

u3a Day tea parties at Clarke Foley Wednesday 2nd June 2021

These pictures were taken during two tea party events held in Clarke Foley at 2 pm and 3:30 pm on Wednesday 2nd June.

Members were invited to bring a guest as a way of introducing them to the fellowship that u3a provides. It was also the first official u3a event held since our emergence from tight COVID restrictions.

Observance of social distancing rules meant we had to limit attendance to just 50 at each of the two sittings.

Only in Yorkshire would a 2pm tea include pork pies. No one was complaining!



u3a celebrates the power of learning, laughing and living

By Claire Lomax

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THE easing of Covid-19 pandemic restrictions are being celebrated in style by Ilkley & District u3a as it marks the first u3a Day on Wednesday, June 2, amid a week of local events.

Usually meeting face to face to expand interests and socialise, u3a members have been keeping in touch by learning to meet on Zoom, chat on Facebook and link-up via WhatsApp.

But with the end of the virus roadmap in sight, they are taking the opportunity of the first u3a day to shout about what the organisation offers in any way they can. So, look out for music and town centre displays at the markets in Ilkley and Otley, social media projects and local newspaper features.

To celebrate u3a Day on June 2, Ilkley & District u3a is encouraging its members to "bring a friend along" for free afternoon tea at the Clarke Foley Centre in Ilkley.

You can also meet u3a ambassadors at the Butter-

cross at Otley on Friday, June 4, and at the Ilkley Real Food Market on Sunday, June 6.

A u3a spokesperson said: "Come for a chat and find out more about the u3a, while enjoying musical entertainment provided by the Tuesday Tappers and other u3a musicians.

"The end of this week marks the last chance for the public to enter the free prize draw by voting for their favourite image in the online u3a photographic exhibition. Flyers explaining how to vote will be handed out at all the event venues above."

Founded in 1982, u3a is a UK-wide collection of locally-run groups that provide a wide range of opportunities for retired and semi-retired people to come together to learn for fun.

With the motto of "learn, laugh and live", members enjoy exploring new ideas, skills and activities together in an organisation that combats loneliness head on.

Ilkley & District u3a has been thriving since it started in 1997 and now has more



The Clarke Foley Centre in Ilkley is the venue for a u3a afternoon tea on June 2

than 1,600 members who participate in more than 140 activity groups, many of which have kept going via Zoom throughout the pandemic. Membership only costs £13.50 a year and is open to everyone who is no longer in full-time work.

If you would like to find out about all Ilkley & District u3a's activities, then come along to Otley Buttercross on June 4, Ilkley Real Food Market on June 6, or attend a drop-in on the first and third Friday morning of the month at the Clarke Foley Centre in

Cunliffe Road, Ilkley.

For full details go to the website at ilkleyu3a.org and follow the links.

Also find the Ilkley and District u3a group on Facebook at facebook.com/Ilkley-U3A/ and Twitter at twitter.com/IlkleyU3A.







