

# News Flash

Your regular newsletter from Ilkley & District u3a

Issue 23.09 1st May 2023

## Latest updates

**Fitness Hub** Our partnership with Ilkley Tennis and Squash Club continues to strengthen and a new series of eight sessions starts during the week commencing 10th May. Select the following links to learn more about the activities on offer and to register your interest in taking part:

- [Move Freely \(1pm Tuesday 9th May\)](#)
- [Pilates 1 \(1pm Thursday 11th May\)](#)
- [Pilates 2 \(2pm Thursday 11th May\)](#)
- [Silver Spin \(1pm Friday 12th May\)](#)

If you have never been to a gym, Move Freely on a Tuesday is designed just for you. Peter Mate has shared his experience of attending this class. [Select here to read Peter's thoughts.](#)

**Researching the family tree**. The first of our short courses runs from 2:30 to 4:30 pm on 3 consecutive Wednesdays starting 17th May at Abbeyfield on Riddings Road, Ilkley, LS29 9TJ (just behind the bandstand). At a cost of just £13 to cover room hire, we already have 12 members signed up to share their experiences and can take a few more.

So if you're interested in meeting with others who share your fascination with family history research, please email Dianne Taylor ([dianne.taylor@hotmail.com](mailto:dianne.taylor@hotmail.com)) briefly describing your experience in ancestry research and she will get back to you with an update on arrangements.

## Group News

**The Practical Gardening Group** will have its first meeting on **Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 10 am to 12.30** at the Red Lion in Burley-in-Wharfedale. They plan to organise visits to member's gardens, talks on various aspects of gardening, question times, outings to famous gardens etc. To express an interest in this group email [newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org)

**Flat Green Lawn Bowls Group** The 2023 season restarted at 1:45 pm Monday 24th April and continues every Monday through the summer. Coaching will be given to new members and bowls will be available to borrow. Please turn up at Ben Rhydding Bowls Club, Coutances Way, LS29 8AW, by 1:45 pm. [more information on this link.](#)

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

**The Railways Group.** The fortnightly meetings at Clarke Foley may be suspended for the summer but this is when the group go on their travels. [Select here to read about and see pictures](#) from a behind the scenes visit to the tram system in Manchester. To express an interest in joining the Railways Group, [select this link](#).

**Walking Cricket.** The group has just moved to an outside venue for the summer and have provided up update for u3a on Facebook. You do not need to have a Facebook account to see this and many other entries. [Select here to view](#). Great photos!

## **New groups hoping to get started**

**Poetry** To read poetry and then discuss afterwards. To be held in a venue where a cup of coffee etc is to be purchased.

**Film Making** An ex professional who appreciates there may not be many members with expertise and commitment but is keen like to meet up with others interested in the topic.

**Russian Language** Suggested by a qualified interpreter so would be able to teach any standard.

**Leisurely Lunches** Intended to provide get-together lunches or coffees at different venues.

All of these groups have been proposed by u3a members who are happy to take a leadership role but need to find out if there is sufficient interest in taking the planning to the next stage. So, if any of the above topics appeal to you, contact [newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto:newgroups@ilkleyu3a.org) as soon as possible.

## **Short courses**

The next short course will be on the **History of Addingham in the middle ages** for six fortnightly afternoons **starting Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** through to **15<sup>th</sup> November**. Bookings will be taken from early August but you may want to reserve the date in your diary now

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. Maybe, for example, you just want to visit gardens during the summer months. Whatever appeals to you is bound to appeal to others. Your first step is to email [shortcourses@ilkleyu3a.org](mailto: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.

## **Members' Market Place**

Login to the website, [select here to visit the Market Place](#) and read about:

- A fascinating response to an enquiry about SU Carburettor factory and prefab housing on Victoria Avenue. Worth a read with interesting pictures.
- A Samsung Galaxy Tablet from 2014 looking for a new owner.
- A recommendation to see the latest Playhouse production.
- A child's table and chair set (ideal for garden use) looking for a good home.

- u3a member only discount for hospitality of the Ilkley Tennis Trophy tournament.

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 a member directly, click on their name for contact information.

## Dates for your diaries

**The next drop-in at Clarke Foley is** 10:30 am to 12 noon on **Friday 5th May**. 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 20th May. Darwin in Ilkley**. Mike Dixon gives regular talks on aspects of local history at a variety of venues and occasions. He co-authored a book on Darwin in Ilkley so talks with great eloquence and authority on the topic. There may be copies of the book to purchase on the day.

This is an ideal opportunity to invite friends to an u3a event and introduce them to all that we provide because this talk is sure to be of interest to anyone living in and around our district. [More details on this link.](#)

We also hope to promote this talk in the local press. [Read our press release here.](#)

**u3a Yorkshire Region Musicfest** Over 130 performers from music groups throughout the region (including from our own u3a) will gather in York on **Tuesday 13th June** from 10:30 am to entertain what we know will be an enthusiastic audience. Expect to see choirs, ukulele groups, acoustic bands, and instrumental groups featuring guitars, flutes and recorders. For more information and to book your place, [select this link.](#)

**Summer Programme** will consist of over 20 events during the period **19th June to 14th July**. [Select here to read the full list and reserve a date in your diary.](#) Bookings open mid-May.

**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 **10:30 am Saturday morning 1st July**. [More information on this link.](#)

## Ilkley Newspaper Archive

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

## Thanks to Bruce Chalmers for these thought proving musings

The ability to speak several languages is an asset **but the ability to keep your mouth shut in any language is priceless.**

Happiness is not having to set the alarm clock.

When I get a headache I take two aspirin and keep away from children  
— just like the bottle says.

Just once, I want the prompt for username and password to say, 'Close  
enough.'

## **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.

## **Anybody free 7 pm Wednesday 31st May?**

Our u3a runs a quiz team competing against other u3a groups via zoom. On this date we are going to be one short due to holidays so if this is the type of thing that appeals, just reply to this News Flash and we can give you more information. It's very well organised and good fun.

Regards

John & Christine

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

**Associate membership.** In the very near future, members of other u3a groups (including our near neighbours in Leeds, Wetherby and Cookridge / Horsforth) will be able to apply for Associate Membership of Ilkley & District u3a. They will enjoy similar access to our activities as those currently enjoyed by members of WestNet u3a groups.

**Volunteer drivers urgently required** The Ilkley Community Transport minibuses are often used by u3a groups. All three buses in the fleet need volunteer drivers. Contact David Steel [info@ilkleycommunitytransport.org.uk](mailto:info@ilkleycommunitytransport.org.uk) mentioning u3a.

**French students learning english looking to be hosted.** 17th to 20th October. These are mature students of similar age to ourselves, so an opportunity to share thoughts and experiences and maybe build long term friendships. If anyone would like to know more, reply to this News Flash.

**The national newsletter has arrived.** There is a good deal to learn about u3a beyond the boundaries of Ilkley & District. [Select here to read.](#)

**Have you ever put together a flat pack cupboard?** See these pictures of Steve Walker and Raymond Lockwood doing a great job constructing a new storage cupboard for u3a at Clarke Foley earlier this month. Apparently it took two hours.

