

Word From the Chair



Wishing you all a Happy New Year

I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and has a prosperous New Year. It is as far away as ever now so let's look forward to the next twelve months.

December's meeting went down very well, I hope everyone enjoyed it. I would like to thank everyone who had an input into the proceedings. Also, I would like to give a big

thank you to Alan and Margaret Smith from Barton, who did a wonderful job in decorating the u3a Christmas tree which was on show at the Barrow Methodist Church. The tree was donated by Yvonne Crabtree and the idea was a suggestion by Margaret to promote the u3a in that area. Decorations were made by our Craft group so can I give a big thank you to all those members involved.

The Christmas social evening was a great success, plenty of food and good entertainment. We will try to organise another for later in the year.

If anyone has any ideas for something different for this year, please don't keep them to yourself get in touch and we will see what can be done. This year is King Charles' Coronation which will be celebrated in some way by the u3a. As I said in the above, suggestions and help will be welcome in the organisation of this event.

There will be some changes to the committee this year as my time as Chair will be over in June along with Chris Watson (Vice Chair) and Denise Roberts (Treasurer). I hope that we can fill these positions with some new faces and new ideas.

Let's hope that 2023 will be as successful a year in our u3a as 2022.

Best wishes to you all.

Sue McPhee

New Open Gardens Proposal – Page 3
New 6-week Circus Skills Course – Page 3



The luncheon Club Christmas meal at Crofters

Latest News/Events & Dates for your Diary

Future Speakers & Activities

Wednesday 18th January, Paul Schofield, Hurray for Hullywood!

Wednesday 15th February, Mike Powell, 'Antiques and their history'

Wednesday 15th March, Chris Watson, Agatha 'Queen of Mystery'

Please note: All the above meetings take place in the St. Andrews Memorial Hall, Willerby (corner of Redlands Drive, opposite large Willerby car park) commencing at 2pm

OPEN GARDENS

Awake U3A are intending to hold an 'Open Gardens' Event on Saturday 10th June 2023. We are looking for members who are willing to open their gardens on that day from 10-12 or 2-4 or both. If you are willing to open your garden can you let John Agnew (or any member of the Committee) know. Tel. 656329. Email johnlois@johnlois.karoo.co.uk

Circus Skills Course

Following the successful circus skills session run by Gary Hughes at the 40th u3a anniversary day, Gary is proposing to run a 6-week circus skills course for Awake members taking in juggling, Diablo, plate spinning and balloon modelling (he has decided not to include the unicycle on health & safety grounds!) This is likely to take place at the end of March at a local venue yet to be sourced. If you are interested, please register your interest with Gary (07756848225) who will keep you informed of details. Who knows where this could lead!

Interest Group News

Group Co-ordinator

Did you attend our Wednesday Christmas meeting? hopefully you enjoyed it. Has it made you think maybe you could start a new group, or you could offer your help in other ways? Help would be given if you have ideas for starting a new group. Please get in touch with me with your ideas.

Sue McPhee 652766

Art for Everyone

We are happy to say we can take a couple more members if anyone is considering joining our group. We meet in the Guide Hut, Main St, Willerby on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month starting at 1.30pm. Mary Randell assists us in our efforts and ably teaches us new techniques. We are a very mixed ability bunch who just enjoy spending time with people who enjoy a similar interest.

If you are interested, please ring Denise Roberts 659816

Badminton

We play each Friday from 2pm to 3.30pm at the Badminton Centre on Chanterlands Avenue and have members from Cottingham and Awake u3a's.

We are a friendly group who play doubles and would welcome new members.

Why not come along and try a few games, even if it is a while since you played.

Contact Ann Berriman for further details on 01482 650676

Book Groups

We decided not to have a December meeting and go out for a Christmas meal instead (although it was a New Year Meal in January!!!!). Our two new choices for January are '*The Walls Have Ears*' by Helen Fry and '*Girl on the 88 Bus*' by Freya Sampson so we'll review those in the next newsletter. We have a wide range of books to read over the next few months so if you're interested in joining one of the groups give me a ring (Chris Watson – 07530 256560) and I can answer any queries you may have.

