

## From the Chairman

*If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind? (Shelley, 1792-1822)*

With the need to think about what to put in this message some time before it reaches you all, it is a good exercise in optimism! At the time of writing, daylight hours are just starting to get longer, holiday brochures instead of Christmas cards are arriving with the post and, by the time you read this, we shall at least be anticipating Spring with the “New” Year well in its stride, come what may. Our indefatigable Membership Records Officer will once again be reaching the end of her annual heavy task of dealing with some 2,500 membership renewals. Can you imagine getting your own sack full of post delivered to your door? Which reminds me to ask whether you remembered to renew your membership? We all have our *senior moments* - personally, I have taken to using Post-it<sup>®</sup> Notes all over the place.

In this issue you can see that the Committee’s new initiatives are really taking off – the central Drop-In sessions established; the Gift Aid Lecture series continuing, with some prestigious contributors to the next series in March on Sustainable Development; the first indications that this year’s AMM in April will be in an *accessible* venue, again with a popular speaker ..... and there is even more!

It’s easy not to appreciate the task of the *Links* Editor in putting it all together to produce our main source of communication and information to all members. Do you ever put it to one side intending to read it another day? Committee members appealing for expressions of interest sometimes wonder whether this happens, but it’s never too late. In the following pages you will find the latest external and worthwhile search for volunteers that the Committee is keen to publicise - the Sheffield Reading Volunteer Project. To develop a love of reading is surely the very first step in Lifelong Learning. SU3A members are well on that road and it seems

### **Cover Picture:**

***No bottling out for Davida, as she climbs the Cork Stone***

Taken by Carol Lofthouse on 1 December 2008 during an H Group walk in the Stanton Moor area, near Birchover.

somehow appropriate for those of us who are able to consider helping a primary school child's first steps on the journey.

On a more general note - you may already know from other sources of the plan to merge Age Concern and Help the Aged into one body with Heyday remaining its commercial arm. This apparently has taken some time for approval by all the other bodies involved, but it is now expected to happen this coming April. It would seem that one of the main objectives is to be a much stronger political and national voice, as well as a better use of resources by combining some duplicate activities.

There is no suggestion from The Third Age Trust that they are in any way involved or directly interested. Our own policy for SU3A has always been to steer clear of political issues and causes, however worthy, and to remain outside national or local party politics in every way. However, that does not prevent us from supporting public sector activities, providing they are strictly in line with our Constitution and Gift Aid objectives, hence our earlier reported response recently to a Government consultative document and our support for certain Sheffield City Council projects, including the Walking Week, etc.

And after Spring, comes Summer .....

*Joan Keogh*

## **Sheffield U3A News Update**

### **Executive Committee Report**

The last meeting of the Committee was held on 9 January 2009.

SU3A members have been invited to support the Reading Volunteers in Sheffield Schools project, which is currently being rolled out to all primary schools across the City. If you are interested in taking part in the project you will find more detailed information later in this issue.

The Committee has been made aware that some members have not yet received their membership renewal information, due to the chaos of the Christmas post. Renewal forms are normally turned round within a week of receipt, so if you are still awaiting confirmation of your new membership number, would you please contact Lorna Baker, Membership Records Officer, who will be pleased to help you (telephone and email information inside the front cover of *Links*).

The Gift Aid Working Group would welcome requests from Groups who wish to purchase items that will enhance their activities. The Working Group would also like to increase its membership - so if you would like to be part of this Group, please contact Roy Darlison, on (0114) 230 1519.

The first Drop-In session at the Central United Reformed Church was very successful, with both current and prospective members 'dropping in'. As you know, these sessions are taking place on the first Tuesday of the month, from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon for a trial period of six months. This is an excellent place to meet, so why not put the dates in your diary (see Calendar on back cover) and meet up with your fellow members to have a cup of tea or coffee and a chat - we would love to see you there.

Sheffield U3A is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011 and we need to start planning, so if you have any ideas for activities please let us know (you can contact any member of the Committee).

