

From the Chair

A typically British way to begin any conversation is to talk about the weather. I do not honestly know what to say about it: un-seasonal and inclement spring to mind, but it is more than that. The weather this year is plain weird. Blue skies and warm winds in March found me putting away warm sweaters and boots only to fetch them out again in April and be still wearing them in mid May.

Apparently, it is all the fault of the Jet Stream stuck in one position. It may be wise to download plans from Google on how to build an ark.

The Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Councillor Sylvia Dunkley has recently come to the end of her term in office. During the past twelve months she has been very supportive to SU3A, accepting our invitations to at least three events including our Jubilee Celebration at Wortley in June 2011. To thank her on your behalf the Executive Committee awarded her an honorary year's membership to our organisation and we hope she has the time to enjoy some of the lectures and Groups. Her successor, and Sheffield's 116th Lord Mayor, is John Campbell, a health convenor for UNISON, who says his mission is to 'celebrate multi-cultural Sheffield'. We wish him every success in his mayoral year.

I reported a few months ago that Sheffield Museums had lost £800,000 of their annual grant funding. In a cost-saving exercise the Chief Executive Nick Dodds has stood down and is to be replaced by the organisation's Director of Learning, Kim Streets.

Ms. Streets started her career 25 years ago as a volunteer at Sheffield's Kelham Island Museum. Museums Sheffield – the Millennium Gallery, Weston Park Museum, the Graves Gallery and the Bishops' House – are all having to scale back and restructure in response to massive loss of grants. I believe there is a current fund-raising initiative running to donate and/or buy a butterfly, so, if you think you could help, please visit or look on line for further information.

Looking at my emails I can see that many of our Groups are planning new programmes of activity for their members and the Open Groups have a varied programme to whet our appetites in the coming months. Highlights include having Mr. Speaker,

John Bercow, as the guest lecturer in September and the Weekenders 'going to the dogs' - that is, having a night out there.

We have also said goodbye to a number of Coordinators who have stepped down after working tirelessly for SU3A over a number of years. Thanks go to Derek and Maureen Shipley of the Classic Concertgoers, Judith Vernier of the Literature Network and Doreen and Brian Besant who ran the Lunch and Lecture and were excellent General Coordinators for five years. The good news is that all these popular open Groups have recruited new and enthusiastic people to lead them.

A celebration of 30 years of the U3A will be held on Wednesday 15 August at the Horticultural College, Askham Bryan, five miles south of York on the A64. There is plenty of parking if you do not want to take advantage of Sheffield U3A's coach (see booking form on page 9 of June Links). The event is free and opens at 10.00 with the official opening at 10.30 and it finishes at 16.00. There will be ample seating outdoors in the spacious grounds as well as indoors and picnics are welcome. There will be light refreshments on sale, a canteen style lunch and ice-cream. Over 90 Groups from throughout the region are showcasing their skills, from a Shakespeare Drama workshop to Scrabble in the sun – hopefully.

Last year during our anniversary celebrations we held a picnic in the grounds of Chatsworth. Despite the British summer not being kind to us we had such a good time that we are repeating the event again this year on Wednesday 5 September 2012 (see page 5 for details). It is rare that we have the space for lots of us to get together in a large U3A such as ours so please join us for this special free event. It will be good to see you there.

Finally, to those of you who have contributed to the Whirlow Brook Garden project by donating plants in memory of your loved ones, the Memory Book is now available to view. It will be at the Drop-Ins and at the fortnightly Whirlow Brook Garden Group meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays in the month 10.00 – 12.00. Please ring Shelagh Woolliscroft to request this option. (01246) 416 139.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the Summer, but best to keep your wellies handy.

Denise West

Executive Committee Report

These are the main points from the meeting held on 6 July 2012.

Drop-Ins: The Drop-Ins have been well attended and the introduction of a dedicated Meeter-and-Greeter has proved successful, allowing the Organiser to oversee other activities. In June a meeting was held of members who were on the Family History Group waiting list and there were positive results. It is planned to hold more of these meetings as waiting lists grow. The sale of U3A merchandise has also been appreciated by members.

Askham Bryan event: A reminder that this event will be held on Wednesday August 15 and there is a coach going from Sheffield. See Links 159 for details.

Whirlow Brook Garden Project: The Group plans to begin work on restoration of the upper pond, tree clearing and construction of paths for wheelchair access. They are applying for grants in order to achieve this but would also welcome donations from members and offers of assistance.

Jubilympics: A Jubilee and Olympics Event is to be held on Wednesday 5 September at Chatsworth. Details on page 5.

Promotional DVD: Work continues and this should be ready in September.

Groups: Jim Walker, the General Coordinator, has been compiling a list of Groups that we do not currently have, but members have expressed interest in. If you have a good idea for a Group and have some expertise, please let Jim know, as there might be others out there with the same idea as yourself.

Memory Courses: There were enough members who attended the meeting on 15 June to enable the team to plan running three courses in the next few months.