Bridge Group

The bridge group meets every second and third Wednesday of the month at The Willerby Library. Main Street. Willerby from 2pm to 4pm. Next meeting 9th November. Players and Beginners welcome. Ring Anita. 657494.

'Caravan' AWAKE Trips Group

Organised by member Roger Coates with a lifetime of independent worldwide travel including 20 ventures with

AWAKE.

"EUROPEAN GRAND TOUR" is the latest proposal as detailed in the last newsletter. This is train travel organised by me around your ideas. This is not a travel company.

I have already met with some interested members to hear a wish list. There are plenty of new routes and bargain fares to cities in Europe. If we go south, e.g., France, Spain, Portugal then May is good. More northern /eastern countries in June. You can be in on the planning. The next move if you are just a little interested and with no obligation is to call me for a chat. 01482 657105 07941222499 coatesroger@outlook.com
Happy Wandering, Roger

Chess GROUP – WANTED, MORE PLAYERS

We meet as part of the Games group every other week at the Willerby Methodist Church on a Monday from 10am to 12 noon. As a result of our plea for more players we have attracted 2 new members (well done Henry & Robin) This brings our membership up to eight, our next session is Monday 23rd Jan, if you are interested, please ring Peter Taylor on 501808 for details.

Thanks to 'Team Jackie' for organising another memorable Christmas party which was enjoyed by all.

Coffee & Stroll

Our 2-mile footpath stroll (approx), starts at 10.00am every fortnight Sunday from the designated parking area, followed by coffee in a nearby café or pub.

If you are not walking due to weather conditions etc, please consider just having a coffee, as the venues are generally pre booked.

The next scheduled walks are:

February 5th – Willerby, Parking in Willerby Sq. car park, Coffee in 'Cibo Italiano' restaurant.

February 19th – Beverley, Parking in Butcher Row car park, Coffee in Kavanaghs.

March 5th – Kirk Ella, Parking and Coffee in 'Haltemprice Leisure Centre'.

March 19th – Hull, Parking and Coffee at 'The Peloton' within 'Warners Health Club', Pickering Road.

For any further information or issues regarding transport etc, please contact me.

Les McPhee 652766 or 07855235766

Computer group

The computer club is about much more than just computers. We meet at The Beech Tree public house on South Ella Way from 11.00 - 13.00 every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, and each meeting we have 2 or 3 resident 'experts' willing to help and advise on individual problems. This Group is open to all Awake members – you don't have to be a member of the Group in order to make use of it. If you have an IT problem, please just drop into one of our regular meetings for help.

Some of our regular members work quietly on their own projects, knowing that help is at hand if needed. Others just call in when they have a specific problem, and many simply enjoy the coffee and the friendly chatter.

Together, we try to make sense of today's new technology, including laptops, tablets, I pad's, smart phones and even the older 'not so smart' phones. We don't take these things too seriously – our meetings are intended to be light-hearted and an enjoyable experience for all. So even if you are completely new to computers or mobile phones, and simply want to learn how to send an email or a WhatsApp message, do come along and join us for what is essentially a social occasion with morning coffee – and a bit of 'new technology' support included if you need it.

Chris Moody

Cinema Group

We are a group of 15 film buffs who meet 1st Tuesday of the month to visit the cinema in the town Vue or Reel, the bus service from Willerby stops outside either cinema.

Ann Milledge. 655929

Craft Group

I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and New Year and are now ready to start getting back to some sort of normal routine. That means meeting up with our lovely helpful friendly members of the craft group. It does not matter what craft you like working on and at what level as our group can help you over a challenge or maybe you can help some of our members as all are welcome.

The next 6 months of dates for our meetings are usually on the third Monday of the month: 16 January, 20 February, 20 March, 17 April, 15 May and 19 June. We meet as normal at the Willerby Methodist church Willerby between 2 – 4pm.