Finally, although advertisements to replace our Equipment Officer have been in previous issues, we are still waiting for someone to volunteer. To help you learn more, you will find details on page 14 about what the post entails and the enjoyment you can get from it. You will find that the duties are not as onerous as you might think! Groups who make regular use of this equipment might like to consider whether there is anyone amongst them willing to take over from John Brooke, who will be retiring at the end of March this year. If we are unable to make a new appointment, the loan of equipment may have to be suspended.

*Vera Dyer*

## **On Your Dorestep**

Do we always appreciate what is on our doorstep? Well, a new walks book *On Your Dorestep* hopes to ensure that the beautiful and varied countryside on hand in the immediate vicinity of Dore is both recognised and explored.

In full colour, the book presents 25 walks, of varying lengths, all in and around south west Sheffield and adjacent parts of the Peak District. As well as detailing interesting walks, the book's 124 pages also give details of features along the way, together with some historical background. A number of colour photographs and sketches show landmarks and views in the areas of the walks.

The Dore Village Society has published this book, co-authored by a Sheffield U3A member, as a service to the local community, as well as to encourage more walking - which apart from being an interesting and inexpensive pastime, is also judged to be one of the healthiest forms of exercise.

Copies of the book are available to purchase locally at Seasons on Abbeydale Road South (next to the Tesco mini store), at most bookshops, or by post (£9.10 incl p&p) from John Baker, 8 Thornsett Gardens, Sheffield S17 3PP.

*John Baker ..... (0114) 236 9025*

## **Gift Aid**

A number of Group Coordinators have enquired as to whether or not there is any Gift Aid funding still available. Yes there is! Our Treasurer makes an application annually, so our available funds are regularly replenished. Detailed requests should be forwarded to Roy Darlison, Chairman of the Gift Aid Working Group, either by email to or by post to -

*Roy Darlison ..... (0114) 230 1519*  
*2 Valley View, 715 Manchester Road, Sheffield S10 5PS*

## **National U3A Summer Schools 2009**

As members will have seen in the U3A News Winter 2008 issue, the National Summer Schools to be held next year will be:

20 – 23 July 2009

at Harper Adams University College, Newport, Shropshire

24 – 27 August 2009

at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

Any U3A member is eligible to attend either of these Schools. For more details of the venue you are interested in, the subjects covered and booking forms, please send a stamped addressed letter size (C5 or DL) envelope (not exceeding 9 x 6 inches or 240 x 165mm) to the Secretary:

Vera Dyer, 202 Westwick Road, Sheffield, S8 7BZ

Alternatively, if you have access to the internet, this information can be downloaded from the national U3A website by logging on to the members' area.

Please note that the Harlaxton College Summer Schools (5-8 July and 9-12 July), also advertised in the U3A News, are not nationally run courses and those interested should apply directly to Hendy Farquhar-Smith at

---

## **Subscriptions Due by 28 February 2009**

The renewal subscription for 2008 is now due and is **£ 7 per person, whether U3A News is taken or not**. Please forward your payment to the Membership Records Officer, Lorna Baker, using the renewal form and annual Gift Aid declaration on page 25. Please make cheques payable to **Sheffield U3A** (SAE not required).

To comply with the Data Protection Act 1998 members are advised that the information given is held by Sheffield U3A on a computer file and on paper within Sheffield to maintain membership records, to distribute information and the Newsletter to members, and to administer Groups within Sheffield U3A.

**ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING**  
and  
**23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
on  
**Wednesday 22 APRIL 2009 at 1.30 pm**  
at the  
**Central United Reformed Church,**  
**Norfolk Street, Sheffield 1**

At this year's AMM/AGM *Martin Pailthorpe*, TV producer and director, will give a talk on *Around the World and Auntie Pays*. In 20 years of TV film-making, mainly for the BBC, Martin has specialised in remote and hostile environments, filming both the people who live there and those who struggle to adapt. His travels and adventures include tracking SAS hero Chris Ryan through the jungles of Honduras, the bush of Botswana and the frozen tundra of Siberia.

Members are requested to arrive at 1.30 pm to register and for refreshments. Martin's talk will start at 2.00 pm, immediately followed by the AGM at 3.15 pm. Only current 2009 members may attend and vote at the AGM. The venue is fully accessible.

The agenda for the AGM and 2008 minutes will be published in the April issue of *Links*. Members wishing to raise business under clause 13(viii) of the Constitution should notify the Secretary, in writing, by **Saturday 28 February 2009**, so that it can be included in the Agenda.

