

News Flash

Your regular newsletter from Ilkley & District u3a

Issue 24.08 16th April 2024

Our latest short courses

Crown Green Bowling in Otley. Taster sessions for indoor bowling were so popular earlier in the year, we are delighted to offer a similar opportunity for the outdoor version. [Select here for more information and to register your interest.](#) Four weekly sessions starting this **Friday 19th April.**

Learn Social Bridge. Strictly for absolute beginners A short course over four to six weeks which will enable you to play Bridge at the basic level. You will then be able to enjoy playing Bridge at u3a Social Bridge groups which already exist in Otley. No charge. Meet on a Thursday morning from 10 am to 12 noon at the Otley home of John Bonney. The course will start as soon as there are four people wanting to learn. Contact John E mail: jrsb2876@gmail.com or text / phone **07903 996896.**

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, [select here for details.](#)

Group updates

Smart Phones & Tablets – Learning together

This new group has just had its first successful meeting. Three more two-hour sessions are planned for 10:00 am at Abbeyfield in the centre of Ilkley on 7th May 4th June and 2nd July. The group will then decide if it should continue to meet.

There is space for a few more to join. It's likely to appeal to members who are:

- regular, almost daily, users of their device and so confident to experiment.
- happy to share their ignorance, knowledge, and experience with other members of the group.
- supportive of an environment where everyone learns together.

The cost (for room hire and refreshments) is £15 to cover the three sessions. If this is of interest to you, please email John Parker (parkeralhambra@aol.com) **before Monday 22nd April** stating your device model (iPhone, Samsung Galaxy etc) and its operating system (Android, iOS etc).

Sing Sea Shanties

The group welcome new members, particularly a few more men willing to sing hearty sea songs in a relaxed and fun group. The group set sail fortnightly on Mondays 2-4pm. The next departure is Monday 22nd April at the Ilkley Baptist Church Hall, a few minutes' walk from Clarke Foley. [Select here for more details,](#) including contact information. Or just turn up and say **Ahoy there.**

Flat Green Lawn Bowls

The 2024 season will restart on Monday 29th April. Coaching will be given to new members & bowls will be available to borrow. Please turn up at Ben Rhydding Bowls Club, Coutances Way, LS29 8AW, by 13: 45. More details about this group including contact information, cost and refreshments [on this the link to our website.](#)

Disco Dancing 1960s to 1980s

Next session is 2 pm this Wednesday 17th April at Ben Rhydding Scout Hut, Wheatley Lane, Ilkley LS29 8ET. Come along for a trial session. [Select here](#) for more information including contact details.

Walking Cricket

The group welcome new members. Women are currently under-represented. No previous experience required, and all equipment is provided. They play on a Thursday afternoon (12:30 - 15:00) at the Ben Rhydding Sports Club, LS29 8AW. So, with better weather on the horizon, why not give it a go? To learn more about the group and express an interest in joining, [select here.](#)

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.](#)

Vacancies on u3a visits and holidays

Five day (four night) holiday coach trip to Kent

Bradford u3a are organising this trip from **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

Helping members to get online

A reminder of our 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's about supporting members who are struggling to get to grips with the online world.

There will be additional u3a members on duty but if it looks really busy, please be patient or call back later. It is suggested you think about specific issues on which you need support before arrival.

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 drop in.

What are your interests outside of u3a?

Peter Higginbotham, a member of our u3a, is interviewed on the u3a podcast, which is due for release on Wednesday 17th April. Many will know that Peter is an expert on workhouses. [Select here for all editions of the Podcast](#) and return later this week to listen to Peter talk about his passion.

The podcast is also available for free subscription on all the usual podcast platforms (Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Acast etc.)

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 First login to the website. If unsure how to do this, [select this link.](#) Then select on the links below:

- **A nearly new telescope** is being offered for sale: [Details on this link.](#)
- **Extra income for our u3a.** Book with Riviera Travel: [Details here.](#)
- **A dab of colour** is the title of an art exhibition u3a member Paul Hudson, along with Ian Wrench at Headingley Arts Centre, Leeds LS6 3HN. [Details here.](#)

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

Diary dates

Drop-in from 10:30 am to 12 noon **Friday 19th April** at Clarke Foley.

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

Showcase / Meet the Leaders. Saturday morning 15th June. Details below.

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 a chance 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.

Summer Programme update

From mid-June to mid-August, we will have a wide range of activities to try. There must be something here for everyone - from music and art to sport and walks, to various talks and visits.

Our Summer Programme Team will now be working on developing the website and registration process, updating social media and producing the printed flyers which will become available in due

course. In the meantime, huge thanks to all those who have offered to run sessions and to the background team who make it all happen.

Random thoughts

When you are a child, you make funny faces in the mirror. **When we become adults, the mirror gets even!**

It's only appropriate to say "Look at you. You have grown so big" to children. **Adults tend to get offended.**

Whoever said "out of sight, out of mind" **never had a spider disappear in the bedroom.**

Best wishes

John & Christine

Email: Newsflash@ilkleyu3a.org

From our good friends at the Manor House

We think our members might like to see the wide range of activities available this spring. [Select here for details.](#) The summer programme will be linked in the next News Flash.