



Newsletter

March 2018

[Management Reports](#)

[Monthly Meetings](#)

[Group News](#)

[Outings & Trips](#)

[Notices](#)



Photograph by
David Garmont

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

December 2017 Management Committee

The Committee agreed that progress was being made on a number of issues, including its Work Plan 2018 which has 3 main themes: How we wish to take our U3A forward – our aims and objectives; Streamlining the governance structure as the organisation grows in size; and Establishing positive links between the Committee and the Membership.

The governance structure has involved re-constituting the sub-committee structure so that there will now be five sub-committees responsible for Events, Administration, Groups, Publications, and IT Development and Information Governance. Each will be chaired by a member of the Management Committee with at least one other MC member present. Membership from non-committee members and volunteers is welcomed. We need all the input and support we can get, from members with relevant experience and knowledge. New role descriptions for MC members will be approved in February.

The report and largely positive feedback from the November Group Organisers' Meeting is to be published on the website. We are also seeking a volunteer to take on a new role as Data Protection Officer outside of the Management Committee.

The Treasurer reported that membership was up to 2,030 as of 18th December 2017.

John Williams
Chairman

[Newsletter](#)

[Monthly Meetings](#)

[Group News](#)

[Outings & Trips](#)

[Notices](#)

Management Committee – January 2018

The Treasurer reported that we had 2,054 subscribed members as of 30th January 2018. For people who have joined in recent months, there is a New Members' Meeting at Lawns Community Centre on Saturday 10th March [10am-12noon]. The Treasurer has also submitted a claim of £9,335 to HMRC in respect of Gift Aid for the year ending 31 July 2017.

The Third Age Trust have proposed amendments to the Constitution. These will be discussed at a forthcoming national EGM and will need to be endorsed by our own AGM in October. Your Management Committee will have a more detailed look at these at their next Awayday in April and will also review the Consents requirements of the Data Protection Regulations.

Both of the newly constituted Events and IT sub-committees have had their first meetings. The Management Committee have accepted a proposal to rename the annual Freshers' Fair, Swindon U3A Open Day. This is more member-friendly and moves us away from the notion that we are unduly "academic" in our approach to activities. The first Open Day will be on Saturday 1st September 2018.

The first newsletter under the new Editor, Geoff Bryant, has been warmly received by members and we wish Geoff well for his future editorship.

John Williams, Chairman

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WORK PLAN 2018

(a summary for Members of Swindon U3A; any comments to secretary@swindonu3a.org.uk)

The Committee's overall work plan for 2018 has 3 main themes:

1. Clarifying how we wish to take our U3A forward – our aims and objectives;
2. Streamlining the governance structure, and ensuring this supports the organisation as it increases in size;
3. Establishing positive and proactive links between the Management Committee and the membership.

To support this work, we have set out below how we will move forward during 2018 under each theme.

1. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES		
	Task	Lead
1.1	Ensure that our Groups offer a wide range of activities that promote the social, emotional, mental and physical well-being of our members; monitor range at Management Committee.	Gill McKinnon
1.2	Encourage all our members to participate in the running and organisation of their Group/s and discuss with Group Organisers how best to achieve this.	Gill McKinnon
1.3	Respond to requests from members for more activities over the summer, and at weekends.	Avril Muirhead
1.4	Seek regular feedback from both new and existing members about what they are looking for in Swindon U3A.	Adele Merrison
2. STREAMLINE GOVERNANCE, AND RESPOND TO OUR INCREASING SIZE		
	Task	Lead
2.1	Review our existing Governance structure, to include: The Constitution The Management Committee Sub-Committees and their Terms of Reference And ensure that these are appropriate for the increasing size of the organisation.	John Williams
2.2	Compile an Induction Pack for Trustees (Committee Members), which takes new Charity Commission rules into account.	Margaret Goldie
2.3	Review the organisation of the Annual General Meeting, to ensure that all members have an opportunity to propose resolutions, and to stand for any Committee vacancies.	Margaret Goldie
2.4	Publicise details of the AGM widely, and in good time.	Bob Carvey.
3. ESTABLISH GOOD LINKS BETWEEN THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND OUR MEMBERS		
	Task	Lead
3.1	Consider how to develop a Members Pack, to include information about how Groups operate alongside key policies and procedures and make available to all members.	Gill McKinnon
3.2	Include a regular item on each Management Committee Agenda to plan for and publicise upcoming events.	Victoria Fisher
3.3	Provide a short summary of key discussions and decisions taken at Management Committee for each Newsletter and What's On.	John Williams

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly Meeting Monday 12th March

At the Ellendune Centre 2.15pm includes a talk on "The Queens Bodyguard of the Yeoman of the Guard".

