

The Buzz

Barnsley u3a news, information and features.



The Coordinators' Buffet



Sue Stokes with the plaque commemorating the Rowan tree planted as part of the 'Queen's Canopy' project.



u3a Day in Barnsley.



Monthly Meetings go from strength to strength at the Metrodome.

Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT)

Are you having trouble sleeping? Feeling stressed, anxious, worried or have low mood generally?

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IAPT is still here with support for everyone aged 16+ registered with a Barnsley GP.

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With **all of us** in mind.

FROM THE EDITOR

I hope you enjoy this Winter Buzz!



sum up Bu3a for me. One is the group I've just started called 'Ceilidh Band' and the other is of Flutes Galore having a fine night out. Keep your features coming and have a great Christmas.



Thank you all for your contributions to this edition. I was asked recently if I enjoyed producing The Buzz. My answer was swift, "I love it!" I'd spent the morning downloading all the photographs that you send in, thinking how many smiling faces there were and how many good times were being had. These two photos

HELEN SIMMS

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE SPRING BUZZ IS 10TH FEBRUARY 2023

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THE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



This message, reflecting on the second quarter of my chairmanship from September to December 2002, was never going to be difficult to write because the past three months have been inspiring and galvanising, fantastic and exhausting, funny and stressful, good and sad.

Sad because we all lost our very special Choir Accompanist, Irene Hill, who was massively supportive of me from the day I joined Bu3a. I had decided to give Barnsley u3a a go and chose the Choir as my first group. I'm no singer but once in the Bu3a Choir and then the Thurnscoe Choir, Irene 'pushed' me musically and 'cared' for me in a very personal way. Irene was a treasure of Bu3a and a dear friend to many staunch Bu3a members.



Fantastic because Sue Stokes (left) as Events Officer came up trumps yet again when she organised **National u3a Day** for us on 21st September in Barnsley. Two marquees in Barnsley's wonderful town centre, one for Bu3a publicity, one for The Old Blowers whilst other music groups were getting a great reception in The Alhambra and there were more fine group presentations in The Library. I think that we were really successful that day; certainly, New Members Secretary, Helen Dew, reported a surge in membership applications immediately afterwards.

Galvanising because our move to The Metrodome seems to have brought us back together as a unit. The cancellation of all face-to face meetings in lockdown, the loss of Priory Campus to the NHS, then the difficult post-Covid re-building of the Monthly Meetings at Redfearns were all challenges. Now, we have had three highly successful sessions at The Metrodome that have seen the Rigby Suite impressively full of Bu3a members. Three great presentations from Alan Swann, Ian McMillan and the Barnsley Hospital cancer-care team of Alison Spencer and Laura Dixon (right) have all been received very well indeed.



Good because we took the decision to buy our own gazebos so that we can promote ourselves more professionally. This purchase of two gazebos that can be joined together to make a full 6m x 3m marquee should serve us well for many years to come.

Inspiring because some 90 Coordinators and other leading players in our organisation came together on November 9th at what we must hope will become a regular buffet lunch (left). Nothing happens without such people putting their hands up to say that they will take the lead, that they'll arrange for things to happen. It didn't all go quite to plan on the day (my fault) but I felt happy, even proud, to see so many important leaders come together to demonstrate physically how they are all part of a big team that is trying to bring happiness to the community.



Funny because I had a 'fight' over a bottle of champagne with October 'Fizz Quiz' winner, Maria Steeples! It was captured on camera and became a favourite photo of mine. It was fun and **FUN** is my key word for Barnsley u3a!

HAVE A GREAT CHRISTMAS!

DEREK BACON



BUFFET LUNCH

The lunch took place on 9th November at the Metrodome to thank the Committee Support Team, Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators for the smooth running and well-being of our groups. A fantastic time was had by all enjoying a quiz, 'Play Your Cards Right', a pantomime (albeit reduced!), bingo, the fabulous lunch and chatting to old friends. Roll on next year!



CYCLING GROUP

Coordinator Les Roberts

Since our last report we have continued to cycle around Yorkshire & Derbyshire. Our travels have taken us on the Monsal Trail and into Bakewell for a smashing lunch at the Red Lion. Our merry band have ridden through Sherwood Forest and on to Clumber Park. Then on our local rides we have been seen on the Trans Pennine Trail and the Wakefield Wheel around Normanton, Nostell, Anglers and Pugneys, where they closed the kitchen early. Fortunately, the coordinator got served before they did this. The lunch was great, but I'm not sure what everyone else had to eat!

As we approach Winter, the cycling group is usually taking a well-earned rest and preparing for next year. However, why should we rest? The news coming from the group is that we are continuing to cycle over the Winter months! We have six local rides planned. So, clean them bikes, wrap up warm and join our merry band of cyclists on our Winter adventures.

Rides coming up are:

Nov 22	Old Moor	Cusworth
Dec 6th	Kendall Green	Manvers/Old Moor
Dec 20th	Stanley Ferry	Temple Newsam
Jan 3rd	Kendall Green	Elsecar/Wentworth
Jan 17th	Anglers	Castleford
Jan 31st	Rabbit Ings	Wakefield Wheel/Nostel
Feb 14th	Kendall Green	Elsecar/Wentworth
Feb 28th	Stanley Ferry	Temple Newsam



TREE PLANTING AT MONK BRETTON



On Thursday 3rd November the Mayor of Barnsley, Councillor Sarah Tattersall, attended a ceremony where the President of Barnsley u3a, Alan Swann, together

with other u3a members, planted a rowan tree as part of our late Queen's 'Tree Canopy' project.

The planting of the tree in the garden at Monk Bretton Methodist Church celebrates the 40th Anniversary of the u3a movement and the 25th Anniversary of Barnsley u3a.



Monk Bretton was chosen as the first site of our intended tree plantings because many u3a groups use the rooms and facilities there.



JO KASPAREK

SOUND BATH



I feel truly grateful to have the opportunity to experience Christine's Sound Bath sessions. It is a rather special sort of

mindfulness, listening to and absorbing her wonderful musical improvisations for an hour every fortnight.

Coordinator: Christine Whewell

The soundscape is created from crystal bowls, goblets, rain makers, chimes and many other beautiful instruments, sometimes including her voice.

Layer upon layer of gentle vibrations soak into you as you sit quietly and your breathing becomes deeper and calmer. I find it very peaceful and meditative, an oasis of stillness.



In the days following each session I try to reconnect with the inner quiet that I found there.

HEATHER LINDLEY

Which King of England invented the fireplace?

Alfred the Grate!

What vegetable makes us think of Christmas?

Peas on earth!

CREATIVE WRITING

Coordinator: Martyn Jones

The Creative Writing Group gets a lot of pleasure from swapping their stories online. The positive feedback encourages us to improve our writing. There are seven of us but we would love to read more stories.



If you have ever written a story or had an ambition to write one, then you will be aware of the pleasure to be gained through writing, but you may not have experienced the thrill of having other people hear or

read it. Therefore we would like to invite anyone who is part of the u3a family to send their work to us, and we will give you positive feedback. There is no need to be a member of our group but you are most welcome to join us at any time.

In order to try and inspire ideas, I set a choice of three topics every fortnight.

When sending your work in, please indicate if you wish your email address to be shared with other members of the group.

It is envisaged that we will return to face to face meetings when everyone feels comfortable.

SOLO CLUB

Coordinator: Trish Atkinson



The Solo Club has enjoyed a busy summer with several meals out, dog walks and a visit to Brodsworth Hall where we were given a tour of the gorgeous gardens. I plan to go back next year to see the spring bulbs.

Some members enjoyed Steptoe and Son at the Lamp Room and went to see a very funny performance by the fabulous Trinity Players.



We've been having a go at crown green bowling at Royston Park and were given kind and patient guidance by members of the bowling club. I think we now know the difference between 'finger' and 'thumb' bowling, sometimes even predicting which way the ball will curve!



We revisited Owlerton Stadium recently for another fun night of eating and gambling away our meagre pensions. In September we went to Wentworth Woodhouse for a special 'free visit' day, the weather was lovely, so we enjoyed sitting in the gardens.



LIZ BRIGGS (IN THE MIDDLE!)

THURSDAYS CHALLENGING WALKS

Coordinator: Brian Smyth

Unless shown differently all walks start at 10:00.
For more details contact the Walk Leader.
Any changes to walks are circulated via email.




Date	Leader	Meeting Place	Walking Area	Miles
8 th Dec.	Andy Atkinson	Langsett Barn Grid Ref. SK 213 004 'w3w-///warp.steams.professes	Little Don Valley circular Ascent-1405 ft.	10
12 th Jan. 2023	John Sands	Redmires Road car park Grid Ref. SK 256 857 'w3w-///donor.fork.jets	Redmires, Stanage Edge & Burbage Moor Ascent-1340 ft.	11.5
9 th Feb.	Mike Hawley	Car park behind Silkstone Co-op. Grid Ref. SE 289 052 'w3w-///flask.outnumber.fidelity	Silkstone, Crane Moor, Hermit Hill & Stainboro. Ascent-1250 ft.	10
9 th March	Dave Hallas	Mam Tor NT car park (Mem. Free) Grid Ref. SK 123 832 'w3w-///slogans.kebab.departure	Hollins Cross, Hope & Castleton Ascent-1900 ft.	9

THURSDAYS LONGER WALKS

Coordinator: Brian Smyth

Unless shown differently all walks start at 10:00.
For more details contact the Walk Leader.
Any changes to walks are circulated via email.



Date	Leader	Meeting Place	Walking Area	Miles
22 nd Dec.		Elsecar Heritage Centre Grid Ref. SK 384 999 'w3w-///dined.limped.unicorns	Elsecar & Tankersley Park	8
26 th Jan. 2023	Jean Potter	Roadside or Heatherdene car park Meet by Res. wall opposite memorial Grid Ref. SK 201 854 'w3w-///report.prowling.artichoke	Win Hill & Hope Cross	8
23 rd Feb.	Margaret Atkinson	Langsett Barn Grid Ref. SE 210 004 'w3w-///schools.promotion.order	Langsett, Upper & Little Don	7
23 rd March	Brian Smyth	Rabbit Ings car park Grid Ref. SE 375 117 'w3w-///spins.unwound.blazing	Rabbit Ings, Walton & Notton	8.5

How do bees travel on holiday?

By buzz!



What did one school dinner lady say to the other school dinner lady?

Only sixty slopping days left till Christmas!



TRAVEL GROUP

Coordinator: Chrissie White



On Tuesday, 20th September, 40 members enjoyed a day trip to Shibden Hall, Halifax Piece Hall and Bankfield Museum.

Shibden Hall was built in 1420 and was a family home for over 500 years until it was donated to Halifax Corporation in 1923. Its most famous resident was Anne Lister whose life story is portrayed in the



Gentleman Jack television series. Much of the first and second series was filmed at the Hall.

After visiting the Hall, members were taken the short journey to Halifax Piece Hall where they had a couple

of hours lunch break before going to the Bankfield Museum.

This is also owned by Calderdale Council and houses many of the costumes worn by the cast of the Gentleman Jack television series. Members were able to enjoy other exhibits including local history, military history, toys, art, jewellery and costumes. There were even some costumes available for people to try on.



Many members said they would have liked more time in each venue, something we will consider when planning future visits.



AUDREY EYRE

THEATRE

Over the past three months the theatre group has continued to thrive and grow. Members have gained the confidence to deliver presentations and quizzes to the group. This leads to good discussions and contributions to the session.

Theatre visits are organised by Avril, who gets in touch with the theatres to get us the best possible price for tickets and good seats.

Coordinator: Jayne Welburn

We have been to see 'Singing in the Rain' at Sheffield and 'Shakers' at Wakefield. All are preceded by a sociable meal.



AFTERNOON TEA COMPETITION



The Worshipful, the Mayor of Barnsley, Councillor Sarah-Jane Tattersall, has invited a group of Barnsley u3a members to the Town Hall at **1pm on**

THURSDAY 16th MARCH 2023. There will be a tour of the building and afternoon tea.



Places are limited, therefore any member who wishes to attend should contact **Sue Stokes** with their name and contact details by **JANUARY 31st 2023.** All names will be put into a hat at the February Monthly Meeting and 17 names will be pulled out.

Sue's contact details are on the Contact List: she's the Events Officer. Good luck!

9th January

Yorkshire Air Ambulance

As a charity, YAA only receive help through the secondment of paramedics and doctors from the NHS. To keep both of Yorkshire's air ambulances in the air they need to raise £19,000 per day. As a rapid response air emergency service they serve a population of 5 million people across 4 million acres. Their two air ambulances operate from airbases at Nostell Priory near Wakefield and RAF Topcliffe near Thirsk.



6th February

Singalong for Fun



Following the brilliant February 2020 show by Peter Higginbottom's 'Singalong for Fun' group at Priory Campus, I received many requests for a repeat performance so here it is! I remember that I couldn't stop smiling at that meeting! Of course, it'll be up to Peter to put together his hits songs of the 50s, 60's and 70's but I reckon that if **YOU** have got a favourite to rock along to, you ought to get in touch with him NOW to request it!



