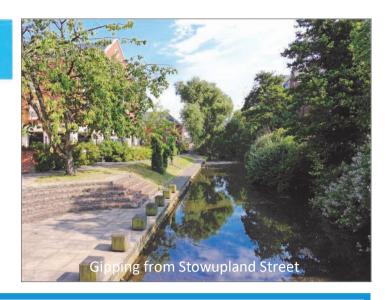


# Stowmarket U3A



Stowmarket and District Learning Activities in Retirement

Registered Charity No. 1002987



# **NEWSLETTER**

No. 53

# SUMMER 2018

# From the Chairman — Ken Snow

# Come along and have your say!

Ithin this edition you will find the Notice (page 8) convening the next Annual General Meeting of Stowmarket U3A, to be held at the United Reform Church on 19th September.

At the AGM you will be invited to consider proposals to change the constituthe annual accounts to 31 July 2018, to to elect members to the Committee.

Nomination forms to propose members to act as an Officer or Committee Member have been distributed and will be available at the August meeting. Any nomination requires to be in writing and signed by the proposer, the second and the nominee and must be received by The permitted activities broadly include the Secretary, Connie Harford on or before 12 September 2018; any nomination received after 12 September 2018 will be disregarded.

Following the AGM there will be a show casing of the various groups within our U3A in the adjoining hall where light refreshments will also be available.

So if you are a present group leader or if you would wish to promote a new group make sure you contact our group convenor Bryan Hilton to reserve a space to present your group to the membership.

ing will be open to the public to attract clause the proposals will come before new members so bring your friends and the meeting to change the following: have your say!!

# **Boring but important - Constitutional** mence on 1 October annually. **Matters**

During the past year the U3A has been requested by National Office and The tion (see below), to consider and adopt Charity Commissioners to amend its constitution to include a new clause elect Officers for the ensuing year and defining the Objects of the U3A. The change appears to have been brought about to ensure that all U3As include all financial activities within the financial statements presented to members and filed with the Charity Commissioners to ensure that the activities fall within the defined objects.

> any activity which falls within learning including the personal development of the members. It allows socially based activities but specifically the U3A activity cannot, under Charity Law, be engaged in fund raising of whatsoever nature for any organisation other the U3A

> Your U3A committee has therefore taken the opportunity to review the present constitution to amend and bring up to date the provisions of that constitution. Proposals to amend the constitution will be presented at the AGM.

Both events, the AGM and the Showcas- Apart from the change to the Objects

- To set the subscription year to com-
- To fix the annual subscription at future annual general meetings.
- To include the office of Vice Chair as one of the Officers and ex-officio member of the committee.
- To appoint members of the committee other than Officers for a period of two years but requiring one half of those elected committee members to seek reelection at an annual general meeting.
- Miscellaneous changes to "tidy up" the present constitution.

Each and all of the proposed changes must be approved by the Charity Commissioners and the National Office of the U3A before those changes can become operative so all the proposals other than the change to the Objects clause will be conditional to those approvals should that approval not be in place before the meeting.

So please put a note in your diary to attend and vote on these proposals which will be explained in more detail at the AGM. A copy of the proposed new Constitution will be available to be seen on the U3A website prior to the Annual General Meeting and a copy will be available for inspection at the meeting.

















Our members enjoying some good chat and a laugh at the April meeting - 'Acquainting Afternoon' - a good opportunity to catch up with friends we may not have seen in a while.

Along the way, we joined in with some traditional songs with guest singer, Gill Nicholls.

Many thanks to the volunteer servers and those members who supplied the wide range of cakes and fancies, as well as those who loaned their 'posh' crockery for the day.

See more pictures in a video on our web site - on the 'Outings & Events' tab.

https://tinyurl.com/y9roocbx





# May 2018 Monthly Meeting - 'Silver and Gemstones' by Marianne Brame

These were just a couple of points that throughout the talk. Marianne Brame covered in her talk to our Branch at the May Monthly Meeting held at the MIX.

