



The Sentinel

The newsletter of Balsall Common U3A

Editor Len Tomnie

April 2019

Talks.

On the 4th April there will be a talk on "Caving" given by Keith Edwards. On the 9th May it will be the Annual General Meeting, which will be followed by 'Immortalised in Print - one writer's experience of self-publishing', by Chris Burleigh.

Film Group

On the 8th May "Slumdog Millionaire." A Mumbai teen reflects on his upbringing in the slums when he is accused of cheating on the Indian Version of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?"

The film starts at 1.45pm. in The Westlake Room at the rear of the Village Hall.

A clear conscience is the sure sign of a bad memory

Can you bring your skills to the Committee?

Balsall Common U3A is organised by a voluntary committee of local members.

The full committee should be 12 strong but only 7 are standing for re-election at the AGM.

We urgently need to recruit you with your lifetime skills to help the committee.

Each committee member brings their own experience to help run the branch, whether it is arranging the hall, organising the catering, providing the secretariat, or keeping the branch's finances on an even keel.

Each member is elected annually and can serve for up to 5 years. Committee meetings which are held in the Westlake Room, involve about an hour and a half every other month.

If you would like to find out more about being a committee member for Balsall Common U3A, please ask me or any other of the Committee members at our monthly core meetings.

Jim Melville 01676 534938

I may not have lost all my marbles yet, but there's a small hole in the bag somewhere.

Balsall Common U3A Annual General meeting 9 May 2019

Please note that our Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 9th May 2019 at 2pm, in St. Peter’s Hall, Holly Lane, Balsall Common prior to the Core Meeting.

Elections will be held and you may nominate any fully paid-up member for a position on the Executive Committee. A proforma is attached below. Existing committee members are eligible for re-election (except for Lynn Brinkworth who has completed the maximum of 5 years) and the constitution allows for additional members. New committee members are most welcome. Individual roles and responsibilities will be agreed at the first meeting of the new committee, immediately following the AGM.

In addition, any member is entitled to propose a resolution, seconded by another member, for consideration at the AGM. A proforma is attached below.

Nominations for Committee Members and/or proposed resolutions should be sent to me at either of the addresses below by Wednesday, 3rd April.

A formal notice of the AGM, including nominations, previous minutes, resolutions, and Officers’ reports, will be sent to all members at least three weeks before the meeting.

Margaret Burleigh
Business Secretary

□.....
.....

Balsall Common U3A Annual General meeting 9 May 2019

| Committee Nominee | Proposed by | Seconded by |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | |
| Nominee’s signature | Proposer’s signature | Seconder’s signature |
| | | |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Resolution to be proposed: | |
| | |
| Proposed by | |
| Proposer’s signature | |
| Seconded by | |
| Seconder’s signature | |

Please complete & return by 3rd April to:
Margaret Burleigh (Business Secretary), 8 Burleigh Close,
Balsall Common CV7 7NZ or secretary@balsallcommonu3a.org

Table Tennis

As the table tennis group on Fridays is full, a new group is being considered, this will depend on the number of people interested.

Due to the limited availability of the Methodist Hall this group will take place on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 12 to 1p.m. No previous experience is necessary and all equipment is provided. If you would like to join this group send an email to len.tomnie@gmail.com



Out and About Group Visits

Thursday 11th April 2019 – Combined guided visits of Lord Leycester Hospital Warwick in the morning (11:00 am) and afternoon (14:00) of Collegiate Church of St Mary in Warwick. Will members who have indicated they wish to go on this tour please ensure they pay their £8.00 each to Peter Calver by the April Core Meeting.

Thursday May 2nd – Tour of the Police Museum at Coventry Police Station. This guided tour will start at 10:00 am and last 1½ hours. Unfortunately there is only room for 10 members to attend. I will announce the trip at the April Core Meeting and open the bookings then. I expect this trip to be interesting so I will try and repeat it later in the year. There is no cost but a donation on the day would be appreciated.

For further details please contact petercalver@outlook.com or telephone 01676 535318.

Listen, smile, agree.. Then do whatever you were going to do anyway.-

Out and About Trip Report

On Thursday March 14th 20 U3A members visited the MAD museum in Stratford upon Avon. The Museum is dedicated to mechanical art, specifically known as Kinetic Art and Automata. These moving sculptures have been created by inventors, artists, technicians and engineers from around the world. Our members enjoyed pushing the button to start the models moving and then marvelled at the ingenuity that had gone into design and building of each unit.

I don't think inside the box and I don't think outside the box... I don't even know where the box is.

Computer Training Course

Solihull Widney U3A are organising another series of Computer Training Courses for beginners and improvers.

Balsall Common U3A members are welcome to attend.

The courses to be held at the Tudor Grange Academy, Solihull starting mid-April and last for 10 weeks.

For full information including enrolment details please follow this link: <http://www.balsallcommonu3a.org/news.htm>"

Fraud

The U3A Trust is aware of the ever increasing threat of fraudulent incidents affecting U3As including:

Bogus cheques allegedly issued by a U3A (using the same cheque numbers as the authentic cheques)

- Bogus emails to U3A committee members asking them to approve payments
- Bogus invoices being submitted
- Bogus phone calls

This is not an exhaustive list and we will continue to publicise guidance and reminders about how to deal with such matters.

U3A is a supporter of Take Five, a national campaign that offers straight-forward and impartial advice to help everyone protect themselves from preventable financial fraud. For more advice and information go to <https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/>

To find out how you can get involved with Take Five's campaign go to <https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/take-five-tea/>

Balsall Common U3A Website.

The website is a useful source of information on our U3A with items such as details of the activity groups, the core meeting programmes, and you can even read The Sentinel on there. Keep in touch with the U3A by visiting the website on a regular basis. www.balsallcommonu3a.org

Balsall Common U3A and Amazon

Balsall Common U3A is a member of Amazon, affiliation programme.

This means if you go to Amazon by clicking on the link on the Home page of Balsall Common U3A's web site www.balsallcommonu3a.org, the U3A will receive up to 6%, of your purchase value at no cost to yourself. The link to Amazon is at the bottom of the home page of the web site just above the photograph taken at a core meeting.

Balsall Common U3A will only be credited if you access Amazon through the link on our website.

If you know of any member who is in hospital, ill at home or bereaved, please inform a committee member and, if appropriate we will arrange to contact the member.