'. Both novels are famous for using the powerful literary device of 'magical realism' where things happen in the narrative which cannot be real but which seem perfectly acceptable to the characters in the story, even though it is clear the novel is not meant to be a fantasy. This form was especially developed in '100 Years'.

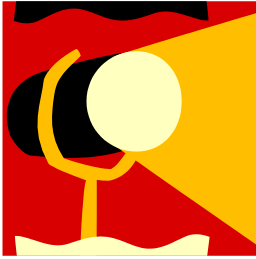
In using this device Márquez suggests that, in the real world, we delude ourselves when we unthinkingly take myth for reality.

The penalties for this self-delusion can be severe. Márquez has been especially concerned about the imperialist domination of South America by Europe and North America and, as he sees it, the myth that this is universally to the benefit of the South Americans. Although Márquez has not been a political activist he has publicly supported Fidel Castro in Cuba as a political alternative to American regional dominance.

The lecture was well attended and was followed by 15 minutes of informed questions and discussion showing that the audience appreciated and understood the contribution Márquez has made to literature.

Pascale Baker's talk was much enjoyed by the audience.

David Barber



FOCUS ON Discussion (Group One)

Discussion (1) is one of SU3A's longest standing Groups. Formed in 1992 it continues to thrive today with a committed and enthusiastic membership.

Members take it in turn to introduce a topic of their choice, usually for 5 or 10 minutes, and a lively and informed discussion follows. Subjects range widely over current affairs, international affairs and politics – the sort of thing you would find on Newsnight or Question Time, and also more light-hearted topics such as the changing nature of humour.

Recently the Group has looked at the role of the press today with relation to the Leveson Inquiry, the legacy of Margaret Thatcher, reform of the House of Lords and problems facing youth in modern society.

Meetings are held fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons and are held on a rotation basis in members' homes – members of the Group live over a wide area of Sheffield from S2 to S11 – so meetings are accessible from large areas of the city. Tea and biscuits are provided half way through the afternoon as a relaxing interlude!

Attendance at the Group is usually from 8 to 10, so the Group is more than happy to welcome any new individuals enjoying a lively discussion on a Tuesday afternoon.

Claire Attwood has recently taken over as Group Coordinator and would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in joining this Group.

You can contact Claire at claireattwood@talktalk.net, tel (0114) 250 8286

If you would like us to **FOCUS ON** your Group please contact:

John Evans *publicity@sheffieldu3a.org.uk* *(0114) 230 1173*

and he will give publicity to your Group.

Travel Group Events

Only members of Sheffield U3A are eligible to take part in our activities.

Insurance

All members are responsible for arranging their own travel insurance. Sheffield U3A cannot be responsible for any claims. We strongly recommend that members be insured.

Travel Organising Committee

Barbara Robertshaw	Coordinator	(0114) 236 9102
Barry De Roeck	Treasurer	(0114) 236 9169
Derek Shipley	Secretary	(0114) 236 6257
Margaret Bullivant		(0114) 296 2256
Margaret Langrish		(0114) 296 2251
Val Wiley		(0114) 236 0726

Advance Notice: Travel Group Visits for 2014

Day Visits for 2014

2	April	Wentworth Woodhouse	(See February Links)
	May	Holme Pierrepont Hall	(See February Links)
24	June	Austin Roses, Wolverhampton	(See April Links)
	July	Great Yorkshire Show	(See April Links)
	August	Wensleydale Railway/Bolton Castle	(See June Links)
	September	Anderton Boat Lift & Lion Salt Works	(See June Links)
	October	To be decided	
29	November	Capesthorpe Hall at Christmas	(See August Links)
	December	Birmingham Jewellery Museum and German Christmas Market	(See October Links)

Short Breaks 2014

28 September-2 October Chichester and Sussex (See February Links)

Travel Group AGM

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 13 March 2014

from 13.30 – 16.00

at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Grove Road, Millhouses

Come and discuss the past year's activities, our programme for 2014 and plans for the future.

Put the date in your diary and we look forward to welcoming you.

Barbara Robertshaw Coordinator (0114) 236 9102

Travel Group Visit to Bletchley Park

Wednesday 12 March 2014

Following the huge interest in our trip to Bletchley in October, we have arranged a repeat visit in March 2014.

We tour the famous wartime code-breaking centre of Bletchley Park where the most secret German military coded messages were received and deciphered. This information was vital in planning the Normandy landings in 1944 and in winning the Battle of the Atlantic.