Stones" was highly informative with them. I did not realise how "warm" many questions being asked by mem- some minerals are to the touch, like Jet Keith and Lorraine bers and confidently answered by the for example and that what we know as speaker. She was so very knowledgea- "German Silver" contains no silver at ble about the subject yet was able to all!!

hen is silver not real silver? explain and share with us information at Originally we booked David Smith to When is a gemstone natural both a level that we were fully able to give a talk on the use of fingerprinting in and when has it been manufactured? understand and to hold our interest crime scene investigation but unfortu-

Marianne brought with her a range of different stones and minerals which she passed around so we were able to feel Marianne's talk on "Silver and Gem the materials as well as to hear about

nately he had to cancel and so Marianne, who we had booked to give a talk later in the year, brought forward her booking with us and kindly gave her talk this month instead . Thank you Marianne for saving the day!!!

(We have rescheduled David and he will now be giving his talk to us at our monthly meeting in March 2019)

# June 2018 Monthly Meeting - 'Trekking the World for Charity '- £10 per mile by Ken Snow

hy read a report about the June talk at our monthly meeting in this Newsletter when you can see and hear it for yourself? This is exactly what you can now do because Peter Dakeyne recorded Ken's talk and has uploaded it on YouTube at

https://youtu.be/DsOVEXG Nu8 for you to watch (again) and enjoy.

This is our first attempt at recording a talk and so we are learning as we go along. The acoustics of the hall are not good which is reflected in the sound quality. The camera was being operated remotely and for the first 10 minutes the full picture was not ideal but was then moved to a better spot. Thank you for your work in making the talk accessible to us Peter!

However, if you cannot access the internet and could not attend the monthly meeting then you missed a very informative talk by Ken Snow, the chair of our U3A branch. Ken, together with his two friends and fellow trekkers, Fliss and Barbara, took us on a journey through some of their fascinating expeditions. For Ken it all started with a pair of £10 walking boots, made in Vietnam, bought in Glasgow and finally ending up, worn out, back in Vietnam.



dren's Society as well as all their own expenses. Talking from the heart they gone on to do many more. shared their personal experiences and reasons for embarking on such daunting experiences. Money was raised through weekly car boots, house clearances, coffee stalls, dances, raffles, local fetes and events in addition to the generosity

of friends and family. Raising the money sometimes took a couple of years and involved a tremendous amount of effort and determination.

Once the money was raised the intrepid volunteers set off from home as individuals not knowing anyone or what to expect.

They faced many personal challenges and lived a very basic simple life with no running water or toilet facilities. However their shared experiences soon moulded them into a team and they became lifelong friends. All three talked of the wonder and excitement on the faces of the children they worked with and how the things we take for granted filled the This talk focused on the fundraising re- children with awe and wonder and this quired in order to embark on worldwide was one of the greatest rewards of the treks. The individuals involved raised treks. The most surprising aspect of the thousands of pounds in aid of the Chil- treks to them all was that they become addicted to them and all three have

> The most surprising thing to me was the age of the volunteers on the expeditions; numerous volunteers are retired and Ken pointed out that some are in their 80's! It is never too late to take up a new activity, join a new group or chal-

> > lenge ourselves. I left our monthly meeting full of admiration for people who do just that. Thanks Ken, Fliss and Barbara

# **Keith Shelton**

PS. You'll have to watch the end of the video to see what was being said here! (Also on the 'Outings and Events' page on our website).

# Our Annual Outing — Southend, 18th **July 2018**

ollowing a number of cancellations, 21 members joined us on our annual summer outing and ventured to the coast.

Leaving Stowmarket on a bright and sunny morning we arrived in Southend at 11.00 hrs. There was a cool sea breeze as most of our party either walked the mile and a quarter to the end of the pier or took the train. We had a lovely relaxing time drinking our tea and coffee and watching the sea on a most beautiful sunny day. Some of us took in the Lifeboat Station at the very end of the pier before we all returned to the sea front.

whilst others trekked back on foot. Then, whilst some sat on a bench eating Everyone agreed that Southend has ice cream and watching the world go



dens opposite the pier and had a Rossi resort and the feedback from the group ice cream or fish and chips whilst others was very positive with members doing took the open top bus for the circular their own thing and enjoying themhour tour. Other members went shop- selves. Thanks to everyone for their ping and one met an old school friend great company making it such a pleasand spent the time with her. Back on ant day. Again, some of us returned by train the coach at 15.30 hrs we arrived home missing most of the rush hour.



changed so much for the better comby, others went for a walk in the gar- pared with their previous visits to the

> We all looked forward to our visit to Aldeburgh Theatre the following week.

