

News Flash

Your regular newsletter from Ilkley & District u3a

Issue 24.10 15th May 2024

Summer Programme bookings now open

Over 30 different talks, visits and activities from June to August. [Full details on this link.](#)

Here's the links to the first four events in June.

- Monday 17th June: [A visit to Holbeck an inner suburb of Leeds.](#)
- Tuesday 25th June: [A presentation 'Who killed Van Gogh'](#) (2 pm in Clarke Foley).
- Wednesday 26th June: [A presentation 'Born of Fire' Galapagos Islands](#) (10:30 am Clarke Foley).
- Thursday 27th June: [Fun with Handbell Ringing.](#) (2 pm in Otley).

To book, login to the website and select the links provided. Some events have limited capacity so early booking is advisable. If you're not comfortable booking online, you can book by post (u3a summer programme c/o Clarke Foley, LS29 9DZ) or at one of our drop-ins. ([Details here.](#))

Gift Aid u3a subscriptions to boost our income

As a registered charity, we're able to reclaim (from the Government) 25% of each £15 paid to us by way of membership subscriptions. Well over half of our members already gift aid their subscription.

So, if you pay UK tax and can sign an eligibility declaration, please help to boost our income. You can now do this online in just a few minutes. Login to the website and then [please select here](#) to read the eligibility statement and register now. Thank you.

Attention Group Leaders!

If you haven't yet booked a table at the [showcase event on 15th June](#), please do so now. Either use the registration button on the recent email or write to showcase@ilkleyu3a.org giving details of your group. [Pictures from last year's event on this link.](#)

Also, please take this opportunity to see how the guidance for running groups is now all in one place on the website. Login, select 'For Members' and then 'Managing a Group' towards the bottom of the page. Alternatively, [select this link for direct access.](#) This is also where you can access contact details for your group members. We will shortly be providing a printed guide to this page.

New Group updates

Board Games in Otley

A group for people interested in sharing their love of different board games in a social setting. The games could be Catan, Pandemic, Scrabble, Cluedo or anything else you'd like to bring along to play with others.

The emphasis is on fun. We'll meet fortnightly on a Monday between 10am and 12 noon in the foyer at The Courthouse, Courthouse Street Otley. The first session is **Monday 20th May**, then Monday 3rd June and so on. if you're interested, please email Sheila Brett shebre1959@gmail.com even if you can't make the first meeting.

Song Writing

Are you a budding songwriter and happy to work on developing songs with other like-minded people in a collaborative group? We would like to see whether there's any interest in starting up a song writing group (maximum of 10 people) meeting once a month to share ideas, work on song themes and support each other to write original songs.

It would be preferable if you can play an instrument although it might be possible to accommodate a couple of non-musicians in the group. Logistics such as venue, date, and time etc. to be agreed later. Contact Lee Wellbrook lee.wellbrook@gmail.com to express an interest. Please provide any other relevant details such as past experience, instruments played, preferred dates to meet etc.

Go with - Otley

The idea is to create a group of u3a friends around Otley who would like to support each other by sharing experiences and activities. No need ever again to be put off going to the theatre or the cinema because you don't want to go on your own. Interested but live too far from Otley? Enquire anyway and we could look into starting groups in other areas too.

Please email chair@ilkleyu3a.org and we'll see if there's enough interest to proceed.

Group updates!

Online courses Included in our membership is the opportunity to join a series of online events run by our parent body, the Third Age Trust. [Select here for the latest offerings.](#)

The Story of the Workhouse (online) This is an online presentation by one of our own members, Peter Higginbotham. Learn about welfare in England before 1948 with this online lecture **10 am Friday 17th May**. [Booking now open on this link](#). Listen to an interview with Peter on the latest edition of the u3a podcast. [Select here](#).

Diary dates

Drop-in from **10:30 am to 12 noon 17th May at Clarke Foley. Silsden 23rd May, Addingham 5th June and Otley 14th June.** Full details on this [link to our website](#).

Saturday Talk 10 am 18th May. Our habitable planet, is it the only one? [Details here](#).

Silsden Repair Café Saturday morning 18th May at the Methodist Church BD20 0PA. Regularly held every month but for May they can collect old smart phones, tablets, or laptops. [Details on this link](#). (No need to log in to Facebook to see information.)

Meet for coffee in Otley. Monday morning 20th May. [Details here](#).

Learn about the hydro at Ben Rhydding. A talk by u3a member Mike Dixon at Ilkley Manor House **10:15 am Friday 31st May.** [Details and booking on this link](#).

D Day 80th anniversary Otley Town Council in partnership with The Otley Courthouse and the Otley Film Society are showing 'Saving Private Ryan' on the **6th of June 2024 at 7pm** and 'The Longest Day' on the **6th of June at 2pm.** [Details and booking on this link](#).

u3a Showcase 10:30 am until 1 pm Saturday 15th June, Clarke Foley. An opportunity to meet the trustees, group leaders and find new things to try in the weeks and months ahead. [Details here](#).

Updates from our Social Media postings

The following links open on our Facebook page. Anyone can access. You don't need an account.

[Northern Towns visit to Thirsk](#) Good planning meant keeping an eye on the weather forecast and a last-minute change to the itinerary. So, the group visited the Birds of Prey centre in the dry before getting rain soaked in Thirsk. The pictures paint their own story!

[A thank you supper for volunteers](#). Our trustees really appreciate the efforts made by leaders of our groups and the many other helpers who keep our u3a so vibrant. To express appreciation in a tangible way, they hosted a thank you supper last Friday at Clarke Foley. Select the link for photographs. To quote one invitee, "***there are takers and givers in any group***". So, thank you to the givers!

Our Facebook pages don't only cover u3a events. You may be interested in this item on peregrine falcons nesting on University of Leeds's Parkinson Building: [Select here to read more](#).

Send a few pictures of group activities and a few sentences to Helen (helen@saltedit.co.uk). She will arrange post on our social media accounts and copy will subsequently feature in News Flash.

Ilkley Gazette Scrapbook

Another edition from the archive [to be read here](#). Restoration of White Wells, Fire Brigade HQ relocated, Addingham St Peters re-opens and much more. Didn't realise they pulled down a church to build flats on Wells Road. Imagine the fuss that would create today!

Market Place for u3a members

[Select this link](#) and then login to the website to read the latest entries. Click on the name of the poster to reveal their details and make contact. This is a member only facility requiring website login to access. Offers include **an opportunity to attend a film premiere at Ilkley cinema.** [Details here](#) after logging in.

Post your own items. Just use the above link or look under the News Tab on the website.

Random thoughts

Q. What kind of music do killer whales like? **A. They like listening to the orca-stra!**

Q. Where do sharks go for their summer holidays? **A. Finland.**

Q. Why should you never punish a dolphin for being naughty? **A. They don't do it on porpoise.**

Best wishes

John & Christine

Email: Newsflash@ilkleyu3a.org

Ilkley Pool and Lido Community Group

This recently formed group have asked us to promote their activities by inviting members to look at their website [on this link](#). They are particularly keen to hear the views of local members. [See this link to a questionnaire.](#)

Congratulations to our member, Rob Mooney

Rob had an honourable mention in the recent (national) u3a poetry competition. His poem was in the 'top 10'. [Read his poem on this link.](#)

[Learn about the competition and read other entries here.](#)