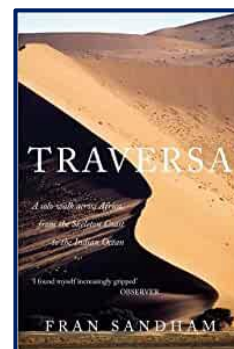
6th March

A Solo Walk Across Africa



Critically acclaimed author and public speaker, Fran Sandham, took on the challenge of a lifetime, by walking solo across Africa from coast to coast. His 3,000-mile walk from the Atlantic on Namibia's Skeleton Coast to the Indian Ocean near Zanzibar was the first time on record anyone has crossed Africa solo entirely on foot by this route.

A former editor of Rough Guides, Fran has also written freelance for newspapers and magazines including the Daily Telegraph, the Observer and the Financial Times. His book 'Traversa: A solo walk across Africa' received terrific reviews on both sides of the Atlantic and was serialised in the Sunday Times.



3rd April

Fool's Gold



Carol and Steve Robson (Fool's Gold) are talented musicians and story tellers from Durham who have been booked by hundreds of u3a groups around the country and having read the rave reviews, I thought it was time we saw and heard them for ourselves. They have many programmes to offer and perhaps we'll opt for their **About Old King Coal**. "Audiences have always liked our mining songs. We're fascinated by mining history - especially insofar as it impacted on the little people - the miners, wives, and their children. Their stories, the conditions they lived and worked in, and how they let off steam

are the subjects of this show. Lots of opportunities to join in as well as the stories and of course, some compelling visuals".

I hope that you like the variety on offer in early 2023

Let us continue to build on the current success of the Bu3a Monthly Meetings

Please support your Bu3a!

DEREK BACON

QUEEN ELIZABETH II – MEMBERS’ MEMORIES

JUBILEE – A MEMBERS RECOLLECTION



Being a veteran, I received a special invitation to attend the Queen’s Jubilee celebrations on 2nd June in London. Seating areas were set up outside the Palace for the serving armed forces and veterans along with their guests. We had stayed overnight as it was an early start, so there we were walking down Piccadilly at 7.30am in our finery on the most beautiful summer day.

We were in good time for the gates at Green Park to open at 8.00am, so imagine our shock upon reaching as far as The Ritz to see the queue snaking halfway

down the next street. After an hour of queuing, we finally reached the seating area, hoping for a seat with a good view. We weren’t disappointed, we could see the platoons of soldiers coming from the park ready to take their place in the parade. As we were shown to our seats, we were given a lunch box, a flag from the Royal British Legion and plenty of bottled water.



The whole crowd around us were very excited, soldiers and marching bands right in front of our eyes. Then, carriages carrying the Princess of Wales and her children, the Princes and Princess Anne on horseback. There was so much colour and pageantry, it felt so wonderful to be British!

After they had all made their way to Horse Guards Parade for Trooping the Colour, which we were able to watch on the big screens in front of us, along came the ‘pooper scooper’ van to tidy the roadway ready for the march back to the Palace.



Suddenly there was a murmur among the crowd with all eyes on the balcony, and there she was, our Queen! She was preparing to take the salute from the returning soldiers. The rest of the family joined her there to watch the fly past, which was truly enthralling. Finally, the crowds from The Mall were allowed through the barriers and joined us below, cheering and waving at the balcony. A fitting end to a spectacular day.

SANDRA BOOTH

OUR QUEEN

For all those years she was our Queen,
A Mum and Grandma too.
She vowed to do her very best,
To that vow, she was true.
She juggled Duty and Family too
and always with a smile.
Wherever she went her Philip was true
Until his time was ended.
Yet still she kept her vow so strong,
and now her time has ended.
Her Son will carry on the work

Her time to rest has come.
So rest in Peace our Gracious Queen,
Reunited with your Family.
We thank you for all your work and time,
Your memory will Live forever.

God Bless, Ma’am, and long live the King!

BETTY HIGGINBOTTOM

MY VISIT TO SEE THE QUEEN

Sadly, we all heard the news about the death of our beloved Queen. It was inevitable as she was 96 and had become frail recently. The sentiments and feelings were reflected by the unbelievable reaction that followed. Most, unexpectedly had a feeling of loss and felt the huge vacuum it created. Others felt a personal loss. Her Majesty played an important role in all our lives just by being there. As she said, she wanted to be 'seen by her people' and the media via television and newspapers contributed to this. We saw her in our sitting rooms attending charity events,



Remembrance Day, overseas visits and the famous balcony appearances for 70 years.

We wanted to be there to pay our respects. The formal royal ceremonies

drew thousands and were viewed in admiration by the whole world. Nobody had seen anything like this before. Everything was planned meticulously to the finest detail. Even the weather was in her favour, a rainbow appeared and the sun shone! We all felt we had to be there to witness the many ceremonial parades led by the, now, King Charles and the rest of the young and old royal family. They did her proud!

Thousands, too, wanted to be there in person. This strong feeling came from their hearts. Nobody could explain this.

The queues were long and tiring, but there were no complaints. Young and old and ex-military proudly displaying their medals all had one thing in common; to pay our respects and thanks to our Queen. A 14 hour wait for a 5 minute viewing was a lifetime event and well worth it. I was one of them!



Entering Westminster Abbey took you back to another world! The serene silence and almost unreal atmosphere engulfed you. You had enough time on a one to one to pay your respects. Nobody rushed, nobody lingered. Then, with a feeling of satisfaction,



you left having had the once in a lifetime experience.

INDU KUMAR



I was at Buckingham Palace on 9th September after the sad news of the death of our Queen. I took flowers, a card and a candle to pay my respects.



YAMUNA RAJGOPAL



A VOICE IN THE COALSHED

For about five years or so I have been the resident poet at the National Coal Mining Museum of England, in Wakefield.

As is often the case, this came about through a chance meeting, at which I wasn't present. My wife had taken our then toddler granddaughter to the museum for a clarty-arty afternoon. One of the museum staff was preparing an exhibition on the Bevan Boys and this attracted the attention of an ever inquisitive little girl.



When she was told what was going on she remembered my dad, her great granddad had been a Bevan Boy. This led to a conversation between the staff member and my wife. The upshot of this was I contributed a poem I'd written about my dad's experiences at Maltby Main to the exhibition.

Through a series of workshops I eventually established the Voices in the Coalshed poetry group at the museum and I began composing poems for events there. The museum has developed a memorial wall that consists of coloured glass checks, in emulation of the brass ones miners handed in before going underground. These are bought by family and friends for inclusion in what is developing into a secular stained glass "window". Twice a year a formal event is held for the instillation of the memorial checks for which I compose and recite a poem.



Throughout the rest of the year I write and record poems for the museum's website. I also run projects to which visitors can contribute to developing poems on mining related themes. Presently, I'm working on a series of haikus as pen portraits to complement the art exhibition, "Face to Face" that is being staged.

I was asked to compose an acrostic poem of the theme of remembrance.

Remembrance Day

Recall, if you will, energy of coal,
Every nugget and cob of it cut by
Miners, hurried along through darkness to
Emerge at the pit brow, out in the light.
Measure by measure, hand hewn and sorted,
Bringing primeval power down through time,
Running engines of progress, turning wheels
And binding communities. Social clubs,
Neat allotments, dirty-side banter and
Chapels, hard times and good, shared snuff and snap
Eaten half along between face and cage.

Days for all and everything pass, but while
Active memories are checks tallying
Years, there is no reason for forgetting.



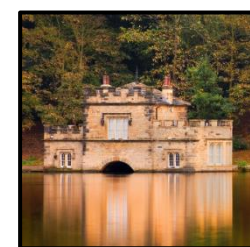
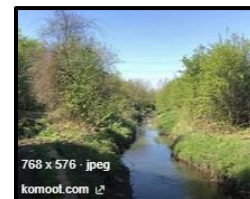
DAVE ALTON

TUESDAY WALKING

Coordinators: Robert and Pauline Rowland

Walkers meet at 9.45 for a 10am start. Our walks are approximately 4 to 6 miles long depending on the time of year. They vary in severity and number of stiles so please check with the walk leader if you have doubts about its suitability. An email via Beacon will be sent out prior to each walk giving further details. There is usually a nearby pub or café if members wish to socialise after the walk.

Date	Meeting Place	Walking Area	Leader/s
10/1/23	Denaby Ings Carpark Pastures Road Mexborough S64 0JJ	Conisborough	Lynda & Dave
24/1/23	Wentworth Woodhouse Garden Centre Carpark S62 7TF	Wentworth Woodhouse Trail	Dave & Denise
7/2/23	RSPB Old Moor Old Moor Lane Wombwell S73 0YF	Manvers Lake area	John & Anne Parr
21/2/23	Carpark behind the Thornley Arms, Dodworth S753RG	Dodworth / Stainborough Circular	Robert & Pauline
7/3/23	Roadside by Inkerman Pool Barnsley Road, Denby Dale HD8 8TS	Upper Cumberworth	Guest Leader Peter Adkin
21/3/23	Howell Wood Carpark Burntwood Lane, South Kirby S72 9HB	Howell Woods	Robina
4/4/23	Newmillerdam Carpark	Notton Area	Peter & Sid
18/4/23	Parking by St Cuthbert's Church, Cross Hill Ackworth WF7 7EJ	Ackworth Area	Pam & Dot



BUDDIES GROUP

Coordinator: Joan Tollerfield



Our friendly group currently meet on the fourth Thursday of the month at 4.00pm at the Birdwell Community Centre. This may become

twice monthly from February next year! At the meetings we have a variety of activities such as board games, crafts such as crochet and card making, quizzes, and guest speakers. Each month there is a

raffle and refreshments, often with home baked goodies. We take the opportunity to plan social activities throughout the following month such as meals out, walks, theatre



trips and outings. New members are always welcome.

Last month we had an interesting talk about the

Woodhead Mountain Rescue group. It's gratifying to know there are such dedicated and well-trained people who will come to the rescue if you get into difficulties in South Yorkshire. A group of Buddies had a day trip to Whitby. A fascinating guided tour of Wentworth Woodhouse was enjoyed in the summer.



For more details contact

Joanie Tollerfield

BARBARA GITTNER

MONTHLY MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 5TH AND OCTOBER 3RD 2022



Alan Swann stood in brilliantly for our speaker, Alison Spencer, who had tested positive for Covid on the morning of the meeting.



Alan gave us his 'Laughter' presentation which has been 'doing the rounds' of many u3a groups over the past few years and it was good to hear it on his home ground.



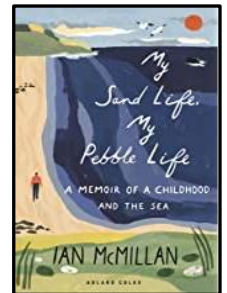
It's a well-rehearsed, confidently presented, slick routine that runs through multiple topics, such as stupid children, stupid animals, stupid newspaper headlines, silly photos, silly road signs etc.

Anything amusing and Alan chucks them in with a fast-moving commentary. A wet-yourself-laughing-show (especially for us Tena-pants-wearing lot!) Thank you, Alan for a hilarious afternoon!

Ian McMillan made a truly welcome return to the October Monthly Meeting after a ten-year absence! He is everywhere on TV and radio, of course. He has hosted his "dream job", 'The Verb' on Radio 3 every Friday evening for some twenty years.



He's Yorkshire Planetarium's Poet in Space, Poet-in-residence for Barnsley FC, Humberside Police's Beat Poet and Yorkshire TV's Investigative Poet. He writes a monthly column in the 'Dalesman' and has been a regular on countless programmes including 'You & Yours', 'Any Questions', 'Quote Unquote', 'Just A Minute' and 'Have I Got News For You?' His rip-roaring poetry shows are legendary. He has written loads of books with amusing anecdotes about his Yorkshire, Barnsley and Darfield life and many volumes of poetry. We got a sneak preview when he read from his latest book, 'My Sand Life, My Pebble Life'



A student at Wath Grammar until June 1974, Ian agreed totally with my suggestion that his success in life is entirely due to ME!! Simply because I started teaching there in January 1974! I never actually taught him in a classroom but who cares about that! I was there! He was there! It's obvious!

Ian MacMillan had the audience laughing non-stop for a full hour with a string of amusing tales; they just tumble out from his brain's massive storage facility! I can't remember them all because it was too much fun listening to take notes! He certainly had us baffled with his recollection of broadcasting live at BBC Radio Sheffield when it was reported that salt would be arriving late at Barnsley Metrodome. Strange news to be broadcasting, to be honest, and chaos ensued live on air until someone explained that it was Barnsley Councillor Hedley Salt who would be arriving late for a meeting rather than a few bags of salt arriving late at the Metrodome's kitchens!



The anecdote about watching a man chasing after a donkey on Scarborough beach tickled me but his amorous intentions towards that donkey were apparently not honourable and it was probably best that the story wasn't finished! It was becoming rude but it was funny.

