

THE INFORMER

Editor: Anne Santos

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Chairman: Mary Dawson

Dear Member -

I do not think our new Chairman, Mary Dawson, needs any introduction. Mary is already an active member of our group.

Perhaps those who attended our one and only Quiz night will recall she was the excellent Quiz Master and also the organizer of the most enjoyable supper we had.

On page 2 the 2011/12 committee members are listed together with their appropriate remits. With a new Chairman and 3 new members co-opted onto the committee I am confident that the future for BC U3A is secure.

I have also used this issue to inform new members and to remind established members of our Insurance liability etc.

Regards,

Anne

On April 18th 2011 at the AGM, Mary Dawson, became the second Chairman of the Balsall Common U3A group. In her inaugural message she said:

"Our thanks are due to Anne for her extremely hard work, research, enthusiasm and dedication in establishing what has become a healthy, vibrant society.

I am delighted that Anne is now Life President of Balsall Common U3A.

In taking up the Chair, I hope to further encourage the progression of our U3A with existing and new members all of whom will be given a friendly welcome with encouragement to support the Group Co-ordinators in the many varied activities. New Group Co-ordinators will also be given full support – so if you feel you could establish a new interest group - possibly with a partner, please do come forward and members will be encouraged to join you."



Mary Dawson (right), Chairman of Balsall Common U3A present Anne Santos with a Life Presidency award.

Your Committee for 2011/2012

**Committee meetings on the following dates . 28th June;
27th September; 13th December and 27th March (2012)
If you have an item or issue you would like brought before the committee
contact either the Chairman or Secretary prior to the meeting.**

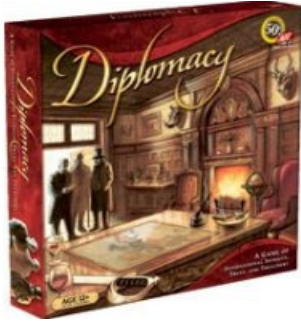
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|--|-----------------|----------------------|
| Chairman | Mary Dawson | |
| Vice Chairman / Speakers Secretary | Sheila Burdett | |
| Treasurer | Peter Westlake | |
| Assistant Treasurer | Richard Davis | |
| Secretary | Peter Driffield | |
| Assistant Secretary /Minutes Secretary | Geoff Kennedy | |
| Publicity Officer | | Anne Santos |
| Administration Officer | Martin Richards | |
| Assistant Administration Officer | | Roger Freeman |
| Equipment Officer | | Roger Freeman |
| Safety / Fire Officer | | Roger Freeman |
| Interest Group Liaison Officer | | Marie-Louise Marsden |
| Diary Organiser / Pony Express Organiser | Pam Moss | |
| Web Master | | Peter Calver |
| Assistant Speakers Secretary | | Sandra Heard |

**The Third Age Trust
has an arrangement with First As-
sist to provide legal advise to U3A
Members. It is a free service,
just phone 01455 251 500.
You will require a code
number from Peter Driffield.**

Data Protection Act 1998
Personal Details of members are kept on
computers for administrative purposes of
the activities of the BCU3A and National
U3A. They will not be disclosed to a third
party and will be deleted when a member
Resigns.

DIARY DATES

**If you wish to include a date/venue/event please contact
Pam Moss: 01676 523590**



The Diplomacy Group has completed it's 'Winter Campaigns' and is now on Summer recess.

We all have more attractive outdoor pursuits

during the next few months!

There are no 'fanatics' in our group (thank goodness!) just a core of 6 of us who enjoy good company and an opportunity to (hopefully) out think each other in terms of diplomacy and strategy.

We shall return to our ' Theatre of War ' in September - 3rd morning of the month, 10 o'clock sharp, military operations demand punctuality! New members always welcome.

Find out more by contacting me on
(T) 533877 (M) 07753 636315.

Regards

Phil Hammonds



WRITING

We would welcome new members to join us.

Expand your creativity

In writing.

We try to do this through guidance

In instant writing.

and

Through all categories of writing—

Short stories,

Articles

Poetry

Etc

We discuss writers and
books

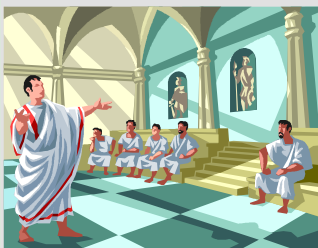
We are a friendly welcoming

Group.

And

We also take time off for coffee and a
chat

Co-coordinator Anne Santos
534003



SOCIAL & POLITICAL HISTORY—
COORDINATOR—GEOFF KENNEDY (T 535094)

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME
WE MEET 3RD MONDAY IN THE MONTH
2-00PM VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ROOM



NEW GROUPS—If you have any ideas
re a new group or you would like to start a
group then contact Mary Dawson on 532467

PLAY READING &
DRAMA WORKSHOP

2ND MONDAY IN THE MONTH
2-00PM TO 4-00PM

INTERESTED
CONTACT AUDREY DAVIES
532179

Margaret Green gave me this piece and I put it in an earlier newsletter—I think it is worth a repeat!

YOUTH is not a time of life. It is a state of mind. It is not a matter of ripe cheeks, red lips and supple knees, but a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a vigour of the emotions. It is a freshness of the deep springs of life. Youth means a temperamental predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over the love of ease. This often exists in a man of fifty more than a boy of twenty.

Nobody grows old merely by living a number of years. People grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair, these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust.

Whether seventy or seventeen, there is in every being's heart the love of wonder, the sweet amazement of the stars, and star like things and thoughts; the undaunted challenge of events, the unfailing and childlike appetite for "What's next?" and the joy and game of life.

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hope, as old as your despair.

While the central place of your heart receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer, courage, grandeur and power from the earth, from men, from the Infinite - so long you are young.

When the central place of your heart is covered with the snow of pessimism and the ice of cynicism, then you are grown old indeed, and may God have mercy on your soul.

**SECRETARY SCRATCHINGS
A REMINDER**

INSURANCE PUBLIC LIABILITY: All local U3As are covered by Public Liability Insurance to a limit of £10,000,000 arising from one incident or series of incidents. This protects members of the U3A against claims arising from injury or damage for which the members are found **legally liable**.

This cover applies when groups hold meetings in members' houses.

It must be remembered that the Public Liability Insurance is not an automatic Personal Accident Insurance

and if accidents occur when out walking or taking part in any other type of outdoor activity it would have to be

shown that the U3A, its agents or members had been in some way negligent in causing injury to the victim.

If a non-member or family member e.g. grand-child attends on a one-off basis only they are covered.

Similarly a carer who attends with a member with the permission of the Group Leader is covered.

Any member who intends to undertake any high-risk activity on behalf of the U3A should first advise me so

that I can:-

Seek advice from U3A Headquarters and cease reading obituaries for a while!

Seriously though please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries about U3A Insurance.

INSURANCE ALL RISKS: U3A owned equipment is insured as follows:-

New for Old

Property covered in transit

Property covered when left in an unattended vehicle providing it is locked in the boot and out of sight and the vehicle is locked

£50 excess

If we do have property stolen we will need to show "demonstrable forced entry" It is therefore important that we

do not rely solely on a Yale lock which, I am assured, can be very easily slipped