2013 Diaries: Orders are now being taken for 2013 U3A diaries. They cost £2.00 and an order form is on page 4.

Date of the next Executive Committee meeting is 7 September 2012.

Jean Stevenson

Secretary

Have you missed out?

Have you joined SU3A in the last two years?

Were you unable to attend your **new members' meeting**?

Would you like to find out all that is going on?

then: for the next available date please contact the secretary,
Jean Stevenson, by phone (0114) 3276 294 or check the SU3A
website at: <http://sheffieldu3a.org.uk/index.html>

U3A Diary 2013

Available for delivery in July. Price: £2.00 including postage. The pocket diary has a mid-blue cover and all the usual features:

notes page

a page marker

perforated page corners etc.



U3A Diary Order Form

Sheffield U3A

Name of person to receive diaries:

Phone: Email:

Address:

.....

Postcode: Ordered by:

Please send me diaries at **£2.00** each. I enclose a cheque for
£..... payable to **The Third Age Trust**. Date:

Send completed the form, together with the cheque, to:

The Third Age Trust, 19 East Street, Bromley, BR1 1QE.



SU3A Summer Jubilympics

Wednesday 5 September

Chatsworth

from 11.00

Picnic : Games : Culture : Fun

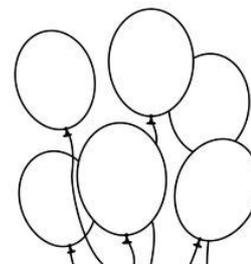
Come and join us for a free party in the park.

Meet in Chatsworth's grounds (free entry but £2.00 to park) on the right-hand side past the bridge.

Look for the balloons and bunting.

Bring a picnic or eat in the café.

Bring your own rug and chair and make yourself comfortable. Bring your garden games . . .



Just sit and chat and enjoy new company . . . or enter the egg-and-spoon race, join a game of cricket or get out your sketchbook.

There will be lots of activities and medals for the winners.

Our Chatsworth hosts would like an idea of possible numbers - we may get all 3,000 of us turning up - so please let us know if you think you *might* go.

Please leave a message with:

Dot Sutcliffe: (0114) 268 5918,

Jenny Emby: (0114) 281 3159,

Arrive by 214 bus leaving Sheffield Interchange, bay B6, at 10.00 returning at 6 minutes past the hour 'til 15.06. The next bus is 16.36.

Way to Go!


weekenders

A Yorkshire Day Out

**Castle Howard, Scarborough, and a
Stained Glass Centre**

Sunday 16 September 2012

Come with us on Sunday 16 September for a varied and interesting day out in Yorkshire!

First of all we will visit Castle Howard, Yorkshire's finest historic house and estate. Designed by John Vanbrugh, it has been the home of the Howard family for over 300 years and was used as the location for both the television series and the film of *Brideshead Revisited*. The house contains large collections of paintings, furniture, porcelain and tapestries while the extensive grounds include woodland walks, lakes and fountains and an 18th century walled garden.

From Castle Howard we will travel to Scarborough with its two bays and castle for lunch and a breath of sea air.



Mid-afternoon we will leave Scarborough to visit the nearby Stained Glass Centre where we will have a talk on how stained glass is made. There is also an exhibition to wander round and a showroom full of stained glass objects. To round off the day, we will have tea and biscuits here before setting off for home.

The cost of the day is **£27.00** per person. This includes the coach fare, entrance to Castle Howard, the talk and refreshments at the Stained Glass Centre and the driver's gratuity.

If you would like to join us, please complete the reply slip on page 19 and send it to Shirley Marney with a cheque made payable to **Sheffield U3A** and a small s.a.e. to arrive by **Friday 24 August**.

Please ring Shirley Marney (0114) 235 0801 for more information.

Frying Tonight!

October's Weekenders' event is on **Saturday 13 October** when we are going to spend the evening dining on fish and chips (or whatever you fancy) at Whitby's Fish and Chip restaurant in Rotherham.

The restaurant is fully licensed and the menu includes salads and steak pie if you do not like fish and chips.

The cost of the coach to Rotherham is **£6.75**. Choose and pay for your meal on the night.

If you fancy a tasty Saturday night out, please complete the form on page 27 and return it to Dot Sutcliffe with a cheque made payable to **Sheffield U3A** and a small s.a.e. by **Friday 24 August**.

Please ring Dot Sutcliffe (0114) 268 5918 for more information.

Whitby's



FISH & CHIP RESTAURANT

& TAKE AWAY

FULLY LICENSED

Our next Weekenders' event in November

This will be a visit to the Antiques for Everyone show at the NEC in Birmingham.

Correction

The August Drop-In at the CURC

The date for the next Drop-in is **Tuesday August 7** and not Wednesday August 8 as was wrongly stated in the last edition of Links.