There will be four vacancies on the Executive Committee. The Committee meets bi-monthly, usually on the first Friday of the month. Nominations for election to the Committee should be made on the form on page 23 of this issue of *Links* and should reach the Secretary **no later than Wednesday 8 April 2009**.

*Vera Dyer* ..... Secretary ..... (0114) 237 7854

## Group News

### Classical Concertgoers' Group

Our Spring visit takes us to the De Montfort Hall Leicester on Tuesday 28 April, for a concert given by the Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Hugo Wolff, with the celebrated young Scottish violinist Nicola Benedetti. The programme includes the *Roman Carnival* Overture of Berlioz, the Violin Concerto of Sibelius and Rachmaninov's Symphonic Dances. An optional pre-concert talk with Neil Roberts and David Cohen, Principal Cellist of the Philharmonia Orchestra, is included.

The coach will leave the bus parking bay on Ecclesall Road South, near the top of Millhouses Lane, promptly at 4.00 pm. The inclusive cost of the visit is £28.50 and reservations may be made by using the reply slip at the end of this issue. Please send to Derek Shipley, 40 Wollaton Avenue, Sheffield S17 4LA, including a DL size stamped addressed envelope, to arrive **not later than Thursday 26 February 2009**. Please include the names and contact details for all members for whom you are applying.

Our visits are open to all current SU3A members and no special Group membership is required.

*Derek Shipley ..... Coordinator ..... (0114) 236 6257*

### Late Walking Group

I have always laboured under the misapprehension that the world is divided into Larks and Owls. However, judging by the poor response I got to my plea for other Owls to join me in walking later than the Larks do, this is clearly not the case, and I am one of a small minority. We will shortly cease to be a Group at all, if we do not get some more kindred spirits.

During the winter we are walking at 11.00 am, mostly in the Dore area or in the Eastern Peak. We do not eat on route or visit a pub, although that is clearly down to individual preference. We enjoy a coffee where possible, but if anyone has other ideas we would welcome them. Please get in touch to join us.

*Jill Whyms ..... (01246) 291 590*

## **Literature Network**

**Monday 6 April 2009**

### **Nineteenth Century Women Writers**

Dr Shirley Foster has been invited to speak to the Literature Network on **Monday 6 April at 1.30 pm**, at Shirley House, Psalter Lane.

Dr Foster is a part-time lecturer at Sheffield University. She participates in teaching the Victorian Literature course and the MA in nineteenth century studies, as well as currently supervising three PhD students in nineteenth century British and American literature. Topics of her research include Victorian women's fiction and Anglo-American travel writing of that period. Her publications include a literary biography of Mrs Gaskell.

**Please note that the day of the week and time are different from our more usual arrangements.**

Any SU3A member is welcome to attend and a form for reserving a place (£3.50) appears at the end of this issue of *Links*.

## **Craft Carousel**

By the time you read this, an initial meeting of this Group will have been held at the Stocksbridge Library. This new Group will certainly welcome additional members. If you would like to join or find out more about the Group, please telephone Sue.

*Sue Williamson* ..... *Coordinator* ..... (01226) 766 829

## **Gift Aid Lecture Series**

### **Living with Climate Change**

The next lectures will be a series of three complementary sessions held on **3, 20 and 30 March 2009** at the Quaker Meeting House, starting **promptly at 1.30 pm** and finishing by 5.00 pm

#### **1. Tuesday 3 March - The Challenges of Climate Change**

- ◆ ***Our Future in Your Hands***: Pupils of Brantwood School for Girls
- ◆ **Climate Change - Adapt and Survive**: Peter Smith, Emeritus Professor in Sustainable Development, University of Nottingham
- ◆ **The Challenge for the Individual**: Ralph Hebden, Sheffield U3A

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **2. Friday 20 March - Doing Things Differently**

- ◆ **National and International Perspectives**: Nick Clegg MP
- ◆ **Alternative Energy**: Nick Parsons, Director, SY Energy Centre
- ◆ **Urban Environments of the Future**: Nigel Dunnett, Reader in Urban Horticulture, University of Sheffield

