



August/September 2008 No 7

# Bridlington U3A News

## Committee Members

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**Membership Secretary:** Wendy Brayshaw 07876571884 [wendybrayshaw@btinternet.com](mailto:wendybrayshaw@btinternet.com)

83 South Back Lane, Bridlington YO16 4AL

**Secretary:** Sue Mukherjee

**Treasurer:** Christine Latham

**Speaker Secretary:** Rosie French (01262) 424260

**Group Coordinator:** Susan Earnshaw (01262) 601098

**Committee Members:** Tina Colley, Sylvia Crossland, Margaret Holmes and Helen McGonigle

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## Chairs Letter

Dear Bridlington U3A

*'Didn't we have a lovely time  
The day we went to the Spa-a....?'*  
♪♪♪♪♪

*'The speakers were fun and the building impressive,  
We listened, debated and met many new faces,  
With membership growing let's continue to flourish,  
So our expanding minds and narrow waists don't  
change places!'*

Now you have to make a *real* effort to get all this to scan properly but our secretary Sue Mukherjee's great response to my e-mail reminded me of one of the core purposes of U3A-to learn and to enjoy new experiences...and the Spa provides a very fitting venue for our growing organisation and worthwhile aspirations. We still have some further organisational details to sort out so that the monthly meeting flows effectively and people are able to enjoy the social aspects of coming together, but we are confident that we will get there. Membership now stands at 327 with new groups starting up with amazing regularity. In September we anticipate there will be almost 40 groups, with trips, garden visits, pub lunches and theatre outings in addition. The group leaders continue to provide a wonderful service and they are of course, at the heart of the U3A enterprise.

As we approach our first birthday as an organisation, we are feeling more confident about how to make things happen and how to take some calculated risks in order to thrive and flourish. By the time you read this, we will have completed our first AGM with a properly elected committee instead of a self-elected group. One aspiration continues to elude us,

however. We would really like a group web page for our Bridlington U3A to post on the national site. There is a framework provided by the Central Office to support this kind of venture but we need a volunteer to keep the web page up-to-date. Is there anybody out there who could help us? Please make contact with me if you could do this. Have a look at the national site <http://www.u3a.org.uk> with its helpful U3A Group Web Page instructions.

Although many groups and Summer Specials will continue through the summer, **there will be no monthly meeting in August. Our next meeting on September 1<sup>st</sup> welcomes our MP Greg Knight as our key speaker.** He wants to give as much time as possible to questions from our members. In order to ensure a wide spread of topics we are inviting you to submit your questions in advance to our membership secretary Wendy Brayshaw. Please contact her by e-mail, phone or letter with your question by August 19th. This procedure is not to make the process more comfortable for our MP-he will not be advised in advance of the questions!  
A Happy Summer to you all

Sue Gollop (Chair)

**Anthony Stroish has produced a very helpful guidance called 'XP Tips and Tricks' which he is happy to share with you. If you want to access this or need to discuss anything regarding your computer with him then please E-mail Anthony at [lakeside@timewarpuk.net](mailto:lakeside@timewarpuk.net), and he will endeavour to help.**

### U3A Nationally

July 2008-there are now 685 U3As in the UK and 206,266 members sharing learning experiences

### My Spell Chequer

Eye have a grate spell chequer,  
It came with my pea sea.  
It plainly marques four my revue  
Mistakes I cannot sea

Eye strike a quay and type a word  
and weight for it to say  
Weather I am wrong or write,  
It shows me strait a-weigh.

Whenever a mistake is maid,  
It shows bee four two long,  
And I can put the error write.  
It's all most never wrong.

Eye ran this poem threw it and  
I'm shore yore pleased to no  
It's letter perfect all the weigh.  
My chequer told me sew.

*From Margaret Lines*

### Theatre Trips

In the past several members have enrolled for theatre trips and subsequently failed to make payment. To alleviate the difficulties this creates when booking theatre seats and transport etc. we would ask that, in future, full payment be made at the time of enrollment.

In the event that there is insufficient interest for the trip to be viable, full refunds will of course be made to members.