Looking forward to seeing you all and any new members at our next session.

Barbara Gardner 654479 (leave a message if no answer) or email me at nevina@nevina.karoo.co.uk

Dancing

The beginner's ballroom dancing group will start again weekly on Tuesday 7th February 2pm-3.30pm at the Anlaby Village Hall. If you want to learn or brush up on your dancing skills please come along and join us.

Sue McPhee

Darts, Dominoes & Card Group

The weather spoilt our last meeting in December but by the time you read this we will already have had our first two meetings of 2023. The group meets every other Tuesday, 7 – 9pm at the Willerby Institute (the Library on Main Street) and our next dates are January 24th, February 7th & 21st and then March 7th & 21st. If you're interested in joining the Group or you have any queries, please contact Les Holmes (07530 103256) for more information.

Family History Group

The Family History Group is up and running again, albeit with a new leader, a new venue and a new date and time. We now meet at The Beech Tree public house on South Ella Way from 11.00 - 13.00 every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. We

are a small friendly Group, each working on our own projects, but sharing research hints, tips and pointers with other members.

New members are welcome, so if you have an interest in Family History, either as a beginner or an expert, do come along and join us. You may prefer to work quietly on your own, or you may wish to discuss your family tree problems with other members over a cup of coffee - either way, you will be made very welcome.

Chris Moody

Flex & Stretch

Feeling lethargic after Christmas, do you need a boost? Why not have a go at our exercise class?

We exercise with balls, stretch bands and on chairs, but no floor exercises.

We meet at St Luke's Church Hall every Monday. There are two classes 12.30-1.15 pm and 1.30-2.15pm.

Give me a ring if you would like more information.

Sue McPhee 652766

French Group

We finished the year with a lavish bring-it-yourself lunch in the Alf Kersh room at the library. We had a very enjoyable time with quizzes and games – the only French being a quiz with cryptic clues to French towns! We look forward to starting again in January.

Michael Ebeling 653964

Guitar group

The Guitar group are currently meeting weekly at the Men in Sheds building, First lane, Anlaby every Wednesday from 10am to 12 noon.

We recently enjoyed playing at the AWAKE u3a December Christmas singalong. We now have twelve members and are currently not able to fit any more in the space available, however if you are interested, give me a ring as I am compiling a waiting list.

If interested, please ring Paul Kirk 650259 after 5.00pm please.

Games Group

The Games Group meets at Willerby Methodist Church every Monday morning from 10am -12, often running through bank holidays and Christmas to accommodate those members who live alone and find the days long. We have been meeting in the hall since COVID, to be aware of social distancing etc. There are about 20+ of us who enjoy playing Scrabble, Rummikub and Sequence. We do have other games too. We welcome new members to join and expand our games base. We now have to charge £2.50p as the room hire has increased but the 50p for a tea or coffee with a chocolate biscuit remains the same. Very good value!

We are very friendly and all amateurs, just getting together to keep our grey matter going! None of us profess to be an expert Well maybe one of us! We have lots of fun together. Do come and give us a try. Or contact Jackie on 650702.

The chess group have been joining us once a fortnight too.

Local History Group

All AWAKE u3a members and their guests are warmly invited to our monthly meetings. If local history is your thing, then please do come along!

This year's programme is now complete and some of our favourite speakers will be back with new talks and there will also be some new faces in 2023. Our next three meetings will be:

19th January "John Alderson of Hull" by Michael Free

16th February "Hull's Georgian New Town" by Richard Clarke

16th March "An Illustrated History of Paull" by David Smith

All meetings of the Local History Group are held on the third Thursday of the month at 2 p.m. in St. Luke's Hall, Chestnut Avenue, Willerby. There is a maximum admission charge of £2 per person to cover the costs of speakers, hall hire and refreshments. However, at some meetings the charge is lower and it's even free sometimes!

