

GUISBOROUGH U3A NEWSHEET No. 19 – NOVEMBER 2023

Next monthly meeting 2pm, 6 December 2023, at the Parish Hall, Bow Street.
Doors open 1.30pm. Meeting begins at 2pm.

Chair's Introduction

We were able to enjoy the world premiere performance of our Hobby Band group at this month's meeting. Brightened up what was a pretty grey November afternoon with tunes reminding many of us of our (misspent?) youth. The singing along from the audience was a little bit rusty but good practice for next month when the Singing for Pleasure group will be getting us in the mood for Christmas.

A few months ago we asked for ideas on how we could improve the monthly meeting. There were quite a few comments that additional talks or events would be of interest. In response we have organised some short additional interludes over the next few months as a trial. We welcome feedback. For example should we continue or should we expand with longer events, say 30-40 minutes?

A reminder that our insurance allows folk to experience 1 or 2 taster sessions without committing to membership of the U3A, although they will need to pay the appropriate event fee and check with the group coordinator that they are happy to have an additional participant.

Dave, Chair.

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STILL WANTED - SAFEGUARDING CHAMPIONS

Two of our three Safeguarding Champions have retired in recent months for personal reasons and we're seeking volunteers to fill these vacancies.

The law requires us to have in place provision for Safeguarding. The Committee feels it is appropriate for our Safeguarding Champions to be at a distance, independent and not involved with the Committee. To the best of our knowledge, no action has ever been taken within Guisborough u3a.

All reports and action are confidential and remain confidential to those involved.

There is comprehensive guidance, a national u3a policy, and u3a and local Social Service support is available. If you're interested in learning more about this important role, please contact Pam.

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NEW GROUP

The Literature in Translation (LiT) group is newly formed from an existing reading group. We enjoy reading books by authors from across the world, discussing the different ways they tell their stories, reflecting on the cultural differences which influence their take on their subject matter, and whether they draw us into their world. We enjoy our lively discussions and disagreements. It's fun to see our world from different perspectives! Come and join us at 2pm on the afternoon of the 2nd Wednesday each month in Sunnyfield House – our first meeting is on 8th November.

Our first choice for our new group is a collection of short stories by that French master craftsman Guy de Maupassant. The collection is published by Wordsworth Classics and is available from our local bookshop; it is not available on Kindle. Peter

What's on?

29 November. 5th Wednesday talk by Chris Twigg, RCBC Scientific Officer. As Chris is licensed to fly drones and has access to LIDAR and other technology, his slides will be excellent. He says: Guisborough bore witness to the majority of the ironstone mining era in Cleveland, starting in the very early days with

Pease's Hutton Lowcross mines, through mechanisation, modernisation and merger to the huge Spa Wood and Belmont mines of Dorman Long and Company in the inter-war period. 2pm, Sunnyfield House. £1.50. No need to book.

6 December. Monthly Meeting at the Parish Hall in Bow Street, 2pm. Doors open at 1.30pm. Come along and enjoy a Christmas performance by our **Singing for Pleasure Group**.

As we've responded to requests to have speakers etc at the Monthly Meetings, the meetings now take about 20 minutes longer overall.

If you're leading a walk and want to park at Danby village hall. The car park has been resurfaced recently. It now has a sign asking for walking groups wanting to park there to contact Liz on 01287 669759 to check on parking availability, to make sure there'll be space for your group.

EXCURSIONS:

Thursday 7th December. Harrogate and Harlow Carr Glow Walk. An opportunity to enjoy some time in Harrogate before our coach will pick us up and take us to Harlow Carr where we will experience the “Glow Walk” - a walk through the RHS gardens lit for Christmas. Cost £31.00 (£25.00 for RHS members - membership number will be required at time of booking please). The coach will depart Fountain Street car park at 12.30 and thereafter St Paulinus, The Avenue. The coach will drop us off in Harrogate where you will be free to get some lunch, shop or simply look around the town. The coach will pick up again at 4.15pm and take us to Harlow Carr. Departure from Harlow Carr will be approximately 6pm. Booking remains open until 23rd November. For queries please contact Moira.

