

News Flash

Your regular newsletter from Ilkley & District u3a

Issue 23.08 12th April 2023

Our first Short Course announced, Summer Programme plans revealed, Group News, Opportunities to help and much more....

Short Course announcements

Researching your family tree

Dianne Taylor is proposing to run three sessions on this topic from 2.30 to 4.30 on Wednesday afternoons 17th, 24th and 31st May in Ilkley.

This will be an opportunity to discuss with others how to approach your research and the sort of facilities that are available online. So, it will be useful (but not essential) if you have a laptop or tablet that you can bring to each session. Although aimed primarily at those new to ancestry research, it's also an opportunity for those with more experience to meet with others.

As a first step to arranging these courses, we need to identify how many are interested. If less than ten, then it makes sense to meet in a quiet pub, buy a drink and discuss experiences around a couple of tables. However, if more people want to join this course, then we will need to hire a venue with members sharing the costs.

If you're interested in meeting with others who share your fascination with family history research, please email Dianne Taylor (dianne.taylor@hotmail.com) briefly describing your experience in ancestry research and she will get back to you with an update on arrangements. **Responses by Monday 17th April please.**

More information on our Short Courses. Amongst our membership of 1,800, there are bound to be others with similar interests to you; all just looking for the opportunity to share knowledge, thoughts and experience. But not everyone wants the commitment of running or joining a group year on year. If this is you, read on!

Your first step is to email shortcourses@ilkleyu3a.org with your idea. Someone will be in touch to discuss your ideas and how best to find like-minded members and get things moving.

They don't have to be indoor events. Maybe you just want to visit gardens during the summer months. Whatever appeals to you is bound to appeal to others.

Summer Programme. We are delighted to receive so many offers to organise events. We can take no more! Full details of the programme from **19th June to 14th July** in due course. However, topics include a treasure hunt in Bradford; guided tours of Harrogate and Addingham; table tennis; Tai Chi; an afternoon of disco; singing for pleasure; bell ringing; guided walks and quite a few presentations in Clarke Foley.

Members' Market Place. It's good to see this new facility on the website being used. Once logged into the website, [select here to visit](#) and read about:

- A dog ramp to help a retired guide dog enjoy journeys by car
- Two Choirs, One Voice. A concert on Saturday 29th April 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Church Street, Ilkley LS29 9DS as part of Ilkley twinning with Coutances
- Small tables and printer ink still looking for a good home.

No need to wait for News Flash to see what's being posted. Just look under the News option on the website. You can also subscribe to be informed of new additions. If you want to contact the member directly, click on their name for contact information.

Group news

Moor2Life If you are recently retired, getting used to the transition from the world at work and wondering where you go from here, this may be the group for you.

So come and join our new collaborative social group as we all try to rediscover our mojo! 2-4 pm alternate Monday afternoons, beginning **Monday April 17th at The Red Lion, Burley-in-Wharfedale**. No charge. Just buy a drink (tea and coffee available too).

Our meetings will be flexible to reflect the interests of our members, with opportunities to take part in a variety of activities and skill sharing, maybe lead an activity for the group – no pressure though! We may perhaps include some taster sessions from other u3a groups. The general aim is to have some fun with like-minded people, and enjoy our retirement and all the new possibilities it brings.

If this sounds interesting, email Moor2Life@ilkleyu3a.org with your own contact details and either Michelle or Margaret will be in touch.

The Otley Art for Fun group meets on Tuesday mornings in Otley and **will restart on 18th April** after their Easter break. New members are welcome. [More information and contact details here.](#)

Singing for Pleasure another group **restarting Tuesday 18th April**. New members welcome as they start rehearsing songs for the MusicFest in York on 13th June. Age is no barrier to enjoy singing. Just ask Colin who celebrated his 90th birthday recently by sharing his birthday cake with the group during tea break! [Contact details on this link.](#)

1960s-70s Disco Group Monday 17th April, 15th May, 12th June and 3rd July. Usual time and venue - 2.00-3.30pm at the Ben Rhydding Scout Hut. Feeling in the groove? Join the fun. [Contact details and more information here.](#)

Walking Cricket The group has moved outdoors for the summer, playing on the hockey pitches at Ben Rhydding Sports Club on Thursdays 11-1pm. All welcome, no previous experience necessary. [Contact details on this link.](#)

Online groups via Zoom Details of one-off national u3a events and a variety on ongoing study groups [on this link.](#) You can also find details towards the top of the home page on our website.