Lunch and Lecture

You are invited to lunch at the Doubletree by Hilton Sheffield Park Hotel, Chesterfield Road South, Meadowhead, Sheffield, S8 8BW on **Friday 19 October 2012**. The speaker will be:

Ian McMillan, poet, broadcaster and comedian

Ian is poet-in-residence for English National Opera, the Academy of Urbanism and Barnsley FC. He is also UK Trade and Investment's Poet, Yorkshire TV's Investigative Poet and Humberside Police's Beat Poet.

Those of you who attended the main Silver Jubilee celebration at Wortley Hall will recollect that Ian gave a most amusing opening speech, so here is another chance to hear him.

Please arrive at 12.00 for a 12.30 start, when you will be greeted with a glass of Buck's Fizz (compliments of the hotel). Cost **£15.50**.

There is ample parking and the number 53 bus from bay A3 at the Sheffield Interchange stops outside the hotel. The number 75 bus from Ecclesfield via High Street stops near the hotel at Meadowhead.

The menu will be a choice from:

- a). *Maple and thyme roasted chicken supreme with a smoked bacon and sherry sauce;*
- b). *Traditional Steak and Ale Pie;*
- c). *Vegetarian option: Butternut squash and mushroom risotto with basil pesto*

The dessert is: Chocolate-filled profiteroles with cream

Please ensure you fill in your choice(s) on the booking form.

If you would like to book a place, please fill in the form on page 29 and send it with a cheque made payable to **Sheffield U3A Lunch and Lecture**, to arrive no later than Friday 5 October 2012.

Dot Sutcliffe/Vera Dyer (0114) 268 5918 / (0114) 237 7854

Friday Lecture Series

21 September: An Audience with Mr Speaker. We have Auditorium 4 which holds 250 people. So far 120 members have told me they plan to attend and I am reserving rows of seats at the front for them. If you would like a reserved seat please let me know on (01246) 416 139, otherwise you are welcome to take pot luck on the day!

16 November: Professor Mary Vincent, University of Sheffield, will speak on the Spanish Civil War.

Shelagh Woolliscroft

(01246) 416 139

Classical Concertgoers' Group

The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester

Friday 12 October 2012

Our Autumn outing is to the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester, to hear the BBC Philharmonic in a programme of Mozart and Mahler. One of Britain's foremost pianists, Steven Osborne, will be the soloist for Mozart's Piano Concerto No 19. The Philharmonic, under the baton of Juanjo Mena, will perform Mahler's Symphony No. 5.

The inclusive cost is **£31.00**. Please use the reservation form on page 27 and include the name and contact details of all members for whom you are applying. Include a small stamped self-addressed envelope and send to:- Pamela Sandford, 289 Abbey Lane, Sheffield, S8 0DA as soon as possible.

The coach will leave the bus parking bay at the bottom of Knowle Lane, near the junction with Millhouses Lane, promptly at 16.30. This will leave time for any delays caused by the rush hour in Manchester and, hopefully, the chance for a coffee or drink when we reach the hall in time for the 7.30 concert.

Our visits are open to all SU3A members and no special Group membership is required.

Pamela Sandford

Coordinator

(0114) 236 1815

Concertgoers' Group : 1998-2012

On behalf of all concertgoers past and present I would like to thank Derek and Maureen Shipley for their devotion to this Group over the past fourteen years. They (and the outgoing committee) have worked tirelessly to give SU3A members the opportunity to travel to symphony halls nationwide to hear the finest orchestras and soloists. Derek's enthusiasm on these occasions has been infectious and added to our enjoyment. We have benefited from his meticulous research not only in the choice of programmes but also in the informative handouts about the performances. (Thanks also to son Paul for these).

Above all, I have appreciated the way Derek and Maureen have looked after us on these visits with kindness and good humour. On 2 June we were able to give them thanks and tokens of our appreciation on the outing to the Birmingham Symphony Hall for the Diamond Jubilee Concert by the Academy of Ancient Music. A fitting finale!

Thanks are extended to the other retiring members of the Concertgoers' Committee : Mary Balbi (Secretary); Muriel Stimpson (Treasurer); Doreen Findlay.

The new committee members are:- Pat Roddis (Secretary); Vera Dyer (Treasurer); Sylvia Glew; Sheila Harris; Jean Walker.

Pamela Sandford

Coordinator

Reading Volunteers in Dronfield

The Sheffield scheme has been providing a useful and rewarding service.

Any member who interested in helping children in Dronfield may care to get in touch with Roy Pilkington who is connected with a local school that would welcome volunteers.

Roy Pilkington

(01246) 416 139

Literature Network: Danuta Reah

Tuesday 23 October 2012

Crime writer Danuta Reah will be speaking to SU3A on Tuesday 23 October at 14.00.

The meeting is open to all members and will take place at the Friends' Meeting House, St. James Street, S1 2EW.

Her stories involve local fictional characters in well-known locations: the canal basin, the Sheffield parks and streets. As well as a crime fiction writer Danuta has been involved in forensic linguistics, the analysis of language in crime detection.

So what powers her vivid imagination? Danuta will be exploring aspects of imagination, the importance of detailed observation and how a story evolves naturally as creativity expands through the written page.