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **3. Monday 30 March - Sheffield's Strategies for Action**

- ◆ **Sheffield City Council Strategy**: Steve Byers, Eco Management and Audit Officer
- ◆ **Transition Towns - the story so far**: Jennie Patient, Sheffield Campaign Against Climate Change
- ◆ **U3As and Climate Change**: Mike Wiseman, Swansea U3A

Sessions are free of charge. In order to manage the seating arrangements, admission will be by numbered ticket. Please reserve place(s) by sending a DL size **SAE** to Rose Tanner, 243 The Wheel, Ecclesfield, Sheffield S35 9ZA; tel: (0114) 245 0200. Please indicate the total number of seats required for each of the three sessions. Tickets will be allocated strictly by order of application.

## **Lunch and Lecture**

You are invited to lunch at the Sheffield Park Hotel,  
Chesterfield Road South, Meadowhead, Sheffield S8 8BW on

**Friday 3 April 2009**

**Please arrive at 12.00 for 12.30 pm - Cost £14.50**

There is ample parking and the No.53 Lowedges bus stops at  
the hotel.

The menu will be supreme of chicken - breast of chicken  
grilled and served with a white wine and wild mushroom  
sauce; duo of chocolate - silky white and rich dark chocolate  
mousse, served with fine rum truffle; and coffee and mints.  
The vegetarian option will be roasted vegetables en crouete -  
vegetables roasted with honey & wholegrain mustard,  
wrapped in puff pastry.

**Speaker:**

**Colin Alderson**  
**Formerly Head Pastry Chef to the Queen**

Colin's talk ranges from his first three months trial to ending  
up as the Royal Pastry Chef - travelling from Buckingham  
Palace to Windsor Castle, Sandringham, Hollywood and on  
board the Royal Yacht Britannia. He will take you on a journey  
through life, where preparing for State visits, the Ghillies' Ball  
at Balmoral, the staff fancy dress parties and receiving their  
Christmas presents from the Queen becomes everyday life.

If you would like to book a place, please fill in the form at the  
back of this issue of *Links*, to arrive **no later than Friday 13  
March 2009.**

*Barbara Steel* ..... *Coordinator* ..... (0114) 247 4696

## **Arabic Dance**

A free taster session has been arranged for Tuesday 17 February, 10.00 – 11.00 am, at the Inman Pavilion, Moorland Drive, Stocksbridge. Please telephone Beryl Sharp for further details.

*Beryl Sharp ..... (0114) 283 1392*

## **Tai Chi**

As you will see from the Centre Pages, a second Tai Chi Group is now meeting. There is still time for beginners to join this new Group.

## **Requests for Help**

### **Reading Volunteers – would you like to help a Primary School pupil to read?**

Many pupils in Sheffield's primary schools are well behind with their reading. This can hamper their achievement throughout school and will ultimately affect their life-chances. In order to address this, a pilot scheme was set up in 2008, whereby volunteers were linked to a particular school and gave an hour a week on average. The results showed that children's reading ages improved dramatically - in some cases by over a year in a very short space of time.

The scheme is flexible - volunteers can sign up for a specified number of weeks; and can be paired or teamed in order to take account of holiday commitments. You do not have to be a teacher or to have worked with young children; you just need to be able to take an interest in them. Volunteers receive training and on-going support from the staff at the school.

If you are interested you can obtain further information from Yvonne Rowland, who has agreed to be the Liaison Officer between Sheffield U3A and the City Council's Children and Young People's Department (formerly the LEA). Yvonne can be reached on (0114) 242 5201.



Centre for Sport  
and Exercise Science

## **EFFECTS OF AGEING ON BLOOD VESSEL FUNCTIONING**

We are looking for  
**men and women aged between 55 and 75**  
**who do not take part in regular vigorous exercise**  
to take part in a research study investigating the effects of ageing  
on blood vessel functioning.

If you are interested in finding out more about this study,  
please contact:

**Garry Tew**

at the Centre for Sport and Exercise Science,  
Sheffield Hallam University

**Tel.: (0114) 225 2358**

## **New Groups**

### **Walking Groups**

Walking is SU3A's most popular activity, with thirty active Groups. From time to time we hear reports that some members find it difficult to join a Group which meets on a convenient day and walks the mileage they need. Many Walking Groups have vacancies, but if enough members are finding it difficult to join a suitable Group and they let the Joint General Coordinators know their preferred walking days, distance and contact details, we will try to form further new Groups to accommodate these members.

