

BRIDLINGTON U3A NEWS

March/April 2022

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u3asites.org.uk/bridlington

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Photographs by: Pete Arthur, Kevin Smith
and Terry Benstead

Letter from the Chair

It is gratifying to see that numbers attending the Spa Meetings continue to increase. We have not returned to pre-Covid levels but boosters seem to have given people confidence to start meeting up again.

Members have fed back to me that they have noticed an increase in the numbers of groups and new ones being advertised. I am delighted that these new opportunities are coming to fruition and thanks to everyone involved.

We can give out some dates now for the various events and celebrations that we are planning for the year and you will see them advertised elsewhere in this newsletter. We hope you will attend and enjoy these extra special events. A lot of people are working hard to put them on.

We are also hoping to increase opportunities for online learning in the next couple of months with our new revamped website, which will have links to online courses, free adult learning in conjunction with the Council and also with U3A National. Interest in these has spiked since the lockdown and many organisations are going to continue to offer these, not just for those who are less active, but as additional resources for everyone.

East Riding Council are being very pro-active and are willing to provide basic IT courses to get you started with online learning and we will be advertising these soon.

The Social events are proving popular – and are selling out as soon as they are advertised. We will be including an insert in the newsletter of everything we know is coming up soon so that members who do not receive emails can keep up to date with social events advertised.

Terry Benstead

Treasurer

I was born in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. My school life was at Holmfirth secondary school. I spent many of my family holidays at Bridlington during the sixties. From school, I joined the Royal Air Force as a Teleprinter Operator within the communications branch. I spent 23 years in the communications branch, migrating to Telegraphist and communications management before leaving for civilian life. Afterwards I worked in local government employed within financial services with the City of London Police for a number of years before moving to Cambridgeshire to work as a civil servant within Financial Control employed with National Policing retiring from work in 2013. I decided to live by the sea in Bridlington after many childhood memories. I have enjoyed travelling to many places around the world in my retirement and among my interests is Philately and casual Photography. I am actively involved in both Short Mat and outdoor flat green bowling.



Mike Hobson

The next two Spa Meetings

**7 Mar 2022 Gayna Wallace and Sue Dawson
“Carnaby Airfield and Memorial”**

A history of Carnaby Airfield and the role it played during World War 2 guiding battle damaged bombers to a safe landing. Also how the local residents of Carnaby village raised funds for a memorial to mark the contribution that Carnaby Airfield made during its short existence as an Emergency Runway.

16 May 2022

“The Finale”. by Mark Walsh

This talk looks at the humorous side of his later career - being a regular guest on BBC Radios 'Friday Night is Music Night' (over 300 appearances) to becoming Chairman of the iconic City Varieties Theatre in Leeds. The talk also contains stories about Dame June Whitfield, Dame Barbara Windsor and Danny La Rue (with whom he worked for 10 years). He is also one of the foremost players in the world of the ukulele.

QUIZ NIGHT

The last quiz night is on Wednesday
30th March 2022 7:00 for 7:30 start at:

The Town Bar
Queensgate
Bridlington
YO16 7LN



Quiz nights will restart in September

Spotlight on.....

Kurling

The Kurling group has been running at the Leisure Centre since it opened five years ago. It is so successful that it runs over three days in the week, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. It's great fun and is suitable for people of all abilities. I have watched them many times from upstairs in the Gym there and decided it was time to go and have a look!

Obviously, - well it wasn't to me till they told me - it's an adaptation of Curling, the Olympic sport. The 'stones' run on ball bearings and can run on any flat indoor floor. The Leisure Centre is ideal, although I am told that the floor slopes off to one side, but that could just have been an excuse for a bad shot.

The Tuesday group let me have a go and it's good fun when the stone goes in the right direction. It is a smaller group on Tuesday and very friendly with a few vacancies and very welcoming to new members.

Later in the year, the National Competition is coming to Bridlington so we will all have the opportunity to support our teams!

They all seem like a competitive bunch which bodes well for the Nationals, and full of enthusiasm about the competition. We wish them all Good Luck. I think we might have to have another photo opportunity when the competition is on.



