

# FILEY & DISTRICT U3A

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Or search with 'fileyanddistrictU3A'



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

## From your Chairman

Welcome to our December newsletter after what, unfortunately, has turned out to be a largely U3A-free year! On behalf of the committee and all our group leaders we hope you are well and that you are continuing to keep as cheerful and active as possible in these difficult times. We send you all our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year and if you have been unlucky enough to be affected by the virus, we do hope that your circumstances are improving.

We are looking forward to 2021 in the hope that the new vaccines and various lockdown measures will enable us all to get back to a normal life as soon as possible. We hear mention on the TV and in the papers of life returning to normal, maybe by Easter, but I think all that we can usefully say for now is that we will re-start our group and other activities as soon as the regulations permit and once we are also able to provide you with a safe environment. Don't worry, we will let you know more as soon as we can and also post the details on our website (see above). Whilst 'browsing', why not also have a look at the U3A national site [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk) and those of other clubs such as Hillingdon <https://u3asites.org.uk/hillingdon/home> which lead into a host of interesting ideas. Refer to our notice sent out on November 16<sup>th</sup> for further links and suggestions.

Despite lockdowns our Poetry group has been busy and has produced an amusing and enjoyable collection of poems. Tony Dawson tells us more about their efforts here in the newsletter and I do hope that you will support them and enjoy the booklet they have produced.

Finally, we have to announce that Roy Foster, our long standing committee member and group leader, is moving to York in the New Year. We wish to thank him for his hard work for the club as well as for setting up Beacon, our indispensable computer system. Well done and thank you Roy!

You will have seen in the last newsletter that we are losing David and Janet Pickersgill, also due to them moving from the area. We want to thank them both for their various services to our U3A for so many years and wish them all the best in their new home.

Best wishes to you all,  
Graham Tillotson



## **It's not too late to get your U3A calendar**

Peter still has a number of calendars for sale. With Christmas almost upon us and a lot of you looking for gifts that are easy and inexpensive to post to your loved ones, these calendars make a very useful stocking filler. Perhaps you are looking for a nice 'thank you' to someone who has been helpful or considerate to you during the latest lockdown? Say it with a U3A calendar!

You can order as many copies as you like and delivery is FREE within the Filey area. They are priced at £5 each.

To place your order and arrange delivery, please contact Peter Greaves by phone or text on 07930162250 or email [petergreaves1947@gmail.com](mailto:petergreaves1947@gmail.com) .

## **FILEY AND DISTRICT U3A POETRY BOOKLET HAS ARRIVED!**

Our Poetry Writing group have been active throughout the lockdowns and have produced a booklet to celebrate their work during the last year and a half. It is full of local wit and emotion and makes an enjoyable read. You can purchase as many copies as you like for a nominal cost of £2 per booklet (thus covering the cost of printing) and any net proceeds will go to a local charity. Contact Tony Dawson on [tony.lizdawson@gmail.com](mailto:tony.lizdawson@gmail.com) or 01723 563173 to order your copies or speak to any committee member.

## **RESULTS OF THE LIMERICK CHALLENGE**

You may recall that membership of the Poetry group was opened to all for a Limerick competition. Liz Dawson has judged the winner to be **Joan Rippon** with a very topical rhyme:

**Confucius ain't one of the fools.  
He went to the finest of schools.  
But I bet, just like me,  
Stumped he would be  
To fathom out Boris's rules.**



Well done, Joan. She wins the £20 M&S voucher.

The best runner-up was penned by Fred Ridley – a possible autobiographical contribution?



**There was a young man named Bert  
Who chased everything wearing a skirt.  
But one day he got caught,  
Took on more than he thought,  
By a Scotsman who said 'Och, you're a flirt'**

Fred wins a copy of our Poetry booklet – to treasure forever – and some chocolates.

Well done and thanks to everyone who joined in.

Tony Dawson

## A QUESTIONNAIRE COMING YOUR WAY

As we emerge cautiously from our second bout of voluntary house arrest into the lingering sea fret of coastal existence in winter, we have to marvel at the wisdom of dormice and hedgehogs, dedicated to their habits of winter



hibernation. They not only avoid the cold and the gloom but free themselves from the annual conundrum of what on earth to get Aunt Mary for Christmas and how do we keep Uncle George from becoming completely legless again at New Year.

So in order to distract us from such depressing contemplations and to raise our eyes to the prospect of a post-vaccine world, your committee will be shortly sending you a [QUESTIONNAIRE](#). Realising we have a powerful resource in the brains of over 300 members of our U3A, picking of the same seemed a sensible course to pursue. We know you have opinions; we are aware you have strong views on a number of subjects; we all have secret yearnings! Well, now is the time to come clean and [REVEAL ALL](#).

Your committee urge you to throw caution to the wind and give us your unbridled opinions and ideas on how you want your U3A to run in 2021. We are, after all, a self-help organisation so let's look to the New Year with a strongly positive outlook and get stuck into making 2021 something to look forward to.

One of your fellow members has started the ball rolling by lobbying Filey Parish Council to provide **an outdoor table tennis table** for use by Filey residents and visitors. Do you have something in mind but never knew where to go to achieve your dream? Put it in the [QUESTIONNAIRE](#) – somebody, somewhere will know how to go about it. YOUR ideas will spark others and might even rouse brains that have lain dormant in passive apathy for years (hibernation can be taken too far!).

So keep an eye out and send in your replies. Dig out those ideas which you thought were trivial or too outrageous; retrieve those opinions that were consigned to the dustbin of obscurity.



**TELL YOUR COMMITTEE WHAT YOU THINK!**