



## Happy New Year: a time for new challenges

Maybe it's time to use your experience to be more involved in helping to run our u3a. [Select here for some of the key roles](#). If none of these appeal, just reply to this News Flash with your contact details to arrange an informal chat.

Please give this serious thought. It is a great way to use all those skills acquired over the years but in a role that might suit your own talents and interests. It's also an opportunity to meet some interesting people and make new friends.

If you have a hobby or interest not covered by our u3a, you can always suggest starting a new group. Complete the details of your idea [on this form](#).

We all need reminding from time to time we are a self-help organisation. To read about our ethos and guiding principles, [select this link](#).

## Opportunities to try something new

**Need help to access the internet?** Beginner and improver courses are being offered at the Clarke Foley starting on Mondays in January 2023. The courses are free, although there will be a small fee towards hire of the room. If you do not have a device they can arrange for you to have one on loan.

Not an u3a group but we are offered places. Apply [via this link](#) or contact Clarke Foley to enrol (07495 045310 or 07442 261462). There is a similar facility arranged by the library at Burley in Wharfedale. [Contact them on this link](#)

**Learn Bridge on line** With u3a Third Age Bridge Group. **Course starts 9th January.** [Select this link for more information and to register.](#)

## Prospective Group Information

**Pickelball:** In order to try to get this group started a court has been booked at Kirklands in Menston on **Wednesday 11th January from 1pm – 3pm**. Cost court hire is £25 an hour to be shared between participants.

Email [newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org) by **6th January** so the court booking can be confirmed.

**Bus Pass Group 2:** Lots of members have shown interest in this group. However, for the group to go ahead a leader, (or indeed several leaders) need to come forward to arrange the visits.

These can be done by an individual or one or two friends working together. For variety it would be good to operate on a rota system which would probably mean only arranging one visit a year! To join the group and arrange a visit email [newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org). We will give you as much help as possible.

**The films of Werner Herzog and Klaus Kinski.** Films to be viewed at home and then discussed in a venue to be decided. Five films over a period of five weeks, starting in February. If interested contact [newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org)

**The novels of Richard Brautigan.** Eleven novels to be discussed, one each month starting in February or March at a venue to be decided. If interested contact [newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org)

**Gardening Group.** Are you interested in all aspects of gardening and horticulture? A long standing group has been dormant for a number of months and we hope to revive it. Previously it operated with a mix of knowledgeable guest speakers combined with expert guided garden visits but how it is run will be for future members to decide. If interested in getting this group going again, contact [newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org) for an informal chat.

**Blues Appreciation:** Following the success of the Pre-war and Post-war Blues courses run in the autumn of 2022, it is hoped to establish a permanent Blues Appreciation Group in early 2023. To find out more about the courses already held, [select this link](#). To express an interest in joining the new group email [lee.wellbrook@gmail.com](mailto:lee.wellbrook@gmail.com)

## Groups with vacancies

**The history of Motown Records** is a 4 week online course run for Third Age Trust by one of our own members (Lee Wellbrook). Join Lee at **2pm Tuesday 10th January** and then for a further 3 sessions ending 31st January. [Select this link](#) for more information and to register your attendance.

This course is just one of a number of diverse topics covered by the online service provided as part of your subscription to u3a. To discover others there is now a permanent link to see the full list on our website. [Select here to explore other topics.](#)

**Addingham Sewing Group.** Beginners or experienced dressmakers and all in between welcome. Bring your own project and get help along the way. Meetings every fortnight starting **1 pm Wednesday 18th January** St Peter's Church Hall, Addingham. [Select here for more information and to join the group.](#)

**Reading Non-Fiction (formerly the Non-Fiction Book Group)** No weighty tomes or fluffy novels, and no designated topics! Join us on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in each month** for a lively discussion of books recommended and selected by the group. Group meets in the Bar That which has stairs to its function room. [Members select this link](#) to contact the group leader, Elaine Toms.