**Keith and Lorraine** 

# **Groups News**

# From the Groups Coordinator

e are always looking to extend the range of Interest Groups we offer, to support and reflect the varied interests and hobbies of our Members.

Recently a number of new Groups were suggested by U3A Members to cover:

Theatre Trips, History, Quizzes, Drama, Creative Writing, Italian Conversation, Light Music and Chess.

But there needs to be a viable number of members for each group, and at the moment the numbers fall below that level. If any - or several - of these topics would interest you, please let **Bryan Hilton** know by email to:

groupscoord@u3astowmarket.org.uk or telephone on 01449 258152.

These groups are actively seeking new members....

## **Bridge and Canasta**

Please contact the convenors as per list in this Newsletter.

# French Conversation (2)

In advance of a trip to France my wife Sheila and I attended, and found the atmosphere very welcoming and the opportunity to speak/practice our French very useful. But Zuleika is disappointed with the small membership usually only 3 or 4. Her French is quite good herself, but she brings in (free) a friend who was a professional interpreter to assist. Given the number of Suffolk in contact. people with an interest or property in France, I would have expected there would be more Members....

So, please contact Zuleika Dobson, have a chat and see if this is for you.

# **Poetry Group**

he U3A Poetry Group has at present approximately ten members. We have been running for about ten years, meeting on the fourth Thursday afternoon of the month.

We enjoy reading poetry old and new, alternating each month with either a theme or a particular poet. If anyone is interested in joining us we would be happy to welcome them. Past poets studied have been extremely varied, from Shakespearian sonnets to modern day, with familiar and not so familiar favourites in between.

So, if this sounds appealing, please get

Jenifer Adams, Poetry Co-ordinator

Tel: 01449 615581

# Myths, Legends and Story Telling

hilst our small group is keen and active, I feared that we would have to fold unless we found a new rendezvous. This we seem to have done!! We will be meeting again in September.

We would love to see you, please call **Philip Weir** 01449 676 528

### **Discussion Group**

ur last 3 meetings provoked a lot of interest. We had good fun in April dis-

cussing "Men are from Mars and Women are from Venus". Some were keen to talk about the differences between the sexes and others found a problem with the stereotyping that inevitably occurs, and why can't men be nurses and women firefighters? The book was made available to the group in advance, and we discussed whether it was a good book of its time and/or maybe a little outdated now? There was plenty to discuss and argue about.

May's topic was "Globalisation". We didn't just focus on trade but also considered some of the wider implications, for example, members having families

living on the other side of the couldn't stop thinking. world and the ease of communication and travel these days. This is not just a modern phenomenon either with

the spread of cultures (e.g. Greek and Roman) going back hundreds and thousands of years.

June gave a chance for three members to lead the discussion about a topic of their choice with the following topics. i) "Meditation" ii) "Words" iii) "Should all Associations be open to both sexes". For the first time, maybe ever, we had some peace and quiet within the group as we did a ten-minute meditation to start with. The peace didn't last as everybody had different experiences and considerable differing opinions. To some it brought calm and to others they

We have had lots of ideas for the new 2018/19 programme which can be found on the website (just follow the 'Discussion' link on the 'Groups' tab). I am particularly interested in people's ideas for "The best place to live in the world and why?"

We have taken a summer break during July and August as we tend to get hot enough under the collar in the winter without doing so in a heatwave. We reconvene on Tuesday 11 September, 10am - 12 noon with a discussion on "Current News Stories".

We have vacancies so if you are interested and want to know more please contact David Warner on 612730/07789 002828

# **Gardens and Things**



# A Fine Afternoon Out! G&T visit to **The Priory Gardens**

sun kissed June afternoon than remaining programme for 2018. to walk round a magnificent garden with views across Constable country? Little I know of, except if you add some small

lakes and walled gardens and to top it off, a Victorian greenhouse jam packed with beautiful flowers. Finish off with tea and homemade cake of course and everybody went home happy!

