

Bridlington U3A



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EAST RIDING
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BRIDLINGTON U3A NEWS

May/June 2011 no.24

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Dear Bridlington U3A

I am making an early start on this newsletter since I shall be away at Easter, visiting my new twin grandchildren in Bulgaria. We have already seen some wonderful weather (Bridlington-the warmest place in the UK for 2 days!) and hopefully we can look forward to a lovely summer with South Beach Promenade looking pristine after its facelift last season. The endless building and road works are forgotten...

We are also looking forward to getting to know U3A members in Hunmanby as we launch HUG, the Hunmanby U3A Group. Some interest groups and events will centre on Hunmanby, but all will be welcome to any Bridlington groups and events as full members of Bridlington U3A. Nina and George Sheeran, newcomers to Hunmanby, have worked so hard to get this venture off the ground and we wish them well.

In the next newsletter you will be receiving details of the Annual General Meeting to be held on July 18th. If you want to raise an issue in the meeting you will need to propose a motion which you will then be asked to address briefly. It is also time to elect new Officers, since most of us have been in post for 3 years. The constitution does allow for a second period of office.

Some of you were not very happy about the new arrangements for Party Night announced at the last meeting. Because of the huge demand for the limited number of tickets, your committee has decided that only U3A members should be able to attend in the first instance. If by any chance tickets are still available one week before the event, then we will open up tickets to partners and friends.

This time last year I illustrated the May/June letter with pictures of the Japanese volcano Mount Fuji, because it was the period when planes were grounded by volcanic ash. This week in the newspaper there is a similar picture of this iconic mountain by way of headlining the terrible news from Japan. I know we have all been very moved by these events and as always, we remember how easily we accept and perhaps take for granted the good life.

All good wishes

Sue Gollop (Chair)

P.S. Some of you will know about Opera North's production of the new Bridlington opera 'Beached' to take place in the Spa in July. Many of our U3A members are involved in the singing. If anybody could help with making scenery or props, there will be a design workshop on May 21st from 10.00am to 5.00pm at the Priory Church Rooms.

If you are interested, contact hannah.dilworth@operanorth.co.uk or tel. 0113 2233565

March Meeting: U3A@The Spa

We were very pleased to welcome Sal Cooke to our meeting on March 14th. Sal is Director of JISC Techdis Service which is a leading UK Advisory Service, with a specific remit around technology in its widest sense. Its work is mainly in the public sector with a particular focus on Access and Disability, focusing mainly on Education but also increasingly working with the Health service, Social Services and even prisons. In her spare time (we were not sure where Sal found any spare time), Sal, who lives in Flamborough, is passionate about her voluntary work with the RSPB Cruises on the Yorkshire Belle from May to October.

She gave us a splendid and inspirational account of her bicycle ride through India to raise money for Robert Winston's 'Women for Women' Appeal. Sal had scarcely been near a bike since her childhood when her daughter Katie persuaded her to 'take a holiday', on a bike, in India, for charity. As Sal said, 'I don't do holidays or bikes' but in the event she certainly 'did bikes'.

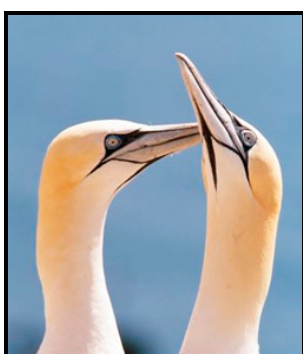


(Sal distributing shampoo and soap to young girls and women)

Prior to the event, Sal had to undertake some rigorous training ('like doing Garrowby Hill 3 times') and learn how to manage more than the 3 gears on a bike she had known as a child. And so 100 women cycled through India, much of it in the middle of nowhere but whenever they stopped, children would appear and marvel at this amazing spectacle of women riding bikes through their land. Next adventure? 'Thinking of doing something in Oman' replied Sal.



The comical little puffin



The faithful gannets

A plea from Sal - support the RSPB Cruises to Bempton Cliffs and Flamborough!

From May onwards, there are regular cruises on The Yorkshire Belle to see the 200,000 seabirds which make their summer home on our beautiful cliffs. Booking is essential. Sunday May 29th is the first Gannet and Puffin Cruise, sailing from the harbour.