Hold onto your seats: this is not an afternoon to miss.

Tickets are **£3.50** each and include refreshments. Kindly book in advance from Ann Barclay using the form on page 29.

Peter Barclay

Coordinator

ICT Course on File Management

I propose to run a three session course on *File Management* on Tuesdays 11, 18 and 25 September at Notre Dame High School from 16.15 to 18.00 at the cost of **£4.50** for the course.

I hope to cover all aspects of organising files into folders, moving, copying and renaming. The operating system at Notre Dame is Vista which is very similar to Windows 7 but rather different from Windows XP.

Would anyone interested, or wanting to know more about the course, please contact me.

Clare Chiba

Coordinator

(01433) 659 864

Memory Course Group

We had a very successful open meeting on 15 June at the Arundel Room and have received enough applications to fill three courses. These are planned for September, November and March. We hope that all the people who attended the meeting on the 15 June will be able to attend one of the courses. We can not guarantee this but we will do our best.

After a brief introduction on how the course came to be, the team introduced themselves. The course outline was given along with details of when it would be held and the cost. We emphasised the commitment needed in attending the course. A short question and answer session then followed.

If everything goes ahead well with our first three sessions we may then look at holding another open meeting inviting people to come along and find out if the course is appropriate for them.

This open meeting is an important part of the process as it may be that after attending you feel the course is not right for you. It is better to find out then rather than book on the course and drop out later. We do not want that to happen.

We are now able to offer the course to people diagnosed with mild cognitive memory problems. At the meeting we did say we were not able to do so. This is a change in policy. If there is anyone who attended the meeting on 15 June and felt after that they would not be accepted because of the above reason please get in touch with me.

One other thing, as with a lot of things, the number of ladies applying far outweighed the number of men. Do the men have better memories I wonder? We would like to try and keep some sort of balance.

For those people who were unable to attend on 15 June but are interested, please watch for further news in Links.

Stephanie Dixon

(0114) 247 0119

Would you like to help create a course on combatting stress?

Alex McMinn, the U3A member from Aughton and Ormskirk who instigated the work on the memory course (which we are now running), is now focusing on stress, (which has been linked to dementia) and ways of combatting it.

Apparently he has been talking to a minister who has been appointed 'Alzheimer's Czar' and who feels there may be some funding available for research testing the theory that Alzheimer's/ dementia can be prevented.

He is looking for people who have had a past or indeed a present involvement in running stress management courses and who may be interested in joining a small team to devise and test out a course similar to the memory course. These people might have a background in occupational health, community health, industrial training etc.

Shelagh Woolliscroft

Bulb-Planting at Whirlow Brook Park

We plan to plant more bulbs and other ground cover plants on Wednesday 26 September between 10.00 and noon. There will be coffee and biscuits for all who come to help!

Shelagh Woolliscroft

What is my membership number?

Check the envelope in which this copy of Links arrived.
Your number will be printed on the address label.

Group News

Changes since *Links* 159:

We have 181 activity Groups in our U3A. In the last two months we have lost two: Indoor Bowling, Monday, run by Keith Alcock; and CardsRUs, run by Lily Taylor. In that same time three Groups have started up: Drumming, led by John Lee, (0114) 233 8517, A Cappella, coordinated by Mike Maas, (0114) 230 4435, and Memory Training led by Stephanie Dixon, (0114) 247 0119.

What Groups do we lack? Suggestions so far include: badminton, yachting, gelotology*, aviation studies, American archaeology, zumba, line-dancing, lace-making, stitchery, sewing crafts, transport, technical wonders of UK/the World and drama. Have you any to add?

Waiting lists are the scourge of a healthy organisation. The Committee is aware that several Groups have waiting lists. We want to deal with these. I would be grateful if any Coordinators who have full Groups would send me the name and contact details of anyone you have had to 'refuse'. Alternatively, ask enquirers to contact me directly. Assure them that we have a team actively engaged in sorting out the problem.

Lastly, the next Coordinators' Meeting. The Committee agreed recently that to change the presentation of Coordinators' meetings. For this Autumn meeting we would like to welcome only those 'new' Coordinators who have taken up their post since March 2011. The agenda will be compiled from concerns, issues and stories you might like to share with your colleagues and after dealing with those issues there will be time allotted purely for socialising. I would like to hear from any of you as soon as possible if you are interested in attending and would especially welcome from you a description of any matter concerning the organisation of your Group or your own experience of the challenges that arise as a new Coordinator.

Once I have your responses (I will be sending a letter as well) I will send out the meeting details.

Jim Walker

General Coordinator

(0114) 236 9687

** the study of laughter*

Appreciating Architecture

Visit to Manchester Town Hall, King Street, and Chetham's School of Music

Thursday 20 September 2012

There are a few places left on this day trip to Manchester organised for the Appreciating Architecture Group.