Ian complained that his 'Freedom of Barnsley' award has not given him free access to anything useful although the council eventually did provide a frame for his certificate!

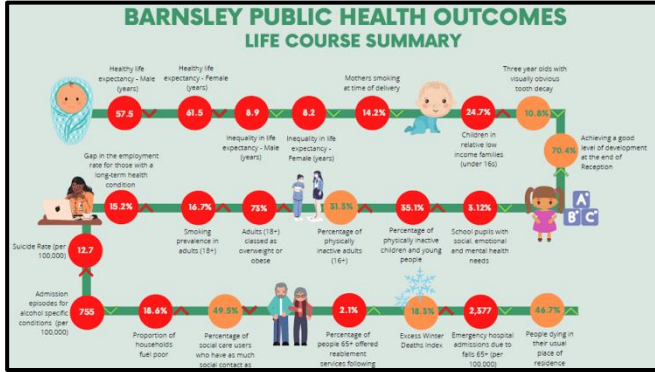
He readily, almost greedily, accepted honorary membership of Bu3a (left); he told us that he sees it as an accolade far above his five university doctorates and his Freedom of Barnsley award. And we're not surprised by that!

Thanks, Ian, you gave us a great afternoon!

DEREK BACON

Alison Spencer, Cancer Health and Wellbeing Liaison Facilitator and Laura Dixon, Public Health Technical Officer from Barnsley Hospital, came to speak to us on the important issue of Cancer Health and Wellbeing and Early Detection. Both have personal experience of family members being treated for cancer.

At 'The Well for Wellbeing' (therapeutic care for cancer patients), based in Regent Street, Barnsley, patients have access to 6 free sessions to help them with the emotional, financial and physical problems that can occur following a cancer diagnosis and the subsequent treatment. These sessions help boost confidence and self-esteem. The meeting took a collection for 'The Well', which is part funded by the NHS and partly through fundraising. £120 was collected. Thank you.



After a period of remaining static, the most recent data available shows that life expectancy for males and females in Barnsley has lowered, and is significantly lower than both national and regional rates.

2018 -20 data does show that the life expectancy gap for men and women between the most and least deprived Barnsley communities is improving (though this data does not cover the full period of the Covid19 pandemic).



Alison stressed the importance of early detection being key to a successful treatment and showed slides that helped identify possible early signs of cancer in breast, prostate, lung, bowel and skin.



Laura gave us the statistics, which weren't entirely positive for some of the more deprived communities in the Barnsley district. However, she talked about her commitment to publicising screening opportunities enabling early detection.



It was a very important and positive presentation.



HELEN SIMMS



PENISTONE WALKING GROUP

A sunny day with some of the walking group by the River Don at Millhouse Green.

MARTIN WINNARD

u3a Day 2022: WE TOOK OVER THE TOWN!

More than 80 Bu3a members participated in this year's u3a Day on Wednesday 21st September, and many more showed up to support and enjoy what was on offer.



The Stringalongs started off performances in The Alhambra Centre and attracted a lot of attention. Interested public were provided with leaflets and good conversation.



Information and displays from the Literature, Creative Writing, Writing for Pleasure, Theatre, German and Stitches Groups were on show with group representatives available to talk to interested visitors. Their position at the back of the ground floor of the library didn't lend itself to many passers-by so we will rethink location next time.



Then Flutes Galore whose musical talents were enjoyed and caused members of the public to pause so volunteers could talk with them.



Whilst Bu3a was celebrated with music in the Alhambra, displays were erected in the Library at the Lightbox as well as in the Information Tent in the Town Square.

Outside, in the Information Tent, we had contributions from Painting and Drawing for Pleasure, Jewellery Making, Walking Cricket, Games Galore and French. The colourful labels of all our groups drew lots of enquiries.



Two walking tours were offered – Barnsley Then and Now and Building Stones of Barnsley. The former covered the area from Benjamin Harrals on Eldon Street, through the Victorian Arcade, into Hanson Street and down Regent Street. This was hosted

by members of the Exploring Barnsley Research Group. The Building Stones of Barnsley tour was led by members of the Barnsley Rocks (Geology) Group, who took a route around the Town Hall and Regent Street. Both tours were well received and added a new feature to u3a Day.



The Old Blowers performed in the middle of the Town Square. Their performance attracted lots of people, who sat on benches in the sunshine enjoying the music. Again, this enabled volunteers to share information about Bu3a with lots of local people.



Unfortunately, we were unable to have a presence in the Glassworks Marketplace for the Sequence and Ballroom Dancers. Again, we'll have to rethink how to enable them to display this popular group activity.

WAS IT A SUCCESS? Helen Dew, New Members Secretary reported several enquiries in the following days – in fact, 2 new members turned up to Walking Cricket and Guitars the next day! Anecdotal comments have been very positive both from members, volunteers and general public – plus requests from Town Centre Management and Alhambra for return visits by the musicians! It was hard work – some members were on site from 8.15am and didn't leave until 3.45pm.

So, a huge THANK YOU to all involved. We showed Barnsley u3a to be a fun, lively, talented, friendly organisation with an abundance of activities for the older members of Barnsley.

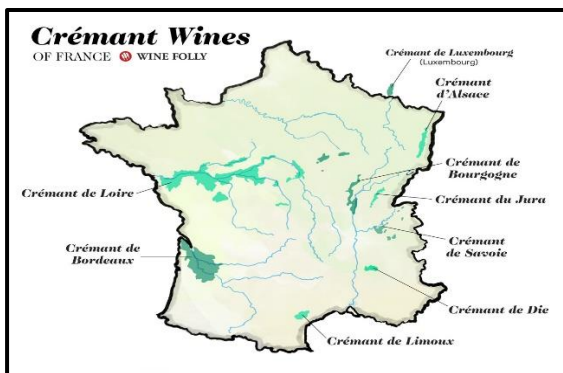
Save the date: Wednesday 20th September 2023



SUE STOKES

Pre internet chat room using
An old version of windows...





On Saturday 5th November Hannah Lucas gave a presentation on **Crémont**. This wine is sparkling, an alternative to Champagne, so perfect for a Christmas tippie.

Crémant is the French term for traditional-method sparkling wines made outside Champagne. This means that the second fermentation, which gives the wine its bubbles, must happen inside the bottle. It's produced mainly in France but can be found in Luxembourg and Dorset.

How about trying these Champagne cocktails with Crémont?

CHAMPAGNE COCKTAILS

Here are a few examples of Champagne Cocktails.



Classic
Champagne Cocktail

1 white **sugar cube** soaked with a few dashes of **bitters**

25ml **cognac**

Fill with Champagne



French 75

Combine: simple **syrup**, **lemon juice** and 30ml of **gin** in a cocktail shaker

Strain into glass

Top up with Champagne and stir gently



Hemingway
aka Death in the Afternoon

Pour 40ml of **absinthe** into the glass

Top up with Champagne



Kir Royale

Use 1 part **crème de cassis** and 9 parts Champagne

Add the **crème de cassis** to the bottom of the glass then top up with Champagne



Black Velvet

Fill glass halfway with Champagne

Pour **stout** over an upside down spoon so it flows gently into the glass and rests on top of the Champagne



Poinsettia

Chill the glass

Add 15ml **Coignreau** and 80ml of **cranberry juice**

Stir then top up with Champagne



Mimosa

Use 2 parts **orange juice** 3 parts **Champagne**

Pour chilled orange juice in a glass. Top up with Champagne



Arise My Love

Put 1 tsp of **crème de menthe** into the glass

Fill with **Champagne**

© glassofbubbly.com

BOOK FORUM (GROUP 1)

Coordinator: Jacqueline McGeever

The group meets at Worsborough Library 12.00 – 1.00 every 2nd Monday in the month. Numbers have improved, but we have room for more members if anyone would like to join.

<p>VANISHING POINT by Val McDermid</p> <p>An efficiently crafted psychological thriller with an ending that knocks you sideways!</p>
<p>FAMILY MATTERS by Rohinton Mystery</p>
<p>NEW BOY by Tracy Chevalier</p> <p>The novel brings Shakespeare's Othello, a harrowing drama of jealousy and revenge, to a 1970s era elementary school playground.</p>
<p>LIGHTHOUSEKEEPING by Jeanette Winterton</p> <p>The novel depicts the perilous, unbalanced psychology of the narrating character, Silver, who becomes an apprentice to a lighthousekeeper.</p>



CAMPERVAN AND CARAVAN GROUP

Coordinator: Trudy Atkinson

We had our last week away with our Group from 10 September to 18 September 2022. We went to St Neots in Cambridgeshire which is always one of the places that the group likes to visit, as there is plenty of walking, buses that go into Cambridge, Oxford and the surrounding villages and the camp site is very well situated for a walk into the town. The weather was good with warm sunshine and only one day with some rain. The members were meeting up and doing their own thing during the days. In the evenings we were meeting up and having a drink, playing cards and discussing the day's activities. The photograph is of one evening when we all got together and had



a picnic on the site. I am very lucky as it is a lovely friendly group and good fun to be with.

Some u3a members have asked if we ever go to a site like Haven where members without caravans or motorhomes can rent a caravan on the site and still meet up with the mobile tourers. If anyone is interested in this suggestion please ring me on 07768 325382, and we will see what we can do.

We will be having a meeting in the New Year to discuss where and when we will be going away in 2023. We normally have three separate weeks and our members decide where and when with the majority vote winning.

THE PLEASURE OF CLASSICAL MUSIC AND OPERA

Coordinator: Robert Seager

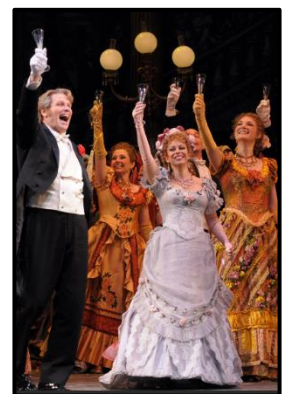
Robert Seagar has taken over as the Coordinator of the reorganised Group and is presenting a programme of differing music on an alternating monthly basis. Fiona Clarke is presenting a programme of operas on the alternating month basis. Ralph Sales is supplying support services.

ranged from Lucia de Lammermoor to Die Fledermaus. Ralph Sales presented his usual Christmas offering in December.



We have been treated to a wide range of music including American selections, an interesting programme on melody as well as music chosen by Peter Mason. The operas have

The Group will take a break over the Christmas season. The opera presentations will recommence on the second Friday in February.



The Group extends a warm welcome to anyone who appreciates good music.

RALPH SALES

Why are camping enthusiasts such good singers?

Because they always find the right pitch!



Was the musician's girlfriend excited when he asked her out?

No, she was perfectly composed!

NATUREQUEST

Coordinator: Karen Barrass

The September NatureQuest was led by me around the fishing pond in the Dearne Valley Park. Despite having regularly walked this and knowing, it well it was surprising how much wildlife we saw as we slowed down and really looked at our surroundings. Even at this time of year we noted 46 plant species. Who knew that an alternative name for the willow herb is 'codlings and cream'. We saw swan, mallards and coot on the water. The chestnut tree we saw was suffering from horse chestnut blotch, caused by an insect laying its eggs and the grub eating the leaves. This tree disease has been seen a lot this year.



Denaby Ings session on the 13th October was led by Bill and Chris Hawkesworth. This was a new walk for all of us except our leaders. It was a fascinating walk on

the Ings near Mexborough. Roy, a new member of our group and this was his first walk with the group, has a particular interest and expertise in fungi. This is a good time of year to see and identify fungi in the UK. We all learned a lot and tuned our observational skills into the smallest of lichens and fungi growing on the dead wood in the woodland areas of the Ings. We identified 35 species of plants and a Robin's pincushion. This is not for putting pins in, it's a gall as a response to an insect laying its egg, but pretty. Thirteen different species of fungi were also spotted.

November NatureQuest was an indoor group. We watched films by BLTV 'Treasures of the Dearne'. The first of these was on Wombwell Woods. Absolutely fascinating. It is phenomenal that Wombwell Woods is

a relic of the Ancient Woodland that used to cover this island. This is based on the woodland being in existence prior to 1600's. The first recorded documentation of Wombwell Woods was in the Domesday Book in 1086. The first inhabitants that are known to have been in the woodland were from the Mesolithic and Neolithic times. There is a scheduled monument in the woods of a Romano-British Farmstead. A number of the villages around the woodland have names ending in -field, -ley, -stubbin all of which are saxon words meaning woodland clearance areas. It clearly is an area rich in wildlife of plant, wings and legs. There are some species that will only thrive in Ancient Woodlands and nowhere



else. Hopefully, note some of those on our walk round the woods next year.

The second film we watched was of the Worsbrough Mill and Country Park,

an important historical place that still has a relevance today, with the mill working again, using 105 tons of water per hour to run the water wheel and mill grain into flour.

The January and February groups will also be indoors to watch three more films. Then the plan is for the first walks of the new season, starting March 2023, to be in the areas that the films were focussed on to link our nature observation with the knowledge of the areas' industrial and post-industrial history.

