

Stray Bits – June 2021



Hallo everyone – I hope we have all been enjoying the warmer sunnier weather – and let's hope it continues for the next month or two. This will be the last Stray Bits for a couple of months as Stray Pieces comes out next. I hope you have sent your plans for the coming year into Russell at: straynews@harrogateu3a.org.uk meanwhile have a wonderful summer – but take care. **Val Cooke**

Group leader's Meeting

Because the Covid restrictions have been extended, the Group leaders meeting has been **delayed**. This is because **Philip Johnston**, the new group leader Co-ordinator, would like to have a more 'sociable' get-together rather than a Zoom meeting online, as it's easier to have a discussion and share experiences. The new date is yet to be announced – depending on availability at St Mark's Church.

Dates for the Diary:



We had planned a coffee morning for early July at the Wesley centre on Oxford Street but have had to postpone this due to the ongoing restrictions. This will now take place sometime in August, and we will send out details as soon as they are available. Let us hope that we can all meet in person then, so do come along and meet up with old friends and maybe make new ones. **Richard Cyster** (Chair)

Thursday, 9th September – Tea Party, 2.30-4 pm at the Wesley Centre. Start the new membership year with tea/coffee, cake. We will need some idea of numbers in order to cater for this, so will send details nearer the time. Please put the date in your diary. We have some other ideas for social events in the coming months and, hopefully, this will be the start of a new and Covid-free year.

Lorraine and Cheryl (committee members)



Looking at Churches. Leader, **Rob Tipler**

As we enter the summer season, we move from Zoom meetings to visiting churches on or near our normal meeting days.

Our first visit this year is to St. John's Church in Knaresborough. This is scheduled to take place on the **20th July**. Fortunately, this is right after the planned lifting of Covid restrictions and, hopefully, there will be no change to that date.

August 17th is our next scheduled day to visit two churches in Leeds. In the morning we will visit St. John the Evangelist Church in Briggate, followed by an afternoon visit to Leeds Minster (formerly Leeds parish church).

For these visits, no transport arrangements have been made, and members will need to make their own way there. All can be conveniently reached by bus or by train.

Following that, in September, if there are no contrary restrictions in place, we will meet again in St. Paul's Church Hall.



Circle Dancing There are 3 taster sessions on offer... Subject to whatever Covid restrictions are in place at the time. Dates are:

Monday 19th July at the Green Hut, Harlow Hill, 1.30 until 3pm.

Wednesday August 4th at Fewston Hall, 2pm until 4pm.

Monday 16th August at the Green Hut, Harlow Hill, 1.30 until 3pm. Contact Jan Bows on: or phone: 01943 969987

To Whom it may concern? Re: development of a chess session for u3a

Ted Simpson > wrote:

Further to my telephone message the leader of the Knaresborough chess club Tony (I forgot his last name) is interested regarding the above. He can be contacted on: 07935 8651978 from Thursday to Saturday. Can you please give him a ring.

Thanks. G.E.Simpson tel: 01423888353



Current Affairs. Leader, **Ann Olesqui-Meadus**

. Current Affairs group will be meeting at 2.00pm on **Friday 2nd of July** at Community House. We are limited to 10 people. I hope that by August more will be able to meet. **Topics - Apathy / should we be going abroad for a holiday?** So, if you would like to attend please call me on 01423540326 as it will be first come first served

Tuesday Painting Group. Leader **Peter Kearney.**



, The brighter weather offered the opportunity for group members to be reacquainted while sketching in Valley Gardens. Twelve members settled in the Japanese Garden to capture the views while catching up on the year's lost conversations. After six months of weekly zoom slideshows and discussion the return to the new normal added a sense of purpose. Visitors wandered by and the sun shone to make a perfect day.



What we Dogs can see and feel

*I could see just how happy all my family would be,
June 21st restrictions will be lifted, we will be free.
But it has now all changed 'cause scientists can see
There is a new mutation which they all call Covid D.*

*We are told that more people must all be jabbed,
Just in case we catch Covid, it will not be so bad.
However, some people just will not play ball,
For whatever reason they will not be jabbed at all.*

*Now the new road map date is for 19th July.
After four more long weeks will have passed us by,
There is a very good chance we will again be free
My people are not sure, so will just wait and see.*

*Somehow a dog knows when people are sad,
Or they feel positive and filled with hope,
So, we have to love them when they feel bad,
And do all we can to help them to cope.
Doggerel Dog*

- **Reminder. Stray Pieces. July 2021 edition.** - note from **Russell Gregory, Editor**

Now that summer is officially here, it's time to get cracking on the July edition of Stray Pieces.

What are you doing, what have you been doing while opportunities have been more limited and what are you planning to do once the present restrictions have been relaxed? Include pictures if you can. They make such a difference.

The Writing for Pleasure group is my usual source for essays, stories and poems, but the group hasn't met for a very long time now. Consequently, I would welcome any contributions along those lines.

As Harrogate U3A prepares to move back towards its former levels of activity and engagement, let's put together a bumper edition to celebrate the resilience of the organisation.

Please send your group information for inclusion into the Summer edition of Stray Pieces. with any other fun anecdotes, recipes, photos

Please send all contributions by 30th June to:

THE INTERNATIONAL GILBERT & SULLIVAN FESTIVAL Live performances are back at this year's **International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival in Harrogate 8 until 18 August 2021.**

Harrogate Tickets NOW ON SALE More information from the Festival HQ: 01422 323252

FINALLY - THE AGM

This will be later than normal. The date is the 19th November at the Cairn Hotel as usual. It will be preceded by the usual Showcase and, after the AGM, we will be given a talk by **Sir Thomas Ingleby entitled – 'All in a Knight's Work'**. It sounds fun – so pop that day into your diaries.

COMMUNICATION NETWORK

Website address - www.harrogateu3a.org.uk

Group Leaders - please give updates to Website Editor, Ivan Peel at:

website.editor@harrogateu3a.org.uk

Stray Bits for your immediate notices and information. Copy by 14th September 2021 please to:

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