We visit the buildings and rooms in which the work was done. We view captured German Enigma and Lorenz coding machines and Alan Turing's Bombe decoder. We see the later Colossus electronic computer at work. We experience the cramped working conditions of the code breakers and share the excitement of their discoveries. Security was so good that the German High Command never realised that their codes had been compromised.

The cost is **£32.00** per person. This includes travel and gratuities, a sandwich lunch, a guided tour and afternoon tea. You will be able to view wartime memorabilia including the private Churchill collection.

Applications may be made by completing the form on page 26.

Forms should be sent as soon as possible to:

Derek Shipley, 40 Wollaton Avenue, Sheffield, S17 4LA.



Sunday Lunch
Sunday 19 January 2014

Name(s) SU3A No(s)

.....

Address Tel:

.....

..... Postcode

Please reserve place(s) for the Sunday Lunch on 19 January 2014.

Please send to:

Jane Whitehead, 21 Bingham Court, Graham Road, Sheffield S10 3DZ
with a small stamped addressed envelope to arrive by **Monday 6 January 2014**

✂ _____



Beetle Drive
Saturday 15 February 2014

Name(s) SU3A No(s)

.....

Address Tel:

.....

..... Postcode

Please send me tickets(s) at **£12.00** per person for the Beetle Drive on Saturday 15 February 2014.

I enclose a cheque for £ payable to **Sheffield U3A Weekenders**.

Please send cheque and completed form together with a small stamped addressed envelope to:

Jane Whitehead, 21 Bingham Court, Graham Road, Sheffield S10 3DZ
to arrive by Tuesday 4 February 2014

Travel Group Holiday to Glasgow and surrounding area

5-10 June 2014

Our short break in June will be based in Glasgow, advertised as 'Scotland with style' ! In 1990 Glasgow was named European Capital of culture and today remains a major centre for the arts.



We will follow the trail of the legacy left by Art Nouveau Pioneer and father of the 'Glasgow Style', the artist and architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh. But it is not all art; beyond the city there are places telling the fascinating history throughout the region.

On our way to Scotland we will spend some time in Carlisle where we will be able to have lunch and have a look around the city. The programme will include a day in Glasgow with a city tour by a Blue Badge Guide (in our coach) and a visit to the famous School of Art and free time to pursue your own interests.

We will walk around the Bannockburn Battle Field, where Robert the Bruce defeated the might of Edward II in 1314, and go to Stirling Castle, the favoured residence of Scotland's kings and queens. The castle is now fully open again after extensive restoration. Also on the programme is a boat trip on Loch Lomond followed by a visit to Hill House at Helensborough which was built by C.R. Mackintosh for the publisher Blackie.

Another day will be spent at the David Livingstone Centre, the birthplace museum of the life and work of the famous Scottish explorer, followed by

a breath-taking boat journey on the amazing Falkirk Wheel rising 35 metres from one level to another on the Union Canal. On the last morning, before going home, we are going to see the Burrell Collection in Glasgow's Pollock Park. This unique art collection has an astonishing range of beautiful objects and major works of art from around the world.

Accommodation is at the 4 star Glynhill Hotel in Renfrew a few miles away from the city centre. All bedrooms are en-suite with the usual facilities and there are a swimming pool and a leisure centre.

The cost of the 5night/6day holiday is **£390.00** per person with a single supplement of **£75.00**. This covers bed, breakfast and evening meal at the hotel, transport throughout by Walter Martin, all gratuities and all admission fees except those for the Scottish National Trust properties (Hill House, Bannockburn and the David Livingstone Centre (approx. £20.00 total p.p.) Lunches, snacks and any other refreshments are not included.

To reserve a place, please complete the booking form on page 26 and send it with a deposit of **£50.00** per person to Barbara Robertshaw as soon as possible.

Before submitting your application please read the Travel Group notice on page 20 about travel insurance.



World War 1 Study Day

Weston Park Museum

Friday 4 April 2014 at 10.00

Full Name(s) SU3A No(s)

.....

Address Tel:

.....

..... Postcode

Please reserve place(s) for me (**£5.00** per person).

I enclose a cheque for £ payable to **Sheffield U3A**.

Please enclose a small s.a.e. with your remittance and send to:

Audrey Heeley, 113 Ridgeway Road, Sheffield S12 2SQ

Report:

Appreciating Architecture Group: Visit to Woolsthorpe Manor and Burghley House, September 2013

These houses were built within a hundred years of one another and are so very different.

Woolsthorpe Manor, a yeoman's farmstead, was built around 1600, simple from the outside but the interior showed it had been lived in by a prosperous land owner. This is the house where the young Isaac Newton lived and on the plaster walls were the remains of his scientific scribbles. It was too wet to sit beneath the apple tree although the fruits were ready to fall. Instead we stretched our mathematical and scientific knowledge by spending longer in the Science Discovery Centre.