Short Mat Bowls at Bempton Village Hall

The Short Mat Bowls Group run by Kevin Smith the Group Leader, is a great example of all that is good within Bridlington U3A.

I was invited along for the afternoon as Group Coordinator to meet the members and have a look at how they play the game of Short Mat Bowls.

11 members turned up for the session. They were a very welcoming, friendly group of people with differing abilities, all cheerful and a nice group of members.

There was some serious bowls playing, lots of laughter, some inevitable banter and friendly chatter between the sporting concentration and keen focus on their teams winning.

I was struck by how organised and supportive the group were to each other and by the bowls themselves, that came in all manner of colours, designs, differing weights and size.

There were lots of terms to learn throughout the games like skips, chalk marks and firsts etc and everyone got a good bit of exercise swapping ends and bowling but what they appeared to get most of was enjoyment out of the games.

Halfway through I became aware of lots of eyes turning towards the clock and within minutes the first half games were concluded, the kettle put on and mugs of steaming tea or coffee were served with a biscuit to all group members.

Some great catching up and conversations took place with mugs in hand and a bag was passed around to draw chips to see which teams would play on which mat for the second half.

Within no time everything was cleared away and the second half began with different teams, again giving lots of encouragement to each other, some leg pulling and bursts of laughter.

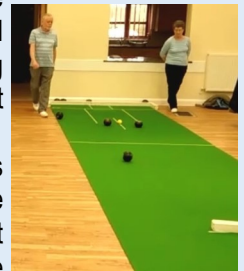
As the second half came to an end the Group sprang into action, all clearing the hall and shaking hands in thanks to each other for the games they had played.

As I have found with other groups there are some real friendships made through this Group that translates to other activities inside and outside of the Bridlington U3A.

The Short Mat Bowls Group is a fantastic way to spend a Friday afternoon. Kevin Smith and the group members are looking for more Bridlington U3A Members to join them.

A warm welcome awaits you - Why not give it a try?

If you would like to join the Short Mat Bowls Group, please contact Tracey Hobson: Email: groupcoordbridu3a@mail.com Tel: 07935980159



Introduction to the Climate Change Group



The Group Leader Mark is a very warm and welcoming man who really cares about people's wellbeing and our planet.

To provide some focus for the Group the Members are slowly working through:

"There is no planet B"

A book by the author: Mike Berners-Lee

The Climate Change Group are now looking for new members to join them on the 2nd Thursday of the Month at the U3A Centre.

Some key points about this friendly Group:

- The Group do not usually have a guest speaker, but on the 10th February Christine Latham gave a talk on Eco Architecture
- They are a discussion group who respect and encourage all points of view
- Through discussion the Group teach themselves
- The Members learn together and help each other to understand a complex but interesting subject
- No special knowledge is needed just an interest in Climate Change and a keenness to learn through interaction and discussion
- They make a point of finding realistic positive information, to stay positive and motivated
- There is a lovely social aspect to this Group, the Members enjoy meeting each other and learning
- Members each bring information about climate change to share, where possible.

The Climate Change Group is a non-political group, made up of members who care about the planet. If you would like to learn more about Climate Change then this could be the group for you.

For more information or to join The Climate Change Group please contact: Tracey Hobson:

Email: groupcoordbridu3a@mail.com Tel: 07935980159

Social Scrabble

Social scrabble has been going for about five years now and are a very friendly bunch who meet twice a month. The emphasis is very much on the social. They don't want to enter competitions but they do want to exercise the little grey cells.

Not being a player myself, I had no idea that there were special scrabble dictionaries, I couldn't even remember how many tiles you get, but they soon put me right.

Because of the size of the room, twelve people is the maximum that can meet. If someone drops out and lets the group leader know in time, they can get in a reserve sometimes to keep up the numbers.

Tea and biscuits at half time, what more could you want. Keep an eye out for a sheet at the Spa if you are interested.