Monthly Meeting Monday 9th April

At the Ellendune Centre 2.15pm includes a talk on "The Life and Songs of George Formby".

Monthly Meeting 11th June 2018

Sevington Victorian School – Dinah Starkey and Celia Jennings

Sevington Victorian School is a perfectly preserved Victorian schoolroom near Chippenham. Dinah and Celia will be telling the story of the redoubtable Miss Squire, who ruled there for more than sixty years, and describing the experiences and reactions of the children who visit the school today.

[Management Reports](#)

[Newsletter](#)

[Group News](#)

[Outings & Trips](#)

[Notices](#)

Report on Monthly Meeting 8th January 2018

'My life as an Auctioneer' with Gordon Brockman

Gordon gave us a most entertaining and informative talk, within which there was almost certainly a little nugget of information for most of us ! Now with Marlborough Auction Rooms, who had their first Sale recently, he underwent a career change, had major surgery, and during his recovery period he spent a lot of time watching Bargain Hunt and Flog It ! This awakened a new interest in him, and I suppose you could say – the rest is history !

He worked his way up, learning all the way, from unpacking boxes for three years (unpaid), to Porter (paid), reaching the dizzy heights of Head Porter! It then occurred to the current Auctioneer that there was no succession plan – always a big problem ! He therefore became a trainee Auctioneer, further progressing to trainee Valuer. Throughout his talk Gordon impressed the need for his mantra of Reputation and Trust, these qualities being the key to success in a profession which takes him into peoples' homes and selling their possessions for them.

Gordon entertained us with many stories of incidents that happened during his career, all of which were absolutely fascinating. He then took us down the 'put these seven items in value order, starting with the highest' path. After much discussion, he revealed to us that only two were genuine, and the rest were fake.

He reinforced the need for purchasers to carefully examine receipt details for keywords like 'style of' (not real), 'marked Rolex' (not Rolex), and 'money back period' (if not offered, don't buy).

He then spent a while explaining the folly of going straight to House Clearance people – the moral is clear! Call in an Auctioneer first to assess items which may well have far more value than you think, then dispose of everything else. He ended his talk with the story of his highest-value sale item, which went under the hammer for £15,000 – that went to the House Clearance people and not to the family.

A timely warning for us to pass on to our nearest and dearest !

Lesley Coleman

February Monthly Meeting
Talk by **John Farrow**
About Ashdown House and the Craven Family

For the February monthly meeting we had John Farrow talking about Ashdown House and the Craven Family. John had spoken to us recently about his main interest, the Wilts and Berks Canal and before he started on his talk he gave us an update on progress with the canal. With the new development in East Wichelstowe it is hoped the canal will be extended heading towards the new section from Royal Wootton Bassett . This part has been completed but isn't open to the public yet. Once on the main topic John gave us a brief account of the Kings & Queens in England from Elizabeth to George I and pointed out some of the major events of the 1600s.

The first person of note in the Craven Family was William Craven. He was born about 1548 in Appletreewick near Skipton in the Yorkshire Dales. He made his way to London and made himself extremely wealthy over the years becoming the Lord Mayor of London. He was the 133rd richest person in England since 1066 so quite an achievement. He was even listed as having lent money to the king of the time. He owned Stokesay Castle in Shropshire where the nearby town of Craven Arms now exists. He supported Charles I during the civil war and eventually lost the castle during the battles. However it was repossessed by his ancestors in the 1800s.

When he died his widow was advised to invest in land and she did just that buying places all over the country. Some of the places mentioned included the Craven Street & Passages in London where the Benjamin Franklin Museum is, Craven Cottage where the Football Ground is, Caversham Park near Reading and many more.

