

# Bridlington u3a Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2025



## Welcome to your Newsletter!

This Newsletter is designed to give you lots of information in one place. If there is anything you would like to share with the group, please email [admin@u3abridlington.co.uk](mailto:admin@u3abridlington.co.uk)

## Next Month's Meeting

Next Month's meeting will be on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** at 10am at Bridlington Spa. The East Riding Recycling Team will be talking about everything to do with our waste including what happens to it after it is sorted.

## Further meeting dates this year

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

## LAST MONTH'S MEETING

It was great to see so many of our members brave a frosty February morning to come along and listen to Rick Welton talk about Toads, Moths and Puffins, the sculptures of East Riding. The first project was in 2010, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Philip Larkin's death and was part of Larkin25, taking his poem Toads and Toads revisited for inspiration. The sculptures raised over £60,000 for charity. In 2016 as part of the Amy Johnson Festival, A Moth for Amy marked the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her tragic death. 59 moths appeared all over Hull and East Riding and the sale by auction raised £85,000. The final trail, Puffins Galore in 2022 was commissioned to increase tourism along the East Yorkshire coast after covid. Two of them are prominently displayed outside the Spa. In May 2023 £93,550 was raised for local charities. Coming in 2025 – A Mischief of Rats!



# ??\*!\*? QUIZ ?@!\*\*\*?

Our next quiz is at the Town Bar on Queensgate YO16 7LN on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 – 10 pm. Entry fee £1.50 per person. Maximum 6 per team – don't worry if you're on your own, we'll have a friendly team for you to join!

## GROUP NEWS

Here are members of the **U3A Crown Green Bowling Group** playing bowls on a frosty morning. They are hoping for a few more members to take up this activity.

They meet every Thursday at 10.00am at their Club house in Dukes Park, St Wilfred Rd, Bridlington. For further information contact either Dave on 07582 567269 or Alan on 07761 470433.



**From Sylvia who organises our trips:** On 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025 a party of 53 set off on their 5 day holiday to Scotland, staying at the Duke of Gordon Hotel in Kingussie (in the heart of the Cairngorms). The weather was very kind to us with very little rain, even less snow, and some sunshine and not too cold. We enjoyed a wonderful rail journey on the Fort William to Mallaig rail-line (the most beautiful views travelling over the viaduct made famous by the Harry Potter films). We visited Perth, with the majority of the group going to the Black Watch Museum – the minority enjoyed some retail therapy! Also on our itinerary – Pitlochry, Spean Bridge Commando Memorial, Neptune's Staircase and Fort Augustus. The trip was very enjoyable, many saying it was even better than last year, so much so that I already have a list of those wanting to go again next year! Details for 2026 will be available soon.



## CREATIVE WRITING

Every month our Creative Writing group are going to contribute a short piece of writing – maybe a story or a poem – for your enjoyment. They meet alternate Wednesdays, 10am at The Friendly Foresters, and the next meeting is the 19th February. Please contact on Susie Fox 07736547277 [susiejfox14@gmail.com](mailto:susiejfox14@gmail.com)

The first story is entitled 'The Grass is Greener'

**The Grass Is Greener** *Copywrite Susie Fox 2024*

Amani pulled herself onto the grey-blue dirty diesel train from the cold and rainy, wind-swept platform and found a window seat within a group of four, where for once, no-one else was battling for seats. She heaved a sigh of relief. She drew her abaya around her, and double-checked her niqab was securely in place across her face. Travelling to London from Northampton, for what should be a pleasurable shopping trip, was becoming a trial of stamina, a feat of accomplishment and a taxation on patience.

A group of four young men jumped on the train, yelling, laughing, knocking each other around in high spirits. She sighed. Her brothers never acted like this. It was frustrating, yet there was a freedom she envied in their ease of movement and frivolity of speech. She thought of Abad, her intended marriage partner. Her parents had **not** said that she **had** to marry him, but the inference was clear: he was suitable. Well, too right, he was. Bright, hard-working, handsome, tall, educated. Everything except.... that...whatever it was that white English girls seemed to experience in bucketfuls. Amani had not experienced it yet, and certainly not with Abad. And she felt herself lacking, fraught with doubt, and worried about the future.

Five women now tumbled onto the train. A hen do! Screeching, squawking, drunk on excitement and vodka shots, they slung themselves in a heap next to the boys' seats. Eyelashes as long as their arms, strappy tops that were barely in place, and skirts that barely covered their bottoms: Amani could not help but stare. The boys promptly moved to seats next to the window opposite Amani.

