

Bridlington U3A



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EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

BRIDLINGTON U3A NEWS

September/October
2011 no.26

Committee

Chair/News Editor: Sue Gollop (01262) 601909 sue.gollop@tiscali.co.uk 48 Roundhay Road, Bridlington YO15 3JY

Vice Chair: Clive Neale (01262) 490101 the_farriers@btinternet.com

Secretary: Wendy Brayshaw 07876571884 wendybrayshaw@btinternet.com 83 South Back Lane, Bridlington YO16 4AL

Treasurer: Christine Latham (01262) 851313 christine.latham4@btinternet.com

Group Coordinator: Jennie Copley (01262) 604729 jennifer.copley@talktalk.net

Speaker Secretary: Rosie French (01262) 424260

Welfare Officer: Gill Kay

Other committee members: Frankie Austin, Yanina Sheeran, Lynda Musgrave, Sylvia Overson

Minutes Secretary (ex officio): Jeanette Young

Dear Bridlington U3A,

As I write this on the last day of August, there is a distinct feel of Autumn close by. It makes me think of new beginnings from all those years of being in the classroom in September - a new (academic) year, new exercise books, new pens and a lovely new set of colouring pencils. For our U3A of course, we also start a new year since September marks our birthday; we have now reached the ripe old age of four.



**AGM: The Tap Dancers (above)
Wendy's Choir (conducted by Carol Daniel)**

It was wonderful to see such a good turn out for our AGM in July. It was attended by 300 members and 10 visitors. Membership at the time of the AGM stood at about 770 members, with about 80 interest groups. Our treasurer Christine Latham presented the financial report which showed a healthy state of affairs for our U3A. We are grateful to Robin Taylor, our accounts examiner, for approving the accounts and for being available to give advice. Thank you to all of you who took part in the entertainment, demonstrating the many talents you are developing in your interest groups. The AGM was a great opportunity to publicly thank all those people who make our U3A a viable and vibrant organisation, including staff at the Spa, the group leaders, all the volunteers, the grants committee and the Bridlington U3A committee. We now have a new vice chair: Clive Neale, and an additional new committee member, Yanina Sheeran. Our vice chair and treasurer will be attending the National Conference in Nottingham at the end of September.

I want to use this chair's letter to include part of the chair's report here (the full report is on our website). We are now more involved with the regional group: the Yorkshire and Humberside Region (YAGR) and hopefully we will participate in the Regional Day on August 15th 2012 to be held at Askham Bryan. If you think your group might like

to display their wares and talk about how their group operates, then do get in touch. I have visions of our Silver Dream Bikers turning up en masse and wowing the crowds...

I also raised at the AGM some of the issues which the national committee consider to be pressing on U3As up and down the land.

1. **How to get more interest groups** - not a big issue for us since we are above the recommended 10% of membership ie. with 500 members there should be 50 groups
2. **How to get more group leaders/contacts/facilitators** - also not a key issue as yet because Jennie works so hard to find them. People should remember that being a group leader does not mean being an expert. Sometimes what is needed is somebody to facilitate and organise the group which then shares its expertise.
3. **Attracting new committee members** - might be an issue 3 years from now, since you will certainly need a new Chair as my term of office must finish after 2 stints of 3 years each in the Chair. Other longstanding officers may also feel the need to step down after 6 years in post. We are still 1 member short of the full committee of 12. Nevertheless we have not yet had any serious gaps to fill and hopefully this happy state of affairs will continue.
4. **What to do about waiting lists** - this is a key area for us to address. There are groups which are full, but sometimes, a second group is formed from those on the waiting list. Please let us know if this is an area of concern for you.
5. **How to revive your U3A if it is getting stale** - probably Bridlington U3A is still too young for us to rate it as a problem, but we as a committee are always anxious not to appear complacent so if there are issues out there, please tell us.

I am looking forward to meeting you all again at **10.00am on September 19th at the Spa**. Some groups run through the summer, but for many of you it will be time to start up once more. So dust off your instruments, revisit those irregular verbs and sharpen up your many skills again. We look forward to welcoming many new members and I hope they will all find great enjoyment in being a member of Bridlington U3A.

All best wishes

Sue Gollop (Chair)

FAREWELL TO RAE AND MO AT BEAN THERE

Founder members of our U3A, Rae and Morris Freedman, have sold their business and are moving into well-deserved retirement. Bean There itself will be sorely missed by the whole community; its welcoming, warm, friendly atmosphere and excellent, healthy food made it a gathering place *par excellence*. It became a real home from home for many and especially for U3A members, it was unusual to go in without bumping into at least one of our members.

It was also, of course, home for many of our groups ever since Rae and Mo bought it. They so graciously opened their upstairs dining area and then Mo's old studio to our groups, putting up with us, providing us with refreshments and accommodating us in so many ways, flexibly and affordably.

We shall miss all this but wish them well as they move on, having accomplished with incredible success (and lots of hard work) what Rae once said was one of their dreams. They are now ready to retire but, knowing them, not to put their feet up. And perhaps the U3A may benefit once more from their energy, enthusiasm and initiative.

Thank you Rae and Mo for all that you have done to help make our Bridlington U3A groups so welcome.



2011/12 Membership Renewals

Please put your renewal cheque/money (£12.50) in an envelope with your name and number on the front of the envelope and place in the renewal box at the meeting, or post to Wendy (or put through her door). There will be blue badges for next year. These will be sent to you or made available at meetings if ready at the time.

We are also inviting those of you who bank online to make a direct payment ('pay another person') to Bridlington U3A ('destination name') - sort code 05 03 43 - a/c number 26517200 using as 'payment reference' **your membership number** followed by **initial and surname** eg. 38sgollop

NEW GROUPS!

