



## KEYWORTH & DISTRICT U3A

e-News May 2018

No. 1

### MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

I hereby declare our new U3A e-News Bulletin well and truly launched

We do hope that this monthly communication proves helpful in providing timely information around our membership on our many current activities. At our recent AGM I was pleased to report another positive and beneficial U3A year. The full text of that report should soon be available on our U3A website along with the draft minutes of the AGM itself. Note that we do still have one committee member vacancy to fill – offers will be welcomed to help support what I am sure will be another really beneficial U3A year.

Robin.

### Comment

At the recent AGM our chairman announced that we are moving from the quarterly printed newsletter to a monthly issue sent to members by email. The reason for this change is that by doing this we can ensure that members receive news items much quicker than at the three-monthly intervals of the printed newsletter, and also that it will save a considerable amount of money annually in both printing and postage costs. This will enable our subscription levels to be maintained as low as possible for as long as possible.

For those 28 members who do not have email a named hard copy will be available at every Monthly meeting at the reception desk.

The content of the e-News will be mainly news items and it can be used by Group Leaders to advertise any special event that their group may be holding to which U3A members additional to their group members may be invited. Just email the editor with details.

Publication will be in the second week of each month.

IN ADDITION to the e-News it is the intention of the committee to publish a printed annual volume reviewing the activities of our U3A and which will include group reports and pictures.

The development of this change in the way the U3A reaches out to the members is a work-in-progress, and we can expect to see changes in style and format as the months progress based on experience and any feed back received.

Our very grateful thanks go to Sheila Barton who has edited the printed newsletter for the past 25 issues and who retired from this role at the AGM. Thank you Sheila for your hard work in this respect.

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Editor: Howard Fisher, (0115-937-2898) email: handjaf@virginmedia.com

### PROGRAMME

#### MONTHLY MEETINGS

MAY: *The Night the Zeppelins Came*  
Stephen Flinders

JUNE: *Women's Suffrage in Nottingham*  
Mo Cooper

JULY: *Working in Srebrenica*  
Paul Johns

AUGUST: *William & Mary Howitt*  
Rowena Edlin-White

SEPTEMBER: *You're Never Too Old To Rock*  
Vince Eager

OCTOBER: *23 Years in Mali*  
Marie-Claude Boury

NOVEMBER: *The Kinoulton Swift Project*  
Carol Collins

DECEMBER: *Christmas Party*  
The Bridge Singers

2019

JANUARY: *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain*  
Debbie Boote

FEBRUARY: *Tales From an Investigative Journalist*  
Philip Braund

Monthly Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month in Keyworth Methodist Church. Doors open at 2 pm for a beverage, biscuit, opportunity to book New Horizon events and Lunch Group tickets, and to chat with other members.

TALKS BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 2.30 PM

## *Your New Committee*

Your officers and committee is elected at the AGM each year. At the subsequent committee meeting roles are allocated to each committee member. For the 2018-19 year these are:-

Chairman:	Robin Wilcockson
Vice-Chair:	Jean Hogg
Secretary:	Jackie Fisher
Treasurer:	Stuart Bailey
Membership:	Howard Fisher
Speaker Finder:	Ann Townsend
Publicity:	Kath Oakley
New Horizons:	Sue O'Donoghue
Group co-ordinator:	Peter Harding & Jean Hogg
Web Manager:	Peter Edge
Editor:	Howard Fisher
Beacon Administrator:	Roy Turnbull

Leaving the committee at the recent AGM were, Keith Barton, Clare Franklin and Jenny Greaves. All of whom had a long association with the committee and we thank them greatly for their very hard work in serving the membership during their time in their committee roles.

## *Membership News*

It is with much sadness that we report the loss of two people in April, Professor Barry Hull and Geoff Witcomb.

Although Barry was not a current member due to his illness he was our first Chairman and greatly involved in the setting up of our U3A in Keyworth. He chaired the steering group which worked on the first year of our activities up to the first AGM when the U3A was formalised and continued to guide us through the early years as we so successfully grew. Those of us who worked with him carry abiding memories of the efficient and considerate way in which he chaired the committee and monthly meetings. Our sympathies are with Sue and her family.