<http://www.rspb.org.uk/groups/eastyorkshire/news>



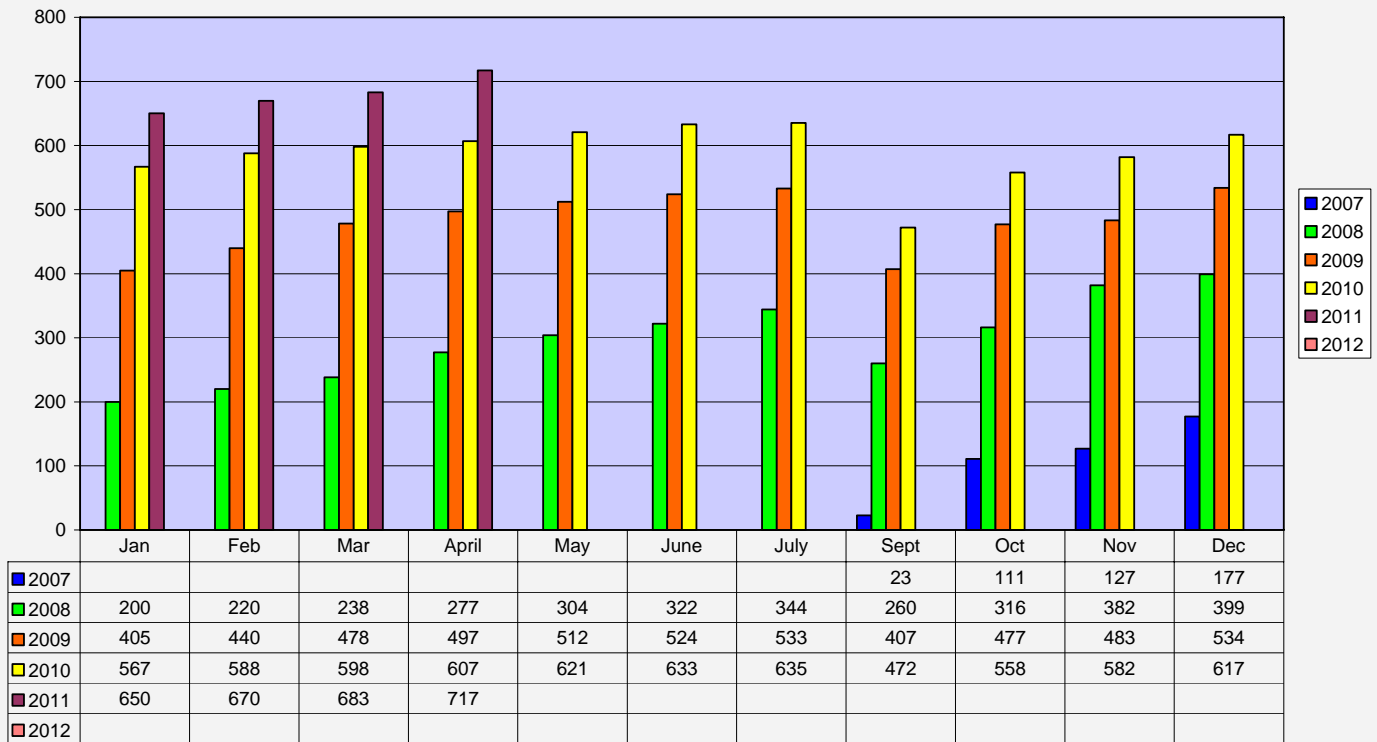
The Artemisia Research Project: the botanical solution for malaria

At our April meeting, we welcomed Nicola Smith from York University, who told us about the latest genetic technologies to rapidly improve the supplies of a vital malaria drug based on one of the most important medicinal herbs: *Artemisia annua*.

This beautiful and delicate plant (pictured left with Nicola) is being used to help meet the increasing demand for affordable malaria medicines, using molecular plant breeding and not genetically modified plants to create new, robust and high yielding varieties.

Artemisia is farmed in Asia and Africa but crops are small and inefficient. Current research is focusing on breeding a more efficient crop to ensure a higher yield of artemisinin. This wonderful project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, comes to an end next year. The first hybrid seeds are now ready to distribute. Such a project as this will give hope to so many for whom malaria is an ever-present threat. An inspiring session - thank you Nicola.

Number of U3A Members



See how Bridlington U3A has grown since September 2007!

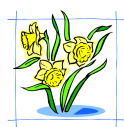


The U3A National Conference September 2011: What does U3A mean to you?

This conference will take place in Nottingham and it is intended to be a celebration of U3A. We have been asked by our regional director Anne Firth for individual stories from members about the way U3A has changed and improved their lives. All that is required is a photograph and up to 150 words of text-which is not very much! Please send your articles to me as soon as possible on my e-mail sue.gollop@tiscali.co.uk or by hand / post

NEW GROUPS! NEW GROUPS! NEW GROUPS! NEW GROUPS! NEW GROUPS! NEW GROUPS!