The property dates from the 13th century and our host was the owner, Mrs Englehart. It was obvious that this garden is her life's work. It is open to the public only on rare occasions, so many thanks to Shirley Bonner for organising the outing there.

If you want to join the **G&T** adventurers on any of our trips out you will be very hat could be more pleasant on a welcome; see below for details of the

> **Stewart Dorward** 01449 774 213





# **G&T GROUP - REMAINING PROGRAMME FOR 2018**

| Date                 | Event                              | Organiser       | Notes                            |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 16 <sup>th</sup> Aug | Fuller's Mill, tour of gardens and | Janet Stanley   | Solar at 13:15 or venue at 14:00 |
|                      | afternoon tea                      | 01449 676 414   |                                  |
|                      | IP28 6HD                           |                 |                                  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> Sep | Anglesey Abbey                     | Keith Shelton   | Solar/shared transport           |
|                      | CB25 9EJ                           | 01449 768 744   |                                  |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct | Buxhall Bygones IP14 3DH.          | Stew Dorward    | Solar at 13:45 or venue at 1400  |
|                      | Visit Museum. Tea and cake         | 01449 774 213   |                                  |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov | End of Season Lunch/ 2019          | Shirley Bonner/ | Cedars hotel                     |
|                      | planning meeting                   | Stew Dorward    |                                  |
|                      |                                    | 01449 774 213   |                                  |

# Please note:

The following groups have now closed:

Day Walks

**Shorter Country Strolls** 

Art Appreciation (SEAM)

# **Singing Group**

he Singing Group is almost into its third year and has continued on a fortnightly basis. We meet at the Hillside Community Centre at the Combs end of Stowmarket on the first and third Thursday of the month from 2pm to 3.30pm. This is a good venue as there is usually plenty of parking available.

During the spring and early summer we continued to expand our repertoire and have gained confidence in 2 and 3 part singing. We have all been delighted with the results. Singers are not reguired to be able to read music and many of the songs will be known already. Our repertoire is wide and includes folk songs, pop songs (usually from the 60s and 70s) as well as songs from earlier times and other cultures.

We decided to take a break during July and August, but Susan kindly arranged for members to meet up socially for afternoon tea at the Osier's Cafe near the Museum for East Anglian Life. Those who were available to attend had a very enjoyable time.

We were very sad to lose one of our members, David, who always brought fun and jollity to our meetings. Unfortunately, a few other regular members have left for family and other reasons, but we very much hope that they will return when circumstances alter. Fortunately, several new members have joined which have kept the numbers

that the current charge is £1.50 each this story served as the inspiration for session which covers the cost of hiring the acclaimed musical "Cabaret."

We currently have twenty singers in the month. We have one available space group, and are very happy to welcome and I will take a waiting list; therefore if more members. The chief aim of the anyone is interested please contact: group is to enjoy singing together. We Maureen Wingham-Eaton on don't generally 'perform', but we have led the singing for U3A events and for a group, for adults with learning disabilities, that also meets at Hillside on Thursdays.

The next meeting is on Thursday 6th September. If anyone is interested in joining or finding out more about the Singing Group please call Hilary on 07842 189 794.

# **Play Reading Group**

he Play Reading Group continues to meet monthly and this year we have read "Blithe Spirit" by Noel Coward, "House Guest" by Frances Durbridge and have just completed "Look Back in Anger" by John Osborne.

In August we will commence reading "I Am a Camera" by John Van Druten. Just before the Nazis ascend to power in Berlin, Chris, an aspiring novelist from England, meets flamboyant cabaret entertainer Sally Bowles and an unusual friendship is born. As Sally feeds her extravagant tastes, Chris goes along for the ride, until their Jewish pal, Fritz, encounters trouble. (This play adapted from a play based on the mem- Devam Hendry

buoyant. The first meeting is free, after oirs of writer Christopher Isherwood,

We meet on the second Monday of the

01449 771 200

# **Broadening Horizons in Art**

new art history group is starting in September!

We are the old S.E.A.M group which dissolved in April. This was the result of our previous meeting room being unsuitable. Maxwell-Charney The Room, being attached to Haughlev Post Office, was at times a thoroughfare to the village convenience!

