

May

www.bramhallu3a.org.uk

Bramhall

U3A

Established 2010

Chairman's bit

The other week, all of the committee had the great pleasure of welcoming our new members to their afternoon tea and get-together. It was lovely to see so many of our new friends come along for a 'cuppa' and a cake and meet each other for the first time. One of the many things I really like about Bramhall U3A, our U3A, is how easily members come together, socialise and get involved. By the end it was as if we had all known each other for some considerable time. I am certain new friendships were struck up during that afternoon. Long may that continue. It is our plan to keep having these welcome teas as we fully appreciate the importance of friendship and teamwork within an organisation as big as ours.

The other things we can all enjoy are the lengthening days, the light green mist of leaves on the trees and the birdsong in the morning and evening. These come along with the other delightful effects of longer days and warmer temperatures, such as the grass growing and the hedge needing to be cut. The things we all look forward to in winter. They are all signs of nature returning to normal, with spring, then summer, well and truly on its way.

We really are very lucky in having such accessible places as Bramhall Park, the Ladybrook Valley and the wonderful walk from Bramhall Hall main car park across Carrwood Road and then along to Robins Lane, in which to fully appreciate the lovely area in which we live. These areas are all relatively flat and have easy access for all to enjoy to the full. Dare I mention the idea of dusting down the 'BBQ'? Or will that have a negative effect on the weather? Strange how this always seems to happen. . . . It seems to have the same effect as washing the car.

Odd to think that the next time I will be writing to you, in July, we will have a new Government in place.

I wonder if that has the same effect on the weather as a BBQ? Hey-ho, life goes on. *Peter Webster—Chairman*

Did you know?

Bramhall U3A now has 766 members of which 212 or 27.7% are male.

Throughout the UK there are 1010 U3As which have a combined total of 385,029 members.



These blankets were begun by Mary Flynn, the original leader of the Knitting Group. After Mary sadly passed away the rest of the group completed the fifty six squares and sewed them together. The wool was originally donated to Mary by neighbour.

It was pure wool so made warm blankets, and so they have been passed to a friend of a group member who works with the homeless in Stockport.

Sheila Porter

Bramhall U3A Committee

Chair: Peter Webster
 Vice-chair: *Vacancy*
 Business: Dorothy Chesterman
 Treasurer: Alistair Gardner
 Groups: Chris Stubbs
 Pat George
 Membership: Kay Witham
 Speakers: Doreen Neil
 Community: Alaister Macrae

Website:
www.bramhallu3a.org.uk

Groups Information:
groups@bramhallu3a.org.uk

Bramhall U3A meetings:
 Bramhall URC, Robins Lane,
 Bramhall. Third Thursday
 each month at 2pm.

Entrance: £1
with membership card

Meetings, Talks ...

June 15

Music Through the Ages
Jean Braddock - Pianist

July 20

The Rowley Project
Stephen Rowley
 Transforming a West Kenyan community through
 education, health & clean water.

August 17

An Adventure on Wheels - Part 2
Matt & Ivonne
 A year driving around the USA

September 21

Mercy Ships - Frances King

Chess Club

We have had enquiries about setting up a chess club. If you're interested, please email groups@bramhallu3a.org.uk

New Cafe Book Club

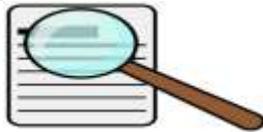
Our exciting new book club still has a few places left. If you would like to join, please email groups@bramhallu3a.org.uk

Bridge Improvers Group 2

The Thursday night group will not be resuming in September 2017. We are currently looking at room availability so that the Group can run on a different day, providing there is sufficient interest.