*How about writing some poems and articles for the Newsletter...?*

### Future meetings at The Bridlington Spa - 10.30am

- Monday 1st September 08
- Monday 6th October 08
- Monday 3rd November 08
- Monday 1st December 08
- Monday 19th January 09
- Monday 16th February 09
- Monday 16th March 09
- Monday 20th April 09
- Monday 11th May 09
- Monday 15th June 09
- Monday 13th July 09

### Bridlington U3A salutes the new Spa

Monday 23rd June was a very special day for the Bridlington U3A. This organisation, which has given so much to the people of Bridlington, has grown until it was in danger of becoming a victim of its own success. Having outgrown the first venue, (the New



North Library) then the second, (Emanuel Church), it looked as if there was nowhere in Bridlington large enough for our general monthly meetings. With our membership over

300, the Committee had to think fast. Then just like the miracle, which helped the Bridlington U3A to start up in the first place, a second one occurred Bridlington's splendid new Spa would be complete in time for our June meeting. After negotiations over months, the committee was finally able to book this great venue monthly for the foreseeable future.

This first meeting at the Spa was attended by 193 members and visitors. Shirley Higon, the well known local singer/song writer, entertained with her own songs about the end of the old Spa and the rising of the new. She sang beautifully and what a clever and public-spirited songwriter she is. She has worked tirelessly for the 'Save Bridlington Hospital' and her musical talent has raised endless funds for the campaign.

Then Jonathan Collis-Scurll gave an entertaining and informative talk about the renovations and also a history of the Spa and its trials and tribulations over the years. Did you know it had two serious fires in its lifetime? The customer relations officer, Jonathan is a young Bridlington man who came back from University not expecting to stay here but he got the job with the Spa project and is now hooked. His talk was interesting and lively with great film slides on a large screen where we watched the transformation of 'Our Lady Spa' taking shape. Many lovely old pictures from bygone years gave a nostalgic feeling to the audience. His great sense of pride in the Spa and in Bridlington was an inspiration.

Remember there are no strangers at U3A, only friends you haven't met yet. If you are no longer in full-time employment and you want to know more, give our membership secretary Wendy Brayshaw a ring on 07876571884.

Hilda Slater

## Bridlington Is Good News July 12<sup>th</sup>

Bridlington U3A was represented at this event at the Spa. Archbishop of York, John Sentamu, opened a well attended and successful day, organized by Christ Church.



The Archbishop looks at the displays with the Rev. John Couper of Christ Church

## The Orchestra celebrating Wendy's birthday



**Membership Renewal** The time has come to renew your membership for September 2008/9. No change to the amount still £12.50. To prevent a rush at the September meeting we have enclosed a new amended form with the newsletter which must be completed by all members. To avoid a bottleneck at the September meeting you can send payment to me anytime and then collect your membership badge at the meeting. Any uncollected badges will be posted on. Any problems please contact Wendy Brayshaw **0787 657 1884**

## Memories from Keith and Robbie

While enjoying a U3A meal at the North Star, Keith and I started reminiscing about our wedding reception there nearly 45 years ago. Getting married at Flamborough meant that places to hold the reception were limited without travelling some distance and the North Star seemed ideal. At eighteen I thought it was going to be very "grand and posh".



However, one or two things did not go to plan.

When we arrived the first thing that met our eyes was the beautiful wedding cake.

Unfortunately, when trying to cut it we realised there was a problem, the knife started to bend as we struggled to cut through the "solid icing". The cake had been made by my sister's mother-in-law who had made dozens of cakes for people but for some reason she had forgotten to put the glycerine in to soften the royal icing. No one ever mentioned the mistake and everyone struggled with the icing but to this day I wonder how many broken teeth and dentures were caused by our cake.

About 10 years ago my brother-in-law mentioned our "splendid" buffet and said "I will always remember your reception".

Thinking he would mention the cake I was surprised when he said," because of all those trout curled round with their heads still on and their eyes looking at us." I laughed because I remembered there were rows of them on the buffet table. I think they were still there looking at us when we left because people either didn't fancy them or didn't know what to do with them.



A day to remember in more ways than one!