Ashdown House was built by William Craven in honour of Elizabeth, daughter of James I and wife of Frederick Count Palentine of the Rhine. The History of the couple was briefly outlined showing that they had been King & Queen of Bohemia but only for a year. Hence they were referred to as Snow King & Winter Queen. After Frederick's death Elizabeth came back to England and Ashbury House was one of the places meant for her but she died before it was completed.

In the Victorian times, Ashdown House was extended with covered walkways protecting the route from the kitchens to the hall. The house was taken over during WWII with officers in the house and troops in the stables. It was pretty derelict afterwards. When the National Trust took it over it became tenanted by various people who were able to modify the inside but to keep the outside as it was. Consequently the inside is relatively modern. Some outside work was done replacing the leaden dome with copper, changing some of the chalk bricks which were deteriorating and removing the covered walkways. The gardens were replaced as they were.

These days there are limited tours of the house on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons but the woods and lands around are open every day.

Glenys Bettley

GROUP NEWS

Coffee Morning

My friend and I have set up a new Coffee morning group in Royal Wootton Bassett and maybe surrounding areas - open to all members. Due to considerable interest we have set up 2 groups which meet fortnightly on alternate Wednesdays and Thursdays at 11.15am at The Cross Keys Pub. You can be assured of a warm welcome. There is always the possibility of staying on for lunch, if anyone chooses. Come along, meet new friends, enjoy interesting conversation. Anyone who is interested and wishes to find out more please contact me by clicking on my name.

[John Turner](#)

Proposed new Yoga Group

I am hoping to start up a new yoga group within the next couple of months to be held on Thursdays from 10 - 11.30am at Park South Community Centre in Cranmore Avenue.

There is a large bright hall, with good parking, and it is on bus route 17.

If you would like more information, please click on my name to send a message.

[Jackie Hewitt](#)

Astronomy Group - back in orbit

We are planning to re-start this group on a monthly basis starting with the 2nd Tuesday of February. All prior members of the group will be contacted with final details. If anyone else is interested in joining us to learn more about the universe, planets and stars please contact Chris by clicking on his name.

[Chris Thackray](#)

Management Reports
Monthly Meetings
Newsletter
Outings & Trips
Notices

New Spanish Group

There has been a strong demand from members to start a new beginners Spanish group, however we really need someone to help to teach the group. If you, or someone you know might be interested in helping, please get in touch. They would not be expected to be group organiser. Contact [Viv Dipper](#) by clicking here.

Simply Singing

In Swindon U3A, many people have suggested that there would be an interest in starting a new group for people who love singing, but don't want to be part of a "choir". At the moment the idea is to meet monthly to re-live the popular music of our youth such as Cliff, Elvis, The Beatles and many more. Accompanied by Bill Eteson, who plays piano and guitar, and with the lyrics projected onto a big screen we will sing our way down Memory Lane. Songs will mainly be in unison, and there will be no need to learn words, or harmonies.

The benefits of singing with other people are well known and to this end we will be holding a taster session and discussion on how the group will proceed on;

Thursday April 12th at the Western Community Centre in Somerset Road from 2pm.

If you are interested, even if you cannot make that date, please contact me by clicking on my name below.

[Martin Preston](#)

The U3A Dance Orchestra

The U3A Dance Orchestra is looking for a **Keyboard player** and a **Bass player**.

Our line up is "Big Band Style" with trumpets, trombones, saxophones, guitar, bass, keyboard and percussion. Currently we have about 12 players plus 2 singers. We rehearse every Monday afternoon at the Western Community centre, Rodbourne Cheney. As the name implies we play music for dancing –including quicksteps, Latin and waltzes, but we also have a varied repertoire of pieces in different styles – Jazz, swing, popular, arrangements of songs from the shows etc.

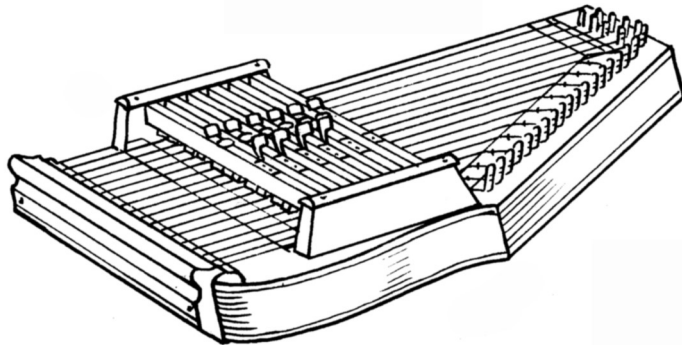
We do gigs around the town at community centres, for parties and celebrations etc.

