

News Flash

Your regular newsletter from Ilkley & District u3a

Issue 23.07 3rd April 2023

Short courses launched, Summer Programme dates, Group News, Harrogate u3a joins WestNet and much more....

Short courses coming to our u3a

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!

That is why we are introducing the idea of short courses. Everyone will know in advance the commitment will be for a limited and fixed term. It might be six meetings; it might be just for the summer break. Whatever works for you.

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. Perhaps you want attend a group to make Easter decorations or Christmas cards for a few weeks. Or a short introduction to yoga so you can go on to practice it at home. Whatever appeals to you is bound to appeal to others.

If you would like to help in the administration of these new courses, just reply to this News Flash. Full support will be given and it's a super opportunity to get involved with the way u3a operates.

Summer Programme

This year it runs from Monday 19th June through to Friday 14th July. With help from our members, we'll be providing a variety of indoor events and outdoor visits during the 4-week period.

To organise something yourself, email summerprogramme@ilkleyu3a.org with your suggestions. We will help you get organised.

Members' Market Place

Good to see this new facility on the website being used. Once logged into the website, [select here to visit](#) and read about:

- Black glass tables looking for a new home
- Someone wanting to chat about organising the Ilkley Literature festival
- Cannon Printer ink reference 512 (black) still in original box.

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. For instance, many members will have missed the opportunity to pick up tickets for a show in York that unexpectedly became available just two days before the event.

If you want to contact a 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 is 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 of interest, email Moor2Life@ilkleyu3a.org with your own contact details and either Michelle or Margaret will be in touch.

The 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. This group is running a scaled-down programme after Easter with Monday meetings planned for 17 April, 15 May, 12 June and 3 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 moves outdoors from 6th April and will be playing on the hockey pitches at Ben Rhydding Sports Club on Thursdays 11-1pm. All welcome, no previous experience necessary. Cost is now just £5 per session. [Contact details on this link.](#)

Did you know Walking Cricket was invented as a sport by a member of Barnsley u3a? A newspaper article on this is the last item in this News Flash.

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.

What about the history and content of census data, and its use in family history research. **2 pm Wednesday 19th April.** [Details on this link.](#)

Learn to play GO The Japanese game of GO is more strategic than chess and easier to learn. Neil Stevens is offering individual coaching sessions for complete beginners with the aim of developing a small group of players who can play each other on a regular basis. There's no obligation to continue if you feel it's not for you after first session. No need to have your own board - Neil will supply. Interested? Contact neil@neystone.co.uk

Harrogate u3a joins WestNet

We are delighted to welcome members of Harrogate u3a as members of WestNet. This not only means they can join one of our groups (subject to space being available) but we can take advantage of what they have to offer. To view the Harrogate u3a group pages, [select this link.](#)

Any WestNet member wanting to join an Ilkley & District u3a should register their details not only with the group leader [but also on our join us page.](#) This means they will receive this newsletter to keep them updated about all the other activities in our u3a and we can check their membership of u3a elsewhere.

Dates for your diaries

The next drop-in at Clarke Foley 10:30 am to 12 noon on **Friday 7th 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.

A further drop-in at the Core in Otley 10:30 am to 12 noon **Friday 14th April.**

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 wanted to distribute the EYE.

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 are hoping to raise the 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.

If you can help in keeping displays fully stocked and looking neat throughout the summer months, please email editor@ilkleyu3a.org

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.](#) A particularly poignant letter from E Greenwood of Westville Road demanding that the fountain at the top of Brook Street be restored. Well, it looks as if it might happen in 2023 with designs recently on display in Clarke Foley.

Read the full collection [by selecting this link](#) and taking a volume from our digital bookcase.

We hope these bring a smile!

*Q. What's more amazing than a talking dog? **A spelling bee***

*Q. What goes tick tock, woof woof, tick tock, woof woof? **A watchdog.***

*Q. What do you call a dog magician? **A labracadabrador.***

*Definition of u3a. **A Youth Club for the over 50's!***

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.

Regards

John & Christine

Email: Newsflash@ilkleyu3a.org

Exhibition: How Ilkley has grown. An exhibition that plots the changes and growth of the town over the last 80 years including aerial photos and other images. At the Manor House from 25th March. [Details here.](#)

Ilkley Carnival Members may be interested to read about what's planned for Bank Holiday Monday 1st May. [Select here to read more.](#)

Financial scam alerts. Our age group is being increasingly targeted so please be vigilant. At home, we've been getting a series of phone call purporting to be from the security department of

our bank about 'suspicious activity on our account'. Also emails about packages waiting for delivery. If in doubt, do nothing. Eventually they give up until the next scam comes along.

The latest national newsletter [Now available to read on this link.](#)

Finally, a wonderful story to share Read about what can be achieved once retirement beckons. [This link is to an article in the Guardian](#) about Barnsley u3a member Mac McKechnie who invented Walking Cricket. An example to us all.