It is planned to have a guided tour of the Town Hall, a Victorian era, Neo-Gothic municipal building, the ceremonial headquarters of the city Council. It has grand ceremonial rooms such as the Great Hall which is decorated with imposing murals. We may include a tour of the clock tower which rises 280 feet and houses Great Abel, the clock bell.

With the guide we will walk down King Street with its many notable buildings, 14 of which are listed in this conservation area.

After lunch at the new Football Museum which houses memorabilia about football past and present we move on to Chetham's School of Music.

Here we will be treated to a concert by the students followed by tea, cakes and biscuits. The visit ends with a tour of the Mediaeval Building and the Library. (This is a package offered by Chetham's and can not be separated)

The cost is **£23.00**. This includes the guide, Chetham's package, coach and gratuities for the driver but not lunch.

To apply complete the application form on page 25.

Shirley Marney

(0114) 235 0801

*Bookplate from
Chetham's School of
Music library founded
in 1653*



Today's World Group

Discussion on Debt

Do you remember (from 1955!) Tennessee Ernie Ford's recording of *Sixteen Tons* in which he sang 'I owe my soul to the company store'? We were reminded of it at our last meeting when we talked about debt.

Debt.

It is something we all know about and most experience to some degree or another. We tend to think that it is a modern phenomenon and we focus on the severe examples of debt suffered by nations and individuals with the consequent problems it causes. However, as we were reminded when John Richards introduced the topic for discussion, it has been a feature of life since civilisation began. It embraces anything which is owed to another whether it be money, goods or services and over time failure to repay debt became an offence in law.

Debt can be a very private thing so we did not know whether any of us was contributing to last year's total personal debt nationally of £1,451 trillion. The figure staggered us: it is almost as much as this country's annual production. More understandable was the average household debt of £55,823 with most of this being mortgages.

It made us all think though – and that is what our Group is all about.

David Pierce

Coordinator

Correction

The August Drop-In at the CURC

The date for the next Drop-in is **Tuesday August 7** and not Wednesday August 8 as was wrongly stated in the last edition of Links.



If you missed the recent Transit of Venus then come and see the mural in Manchester Town Hall showing the 1639 transit. Two Groups are planning trips to see this and other murals this Autumn. Details are in this Links.



weekenders

A Yorkshire Day Out

Sunday 16 September 2012

Full Name..... SU3A No(s)

Address..... Tel.

..... Postcode.....

Please reserve.....place(s). I enclose a cheque for £
 (£27.00 per person) payable to **Sheffield U3A**. Please send
 completed forms to Shirley Marney, 21 Everard Ave, Bradway,
 Sheffield S17 4LY together with a small s.a.e.

Please indicate your preferred pick up point:

Pond Hill	07.30 (...)
Ecclesall Road South/Millhouses Lane Bus stop	07.45 (...)
Old Mother Redcap	08.00 (...)

Travel News and Excursions

Travel Organising Committee

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

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

Insurance: All members are responsible for arranging their own travel insurance to cover the costs of cancellation (whether the deposit or the total amount to be paid) through sickness, personal injury, accidents and loss of, or damage to, luggage or personal property. Sheffield U3A cannot be responsible for any such claims. Each member **must be** insured against such eventualities.

Illness/Medical Conditions/Disabilities: When applying you must inform the Visit Organiser of any problem or pre-existing medical condition. Please remember that all visits will involve some walking. Access to sites frequently involves steep slopes, steps and uneven surfaces. Always wear comfortable suitable footwear (e.g. flat shoes).

Cancellations: In case of cancellation, please contact the organiser or another member of the Travel Committee as soon as possible. Refunds for cancellations for deposits or for full payments in respect of day trips, short breaks or holidays, can only be made if a replacement can be found.

Agreed Pick-up Point: Please contact the organiser if you are unable to be at your pick-up point, or you wish to change it.

Reply Envelopes: Please remember to include a suitable **stamped addressed envelope** and the correct postage with your application. For day visits please use a small envelope and for short breaks and for holidays a *Links*-sized envelope (C5 - 229x162 mm).

In case of problems or emergencies: First try to contact the Visit Organiser or if he/she is not available any member of the Travel Committee.

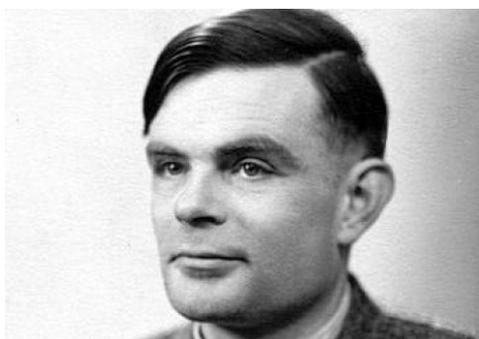
Travel Group Visit to Bletchley Park

Wednesday 3 October 2012

Our October visit is both nostalgic and inspirational. We visit the famous wartime code-breaking centre of Bletchley Park where the most secret German military coded messages were received and deciphered.

These were instrumental in winning the Battle of the Atlantic. We learn how this came about and see the buildings and rooms in which the work was done.