If you are interested we would like to hear from you. We would invite you to come and have a chat with our Musical Director and to observe/participate in one of our Monday afternoon rehearsals.

In the first place please contact [David Baker](#) by clicking his name.

Proposed Acoustic Group

I am interested in putting together an acoustic group comprising people who enjoy British Folk Music. Calling all musicians who enjoy folk music, especially folk music from the British Isles. I am looking primarily for musicians who play unusual instruments that most people wouldn't normally see or hear. For example, if you play Northumberland bagpipes, lute, mandolin, autoharp, lap dulcimer or shawm and recorder I would like to hear from you. Fiddles and acoustic guitars or any unusual acoustic instruments are also welcome. I myself play hammered dulcimer. Anyone who may be interested or knows of someone who might be please contact [Stephen Nicholls](#) by clicking his name.



OUTINGS & TRIPS

Travel Study Group C & G

Visit to

Leicester's award-winning Richard III Visitor Centre and Leicester Cathedral

Tuesday 10th April 2018

Explore the exhibition 'Dynasty, Death and Discovery' to learn about the incredible story of the last English king to die in battle and the first to be DNA tested. This is a self-guided tour.

Also included is a thirty-minute guided tour of the Cathedral which focusses on Richard III.

Departure times and pick-up points: -

7.00am Matalan, Greenbridge
7.15am Ellendune Centre, Wroughton
7.30am Ashington Way, West Swindon

4.00pm Depart for Swindon

Cost £29 pp includes: Tea and biscuits on arrival, entry fees, coach and driver's gratuity.

All members welcome

Contact: [Mary Morgan](#) by clicking on her name.

[Management Reports](#)

[Monthly Meetings](#)

[Group News](#)

[Newsletter](#)

[Notices](#)

Travel Groups B & D

Visit to

Hereford

Tuesday 10th April.

Departure Times.

8am Highworth

8.15 Marlborough Road

8.30 Ashington Way

8.45 Bus Station

9am Gorse Hill

11am. Guided Tour Hereford

2pm Guided tour of Hereford Cathedral.

See Weeping window.

Members can then visit the Mappa Mundi & Chained Library Exhibition if they wish.

Cost £6

Depart for Swindon 4.30pm

Contact [Margaret Thomas or Sue Williams](#) by clicking on the names



Ebbor Gorge Walk/Wookey Hole/Wells visit. Friday 20th April 2018

The Friday walking group will be walking from Wookey Hole through the National Trust site and the Ebbor Gorge on Friday 20th April 2018.

The coach will leave Swindon around 8.30a.m. expects to be back by 5p.m. and the cost should be between £15 - £18 depending on numbers.

Don't fancy walking – why not take the opportunity to visit the Wookey Holes attractions or the nearby cathedral city of Wells.

Register interest or more information from walks.fri@swindonu3a.org.uk



Travel Group J visit to **Malvern**

Thursday 17th May

Visit Malvern and Croome National Trust. Mansion House, RAF Defford Museum, park and walled gardens. (Free to National Trust members).

Departure times and pick-up points:

Ellendune 8:30am, Pipers Way 8:45am, Coate Water 8:50am Cost £16 to include coach and driver's gratuity All members welcome.

For further information

Contact [Jenny Bailey](#) by clicking on her name.



Travel Group J
Visit to Portsmouth
Thursday 5th April 2018

A visit to historic Portsmouth with options to visit the Historic Dockyard, Spinnaker Tower and/or Gunwharf Quays shopping centre.

As our visit coincides with the school Easter holidays you are advised to consider booking historic dockyard attraction tickets on-line in advance.

Departure times and pick-up points:

8.30am Ellendune Health Centre, Wroughton

8.40am Pipers Way

8.45am Coate Water

4.00pm Depart for Swindon

Cost £18 per person which includes the coach and gratuities

All members and friends welcome.

Contact [Jayne Bellamy or Mike Carvell](#) by clicking on their names.