Geoff became a member in March 2011 and whilst his illness prevented him from being very active in the U3A he maintained an interest in its activities. He was devoted to Keyworth and, along with Trish his wife, had an encyclopedic knowledge of the village and its people from which the story of our village will hold his memory as part of its history. Our sympathies lie with Trish and their families.

We welcome David Moore to membership of the U3A and to the WWI Study Group.

## Group News

### New Group

DIY Tai-Chi - the list for this group filled up in record time and so this group is going ahead. If you are interested, please contact Jackie Mullins on 0115-937-6176

### Proposed New Group

Colouring - Are you interested in colouring and colouring books, and would like to enjoy colouring in the company of others? This is a group to share materials, pictures of your work, gain tips, tricks and advice. Colouring is simple and you don't have to be artistic in any way.

Please sign the list at the Monthly Meeting or contact the Groups Coordinator.

### Groups Coordinator

New committee member, Peter Harding, is taking over from Jean Hogg as the Groups Coordinator, but they will be working together initially on new groups.

### Volunteers Needed

Our U3A only exists because of the work of many people who take on roles on the committee, as group leaders, and helping at the Monthly Meetings. We have a team of members who look after the registration desk and welcome people to the meeting. We would love to have more members helping in this way.

Please contact Jean Hogg if you are interested, or sign the list at the Monthly Meeting.

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## 2018 AGM

The draft AGM minutes of our AGM are reproduced here to enable members who were not at the meeting to see what decisions were made. These draft minutes will be approved at the 2019 AGM.

**Keyworth & District U3A  
Minutes of the Ninth AGM Meeting  
held on Tuesday, 24th April 2018  
at**

**KEYWORTH METHODIST CHURCH HALL at 14:30hrs**

**Present:** Robin Wilcockson (Chair), Jackie Fisher (Acting Secretary), Stuart Bailey (Treasurer), and plus 84 members.

**1. Apologies for absence:** Doug Miles, Erica and Phil Brooks, Keith Barton, Rosemary Dove, Malcolm and Gill Watson, Jean Frisby, Peter Shepherd, Sylvia Doyle, Barbara Lees, and Kathleen Hammond.

**2. Minutes of the AGM held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017:** Approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters arising:** None.

**4. Resolutions:** Change to the clause 3, *The Objects of the U3A, in the Keyworth & District U3A constitution to read:*

*'The advancement of education, and in particular, the education of older people and those who are retired from full time work, by all means, including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development in Keyworth and its surrounding locality.'*

*Note: This new 'Objects' clause is as designated nationally by Third Age Trust as having been agreed with Charities Commission in a recent review.*

Robin gave a brief explanation on the reason for this change and asked if there were any questions about the change. There were none concerning the change.

The resolution was proposed by Robin Wilcockson and seconded by Stan Miller and approved.

**5. Chairman's Report:** It has been another very positive year for our U3A. At year end we had 536 members, and 45 interest groups, indicating continuing steady growth. But more importantly, underlying those mere numbers I see so much life enhancement for so many people.

Groups are very much at the heart of our U3A, where so much personal interest is shared and developed. The roles of those who lead groups continues to be much valued, together with the supportive role of Jean Hogg as groups coordinator, together with Jenny Greaves.

Monthly Meetings provide occasions for a broader sharing together. It is a fact of life that we are not always quite sure to expect from the topic, but we have had some really excellent ones. So well done to Pat Murfet for developing the current programme and to Anne Townsend for now taking this forward, with speakers already arranged until well into 2019.

The New Horizons Team have superbly organised another year of well received visits and events.

Sheila Barton has magnificently edited the last year of quarterly newsletters prior to our moving to a new pattern of membership communications. And Peter Edge has continued to manage our highly regarded website.

Stuart has continued to exercise careful stewardship of our finances.