*Keith and Robbie at the U3A Lunch at the North Star*

***Retirement is when you stop living to work and start working at living***

## Interest Groups

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>am</b>	Monthly Open Meeting <b>Music Appreciation</b> Short Walks <b>Art 2</b> <b>Watercolour</b>	Music learn to play <u>or</u> Orchestra	Art 1 Acrylics <b>Short Walks</b>	Getting Started in Italian	Yoga
<b>pm</b>	Family History <b>Canasta</b> Sequence Dancing <b>Spanish for beginners</b>	Computers <b>Messing about in Boats</b> Spanish <b>Beginner French</b> Continuing French <b>Allotments</b>	Knitting Crochet and Embroidery	Creative Writing Advanced <b>Getting Going in Italian</b> Getting there in Italian <b>Beadwork</b> Metaphysics/ Philosophy <b>Meditation</b> Book Group <b>German</b>	<b>Local History</b> Swimming for beginners and improvers <b>Writing Memories</b>

**Days to be confirmed:** English Dancing, Scottish Dancing, Discussion group, Choir, Reading Group, Exploring Music

**Dates for your diary:**

**Pub Lunches (12.30)**

14<sup>th</sup> August Thursday Balmoral, Bridlington

10<sup>th</sup> September Wednesday Bull and Sun, Old Town

16<sup>th</sup> October Wednesday Packhorse Bridlington

Contact Margaret Holmes (01262) 424296

**Summer Specials**

5<sup>th</sup> August Tuesday 12 noon Rockpool Safari

South Landing Car Park Chris Clark

20<sup>th</sup> August at 10am Ravenscar Walk Susan Earnshaw

21st August 3pm Back to Nature Christine Latham

**Trips**

13<sup>th</sup> September Saturday Harrogate Flower Show £19

(includes entrance)

Contact Helen McGonigle (01262) 604930

**Please bring raffle prizes and books in good condition to sell at the monthly meetings**

### Theatre Trips

**THURSDAY EVENING 14 AUGUST 2008.** (STEPHEN JOSEPH THEATRE SCARBOROUGH)

- **LIFE AND BETH** A comedy by Alan Ayckbourn (A few seats are still available) PRICE: £22

Will recently widowed Beth make it through her first Christmas alone?

The family rally round but her alcoholic sister-in-law, accident prone son and his truculent girlfriend make it hard for her to maintain her welcoming smile. Add the local lovesick vicar and a further unexpected and uninvited guest and Beth is in for a Christmas she will never forget.

CAST: Liza Goddard, Susie Blake, Ruth Gibson, Ian Hogg, Adrian McLoughlin, Richard Stacey

**TUESDAY EVENING 11 NOVEMBER 2008** (YORK OPERA HOUSE) ELLEN KENT AMPHITHEATRE PRODUCTIONS

- **LA BOHEME – PUCCINI** PRICE LATER but estimate around £50

Set within the amphitheatre setting depicting the attics and back streets of Bohemian Paris, the stunning backdrops are inspired by Chagall, Renoir and the Impressionists and Act 2 will even boast snow! This production will feature authentic costumes of the period and the most romantic music written by Puccini, including the famous aria Your Tiny Hand is Frozen. This magnificent production will be performed by handpicked international soloists alongside the full Chisinau National Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus.

**TUESDAY EVENING 18 NOVEMBER 2008** (HULL NEW THEATRE)

- **SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS** PRICE: estimate £27

Set in Oregon in 1850 - Adam, the eldest of seven brothers goes to town to find a wife. He proposes to Milly the same day and they return to his backwoods cabin. Only then does she discover he lives with his 6 wild brothers who she sets out to tame. When they too want wives, Adam, unknown to Milly, decides to do what the Romans did, that is to kidnap the girls they want from the nearby township. This glorious romp is full of hand clapping energy, dazzling dance routines and classic songs, including Bless Your Beautiful Hide, Wonderful Day, Goin' Courtin'. Starring Steven Houghton and Susan McFadden.

**Refunds now available for the rained-off production of Fiddler on the Roof-see Ann Barden at the next meeting**