

# Bramhall



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

## Newsletter

### Chairman's message

Welcome to the first edition of our news-sheet which will be produced bi-monthly by Peter Levy. At the moment I feel like the Old Woman who lived in a shoe and had so many children she didn't know what to do – at least as far as our speaker meetings are concerned!! To date 212 people have signed up as members and we have 20 interest groups up and running with a further 39 looking for organisers to get them off the ground - not bad for a start. Your committee has been thinking about how to address the problem for our monthly meeting having had to turn people away at our first 2 meetings.

The alternatives are :-

- a) Set up a completely separate new U3A which would need another steering committee i.e. 12 -15 volunteers.
- b) Create A and B groups within our own organisation having two speaker meetings a month with members opting for which meeting they would come to. This would allow us to have a membership of 400-450 and ensure no one was turned away.
- c) Booking the scout hut and the hall and two speakers for the same time. People could choose which speaker but once the main hall was full would go to the scout hut
- d) To close our membership and create a waiting list . This is not a favoured option by the committee or the national body

It may be that once groups are operating, the speaker meeting numbers will level out and the problem disappear but we do need to ensure people aren't turned away.

We would value your comments so it's over to you. Please let Joy Armstrong, Alistair Gardner or myself know what you would like us to do.

Pownall Green School already has a link with Cheadle Hulme U3A with members going in to help children with reading. The head teacher has indicated he would welcome more people. He also wants to set up an after-school gardening club and would like help. If you feel this is something you could do, please let me know. The school will undertake CRB checks for all volunteers. I look forward to meeting you all in the coming months and to hearing your comments on our programme of activities.

Dorothy M Chesterman  
Chairman

# Your Committee

Chairman	Dorothy Chesterman
Vice-chairman/secretary	Joy Armstrong
Treasurer	Alistair Gardner
Groups co-ordinators	Sue Bosworth Joyce Street
Membership secretary	Kay Witham
Speakers secretary	Jane Hind

**Other members: Sandra Millard, Gordon Jackson, Geoff Hunt, Sid Davies, Renee Emmott, Judith Fell, Christine Hollingsworth, Diane Bright. Web designer: Rae Mulliner. Newsletter editor: Peter Levy**

With such a large membership, new Group Co-Ordinators are needed and always welcome. Reports and photos of group activities for inclusion in the newsletter should be emailed to [newsletter@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bramhallu3a.org.uk)

## U3A News

Members of the Bramhall Group have access to a wide and varied programme of events conducted by the North West Region. Their AGM is on May 25<sup>th</sup> at Friend's Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester M1 (1.30pm) with guest speaker Dr John Prag, Professor of Archaeology at the Manchester Museum. He is one of the world leaders in his specialist field, reconstructing lifelike representations of ancient people from skeletal remains, having made several TV appearances. His talk is entitled: Eyes, Teeth & Arthritis; Reconstructing Ancient Faces. Tickets for this event, with tea and biscuits afterwards, are £5. Application forms from [t.cheeham2@btinternet.com](mailto:t.cheeham2@btinternet.com). The AGM, which is, of course, free, starts at approximately 3.15pm with attendance limited to two formal delegates per NW U3A but others who have attended the lecture are welcome to attend as observers.

Time is running out for enrolment at the Myerscough Residential School from April 7-10 as Golf and Geology are already full. Contact [kathleenmercier@talktalk.net](mailto:kathleenmercier@talktalk.net) A full list of local and national events can be found by logging on to the U3A website.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Meetings start at 2pm at St Michael's Church Bramhall**

Thursday March 16th 2010	Arthur Cross	The Snows of Kilimanjaro
Thursday April 15th 2010	Dr A McMinn	Ormskirk U3A

# ***How it all began***



**STANDING ROOM ONLY** The packed house at St Michael's Church when the Bramhall U3A held its inaugural meeting last November



**HOUSE OF CARDS** The Bridge Group under Chris McKiernan's guidance at Lumb Lane

## Register – Groups

Group	Co-ordinator	Meeting date
Archaeology	Berry Tomlinson	
Art	Peter Richardson	
Bridge	Chris McKiernan	
Book Group (A)	Rachel Mulliner	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of Month
Book Group (B)	Dudley Newell	Thursday
Church history	Dorothy Chesterman	
Computer/software	Gordon Jackson	
Cycling	George Ellis	
Dance	Janet & Roger Owens	
Digital photography	Harry Bosworth	
Dining	Janet McMurray	
Discussion (A)	Dina Levy	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday of Month
Discussion (B)	Pat Wright	Friday
Family history (A)	Diane Bright	Tuesday
Family history (B)	Mary Hambleton	Wednesday
Family history (C)	Brian Turner	Tuesday
Film & discussion	Pamela Roth	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday 11am
French	Geoff Hunt	
Gardening	Ron Butler	
German	Evelyn Ingram	
History	Tom Fanning	Tuesday
Knitting	Mary Flynn	
Mapping Bramhall	Val Murray	
Music (classical)	Ken Mulliner	
Music (for leisure)	Joanne Hague	
Poetry	Jean Budd	
Recorder	Mabel James	
Science	Dave Ward	
Scottish country dance	Sheila Bruce-Smith	
Sewing	Georgie Carleton	
Swimming	Jo Crichley	
Theatre/outings	Renee Remmott	
Walking	Bob Dumbarton	

***The telephone numbers of committee members and group co-ordinators are in the print version of this newsletter.***