Within the committee much happens behind the scenes to help all these activities run smoothly. It is with deep sadness that we heard of the losses during the past year of Alan Morris who nurtured the start-up of our U3A, and very recently of Barry Hull, our inaugural Chairman. And yet we remember with gratitude all that they and so many others have done over previous years to get us to where we are today. Indeed, next year we will be 'ten years old' and a celebratory event is being planned to commemorate this. My personal thanks to the committee for all their support this past year, and particular thanks to those relinquishing their roles after many years of excellent service – Clare for her secretarial skills, Sheila for the Newsletter, Keith for his long service, and Jenny for her regional representation and always willingness to help out. And beyond all the official committee and leadership roles, it is always most impressive that, reflecting the U3A self-help ethos, people are so willing to just help out with all the many other things that just keep things going – the 'techies', welcomers, refreshment helpers etc etc.

As described in recent newsletters, there have been a few organisational developments to implement this past year. We have joined the national U3A 'Beacon' system to more effectively administer our increasing membership numbers. This has also had 'spin-offs' in enabling rapid communication to the membership such as a planned monthly emailed news-sheet (with incidental cost saving), but with an annual printed publication to retain the well-liked review aspects of the Newsletter. Roy Turnbull has led the establishment of Beacon, with considerable conscientious effort. External influences have also had to be dealt with, notably the current data protection legislation and requirements from the Charities Commission. Howard has with much heartache steered us through the membership implications of all these. Our thanks to all members and group leaders for your courteous forbearance while implementing all these developments.

As an additional item of interest, Stan Miller, who continues to have national and international U3A involvements, tells me that he has described at an international conference our K&D activities as an illustration of a UK U3A. So Keyworth and District U3A now has an international reputation!

All in all I believe it has been another very positive and beneficial year for our U3A, and it has been a privilege to serve as your chairman.

**6. Treasurer's report and adoption of the accounts:** Stuart Bailey presented the accounts, which had been examined by Robin Stocker, and briefly explained them. Page 1 shows a small increase in income of £61.82, but this is due to New Horizons making a surplus, so over the year there was a slight loss. The cost of postage and printing will reduce next year due to the newsletter being sent by email. Stuart explained that all group accounts and the New Horizon account must be included in the annual accounts next year. Stuart reported that the subscription rate would stay at £15. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Paul Roebuck and seconded by Sue Britten and approved.

**7. Appointment of the examiner of the accounts:** Robin Stocker agreed to continue as account examiner. Proposed Clare Franklin and seconded by Bill Cooper and approved

**8. Appointment of Honorary Officers and Committee Members:**

Chair Robin Wilcockson.

Vice-chair Jean Hogg.

Secretary Jackie Fisher.

Treasurer Stuart Bailey. All the above have been proposed and seconded and were elected en bloc. Proposed Sue O'Donoghue and seconded Lorraine Donovan.

Committee Peter Edge, Howard Fisher, Anne Townsend, Kath Oakley, Sue O'Donoghue, Peter Harding and Roy Turnbull have been proposed and seconded and were elected en bloc. Proposed Lorraine Donovan and seconded Jackie Mullins.

**9. Closure of meeting:** Robin closed the meeting at 14.59

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## *Subscriptions and Gift Aid*

### **Subscriptions**

Subscriptions were due to be paid on 1<sup>st</sup> March.

There is a two month period of grace to make renewals and this has now expired so anyone who has not paid by now has had their membership lapsed.

### **Gift Aid**

Members are reminded that they have a duty to inform the U3A of any change in their tax status that would affect their Gift Aid permissions.

In the event of this applying please inform the Treasurer or Membership Secretary without delay.



Our next two events are:

Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> June: RNIB Guide Dog Training Centre and Warwick

£18.00 pp including coach, tour and tea/coffee & biscuits.

Vouchers on sale at the May Monthly meeting or contact Lesley Dittmer, 0115-937-2766

Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> July Lampport Hall and Gardens, Northants.

£35.00 pp including coach, hall tour, entry to gardens, museum and exhibition.

Coffee/tea on arrival, a one-course lunch and coffee/tea before departure.

Vouchers on sale at the May and June Monthly Meetings

**AFTER MAY 22<sup>nd</sup>** contact Lorraine Donovan, 0115-937-2804

Full details of our events are on the U3A web site and the notice board and rolling screen at Monthly Meetings.

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