



Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at Hallfold Church Whitworth. Refreshments are served at 1.00pm and speakers start at 1.30pm. New members are welcome for an annual membership of £15 and £2 monthly meeting subs.

5th June 2024

Paul Blakey M.B.E. Street Angels

3rd July 2024

Martin Lunn FRCA Earth, Wind and Fire – the inner planets.

7th August

Frank Pleziak talking about 'Bee Keeping'.

4th September

AGM

Prospective Group for Card Games

We are intending to start a Card Games group but after chatting with the half a dozen people who expressed an interest it has been agreed to postpone the start of the group until September as it will be a winter pastime. We are hoping to meet at Whitworth Library on a Friday afternoon and depending on how many people arrive will decide there and then which game to play. Hopefully we'll be able to teach each other new games and I'm sure will have lots of fun. In the meantime, anyone interested should contact me at helen@illingworth.org.uk

Helen Illingworth
Interest Groups Co-Ordinator

Letter from the Chair

Hello everyone

It is likely that I will be standing down as Chair of our u3a at the AGM in September. This is because I completely take on board the need to bring in new ideas, new ways of working, to keep us vibrant and in touch with members, their views and hopes for future u3a growth.

So in reflecting on what has happened since our first steering group in 2017, I feel so grateful to the people who have made the u3a what it is today. Firstly, committee, who meet every month to review progress, plan new initiatives and iron out problems. Each then also goes away to work on their individual jobs (such as pulling together this newsletter!). We have our special interest group leaders who commit their time, knowledge and skills to make our learning fun and relevant. And we have our members, who join everything we offer, whether that is coming to monthly meetings, going on outings and/or attending groups. Without you all, where would we be? So to you all, I say a huge 'thank you!'

The u3a is stronger than ever and so many people have told me how much they value having it in their lives, that I am certain we will continue to thrive. I also plan to stay very much involved, as a non trustee, in the role of President – but more of that in September!

Meantime, I hope you all have a wonderful summer with some much wanted sunshine! I look forward to seeing you, at groups or meetings in the coming weeks.

Pat



Members attending a monthly meeting at Hallfold United Reformed Church Whitworth

Interest Groups

For insurance purposes only members can join Interest Groups – details are available on our FB page, website or at the meetings. You can contact the Group Leaders for information on dates, times and venues for group activities. Lynne, our Groups Coordinator can be contacted on 07718913131

Group Leaders

Amblers:

Phil Ellis 07907 854891

Lynne Hutton 07718 913131

Helen Illingworth 07860 314968

Art:

Lindsay Fairhurst 07800 820096

Julie Latham 07801 306776

Birdwatching:

George Scaife 07956 294775

Book Club:

Helen Illingworth 07860 314968

Craft Group

Meg Starkey 07778017443

Creative Writing:

Kay Grayson 07903 570008

Family History:

Jean Ainsworth 07790192120

Flower Arranging:

Nina Gardner 07411 520771

Garden Inspiration:

Pat Matson 01706 853691

Learning Italian Together:

Meg Starkey 01706 343381

Luncheon Group:

Margaret Croxon 07790891962

Philosophy :

John Hall john@firefly.me.uk

Photography:

Doreen Brown 07813 056481

Play Reading:

Mary Cawley 01706 356109

Tap Dancing:

Paula Bradbury

g-bradbury@outlook.com

Walking:

Garry Bradbury 07486 009581

Wellbeing:

Sheila Daly 0772 757925

Ukulele:

Deborah Whitham 07776 332 666

Art Group



The Art Group
enjoying
painting
Daffodils in
Water Colours

Flower Arranging Group

We meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at Whitworth Library. We like to do seasonal arrangements using foliage from gardens if possible. We sometimes do experimental arrangements as well as some of the more traditional ones, but most of all we like to have fun and enjoy what we do.

Nina



The Flower
Arranging
Group working
with beautiful
peonies

Ukulele Group

The Ukulele Group will be playing on Sunday 9th June for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day at the Ashcroft.



Interest Groups

Craft Group

A couple of the beautiful cards
'Made with Lace' by the Craft Group

The Craft Group meet at Megs House every
Monday Morning.
Please contact Meg Starkey 07778017443

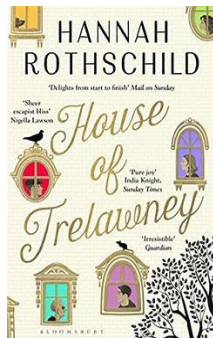


Book Club

Following requests to join the Book Club which already had 14 members, it was decided in February to start a second group which would cater for people wanting to read books of a more literary theme. This group has been named "Booklovers, Reading Classics and Modern Classics" meeting once a month in members own homes and run by Julie Latham and Emma Flook. I believe the current book for discussion is Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte.

The original group continue to meet at Hallfold United Reformed Church monthly obtaining book sets from Lancashire Libraries.

For the **June** meeting we will be discussing House of Trelawney by Hannah Rothschild. This has been described as 'Jilly Cooper Territory with a whiff of Joanne Trollope, a lavish saga about privileged people behaving badly' so I think we're in for a romp!



Helen Illingworth



Garden Inspiration

What a lovely time we have had going to gardens some of us have never been to before and finding new plants and gardens to give us inspiration in our own gardens or just have a wonderful time with a great group of people.

Our plan is very simple: we car share to keep costs down and to involve non-drivers; we go to a delightful garden and after a coffee we explore what is there. We have a nice lunch (essential in our minds) then after a quick look at what's for sale we head home. We meet once a month on a Saturday - and after our outing we go home looking forward to the next one.

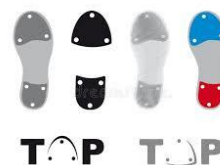


For more information contact Pat on 07922 593032

Pat Matson

U3A Tappers

We've been practicing our jazz routine. We've been rousing our knees and rolling our stockings down!



Interest Groups

Amblers

The amblers continue to meet on the second Wednesday morning in the month usually led by Helen and Lynne. The brief is for ambles to be 3 miles or less in length with the odd incline and no stiles where possible. Before each amble we give a brief description so that people can decide whether it's manageable for them.

The last amble led by Lynne started at the top of Kiln Lane working towards Hollingworth Lake in an area new to most people. Returning along Deep Lane the views looking back towards the Lake were stunning. For the June amble we are going a little further afield to Burrs Country Park just off the road to Ramsbottom from Bury. If you haven't been there before the route follows the River Irwell and the East Lancs Railway Line to Summerseat but we will be turning off before then and returning via Walmersley.

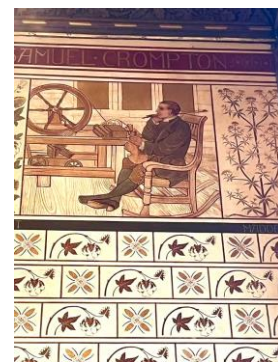
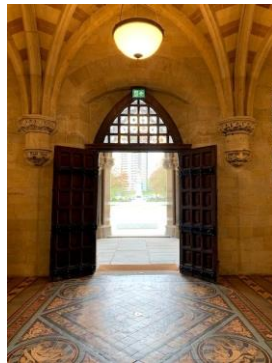
There's a lovely café at Burrs where we can have a coffee on our return.

Anyone not already a member of the group who is interested please get in touch with Helen at helen@illingworth.org.uk
Helen Illingworth



Photography Group

The Photography group met at the newly refurbished Town Hall in Rochdale, we had the official tour then all enjoyed lunch in the pop-up café.



Burrs Country Park

Another outing with the Photography group.

Nature, art, walk, sculpture, food and completed the day with retail therapy at Summerseat Garden Centre

