



February 2024

Monday 19th February 2024 – **Laura Farrell-Pronesti** from the recycling centre in Gateshead

Venue– All Saints Church Hall, Cleadon, doors open at **10.00** for 10.30 start.

Please remember your card or membership number.

Monday 18th March – **Kevin Reay** from the **Canny Chocolate Company**.

Live demonstration, talk and tasting.

Gillian Cucchi will be sending out **Membership renewals** requests soon, the committee have agreed a fee of £10 for the year 2024/5, with an extra £4 if you require the Third Age Matters magazine.

You may have noticed that the Old School Room attached the All Saints Hall has a **For Let** sign outside. The Parish have been in touch to say that in view of increased costs they are looking for someone to take a long term lease on the rooms, which could take some time to arrange. Meanwhile we will continue to use them for Flower Arranging and Art and move to other areas in All Saints if suitable.

Friday 22nd March As a special **Pre- Easter** treat Pam Marley and the committee have arranged Afternoon Tea in **Let There Be Crumbs** at the Roker Hotel . The cost is £14 per person with Unlimited tea or coffee and a **SPECIAL OFFER** for us of £4 for a glass of Prosecco (or no-secco). There will be an expression on interest sheet at the meeting on Monday 19th.

Wednesday 27th March Kath Lodge has arranged a Tour of Wrekenton Recycling Centre followed by lunch.

Following the talk by Laura Farrell-Pronesti about recycling, we will go to the Wrekenton Recycling Centre to see at first hand the process of handling such goods collected from our homes! Due to numbers we will be split into 2 groups for the one hour tour of the Centre. It is recommended that flat shoes

and warm clothing be worn. We leave the Centre about 12, and go to the Penshaw tearooms for lunch/refreshments (payable on the day).

An Expression of Interest sheet will be available at the February meeting for those wishing to go.

Cost £14 – £16 approximately, depending on numbers (cheques payable to Boldon and District u3a), payable at the meeting on 18th March. The actual cost will be included in the March newsletter and Events on the web site.

The coach will leave the bus stop opposite Cleadon pond at 9.30, and we should be back by approx 3 – 3.30.

Will you considered joining the committee? We are fast approaching the time of year when people are coming to the end of their tenure on the committee, and we need new members to replace them.

We especially need a Business Secretary, and our Group Co-ordinator will be stepping down. The committee are all trustees of Boldon u3a, jointly responsible for the running of our group.

We are all volunteer members, training is available, and it is rewarding, interesting and it can be fun. We especially need those happy to work with computers, with support available if necessary.

Want to know more? Chat to any of our current committee members to find out what it entails or come along to the next committee meeting on 11th March in Boldon Library (let the Chairman know first as accommodation is limited.)

Have you ever looked after a web site? I ask as the u3a are in the coming months transferring the current u3a web sites to a new platform based on Word Press. As Web editor I am faced with the task alone and would really appreciate someone to join the training sessions and help bring the web site up to a great standard. If you would like to see how our site COULD look see Great Yarmouth u3a who have already transferred <https://gtyarmouth.u3asite.uk/members/>.

If you have the skills to help, please contact me (Pat Devenport) or see me at the meeting on Monday.

Could we remind all members to keep their contact details up to date, especially their emergency contact which is essential for group leaders. You can check your details in Beacon, or failing that, email any changes to u3aboldon@gmail.com.

News of Groups

The ethos of the u3a is to Learn, Live and Laugh, with members sharing their interests for the benefit of everyone.

Feel there is nothing for you currently in the u3a groups?

Then help to set up and run a new group based on your interests, with the full support of the committee. Contact Sue Soulsby at u3aboldon@gmail.com

All groups have room for new members apart from Contemporary Music. The best way to contact the group leader is via the **Blue Carrier Pigeon** on the specific Group page on our website. This may be at the bottom of the screen depending on your device.

The committee have noticed that the Luncheon group led by Anita Harrison is full and there is call for another luncheon group. Would you and/or a friend be willing to start up another group? An expression of interest sheet will be available at the meeting on 19th.

The **Bridge Group** have a few spaces available and would like to invite members who have a basic knowledge of bridge to join the weekly meeting based at Boldon Golf Club.

The 10 pin bowling group will meet on Thursday 22nd February, 3.45 in the Sports Bar at the Dunes, South Shields. Please see Kath Palmer or Sue Soulsby if you would like to join.

Why not join our **private Facebook** group.

It is a fun place, be first to hear about day trips, share photos and get news of group activities.

Members are welcome to add any posts which they think would be of interest.

To join, search Boldon u3a in Facebook and answer the basic questions.

Remember you can always find the latest news on events and groups by visiting our web site u3asites.org.uk/boldon/home