*Doreen & Brian Bezant ...Joint General Coordinators ... (0114) 236 6596*

## Calling Potential Croquet Players

Ever thought of playing croquet? Never played before, but fancy the idea? Played on holiday, liked it, but not sure where it's played in Sheffield? Once keen, but now lapsed? I am hoping to get a Croquet Group going in 2009, so need to find out the level of interest.

For 2009 we have been offered the use of a lawn on the outfield of the bowling green at Nether Edge. This would be on a Thursday afternoon from May to September. The annual membership fee would be approximately £30. If the level of interest is significant, there is also the possibility of a bespoke lawn in the Fulwood area for 2010 onwards, subject to suitable grants being available. However, these grants would be contingent on showing a good level of interest and commitment.

Croquet is not a difficult game to play (badly!) and improving your skill and appreciation of tactics can be rapid. A handicapping system exists, so that games can be made fairer between different skill levels. Novice players will be very welcome, as instruction will be given and some taster sessions run.

If you think you may be interested, please contact Peter Jones. We do need to gauge interest levels if we are to pursue the option of a bespoke lawn. Ilkley U3A have a croquet section of 6% of their membership, so a Sheffield equivalent could be 100+ strong. I'm waiting for your call!

*Peter Jones ..... (0114) 230 5987*

## Knitting

Jane Harding is hoping to form a Group whose members are interested in knitting. She is particularly interested in seamless knitting, but not exclusively so. If this appeals to you, please contact Jane Harding.

*Jane Harding ..... (0114) 230 9576*

## **Latin for Beginners**

We have several people who are keen to learn Latin, but we need a Coordinator/Tutor who can guide the members through *The Cambridge Latin Course*. Please make contact with the Joint General Coordinators if you wish to join such a Group or might lead it.

*Doreen & Brian Bezant ...Joint General Coordinators ... (0114) 236 6596*

## **URGENT - Equipment Officer**

In my time I have had many titles and currently I have one I have given myself. I have served my apprenticeship to become SU3A's Equipment Officer's Assistant.

John became Equipment Officer some four years ago and my first task was to decide which spare bedroom to put the projector, screen and laptop in. Over the years a scanner, visualiser, PA system and another projector have been added, and to save carrying it up and downstairs we now hide most of it behind the settee – which saves me hoovering there.

I have really enjoyed booking the equipment in and out, and the social side. It's the perfect job for anyone with an interest in people, as a stream of delightful folk comes to your house to collect and return the equipment. It has been great fun but, sadly, the time has come for John to give up his role. He would really like someone with some basic technical knowledge to take over.

There must be someone in an organization the size of ours with a modicum of ability with equipment, or willing to learn, with a little spare space and a little time. Could it be you? This is a role that might also be shared by two members.

If you are interested in taking over from John, please ring him on (0114) 255 2905 for further details.

*Margaret Brooke*

## **OS Grid References and the Emergency Services**

On 1 July 2008 two Sheffield U3A walkers became involved in contacting the Emergency Services to report a death at Fairbrook Naze, on Kinder Scout in the Peak District. It was treated as 'Category A', as if there was a possibility of resuscitation. An ambulance, the Air Ambulance, a Community Paramedic, Mountain Rescue and the Police were all mobilized. It took about an hour from the time of the 999 call until a helicopter landed near the body. There is no suggestion that a speedier response would have saved this man.

The OS grid reference was given to the East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) Controller, but it was not used for location nor was it passed to the air crew. This was apparent at the time, as the Controller continued to ask questions about the location. Later, the helicopter could be seen for more than 10 minutes, searching for the location, and on landing the crew confirmed that they had not been told the grid reference. This aspect is being pursued with the Emergency Services.

It is most crucial that all the Emergency Services get the -

- ◆ location of the reported incident, and
- ◆ appropriate emergency service personnel and their vehicle(s) to the location.

