



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK

## NEWS BITES! AUGUST 2019

*Sharing ideas across 33 U3As in Nottinghamshire*

### PEER SUPPORT GROUPS

If your U3A would like to host a Peer Group event please contact Paul Martinez [pkmartinez14@gmail.com](mailto:pkmartinez14@gmail.com)

#### Coming Soon to Notts Network—look out for more details nearer the time

- Proposed New U3A—Bulwell tbc
- 19/10/19 Aging Well Conf.—fully booked
- 23/10/19 Network AGM
- 27/1/20 Chinese New Year Network Meal
- Feb 2020 workshop “Running Your U3a”
- 21.4.20 Regional Conference
- Summer 2020 Picnic in the Park

#### Southwell U3A’s Church Visiting Group (CVG)

We are a group who love old churches for their architecture and setting, and the centuries of social history and local characters that are related to them. Visiting churches also gives us an excuse for a pleasant day out in the countryside, a good (usually) pub lunch and the chance to meet local people who show us their churches. We meet monthly between March and October (eight trips per year) and our usual day out consists of visiting three churches before lunch and one (or two) more in the afternoon. If you are thinking of setting up a group, we’re happy to share our experiences, Chris Bentley ([cbentley500@gmail.com](mailto:cbentley500@gmail.com))

#### Carlton & Gedling Religious Architecture Group

Alternatively you might wish to organise your church visiting like the C&G group—“This group visits Churches, Cathedrals, Abbeys etc, within a morning or day return trip. We explore their histories through their architecture, monuments & memorial fittings and decipher their timeline through window styles, layout and overall ambiance.” Usually, by prior arrangement, they have a local guide (church warden) to show them around in exchange for a small donation. Mike Johnson ([classicmike2005@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:classicmike2005@hotmail.co.uk))

### Speaker Seekers

An enthusiastic group of Speaker Seekers met on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August to discuss ways of sharing recommendations about speakers. Around two thirds of Notts U3As were represented or sent apologies. Hucknall U3A very kindly provided the meeting room and refreshments. At the meeting we tabled around 72 recommendations, with even more promised. After discussion, we agreed to:

- hold an annual meeting of Speaker Seekers to share information, ideas and experiences – thank you Judith Openshaw (Sherwood U3A), who offered to organise a meeting next year
- set up a Google Group for Speaker Seekers to be able to share recommendations and receive recommendations made by other U3As – thanks to Paul Fileman (Soar Valley). This group is now live and you can join it by emailing the Paul at: [paul.fileman@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.fileman@btinternet.com)
- create an email list of current speaker seekers and their U3A to facilitate informal exchanges (Paul Martinez – I knew I’d have to do something after the meeting!)
- put all the recommendations received so far into a simple, standard electronic format – thank you Beverley Lawe (Radcliffe on Trent U3A).

Hopefully this will assist new Speaker Seekers and be of use even to the most experienced. The Network has also produced a set of *Speaker Secretaries Reference Notes* (thanks to Jane Pavier, Maria Gabrielczyk and Jenny Greaves) which should also prove very useful in this vital and important U3A role. Paul Martinez

