

Chair's Bulletin of matters of interest for Ru3a members:-

- ❖ The next monthly meeting will take place at 10am on **Tuesday 8th September** at St Peter's. This month, the u3a will be mixing with stars of stage and screen with a talk by Graham Keal, an experienced interviewer, in a talk which is entitled "Oprah Winfrey touched my elbow ". His other interviewees have included Eric Morcombe, Liz Hurley, Sir David Attenborough, Keith Floyd and many more. We do not know if they touched his elbow or not. Come along and find out.
- ❖ **Day Trips: National Memorial Arboretum, 12 November 2026.** This visit, on the day after Remembrance Day, is not to be missed. It is provocative, emotional and a celebration of all that is best in humanity. Tickets for the coach from Ravenshead will be available at the **8th September Monthly Meeting** and **online from 9am** on that date using **Ticket Tailor**. A link to the site is here <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/ravensheadu3a>
- ❖ **Ticket Tailor Tutorial:** You don't need to be a computer whiz to use Ticket Tailor. Just click on the Link above and follow the online prompts. It has been thoroughly tested and we're really excited about it going live next Tuesday for both the Christmas lunch and the National Memorial Arboretum visit. A QR Code link is shown at the end of this Bulletin if you prefer this way to access the site.
- ❖ **Christmas Meal: Tuesday 8th December.** You can book and pay at the 8th September Monthly Meeting or online using Ticket Tailor. The meal is at the Hostess, Mansfield. The village bus is available to book at the same time.
- ❖ **U3a Day- Friday 25th September:** join us from 11am until 2pm at Ravenshead Village Hall for the annual showcase of the range of activities on offer through the u3a and tea/coffee and biscuits. There will be entertainment – a really good musical duo – and friendly chat. **Bring someone**, a family member, neighbour or friend who does not belong to the u3a with you as this is a wonderful opportunity to recruit new people to join us.

❖ **Holidays 2027: Scotland.** Leaves 1st October 2027 for 7 days and 6 Nights. Staying at the Duke of Gordon Hotel, Kingussie, with coach operator, Cairngorm Travel. Cost about £539 per person with a range of visits to different (to the April trip) attractions included. £100 deposit payable to Cairngorm Travel needed **now** to secure a place. Likely visits include a Loch cruise, visit to a distillery and a tour of the Black Watch Museum.

❖ **Volunteering opportunities (by Frances Leyshon)**

Comms Team: we are pleased to announce that the Comms Team is now official and currently has four members who, between them, cover Social Media (Facebook, Instagram and the Ru3a [YouTube channel](#)), the Ru3a [website](#), facilitate group leaders to share news of their activities, and handle write-ups for local press. **A message to Group Leaders:** where, in the past, you sent reports to John Butler for inclusion in the Newsletter, there will be a link on the [Contacts](#) page of the website for you to send your reports for sharing. Please do keep them coming.

The Comms Team have a lot of tech expertise between them but would welcome someone with **graphics experience** to join them to share the work-load.

Committee: your committee is working really hard on multiple levels; the introduction of Ticket Tailor has facilitated the re-launch of Trips but hasn't happened overnight; we are currently very busy organising our Open Day later this month; not to mention the day-to-day work that keeps our u3a running.

To achieve these things, most of us are covering more than one committee role.

We recognise that not everyone wants to make the commitment to be a Trustee, but we who are Trustees desperately need some support from you, the members.

Could you help by becoming an Assistant? We are looking at various committee roles to see if they could be managed as job-shares to make them more attractive; for example, the **Membership Secretary** would like to be able to call on someone to help at the busiest times (mainly membership renewal time), so not necessarily a year-round commitment. If you think you could help, please talk to Sue Warner, or any member of the committee; we would be so grateful.

❖ News From the Groups (by Anne Eldridge)

1. NEW GROUP – RAVENSHEAD READERS We have a new reading group. Ravenshead Readers will meet on the second Monday in the month, starting on the 12th October. The group will be covering various genres, novels, biographies etc. If you need any more information, can you contact one of the Group Leaders, Louise Fanfarillo and Sue Warner, via the website.

2. EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST These are groups that I am hoping to set up in the future. If you are interested, please let me know and I will add your name to the list. No obligation if you change your mind later.

1.1. Walking & Social 4/5 miles. The proposed aim of this group is for members to take it in turns to organise walks that start and end at a café or a pub! Exercise and social – what's not to like?

1.2. Soft Tennis. Ideal for the 'not quite so energetic' members as it is slower and there's less distance to run! This game is played with tennis rackets and larger foam balls on a court with lowered nets. Same rules as tennis.

1.3. Book Group 2. A Planning Meeting has been organised for 14th August. For more information, please contact Group Leaders, Louise Fanfarillo or Sue Warner.

1.4. Chess &/or Backgammon. Interested in playing either or both?

1.5. Beer Appreciation. Pretty obvious what this group will do. Cheers!

1.6. Fitness with Dance. Gentle exercise with a few basic dance moves.

Winter Croquet. I am sorry to have to tell you that this proposed group will not now be able to go ahead. I know this will be disappointing to you, but it is due to issues beyond my control.

Michael Williams, Chair, Ravenshead u3a

QR Code to Ticket Tailor