More and more, members of the public have electronic devices that reveal their exact location - be it GPS, sat-nav or mobile phones. Likewise, the emergency vehicles have sat-nav, or the equivalent, to guide them. There should be an effective way of linking these two things. It was apparent, from this incident, that time taken from 'reporting' to 'arrival' would have been much shorter if the EMAS Controller had passed the grid reference to the air crew.

For SU3A walkers, the main recommendation is that those who call the Emergency Services from remote locations, and are able to give OS grid references, should stress their importance and ask for them to be passed on, particularly if the Air Ambulance or Mountain Rescue is to be mobilized.

*Brian Jeremiah and Rati Chiba*

## **Sheffield U3A: Access to Events and Groups**

Last year I became a member of Sheffield U3A and went to a meeting for new members at the Quaker Meeting House. Sheffield U3A had already been introduced to me by a friend who belonged to a couple of Groups. She suggested that I look at the website, as there was a very wide range of Groups. Everyone at the meeting was very friendly and after looking at the website I was left with the impression that there was a lot going on that I would enjoy. ***But could I join in?***

I have always been very involved with local and national debate about equality and associated issues, but recently have needed to take on slightly less. I was looking for a way to pursue my own interests and these include travelling, gardening, cooking and local history to name but a few!

Could SU3A be a solution to my problem? I was very wary. I am quadriplegic, use a wheelchair and always have a personal assistant to support me. I have learnt the hard way how difficult access can be and I was worried that it would be an issue, because I know that Groups are often held in people's homes and these can be the most difficult places for a wheelchair user.

My friend and I were interested in the idea of playing bridge and there were many Groups listed, but no information about access. We didn't want to go in for competition games, but to play bridge socially without pressure. I decided that the way to get round the access issue was to set up a Group in my home and *Bridge at Home* was born and has been running successfully for several months.

Given the age range of U3A members it is very likely that access will become an issue for many. Much as our minds might stay the same inside, as we get older, inevitably the body outside can pose problems! I thought I should share my

experience and anxieties about access and to my pleasure the issue was taken seriously. If Sheffield U3A is to benefit as many older people as possible, it must make sure it meets their needs.

I was not able to attend the last Group Coordinators' meeting, but I did make available some information for people to consider. One of the things that I find most difficult is when I don't know if access is a problem or not. This one is easily solved and I have suggested it could be useful to include a question on the membership form asking if members have any particular needs. This would provide information for the organisation as to the size of the issue.

If Coordinators were asked to complete an access checklist for events held in venues outside people's homes, information about access could be made available. It would help people who needed the information to know the situation, without having to find out for themselves. I hope that Coordinators will give thought to the access arrangements for their Groups and I would be very pleased to give what assistance I could.

*Christine Barton*

### **Note from the Editor –**

Christine's article is intended to stimulate constructive debate as to how SU3A can further take forward this very important issue. As Christine says, none of us know when we might, sadly, acquire a disability of some sort as we get older. Changing to a shorter length Walking Group may only resolve the problem initially and may not be an option for others!

The Editor would welcome all comments as to how SU3A can respond positively and inclusively to the maximum practical extent. Please write or email (contact details inside rear cover). All comments will be forwarded to the Executive Committee, so that an action plan can be developed. Thank you for your anticipated participation in this important debate.

**SHEFFIELD U3A TRAVEL  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
AND ART COMPETITION  
THURSDAY 12 March 2009**

**1.30 pm to 4.00 pm**

**at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Millhouses**

Come and discuss previous visits, future plans and ideas for future programmes.

We do appreciate your opinions and ideas on Sheffield U3A travel.

Come and have a sociable afternoon with us!

**ART COMPETITION**

The 2008 Art Competition was another great success and hopefully this one will be as successful. So take out your paint and paint brushes and show what wonderful talent we have in SU3A. We will have three judges, who will judge the pictures before the meeting; and all the paintings will be on display from 1.30 pm for all to admire.

**Categories:** (Not necessarily connected with travel)

- 1 Animals
- 2 Seascapes / Landscapes
- 3 Townscapes
- 4 Still Life

Minimum size 13 x 18 cm and maximum size 55 x 60 cm, mounted on suitable card or framed. Only one painting per person in each category. All paintings will be returned.