Research

Mike Hollingsworth



A researcher at Manchester University is looking for volunteers. The project is an investigation of Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (talking and activity-based) in people with Parkinson's disease with dementia and dementia with Lewy bodies. It will involve both the person with the disease and their carer. For further details go to

Outings

Co-ordinators: Chris Hollingsworth
 & Val Graham



Date	Outings - Events open for booking	Price
Frid 23 June	Stratford-Upon-Avon (inc. Anne Hathaway's Cottage & boat trip)	£27
Sund 30 July	Eaton Hall Gardens & Sunday lunch	£38
Frid 11 – Sat 12 Aug	Prince Charles's Gardens at Highgrove	£189 p.p.
Sun 3 – Tues 5 Sept	Coast, Cathedral & Coal Visiting Whitby, Durham and Beamish	£245 p.p.
Thurs 14 Sept	BBC MediaCityUK	£9.45

EASY: A flat walk with no hills or ascents/descents

EASY+: Flat with a few very short ascents and descents.

MOD: Generally a flat walk with the occasional ascent or descent which will not be severe.

MOD+: A walk with a number of ascents and descents, some of which may be long. (15 mins+)

HARD: A walk with one or more ascents and descents which will be severe and long in duration (30mins+)

Although we are no longer running the Bric-a-Brac stall in aid of The Wellspring, donations of books, sealed foodstuffs, new/unused toiletries and warm clothing in good condition, will still be most gratefully received.

Our trip to Stratford-Upon-Avon starts with a visit to Anne Hathaway's Cottage on the way in and ends with a cruise along the River Avon just before we leave. There is plenty to do in between – follow the Shakespeare trail, see the revamped Royal Shakespeare Theatre, join a guided walk or perhaps have a pleasant stroll along the river. There are plenty of cafés and restaurants.

New for this month is our very first trip on a Sunday and is to Eaton Hall Gardens preceded by Sunday lunch at Inglewood Manor Hotel. Eaton Hall is the home of the Duke of Westminster. There are 88 acres of formal gardens and several special attractions.

There are still 2 twin or double rooms available on our trip to **Prince Charles's Gardens at Highgrove** (including lunch). This involves an overnight stop at a De Vere hotel and we shall also be visiting Berkeley Castle.

There are 2 twin/double rooms left for our mini-break (Coast, Cathedral & Coal). The break this year starts with a visit to Whitby and the Yorkshire coast. We will then drive to Durham and our 4* hotel. The following day there is a guided tour of Durham Cathedral followed by lunch and a chance to explore the city. Our final day takes us to Beamish where you can see life as it was in the 19th and mid-20th century. There is transport available to take you around this huge site.

In September there will be a tour of the ever popular BBC MediaCityUK.

Changes to Terms & Conditions for Theatres & Outings:

Due to an increasing number of cancellations of Outings, the Committee has agreed that Cancellation and Guest policies will now be as follows, with changes *in italics*:

Full refund

If a booking with payment is cancelled by telephone within *7 days* of the booking being made, then a full refund will be made.

In other circumstances

A full or partial refund will be made if there are a sufficient number of members on the trip to cover the costs.

A refund of ticket costs can only be made where either the ticket has not yet been purchased or the ticket is sold to another member.

Refunds

Theatre

Co-ordinators: Wendy Burton
& Ann Lee

Events can be booked at monthly meetings and via the U3A website www.bramhallu3a.org.uk. It is always worthwhile to put your name on the waiting list as we regularly have cancellations.

Date	Events open for booking	Bookings must be made by	Price
Wed 7 June	The Play That Goes Wrong, Lowry theatre (matinee) – tickets left		£24
Wed 20 Sep	Aladdin Ballet, Lowry Theatre (evening)	27 th July	£48
Wed 25 Oct	Sunset Boulevard, Palace Theatre (matinee) – 4 tickets left		£47

Cancellation, refund and guest policies

A full refund will only be made if a booking is cancelled *by telephone within 2 days* of the booking being made.

A refund of transport costs will be made if there is a sufficient number of members on the trip to cover transport costs.

A refund of ticket can only be made where either the ticket has not yet been purchased, e.g. National Trust properties, or the ticket is re sold.

Guest policy – Non-members can come on an outing as the guest of a member *on one occasion only*.

Most events that are full will have waiting list. Please ask for details.

The costs for all outings include transport, driver's tip and entry tickets.

Events can be booked at monthly meetings and via our website: www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/.

The dates of several future outings, for which bookings are not being yet taken, are posted on the website under *Dates for your Diary*.