SPANISH INTRODUCTION

It's been over a decade now since I started the Spanish Introduction group and we always look forward to meeting up every week.

I enjoy seeing so many members who come into the Spanish room with no or little knowledge of the language and leaving us with a good start to understanding and conversing in the Spanish language.



Coordinator: Joan Tollerfield

I'm so blessed to have such a wonderful group of members. Here are some of my lovely amigos engrossed and enjoying learning the wonderful language of Spanish.

Whether it's for learning holiday basics, love of the culture or,

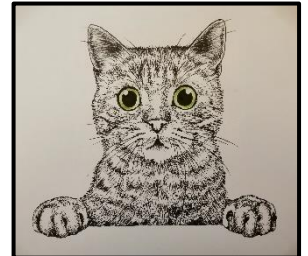
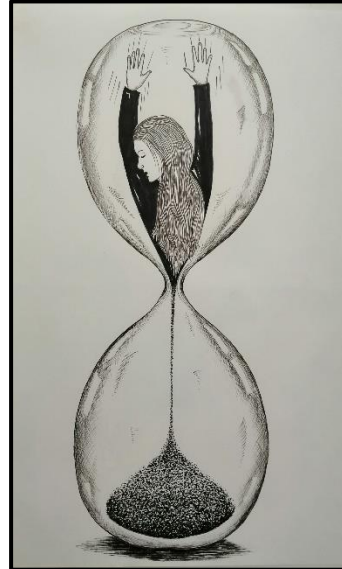
like me, simply exercising the brain, it's a great way to spend a few hours.



INKTOBER

I have just completed a worldwide challenge called Inktober whereby you do one ink drawing every day and share it on social media. American artist Jake Parker created the challenge in 2009 to improve his inking skills and develop positive drawing habits. It has since grown into a worldwide endeavour with 1000's of artists taking on the challenge every year to do an ink drawing each day in October. Here is a selection of my drawings.

NINA BROWN





U3A Yorkshire Region Summer School

The Hawkills, Easingwold

July 25-28th 2022

What a beautiful place! Set in the magnificent North Yorkshire countryside with outstanding gardens, Hawkills is a 19th Century mansion which has been developed to be a learning centre for use by the emergency services/armed forces, but for 4 days, it hosted the U3A.

Altogether there were 8 different study groups ranging from Jewellery making to Greek Mythology. They were:

- Women Artists from the Renaissance to the present day
- The Archaeology of Britain since the Romans
- Painting and Drawing (Live Nude Model!!!)
- Introduction to Jewellery Making
- Spanish Conversation
- Greek Mythology
- The Air We Breathe
- Four Philosophers of Four Centuries



The timetable for the week was as follows:

Day 1: We met the tutors and were shown our rooms. Then the bar was opened, and a fantastic evening meal was consumed.

It must be said that the meals and accommodation were excellent. I have stayed in 5 Star hotels that could not match what we were given. The staff were first class and thoroughly deserved the standing ovation they got when invited into the final-day's event.

Figure 1: The Impressive Dining Room



Day 2: Study-day! For me this was with Beth (Rudkin) and her Philosophers. Rousseau and Descartes were thoroughly investigated over the day. Beth, as usual, had researched her subjects well and we left thinking 'I think, therefore I am' which translated into 'I drink, therefore I'm buying'!

Figure 2: Beth in full flow



Day 3: Studying. This time Nietzsche and Rawls were the targets of our discussions, and there was plenty of lively debate over their pronouncements.

Day 4: Final day: Everyone was in the lecture hall as each group presented their thoughts on their courses. Our group was the last to perform and we closed proceedings with a very irreverent tribute to Philosophers in general!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9SqQNgDrgg>

Figure 3: Final Presentation

This is the first time I have been to one of the summer schools but I don't think it will be the last. There were many who had been to previous schools, the last one being in 2019 and they were all grateful to see the reintroduction of the schools. If you have not been on one before, certainly think about it for next year.

So, a big thank you to the organisers, the tutors, the Hawkills Staff, and my fellow students for making such an enjoyable 4 days.



KATE MASON

CAMBRIDGE CORPUS CHRISTI CLOCK

While we were stayed at St Neots Camp Site, a few of us went into Cambridge for the day and looked round the colleges. We were interested in finding the Corpus Christi clock. The Custodian of the Clock is Dr Ewan St. John Smith. Here are some little known facts about it and the famous Chronophage.



The clock sits on what used to be the entrance to a NatWest Bank, a building built in 1866 (designed by architect Horace Francis) that originally housed the London County Bank. NatWest's lease ended in 2005 and it was

decided that better student provision was needed at College. The College library was sited, at that time, under the Parker Library. Moving the Library out of that location would also provide better facilities for students and researchers to access the Parker as well.

The old entrance couldn't just be bricked up due to planning restrictions. What to do? Enter inventor and Corpus alumnus Dr John C Taylor OBE, inventor of the bimetallic thermostat control (present in electric kettles and much more).

John was also an horologist. He designed the Corpus Chronophage Clock, which was built in 2008 by the Engineering firm Huxley Bertram. He gifted it to the College and was the major benefactor to the new undergraduate library which takes his name.

But this is no ordinary clock. The face of the clock is plated in pure gold. Sitting atop the clock is an extraordinary monster, the Chronophage, meaning time eater. The mouth opens at 30 seconds past each minute, snapping shut when the minute is over. It is an example of the 'grasshopper' escapement mechanism invented in the 1700s by John Harrison, who also developed the marine chronometer which enabled sailors to determine their longitude. An escapement is a mechanical linkage that checks and releases a clock's hands. The Corpus clock is believed to be the largest grasshopper escapement of any clock in the world. The escapement wheel is made from a

single sheet of steel kin gold, created by a series of explosions under a vacuum. The radiating ripples that this creates allude to the Big Bang.

When the hour is struck, there is no chiming of bells, but rather the rustling of chains and the sound of a hammer striking a wooden coffin - perhaps a little off-putting for those studying in the library behind the clock!

The clock has no hands or digital numbers, instead vernier slits are cut into the face, and at first it appears difficult to tell the time. However, if you look carefully, there are three blue wheels of LEDs (2,736) which are arranged behind the slits so that when the escape wheel moves, lights appear to dart in concentric circles and pause at the correct hour and reading from the innermost ring, show hours, minutes and seconds. So, although the lights give the illusion of flashing in sequence, they are actually exposed mechanically. However, this clock plays tricks: our perception of time is always altered by what is going on around us, and the clock's trickery adds to that.

The clock has 50 tricks or complications, a special set is reserved for each of four days: John Harrison's birthday (25 March), John Taylor's birthday (25 November), New Year's Day and Corpus Christi Day. When playing these tricks, the clock gets a little out of time, but have no fear, it can run 10 per cent fast, enabling a rapid realignment. This ability also allows the clock to cope with daylight saving time changes.



The pendulum has an inscription. Joh = Johannes = John; Sarto = Taylor; Monans = Monanensis = Isle of Man; Inv. = Invenit = to create:MMVIII – 2008. John Taylor from the Isle of Man made this in 2008. The pendulum points to the ten peaks on the rhodium dish at the bottom when playing certain tricks, a further homage to John Harrison and the accuracy achieved with his clocks centuries ago.

There is a key but this one is purely ceremonial. When spun the key tells you to which clock it belongs.

TRUDY ATKINSON

U3A Bike Group Trip to Spa

In late April/early May 2019, a group of young u3a bikers toured Scotland and enjoyed the experience so much that we decided to plan another trip, this time to Belgium the following year. By October 2019 we had the Ferry from Hull to Zebrugge booked, and our accommodation in Stoumont near to Spa in the Ardennes area of Belgium was secured for May 2020; what could go wrong??



Twenty-eight months later (September 2022) we finally made it, after three changes of date, including one just three weeks before we left – P&O notified us that the date we had set for our return, the ferry would not be running!

At least six changes to the group – all for personal reasons, including one person who left after the first change of date then returned for the final, and a pair who joined u3a specifically because they wanted to join this trip. Miraculously, we started planning with eight people interested. In the end seven of us travelled, the eighth falling foul of the health declaration required to get travel insurance.

A change in Ferry destination – During the pandemic P&O decided that they could not continue running the Hull – Zebrugge crossing; we were forced therefore to sail to Rotterdam.

Incremental increases in the cost of the ferry happened each time we rebooked. At one point we contemplated abandoning the trip altogether, but were encouraged to proceed when P&O reminded us that our original booking was on a “no refund” basis to secure the best price – they would change the booking because of Covid, but not give us our money back!

u3a is all about learning and doing new things, so here are our accumulated list of lessons and experiences:

- Admin is boring but essential – If you are clear what you plan to do, you are in a good place to make changes.
- People have lives; if plans change, they may not suit everyone.
- Get the paperwork right – who knew that you would need four different insurances to ride a motorbike in Europe (and no that’s not a dig at EU Red Tape, it’s not any different now than pre-Brexit times) – What are the types of insurance, I hear the nerds among you asking? See the footnote for answers.
- Don’t forget your passport, and proof of ownership of the bike.
- Different countries have different requirements for what you need to carry - Red warning triangle, High Vis vest, set of replacement bulbs etc. Check before you go.
- It’s a UK sticker now not GB – this truly is a Brexit benefit!

Here is our list of firsts:



- First time on a cross channel ferry
- First visit to Belgium, Holland, France, Germany
- First time driving on the right
- First time on a zip wire – The longest in Belgium
- First taste of Mexican food
- First purchase of petrol from unattended European self-serve pumps. Incidentally, whilst these were confusing, you can’t imagine the carnage at a petrol station with a French speaking kiosk attendant, when one of a group of English riders, who really should not be allowed out of the country, decides they need to pay for “numero sept”, when they actually fuelled up at pump number nine!!



- First time being led on a ride by a professional who has trained Moto GP riders – yes, he left us behind regularly!
- First close up with a German WW2 Tiger tank at Le Musée «Décembre 44» at Le Gleize. This is a fascinating local record of the Battle of the Bulge, in which the village of Le Gleize was virtually destroyed.
- First visit to Bastogne WW2 Museum – an excellent place to learn about the European war and its aftermath.
- First face to face encounter with the Belgian military - not as sinister as it sounds. On the afternoon we spent in the town of Spa, the army was holding a recruitment display, which gave some of our group the opportunity to play with a real gun.
- First time watching the start of a Le Mans series car race – at Le Circuit de Spa – Francorchamps – the race was due to last four hours, so we didn't hang around to see who won.
- First visit to the Nürburgring in Germany. This infamous race track is open to the public, so in theory we could have ridden a lap, but it was a very wet day,
 - and it was closed,
 - and it's scary,
 - and we weren't insured,
 - and it's scary..... So we settled for a German snack, the worst Currywurst I have ever tasted!!
- First lunch at a Buddhist retreat – a dramatically tasty contrast to the Currywurst!



Overall, we had a marvellous time.

The weather was kind (except when it wasn't)

The food was excellent – except the Currywurst

Our hosts Anne and Neil were outstanding and went far beyond what we expected in their hospitality, including running repairs to two of our motorbikes, both of which could have been very expensive.

Forgive the plug, but if you fancy cycling or motorcycling, or just visiting the Ardennes, here is the link

<http://www.aeaventures.com/>

Footnote:

Insurance requirements for foreign travel using a motorbike:

- Motorbike insurance – minimum third party, the same as you have in the UK
- Breakdown insurance – not everyone has it in UK, but essential while travelling abroad, as it includes repatriation of the bike if it breaks down or is involved in an accident.
- EHIC card – retitled as GHIC after Brexit – provides for medical care on the same terms as a resident of the country being visited – essential for basic health care like a visit to GP or A and E
- Travel Insurance – the same as any holiday to cover accident, injury, delay, repatriation etc. One little quirk – most policies only cover riding a motorbike up to 125cc – some of ours are ten times that, so you have to read the small print, and of course, travel insurance requires a health declaration, which becomes more burdensome with age.

QUIZOOMERS meets on Zoom on alternate Fridays. Member Jayne Welburn presented this excellent quiz, which was a brilliant mix of different categories. Contact Vanda if you want to join in the fun!

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

1. What is the capital of Syria?
2. In which year was the UN formed?
3. Which famous car company finally ceased producing cars in 2010?
4. Who was the US president at the start of WW2?
5. Who invented the gramophone?
6. Which organ of the body is affected by Bright's disease?
7. Which war began on October 10th 1899?
8. Which line on the London Underground is represented in black?
9. If you were born on November 25th, which star sign are you?
10. Which stone represents the 55th wedding anniversary?