**All entries for the Art Competition should be brought or sent to 21 Everard Avenue, Sheffield S17 4LY between 5.00 and 8.00 pm on Monday 2 to Thursday 5 March. Please ring Shirley Marney on (0114) 235 0801 if there are any problems.**

**NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO SHEFFIELD U3A COMMITTEE 2009**

To be returned **by Wednesday 8 April 2009** to the Secretary, Vera Dyer, 202 Westwick Road, Sheffield S8 7BZ

Name of person nominated: .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode ..... Tel No .....

Email: .....

2009 SU3A membership number: .....

Groups to which Nominee belongs: .....

.....

.....

Name of Proposer: .....

2009 SU3A membership number: .....

Signature of Proposer: .....

Name of Seconder: .....

2009 SU3A membership number: .....

Signature of Seconder: .....

I am a member of Sheffield U3A and agree to be nominated as a candidate for election to the Executive Committee of Sheffield U3A at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 22 April 2009.

Signature of Nominee: .....

Date: .....

# Travel News

## Travel Organising Committee

Shirley Marney, Coordinator (0114) 235 0801  
Barry De Roek, Treasurer (0114) 236 9169  
Derek Shipley, Minutes Secretary (0114) 236 6257  
Margaret Bullivant (0114) 296 2256  
Barbara Robertshaw (0114) 236 9102  
Val Wiley (0114) 236 0726

**Only members of Sheffield U3A can join the tours/day trips.**

**Holiday Insurance** - All members travelling have full responsibility for arranging their own Travel Insurance. In no circumstances will Sheffield U3A be responsible for covering claims for loss of life, personal injury, medical expenses, accidents, loss or damage of luggage or personal property, cancellations or loss of deposits. Each member **MUST** insure themselves against such risks.

**Disabilities** - When sending an application slip for a holiday or day trip, please inform the organiser of any disabilities. Whilst every effort will be made to accommodate a disabled person on all social trips, if there is a conflict of opinion the Tour Operator / Travel Agent or day trip venue will make the final decision.

**Cancellations** - In the case of a cancellation please contact the organiser or another member of the Travel Group Committee as soon as possible. **Refunds** cannot be given for cancellations unless a replacement can be found.

**Pick-up Point** - Please contact the Organiser if you are unable to be at your pick-up point, or want to change it.

**Envelopes** - Please ensure that you attach the correct postage when sending applications. Envelopes larger than 240 x 165 x 5 mm (approx 9.4 x 6.5 x 0.2 in) require a large letter stamp. When sending a **stamped addressed envelope** it should be no less than DL size - 220 x 110 mm (8.6 x 4.3 in), with the correct postage for its size.

**Please** do not park in front of the doctor's surgery on Millhouses Lane.

**SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE  
2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

Regd. Charity No 703147

**Name (1):** (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) .....

date of birth:(*dd/mm/yyyy*) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: .....

**Name (2):** (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) .....

date of birth:(*dd/mm/yyyy*) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode ..... Tel No: .....

I / We attach a payment of £ ..... for membership at £7.00 per person. (Please note - SAE not required)

If you do NOT wish to receive the national U3A News tick here

**Please note that members not renewing before 28 February 2009 will be deemed to have resigned.**

**GIFT AID DECLARATION**

If you are a UK taxpayer, Sheffield U3A can claim back tax on your subscription(s), provided that your current annual tax bill is more than the tax reclaimed (£1.96 on a £7 subscription). If so, please complete the declaration below:

I .....(PRINT NAME)

am a UK taxpayer in accordance with the above and wish Sheffield U3A to treat the above subscription(s) as Gift Aid donations.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Please make cheques payable to: **Sheffield U3A** and send to:  
Mrs Lorna Baker, 8 Thornsett Gardens, Sheffield S17 3PP.

## **Travel Excursions and Holidays**

### **National Media Museum, Bradford**

**Wednesday 25 March 2009**

Our first visit of the year takes us to a popular venue in Bradford. It used to be called The Museum of Film and Photography, but after refurbishment and fresh displays it now has a new title. We will have an introductory talk and a visit to the Imax cinema. Apart from these two pre-set items, your time in the museum is your choice - there is no entrance charge, so you can visit the town if you wish.

