

Summer programme continues into autumn

The response to our virtual Summer Programme has been great, so we've decided to give you more. Four events have already been added to the calendar for September:

- **10:30 am Thursday 17 September:** Join Northern Towns Group for a quiz with a twist. Includes 'spot that tune' and a bit of virtual socialising.
- **10:30 am Saturday 19 September:** The Saturday Talk returns with Andy Botherway presenting the extraordinary story of Brunelleschi and the Dome of Santa Maria del Fiore.
- **10:30 am Wednesday 23 September:** A meeting for members who have joined U3A in the past year or so. A chance to hear from the Chair and other Trustees about the organisation and to ask questions.
- **2:30 pm Thursday 24 September:** Learn about St. Pancras Station. A magnificent, innovative building now functioning in a way its creators could never have imagined.

For more information and to book your place, [select here](#). Publicity and bookings for more events will be on the website front page 3 to 4 weeks ahead of their dates.

We are also looking for volunteers to offer talks or quizzes or anything else you think might entertain your fellow members. Contact the team here talks@ilkleyu3a.org

River Wharfe

Following one of the Summer Programme presentations, we incorrectly used the term "Safe Bathing Water Status". A member has written to remind us that using the term "Bathing Water Status" **does not** mean it is safe to swim or wade in our local river.

Bathing Water Status is a national designation of water quality already in use on beaches around the country, and relates to water quality only.

This article in [Yorkshire Post](#) and this [extract of an Ilkley Gazette report](#) both make for sober reading on the dangers of bathing in the River Wharfe.

Please remember this when the grandchildren come to visit. [Select here](#) for further analysis on this important issue of river safety.

Is your group using Zoom?

More groups will soon be restarting their programmes by Zoom. If you have a talk that might appeal to the wider U3A, please contact talks@ilkleyu3a.org

[This guide is to help U3A groups take full advantage of Zoom.](#) Additional help and support are available if you need it. Contact details are in the guide.

Thinking of starting a new group?

If you have a particular hobby or interest, why not share your passion and start up your own U3A group? Contact newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org to share thoughts and ideas. We will help in any way we can.

New group - How is our High Street looking?

We are starting a new group, taking part in a ground breaking national U3A project looking at the effect of the pandemic on the UK high street. It involves walking along your local high street, writing down details of each shop and taking photographs of them. [Select this link to read more about the project.](#)

Neil Stevens will co-ordinate the group. Email newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org to register your interest and Neil will contact you about the next steps.

How well do you know the shop fronts in Ilkley?

[Select here](#) and guess what is behind these partial images of shops in Ilkley. Thanks to John Rhodes and Brian Ormondroyd for their images.

An update on Clarke Foley

[Select here](#) to watch a short interview with Stuart Hyde from Clarke Foley where he discusses the impact of the pandemic on the centre and plans for the future.

The centre has been professionally deep cleaned, repainted and has new curtains. The café is open from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm on weekdays. It's now in the main hall under social distance rules, with tables two metres apart.

You order and pay at the tables to minimise contact with others. Although you don't have to book a table, you can do so by ringing 01943 607016. A staff member will meet you at the door and escort you to your table.

The interview with Stuart Hyde was taken from a much longer discussion as part of summer Programme. You can view the full interview and other talks in the programme [by selecting here.](#)

[Lockdown humour](#) on this link with more cartoons and whimsical thoughts.

[Green Tip for September](#) deals with counting the climate cost of the food we eat. Links to previous topics in this series are also on this link.

[This link is for the Lockdown Picture Gallery](#) Add your own picture by [emailing Mary Podesta](#) with a short 10 word description.

Q What's the best thing about Switzerland?

A I don't know but the flag is a big plus.

Q Why did the scarecrow win an award?

A. Because he was outstanding in his field.

I took the shell off my racing snail to make him go faster. But now he's more sluggish.

Keep safe

John & Christine

PS. Susan Collins writes *This morning I saw a Facebook post about Sir Muir Gray's talk on 'Living Longer Better' and joined the virtual presentation. I found the talk fascinating. It certainly gave me a bit to think about and left me wondering if the content might be of interest to our wider membership.*

Here is a link to a similar presentation by [Sir Muir to Kennet U3A](#) a few weeks ago.

PS. The Trustees are delighted so many renewed their subscription for 2020 / 2021. We always lose some members at this time of the year but numbers normally bounce back through new faces joining interest groups or at drop-in centres.

We don't have these options at the moment so the website is giving extra emphasis to recruitment. [Select here to have a look](#) and please ask your non U3A friends to explore what we have to offer.