We learn how the first modern computer was invented and developed. We see actual German Enigma and Lorenz coding machines, the Colossus electronic computer and the later Bombe machine.



Alan Turing, born 100 years ago this year.

We experience the cramped conditions in which some of the best brains in the country worked and share the excitement of their discoveries.

Security was so good that the German High Command had no idea that their codes had been broken and that the

Allies had crucial information about their most secret plans.

The cost is **£31.00** per person. This includes travel and gratuities, coffee and biscuits on arrival, lunch, a guided tour, use of a private room in the manor, and tea and cakes in the afternoon before we return to Sheffield.

The coach will leave the Sheffield Interchange at 07.45 and the bus stop at the bottom of Knowle Lane/Ecclesall Road South at 08.00.

Applications may be made by completing the form on page 25. It should be sent as soon as possible to Derek Shipley, 40 Wollaton Avenue, Sheffield, S17 4LA, including a cheque and a small stamped addressed envelope.

Derek Shipley

Travel Group Visit to Manchester Opera House to see 'The Mousetrap'

Thursday 25 October 2012

Our November visit will in fact take place at the end of October.

We visit the Manchester Opera House for a matinée performance of the London production of Agatha Christie's play 'The Mousetrap'.

In the morning, on arrival in Manchester, coffee and biscuits in the Town Hall are included. This will be followed by an easy, short, guided tour in Central Manchester.

Lunch is not included, but there are many convenient cafés, bars and restaurants nearby to suit all tastes and pockets or, of course, you may prefer to bring your own food. The performance starts at 14.30.

The inclusive cost is **£31.00** per person.

Applications may be made using the form on page 31 and should be returned to:

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

Please give the full names of all members for whom you are applying.

Derek Shipley

Travel Group: Advance Notice

Dates for your diary:

Day visits:

3 December Christmas at Castle Howard

Short Breaks for 2013:

6-10 June North Norfolk

14-19 September Plymouth

Travel Group Holiday in London

11-15 April 2013

We will be staying at the 4 star Holiday Inn at Shepperton. All bedrooms are en-suite with tea and coffee making facilities. There is a spacious bar and reception area. Breakfast and dinner are served in the Regatta restaurant. The hotel has a lift and a leisure centre.

On our first day after a short break at a service station we arrive at Kew Gardens for lunch (not included). After lunch there is a guided tour and then free time to explore. We will arrive at our hotel around 17.00 so we have time to check in and relax.

The following day we enjoy a boat cruise to Greenwich. A visit to the newly restored Cutty Sark has been arranged. You are then free to visit Greenwich at your own pace. Entrance to the Royal Observatory Astronomy Centre is included. We return to the hotel by coach.

We have arranged a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament for Saturday morning. There is a cafeteria there. The afternoon is spent at leisure. Open top bus? Stroll to take in the sights? The coach will collect us at a pre-arranged destination.

On Sunday we drive to Down House, the home of Charles Darwin, where we are free to enjoy the house and garden. In the afternoon we visit Eltham Palace, 1930s chic, with many Art Deco features of the time and once home to the Courtaulds.

On our homeward journey on the last day we visit Hampton Court Palace for an audio tour and leisure time. Treat yourself to lunch in the restaurant. At 14.00 we leave Hampton Court for Sheffield with a stop en route.

The cost of the 4 night/5 day holiday is **£360.00** per person with a single supplement of **£64.00** per person. Included are bed, breakfast and evening meal at the hotel, coach, boat and all gratuities and admission fees.

Please read the Travel Group notice on page 20 about insurance before submitting the application form on page 31.

ESCAL : Volunteers in Sheffield Primary Schools

ESCAL stands for **E**very **S**heffield **C**hild **A**rticulate and **L**iterate (by the age of 11)

For three years now SU3A members have contributed their help as volunteers to that target. If you can spend just one hour a week, reading and talking one-to-one with two children, you will see how reading attainment and confidence can grow and help prepare them for the demands of secondary school.

Primary schools really value the assistance volunteers can offer to all age groups.

If you would be interested in volunteering, contact the Council's ESCAL Organiser, Faye Jeffrey, direct.

If you have any queries before contacting Faye, our SU3A ESCAL Liaison member is Yvonne Rowland.

Faye Jeffrey (0114) 250 6853

Yvonne Rowland (0114) 242 5201

Report on Appreciating Architecture Group Trip to Dresden

Shirley Marney put this tour together for the Appreciating Architecture Group, plus a few 'make-weights', and a very interesting trip it was.

Most readers will be aware that the centre of Dresden was almost totally destroyed by Allied bombing towards the end of WWII and photographs showing the skeletal remains of buildings in the city centre are widely available in the tourist shops.