YORKSHIRE

1. Name the Sheffield born actor who played Ned Stark in Game of Thrones.
2. Name the traditional skill, with a Yorkshire style, performed using an axe and a bill hook.
3. Name the largest freshwater lake in Yorkshire.
4. Name the breezy height on which the M62 reaches its 1,221ft Pennine Summit.
5. Name the Barnsley Grammar School boy turned TV host who interviewed Rod Hull and Emu.
6. Name the east Yorkshire town with 2 marketplaces, a minster and a racecourse.
7. Name the venue for Britain's first air show in 1909.
8. Name the sand and shingle tidal island that juts into the Humber Estuary.
9. Name the Labour MP murdered in 2016 outside Birstall library.
10. Name the west Yorkshire village with the ironical nickname, Feverley Hill.

MAP OUTLINES – Name these countries



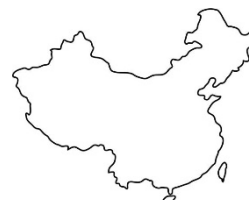
1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

WHO AM I?



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

RANDOM NUMBERS

1. In the bible, how many plagues of Egypt were there?
 2. Which number Apollo mission was the spaceflight that landed the first two men on the moon?
 3. How many yards in a chain?
 4. What is the letter 'k' worth in Scrabble?
 5. Which number Pennsylvania Ave is the address of the White House?
 6. How many landlocked countries are there in South America?
 7. Which parallel formed the border between North and South Korea?
 8. How many players in an ice hockey team?
 9. President Obama was which number president of the USA?
 10. What does the sum of all the numbers on a roulette wheel add up to?
- Bonus: What's the sum of the above answers?

QUIZ SHOW HOSTS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER – Decipher these presenters

1. AAadeeglmnnorrrstx
2. aaBdehllrsWy
3. aaeJmmnPrxy
4. aCcceehiillMnoorrttV
5. eeeffGhlorrWy
6. aaBbceeGgimnors
7. AbeinnnooRs
8. BdeeehnpRs
9. eeHKllnryy
10. CeeiilMrvy



TIE BREAK QUESTION

What is the average number of baked beans in a can?

Answers on page 45



FOR ALL Bu3a MUSICIANS

YORKSHIRE & HUMBER REGION MUSICFEST 2023



- What?** A 1-day event designed to showcase and celebrate the musical talent in our region. All u3as are invited to send at least one of their music performance groups, and there will be opportunity for limited numbers of non-performers to come and listen
- Where?** York St John University (Venue tbc)
- When?** 13 June 2023 (Date tbc)
- Cost?** Approx £15 per head, to cover venue hire and catering

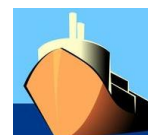
As you get older
three things
happen.
The first is
your memory
goes,
and I can't
remember
the other two.

- Norman Wisdom



Where do shipbuilders go on holiday?

Hull!





OCCASIONS GO ON AN ADVENTURE

"We really ought to get more exercise" said

our Coordinator Ev as she reached for another biscuit. "Oh yes", everyone chorused as they tucked greedily into the rapidly disappearing hobnobs.

And so it began, we were to become intrepid explorers of the great outdoors.



A date was set, a route agreed. Now all that remained was to recruit a walk leader. As the newcomer to the group and an experienced walker, I offered my services.

When the day arrived we set off to our meeting point

sporting muddy boots and raincoats, though secretly we were thankful for the dry weather.

Much hilarity ensued as we discovered we had parked at various meeting points. A few phone calls later and we were all assembled in one place, ready for action.

We ventured along the beautiful Trans Pennine Trail, eager to leave the hum of the Friday afternoon traffic behind. The route did not disappoint. We were enveloped in beautiful Autumn hues, bathed in

afternoon sunlight. An unexpected pleasure at the end of a dull and rainy week. We followed the banks of the river Dove, kicking up leaves with childlike abandon.

The conversation turned to all the fruit trees which had yielded a bountiful harvest for keen foragers throughout the season. Soon we reached Netherwood Nature Reserve, splendid in all its glory with abundant wildlife to entertain us.

One member regaled us with tales of his mining adventures in the days before these beautiful nature reserves existed.



The sun was sinking as we began our journey home. We were drawn to the cheery lights of the local cafe, welcoming us in. A hot cup of tea never tasted so good. Now that we had become healthy outdoor

explorers, we decided to forego the biscuits.

Our adventure seeking Occasions group continues to broaden its horizons, sometimes swapping party shoes for boots, but always having a fun time.

More adventures to follow.

CARMEL SESTON

COOKERY CORNER

4 Pork Loin Chops
1/4lb Mushrooms
1 Large Cooking Apple
Small Bottle or Can of Cider
Small Carton Single Cream
1 Onion, sliced
1 Red Pepper, sliced
Salt and Pepper



PORK AND CIDER CASSEROLE

Place the chops in a casserole dish, add the cider, red pepper, apple, onion and salt and pepper to taste.

Bake in the oven, 180°C/Gas Mark 4, until the chops are tender and the pepper, apple and onion are soft. Allow to cool slightly, then mix in the cream until the sauce thickens. Return to the oven to reheat thoroughly.

Serve with new potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

CHRISTINE PALMER



John Schofield, Jenny Newman, Marjorie Snaith, Kath Parkin, Barbara Ryder, Heather Pears, Monica Austwick, Averil Fleetwood, Darren Vickers, Hilary Jenkinson, Lloyd Jenkinson, Caroline Browne, Roger Browne, Elaine Cowley, Susan Watson, Pauline Hunsley, Kathleen Glover, Diane Belk, Carmel Seston, Kenneth Ashton, Neil Batley, Bob Smith, Rosalind Boughton, Agnes Scurrah, Jane Fieldsend, Val Corker, Michael Midgeley, Jan Brears, Jacqui Banham, Barbara Partridge, Mike Partridge, Keith Seston, Abby Knapp, David Spencer,

Roger Letch, Jenny Moorby, Diane Driver, Glynn Driver, David Sabin, Stephanie Ansell, Barbara Kemp, James Fleming, Eric Jessop, Marjorie Roberts and Robert Addenbrooke, Alan Walker, Peter Lukey, Linda Beevers, Rita Silcock, Helen Marshall, Enid Hibbitt, Roy Stewart, Linda Stewart, Lynn Swan, Catherine Artindale, Patricia Hill, Julie Barklam, Dawn Cox, David Stallard, Jan Stallard, Kenneth Scott, David Coker, Judith Coker, Craig Mansell, Katherine Messias, Andy Messias, Lynne Wilkinson, Linda Crosby, Howard Dunkerley, Paul Schofield, Martyn Reilly, Melvyn Dyson, Judith Walters, Duncan Sleight, Rosemary Wainwright, Paul Wainwright, Glenys Waring, Nina Brown, Janet Sykes, Roger frost, Graham Murdin, George Green, Nicholas Wiseman, Peter Hill, Lesley Wilkins, Karen Wilkinson, Alan France, Gillian Harris, Graham Nutley, Barry Powell, Kathleen Elvin, Gillian Woodacre, Karen Arrowsmith, Katherine Stott, Mavis Boucher, Peter Stradling, Hazel Snow, Michael Snow, Lucy Downing, Barbara Caygill, Gerard Caygill, Jean Embury, Fred Brooks, Dorothy Eastwood, Fred Cox, Monica Archer, Frank Lukey, Heather Parys, Mary Woodley, Anthony Hinchliffe, Kevin Beaumont, Frank Ledwood, Linda France, Elaine Smith, Jo Jackson, Janice Foulstone, Roger Foulstone and Richard Ramsdale.

Welcome to our Community!

HELEN DEW

DEVELOPMENT

Here are some ideas for new groups as suggested by the new members at the New Members Link.

'Swap Shop', iPhone User, Antiques, Climate Change, Crime Readers, Domestic DIY, The Two World Wars, Line Dancing, Debating (but no politics), Rounders, Scrabble, Archaeology, Keyboard and Piano. Contact Indu Kumar if you are interested in joining or helping to coordinate any of these activities.

GROUP PROGRESS

Ceilidh Band, Drama and the Gardening Group have taken off and are doing well.

Groups that need more members are Magic, Jewellery, Penistone Canasta and Pen Pal. If you are interested in joining these groups, please contact the coordinator.

PHOTOS

Is your group doing something special? Please share your photographs with other Barnsley u3a members on Facebook. We would all love to know what you're all up to. Be an inspiration to other members and promote your group!

Lastly, all members and Coordinators, please discuss with us any ideas you may have for future groups and any issues you have with the running of groups, especially if struggling to get numbers.



INDU KUMAR



What is it? The UK's biggest Charity fundraising site. Simple to use and free.

How does it work? It turns your everyday online shopping into donations at no cost to you.

How much can you raise? The donation per purchase will generally be between 0.5% and 10%. Some retailers, including insurance and broadband providers, will pay a flat rate fee which can be in the £100's.

How can it help the Barnsley U3A? If our members use it when they shop online it will provide us with a steady stream of donations.

Is it really free? Yes, you won't pay a penny more when shopping online.

How can you help? Go to easyfundraising.org.uk, sign up and select Barnsley & District U3A as your nominated charity. Then when shopping you can EITHER go to the easyfundraising website, select the retailer you want to purchase from then 'jump' to the retailer from easyfundraising OR (and this is much simpler), download and install the Donation Reminder onto your desktop, it just takes a couple of clicks, then whatever site you go into, if a donation is available a drop down box will remind you and you just then need to 'activate the donation'.

ANOTHER WAY YOU CAN EARN MONEY FOR US



Do you shop on Amazon?

We now have an Amazon Smile account set up. This is similar to easyfundraising but only applies to purchases from Amazon.

What is AmazonSmile? It is a simple way to support a charity every time you shop and it costs you nothing. You select the charity and that is stored in your Amazon account, then every time you shop for something that is eligible for a donation, your donation will be sent to our account.

Can I use my Existing Amazon Account? Yes you can. You need to search in the Amazon search bar for Amazon Smile and a box will open up towards the top of the screen like this:



Amazon Smile – You shop. Amazon gives.

When you shop at 'smile.amazon.co.uk', Amazon donates to your favourite charitable organisation.

[About AmazonSmile](#) | [Change charitable organisation](#) | [Enable in mobile app](#)

Just click on the wording that starts 'When you shop at ...' And this will bring up a box to search for Barnsley & District U3A. Once you have done this your selection will be held for all future eligible purchases. Then, instead of just going into Amazon, go in through smileamazon to qualify for the disbursement, the products and listings you will see are exactly the same.

DEREK BACON

EXPLORING BARNSELY RESEARCH GROUP

Over the last year, seven of us have been doing local research using the library and archives as well as other resources. The initial project focused on the area around Regent Street, Hanson Street and George's yard, exploring the history of the area, the buildings, their uses and their inhabitants, and investigating how things have changed over time.

On the Barnsley u3a day in September we offered a couple of short walks, looking at and talking about some of the features we had gained more knowledge about. Our participants were not great in numbers,



but shared great wealth of knowledge, which made the tours really interesting for us all.

In the meantime, our little group had

a rather wet but excellent history tour one morning led by Dr Tegwen Roberts, the project leader of the Eldon Street Heritage Action Zone, giving us further insight into life in the Town Centre over the last centuries.

Coordinator: Pauline Buttlng

We plan to record and collate some of the information we have gathered for archiving while also continuing with further research into topics we are interested in. We will continue to meet on the 1st Thursday of the month to share ideas and progress.

For those of you who are interested, have a look at the Barnsley Museums Blogsite!

The Eldon Street High Street Heritage Action Zone has been working to uncover some of the hidden and untold stories of Eldon Street and the Victorian Arcade. Below is an example.



<https://barnsleymuseums.art.blog/2022/03/07/women-business-owners-of-eldon-street/Women business owners of Eldon Street>

ANNEFIE ROBERTS

NOËL DES ENFANTS DU MONDE THE CHRISTMAS OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN

Enfants de Palestine ou enfants d'Israel
D'Amérique ou de Chine, en ce jour de Noel
Que ton regard se pose
Sur la terre ou le ciel
Ne retiens qu'une chose
Il faut croire à Noël
Matin couleur de cendre ou matin d'arc-en-ciel
Qu'importe; il faut attendre en ce soir de Noël
Que les fusils se taisent et répondent à l'appel
De cette parenthèse
Qui s'appelle Noël.

Refrain:

Un jour viendra peut-être
Un jour au goût de miel
Où l'on verra paraître un oiseau dans le ciel
Aux plumes de lumière
Un oiseau éternel
Colombe pour la Terre
Un oiseau de Noël

Children from Palestine or children from Israel
From America or from China, this Christmas
Whether your gaze be on the earth or up in the sky
Just remember one thing
You must believe in Christmas.
An ash coloured morning or a rainbow morning
Who cares? We must wait for this Christmas night
May the guns become silent and answer the call
Of this time
Called Christmas.

Refrain:

A day will come perhaps
A sweet day
When we will see a bird appear in the sky
With feathers of light
An eternal bird
A dove for the Earth
A Christmas bird.

Pat Wassell: French Language and Culture

One way of practising spoken German is to prepare something to say, for instance about something you have done recently, or something that interests you. Recently Ruth chose as her topic “Guggenmusik”. If you want to practise your German skills read straight on for a summary of her talk, otherwise skip to the English version in the following paragraph.