Concert Goers Group invite you to

The Colston Hall, Bristol
Thursday 12th April 2018 at 7.30pm.
Pre Concert talk at 6.25pm

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra presents

Debussy – Rondes de Printemps
Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E minor
Berlioz- Symphonie Fantastique

Departure times and pickup points

16.15 Downsview Rd/Marlborough Road Junction

16.30 Bus Station

16.45 Ashington Way (W Swindon) bus stop

Queries to [**Nina Stimson**](#) by clicking on her name.

Payment required by 5th February, but please contact first.

Cost £37.00 includes ticket, coach and driver's gratuity.

Aviation Group

Visit To Imperial War Museum Duxford

Thursday 12th April 2018

Visit this Historic Battle of Britain airfield and museum of aviation history and discover the stories of people who lived and worked at RAF Duxford.

Departure times and pick up points:

08.00am Ellendune Centre Wroughton

08.10am Downes View Rd / Marlborough Rd

08.15am Coate Water

04.00pm Depart for Swindon

Cost £33pp includes, coach, entry to Imperial War Museum, American Air Museum, Airborne Assault Museum, Land Warfare Hall and the Royal Anglian Regiment Museum and driver's gratuity.

There are a number of catering facilities on the site where a variety of snacks or main meals, hot and cold drinks can be purchased.

Contact [Ken Ivie](#) by clicking on his name.



Gardening Group visit

Kew Gardens Tuesday 1st May 2018

Departure times and pick-up points

8.30am Ellendune Centre, Wroughton

8.45am Bus Station

9.00am Downs View Road/Marlborough Road

4.30pm Depart for Swindon

Cost £28pp includes entrance to Kew Gardens, coach and driver's gratuity. All members are welcome

Contact [Jeanie Dickie](#) by clicking on her name.



Travel Study Group C & G

Visit to

KEW GARDENS

MONDAY 21ST MAY 2018

A day out at Kew Gardens with plenty of time to explore.

Departure times and pick-up points:-

8.00am Outside Matalan, Greenbridge

8.20am Ellendune Centre, Wroughton

8.40am Ashington Way, West Swindon

4.30pm (approx.) Depart for Swindon

Approx Cost £27 pp includes: entry to Kew Gardens, coach & driver's gratuity. All members welcome. Refunds are not made after 7 days prior to trip.

Contact [Bill Mead](#) by clicking on his name.

Travel Group J & Aviation Group Visit To

The Delights & Heritage of Suffolk

Five Days from 13 - 17 May 2018

Based at the 4* Stokeby Nayland Hotel on the outskirts of Leavenheath

Day 1 Travel East and spend some free time in Lavenham where you can choose to visit the National Trust's Lavenham Guildhall, an early 16th century framed building that dominates the market place.

Day 2 Our Blue Badge guide accompanies the group when we visit the Norfolk & Suffolk Aviation Museum. Our guide remains with us when we continue in the afternoon to visit the National Trust's Sutton Hoo, an Anglo Saxon burial site where the Sutton Hoo treasure was discovered in 1939.

Day 3 Today with our Blue Badge guide we visit Colchester, the first Roman city in Britain. Our guided tour of the city incorporates a visit to Colchester Castle Museum.

We continue to Constable Country on the Suffolk / Essex border the birthplace of the renowned artist John Constable.

Our guided tour of East Bergholt takes in John Constable's Studio and at Dedham we see Constable's School and Dedham Parish Church. Finally we visit Flatford.

Day 4 This morning, with our Blue badge guide, we visit the picturesque fishing village of Aldeburgh. In the afternoon we visit Christchurch Mansion a Tudor building set in an ancient and beautiful park close to the centre of Ipswich. With outstanding paintings and furniture it is one of the most important visitor attractions in East Anglia.

Day 5 Our last day, we visit English Heritage's Audley House and Gardens, Saffron Walden, one of England's grandest stately homes.

Following our visit we make our way home.

Cost: £499 (Single room supplement £99)

This includes all coach travel and hotel

(Bed, breakfast and evening meal)

Extras: Entrance fees to places visited. Entrance to aviation museum is free and National Trust properties free to members of NT, gratuities.

Insurance £24 (if required)

All members and friends welcome.

Departure time and pick up points to be notified at a later date.

For further details contact [Ken Ivie](#) by clicking on his name.