Almoner

We pride ourselves on being a caring and friendly U3A and, as part of that, we appointed Judi Robinson as Almoner to send out cards on behalf of us all when members are celebrating special occasions, are sick or pass away.

These have always been appreciated, but it is so easy in a large organisation for people to slip through the net and be missed. To help alleviate this, if you become aware of any situation where a card would be appropriate could you let me know? I can then forward the information to Judi along with the correct address and post code.

Dorothy Chesterman dmchesterman@hotmail.com

Obituary - We are sorry to announce the death of two of our members:-
Terry Bell and Garry Hunter

Disclaimer - All details were correct at the time of publication. Bramhall U3A cannot be held responsible for any changes that may have taken place after this time.

Interesting Groups

Group	Co-ordinator	Days/times
Art	TBA	TBA
Badminton	Carolyn Johnson	Tuesday 1.45-3.45pm
Bird Watching	Diana Oldfield	Usually 4th Wednesday @ 9.15am
Books	Paul Carter	4th Thursday
Bridge Beginners	Dudley Newell	Tuesdays 2 - 4pm
Improvers 1	Peter Levy	Wednesdays 10am - noon
Canasta	Ray Lee	3rd Monday 2pm
Card making	Sue Young	Alt. Mondays 2 - 4pm
Computers	Dorothy Chesterman	Phone for information
Creative writing	Paul Ramsden	2nd Wednesday 2pm
Cribbage	Pat George	1st Thursday 7.30pm
Crown green bowling	Val Barker	April to October - Mondays 11am
Cycling	Ann Smith	Typically, one ride per fortnight.
Dining	Dave Rowell	Tuesday or Wednesday evenings - 4th week of each month
Discussion	Vera Moore	4th Monday 2pm
Embroidery	Jan Boys	3rd Friday 2pm
Family History	Dina Levy	2nd Thursday 10am -12noon
	Pat Wright	Monthly - Wednesday 2pm
	Dorothy Chesterman	Monthly - Wednesday 2pm
	Diane Bright	First Thursday 1-3pm
	Mary Hambleton	4th Wednesday 10.30am
	Brian Turner	Mondays 10.15 - 11.00
	Pamela Roth	Alternate Mondays @ 2pm
	Vikki Radford	4th Thursday
	Kay Witham	2nd and 4th Tuesdays @ 10.30am
	Marilyn Hughes	Alt Thurs 10 - noon
	Alison Davids	Alt Thurs 10 - noon
	Angela Devaney	Contact for details
	Margaret France	Thursdays 10am
	Glenys Steedman	1st Tuesday 2pm
	Helen Webster	1st Thursday 2pm
	Sheila Porter	Wednesday 1.30 - 3.30pm
	Shelagh Lord	3rd Monday 2pm
	Chris Chapman	3rd Friday 10.30am
	Val Murray	3rd Monday @ 2pm
	Jackie Harmer	See website for details
	David Pechey	1st Thursday 10am
	Wendy Litchfield	2nd Monday 2pm
	Olga Hampson	Monthly first Thursday 8.30 for 9.00pm
	Lynn Whyte	Contact for details
	Frances Bell	1st Wednesday 2 - 4pm
	Peter Webster	Alt Fridays 1.30 - 3pm
	Mike Hollingsworth	2nd Monday 2 - 4.30
	Sheila Bruce-Smith	1st & 3rd Mondays 10 to 12
	Val Barker	Thursdays 2 - 4pm
	Gillian Rowe	Tuesdays 10 -11.30am
	Diana Blaney	1st Wednesday 2pm
	Gaye Huddart	1st, 2nd + 3rd Wed 10.00-12.00
	Pat George	4th Wednesday 10.30-11.30am
	Liz Pennington	1st + 3rd Tuesday 2pm
	Liz Pennington	Alternate Fridays at 2pm
	Joyce Kilgour	See schedule on website
	Ann Gray	TBA
	Alaister Macrae	Bi-monthly - contact for detail
	Bob Dumbarton	
	TBA	
	Jenny Richmond	
<i>Holidays</i>	<i>Gill Moorhouse</i>	<i>See newsletter and/or website</i>