Poetry Appreciation: This is about reading and appreciating poetry together.



3rd Thursday in every month 10.30am - midday
 Leader: Gail Stevenson
 Start date: June 23rd leader's house

Spanish for Beginners

Every Monday
 10.30am to midday
 Leader: Mary Newlove
 Start date: May 3rd leader's house



On Wednesday, 6 April, the Creative Writing Group was privileged to welcome novelist, Linda Acaster, to group leader Ann Mullender's home. Linda's success began with short stories published in the IPC Magazines. Her deep interest in Native Americans led to Mills and Boon Historical Romance fiction such as *Hostage of the Heart* (Linda is a member of the Historical Novelists Association), Westerns under pseudonym *Tyler Brentmore*, and her latest book, *Torc of Moonlight*, – para-normal fiction. Linda rounded off her talk by sharing with the group some excerpts of her own short stories, demonstrating technique in introducing the main character, setting the place, introducing a problem and conclusion. **(Linda seated front row 1st left) Ann Mullender**



Summer Specials!



What can you offer? A one day event? A workshop? An outing? Talk to Jennie Copley!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
am	Monthly Open Meeting Music Appreciation Short Walks Spanish for beginners Discussion Group (1) Discussion Group (2) Knitting and Crochet	Music learn to play or Orchestra Allotments Trim Intentions Knitting & Crochet Intermediate French Conversation	Short Walks Art Acrylics Medium Walks Spooning for Fun Card Making Continuing French Spanish intermediate	Getting Started Italian Family History (2) Art Watercolours German for beginners Family History Poetry Appreciation	Yoga Art Watercolours Art Portrait Painting Mah-jong
pm	Canasta Singing for Fun: The Entertainers Art Acrylics Computers for Beginners Bridge Amateur Radio Desk Top Publishing Tap Dancing	Hearing Loss U3A Choir Writing Memoires Let's Make a Band Yoga (2) Indoor Bowling Beginning French Conversation Computers (Power Point)	Creative handmade books Progressive Whist Creative Writing (Beginners) T'ai Chi Fun Galore Board Games Calligraphy	French Conversation Getting On in Italian Getting there in Italian Beadwork Book Group A Little More German Reading Wine Appreciation Canasta Meditation 1 Digital Photography German Conversation	Swimming for beginners and improvers Outdoor Bowling Play Reading Recorder Group 1 Recorder Group 2 Meditation 2

Variable meeting days: **Geology Long Walks Trips Theatre Silver Dream Bikers Horse Mad Cycling for Fun**

Proms in the Park

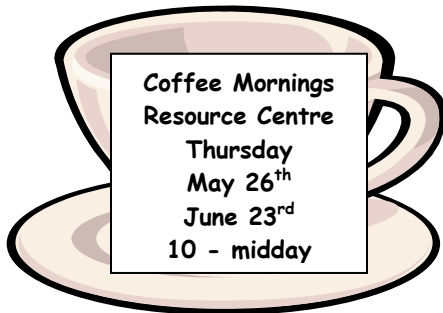
Date : Saturday August 13th.
Venue: Castle Howard
Cost: £35
Pick up points: Burton Agnes, Tesco, Co-op (Somersfield), Flamborough and Hunmanby.
Tickets: at meetings or from Helen McGonigle 01262 604930



Party for Group Leaders
 We can never say thank you enough to our group leaders for all that they do for our U3A. Please come to our Leaders' Party on June 10th 3.30pm at the Resource

U3A@the Spa 2011-12

10.00 for 10.30 am
 16th May 2011
20th June 2011
 (Note the June change)
 18th July 2011 AGM
 No meeting August
 19th September 2011
 17th October 2011
 21st November 2011
 19th December 2011
 16th January 2012
 13th February 2012
 19th March 2012
 16th April 2012
 14th May 2012
 11th June 2012
 9th July 2012 AGM
 No meeting August



The Magistrates Celebrate 650 years

On January 25th 1361, the first court sat in the country. To help celebrate that historic day when the Justices of the Peace first met, there will be a dramatic enactment of the various events which have taken place in the life this democratic institution. In October 2008, we had a presentation from our local magistrates: now we have been invited to attend this performance in Beverley Guildhall on Wednesday morning, July 13th. We have been granted 30 free tickets. If you would like to attend please sign up at the next meeting, or contact Sue Gollop or Helen McGonigle. We will book a coach for the morning and so there will be a charge for transport.