'Hairspray' at the Everyman Theatre Cheltenham

For the matinee on Thursday, 31 May 2018 at 2pm. It's a brilliant 'feel good' show.

Tickets are £49 a ticket (transport is included in the price). If we have a full coach there will be a refund on the day.

I would like you to let me know if you would like to reserve a place for you, by clicking on my name below and sending me a message.

Pick-ups will be Asda Orbital 10.15am, Ashington Way 10.30am, Bus Station 10.45am. Transport will be by Barnes Coaches.

[Cherry Warr](#)

Concert Goers Group
invite you to
The Anvil Basingstoke
Tuesday 5th June 2018 at 7.45pm

Pre Concert talk at 6.30pm
Wurth Philharmonic Orchestra
presents
J Strauss 11 - Overture: Die Fledermaus
Bruch- Violin Concerto no. 1
Saint-Saens – Introduction and rondo capriccioso
Shostakovich – Symphony no. 10

For more detailed information on the concert click [here](#)

Departure times and pickup points

Downsview Rd/Marlborough Road Junction 16.30

Bus Station 16.45

Ashington Way (W Swindon) bus stop 17.00

Queries to: [Nina Stimson](#) by clicking on her name.

Travel Study Group G

Holiday to Liverpool

Monday 2nd July to Friday 6th July 2018

Hotel : Radisson Blu, Liverpool, 4 nights dinner bed and breakfast

Cost £374 (single room supplement £80)

Includes 2 hour sightseeing tour of Liverpool, 50 minute Mersey Cruise and admission to the Terracotta Warriors Exhibition.

Deposit £40 by Monday 19th February 2018 Balance due by Monday 14th May.

Contact [Sue York](#) by clicking on her name.



Desiderata by Max Ehrmann (1872-1945)

Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even to the dull and ignorant; they too have their story.

Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.

Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is as perennial as the grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be. And whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace with your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

Max Ehrmann was an American writer, poet, and attorney from Indiana. This prose poem: "Desiderata " which means " desirable things " in Latin, is his most famous work. Aged 40, he withdrew from his life in business to devote his time to writing. He completed Desiderata in 1927, when he was 54, but it only became well known after his death. I hope you find its beautiful and wise words appropriate for the start of our New Year.

Provided by Lesley Basu

NOTICES

Newsletter distribution - help needed

Newsletters are sent out every other month and over a 100 members are involved in their distribution.

Some of our responsibilities involve collecting the newsletters from the printers, batching them, then sending them out to the distributors.

We are looking for two people who can work together and share this role with us.

If you think you could help please send a message by clicking on the names below.

[David and Jackie Hewitt](#)

[Management Reports](#)

[Monthly Meetings](#)

[Group News](#)

[Outings & Trips](#)

[Newsletter](#)

First Aid Courses

I would like to run another couple of basic first aid courses for members. Before I make any arrangements I would like to check how many people are interested. I am probably looking at sometime in 2018 to run the courses. If you are interested please contact me by clicking on my name below.

[David Maggs](#)

New Editor

I'm the new editor of the Swindon U3A Newsletter.

While I'm new to Swindon, I'm not new to the U3A, having been a member of Farnborough & District U3A for over 13 years, the last 4 of which I was editor of their Newsletter. I attended the AGM here and found out that there was a vacancy for an editor!

I was a Chartered Mechanical Engineer, though my last job was as a part time Quality Manager. We moved to Wroughton in August, to be nearer our daughter and her family who live in East Witchel. We have joined the British Social History and Quizzing 2 groups. My other interests are Family History and Railway Modelling and so it will be no surprise that I have joined the Swindon Model Railway Club. I have been using Desktop Publishing software since 1990

Geoff Bryan

Copy Dates

Items for the April Newsletter must be received by

7th March 2018

Items for the April 'What's On' must be received by

12th March 2018

Items for the May 'What's On' must be received by

16th April 2018

All contributions must be sent to the Editor using the Newsletter email address or handed in to the office.
newsletter@swindonu3a.org.uk

List of Email Addresses

General

General enquiries	enquiries@swindonu3a.org.uk
Office manager	office.manager@swindonu3a.org.uk
Office administration	office@swindonu3a.org.uk
Newsletter contributions	newsletter@swindonu3a.org.uk
Webmaster	webmaster@swindonu3a.org.uk