What's on at Bridlington u3a

Trips and Lunches

Bridlington u3a Trips & Monthly Lunches

For more information contact the Social Secretary Diane on 07916306167

Cheques made payable to: Bridlington u3a

Post to: Diane Akroyde
7 Blythe Walk
Bridlington
YO16 7BF



Monthly Lunches – 3rd Thursday of the Month – 1:30pm - Various Locations



Hopton on Sea, Norfolk staying at the All Inclusive Potters Resort - Monday 10th October 4nts all inclusive £480 pp deposit £65



East Riddlesden Hall and Gardens Sunday 10th April £39 - Deposit £10



Royal Albert Hall and Jubilee Tea Friday 3rd June - 2nts Bed and Breakfast staying at the Holiday Inn, Kensington. £340 pp - Deposit £65



Chatsworth House and Xmas Market Saturday 12th November £55 - Deposit £10



Steam and Cream Monday 11th April. Based in Ilfracombe North Devon. 4 nts Half Board staying at the 3rd Carlton hotel £399 pp - Deposit £65



Wentworth House and Gardens Sunday 22nd May £39 - Deposit £10

Bridlington u3a Trips

For more information contact the Social Secretary Diane on 07916306167

Cheques made payable to:
Bridlington u3a
Post to: Diane Akroyde
7 Blythe Walk
Bridlington
YO16 7BF

Parties

Party at the Park 8th June 2022

Come and join us for a special day at

Sewerby Hall & Gardens

To celebrate the u3a's 40th Anniversary, Bridlington u3a's 15th Anniversary and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

You can Bring a Picnic, a Blanket or Chairs or,

Food, Snacks & Drinks are available to purchase from the Café & Tuk-Tuk van

There will be Music in the Orangery, Hall Tours, Zoo, History & Walks – or just sit and watch the world go by!

Also view the 57th Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition on loan from the Natural History Museum in London

Undercover areas are available if required

30% off the Entrance Fee if you show your Membership Card

For more information please contact: Tracey Hobson Email: groupcoordbridu3a@mail.com Tel: 07935980159



Lets have a Tea Party

Come and join the Committee at Bridlington Spa on the 19th of September 2022 to Celebrate the u3a's 40th Anniversary

10am for a 10.30am start

This Event will embrace the social aspect of Bridlington u3a.

Large Prize Draw

Entertainment will be provided by a Brass Band

Tea, Coffee and Cake will be available to purchase.

u3a

40th Anniversary

Bridlington u3a Showcase



Bridlington u3a's Showcase Event at Bridlington Spa June 20th 2022

- This is a great event for our Members, a chance to see all our amazing Groups on show
- The event will be open to the public
- There will be Music and the Café will be open
- We are inviting all groups to have a stall and show off the wonderful work that they do in Bridlington u3a
- If your group is interested in participating, please contact Tracey Hobson Email: groupcoordbridu3a@mail.com Tel: 07935980159

Christmas

Bridlington u3a's Anniversary Dinner Dance at the Belvedere Golf Club on the 3rd of December 2022

Enjoy some classic food, great company, dust off your dancing shoes and get ready for Christmas with us



Tickets will go on sale in October. For more information please contact: Tracey Hobson Email: groupcoordbridu3a@mail.com Tel: 07935980159

Bridlington u3a Christmas Concert

19th of December at Bridlington Spa

Let's do something different this year!

- The Drama Group will host the Concert and link all the performing groups with a Christmas theme
- We will be approaching Bridlington u3a groups to perform at the Christmas Concert
- This year, we would really like a singing Group, but we don't currently have one! It's novel, it's new and will be something different. So please put this date in your diary.
- For more information or if you'd like to perform, Please contact: Tracey Hobson Email: groupcoordbridu3a@mail.com Tel: 07935980159