Auf Deutsch

Haben Sie von Guggenmusik gehört? Es ist eine Art von Blasmusik, mit Trompeten, Tuben, Posaunen, Saxofone und Schlagwerk. Es hat einen starken Rhythmus und ist laut und disharmonisch. Die Spieler sind verkleidet und oft maskiert. Ursprünglich haben dieser Musiker am Fasnacht gespielt, um die böse Geister abzuschrecken. Das Foto ist von der Barnsley Frumptarn Guggenkapelle. Frumptarn ist Barnsley Dialekt für „von der Stadt“.

Im Februar fährt Frumptarn nach Schwäbisch-Gmund, unseren Partnerstadt, für das 38. Internationale Guggenmusiktreffen. Eine Gruppe von Barnsley Guggenfans wird dorthin auch fahren, um sie zu unterstützen. Ruth hat schon ihren Platz gebucht.

Auf Englisch



Have you heard of Guggen music? It is a type of brass band music, with trumpets, tubas, trombones, saxophones and percussion. It has a strong rhythm and is loud and discordant. The players are disguised and often masked. Originally these musicians played on Shrove Tuesday to scare away the evil spirits. The photographs are of Barnsley Frumptarn Guggenband. “Frumptarn” is Barnsley dialect for “from the town”.

In February Frumptarn will be travelling to Schwäbisch-Gmund, our twin-town, for the 38th International Guggenmusic festival. A group of Barnsley Guggenfans will also be going to support them. Ruth has already booked her place.

For more information on the Frumptarn Guggenband see <http://www.frumptarn.com/>

The conversation group meets at the Emmanuel Methodist Church from 4 to 6pm on alternate Thursdays.

Photos courtesy of the Frumptarn Guggenband.

Ruth McTighe: Coordinator’s Assistant

U3A AGM

In the light of the failure to agree on an increased fee to National u3a for 2023, Barnsley u3a is intending to make no changes in finance next year and intends to maintain the membership renewal fee at £12.

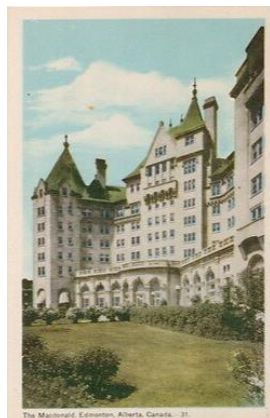
It would be very helpful if members registered with **SMILEAMAZON** and **EASYSHOPPING** and selected Barnsley u3a to benefit from the payment to us for EVERY purchase they make. It’s so simple and will help our finances hugely. Details on page 33.

Many thanks

DEREK BACON

JOURNEY'S END

Our flight, at last, was over, but there were no greetings from familiar faces, no messages at the information desk. My flight companion, Dorothy, expected to be met by her husband. A friend, Hazel, with whom I was going to stay until I found permanent accommodation, was supposed to meet me.



Dorothy knew the name of a hotel in central Edmonton, so we took a taxi there; the Macdonald was, in fact, the best hotel in the city and quite luxurious but it provided telephone kiosks and a coffee shop! Dorothy had the phone number of the faculty at the University of Alberta, which her husband had

recently joined as a lecturer. I had the address and phone number of my friend and the number and address of my new school.

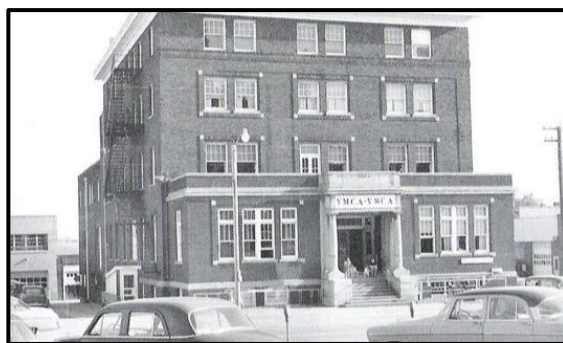
Soon a call informed Dorothy that her husband had unexpectedly travelled to the University campus in Calgary. She was advised to stay overnight at the hotel and someone from the University would pick her up next morning. After several unanswered calls to both Hazel and the school I decided to take a room for that night at the hotel as I needed somewhere to sleep!



It occurred to me that I knew the names of some Canadian Airforce colleagues of Hazel's husband. After a whirlwind romance while he was on a training course in England, he and Hazel had married the

previous year. By a strange quirk of fate, when I had successfully responded to an advertisement for teachers in schools on Canadian military bases, I had been appointed to the school on the Air Force base north of Edmonton where Hazel's husband and some of his fellow trainees, whom I had met, were stationed.

There was no response to my call to the first name I found in the telephone directory. My second call was answered by the very helpful wife of a squadron leader who knew Hazel and her husband and assured me she would locate them.



Next morning after a much needed long sleep, I said goodbye to Dorothy and set out to find the bank to which I had transferred my English account. On the way I met someone who had been on the same flight. She was soon to start a job with the Hudson's Bay Company, who had advised her to stay at the YWCA hostel until she found a flat.



I could not afford to stay longer at The Macdonald so I went to the

hostel, booked a room for the night and returned to the Macdonald, where, before checking out, I phoned the lady I had spoken to the previous day. She had discovered that Hazel, along with the wives of two of her husband's colleagues, had gone to a lakeside cottage when their husbands had been sent at short notice to Churchill Air Base to conduct Arctic exercises. She was trying to contact them.

I spent the rest of the day exploring the city centre and, after having a meal in a café, went to bed about half past nine in my tiny room at the YWCA. Just as I was falling asleep there was a loud knock on the door and a familiar voice calling, "June". Hazel had arrived to 'rescue' me – the ordeal was over!

I learned that Hazel and her husband had several times contacted the airport to check on my arrival time, only to be told that the flight did not exist and advised to contact me in England! Our ill-fated flight had somehow disappeared from the records. (I later found out that Dorothy's husband had been told the same.)

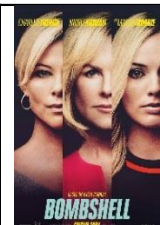
I collected my possessions and went with Hazel to her car, feeling that I could cope with absolutely anything that life in Canada could throw at me!

JUNE ROLFE

FLIX@6

Flix is on the first and third Fridays of the month at 6pm at the Staincross Christian Fellowship. We have fish and chips for those who want it, if you don't want it that's fine. The only costs are a cuppa for 25p, £1.50 blue box fee, 20p towards the cost of films and whatever you order from the chippy.

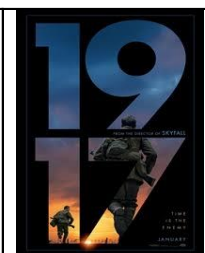
16th December: BOMBSHELL



Cast: Charlize Theron, Nicole Kidman, Margot Robbie
Storyline: The provocative real story of three whip-smart, ambitious, strong women who anchored one of America's most powerful news networks -- becoming headlines themselves when they risked everything to stand up to the man who made them famous.
Genre: Drama, True Story

6th January: 1917

Cast: George MacKay, Richard Madden, Benedict Cumberbatch, Colin Firth
Storyline: During World War I, two British soldiers -- Lance Cpl. Schofield and Lance Cpl. Blake -- receive seemingly impossible orders. In a race against time, they must cross over into enemy territory to deliver a message that could potentially save 1,600 of their fellow comrades -- including Blake's own brother.
Genre: War, History, Drama



20th January: LET HIM GO



Cast: Diane Lane, Kevin Costner, Lesley Manville
Storyline: Following the loss of their son, a retired sheriff and his wife leave their Montana ranch to rescue their young grandson from the clutches of a dangerous family living offgrid in the Dakotas.
Genre: Drama, Mystery, Thriller

3rd February: 21 BRIDGES

Cast: Chadwick Boseman, Sienna Miller, Taylor Kitsch
Storyline: After uncovering a massive conspiracy, an embattled NYPD detective joins a citywide manhunt for two young cop killers. As the night unfolds, he soon becomes unsure of who to pursue -- and who's in pursuit of him. When the search intensifies, authorities decide to take extreme measures by closing all of Manhattan's 21 bridges to prevent the suspects from escaping.
Genre: Action, Mystery & Thriller, Crime, Drama



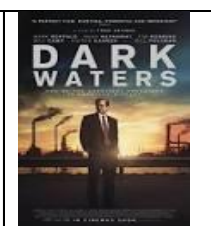
17th February: THE HIGH NOTE



Cast: Dakota Johnson, Tracee Ellis Ross, Kelvin Harrison Jr., Ice Cube
Storyline: Maggie is the overworked personal assistant to Grace Davis, a superstar singer whose talent and ego have reached unbelievable heights. Stuck running errands, Maggie still wants to fulfil her childhood dream of becoming a music producer. But when Grace's manager presents her with a choice that could alter the course of her career, Maggie and Grace come up with a plan that could change both of their lives forever.
Genre: Comedy, Drama Music

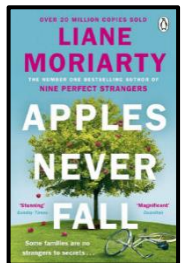
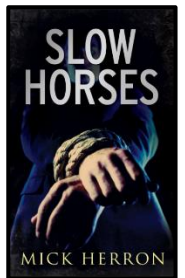
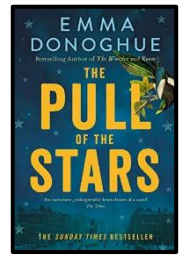
3rd March: DARK WATERS

Cast: Mark Ruffalo, Anne Hathaway, Tim Robbins, Bill Pullman
Storyline: A tenacious attorney uncovers a dark secret that connects a growing number of unexplained deaths to one of the world's largest corporations. While trying to expose the truth, he soon finds himself risking his future, his family and his own life.
Genre: Drama, Mystery, Thriller



The group meets at Birdwell from 11.30 – 12.30 on the first Tuesday of the month. We read the book before the meeting.

JANUARY 3	THE PULL OF THE STARS by Emma Donoghue This book is set in 1918 at the end of the First World War and the beginning of the Spanish Flu pandemic. It is set in a Dublin hospital and is a Sunday Times best seller.
FEBRUARY 7	SLOW HORSES by Mick Herron This has been called ‘the most enjoyable spy novel in years!’ The slow horses are spies!
MARCH 7	BAMBURGH by L J Ross A fast-paced mystery by D C Ryan with murder, romance and humour.
APRIL 4	LILY by Rose Tremain This is a story set in nineteenth century London. The protagonist was abandoned as a baby and taken to the Foundling Hospital at Coram Fields in London. (We have read a novel about the Foundling hospital before, but this one is very different and gives a more realistic and accurate picture of life in this orphanage.)
MAY 2	APPLES NEVER FALL by Leanne Moriarty This story is a family saga; the seemingly happy Delaney family reacts to the sudden disappearance of the matriarch. The book has been described as gripping and poignant, but at times very funny.



IRENE HILL



As many of you are aware, our dear friend and Bu3a member, Irene Hill, passed away on the 11th of October. Irene was the Barnsley u3a Choir’s accompanist from the day the Choir started singing back in 2009. Her contribution to making our Choir one of the best u3a choirs in the country was immense.

Betty Higginbottom has written this poem in tribute.

IRENE

Some people come into our lives
Just for the shortest time.
Others come and stay inside,
Our Hearts and thoughts all time.
Irene was a special one
Who'll stay with us forever.
Always a smile and friendly word,
Her Memory we will Treasure.

Rest in Peace my Lovely friend,
You'll be missed more than words can say,
But know you will be remembered,
Until my Dying Day.

The only way to end this Poem

IS

Thank you for the music

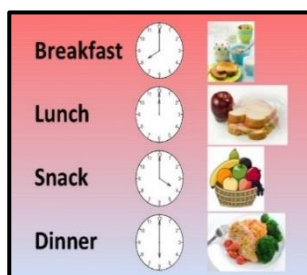
RIP

Betty Higginbottom

CABBAGE AND TAPIOCA



Did you call tapioca 'Frogspawn'? Can you remember the smell of boiled cabbage? Food memories can be emotive. They can bring back memories of sitting around a table with family or visiting grandparents on a Sunday afternoon. Or perhaps, having to eat something you disliked because it was on your plate. When you first left home did you continue to make the same meals that your parents provided?



We have many names for our meals: brunch, breakfast, lunch, dinner, tea, supper plus picnics or BBQs. Let us not forget elevenses and afternoon tea.

There are so many choices relating to our mealtimes but not as many as the choices we have when it comes to what we eat.

Can you remember your meals as you were growing up? Did you have a traditional Sunday lunch with leftovers on Monday?



It would be interesting to see how these memories differ depending on where you grew up.

Please let us know about the memories you have about everyday meals when you were growing up. Include any memories of fish and chip vans travelling around, or pie and pea vans. Grocery vans or fishmongers selling from the back of vans on Fridays.