Management Committee

All members of committee	committee@swindonu3a.org.uk
Chairman	chairman@swindonu3a.org.uk
Treasurer	hon.treasurer@swindonu3a.org.uk
Assistant treasurer	assistant.treasurer@swindonu3a.org.uk
Treasurer, Assistant treasurer, Office	treasurer@swindonu3a.org.uk
Secretary	secretary@swindonu3a.org.uk
E-news distribution management	enews@swindonu3a.org.uk
Group co-ordinator	group.coord@swindonu3a.org.uk
Newsletter distribution	publicity@swindonu3a.org.uk
Monthly meeting speaker organiser	speaker.organiser@swindonu3a.org.uk
Portable appliance testing (PAT)	pat@swindonu3a.org.uk

The Editor reserves the right to amend or abbreviate any entries submitted.

We should also like to point out that any views expressed are not necessarily those of the organisation or of the Editor.

Office

Swindon U3A Office, Gorse Hill Community Centre,
Chapel Street, Swindon, SN2 8DA

(entry is by middle door on right hand side of building)

Hours : Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10am until 12 noon

Telephone : 01793 614629

(Answerphone operates when the office is closed)

Email : office@swindonu3a.org.uk

Web : www.swindonu3a.org.uk

Charity Number 298853

Swindon Film Society - for the best in World Cinema

Winter 2018 Programme At Swindon Arts Centre

- 7 February Burn, Burn, Burn (UK)
21 February Julieta (Spain)
28 February Tanna (Australia/Vanuatu)
14 March After The Storm (Japan)
28 March Train To Busan (South Korea)

Films start at 7.45 pm

Admission: SFS members £7.00/£6.00, Guests £9.00

For full details, visit our website: www.swindonfilm.org.uk

Town Gardens Bowls Club

Have you ever wanted to play Bowls?

We have a lovely setting within the Old Town Gardens and welcome new members.

We are open April - Sept starting with a pre-season meeting in March

We have training for those who have never played before or want to start again

For more information contact: Monica Brian 01793 979100



The Restaurant

What's on early in 2018

We are offering a delicious

Winter Warmer Menu

between Fri 19th Jan and Thurs 8th Feb

Three course Lunch for £6.00pp

And...

Between the 20th Feb and 29th March

Spring is in the Air!

The new Menu will reflect seasonal produce

Book a table of 4 and only pay for 3!!

To make a reservation email: faithmarles@swindon.ac.uk

Or Tel: 01793 498244

Friends of the Ridgeway, Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize

I am writing on behalf of the Friends of the Ridgeway. And to bring to the attention of members of your U3A an arts prize.

In April 2016 I wrote to you concerning the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize which culminated in an exhibition and prize giving held on April in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington.

The Ridgeway – the oldest road in Britain – historically was a trackway providing a reliable trading route from the Dorset coast along the chalk Downs to the Wash in Norfolk. Today it is not only the oldest road but part of that original route is a National Trail; it is also a wonderful resource for all the communities that live along its route, not just walkers where visitors and locals alike can enjoy walking, riding or just being there.

The Friends of the Ridgeway is committed to the preservation in perpetuity of all the natural aspects and features of the ancient Ridgeway. Details are at <http://www.ridgewayfriends.org.uk> As part of our work The Friends of The Ridgeway have established an annual arts competition and prize – the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize. The aim of the competition is to bring The Ridgeway to life not only as a long-distance trail but as an artistic inspiration, and to show The Ridgeway, its history and environs, in all their aspects throughout all seasons. The theme is 'The Ridgeway: history, ecology, and landscape across the surrounding environs '. There will be classes for painting, sculpture, photography and writing.

We are delighted to announce that we will again be holding an annual arts competition and prize – the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize.

There will be an exhibition of works submitted for the competition as part of the Ridgeway Friends Day. It will be open to the public on Saturday 21 April and Sunday 22 April 2018 in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington (Broad Street, Uffington, Oxfordshire, SN7 7RA), located in the centre of the beautiful and historic rural village of Uffington in the Vale of the White Horse.

Anthony Burdall

Tel: 01367 240713

Mob: 07841352938

Email: anthony.burdall@burdall.net

2 Fernham Road
Faringdon
Oxfordshire, SN7 7JY