

UPPER BANN U3A NEWSLETTER

www.upperbannu3a.com

January 2016



Proposed New Activities for 2016

Training on digital devices

There was a high level of interest expressed in the proposed training on digital devices. Thank you for your responses. The current range of skills is wide and varied and the Committee is working with 02 to draw up an action plan which will provide training for all. We hope to convene meetings early in the new year to establish venues, dates and the content of each training session.

If you have not already indicated your interest in training it is not too late as an invitation to attend meetings will be extended to all members.



Sing-a-long

Once again this proposed activity seems to be of interest to many.

As yet there has been no agreement on venue, frequency, time etc. A meeting is planned for January when such matters will be agreed. Further details later.

EXISTING ACTIVITIES

Existing activities will recommence in the week beginning Monday 4th January, unless agreed otherwise with conveners. Social dancing taken by a professional teacher, is held in Portadown Golf Club on Thursday at 2.00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

The Gardening Club

(Report by Norman Pearson)

The Gardening club continues to "grow" with strong interest and support from members.

At our last meeting Mr. Alan Chambers gave an informative and wide ranging talk on gardening topics with a Christmas slant and demonstrated how to assemble Christmas wreaths and arrangements.

There was a question and answer session and an opportunity to purchase a variety of gifts brought along by Alan. The meeting ended with tea and mince pies.



Shopping Trip to Dublin

Despite the poor weather, a group of fourteen members travelled by train to Dublin on 9th December. The travellers headed straight to the Church Bar and Restaurant in Henry Street where Ena had pre-booked lunch.

The venue, the former St. Mary's Church of Ireland is one of the earliest examples of a galleried church in Dublin and it lay derelict for a number of years until it was purchased in 1997. Following extensive restoration over a seven year period, this List 1 building finally re-opened its doors in December 2005 and is a unique bar and restaurant.

After lunch, shopping was high on the agenda.

Monthly Get-Together

The January Monthly Get-together will be held on Tuesday 19th January at 2.00 pm in Lurgan Town Hall (upstairs). Pat Flowerday will give a talk on her recent Iceland/North Sea Expedition Cruise. This should prove to be a very interesting talk. Refreshments will be served. All members are welcome.

Luncheon Club

The January Luncheon Club will meet at the Seagoe Hotel Portadown on Thursday 28th January at 12.30 pm. If you are interested in attending please text Frances 07715046187 or email fmckeown@ionology.com before 22nd January.

The Strident Strollers

Dates for the diary of all strollers

Portadown Towpath - Jan 05,
Dungannon Park. - Jan 12,
The Argory. - Jan 19,
Scarva Towpath - Jan 26,

Strollers meet for coffee after the walk.
Everyone is welcome!



The Strident Strollers pause for a photograph during their walk from Cultra to Hollywood.

The walk took place during a dry spell and despite the cold and the winds the walk was most enjoyable. The group had brunch in Hollywood before returning by train to Portadown.



French for Improvers will recommence on Wednesday 6th January in Lurgan Minor Town Hall at 10.00 am.

Inter-U3A Quiz 2016

Back by popular demand the inter-U3A quiz will take place on **Tuesday 9th February 2016** in **Robinson's Bar** (opposite the Europa bus/train station)

A sit-down lunch will be held at **12.30 am** in the upstairs restaurant (Lift from ground floor through the bar). The quiz will take place at **1.45 pm** in the **basement disco room** (stairs only from ground floor).

As before, 4 members to a table, £12.50 per person.

Please choose your meal from the menu below, stating any special dietary requirements.

The meal includes a Glass of Wine or Soft Drink and Tea/ Coffee

- 1) Traditional Irish Stew (with a crusty roll/butter)
- 2) Ulster Fry
- 3) Caramelised Red Onion, Cranberry & Brie Tart (with crisp salad)
- 4) Pork & Leek Sausages (with champ & roast onion gravy)
- 5) Chicken Goujons (with chunky chips & sweet chilli sauce)
- 6) Beef Shepherd's Pie (topped with traditional champ)
- 7) Bistro Burger (with bap, oakwood cheese, homemade relish & chunky chips)
- 8) Cajun Chicken Fillet Burger (with bap, oakwood cheese, BBQ sauce & chunky chips)
- 9) Homemade Lasagne
- 10) Beer Battered Cod & Chips (with homemade tartare sauce)

For booking details visit www.u3ani.info.com



Twelve people braved the elements today for an end of year walk in Lurgan park. It was a little windy but the rain stayed away. Some paths were a bit squelchy underfoot but we didn't care. Everyone enjoyed being out and about again and back in the company of U3A friends.



Bridge club members enjoyed a competition followed by a Christmas Lunch at Portadown Golf Club. A big thank you to the group convenor Gordon Lunn, assisted by Maureen Carroll and bridge teacher Tom Young.



CHRISTMAS DINNER 2015 AT ARMAGH CITY HOTEL





