



*Middlesbrough* **U3A**

## *Newsletter*

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2010

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Treasurer: Jack Sanderson  
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Secretary: Heather Walker  
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Groups Co-ordinator:  
Geoff Walker, Tel: 274423

Meetings Organiser:  
Judith Richardson, Tel: 814997

Membership Secretary:  
Rosemary Pitt, Tel: 876968

Other Committee Members:  
Margaret Wallis (Vice Chair)  
Terry Devlin (Deputy Treasurer)  
Ruth Bartlett

As this is the first newsletter of the year, I would like to wish you all a belated happy new year.

As I write this, the snow seems to have mainly gone, at least when you are not on the hills.

I would like to thank all those who managed to get to the January meeting in spite of the weather. Over 50 of you managed to brave the icy conditions to come to the meeting which was an excellent turnout in the circumstances. Those who came heard a very interesting talk on felt and feltmaking which demonstrated what a versatile material our oldest fabric is.

This month's talk, entitled "Cloudy now rain later" looks to be very timely given the recent weather and promises to be as interesting as the January one.

**Geoff Walker:** Newsletter Editor

### **Monthly Meetings:**

St. Barnabas Church Hall  
St. Barnabas Road  
Linthorpe  
Middlesbrough  
First Wednesday of each month  
2.00 - 3.45 pm, Visitors £1

To join between meetings, please send cheque for £12 made out to "Middlesbrough U3A" to the Treasurer, giving your name, address, telephone number & email.

# *Middlesbrough U3A News*

## *U3A Resources*

A reminder that the U3A has a wide variety of resources for use by members. Contact details are below

**Address:** The Third Age Trust, The Old Municipal Buildings, 19, East Street Bromley, Kent, BR1 1QE

**Phone:** 020 8466 6139 **Phone Lines Open:** Mon & Fri 9.30am to 1.30pm, Tues to Thurs 9.30am to 5pm

**Web:** <http://www.u3a.org.uk/>

**Email:** Go to the website and click on the “*Email Us*” link towards the bottom of the left hand side of the page.

**Resource Centre: Phone:** 020 8315 0199

**Opening hours:** Tuesday to Thursday 9.30am to 4pm

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## **Membership**

If you have not yet renewed your membership, please can we remind you that to continue as a member of Middlesbrough U3A, you must pay your membership fees by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. If you do not pay your fees by that date, your membership will lapse. If you have decided not to continue as a member of Middlesbrough U3A, please can you let the membership secretary know.

Contact: Membership Secretary - Rosemary Pitt, tel. 876968

Treasurer - Jack Sanderson, tel. 247072

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## **Talks**

Congratulations to those of you who braved the weather and the slippery conditions to come to the January meeting. We had over 50 turned out which was excellent considering the conditions. Those who came heard and excellent talk by Thelma Russell on felt and felt making. There were plenty of samples which demonstrated the versatility of what was essentially a very simple material.

Talks have now been arranged until July.

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>**                    **Peter Barron, Editor, Northern Echo “Cloudy, rain later”**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup>**                        **Joe West “Travels with a bus pass”**

April 7<sup>th</sup> Steve McAlister with Firemen and Women from Grangetown station "Heart Start"

May 5<sup>th</sup> Carol Hughes "Talk on the Hospice"

June 2<sup>nd</sup> "Organ Transplants" Speaker TBA.

July 7<sup>th</sup> Ann Coppick "Arm Chair Exercises"

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### **Middlesbrough U3A Members in Print**

Peter O'Brien, has brought out a second edition of his book "A Suitable Climate, The Basque Refugee Children at Hutton Hall, 1937-39". Available from 3 Belle Vue Grove, Middlesbrough TS4 2PU at a cost of £7.50, inc. p & p. (or at an unrepeatable price of £6.50 at U3A meetings.)

Linda Gallagher has recently brought out a book called "Memories of Stewart Park". She has compiled memories and photographs, from a range of people - memories of events, walks, courting, visits etc. showing the large part that Stewart Park has played in the life of the town and its inhabitants.

The book is beautifully produced and a good read evoking lots of memories. Contact Linda on 310039 for more information.

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### *Middlesbrough U3A Groups*

#### **Christmas Lunches 2009**

Heather kindly organised the luncheon club 'Christmas Do' at Middlesbrough College. We only had places for 30, but all were taken and much appreciated. Excellent lunch, especially the pudding, but I still do not enjoy crunchy carrots! Al dente, my foot! Nice little singsong after the meal.

