

# News Flash

Your regular newsletter from Ilkley & District u3a

Issue 23.21 16th October 2023

**Stop press: Saturday talk is 28th October, one week later than normal.**

## Managing our u3a

No doubt you will have seen the recent request from our chair, Jacqui Wellbrook, for members to join the management committee that guides and runs our local u3a.

All you read in News Flash, see on the website and enjoy at group meetings doesn't just happen by accident. Activities need to be planned and managed in a coordinated manner. Which is why it is important for the management committee to have new members on board.

As an example of the help and support that is available, [select here for details of a workshop](#) for committee members. If you are interested, why not register to attend? But please also email [chair@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:chair@ilkleyu3a.org) to let Jacqui know. She will be pleased to hear from you.

## Need help to get the most out of a smart phone or tablet?

Several members have indicated they would like a u3a group or course to help them unlock the full potential of their smart phones and tablets. But we do not know the extent of demand or just what members might need. So before we start planning anything, please reply to this News Flash indicating:

- How often you use your device (constantly, daily, weekly, never etc.)
- Which features you use (phone calls, video calls, messaging, email, social media, photos, maps, buying stuff etc.)
- What are you finding difficult and how do you think you might benefit from a u3a course
- Any trouble you have using our website, particularly when renewing your subscription

We look forward to hearing from you.

## Do you enjoy administration?

Our group coordinator (Neil Stevens) is looking for help documenting when changes are made to group information. This will involve liaising with group leaders and the website team, responding to emails, and updating records on our various computer systems. The role will also involve receiving and responding to email enquiries from non-members who wish to know more information about our groups before committing to membership.

As you would expect, there is plenty of support both to help get you started and ongoing. If you would like to know more, email Neil Stevens ([neil@nebstone.co.uk](mailto:neil@nebstone.co.uk)) or phone / text him on 07976 928865.

## Group News

**E-bike try before you buy.** If you have ever thought of upgrading from push bike to e bike, then [select here to visit the E Bike group page](#). There you will find details of a link to the Ilkley Active Travel Hub that runs an e-bike loan scheme so you can try before you buy. And if you do decide to purchase, there is a group within u3a that you can join to share the experience.

**Otley u3a Circle Dance.** The group meets again for seven sessions starting Thursday morning 2nd November and have two or three vacancies. [Details of the group on this link](#). To express an interest, email Jan Elan Bows on [jan.4thway@gmail.com](mailto:jan.4thway@gmail.com).

**Walking Cricket.** Has now moved indoors to the Airedale Centre in Guiseley. But not before closing off the summer season with a final game at the Ben Rhydding Sports Centre followed by a meeting of participants, to review the first year's operation. [Select here to read a report](#), see pictures and a surprise presentation to Liz Billings. This is a sport everyone can enjoy. Read more about the group [on this link](#).

**Railways Group.** Over 60 members and guests, a record for the first meeting of the session, enjoyed a terrific presentation using the new large screen at Clarke Foley on Tuesday 3rd October. [Picture here](#). Read about the group and how to join [here](#).

## Short Courses

**Peacebuilding 2 pm from Friday 27th October** for 7 weeks. Just buy a drink at the venue. For more information and to register, [select here](#).

## On line courses

**A full list of October online courses** (provided by Third Age Trust) can be found [on this link](#).

## Members' Market Place

Log in then [select here to visit the Market Place](#) to read about:

- [2-cycle bike rack for tow bar fitting](#)
- [A member's cottage in Whitby for holiday let](#) (recommended by a member who has stayed there)
- [Two for One tickets](#) to see tribute acts (Neil Diamond and Bee Gees) at Kings Hall in spring 2024. NB Requires you to visit the Tourist Office. Only a few left at time of writing.

A few thoughts on getting the best out of the Market Place:

- Subscribe to the Market Place Forum and be notified of postings before the next News Flash.

- Check earlier postings in case an offer is still available.
- Visit the Market Place without waiting for News Flash by using the News tab on the website.
- To contact a seller, select their name on the posting and their contact details can be seen. Only visible to members when logged into the website.
- If posting an item, include your contact details in the posting to get you a quicker response.

## Diary Dates

**Drop-in Ilkley.** 10:30 am Friday 20th October at Clarke Foley. [Details on this link.](#)

**An exhibition of typewriters.** 10am to 4 pm Saturday 21st October at Clarke Foley. An opportunity to show the grandchildren what we used before computers. [Details here.](#)

**Feeding Coutances 1940 – 1944.** 10 am Friday 27th October at Manor House Ilkley. Exploring the German occupation of our French Twin Town during WWII. [Details on this link.](#)

**Drop-in Silsden.** 2 pm Friday 27th October at the Town Hall. [Details on this link.](#)

**Saturday talk.** 10 am Saturday 28th October at Clarke Foley. **A week later than normal.** u3a member Robin Leleux talks on Our Heritage: What It Is and Should We Care About It? [More information on this link.](#)

**Town Crier.** 12 noon Saturday 11th November will pick the winning entries in the EYE Prize Draw. See below for more details and a request for support.

**AGM** 10 am Saturday 18th November All Saints Church Ilkley. Formal notification shortly.

**Inaugural u3a Festival 2024 at York** 18th to 20th July 2024. [Select this link](#) to read an update from Angie Grain. This is an opportunity to engage with the much wider family of u3a membership throughout the UK. An opportunity not to be missed. The planning starts now!

## Thanks to Denise Marsden for these groan jokes

I wish we could put some of the Christmas spirit in jars. **And open a jar of it every month.**

Archaeologists in Egypt have discovered a Mummy covered in nuts and chocolate. **They think it must be Pharaoh Rocher!**

Regards

John & Christine

Email: [Newsflash@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:Newsflash@ilkleyu3a.org)

**Remember. Saturday talk is 28th October, one week later than normal.**

**National newsletter for October:** Available to read [on this link.](#)

**Find out some interesting facts about our membership:** Every year around this time the website team prepare a report for the trustees. [Select here to read the report as at October 2023](#). Want to know the average age of our members or how many live in Otley? This gives you the answers. NB. You will need to be a member of u3a to access this information and be logged into the website to view.

**The EYE prize draw:** A reminder that entries close on 31st October. The last few printed copies of the magazine are on display in Clarke Foley. [Enter online here](#).

The Ilkley Town Crier has kindly agreed to ring her bell and give a suitable cry at 12 noon on Saturday 11th November. This will either be outside Bettys, at the bandstand or outside Clarke Foley. Oh the joys of getting folk to say "yes"! It will be a good opportunity to make a bit of noise about u3a and get noticed. So if you can help get out our banners or simply give out some leaflets, please email John Hancock ([Octopuss@btinternet.com](mailto:Octopuss@btinternet.com)). Thankyou.

**A request from the Environment Forum:** Geoff Howard has asked us to provide [this link to the national u3a Environment Bulletin](#). Full of interesting and relevant comment. You can subscribe to receive your own copy of future editions by using the link at the top of the bulletin once opened.

**Want to know how Bradford got its name?** u3a member Barney Lerner has been leading a group looking to bring Bradford Beck back to life in every sense of the word. [Select here to watch a really interesting 12 minute film](#) about the project and the environmental changes that the group hope to achieve.