Also we experienced a drop in numbers, mainly through moving out of Suffolk, ill -health, and long term members taking up other interests.

We have been a very successful group and the core people who remain are very enthusiastic to continue.

Our change of name reflects what we intend to do: all of us to fully participate whether knowledgeable or not!

We will meet at 2pm on the third Monday of the Month at The Mix, Stowmar-First session in September. Please contact me if you are at all inter-

07954 162 989



members Third Age Matters

well-read magazine should force readers into computerisation.

There is nothing better than receiving a good, well written magazine and going out into the garden, or elsewhere, to

A letter from one of of the membership would prefer.

I always look forward to receiving the TAM and Sources in print, which I will am horrified that the governing body look through, then read at my leisure. In of an age related organisation with a that way I am not stuck in front of a computer screen, tablet or smart phone. If this trend goes on, as is indi- John Pattison cated in the Chairman's statement in Sources (Summer 18), everyone will have to be on line to receive anything.

read it. I am sure that this is what most Many members are not on line or com-

puter literate. They would certainly not make a long trip to a local library just to read Sources or TAM on the internet even if they could find them! Internet is not always the best way. This is certainly not the best way of keeping members.

Stowmarket U3A

Thanks, John.

What do you think?

Ed

| ART APPRECIATION (SAAG)          |                                | Monthly: Agreed Tuesday                             | LUNCH CLUB (2)             |                       | Monthly: 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday                   |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Tony Taylor                      | 01449 258 192                  | 9.30am  | Bryan Hilton               | 01449 258 152         | 12.30pm   |
| BOOK CLUB                        |                                | Monthly: 4th Monday                                 | LUNCH CLUB (3)             |                       | Monthly: 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday                   |
| Mary Bradley                     | 01449 775 628                  | 2.00pm  | Pat Griffiths              | 01449 721 137         | 12.30pm   |
| BRIDGE INTERMEDIATE              |                                | Weekly: Friday                                      | MUSIC – Classical          |                       | Monthly:- 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday                   |
| Michael Last                     | 01359 241 703                  | 1.30pm  | Ian Hooper                 | 01449 770 179         | 10.00am   |
| BROADENING HORIZONS in ART (New) |                                | Monthly: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday                     | MYTHS, STORIES AND LEGENDS |                       | Monthly: 1st Monday                                 |
| Devam Hendry                     | 07954162989                    | 2.00pm (Starts September)                           | Philip Weir                | 01449 676 528         | 2.30pm  |
| CANASTA                          |                                | Weekly: Wednesday.                                  | PAINTING FOR PLI           | EASURE                | 2/Month: 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> Fridays  |
| Hazel Burl                       | 01449 615 581                  | 9.30am (Stowupland)                                 | Nina Rouse                 | 01449 612 042         | 10.00am - 12noon                                    |
| <b>COMPUTING &amp; TECH</b>      | HNOLOGY                        | Online Q&A forum -                                  | PATCHWORK                  |                       | Monthly: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday                     |
| Peter Dakeyne                    | 01449 781 562                  | Quarterly meetings only                             | Kate Riddleston            | 01449 612 871         | 2.00pm  |
| COUNTRY STROLLS                  | Longer                         | 2/Month: 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays  | PHOTOGRAPHY                |                       | Monthly: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday                    |
| Phil Webb<br>Anna Bradshaw       | 01449 614 616<br>01449 745 829 | 9.30am (variable)                                   | Peter Dakeyne              | 01449 781 562         | 2.00pm  |
| DISCUSSION                       |                                | Monthly: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday                    | PLAY READING               |                       | Monthly: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday                     |
| David Warner                     | 01449 612 730                  | 10.00am   | Maureen Winghan            | n-Eaton 01449 771 200 | 10.00am   |
| FRENCH CONVERSATION (1)          |                                | 2/Month: 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesdays | POETRY                     |                       | Monthly: 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday                   |
| Andrea Burton                    | 01449 258 865                  | 10.00am   | Jenifer Adams              | 01449 615 581         | 2.00pm  |
| FRENCH CONVERSATION (2)          |                                | Alternate Wednesdays                                | SCRABBLE PLAYING GROUPS    |                       | Several - By Arrangement                            |
| Zuleika Dobson                   | 01449 615 811                  | 10.00am   | Michael Last               | 01359 241 703         |   |
| GARDENS & THINGS                 |                                | Monthly: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday                   | SINGING                    |                       | 2/Month: 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday |
| Stewart Dorward                  | 01449 774 213                  | 9.30am (variable)                                   | Hilary Foster              | 01359 241 773         | 2.00pm  |