The Walking Group visited Tocketts Mill for a 5/6mile Winter Walk followed by an excellent lunch. Again well attended and we were rewarded with a beautiful sunny day. A distant memory as I write this today looking out over piles of snow.

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#### **Lunch Club**

As mentioned above, Christmas Lunch at Middlesbrough College was a success and November Lunch club at Marton Country Club was enjoyed by those who went.

February Lunch Club will be at the Kings Head, Newton-under-Roseberry on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 12.30.

Contact Heather Walker on 274423 if you wish to come.

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# MIDDLESBROUGH **U3A** GROUPS

As at December 2009

If you would like to set up a group please consult our  
Groups Co-ordinator: Geoff Walker 274423

Day/Activity	Leaders	Phone	Location/Frequency
<b>Monday</b>			
Making Greeting Cards	Ruth Bartlett	829107	69, Cambridge Road, Linthorpe: Alt. weeks
Classical Music Appreciation	Donald Rudd	314585	Donald's house
Bridge for Returners	Gail Saunders	599009	Alternate weeks
Spanish	Marjorie Harrison	816454	Marjorie's house, 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mondays, 10.00 – 12.00 am
<b>Tuesday</b>			
Watercolour Painting	Ruth Hayton	828636	Linthorpe Comm.Centre Alt. Weeks 10-12am
Computers Beginners 1 To 1	Rosemary Pitt	876968	Age Concern. Afternoons
History	Mike McCann	592682	Easterside Library 10.00 – 12.00 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesdays
<b>Wednesday</b>			
Folk Music	Geoff Walker	274423	2 Stanhope Grove 2nd/4th Wed 2.30 - 4.00pm
Jazz Appreciation	David Smith	817071	David's house 2nd/4th Wed 10-12
Luncheon Club	Brian & Judith Richardson	814997	Monthly – Various venues – See NB
<b>Thursday</b>			
French	Marjorie Harrison	816454	Marjorie's house
Walks	Fred/Marilyn Wood	821090	Meet 9.30am at Natures World car park – see separate list for details (included in newsletter)
	Avrille/Mike McCann	592682	
	Hal Jackson	812600	
Theatre Studies	Barry Keane	272645	Marion Rd "Lodge" 2-4pm 1st/3rd Thurs
Computers Beginners 1 To 1	Rosemary Pitt	876968	Age Concern: Afternoons
<b>Friday</b>			
Real Ale Appreciation	Adrian Wright	813285	Approx 2 Monthly – Various venues check NB
Armchair Travellers	Jack Sanderson	247072	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday. Various venues
Quilting/Needlecrafts	Heather Walker	274423	27 Hawthorn Cres., Marton: Alt. Weeks, 10.30am
<b>No Specific Day</b>			
Behind the Scenes	Avrille McCann	592682	Various – check notices
Computers Class/Clinic	Alan Hunter	813633	Grove Hill Library - school terms only
Garden Plant Exchange	Patricia McTiernan	818811	Check notices/Clip board for plants to exchange

## **New Groups**

### **Knitting**

Pat Varley has started a knitting group. This will meet at Pat's house, 46 Topcliffe Road, Thornaby Fortnightly on Fridays from 10.00 am until lunch time. The meeting dates alternate with the Quilting and Needlecraft group so that you can belong to both groups if you wish. For further details, contact and dates of meetings, contact Pat on 885328.

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### **Industrial History**

Our region was in the forefront of the Industrial Revolution and has a rich industrial heritage.

The aim of this group is to explore the industrial developments of North East England from earliest times and to look at both the technological and social changes that resulted.

Possible topics include

- Coal mining - from seacoal to deep mines to closure
- Iron and steel - mining and processing
- Lead mining and smelting
- The origins and growth of the railways
- The importance of the rivers - especially the Tees, Wear and Tyne
- Ships and shipbuilding - from sail to steam and diesel

These are just some suggestions. If you have a topic you are particularly interested in, then please come along and suggest it.

It is hoped to meet twice a month but meeting dates have not yet been decided on. If you are interested please contact Geoff Walker on 274423.

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### **Village Hall Away Day**

We were unable to book Hutton-le-Hole Village Hall for June 26<sup>th</sup> so we have now booked Glaisdale Village Hall. Make a note of this in your diary. Last years event was enjoyed by all who went, so let's make this year's event as successful.

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# *Middlesbrough U3A Walks Spring 2010*

## **General information:**

Register at the start of all walks at Nature's World Car park at 9.30am. Bring a drink and light snack, or lunch if stated with you. Walking boots and waterproof/warm clothing are essential.