GROUP INFORMATION SUMMARY

am	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
	Monthly Members Open Meeting – Bridlington Spa Knitting and Crochet 2 Medium Walks 2 Short Walk 1 Tap Dancing for All	Knitting and Crochet New Age Kurling 3 Orchestra - Any Instrument Trim Intentions/Weight Management	Ballet Fitness Friendship Circle Golf Improvers German for Improvers 2 Local History Medium Walks 1 Mindfulness Meditation New Age Kurling 1 Short Walk 2 Spanish for Beginners Ukes of Hazzard	Beginners Fit Steps Crown Green Bowls Discussion German for Improvers Scrabble	A Little More German Acrylics Beginners Line Dancing Computing for Beginners Croquet New Age Kurling 2 Poetry Appreciation Watercolours Mixed Abilities
pm	Archery Acrylics & Mixed Media A Writers Group Beginners Card Games Beginners - Ballroom Dancing Beginners French Book Club Canasta 1 Introduction to Basic Spanish Laptop Issues Petanque Photography 1 Tapestry Weaving The Sewing Club	Canasta for Beginners Drama Jazz Band Science and Technology Table Tennis 1- Beginners/Improvers Uno and Board games Diabetes Support Group	Beer Appreciation Bridge (Improvers) Calligraphy Photography 2 Progressive Whist Spanish - Intermediate/Advanced	Canasta 2 Climate Change (Discussion) Getting Going in Italian Getting There in Italian Literary Studies Table Tennis 2 Wine Appreciation	Book Group Flat Green Bowls Recorder Ensemble Rummikub, Uno and Dominoes Short Mat Bowls <hr/> Sunday Canasta Sunday Sunday Lunch Social Walking Group

Variable days and times: Allotments, GeoArcheology, Hearing Loss, Long Walks, monthlyLunches, Quiz, Silver Dream Bikers, Day & Theatre Trips.

Group Co-ordinator News

Firstly, thank you all for being so welcoming to me in my new posts as Group Coordinator and Vice Chair. It's been a real pleasure getting to meet members and I look forward to meeting more of you in the future. Our Bridlington U3A now has even more great activities and groups for you to choose from. The variety of Groups can be viewed above on the back page of this Newsletter. Each group is vibrant, friendly, and welcoming.

Members: Please contact me if you would like more information regarding any of the Bridlington U3A groups or would like me to make a referral for you to join a group. I'd also like to hear from you if you have an idea for a new group or would like to become one of our valued Group Leaders.

Group Leaders: Please contact me if I can be of help regarding: Advertising, Setting up New Groups, Finding Premises/Alternative Premises or you have an issue you would like help with. Also please let me know if your Group has any vacancies so I can update my information, put out interest sheets and send out communications.

This is an ever-changing year for our Bridlington U3A members with some great groups restarting and lots of different new groups starting up. Our Monthly Lunches and Trips have also recommenced.

It's also the U3A's 40th Anniversary year, our 15th Anniversary Year as Bridlington U3A and the Queens Platinum Jubilee. There are many exciting events coming up over the next few months.

As always, I wish all our readers 'good health and good friends'. Please feel free to contact me and I will do my utmost to help.

Tracey Hobson – Group Coordinator & Vice Chair

Bridlington U3A are looking for New Group Leaders
Do you have a skill that you would like to share with our Members?

Full Training and Support given
If interested please contact Tracey Hobson on
E: groupcoordbridu3a@mail.com

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

Do you have a type of Diabetes?
Would you like to join this **New Group** and meet regularly to share:
Tips, Advice, Experiences, Support, Recipes & Best Practice?
If you are interested, please contact Tracey Hobson on:
Email: groupcoordbridu3a@mail.com or Tel: 07935980159

Bridlington U3A Flat Green Bowls Group are looking for New Members

Lawn Green Bowls is a great way to spend the summer months out in the fresh air in good company with light exercise

Friday afternoons are set aside for the exclusive use of the Bridlington U3A . It's £3.50 per session and a tea or coffee is 50p Flat soled shoes must be worn on the green and bowls are provided. The game starts at 2pm and lasts around 2 hours.

For more information or to put forward a request to join, please contact:
Tracey Hobson Email: groupcoordbridu3a@mail.com
or Tel: 07935980159

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Production Editor:
Kevin Smith

Membership Discounts

Bridlington U3A membership allows you to ask for a discount on corporate membership of the Leisure Centre in Bridlington. You can also obtain a discount on items purchased in Bridlington Stationers. Palm Leisure Club are offering Bridlington U3A members a reduced membership rate to their facilities. To get these discounts you must be able to produce a current membership card.

Are Your Details Up To Date?

Under the General Data Protection Regulation we must have up to date information for all our members. Therefore, please let me know if any of your details change. This includes your name, address, a telephone number and e-mail address (if you have one).

e-mail: membershipbridu3a@outlook.com