Following a break in January and February, excursions would resume in March.

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Levelling up Funding

In case you missed it, Guisborough has been awarded £15.2 million “Levelling up Funding” by the government. After years of neglect and under-investment in Guisborough, please don’t miss this opportunity to have your say. What would you like to see to improve our town?

If you'd like a hard copy of the form, contact on Pam. Completed forms need to be returned to the Library before the middle of the month.

Alternatively complete the form online: <https://redcarcleveland.uk.engagementhq.com/>

Friends of Guisborough Library October Newsletter

On Friday **November 24th** Sarah Bell and Dale Roberts will be with us to talk about forests in Yorkshire, including the **design plan and management of Guisborough Forest**. Which we are sure will be of great interest.

The talk will be at **the library between 2 and 3pm, £3.00 entry fee** including refreshments. You don't need to book, just come along and enjoy.

Our **final craft session of 2023** will be on **Saturday November 18th**, from **10.00-12.00** making **Christmas Wall Hangings** with Pam

This session is free. Refreshments will be available and materials will be provided, but you might like to bring some pine cones, seed heads, imitation berries, small tree decorations, etc, to personalise your creation.

Places are limited to 12 so booking is essential. Please call in, or telephone the library on **01287 632668** to book your place. If you are then unable to attend for any reason, please do let us know as we usually have a waiting list of people who would like to come.

On the subject of craft sessions...Could you help the Friends of Guisborough Library?

Our regular craft sessions are very popular and enjoyable, and we'd really like to continue running them. Our current Craft Bookings Secretary would like to hand over this role to someone else. You don't have to like crafts, just like communicating and being organised. If you'd like to find out more about what is involved please get in touch by emailing friendsofguisboroughlibrary@gmail.com or let the library know.

We are going to have a **quiz on Friday December 8th** at 2pm. If you come alone, we'll pair you up with someone; alternatively bring a friend. The questions relate mostly to events that happened during 2023, some will be easy, and some will need a bit more thought, or a good memory! There will be a small prize for the winning team. Christmas refreshments will be served. **Entry is free, but donations towards refreshments will be gratefully received.** It will be an entertaining and enjoyable afternoon and we look forward to seeing you.

The **jigsaw library** is thriving and currently has lots of Christmas themed puzzles for you to borrow. Call in to the library to see what is available.

As the weather starts to get colder, and with the winter months ahead, remember that **the library is a designated warm hub**, somewhere you can come and sit, get a warm drink, read, chat with a friend(s), do some research or a jigsaw, use a computer, and many other things.

Did you take part in the **survey by Redcar & Cleveland Council** on the future of libraries in the borough? The initial findings have been published, and a further consultation is to take place. We hope that you will share your views in this new consultation and encourage friends and family to do the same. Our aim is to keep Guisborough library, and all others, open.

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#### **MISSION TO SEAFARERS CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES**

if you'd like to contribute a box for a Seafarer away from home at Christmas, here are some ideas to fill one with: warm gloves, woolly hat, disposable razors, toothpaste and brush, bar of chocolate, biscuits, aftershave, shower gel and other similar items. (I always include a pack of playing cards or box of dominoes, so there is a bit of fun to be had, too.) Your Ed. has spare shoe boxes and can collect, or you may deliver to Graham/Audrey Johnson, 10 Tidkin Lane, TS14 8BX, Tel: 280524.

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**National u3a Newsletter** <https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/newsletter>

**National u3a online Learning and Talks** - fascinating and interesting online events. Learn and explore the world from home: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

#### **u3a Festival 24**

The first ever national u3a Festival is taking place **17-19 July 2024** at the University of York. It's an opportunity to bring members together to celebrate the joy of u3a membership.

Find out more about the festival on [the u3a website](#)

**Deadline for the next Newssheet is 1/12/23. Pam.**