Monthly: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

12.20pm

#### You, Your Data and the U3A

LUNCH CLUB (1)

Angela Bentley

any of you, our members, will have received a number of communications from other organisations concerning the recently introduced regulations relating to the use and storage of your data. These new rules are commonly known as GDPR.

01449 780 274

Well, the U3A movement is not excluded from the impact of GDPR. The general policy of the Stowmarket U3A is to hold your data solely for the use of the U3A movement and only to share or disclose your data on a "need to know". We share your data with the National Office of the U3A movement otherwise your data is used solely within Stowmarket U3A including the leaders of groups within which you may share activities.

The data is stored either digitally upon computers or in hard copy files maintained within the U3A. The data stored are your names and addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses where appropriate, dates of joining (and leaving) the U3A and membership of also hold contact details for next of kin for use in any emergency for some ly and collectively under the public lia- ing in U3A activities. group activities.

At the next Annual General Meeting or Firstly, the insurance is for public liabilupon renewal of your membership for ity only and is not in any way shape or next year 2018/2019 you are to be invit- form cover for injury or personal accied to complete a Renewal of Member- dent unless such injury is caused by the ship Form in which you are requested to neglect of the U3A or an individual express your consent to the manner in member whilst the claimant is involved which the U3A will store and use your in the U3A activity as a member of the data as set out above. This consent will U3A. be an ongoing permission but you may withdraw that consent at any time and the consent will be deemed to have been withdrawn upon cessation of membership. New members will also be requested to consent in similar fashion. For your convenience and to save time on the day, a copy of the new Application/Renewal form is included with this Newsletter.

Day Walks, Shorter Strolls.

Should you have any further questions or require any more clarification then please contact one of the Chair, Secretary or Membership Secretary and thank you for reading and considering.

## More about Health and Safety

bility insurance policy under which the Ken Snow U3A and its members are insured.

These groups have now ceased

Art Appreciation (SEAM) closed; reformed as 'Broadening Horizons'.....

Secondly, the cover extends to events which are within the defined Objects of the U3A as set out in the constitution. These activities are strictly limited to those activities; persons who are not members of the U3A are not personally covered. Therefore a carer attending a U3A activity to assist a member is not covered unless that carer is a member of the U3A acting in an unpaid capacity.

The cover is for liability to third parties for claims arising out of the neglect or for actions of the U3A or an individual member of the U3A whilst engaged in a U3A activity.

As the insurance cover does not extend number of issues revolving around generally to personal accident, memhealth and safety have been dis- bers are therefore reminded and regroups in which you participate. We cussed within the U3A including the quested to exercise care and responsiextent of cover for members individual- bility for their own safety whilst engag-

August 2018

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

#### NOTICE

Notice is given that the 28th Annual General Meeting of STAR, Stowmarket University of the Third Age (U3A) will be held at The United Reformed Church, Ipswich Street, Stowmarket, IP14 1AD on Wednesday 19 September 2018 at 1.30 in the afternoon.

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and Introduction
- 2. Minutes of the Twenty Seventh Annual General Meeting
- To consider, and if thought fit, to pass Special Resolutions to change the Constitution of the U3A (A copy of the Constitution incorporating the proposed changes will be available at the meeting and on the website by 29 August)
- 4. Report of the Chair for 2017-18.
- Report of the Treasurer including the presentation of a Financial Statement for the Year ended 31 July 2018
- To appoint a suitably qualified person to examine and report on the Financial Statements for the year ending 31 July 2019.
- To elect Officers of the U3A until the conclusion of the twenty ninth Annual General Meeting Chair, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer
- 8. To elect members to serve on the Committee of the U3A

After the conclusion of the formal business there will be an opportunity for members to discuss matters of interest relating to the business of the U3A

By Order of the Committee.