Since the 1950's, however, most of the historic buildings have been rebuilt using, so far as has been possible, the original stonework. The latest, and for me the most impressive, example is the rebuilt Church of Our Lady – the Frauenkirche. This took 17 years to build in the early 1700's and, more recently, 12 years to re-build being finally completed only in 2007. *(cont p. 26)*

Architecture Group Visit to Manchester

Thursday 20 September 2012

Full Name(s)..... SU3A No(s)

Address Tel:

..... Postcode

Please reserve.....place(s)

I enclose a cheque for £ (**£23.00** per person) payable to **Appreciating Architecture**. Please send completed forms to Shirley Marney, 21 Everard Avenue, Bradway, Sheffield S17 4LY together with a s.a.e.

Please indicate your preferred pick up point:

Pond Hill	07.45 (...)
Bus bay Knowle Lane/Ecclesall Road South	08.00 (...)
Old Mother Redcap	08.15 (...)

✂ _____

Travel Group Visit to Bletchley Park

Wednesday 3 October 2012

Full Name(s) SU3A No(s).....

Address Tel:

.....

..... Postcode

Please reserve place(s) for me (**£31.00** per person). I enclose a cheque for £..... payable to **Sheffield U3A Travel** and a small stamped addressed envelope. Please include the full names and contact numbers of all members for whom you are applying and send to Derek Shipley, 40 Wollaton Avenue, Sheffield, S17 4LA, as soon as possible.

Please indicate your preferred pick-up point:

Sheffield Interchange Platform 5E/F	07.45 (...)
Bus bay Knowle Lane/Ecclesall Road South	08.00 (...)

The Frauenkirche is merely the most recent of many magnificent buildings to emerge from the ashes of the war and which now occupy the centre of Dresden. It is this area that makes Dresden a perfect city break for anyone with even the slightest interest in buildings or architecture.

Of course not all the destroyed buildings were of particular historical importance and where necessary new buildings have been erected. These have been built in the traditional styles of the area, but have been allocated more 'breathing space' than would have been available in the original town plan. This gives the impression of a very well designed – and preserved – ancient town. In fact, most of it is new(ish!).

Because redevelopment began during the Communist period, there are also a few buildings in the Communist style. The building style of these is referred to locally as 'Stalin Gothic'.

Walking South, away from the river, one can see large modern shops and 'Meadowhall'-type centres starting to appear. This is where our hotel was located, a mere half mile from the old centre and the River Elbe, very convenient both for the shops and for an evening stroll along the river.

We did not spend all our time looking at the buildings. We went inside, too, to admire old masters and priceless treasures. We had day visits to the Meissen porcelain works and the Königstein Fortress. In what little 'spare' time we had left, Shirley managed to organise a talk on *Life in the GDR* -with special reference to the Stasi - a tram trip, a funicular ride, a visit to the prettiest dairy in the world and a boat trip.

Dresden Key Words: calm, ordered, well managed, safe, cobbled, beautiful, green, spacious, scrummy cakes, not much musak, few mobile phones, trousers made to fit young men.

Another raging success, Shirley, greatly appreciated by all on board. When is the next one?

John Lees

**Classical Concertgoers' Group:
The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester
Friday 12 October 2012**

Full Name(s)..... SU3A No(s).....
 Address..... Tel:

 Postcode.....

Please reserve.....place(s) for me (£31.00 per person). I enclose a cheque for £.....payable to **SU3A Concertgoers'** and a small stamped addressed envelope. If possible I would like to sit in the concert hall with.....

Forms should be sent as soon as possible to: Pamela Sandford, 289 Abbey Lane, Sheffield S8 0DA



**Weekenders: Frying Tonight in Rotherham
Saturday 13th October 2012**

Full Name(s)..... SU3A No(s).....
 Address..... Tel:

 Postcode.....

Please reserve.....place(s) for me (£6.75 per person). I enclose a cheque for £.....payable to **Sheffield U3A** and a small stamped addressed envelope.

Please indicate your preferred pick up point:

- Old Mother Redcap 18.00 (...)
- Ecclesall Road South/ Knowle Lane 18.15 (...)
- Pond Hill 18.30 (...)

Forms should be sent as soon as possible to Dot Sutcliffe, 32 Tapton Crescent Road, S10 5DA to arrive by **Friday 24 August**.

Sustainable Development

According to its website, Harlow Carr, the Royal Horticultural Society garden in Harrogate, is 'dominated by water, stone and woodland and very much part of the surrounding Yorkshire landscape', but it was something quite different that attracted the Sustainable Development Group on a recent visit.

Instead we headed for the Bramall Learning Centre, billed as 'one of the greenest buildings in the country' and with a clutch of awards to prove it (five at the latest count).

Centre manager Catherine Baxter gave us an insight into the many features that contribute to the Centre's outstanding energy efficiency, from the expected (solar panels, wind turbine, triple glazing) to the much less obvious, such as the earth bank that shelters and insulates the building's north side, its positioning to catch the maximum daylight, and the over-hanging eaves that prevent overheating when the sunlight is at its most intense.

Some of us are pictured here with Catherine examining samples of the many unusual materials that went into the construction of the building. (The cylindrical object in the foreground is a 'sun pipe' that brings in natural light, reducing dependence on the artificial variety.)

