



## March 2024

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Kevin Reay** from the **Canny Chocolate Company**.

Live demonstration, talk and tasting.

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

Please remember your card or membership number.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April Emily Cutter** from Homeshare North East who match people with spare rooms with people looking for affordable accommodation.

Gillian Cucchi has sent out Membership renewals, thanks to those who have already renewed by bank transfer. Cash and cheque payments will be taken on Monday.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** 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). Payment will be collected at the meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

This will be the last newsletter for the foreseeable future as I will be busy. I have been invited to start training in WordPress in readiness for the migration of our web site into a new, more up to date platform. It will be a challenge, accepted in the ethos of the u3a, I will learn and hopefully laugh along the way. The current web site and FaceBook group will keep you abreast with the latest events, visit them frequently.

**Will you consider 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 at the AGM in May.

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.

Here are some guidelines from Sue Soulsby, our current Group Co-ordinator.

### Role Summary

To facilitate the setting up of new interest groups through supporting and advising the Group Conveners/Leaders and ensuring good communications between group members, the Committee and u3a as a whole.

### Key Tasks

1. To support established groups.
2. To encourage and promote the formation of new groups
3. To keep the committee and members informed.

### Skills and Experience

Enthusiasm for u3a interest groups and a passion for setting up and supporting interest groups.

Organisational skills and comfortable using technology for sending emails and collecting and managing data.

A team player, this role will be part of the u3a committee.

Some of the responsibilities may be shared with other u3a members.

**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](mailto:u3aboldon@gmail.com).**

## Outings

### **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** WREKENTON RECYCLING .

Cancelled. Insufficient numbers.

### **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May** BURNBY HALL TULIP FESTIVAL.

This outing is to Burnby Hall Gardens for the Tulip Festival, where over 18000 tulips (103 varieties) are displayed in tubs and flower beds throughout the 9 acre site. Just a 5 minute walk from the gardens is the historic market town of Pocklington, where there is a host of independent shops and 2 art galleries. Tuesday is also market day.

Cost £26 - £32, depending on numbers, payable at the meeting on 15th April. Cheques payable to Boldon and District u3a. The actual cost tba. In April. Members of RHS have free entry, but membership details must be provided.

An Expression of Interest form will be available at Monday's meeting for those wishing to go.

The coach will leave the bus stop opposite Cleadon pond at 9 and Pocklington at 4.

### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June** PAXTON HOUSE BERWICK

Paxton House was built in 1758 and contains rooms designed by Robert Adams, a significant collection of Thomas Chippendale furniture and a magnificent art gallery. Our visit will include a 75 minute tour of the house and also admission to the gardens.

Cost. TBC. This will be payable at the meeting on 20th May. Members of Historic Houses have free entry but must provide membership details.

An Expression of Interest sheet will be available at the March and April meetings for those interested in going.

The coach will leave the bus stop opposite Cleadon pond at 9 and Berwick at 4.

**Members will be very aware that the cost of virtually everything has increased significantly and so it's the same with the cost of coach hire which has seen a huge rise. This has affected the cost of our outings and so you may notice that they cost more than before. Unfortunately, I'm unable to do anything about this. My apologies. Kathleen Lodge**

## 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](mailto: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 **10 pin bowling** group will not meet in March, the next meeting is on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 3.45 in the Sports Bar at the Dunes, South Shields.

To avoid the bank holiday the next meeting of the **Scrabble** group will be on the afternoon of 18<sup>th</sup> March.

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](http://u3asites.org.uk/boldon/home)**