Do you remember Raynor's cafe at the bottom of the Arcade? If you have any stories to tell about having a meal there or buying their pies, please would you contact Hannah Lucas. This will link into to Bu3a's connections with Tegwen Roberts and the Eldon Street Heritage Action Zone.

Please contact Lynn Maloney or Hannah Lucas with your memories and stories.

CROWN GREEN BOWLING

Bu3a has six Crown Green Bowling Groups. We are currently in the middle of the winter shut down period and are making preparations for the next season which starts in March 2023. All the social bowling groups meet in the mornings covering all five weekdays and are well attended. However, there are plenty of spaces available for any members who fancy trying out this highly healthy and vastly entertaining activity which has an element of competition built in.

There are five groups meeting at Ardsley Park from Monday to Friday and one group at Penistone, meeting Tuesdays. All our bowling groups have spaces available and it would be great to meet other members who want to try out this brilliant outdoor activity.

We are mentioning this now in order to give members the chance to think about the Bowling option in the new year and for us to explain that prior to the season actually starting in late March, we will be running taster sessions for members to see what Crown Green Bowling is all about.



Roy Marsden says "We welcome anyone who wants to give us a try. The only thing that is required is that members wear flat shoes when playing bowls. We have spare bowls to suit all bowlers. We are planning to have taster sessions at Ardsley from Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th of March for 6 weeks. Bowling for u3a will start on Monday 20th of March 2023 from 10 am to 12 noon Monday to Friday."

If you are interested and wish to know more please contact Helen Dew for Penistone or Mike Pease, Roy Marsden or Alan Swann for Ardsley. Now is a great opportunity to add 'joining a Crown Green Bowling group' to your list of New Year Resolutions.

ALAN SWANN



Coordinator: Eveline Mirfin



Nine members of the Occasions group visited Wentworth Woodhouse on Sunday 11th September. It was a lovely sunny afternoon. We had a short walk around the beautiful and immaculately kept gardens, had a coffee break and snack and put the world to rights! While we enjoyed our break we listened to young people entertaining us with music.



A second walk around the garden, then to the house for our allotted tour time.

Although there isn't much furniture in the house, there are photographs, costume displays and statues, several beautiful chandeliers and exceptional marble floors.



The library has many historical and classical books and reference works. Much has been done to bring the house up to the standard it is now and obviously it is still ongoing, but credit must be given to all who have made it what it is today. We had a lovely afternoon, and free too as it was Heritage Open Day! Many thanks to Ev for arranging the event.

CAROLE STANTON

How do you make a Viennese whirl?
Play his favourite waltz.



What is monstrous and frightening and makes your wishes come true?
A scary godmother!

FLUTES GALORE

Biscuit Monitor: Derek Bacon

Administrator: Janet Elvy

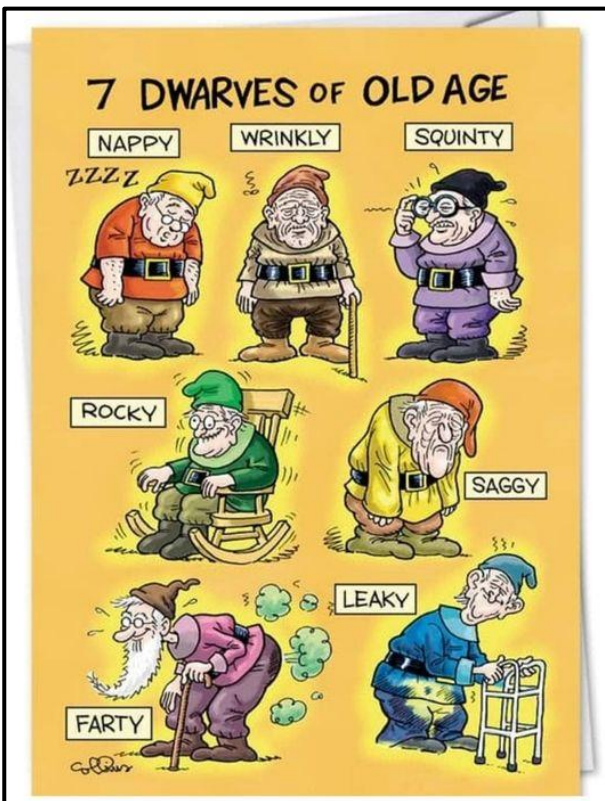


It all happened back in October, just before eight of us played for the residents at Weavers Court in Penistone (left). It was all done quite nicely and kindly but the group were tired of my inability to keep up with the administration of getting music out to our 13 members and so one morning I was demoted from **Flutes Galore Coordinator** to **Flutes Galore Biscuit Monitor**, which, in reality, is probably just as important as Coordinator! Superstar administrator, Janet Elvy, who was sorting out the entire NHS just before she retired was 'parachuted in', as they say, to sort out Flutes Galore and now we're running like clockwork!



This Christmas most of our 'gigs' are in aid of 'The Well for Well-being' at Barnsley Hospital. You can come and see us at the following times and places:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Monday 5 th December | Tesco Stairfoot, Barnsley 5pm to 7pm |
| Tuesday 6 th December | The Alhambra near Primark 11am to 1pm |
| Saturday 10 th December | St Paul's Church Christmas concert, Monk Bretton 6pm (for church repair funds) |
| Sunday 11 th December | Cannon Hall Museum, The Ballroom 1pm to 2.30 |
| Tuesday 13 th December | The Alhambra near Primark 11am to 1pm |
| Saturday 17 th December | Monk Bretton Methodist Church Christmas Fair 10.30 to 12.00 |
| Tuesday 20 th December | Tesco Stairfoot, Barnsley 10am to 12.00 |



Some Curious Thoughts on the Game of Chess

In a spare moment recently, I was leafing through one of my favourite books. It was bought in Brittany in 2006 while on a Bu3a holiday there, and is devoted to the historical development of chess, but from the point of view of an artist considering the skill and beauty that, over the years, is reflected in the *chess pieces and boards*, rather than the game itself.



I lighted on this particular image. It is an Italian painting by *Anguissola*, dating from 1555, and it depicts three young sisters engaged in a game. Having caught my attention, it left me with a number of *observations*, and one *big query*.

The observations: the lavish setting (outdoors?); the exquisite clothing; and, of course, the magnificent set and board. This is clearly a well-to-do family. I was

also struck by the players - who says chess is a game for old men?! It certainly wasn't in this household then (nor is it in our GG group – well, 'old' possibly, but not all men). Also of note is the clear sense of enjoyment on the faces of the players. Oh, and by today's conventions, the board is the wrong way round!

The query: are you one of those folk that like to look around at airports, motorway service stations and other public spaces, and, quietly and privately, create stories around the people you see coming and going? I am! And this painting triggered such a response, and links I'm afraid to the recent, on-going, '*cheating-in-chess*' saga.

So, looking at the faces and their expressions, has the smiling but slightly embarrassed girl on the left been caught out trying an illegal move? Her opponent raises her hand in good-natured but firm protest, and gives her sister a slightly accusatory look. The youngest sibling, realising what is going on, finds it all rather funny, and seems to be curious as to what might happen next. But the watching guardian is ready to intervene to restore order! What is certain however is that in this game there were no technological shenanigans involved, however deployed!

What alternative narratives would you offer?

MONDAY WALKERS

Coordinators: Alan Swann, Sheila Metcalfe, Derek Bacon



We receive constant queries why Bu3a President, Alan Swann, is always kneeling in the Monday Walkers photos. So many Buzz readers want to know if he's having treatment for a bad knee and the answer is "No, but he probably should be!"

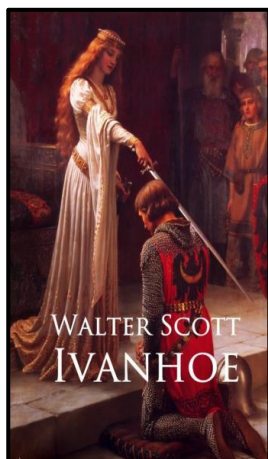
During a November walk around Silkstone Common, our President told us about how he could have been a shepherd; he emphasised how he doesn't need a dog because he can do it all by himself. You can see how brilliant he is in the photo! Real talent, I'm sure you'll agree! We are so proud to have a



massively talented sheep-whisperer in our midst!

During the same walk, we came across two old geezers sitting on a Barnsley Age-Friendly bench. Given that Bu3a won this same award in 2021, we thought that we should take a photo.





In the Literature group we have just read Ivanhoe by Sir Walter Scott. It's a book that everyone has heard of, but almost nobody has read. So we gave it a go.

I think it is true to say that we were all a little daunted when we first started reading it. However, we kept on, and do you know, the attitude of the group towards the novel

changed completely. It's an action book, an historical novel and a romance. It's the novel that has everything.

I am very proud of the group. They have done something that few people in England, and probably Scotland, have ever done.



Next term we will be studying Wordsworth. Yes, The Daffodils person, and hopefully we will include a trip to the Lake District to visit his home.



Before this, we will bond with each other, both at the group meeting and through the WhatsApp group that one of the members has set up. It was our common interest in literature that brought us together and keeps us together.



A VISIT TO THE BALMENACH DISTILLERY



Many of us who enjoy a 'wee dram' will have visited a whisky distillery on our travels. This August, whilst staying with friends in Inverness, we visited Balmenach distillery near Grantown-on-Spey. Whisky was first distilled here under licence in 1824 but the

landowner had secretly been making whisky for many years before. It is still produced here in small quantities but sent to be blended elsewhere.

However, we weren't here to taste whisky! We had booked a trip round the Caorunn Gin Distillery, situated on the same site. Since 2009, Caorunn (pronounced Ka-roon and meaning rowan berry in Gaelic) has been distilled here. Not only was it the first gin to be produced in a Scottish malt whisky distillery, but it is also the only one to be distilled in a working Copper Berry Chamber (imported from the USA).

Arriving at the site, our small group was shown around the botanical garden. Five of the eleven botanicals used are harvested on their own land – rowan berries, heather, Coul Blush apple, bog myrtle and dandelion. The other six are imported – orange and lemon peel from Spain, cassia bark (cinnamon) from Sri Lanka, juniper berries from Macedonia plus coriander and angelica.

We then entered the distillery for a 'nosing and tasting' experience. First, we smelt the actual



botanicals from open jars. Then we were given a measure of the gin, along with small bottles of the botanicals in liquid form. By sniffing the samples on

their own, then again but tasting the gin sample, and allocating a score each time, we built up our personal chart to tell how much we could smell, then taste, of each botanical in the gin. Our recordings varied widely but we did learn a lot about how a specific flavour is achieved.



Then – the tasting. At present the distillery produces three different strengths of Caorunn, starting at 41% proof and going up to 54% for Highland Strength.

Recently they have added Raspberry and Blood Orange to the range. We tasted all of them and went away very happy. Those on driving duty were given a measure of each in separate small bottles. An enjoyable and fascinating experience at a reasonable price and well worth a visit.

JO KASPAREK

	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23
MONTHLY MTGS	5th	9th	6TH	6TH	3RD	15th
SPEAKERS	Old Blowers	Yorks Air Ambulance	Singal long for Fu	A Solo Walk Across Africa	Fool's Gold	Milly Johnson, Author
EXEC MTGS	16th	20TH	17TH	17TH	21ST	19th
COORDINATOR MTGS						
NEW MEMBERS MTG						
Bu3a EVENTS			10th			12th
BUZZ DEADLINE						
BUZZ DISTRIBUTION	5th		10th	6th		
INTERIM BUZZ		21st			22nd	
CHOIR EVENTS	6th Concert					
SOCIAL EVENTS	12th Annual Lunch				21st Jazz&Blues	
TRAVEL EVENTS	4th Harewood House					
PARTNERSHIP EVENTS				16th Tea with the Mayor		
YAHR EVENTS						AGM
u3a UK EVENTS						
MONTHLY MTGS	5th	3rd	7th	4th	2nd	6th
SPEAKERS	AGM					
EXEC MTGS	16th	21st	18th	15th	20th	17th
COORDINATOR MTGS						
NEW MEMBERS						
Bu3a EVENTS				20th u3a Day		
BUZZ DEADLINE			11th			
BUZZ DISTRIBUTION	5th			4th		
INTERIM BUZZ		22nd			21st	
CHOIR EVENTS						
SOCIAL EVENTS						
TRAVEL EVENTS						
PARTNERSHIP EVENTS						
YAHR EVENTS						
u3a UK EVENTS				16th-24th u3a Week		

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QUIZZOOMERS – ANSWERS

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

1. Damascus
2. 1945
3. Saab
4. F D Roosevelt
5. Edison
6. Kidneys
7. Boer War
8. Northern
9. Sagittarius
10. Emerald

YORKSHIRE

1. Sean Bean
2. Hedge laying
3. Hornsea Mere
4. Windy Hill
5. Michael Parkinson
6. Beverley
7. Doncaster Racecourse
8. Spurn Point
9. Jo Cox
10. Featherstone

MAP OUTLINES

1. France
2. Iran
3. Portugal
4. China
5. Belgium

WHO AM I?