Further information can be obtained from the group leader (see below) or from our website:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/awake/page/22001>

Francis (650449)

NATUREWATCH

Date	Venue	*Meet
13 th Jan 2023	North Cave Wetlands	9.30am
27 th Jan	Tophill Low (near Driffield)	9.30am
10 th Feb	Brough Foreshore	9.30am
24 th Feb	Blacktoft Reserve (South Bank)	9.30am
10 th March	Kilnsea & Spurn	9.30am
24 th March	Barrow Haven & Killingholme (Sth Bnk)	9.30am

* Meet time at Willerby Square, please note all the meetings will start on Friday mornings at 9.30am at Willerby square car park (down by the side of Sainsbury`s) unless otherwise stated.

Mark & Celia Beaumont (654666)

Play Reading

The October play reading was House Guest by Francis Durbridge. A wealthy young couple learn that their son has been kidnapped – not for ransom but to allow one of the kidnappers to stay in their house. Two men, supposedly police officers, arrive and reveal that one of the kidnappers has been murdered. It becomes clear that the two men and much else, is not as it seems. The play was a thriller full of twists and turns and all was not revealed until the very end.
Christine Trever

Our last meeting of 2022 was a social occasion when we enjoyed a buffet lunch and rendering of poetry or prose by individual members. We reflected on the pleasure of having been able to meet again, this year, and look forward to our next meeting on Wednesday, 25th January.

Pauline Park

Quizzing group

Our Christmas Quiz was very enjoyable and congratulations to those of you who won a prize in the Raffle. We've already started our 2023 season and have our volunteer Quiz Masters/Mistresses in place up to June. If you fancy turning up and seeing if it's for you, give me a ring (Chris Watson, 07530 256560) and you'll be made more than welcome. You don't need to be in a team as these are sorted out each Quiz, so anybody on their own can just arrive and be warmly welcomed. Our next dates are January 19th, February 2nd & 16th and March 2nd & 16th.

Singing for Fun

If you feel as though you would like to do something different for 2023 why not consider our Singing for Fun group? We sing 50's, 60's and 70's songs mainly and we are what it says on the tin, not a choir but we sing for fun.

Why not give us a try as singing is good for you?

We next meet on Tuesday 17th January 6.30-8pm and every other week thereafter, at the Anlaby Village Hall.

Sue McPhee 652766

Stately Homes

Hope 2023 has started well for all of you and you're looking forward to the year ahead. We ended 2022 with a very enjoyable trip to Burton Agnes. The Hall was very attractively decorated as usual, but it was a bit chilly to do the Candy Cane Walk around the ground. Our meeting in February (Thursday 2nd) will be a presentation on 'The Lost Houses', looking at the properties that have fallen by the wayside. We have several day trips planned for the year ahead and our Annual 3-day trip is all fully booked and ready to go in July. I will keep a waiting list if anybody else is still interested. If you would like more general information about the group, please do not hesitate to get in touch. (Chris Watson) on 07530 256560.

Short Walks

All walks start at 10.30 you should carry on your person your ICE information and wear appropriate clothing for the conditions.

9 January. Willerby Womble - 3 miles, flat, some muddy grass, pass Willerby Square toilets twice.

Park at The Star, Main Street, Willerby.

23 January. Hull Golf Course Circular - 3 miles, gentle inclines, all pavements, no toilets. Park at the Wheatsheaf, Kirk Ella.

13 February. Victoria Dock and Old Town - 3 miles, flat, all pavements, toilets Victoria Square.

Park at the Goldfinch pub (Three Crowns) on road into Victoria Dock Village.

27 February General Cemetery, Pearson Park and the Avenues - 3 miles, flat, some muddy grass, toilets in Pearson Park?

Park in pub car park behind The Avenue pub, 100, Chanterlands Avenue.

13 March Hessle Two Bridges - 3 miles, flat, all pavements, no toilets. Park at Norland pub, Hull Road, Hessle.

27 March Beverley Back Paths - 3 miles, flat, all pavements, no toilets. Park at Deer Park Road playing fields, Beverley. Socialise at King William IV, Cottingham.