We also found time to look round the gardens where sustainable methods are also much in evidence - and were sustained ourselves by a visit Betty's Café Tea Rooms.



Jo Couldry

Coordinator

Lunch and Lecture: Ian McMillan

Friday 19 October 2012

Doubletree by Hilton Sheffield Park Hotel, Chesterfield Road
South, Meadowhead, S8 8BW

Full Name(s)..... SU3A No(s).....

Address..... Tel:

.....

..... Postcode.....

Menu choice(s) (please indicate): (a) (b) (c)

Please reserve place(s) for me (**£15.50** per person).

I enclose a **small stamped addressed envelope** and a cheque for
£ payable to **Sheffield U3A Lunch and Lecture**.

Forms should be sent to arrive **no later than Friday 5 October** to:

Dot Sutcliffe, 32 Tapton Crescent Road, Sheffield S10 5DA.

✂ _____

Literature Network: Lecture by Danuta Reah

Tuesday 23 October 2012

Full Name(s)..... SU3A No(s).....

Address..... Tel:

.....

..... Postcode.....

Please reserve places for me (**£3.50** per person). I enclose a
cheque for £ payable to **Literature Network of SU3A** and small
s.a.e. Send completed forms to:

Ann Barclay, 14 Clarendon Court, Carr Bank Lane, Sheffield S11 7FN

Jubilee in Stocksbridge

Monday dawned fair for the Stocksbridge Diamond Jubilee market. By 9.30 the stalls were being dressed with celebration cloths and bunting; the SU3A stall was no exception. By 11.00 cheers greeted little Emily, the Jubilee Queen, as she cut the ribbon to open the event in front of the 'Look North' cameras.

Happy people crowded into the main street and around the stalls, the majority of which were advertising local societies or selling things in support of charities. Cafés were packed out and sometimes it was hard to move along the street. What a success!

It was quite uplifting to see how local SU3A Groups had produced lively, colourful, informative posters and flyers to accompany the central publicity and how they welcomed the many people who stopped to see what it was about. Some knew about U3A and were pleased that things were happening locally as well as further into Sheffield whilst others were relieved that SU3A was not just for the intelligentsia and that many Groups were fun as well as educational.

A visitor from Yeovil was inspired to explore her local U3A and a daughter whose mother in Germany is a member of the virtual U3A was delighted to find local activities for her when she came to visit.

S36.tv filmed Yvonne of Midweek Cyclists giving a ukulele performance at the SU3A stall. See it on-line.

[Editor's note: find it here:

<http://s36.tv/2012/06/stocksbridge-jubilee/> at 13 minutes 40 seconds in.

Note the enthusiastic attempts at recruitment to SU3A].

To cap it all, Penistone local radio recorded an interview with three members. Look at the SU3A web-site for some photos.

Some of us had been standing talking to people for about 6 hours. How does the Queen do it?

Beryl Sharp

(0144) 283 1392

Travel Group Visit to Manchester

Thursday 25 October 2012

Full Name(s)..... SU3A No(s).....

Address..... Tel:

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..... Postcode.....

Please reserve places for me (**£31.00** per person). I enclose a cheque for payable to **Sheffield U3A Travel** and small s.a.e. Send to: Derek Shipley, 40 Wollaton Avenue, Sheffield, S17 4LA as soon as possible.

Please tick your preferred pickup point:

Sheffield Interchange Platform 3/5 08.00 (...)

Bus bay Knowle Lane/Ecclesall Road South 08.15 (...)

✂ _____

Travel Group Holiday in London 2013

11 - 15 April 2013

Full Name(s)..... SU3A No(s).....

Address..... Tel:

.....

..... Postcode.....

Please reserve place(s) (**£60.00** per person deposit)

Room: Twin / Single / Double

I enclose a cheque for £ payable to **Sheffield U3A Travel** and a Links-sized stamped addressed envelope. Forms should be sent as soon as possible to: Margaret Langrish, 19 Almshill Road, Sheffield, S11 9RR.

Please read the insurance information on page 20 before applying. The deposit is non returnable unless a replacement can be found.

Another SU3A Sporting Triumph !

SU3A's Croquet Group is now in its fourth season and thriving with a membership of over 70 and a waiting list.

Croquet was an Olympic sport in the first modern games in 1900. Then, France fielded nine of the ten participants and won everything (the lone Belgian did not finish his match). In 2012 the SU3A team have been just as successful against more challenging opposition. For the first time they entered a team in the Yorkshire Croquet Federation Golf Croquet Tournament.

They swept the board against strong opposition, winning both the Team and Individual competitions.



The picture shows, L to R, Anna Giraud, Chair of the Yorkshire Federation and the winning Team members Alan Jeavons, Brian Cave, Peter Jones and Dennis Crosland.

(We do have many good women players, too!)

Fittingly, the award for the Individual winner went to the SU3A Croquet Group founder and Coordinator, Peter Jones.

Jenny Emby

