

# News Flash

Your regular newsletter from Ilkley & District u3a

Issue 24.07 4th April 2024

## Annual Showcase Event

We have hired the whole of Clarke Foley so please reserve the date. **Saturday morning 15th June 2024**. Previously known as Meet the Leaders, this is an opportunity to explore new opportunities to enjoy all that u3a has to offer in the year ahead. Group Leaders will be contacted in due course so they can reserve space to promote their groups.

## Vacancies on u3a visits and holidays

**Visit to Brodsworth Hall, Doncaster** on **Monday 22nd April**, with our Historic Houses Group. Just £29 or £19 if you are member of English Heritage on production of membership card.

Coach pick-up from Ilkley, Burley in Wharfedale and Otley. Contact Susan Ward, email: [susanward29@icloud.com](mailto:susanward29@icloud.com)

**5 day (4 night) holiday coach trip to Kent** Bradford u3a are organising this trip **Monday 9th to Friday 13th September**. [Details on this link](#). Pick up currently in Shipley and Bradford but ask when enquiring if there are other possibilities. The cost for u3a members is £659.00 with a single supplement of £119.00. Single rooms are limited and allocated on a first come basis. Queries to Jean Blackburn on 01274 591581, email [j.blackburn21@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:j.blackburn21@hotmail.co.uk)

## The latest short course

**Art of the Album Cover** This four-week course is now available to book. [Select this link for course details and to register attendance](#). The venue is close to Ben Rhydding Station and the course starts on **Tuesday morning 9th April**. Just £15.

Short courses provide an ideal alternative to running a full-time group, so if you have a passion for a subject you would like to share with others we can help you get started. [select here for details](#).

## Group news updates

**Disco Dancing 1960's to 1980's** is moving to **Wednesday** afternoons, with six fortnightly sessions beginning 17th April. Same time (2.00-3.30 p.m.), venue (Ben Rhydding Scout Hut, Wheatley Lane, Ilkley LS29 8ET), and great music to dance along to. Come along for a trial session. [Select here](#) for more information including contact details.

**Online courses** Included in our membership is the opportunity to join a series of online events run by our parent body, the Third Age Trust. [Select here for the latest offerings](#). One of our members particularly recommends the talks on artificial Intelligence.

## From our social media postings

Send a few pictures of a group activity and a couple of sentences to Helen ([helen@saltedit.co.uk](mailto:helen@saltedit.co.uk)) who will arrange everything. The following links open on our Facebook page. Anyone can access them. You don't need an account. Not everything that is published relates to u3a. This is why over 1,000 people subscribe to our social media channels.

**April fool!** Were you a victim earlier this week? [Select here](#) to see video from the BBC archive. Did folk really believe spaghetti grew on trees?

**Outside the Box** One of our members, Geoff Howard, is running the London Marathon in aid of this worthy local charity. [Read all about it here.](#)

**Walking Cricket** have their own Facebook group. [Select here](#) to catch up on their activities.

**Guitar Plus.** Pictures from a recent session [on this link](#)

**Saturday talk.** A full hall to hear about travelling around the World. Rail, bus and container ship. Fascinating experience relived by one of our own members. [Pictures on this link](#)

**Attending Otley Volunteer event.** A well-attended event and plenty of enquiries. [See the link.](#)

**Otley indoor bowling taster session.** A lively session. [Details here](#)

**Northern Towns visit Settle twice.** Why? The first was oversubscribed so a second visit was made to visit the oldest music hall venue in the country still running, and to have a guided tour of the town. [Select here](#) for details and [select here](#) to read why the visit was so memorable for Jeannette Wallace.

## Helping members to get online

So far, only a few members have indicated they need help to get online at a special drop in from **10:30 am to 12 noon on Friday 19th April at Clarke Foley.** This facility is not about sorting out general computer issues. It is about supporting members who are struggling to get to grips with the online World that seems to dominate everything we do these days.

Please email [newsflash@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:newsflash@ilkleyu3a.org) if you want to take advantage of this opportunity including the sort of help you might need so that we can plan the support required on the day.

If you can't make the drop in but would like support especially geared to our generation, [select here for more information.](#) There's even a Freephone contact number.

For guidance on how to login to our u3a website, [select this link.](#) A printed version will be available to pick up at the talk this Saturday in Clarke Foley.

## Gift Aid membership subscriptions

Thank you to those who have returned Gift Aid forms which greatly enhances our income and helps keep membership fees as low as possible. If you no longer pay sufficient tax or no longer wish to Gift Aid your subscriptions, please email [membership@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:membership@ilkleyu3a.org) to stop us sending out additional reminders. If you have lost your form, or wish to consider using Gift Aid, [select here](#). Then post to u3a c/o Clarke Foley Centre, Ilkley LS29 9DZ or drop it off in our letter box, near the bottom of the stair case.

## New content on our website

**The local paper archive** Memories of Beanlands grocery store which closed in 1973 and the demolition of the railway arches across Bolton Bridge Road (near the present day Coop) are amongst the many interesting stories featured in this latest edition. [Select here to read more.](#)

**The Market Place** [select this link](#) and then login to the website to read the latest entries. Click on the name of the poster to reveal their details and make contact. This is a member only facility requiring website login to access. **A dab of colour** is the title of an art exhibition u3a member Paul Husdon, along with Ian Wrench at Headingley Arts Centre, Leeds LS6 3HN. [Details here.](#)

Post your own items. Just use the above link or look under the News Tab on the website.

## Diary dates

**Drop-in at 10:30 am a Friday. 5th April** (Clarke Foley) and **12th April** (The Core in Otley)

**Organ recital. 12:30 pm Friday 5th April** at St. Margaret's in Ilkley. [Details here.](#) The architect of the church was Norman Shaw, probably best known as the man who designed the New Scotland Yard. So this is also a perfect opportunity to see a quite magnificent example of his work.

**Saturday Talk 10 am 20th April.** Human Rights on the Battlefield. [Details on this link.](#)

## Thanks to Denise Marsden for these

I'm currently reading a book about the history of glue. **I just can't put it down!**

What shivers and sits at the bottom of the sea? **A nevous wreck.**

Why won't the sun go to university? **Because it already has 27 million degrees!**

## Best wishes

John & Christine

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

**Were you someone who got stuff done prior to retirement?** The management committee needs new faces with fresh ideas. If you have the skills to help shape the future of an organisation with 2,000 members, this is an opportunity to make a real difference and something that others have found to be an incredibly rewarding experience.

The committee meets monthly and its members are very supportive of each other. So don't think you'll be left to sink or swim. Email [chair@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:chair@ilkleyu3a.org) for an informal chat.

**Are you any good at administration?** We need help to support those who want to run their own short courses. Full training and mentoring provided. Duties include drafting information for the website and News Flash, helping to book venues and equipment, monitoring payments to online banking facilities etc. Email [shortcourses@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:shortcourses@ilkleyu3a.org) to express an interest.

**Fancy helping to organise a u3a outreach programme to care homes?** With declining mobility or mental stamina, care home residents rarely have the chance to participate in the stimulating range of activities available to members of u3a. (You might think of this as the 4<sup>th</sup> age.) The coordinator role is about aiming to change the status quo.

If this appeals to you, please contact David Hewitt. He leads our Singalong4Fun group that already has close links with local care homes and he is keen to explore how other groups might get involved. Phone or text David on 07734-562428.

**Latest national newsletter** can be [read here](#). Includes details of a new look national magazine, the March edition of the podcast, again featuring roving reporter Lee Wellbrook from our own u3a and also details of advertising of u3a on the radio.