1. Charles I
2. Charles II
3. William Shakespeare
4. Elizabeth Fry
5. Florence Nightingale

RANDOM NUMBERS

1. 10
2. 11
3. 22
4. 5
5. 1600
6. 2
7. 38
8. 6
9. 44
10. 666

BONUS: 2404

QUIZ SHOW HOSTS

1. Alexander Armstrong
2. Bradley Walsh
3. Jeremy Paxman
4. Victoria Coren-Mitchell
5. Geoffry Wheeler
6. Bamber Gascoigne
7. Anne Robinson
8. Ben Shepherd
9. Henry Kelly
10. Clive Myrie

TIE BREAK

465 BEANS



DANCING HOLIDAY!

Sequence Dancing 1 and 2 are joining together for a dancing holiday.

March 3-8, 2023, at Inn on the Prom Hotel, Lytham St Annes.

Cost is £225 per person with no single supplement. Price includes 3 evenings dancing and 1 morning workshop. Coach provided at extra cost.

Contact Lynda Gensavage

Why are police officers good dancers?

Because they keep to the beat!



What do you call a woman with red berries on her head?

Holly!



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BARNESLEY & DISTRICT U3A - DEC 2022 to MARCH 2023

See our website for other special event dates

<http://u3asites.org.uk/barnsley/events>

MONDAY Group	Frequency	Venue	Start Time	December			January			February			March				
				5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	
Bird Watching	2nd week	As Announced	09.30		x						x					x	
Board Games Penistone	1st & 3rd week	St John's Comm Ctr Penistone	19.00	x		x		x				x					x
Book Forum (Group 1)	2nd week	Worsbrough Library	12.00														x
Cosmology	Fortnightly	Tesco Community Room Stairfoot	19.00		x						x					x	
Crown Green Bowling	Weekly (Mar-Oct)	Ardsley	10.00														x
Family History*	1st & 3rd week	Priory Campus	09.30	x													x
History	Fortnightly	Monk Bretton Methodist	10.00	x		x											x
Italian for beginners	2nd and 4th week	St Thomas's Church	13.30		x												x
Local History	3rd week	Burton Grange	10.00														x
Maths - 'Then and Now'	Please contact coordinator	ZOOM Group															
Monday Walkers	Weekly except the first Monday	As Announced	10.00		x												x
Monthly Meeting	1st week	Metrodome	13.30	x													x
New Members Link	Every second month	Monk Bretton Methodist	14.00														x
Recorder Group	Monday mornings	Contact coordinator	10.30	x	x												x
Snooker	Weekly	Stairfoot Constitutional Club	13.30	x	x												x
Soundbath 1	Fortnightly	Storefirst Hoyland	10.30	x													x
Spanish Introduction	Weekly	Birdwell Community Centre	10.30	x	x												x
Tai Chi - Beginners	Weekly	St Thomas's Community Ctr	16.00	x	x												x
Tai Chi - Advanced	Weekly	St Thomas's Community Ctr	17.00	x	x												x
Ten Pin Bowling	Weekly	Barnsley Bowl	10.00	x	x												x

*indicates a group is full on this particular day

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Group	Frequency	Venue	Start Time	December				January				February				March			
				6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	7	14	21
Book Forum (Group 2)	1st Week	Birdwell Community Centre	11.30	x				x							x				
Bridge	Weekly	Priory Campus	18.00	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Choral Singing	Weekly	Wombwell Methodist Church	13.45	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Crown Green Bowling *	Weekly (Mar - Oct)	Ardley	10.00																x
Crown Green Bowling Penistone***	Weekly (Apr - Oct)	Penistone Bowling Club	10.30																
Cycling	Fortnightly	As Announced	10.00	f				x		x					x				x
Drama	2nd and 4th weeks	Staincross Christian Fellowship Church	10.00		x					x					x				x
Flutes Galore	Weekly	Storefirst, Hoyland	10.00	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Francophile (French)	Weekly except 1st wk	Birdwell Community Centre	11.15		x					x					x				x
French Language & Culture	Weekly	Birdwell Community Centre	10.45	x	x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Geography		No meetings currently planned																	
Motorbike Group	1st Week	As announced & subject to weather	TBA	x															
Occasions Darfield	2nd Week	Darfield Church Hall	15.00							x					x				
Painting & Drawing for Pleasure ^{pd}	Weekly	Worsbrough Bridge Social Club	10.00	p	pd	p		p	pd	p	pd	p	pd	p	pd	p	pd	p	pd
Patchwork Projects Penistone	1st & 3rd Weeks	Penistone Scout Hut	14.00	x				x		x				x		x			x
Walking Group Penistone	2nd & 4th Week	As Announced	10.00							x				x		x			x
Racketball	Weekly	Stocksbridge Leisure Centre	10.30	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Sequence Dancing 2	Weekly	Birdwell Community Centre	13.00	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Sew Much To Do	Fortnightly	Wombwell Methodist Church	10.00	x						x				x		x			x
Stories for Pleasure	Fortnightly	Priory Campus	18.00							x				x		x			x
Table Tennis	Weekly	Valley Community Centre	14.00	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Tuesday Gardeners	Fortnightly	As Announced	14.00							x				x		x			x
Tuesday Walking *	Fortnightly	As Announced	10.00							x				x		x			x

*indicates a group is full on this particular day

f Flutes galore playing at the Alhambra

***out of season the Penistone bowling group meets socially for coffee on the second Tuesday of the month

pd Painting (p) meets weekly, joined every second week by drawing (pd) however every member is welcome weekly

BARNLSLEY & DISTRICT U3A - DEC 2022 to MARCH 2023

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WEDNESDAY		December			January			February			March					
Group	Frequency	Venue	Start Time	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29
Art for Beginners	Fortnightly	St Thomas's Community Centre	10.00		x				x		x		x			
Ceilidh Band	Fortnightly	Darby & Joan Club, Darton	14.15	x				x				x				
Creative Writing	Fortnightly	Emmanuel Church	19.00	x				x				x				
Crown Green Bowling	Weekly (Mar-Oct)	Ardsley	10.00													
Current Affairs	Fortnightly	Mapplewell & Staincross V Hall	10.00		x				x				x			
French Conversation*	Fortnightly	Birdwell Community Centre	14.00		x			x				x				
Games Galore	Weekly	Birdwell Community Centre	14.00 ²	x				x				x				
Gardeners Group	Fortnightly	Contact Coordinator	13:30													
Genealogy	Fortnightly	Dodworth Miners Welfare	10.00 ¹	x				x				x				
Literature Group	Fortnightly	Monk Bretton Methodist	14.00	x					x			x				
Solo Club	2nd Week	Staincross Christian Fellowship	18.30						x							
Stringalongs (Ukulele)	Fortnightly	Darby & Joan Club, Darton	14.15		x				x				x			
Wednesday Ramblers	Weekly	As Announced	10.00	x				x				x				

*indicates a group is full on this particular day

¹ Genealogy

Meets fortnightly for 4 hours, morning starts at 10am and afternoon starts at 12pm

Members can come to both sessions if they so wish.

² Games Galore

All games, including Canasta, are now available every week

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FRIDAY	December										January			February			March						
	Group	Frequency	Venue	Start Time	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	3	10	17	24	31	
Art Appreciation	1st Week	See group web page	13.30																				
Art Group - Penistone	Weekly	Penistone Scout Hut	13.00																				
Badminton	Weekly	Dorothy Hymn Stadium	10.00																				
Bridge Group Penistone	Weekly	Penistone Bowling Club	14.00																				
Barnsley/Rocks (Geology)	4th Week	ZOOM or visits as advised	10.00																				
Computers - Word & Excel		No meetings currently planned																					
Classical Studies	Weekly	Emmanuel Church	10.00																				
Crafty Chat - Penistone	Fortnightly	Penistone Scout Hut	14.00																				
Crown Green Bowling	Weekly (Mar-Oct)	Ardsley	10.30																				
Executive Committee	3rd Week	Storefirst, Hoyland	18.00																				
Flix@6	1st & 3rd Wks	Staincross Christian Fellowship	10.00																				
Movement to Music	Fortnightly	Emmanuel Church**	13.00																				
MOTO Penistone *	As shown	Penistone Scout Hut	13.30																				
Photshop	Fortnightly	Alder Close Community Centre	14.00																				
Classical Music and Opera	2nd & 4th Wks	Monk Bretton Methodist	14.00																				
Quiz Zoomers	dates as shown	ZOOM Group	18.30																				
Sequence Dancing *	Weekly	Monk Bretton Methodist	19.00																				
Sing 'n' Strum	Weekly	Staincross Christian Fellowship	11.00																				
Stitches Needlecraft	Weekly	Emmanuel Church	10.00																				
Movie Makers video and movie creation		No meetings currently planned																					
Walking Football	Weekly	Dodworth Miners Welfare	10.00																				

SATURDAY	December										January			February			March						
	Group	Frequency	Venue	Start Time	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	4	11	18	25		
Crown Green Taster ¹	Weekly	Ardsley	10.00																				
Out and About	As Announced	TBA																					
Wine Appreciation	1st & 3rd Wks	Zoom	19.00																				

¹ Crown Green Taster, meetings currently on-hold, is designed to give you chance to see how you go, everything is provided for you, you just need to wear flat shoes

SUNDAY	December										January			February			March						
	Group	Frequency	Venue	Start Time	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	5	12	19	26		
Sunday Strollers	Fortnightly	TBA	10.00																				

*indicates a group is full on this particular day

**venue may change, please check with the coordinator

¹ Crown Green Taster is designed to give you chance to see how you go, everything is provided for you, you just need to wear flat shoes

*** Meeting on the 31st not the 30th

OUR MEETING VENUES & BUS INFORMATION

VENUE	BUS	STAND
AGE UK BARNSELEY, 36a Queens Road, Barnsley S71 1AR		
ALDER CLOSE COMMUNITY CENTRE: Off Longsight Road, Mapplewell S75 6JA	1	10
ARDSLEY BOWLING CLUB: Coronation Terrace, Off Doncaster Rd, Ardsley S715BE	219	21
ARDSLEY OAKS WMC: 680 Doncaster Rd, Ardsley, Barnsley S71 5EF	219	21
BARNSELEY BOWL: Carlton Road, Barnsley S71 2AZ	12	8
BIRDWELL COMMUNITY CENTRE: Rockingham Street, Birdwell S70 5TQ	2 / 66 / 67	1
BURTON GRANGE COMMUNITY CENTRE: Wike Road, Lundwood S71 5LT	32	16
DARTON PARISH HALL: Church St, Darton, Barnsley S75 5HF	93	5
DODWORTH LIBRARY: High Street, Dodworth, Barnsley, S75 3RF	22	4
DODWORTH MINERS WELFARE CLUB: High Street, Dodworth, Barnsley S75 3RF	22	4
EMMANUEL CHURCH: Huddersfield Road, Barnsley S75 1DT	95	5
KING STREET FLATS: Waltham Street, Barnsley, S70 1JU	22X / 6	18 / 17
MANOR COURT COMMUNITY CENTRE: Westend Ave, Royston, Barnsley S71 4LN	57	13
MAPPLEWELL AND STAINCROSS VILLAGE HALL: Darton Lane, Barnsley S75 6AL	1	10
MONK BRETTON METHODIST CHURCH: High St, Monk Bretton, Barnsley S71 2EG	57	13
PENISTONE BOWLING CLUB: Back Lane, Penistone S36 6DW	20/21	5
PENISTONE LEISURE CENTRE S36 9EF	20/21	5
PENISTONE SCOUT HUT S36 6ET	20/21	5
POLLYFOX COMMUNITY CENTRE, Pollyfox Way, Dodworth S75 3QR	22	4
REDFEARNS SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB: Burton Road, Monk Bretton, S71 2JS	57/59	13
STAINCROSS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, 21 Spark Lane, Mapplewell, S75 6AA	1	10
ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY CENTRE: Church St, Penistone S36 6AR	22	4
STOREFIRST S74 9SB		
ST THOMAS'S COMMUNITY CENTRE: Church St, Gawber, Barnsley S75 2RJ	92 / 93	4
STOCKSBRIDGE LEISURE CENTRE: Moorland Drive, Stocksbridge, S36 1EG	23	5
STAIRFOOT CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB: 466 Doncaster Road, Barnsley S70 3PW	222/226/X19	18 / 19
TESCO: Wombwell Lane, Stairfoot, Barnsley S70 3NS	22X	18
VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE: Manor Road, Cudworth, Barnsley S72 8DG	27	15
WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH: Spark Lane, Mapplewell S75 6AA	1	10
WOMBWELL METHODIST CHURCH: Summer Lane, Wombwell, Barnsley S73 8HE	22	18
WORSBROUGH BRIDGE SOCIAL CLUB: Sheffield Rd, Worsbrough Bridge S70 5EJ	66	2
WORSBROUGH LIBRARY: Elm House Estate, Queensway, Worsbrough S70 5EN.	66	2

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT U3A
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