



Aston Clinton U3A

Charity Number 1115424

Information

February 2013

YOUR U3A NEEDS YOU.

Our treasurer, Geoff P has announced his intention to relinquish his role after the February Annual General Meeting. To date no one has come forward to volunteer to take his place. You do not need to be a chartered accountant to fulfil this role and Geoff will provide the necessary help and assistance to anyone who is willing to take on the job. Aston Clinton U3A cannot function without a treasurer, and the consequences, if no one comes forward, could well be catastrophic.

Entry to meetings will be by membership card only

Your Monthly Newsletter has become very cramped and overcrowded; this has resulted in some things being left out and others being shortened to fit in the space available,

To try and overcome these problems we are having a two page Newsletter. The first page will be very similar to the old front page and contain information about events and their dates and times etc.

Page two (which could be printed on the back of page one) will be for reports and suggestions which could include pictures and comments, and also proposals for new groups. All comments and suggestions should be sent to [ralph](#). This will only work if we get enough response from the membership.

The Group Schedule will only be published two or three times a year, but all changes will be notified in the newsletter.

General Trips: The visit to The Historic Dockyard at Chatham in Kent will be on Tuesday 23rd April (St. George's Day) - apologies for getting the date wrong in the January newsletter. The Historic Dockyard covers a site of 80 acres so there's a certain amount of walking around a large site but it is steeped in history with plenty of exhibits to keep you interested. Plus the Ropery - do NOT miss the Ropery tour (included in the price). The cost of the trip will be £25 -If you wish to come on this trip, please make cheques payable to Aston Clinton U3A Travel and let Geoff have your cheques as soon as possible. if you would like to join us on this trip and haven't yet added your name to the list, please contact; *Geoff P*

Woman in White theatre trip on Saturday 9th March. Pick up times are: The Counting House, Tring 2.30 pm and The Bell at Aston Clinton 2.40 pm. *Martin*.

Music Appreciation Group

I'd like to test for interest in a Music Appreciation Group to meet once a month. As I see it this would be an opportunity to broaden your current interests in music by shared listening experience, both through recordings brought along by group members and by attending concerts on an occasional basis. Any musical interests could be catered for, open minds are the only requirement! - Contact *Doug B*

Scrabble Group

It has proven difficult to find sufficient take up for the Scrabble group on Thursday afternoons. Consequently, with the change in timing of the General meetings, I've decided to see whether we can find more interest if we reschedule to the first and third Wednesday mornings of each month at the HUB. All those already on my mailing list for scrabble will continue to receive invitations but anyone else who might like to give it a go, please contact *Doug B*

Barrow Boys & Bankers: The response for this trip has been so great that I have arranged two trips. The first on the 27th March and the second, a week later, on the 3rd April. This has enabled me to accommodate everyone who wishes to attend. I am very grateful to those members who have agreed to go on the second trip, as this has allowed me to give places on the March trip to those who were unable to attend in April. The trip on the 27th March is now full but I have six places available on the 3rd April should anyone else wish to attend. Payment of £31 per person (to Aston Clinton U3A Travel) for both trips is required at or before the General Meeting in February, as we have to pay City & Village tours before the event. The two lists are attached to the February emailing and will be available at the February meeting.

"In view of the loss of the layby and free parking at Jansel Square. There is only one pick up point for the trips - The Bell at Aston Clinton. This will allow members to park in the car park at Aston Clinton Park/Hub". *Pat Mc*.

U3A Trips, Outings and Holidays 2013

| ☎--Pat M | Martin Y | Chris B | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Richard W | Geoff P | | | |
| Destination | Date | Transport | Price | Group Leader |
| Theatre Royal at Windsor. | Saturday 9th March 2013 | Coach | £34 each | Martin Y |
| Barrow Boys & Bankers. | March 27 th & April 3 rd | Coach | £31. each | Pat McR |
| The Historic Dockyard at Chatham. | Tuesday 23rd April | Coach | £25. each | Geoff P |

MONTHLY MEETINGS now at ANTHONY HALL 2.30 till 4.30

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|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| February 20 th | AGM followed by | Chris B | Hospice of St. Francis |
| March 20 th | Mel Rees | My Family and other Setbacks | |
| April 17 th | Peter Humphries | The Spice Trade | |

On Sunday 9th December a party of 33 went to The Royal Festival Hall to hear Handel's Messiah. It was brilliantly sung by The London Chorus with The Mozart Festival Orchestra in 18th century costume and the whole audience stood up in the traditional way when The Hallelujah Chorus was sung. To cap it all we had an uneventful journey with no snow! *Martin Y*

'Third Age Matters (Tam) Magazine Would all members please note that TAM will no longer be available at monthly meetings. The magazine (and Sources) will be available by Direct Mail only at a cost of £2.10 for 2013. Members who wish to receive TAM should submit their names and payment (cash or cheque payable to 'Aston Clinton U3A') as soon as possible to the secretary, John B

Science N Technology January Meeting

45 members assembled in Halton Hall to listen to one of my past students from Salvatorian College in Harrow. Barny Daley joined the railways straight from school as a sponsored graduate. He worked his way through Chiltern railways, Great Western, the West Coast Line and now is Network Rails' manager for the reliability of the infrastructure of the railways. The principles of signalling were demonstrated in a manner that all could follow. His final demonstration linked us to a set of points near Linslade showing when they were last used and how near they were to requiring servicing. Using his laptop he can get this information from signals and points from anywhere on the network. When he was with me at school we had 2 BBC Micros. He has come a long way.

Next meeting; Feb 27th Klargesters factory (rain water harvesting). Meet Hub car park at 9.45 for a car share. The factory is in College Road on the other side of the canal. March meeting cancelled. *Colin T*

Theatre Trip to The Theatre Royal, Windsor to see Wilkie Collins' classic ghost story called The Woman in White on Saturday 9th March, 4.45pm. Tickets, in the Royal stalls including the coach are £34 ea. There are 6 tickets left. Will those who put their name down at the last meeting but have not paid please give me your cheque by or at the next General meeting. Thank you for your co-operation. Any questions ring me

Cologne Christmas Market.

I am toying with the idea of arranging a trip in December to Cologne to visit the Christmas market. Before I make any enquiries, I need to gauge the interest among the members. I will put out an interest list at the February meeting. If you are interested please add your names to the list. If there is sufficient interest, I will pursue the matter further. *Pat Mc*

Group Leaders: A note for your diaries. We are unable to get a venue to meet on 2nd July, as agreed at the last meeting. We shall now meet at Buckland Village Hall on Monday 1st July, 2013 at 2.30pm.
Pat Mc