



## FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to May's newsletter and the warmer weather. Have you read the latest TAM (Third Age Matters) magazine? It just gets better and better!

Items of interest that have inspired me were; super salad recipes on page 36, a historical buildings article on page 64 with a link to book a free online course, and a report from Iain Cassidy, on page 76 considering what retirement means to him and looking at the wider picture of U3a. And on page 28 our very own John Sutton recollecting his experience of his record collection.

Leyburn & District u3a is a small part of the national picture and so there is an opportunity to become part of that at the forthcoming u3a Festival from the 1st to the 3rd July at the University of York.

June

## COMMITTEE NEWS

Our next committee meeting is on Monday 27th April, 4pm at LAAC (Leyburn Arts and Community Centre) where you are welcome to attend as an observer.

Also, the AGM is on Friday 15th May, 10 for 10.30am followed by a speaker and a FREE RAFFLE so please come along! Committee role vacancies are Membership Secretary, Groups Coordinator and Secretary. Role descriptions were printed in last month's newsletter.

Finally, some of the committee recently attended a Yorkshire Area network meeting and discussed issues such as speaker fees budget, how local u3as are promoting themselves and problems with banks.

## ANNUAL GENERAL AND SPEAKER MEETING

This year there are incentives for members who attend our AGM on Friday 15 May to find out about our current projects and future plans. Each member will receive a FREE raffle ticket and could win a surprise hamper.

The formal meeting will be followed by a short talk ***A Working Artist In Wensleydale*** by local artist Lynn Ward.



Lynn is full time commercial artist based in Leyburn and known for murals and landscape painting. Being born and bred in Yorkshire, her artwork is strongly inspired by our stunning surroundings.

She has been in business for over 25 years creating a wide range of artwork from pantomime scenery, murals in restaurants, right down to personalised illustrations. The largest of these works is a 90' x 8' depiction of the Evacuation of Dunkirk, and most recently a 24' x 8' depiction of Aldbrough in Roman times for Dunesforde Vineyard, near Boroughbridge. She has also created murals in The Wensleydale Heifer, Tennants and the Forbidden Corner.

Her work has been exhibited around North Yorkshire, recently at Tennants, Leyburn; The Station, Richmond, and can be seen at her own studio in Golden Lion Yard, Leyburn.

Join us at 10.00 for 10.30 at Leyburn Arts and Community Centre and enjoy the talk, hot drinks and cake.

## GROUP ACTIVITIES



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## Art Appreciation

Last month it was Saltaire, this month the Hepworth Gallery in Wakefield and next month the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. Aren't we lucky to have such splendid places near to us as well as the fact that are different things to see every time you go.

## Bus Safari?? New Group

Why don't we copy Stourbridge u3a (page 13 u3a Matters) and set up our own Bus Safari. This will start after the AGM in May. There will be a sheet at the AGM to sign up and after that we can plan our first trip. I can't wait. Can't make the AGM ring  
Melanie

## Garden Group



Our April meeting was a great success following the disappointing meeting in March. Because of the forecast for high winds and rain, many of us abandoned the trip to Clifton Castle on March 29. However on April 14th the weather was much better. We first visited Northdale nursery near Northallerton where we enjoyed browsing through their plants and having a coffee in their café. We then went a short distance on to Strikes Garden centre where we were given a demonstration of how to plant a hanging basket by Ross (see picture ) . After lunch in Strikes' restaurant a few of us went on to Mount Pleasant Priory. For our May meeting we will be going to the Glebe Field near Wensley to catch the display of wildflowers.

## Croquet Group

I have not had sufficient people wishing to participate in the croquet sessions. We play on the grass opposite the Wensleydale Heifer West Witton every Thursday when the weather is fine. If you wish to play please let me know asap. Or if you wish to suggest a different venue and or day of the week please contact me.

If I don't hear from any more members the group will fold

Thank you

Mary Sadler

## CURRENT AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP.

At our meeting on 10 April we had two topics, crypto currencies and cancel culture. On cancel culture we discussed where freedom of speech ends and hate speech, or other very controversial view points, begins. Despite our group including significant expertise in financial matters we remained largely bemused by crypto currencies and suspicious of them, given their usage by the underworld and Donald Trump.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 8 May when we will review the situation in the Middle East and then consider whether UK should be exploiting its reserves of oil, gas and coal.

### **MONTHLY SPEAKER MEETING**

The London Foundling Hospital and Museum - Joanne Aston

What does George Frideric Handel, composer and William Hogarth, painter have in common?

We learnt that they are connected to the Foundling Hospital in London through Thomas Coram who in 1741 set up a hospital for children who, for whatever reason, could not be brought up by their mothers. Handel used his reputation to support charitable causes such as this one and made it a beneficiary of his will. Hogarth helped transform the Hospital into the UK's first public art gallery, and designed the Coat of Arms seen on letters and crockery. During its two centuries in operation, the Foundling Hospital looked after 25,000 children. Today the museum building is situated in the grounds of the old Hospital at 40 Brunswick Square in Bloomsbury. It houses a display of poignant tokens that mothers attached to a child when they were left behind.

Can you name some foundlings from mythology or fiction? Perhaps, Moses, Romulus and Remus, Oedipus, Superman/ Batman, Tarzan, Harry Potter, Paddington, and from real life Kate Adie, and Lemn Sissay, the latter a trustee of the Foundling