Connie Harford Honorary Secretary.

31/07/2018

Note: Nominations for Members to serve as Officers or Committee Members, signed by the Proposer, Second and Nominee must be received by the Honorary Secretary on or before 12 September 2018

#### Minutes of the U3A Annual General Meeting 20 September 2017

- Present: 75 members and visitors had signed in. Apologies from Helen Freeman, Ann Russell, Elspeth Ireland, Jane Langley and Harold Turner.
- 2) MinutesAGM from 2016 had been distributed.
- 3) Matters arising from the minutes. There were no matters arising.
- 4) Annual Statement for STOWMARKET U3A

"The Chair, Mr Bryan Hilton delivered his Report for the past year. Thanking each member of the Committee in turn for their hard work and contribution and support Bryan concluded his report by thanking the membership for their support during his three year tenure.

The Report was accepted and adopted by the Meeting."

5) Treasurers Report

The Treasurer Mrs Jean Roche delivered her report and the Financial Statement for the year ended 31st July 2017. The Report and Financial Statement were accepted and adopted by the Meeting. In conclusion Mrs Roche expressed her thanks to Pat Smith for examining and reporting on the financial content. There was a comment that the TAM (magazine) seemed expensive and it was stated that this could be downloaded from U3A, albeit at a lesser quality, at no cost to our U3A to reduce costs (as there would be no postage to pay). Thanks to Jean were expressed.

6) Ken Snow and Elizabeth Gillett gave brief resumes of themselves before being elected en bloc as follows:

Chair Mr. Kenneth Snow Secretary Mrs. Connie Harford Treasurer Mrs. Jean Roche Membership Secretary Ms. Andrea Burton Programme organisers Lorraine Shelton Keith Shelton (joint) **Groups Coordinator** Mr. Bryan Hilton Committee Member Ms. Evelyn Russell Committee Member

Bryan Hilton offered to take on the role of group co-ordinator.

- 7) Information of 3 Individual groups' activities was given out.
- 8) Date of the next AGM, Wednesday September 19th 2018 (venue to be agreed).
- 9) Close of Official Business was at 2.35pm.

### **Programme**

1.00 pm Doors open

1.30 pm — 2.15 pm **AGM** 

2.30 pm — 4.00 pm **Groups Showcase** #

Light refreshments will be provided.

**Membership renewal:** £15.00 pp becomes due at this meeting (cheques made out to STAR, please) and will be carried out in the corridor between the Church and the Hall 1.00pm till 4.00 pm, *excluding the AGM time itself*.

# Group Convenors are encouraged to arrive at 1.00 pm to give time for setting up their displays in the hall.

# Stowmarket University of the Third Age Income and Expenditure Account, Y/E 31st July 2018

| 100 8                                 | ā.    |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|
|                                       | 2018  | 2017  |
| Income                                |       |       |
| Membership/ Visitor Fees              | 3,185 | 3,451 |
| Refreshments(net)                     | 30    | 96    |
| Miscellaneous                         | 50    | 20    |
| Bank Interest                         | 6     | 8     |
| Social events surplus                 | 61    |       |
|                                       | 3,332 | 3,575 |
| Expenditure                           |       |       |
| Hire of premises (URC etc)            | 475   | 301   |
| Postage & Stationery                  | 37    | 165   |
| Speakers' fees                        | 350   | 440   |
| Printing and Newsletter               | 426   | 544   |
| U3A Suffolk & District Network        | 25    | 25    |
| TAT Capitation Fees                   | 746   | 787   |
| TAT 'U3A Matters' postal distribution | 375   | 388   |
| Miscellaneous                         | 78    | 63    |
| Cost of AGM 2017                      | 129   | 0     |
|                                       | 2,641 | 2,713 |
| Income over Expenditure               | 691   | 863   |
| Balance Brought Forward               | 2,719 | 1,856 |
| Balance Carried Forward               | 3,410 | 2,719 |

#### From the Editor.

Apologies— this issue was delayed because of the major administrative changes this year.

It has been increasingly difficult to get sufficient copy to maintain quarterly issues so the next, November 2018, will be the last of these. Thereafter, there will be just 3 per year; March, July or August, and October or November.

# **Editor / Webmaster**

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