It has been decided by the walk leaders to have two walks per month, a shorter walk and a longer walk.

- **A shorter walk** will be 3-5miles.
- **A longer walk** will be 5-7miles.

**All walks** could involve some hill climbing, uneven terrain and maybe steps and stiles.

If you think the walk may be unsuitable for you, check with the walk leader in advance.

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**Thursday February 11th.            Out and about Osmotherley.**  
**Leader Mike.**

A lovely 4 mile walk to Cod Beck and return by Green Lane for refreshments in the village. Some climbing and in February expect mud in places.

**Thursday February 25th.            Along the River Tees**  
**Leaders Marilyn & Fred.**

A 5 mile walk from Yarm via Egglecliffe village along the river. Some field walking, a couple of stiles and one set of steps will be encountered. Not a difficult walk if conditions are favourable.

**Thursday March 11th.                Great Ayton Circular.**  
**Leader Hal.**

A 4 mile walk around and about the beautiful village of Great Ayton. We will be using well-established paths although it may well be muddy underfoot particularly on the field paths. Please take a picnic and a hot drink although there will be a café stop at the end of the walk for those in need.

**Thursday March 25th.                Cherry Hill Nurseries.**  
**Leaders Bob & Carolyn.**

Meet as normal at Nature's World but our 6 mile walk will start from St Clare's Church on Ladgate Lane. Newby village will be our first destination and then onto Cherry Hill. No climbing but again mud could be a problem. Take a snack and a drink.

**Thursday April 8th. Pinchinthorpe Country Park and Afar.  
Leader Mike.**

A lovely 4mile walk with great views of coast and countryside from the Visitor's Centre to the Hanging Stone using the dismantled railway track and field paths, returning via Hutton village. Some climbing, a couple of styles and mud in places. Refreshments afterwards at Windy Hill Garden Centre.

**Thursday April 22nd. A Walk in Gribdale.  
Leaders Bob & Carolyn.**

A good climb up to Captain Cook's Monument for hopefully glorious views over the Tees Valley and Cleveland Hills. This is a good 6mile walk which is rewarded by a stop at Kildale Tea shop for coffee and scones before your return.

**Thursday May 13th. A Bilsdale Experience.  
Leaders Bob & Carolyn.**

A 5mile spring walk in this beautiful dale. We will park in Chopgate and walk via Tripsdale and Sieve Green. The spring flowers should be spectacular at this time of the year. Take a drink and a snack. (the pub is not always open).

**Thursday May 27th. A Day at the Seaside.  
Leader Hal.**

A lot of coastal walking combined with a bit of inland countryside. This is a 5/6mile walk with some climbing and one steep descent. Please take a picnic lunch as we are going to take our time and enjoy the views. The small village of Lythe is our starting and finishing point.

**Contacts:**

Hal: 812600	Mike: 592682
Bob/Carol: 817293	Marilyn/Fred: 821090

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## *U3A Northumbria Region*

Bede of Jarrow U3A Art groups will be showing an exhibition of their work in the Central Library in South Shields from February 1<sup>st</sup> until March 8<sup>th</sup>.

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# *Beyond the U3A*

## **National Glass Centre, Sunderland**

### **Become an NGC Exhibitor for a month!**

The Friends' Plinth is a small exhibition showcase located in the reception area, which is supported and developed by the Friends of National Glass Centre.

The Friends of NGC are looking for any Friends, visitors, artists and makers, those with an interest in glass, art or history to put forward an Expression of Interest to display their object or work in the Friends' Plinth for a month.

For more details contact the NGC on 0191 515 5555 or email Alison.cleland@nationalglasscentre.com

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### **A Message from the Ambulance Service**

Most of us carry mobile phones with names and numbers stored in the memory. If we were to be involved in an accident or taken ill, someone attending would find the phone but would not know which number to call to inform the next of kin.

A paramedic came up with the idea of a number that he or others could recognise and has suggested that we should store a number labelled "ICE" (in case of emergency). In this case he, or whoever was first at the scene could quickly identify the correct number to call.

In the case of an emergency, the Emergency services could then dial the number you have called "ICE" and be confident they are reaching the right person. If there is more than one "ICE" number then call them "ICE1", "ICE2" etc.

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**The next Newsletter** will be on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2010. The weekend immediately preceding the meeting is Easter, so can I have your copy in by Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March so I able to compile the Newsletter and get it printed in time for the meeting.

*Geoff Walker*, Newsletter Editor.