The young Isaac, driven from Cambridge by the onset of the plague, returned home to work. It was here he described this time as being at the prime of his age, most notably his work on light and optics as well as his law on universal gravitation. It was a fun time for those of us who tried out some of his experiments. With much laughter we endeavoured to work out his theories, helped by an excellent guide. To think he had to make his own equipment lenses and mirrors before he could prove anything.

We were amazed at the genius of the man.

Burghley House tested our historical and art knowledge. Built for Sir William Cecil in the late 16th Century, the architecture is a stunning example of the Elizabethan age with fine examples of the stonemason's craft with the many towers, cupolas and disguised chimney pieces in the baroque style.

The interior did not disappoint with elegant rooms and fine furniture. The painted ceilings by Laguerre and Verrio were stunning even if the Hell Room was daunting and the family portraits by the leading artists of the time were very fine indeed. We admired the fine marquetry furniture, the elaborate plaster ceilings, wood carvings by Grinling Gibbons and the embroidery on the bed hangings. We were indeed glad that we did not have to dust any of it.

Thank you Shirley for another lovely trip. We had excellent guides and learnt so much.

Wendy Beal

Travel Group: Visit to Bletchley Park

Wednesday 12 March 2014

Full Name(s) SU3A No(s)

.....

Address Tel:

.....

..... Postcode

Please reserve place(s) for me at **£32.00** per person. I enclose a cheque for £ payable to **Sheffield U3A Travel**.

Please return the completed form, cheque and a small stamped addressed envelope as soon as possible to:

Derek Shipley, 40 Wollaton Avenue, Sheffield S17 4LA

Please indicate your preferred pick up point:

Sheffield Interchange, Platform E5 07.45 (....)

Bus bay Knowle Lane/Ecclesall Road South 08.00 (....)

✂

Travel Group: Short Break Glasgow

5 - 10 June 2014

Full Name(s) SU3A No(s)

.....

Address Tel:

.....

..... Postcode

Please reserve place(s) for me.

Room type: Twin/double/twin share/single

I enclose a cheque for £ (**£50.00** deposit per person), payable to **Sheffield U3A Travel** and a Links-size stamped addressed envelope.

Completed forms should be sent to arrive **as soon as possible** to:

Barbara Robertshaw, 20 Whinfell Court, Sheffield S11 9QA.

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***Links* no. 169 February 2014**

the very last date* for copy is Monday 30 December

All news and correspondence to the Editor:

Jenny Emby email: links@sheffieldu3a.org.uk (0114) 281 3159

** if you know the copy may arrive at the last minute, let me know in advance so I can plan for it.*

From the Editor

Images for *Links*

Please take the photograph on a camera and send the original large file.

Your photograph may look good on your phone. It may look good on your computer screen but if it is not taken on a camera and sent separately it will **NOT** look good in print.

I cannot use photographs smaller than 500 Kb in size

Please remember the Contributors' Copy Code:

Early, Literate, Accurate, Emailed

Calendar 2013 and 2014

November	28	Travel Group: York: Day Visit
December	1	Weekenders: Burton Agnes Hall: Day Visit
	3	Drop-In Session: 10.00-12.00: CURC
	4	Travel Group: Lowry Centre, Salford: Day Visit
	20	Showroom Lecture: O Little Town of Bethlehem: 10.30

2014

January	7	Drop-In Session: 10.00-12.00: CURC
	17	Showroom Lecture: New Wine in Old Bottles: 10.30
	19	Weekenders: Sunday Lunch: Ego: 12.00
	19	Classical Concertgoers: Joshua Bell: Manchester: 16.30
February	4	Drop-In Session: 10.00-12.00: CURC
	15	Weekenders: Beetle Drive: CURC: 13.30
	21	Showroom Lecture: Climate Change: 10.30
	28	Membership renewal deadline
March	4	Drop-In Session: 10.00-12.00: CURC
	12	Travel Group: Bletchley Park: Day Visit
April	1	Drop-In Session: 10.00-12.00: CURC
	2	Travel Group: Wentworth Woodhouse: Day Visit
	4	Study Day: WW1: Weston Park Museum
	21-25	Travel Group: Stonehenge etc.: Short Break
May	8-12	Appreciating Architecture: Tuscany: Short Break
	15	SU3A AGM
June	5-10	Travel Group: Glasgow: Short Break
	24	Travel Group: Austin Roses, Wolverhampton: Day Visit