Ian Jones can be contacted by email
gianj@gianj.karoo.co.uk
And text 07783648257

Table Tennis

We enjoyed Table tennis and mince pies (not at the same time time) at our last meeting in December and are now looking forward to the exertions of 2023, continuing to Meet at our Men in Sheds venue, First Lane, Anlaby, if you fancy joining us every 2nd & 4th Thursday in the month at 2pm. Existing, ex-regulars and potential new members are always welcome, all equipment is supplied. please ring Steve Roberts (659816) for details if required.

Ten Pin Bowling – Monday & Friday

Hi everyone, I hope you are all well.

The Monday group are now well established at the Hollywood Bowl, Kingswood Retail Park, Gibraltar Road, Hull HU7 3DB

We meet at 10am. Bowling costs £6.55 for two games, car parking is free.

New members are always welcome, no experience required come and learn a new skill and have fun. Lifts maybe available if required please contact me if you need a lift or any further information.

sdclark1@hotmail.co.uk or tel. 07811719843.

For anyone who prefers to continue at Super Bowl in Princes Quay, the Friday group are continuing to meet there at 10am. The cost is still £7 for two games. Dave Newman will welcome anyone who wishes to join this group. For more information, please contact David on 659870.

Dave and myself look forward to seeing you all to enjoy some good bowling.
Steve Clark

Ukulele Groups

Barely Awake

During the Christmas period we enjoyed playing at Willersley House, Willerby Methodist Familiar Friends Group, Hallgarth Care Home, Cottingham and Kirk House, Anlaby.

We also had a great time playing alongside a number of other local Ukulele bands at the Stephen Hughes Foundation Christmas Charity event at The New Walton Club, Walton Street and finished with a great Christmas singalong at the AWAKE u3a December General meeting with the Sunshine Strummers, the Guitar Group, The Singing for Fun Group but principally YOURSELVES!

Jean Tindall/Steve Roberts

Sunshine Strummers

A happy Strumming New Year from the Sunshine Strummers!

2022 was a year of firsts for the group including our first wedding performance, first time playing on a boat and first time playing alongside school children as we had a great session with the ukulele band from Willerby Carr Lane Primary School. We also played in many new venues, taking our sing-along show and colourful attire to new and appreciative audiences.

We have moved to Men in Sheds in Anlaby for our Monday afternoon rehearsal sessions, and everyone is enjoying the new base. The numbers are steadily growing, and we now have 26 members. It has been great to welcome a number of new beginners over the last 12 months, who are all now confidently strumming and playing superbly at concerts. The addition of our new drummer, John, has been particularly successful and our timing has never been better as a result.

The Christmas period was extremely busy with ten festive concerts across Hull and East Yorkshire, including One Amazing Strum on 4th December which raised over £1400 for charity. Our Christmas jumpers and Yuletide Hawaiian shirts have certainly had good wear.

It was lovely for us all to come together for Christmas Lunch at the Beech Tree in Kirkella and the challenging ukulele picture quiz proved to be a hit.

On to 2023 and we are starting with a Beatles theme for January where we are hoping to learn some new songs from the Liverpool superstars. Interesting to note that George Harrison was a great lover of the ukulele and had a collection of over 40 ukuleles. Bookings are already coming in and it looks like being another bumper year for concerts, which we always enjoy. New players are always welcome and can join an introductory programme which provides a stepping-stone to playing with one of the U3A Ukulele groups.

Gary and Hazel Hughes

It's the FUN & Culture Pages



Waiter: "How do you like your steak, sir?"
"Like winning an argument with my wife"
"Rare it is, then sir"

A man has been found guilty of overusing commas,
The Judge has warned him to expect a very long
sentence!

Steve's marriage Guidance Advice

Ladies, if a man says he will fix it, he will.
No need to remind him every six months about it!