Amani did not want to emulate the women, but she felt conspicuous, smothered in black, veiled, secretive, hidden and, as far as she could tell, invisible. "I so wish I could dress in western clothing, let my hair down, wear a pair of jeans, sling a handbag over my shoulder and just be myself!" she thought enviously.

Then an Asian woman leapt onto the train, and the guard slammed the door behind her. She was wearing jeans and a tee shirt, strappy sandals, and although it was a dreary day, she wore sunglasses shading her eyes. With a carefree shuffle, she sat down opposite Amani. She removed her sunglasses and smiled. Amani stared. Stared and stared, her heart hammering, pulse shattering, eyes locked, until the woman broke contact and looked in her handbag for a ticket. "I am so sorry," Amani said, "but, you look just like me. You are my double. I cannot believe it, I am shocked. Please, forgive me, but I need to know; who are you?"

*To continue reading... please read the full story attached to this Newsletter.*



## Calling all singers!!

We have a new group starting soon – day and venue to be confirmed. The choir is for men and women, no experience required just a love of singing. If you are interested, please email [groups@u3abridlington.co.uk](mailto:groups@u3abridlington.co.uk)

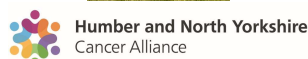


## AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.....

Instead of our normal monthly speaker, our meeting in April will see organisations from around Bridlington coming together in the Spa. I have invited over 40 different groups so I am hoping that there will be something to interest everyone. Here are just some of the groups who have already replied to say that they are attending:



Bridlington Health Forum



Humber and North Yorkshire Cancer Alliance



Bridlington RNLI



Bridlington Lions



East Riding Electric Bikes – with the opportunity to trial them along the Promenade!



Schoolreaders – looking for volunteers to listen to children read in local schools



Hull and East Yorkshire Sight Support



Your Health and Mental Health & Wellbeing



East Yorkshire Community Transport



Carers Plus



Xyla Health

## PROPERTY TO LET

If you have any property you would like to advertise here, please email  
[admin@u3abridlington.co.uk](mailto:admin@u3abridlington.co.uk)

## ITEMS FOR SALE/FREE TO A GOOD HOME

Eavestaff upright piano for sale. In immaculate condition. Recently tuned and serviced. £200 ono. Delivery can be arranged at extra cost.

Call John on 07737 020983



## CONTACT US

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# OTHER NEWS

We are often contacted by outside agencies who wish to engage with us. I have put the details below so that you can become involved if you are interested:



Funded by UK Government

Humber & Wolds Rural Action  
Good Neighbour Volunteers  
in the East Riding of Yorkshire

Could you be a volunteer supporting people in your community?

As a **Good Neighbour volunteer** you could support fellow residents who need help in your community with:

- Shopping
- Practical tasks around the home
- Attending social activities
- Sharing time with a neighbour



JOIN US

**TENNIS**  
FREE TASTERS

ADULT TASTER SESSIONS  
MONDAY 27TH JANUARY 10AM - 12PM  
MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 10AM - 12PM  
MONDAY 31ST MARCH 10AM - 12PM

FREE FAMILY/JUNIOR SESSIONS (AGE 6 AND ABOVE)  
FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 10AM - 12PM  
MONDAY 10TH MARCH 4PM - 6PM

(ALL SUBJECT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS)

FOR FURTHER INFO ON COURT DATES AND COACHING  
[WWW.BRIDLINGTONTENNIS.CO.UK](http://WWW.BRIDLINGTONTENNIS.CO.UK)  
[WWW.BRIDTENNIS.CO.UK](http://WWW.BRIDTENNIS.CO.UK)

BRIDLINGTON LTC

ACTIVE



**Bridlington Health Forum**

PUBLIC UPDATE  
—  
**IMPROVING  
HEALTHCARE  
IN  
BRIDLINGTON**

Engaging with the  
East Riding Integrated  
Care Board

Thursday 6th March  
at 1pm  
Bridlington North Library

Calling all brass players!



Do you play a brass instrument?

Maybe you have played one in the past?

**Bridlington Excelsior Brass Band** is looking for new players. We are a community band of variable talent and we welcome new and established players. We enjoy learning and playing together. We play for local charities and for other events in and around the town during the year. Maybe you have heard us at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday? Many of the band are members of our U3A, and many of us started to play with the U3A orchestra. Our rehearsal evening is on Wednesday at the Baptist Church next to the police station from 7.00pm to 9.00pm, with an extra practice on Mondays where possible.

Talk to Wendy Brayshaw on 0786571884 or Eileen our conductor on 07947093811. Find out more about the band and give it a try!