**Nordic Walking.** Looking for a walk with a difference? Join the Nordic walking group for a 2 hr walk (between 5-6 miles) propelled along by poles. Group walks **every Wednesday at 10AM** with a starting point somewhere between Addingham and Burley ending in a coffee shop. [Members select this link](#) to contact the group leader, Elaine Toms.

## Dates for your diaries

**10:30 am Friday 6th January:** **Our next drop in** to meet one of our Trustees and fellow members to discuss anything related to u3a. Free refreshments. [Details on this link](#)

**10 am Saturday 21st January:** **Monthly Saturday Social.** An insight into the working day of a Jet2 pilot flying out of Leeds Bradford airport. **Free refreshments.** [Details on this link.](#)

**31st July – 3rd August:** **u3a Yorkshire & Humber Summer School.** Booking opens 14th January and often sells out quickly. [Further information on this link.](#)

## Festive humour on our website

Latest updates on the jokes and cartoons, many with a festive theme [are here](#).

## Christmas cracker reflections

A full house requiring extra tables and chairs to be retrieved from other rooms. All enjoyed mulled wine, mince pies, crackers and chocolates. Entertainment was provided by u3a members and friends, ending with a community sing along of favourite carols.

A special note of thanks to the performers and organisers. [Select here](#) to see some photos taken by Angie Grain (links to our Facebook page). [Select here](#) to read poems provided by our Poetry Writing Group. On the day over £300 was raised towards supporting a visit of Ukrainian refugee families to meet Santa at our local heritage railway. [Read more on this report in Ikley Chat.](#)

## Reduced price joining subscription

To encourage those that really need the benefits that u3a can bring to their lives, we are again offering a half price (£7:50) subscription for those joining from January through to April 2023 with next renewal due 31st July 2023. [Here is the](#)

[link](#) to pass to friends to join on line or bring them along to one of the Drop ins.  
[Select here for full list.](#)

## Christmas Cracker jokes

Thanks to Voyagers for supplying these jokes from their party at Craiglands Hotel.  
[Select here to see pictures of the event](#) (links to our Facebook page)

Why did the oyster leave the party early? **Because he'd pulled a mussel.**

Why was the snowman looking through the carrots? **He was picking his nose.**

What cheese do you use to hide a horse? **Marscarpone.**

What is the best Christmas present in the world? **A broken drum. You just can't beat it.**

*Happy New Year*

*John & Christine*

[Email NewsFlash@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:EmailNewsFlash@ilkleyu3a.org)

**Warm Space initiatives.** Several places throughout the district are opening their doors in an effort to help folk conserve heat and **energy** at home. It is also an opportunity to socialise in the dark and cold months ahead. More information can be found here for our [members in Otley](#) and [Bradford Council area](#).

**Winter Tree Trail now available.** Members enjoyed [Sue Stevens's tree trail that was part of the 2022 Summer Programme](#). Her self-guided Winter Tree trail is now available from the Grove Bookshop, the Clarke Foley and the Visitors Centre. There is no charge. It starts from the Manor House and takes in East Holme Field and the Lido area. With no leaves to go on, twigs and bark and shape become the essential clues for identification.

**How Green is your Christmas tree?** It is time to revisit one of the "Green Tips of the Month". This one was added to our website in December 2020. [Select here to refresh your memories.](#)

Caroline Moseley of the Saving the Planet Group writes: *New year inspiration: u3a members DM and MP find they can recycle almost everything. (NB additional soft plastics receptacle now inside the South door M&S.) The villain is glitter. Resolve to resist the lure of glitter in 2023.*

**TAT half year Treasurers report.** [Available to read via this link.](#)

**TAT Christmas Newsletter.** [Select here to read.](#) This issue includes a picture of the Christmas tree decorations by our Otley Ambassador Group. Read more about activities in Otley with pictures of tree decoration [by selecting this link.](#)