



Todmorden U3A Newsletter

Next Branch meetings : Central Methodist

19 June, 2.00pm

Lynne Midwinter – ‘Keeping fit as the years go by’

17 July, 2.00pm

Jack Taylor – ‘The Buildings of Todmorden’

Chairman: John McNair

(01706 816924, john.mcnaire@phoncoop.coop)

Membership of Groups

To join or express interest in a group, **members of U3A** should contact the Convenor. (see last page) Anybody who is not yet a U3A member may join at the next branch meeting. (19 June)

From the Chairman:

Welcome to this first Newsletter of U3A Todmorden.

When we started, last February, we were sailing in uncharted waters, unsure how much interest would be shown, and what sort of programme would develop. In the event, with the help and hard work of an active committee and the constant support of POPPS we can now say that the U3A Todmorden has been successfully launched. We've also had help from our friends in U3A Burnley, and from the U3A Trust, the national federation of U3As.

The first Members' Meeting has led to the formation of the study groups which are now beginning to meet. Other groups can be set up where a member volunteers to act as convenor .

We're making a splash in Todmorden. We welcome ideas and suggestions. Don't hesitate to get in touch

Best wishes

JohnMcNair

Group Reports

A paper on 'Study groups programmes' was available at the May meeting and can be obtained at the June meeting if you have not got one.

This month's reports will only supplement these and will necessarily be brief, as we are still in the opening game.

The literature group has held its first meeting. Members discussed their favourite books, choosing authors from various times and backgrounds. The second meeting will discuss the work of Elizabeth Goudge and will be at 7.15 pm on July 14. For venue details contact Diana Forrest, convenor, on 01706 815615 or dianaeforrest@talktalk.net.

Computer Group. The group met for a non-practical exploratory meeting, and decided that at future meetings, using the Library's computers, members will find out how to design a website and how to produce an attractive format for this newsletter.

Writers' Group. At the first meeting eight of us got to know each other and discussed our expectations. Some members read work and were given feedback. Anther actually wrote and read a very witty poem during the meeting. The theme decided for the meeting on 12 June was 'The Dance.'

In case you missed it:

U3A is not a University in the sense most often used (no degrees!)

Our branch is independent of any other, although the Burnley Branch has been very helpful in our formative stages.

Activities: The intention is to have a monthly meeting for all members (3rd Thursday) at which there will be a speaker followed by reports on group activities. Existing and possible future groups are shown on page 4.

Cost: U3A membership costs £15 a year. There are no additional costs except any incurred by groups, which will finance these themselves. One group meeting may be attended without incurring any obligation to join or pay but any further activity does mean membership, except that invited speakers at meetings may not be members.

CURRENT GROUPS

All phone numbers are Todmorden (01706) unless STD code is given

| <u>Group</u> | <u>Convenor</u> | <u>(Start) date</u> | <u>Place</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------|
| Computing | Alan McDonald (810559) | 1 st & 3 rd Wed of month 10.00 | L |
| Concert Party | Rita Olley (816957) | 23 July – 4.00 pm | TT |
| Family history | Douglas Wilson (813430) | 20 June – 11.00 | L |
| French | Ann Foster (814623) | July - tba | H* |
| Literature | Diana Forrest (815615) | 14 July – 19.15 | H* |
| Music | Richard Pomfret (839155) | 18 June – 10.15 | CM |
| Scrabble | Denise Wilson (817737) | tba | H* |
| Science | Richard White (812007) | tba | H* |
| World Religions | Richard White “ | tba | H* |
| Writers | Ric Johnson 01422 843631 | 26 June, 10 & 24 July 7 August – all at 2.00pm | TT |

*For address phone the group convenor.

Abbreviations (Column 6):

CM = Central Methodist

H = House

L = Library

TT = Todmorden Together

tba = to be announced

POTENTIAL FUTURE GROUPS

A significant number of members have expressed interest in Art Appreciation, Current Affairs, German, Lunch Club, Philosophy and Spanish.

In the case of Spanish, David Cross knows a possible convenor and is working to set up the group. Members interested, please contact him directly (davidcross72@googlemail.com or 01706 814226)

The other topics need a similar input. Possible convenors are very welcome.