Dates for your diaries

The next drop-in at the Core in Otley 10:30 am to 12 noon on **Friday 14th April.** An opportunity to discuss anything related to your membership of u3a. Want to help? Want to start up a new interest group? This is your opportunity to share thoughts and ideas.

Saturday Talk from 10am **Saturday 15th April.** We are delighted to welcome Brain Groom who talks about Northerners. A history from the Ice Age to the Present Day. You may wish to bring your cheque book or cash to buy his book on the subject. [Details here.](#)

Music Festival has been organised by the Yorkshire & Humber Region of u3a, taking place in York on **Tuesday 13th June.** The cost is £15 to include refreshments and a buffet lunch. Details, including how to register as a performer, [on this link.](#)

Summer Showcase An opportunity to meet group leaders and discuss all things u3a with other members. Bring a friend or renew your own subscription for another year. This event will be at Clarke Foley **Saturday morning 1st July.**

Help raise awareness of u3a

We need someone who can write press releases for our local newspapers. Full training provided and mentor support. Something that can be fitted into a busy schedule taking maybe two or three hours a month. The ability to write interesting copy and submit with pictures via email are key requirements. Just reply to this News Flash to express an interest.

We also need help to distribute the EYE and keep displays fully stocked and looking neat throughout the summer months. Please email editor@ilkleyu3a.org to volunteer. Our regular magazine is due for publication just after the Coronation. This will be a bumper issue featuring a prize draw that should appeal to readers. We're hoping to raise awareness of u3a by having the EYE available to pick up at locations throughout the district such as the Core in Otley, the Hub in Addingham and locations in Burley, Guiseley, Menston, Silsden etc.

Ilkley Newspaper Archive. We have now reached 1985. A really fascinating set of articles including the sale of Ilkley Hall, conversion of Wells Road Methodist Church into flats and the building of new shops in the centre of town. [Read these stories and more on this link.](#) Read the full collection [by selecting this link](#) and taking a volume from our digital bookcase.

The Cartoon Gallery. For the latest additions to our cartoon gallery on the website, [select here](#). Started during lockdown and still going strong with more items added each month.

We hope these bring a smile!

Why did the chicken hold a séance? **To get to the other side.**

What do you get when you cross a chicken with a python? **A feather boa.**

Why can't you have an all-chicken football side? **There would be too many fouls.**

Remember lockdown? Our u3a kept going by providing talks and presentations often two or three times a week. Many of these were recorded. [Select here to see the full list](#) and relive some interesting topics. An eclectic mix ranging from Artificial Intelligence to Ilkley postcards in 1870.

The fitness hub update. Our partnership with Ilkley Tennis and Squash Club continues to strengthen and next month sees the start of new classes. More details in the next News Flash.

Did you ever want to be a bus driver? This is your chance to be the next best thing, driving a minibus for Ilkley Community Transport. Often used by u3a groups, there are three minibuses and all need volunteer drivers. Contact David Steel info@ilkleycommunitytransport.org.uk mentioning u3a.

SU Carburettor factory in Addingham and Victoria Avenue prefab village built for workers. A request for information by our member Graham Hunter who has been researching his family tree in WW 2. More information and contact details in our Market Place. [Select here](#) once logged in to the website.

Regards

John & Christine

Email: Newsflash@ilkleyu3a.org



Kit Yates 
@Kit_Yates_Maths

I'm sorry, but you can't *always* be experiencing a higher volume of calls than average.
That's not how averages work.