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Do you want to learn to play Mahjong?

Paul Carroll is starting a Mahjong group Tuesday 5.00 - 7.00pm at the Resource Centre. Charge £1 per session
The sign up sheet will be out at the meeting on the 19th.



What about Zumba dancing?

This will take place at the Leisure Centre on Mondays at 1.30p. Charge £2 per session. The sign up sheet will be out at the meeting on the 19th.



Can you lead a Beginners' Computer Class?

Unfortunately our leader has had to withdraw from this beginners' class which is held on Monday pm at New Pasture Lane School. Teaching notes and resources are available to support the teaching. Please contact Jennie Copley if you can help.



Two of our long walkers complete the Three Peaks' Challenge!

I thought you might like to know what two of the members of my Long Walks' Group have achieved. On bank holiday Saturday Val and Geoff Aitken took part in the Three Peaks' Challenge where you have to climb the three highest peaks in the Yorkshire Dales in 24 hours. They climbed all three peaks in 13.5 hours and covered 25 miles. Pen-y-ghent is 2278 feet high, Ingleborough is 2376 feet high and Whernside is 2415 feet high. Well done Val and Geoff!

Susan Earnshaw

(Left: The western foot of Ingleborough)

HUNMANBY NEWS: A BIGGER 'HUG' FOR AUTUMN

Hunmanby - based U3A groups have proved so popular that more will be on offer this Autumn. They are open to all members of Bridlington U3A. New activities include Family History and a Computing Workshop for beginners, running in partnership with the local library. Four extra places are available in the Bridge Group, which has moved to larger accommodation at The White Swan Inn (or that's the explanation they gave us,



A 17th century chalk-built pair of cottages being studied by the Hunmanby group - and they're for sale!

anyway!) Two poems from the Creative Writing were read recently at the regional poetry reading event at the Spotlight Theatre. Aptly enough, in the light of current events the Social and Moral Issues Discussion Group is tackling questions of crime and punishment for its opening theme. Meanwhile, Yorkshire Studies, which has proved very popular, is concentrating on 'The Traditional Buildings of Yorkshire 1600-1830'. And the first Autumn walk on 23rd September is likely to generate some heated controversy - the route is taking in the site of a proposed new wind farm!

Over the summer, with Christine Latham's invaluable help, the group applied to Hunmanby Parish Council for funding to further develop its work and has been awarded a grant of £200.

You are also warmly invited to come along to Hunmanby Heritage Day on Saturday 10th

September, where the U3A group will be staffing a publicity stall. Various events will take place all day between 10-4, with a lot going on in the morning, including an enactment of the traditional 'Riding the Stang' and music from the Silver Band. The church will be open and there will be a guided village walk in the afternoon.

Nina Sheeran

INTEREST GROUP SUMMARY

	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(2)	Music learn to play or Orchestra Allotments Trim Intentions Knitting & Crochet (1) Intermediate French Conversation Spanish for beginners	Short Walks Art Acrylics Medium Walks Spooning for Fun Card Making Spanish intermediate	Getting Going in Italian Art Watercolours German for beginners Family History Poetry Appreciation	Yoga Art Watercolours Art Portrait Painting
HUG	Yorkshire Studies			Creative Writing	
pm	Canasta Singing for Fun: The Entertainers Art Acrylics Bridge Amateur Radio Tap Dancing Zumba Dancing	Hearing Loss U3A Choir Writing Memories Let's Make a Band Yoga (2) Pétanque Beginning French Conversation Mahjong	Creative handmade books Progressive Whist Creative Writing (Beginners) T'ai Chi Fun Galore Board Games Calligraphy	French Conversation Getting Started in Italian Getting there in Italian Beadwork Book Group A Little More German Reading Wine Appreciation Canasta Meditation 1 German Conversation	Swimming for beginners and improvers Outdoor Bowling Play Reading Recorder Group 1 Recorder Group 2 Meditation 2 Indoor Bowls Digital Photography
HUG		Bridge		Discussion Group	
Variable: Geology Long Walks Trips Theatre Silver Dream Bikers Cycling for Fun Wolds Churches					

MONTHLY MEETINGS

U3A@the Spa
2011-12

10.00 for 10.30 am
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

Drop-In Sessions at the Resource Centre

Victoria Road

Every Tuesday midday to 2.0pm

Meet the committee-use the facilities!

Support our Coffee Mornings

10.0am - midday

at the Resource Centre!

Last Thursday in the month

29th September

27th October

24th November



We are working on restoring pub lunches-news to follow!



Scarborough Theatre Trip: Stephen Joseph Theatre Thursday October 20th evening

'We Are Three Sisters'

A new play about the Brontë Sisters by Blake Morrison Directed by Barrie Rutter

Cost £31. Coach pick-up Bridlington (Co-op/old Somerfield and Coach Station at Tesco) and Hunmanby

Book and pay at the next meeting on September 19th or contact Ann Barden on 01262 851837

Against the backdrop of a dark, remote northern town, three remarkable young women live their lives brightly. Haworth 1840s; in a gloomy parsonage where there are neither curtains nor comforts, Charlotte, Anne and Emily Brontë light up their world with outspoken wit, aspirations, dreams and ideas. And throughout their confined lives intensely lived... they write.

Anyone who has read a Brontë novel cannot fail to be stirred by their overwhelming humanity, charged emotion and brooding, prescient unease with the status quo. Now come to know the voices behind them. With exquisitely drawn characterisations, a nod to Chekhov and a touch of poetic licence, We Are Three Sisters is a pearl of a play which evokes with piercing clarity the life and distinct personalities of these three spirited individuals.