

FEBRUARY 2016

# U3A NEWSLETTER

[www.upperbannu3a.com](http://www.upperbannu3a.com)



## **You Never Can Tell** By George Bernard Shaw

Twenty one members of Upper Bann U3A braved the elements on Saturday 30th January and boarded the early morning train to Dublin with a view to attending the matinee performance of George Bernard Shaw's play 'You Never Can Tell'. This was a wonderful comedy celebrating the works of one of Ireland's greatest writers.

Mrs. Clandon returned to England with her unruly teenage twins and forthright daughter having lived abroad for 18 years. Upon their return they set up residence in a seaside hotel. Their new life became increasingly complicated by her estranged husband and a love-struck dentist. The intervention by the hotel waiter helped the family to resolve some of their problems and live happily ever after!!!!



The history of the Linen Industry in Upper Bann



Plunkett Campbell will give a talk on the history of the Linen Industry in the Upper Bann area at the 'Get-together' on Tuesday 19th February in Lurgan Town Hall at 2.00 pm.



Refreshments will be served. Everyone welcome!

## SINGALONG WITH FRIENDS



(Report and photograph supplied by Tom Young)

Nineteen members from our U3A turned up for an inaugural meeting on Tuesday 26th January in Brownlow library. This group displayed great enthusiasm and throughout the meeting they were all chomping at the bit to burst into song. Some people even seemed to know their voice range - words like soprano, alto, etc, were being bandied about. Any minute now I could see a demand for auditions.

It was agreed there will be a range of fun songs from well known musicals, pop classics, Irish and Scottish folk, opera (only kidding), etc. As Alix was saying "The aim is to be gleeful."

Diane Hillis has kindly agreed to be the group convener, pianist and Singalong Mistress and this was greatly appreciated by all at the meeting - a brave challenge considering the "scary" group in front of her.

It was agreed at the meeting that the singing group will meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday in the month from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm at Portadown Golf club.

## ICELANDIC EXPEDITION CRUISE

The name "Iceland" may well excite some bargain hunters intent on stocking up their freezers but for 60 U3A members treated to Pat Flowerday's presentation last month, Iceland now conjures up images of hot springs and geysers, northern lights and coloured roofs, volcanic lava fields and spectacular waterfalls, plunging fjords and barren deserts, of a rich bird life and an amazing marine environment where Pat and her cruising companions encountered a huge variety of whales including the minke, fin, sperm, humpback and blue.

Pat's evident passion and enthusiasm for life and for wildlife, her humour and wit, coupled with her beautiful relaxed delivery, allowed us to join her on that cruise, to be buoyed by her enthusiasm and to perhaps add an 'Icelandic Cruise' to our bucket list.



The Portadown Male Choir has kindly agreed to allow our U3A singers to use their piano.

The cost to members wishing to attend will be £1.00/pp for the hire of the room and £1.00 for morning tea/coffee. From time to time there may be a request for a small amount of extra money to cover copyright fees, photocopying of song sheets, etc..

Mary and Helen have kindly offered to bring a few biscuits to the first get together. It was generally agreed that this task should be rotated.

The first Singalong will be on Tuesday 9th February at 10.00 am in Portadown Golf Club.

It is hoped that many more members will be able to attend because the "craic", will be mighty if painful on the ears.







## TRAINING IN DIGITAL DEVICES

There was a huge response to the survey of members relating to training on digital devices. Accordingly, careful planning is essential if we are to deliver a quality programme to meet all needs.

The Committee is currently engaged in drawing up structures, identifying suitable venues and finalising support from external agencies. We are considering starting off in February with a small number within a pilot scheme and then monitoring and evaluating progress in order to successfully move forward. We hope to meet the training needs of all our members, though this may take considerable time.

If you are among the participants It is important that you provide us with the relevant information when requested e.g. type of device you use, skill level etc. so that appropriate groupings can be formed.

## *Easy Riders befriend a Lough Neagh Fisherman at Derrytrasna (Below)*



## *The January Luncheon Club dined at the Seagoe Hotel Restaurant*



## *The watercolour art group meet at Brownlow Library Monday 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm*