There is access by lift to all floors and a restaurant serving a wide choice of meals and snacks.

Come and visit your favourite films, radio and television programmes - or try your hand at news reading!

The cost per person is £15. This includes coach fare, gratuities for the driver and entrance for the Imax film.

To reserve your place please complete the booking slip at the end of this issue and send with a DL sized stamped addressed envelope to Margaret Bullivant, **to arrive no later than 9 March 2009.**

### **SHEFFIELD U3A TRAVEL**

PLEASE NOTE THAT

#### **ONLY POSTAL APPLICATIONS**

WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR HOLIDAYS AND DAY TRIPS

***PLEASE ENSURE YOU USE THE CORRECT POSTAGE  
and include the SAE envelope size requested***

## **Beverley Minster and Burton Constable Hall Tuesday 21 April 2009**

Beverley Minster is claimed to be one of the first churches in Europe and it dominates this lovely town. Should you wish to explore other aspects of the town, if time permits, buildings of interest include St. Mary's Church, the Guildhall, the Art Gallery and Museum.

We then journey on to Burton Constable Hall - I can find no record of a SU3A day trip there previously. Lunch will be prepared for us as soon as we arrive in the tea room. This magnificent 16<sup>th</sup> century house is set in Capability Brown's landscaped gardens and was occupied by the Constable family for over 400 years. Thirty rooms full of fine furniture, sculpture and paintings are open to the public. Outside, beyond the orangery, there are landscaped gardens with a deer park and lakeside trails.

The cost is £25 per person. This includes coach fare and gratuities for the driver, donation to Beverley Minister, entrance and lunch at Burton Constable Hall.

To reserve a place, please complete the booking slip at the end of this issue and send with a DL sized stamped addressed envelope to Val Wiley, **to arrive no later than 6 March 2009.**

## **Places Still Available**

### **Austria - Vienna and Salzburg: 20 - 29 June 2009**

Please contact Shirley Marney for all details by post to 21 Everard Avenue, Bradway, Sheffield S17 4LY or telephone (0114) 235 0801.

### **Kraków - Poland: 1 - 5 September 2009**

Please contact Margaret Bullivant for all details by post to 14 Kingsley Park Grove, Sheffield S11 9HL or telephone (0114) 296 2256.

## **New Zealand: October 2009 for 3 weeks (date not definitely decided)**

Full tour of North and South Island. Thirteen members have shown serious interest. A decision will be made in early February as to whether or not the trip is viable. For full details and itinerary please contact Shirley Marney, 21 Everard Avenue, Sheffield S17 4LY, including a C5 stamped addressed envelope.

## **Thursford Spectacular and Ely Cathedral, Norfolk 14 - 16 November 2009**

Come and join us again to see the Thursford Spectacular. This is said to be the biggest extravaganza in Britain, with a cast of over a 100 musicians, singers and dancers in glittering costumes, plus the sound of the mighty Wurlitzer Organ. On the way we will visit Tattersall Castle, a vast moated and fortified tower. For lunch, we make a stop in the market town of Boston on the way to Norfolk.

On the second day we plan to have coffee in Downham Market, then on to Ely Cathedral (*The Ship of the Fens*) and a visit to Oliver Cromwell's house. We travel back to the hotel via March and Wisbech.

The third day we will include a tour of Kings Lynn, where we will be staying at the Ramada 3\* Hotel on half board. Afterwards we will depart for the Thursford show, finishing the weekend on a real high. The cost is £198 per person (single supplement £33). This includes coach travel throughout, driver's gratuities, donation to Ely Cathedral, entrance fees to the Castle and Cromwell's house and the cost of the show ticket.

Please complete the booking slip at the end of this issue and send, with a large stamped addressed C5 envelope and a deposit of £75 per person (which includes the cost of the show ticket), to Shirley Marney, **to arrive no later than 14 March 2009.**

## Welcome Meeting for New Members



The first revamped Welcome Meeting for new members was held on 5 November at the Quaker Meeting House.

Amongst those attending were Bernard and Roberta Kelly (above), who had recently joined SU3A; and June Pollard (right), who is also a relatively new member and is now Coordinator of Gardening Aspen.

*[photographs:  
Peter Barclay]*