Poets Corner

Sue McPhee reflects on the Christmas period in verse

Christmas is over for another year,
Our pockets no doubt are lighter I fear.
Half of Santa's presents are back in his sack,
They are all waiting to be taken back.
Grandma's slippers are the wrong size and colour,
Grandad's socks are too bright, they need to be duller.
The little girl is upset her dolly has no cry.
Fancy wanting a doll with a cry, don't ask me why!
Cars and Lorries are not wanted this time round,
Only Xboxes and Nintendo's are the toys to be found.
Heads down, thumbs working, engrossed in their games,
Oblivious to everything the house could be in flames!
The Christmas day table is set out just fine,
Mother is harassed to get things ready on time.
The dinner is over, all plates nice and clean,
No hidden stray sprouts anywhere to be seen.
Let's leave the dirty dishes in water to steep,
And sit in our chairs to all fall asleep.

Bill Daly reflects on the current state of play **Reflections**

With prices too high we can't afford the heat
Food costs more so we buy less to eat
It's hard to find any good reason

With many needing help this winter season

Extra layers help us keep warm and snug
Let's all hope we don't catch a bug
Volunteers set up a store and call it a bank
Others donate the stock and those we thank

Times are hard and things are scarce
But for others it can be so much worse
Bombs and fighting against oppression
Really can lead into deep depression

Remember it's tough for those in Ukraine
With all that suffering and their pain
They get by with nothing left
Relatives gone and they're quite bereft

So spare a thought as here's not that bad
And think of others who are so sad
Life is good when you are free
So don't just think of me, me, me

And Finally

Usually I finish with an array of side splitting jokes! but at the start of a new year I find myself in reflective mood.
I never cease to be amazed by the wonderful people I have been privileged to meet in the nine or so years I have been involved in u3a and how we all change in our later years.
When I started I quickly became a member of 9 groups and the leader of 2, I was asked to join the committee and then to edit the newsletter, At that time I was full of enthusiasm and Denise and I threw ourselves into all sorts of schemes!
Now mainly as a result of various health issues which I am sure applies in some degree to us all I find my ability to summon up the energy waning and I am no longer a committee member, only a member of 6 groups and leader of 1 but still producing the newsletter. I realise that the time comes when new blood is required to re-energise any group and look forward to seeing this apply to AWAKE in the coming years with members taking on increased responsibility and continuing to provide a vital service to the "Third Agers" in our area.
Steve Roberts

IN MY OWN WRITE

Why not write an article for *AWAKEN* and win £20. Your article will appear under the title 'IN MY OWN WRITE.' What we are looking for is a reflective, interesting, amusing or opinion piece rather than a purely informative article. The content can be lighthearted or serious, but it must be suitable for the *AWAKEN* readership. Your article must be approx. 450 words long (one side of A5). Avoid religion, politics and too many exclamation marks!!! Include your Name and Membership no.

Contributions should be sent to Steve Roberts, preferably email sadrob@outlook.com or on paper copy to 18, Ellerker Rise, Well Lane, Willerby HU10 6EY

Next *AWAKEN*

The deadline for contributions for the next Newsletter is Friday 3rd March 2023

Registered Charity Number 1150988 ANLABY WILLERBY AND KIRK ELLA U3A the website may be found at <http://u3asites.org.uk/>

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Table Tennis & Mince pies, it must be Christmas!



Our u3a Christmas tree at Barrow on Humber



Another packed house at the recent, successful Social evening



Good Friends, Good games and Good food at the Games group Christmas party

The December Christmas General meeting with a fine array of AWAKE talent on show



Everyone joining in with the Christmas singalong finale



Mike & Carol Britton in fine harmony



Michael Ebeling, AWAKE'S answer to Pam Ayers



Peter Bristow, AWAKE'S answer to Jimmy Carr!



Les Holmes telling us all about the pesky mouse



Flanagan & Allen (AKA Dave & Pete)



Our brilliant compare, Garry Hughes



Fancy a turkey for Christmas, Dave Lines does!



Barely Awake in the Christmas mood



Swinging the Lindy Hop light fantastic with Sheli and Stephen Barr



The massed ranks of the Sunshine Strummers



The Sunshine Strummers at the Stephen Hughes foundation 'One amazing Christmas strum'