

Stray Bits – May 2021

We are getting nearer to time when we can relax more and daily will become hopefully, more normal. So take care over these last few weeks – get your jobs and we can all get back to enjoying ourselves with our friend and families.

There are some new groups to consider.

Walking Cricket launching 9th. June

Harrogate Walking Cricket will be based at Harrogate Cricket Club, St. Georges Road. HG2 9BP.

Harrogate Walking Cricket is open to women and men over the age of 55 to a maximum of 24 people.

Sessions will take place 1 – 3 p.m. each Wednesday, starting on Wednesday 9 June, using the clubs practice area.

The games do not use leather balls, wooden bats or protective gear. Participants do not need to provide any equipment as it has kindly been supplied by Yorkshire Cricket Foundation. Participants need to dress appropriate for the weather conditions and a grass surface.

There is no signing on fee however a weekly subscription of £4 will be requested; this will cover the cost of tea/coffee and biscuits in the Balcony Bar after each session and also cover rental of the playing area.

It is hoped sessions will run through until the end of August.

If you would like to find out more about Harrogate Walking Cricket or register interest and reserve a place please contact - Richard Whiteley

(-not a Harrogate U3A Group but a nice picture)



Boy's Breakfast



You have all heard of a “dog`s dinner” but this is a Boys` Breakfast. We are setting up a small breakfast group with the idea of having breakfast at a different restaurant in Harrogate once a month or so and then giving a score/review of the meal. We are not excluding females but the lunch groups seem to be a predominantly female gathering so why should we not join in the foodie scene? This should be a fairly small group so, if you are interested, contact either **Phil** or **Barry**

CIRCLE DANCING

My name is **Jan Ellan Bows** and for 35 years, until I retired, I lived in Harrogate working as a Teacher of the Alexander Technique. Previously I had been a professional orchestral player and later Head of Music in a Secondary School.

My past experiences come together through my involvement in Circle Dancing, a movement which I first joined in 1996.

Briefly, Circle dancing is a simple form of dance which was originally danced in village communities using folk tunes and folk songs. It therefore lends itself very easily to become a group activity for a u3a setting as the steps and patterns are easily understood. Also, dancing with others is a constructive and happy way for people to meet and greet one another.

I can offer 3 taster sessions: June 2nd: July 7th and August 4th... Wednesdays 2 pm until 4 pm at Fewston Parochial Hall. I know this is not fully suitable as it requires a car to get there but at least it gets things started. The cost for this will be £3.50 to - £5 to cover cost of room hire.

Contact **Jan** on: phone: 01943 969987



The Current Affairs Group have a meeting arranged for the 4th of June. There will be just six at the meeting and I hope that the July meeting will have more members able to attend. **Ann Olesqui-Meadus**

The Arts Society Nidd Valley would like to welcome any U3A member to join us for our last two lectures before the summer break.

Monday 21st June 2pm. Simon Seligman takes us From Venice to Sheffield - John Ruskin's Passion for Art, Craft and Social Justice.

Monday 19th July 2pm. Tony Faber tells us about Faber and Faber Publishers.

Set of genuine Canon Pixma inkjet cartridges - Chris Rush

Having had to replace my printer I now have a set of 5 new inkjet cartridges to dispose of. The references are CLi525 and CLi526 being 3 colours and 2 blacks.

The compatible Pixma printers quoted on the packs are iP4850; iP4950; iX6550; MG5150; MG5250; MG5350; MG6150; MG6250; MG8150; MG8250; MX715; MX885 and, MX895.

If anyone with one of these printers is interested in having these cartridges please contact Chris Rush on: 01423 770017

U3A Poetry Group. - Richard Cyster (Chair)



I am setting up a new Interest Group devoted to the delights of the poetic form. I am not planning a Group devoted to highly academic poetry appreciation. Rather it will invite its members to bring and share poems they love and/or poems that are in some way significant for them. This could include poems that members themselves have written. However, this could change. The Group will be driven by the wishes of its members rather than its Leader.

As yet, I have no plans regarding time, day and venue for our meetings. I suggest an initial planning meeting takes place at my home in Jennyfields. This will be limited to the first five people who express an interest (due to lockdown restrictions) unless the weather is kind and we can use the garden.

If you would like to join the Group or would like further details,

Poetry is an echo, asking a shadow to dance - Carl Sandburg

Looking at Churches

The group has kept going, with Zoom talks, throughout the lockdown and restrictions over the last fourteen months, and we will be zooming until June. Unfortunately, this has only benefitted about half of our members.

Now, however, we can, with some degree of certainty, look forward to visiting churches in July and August, and in September to meeting again in the hall. To what extent we will be able to meet freely will, of course, depend on how the control of Covid manages to keep us safe. If numbers are limited, we may need to consider a mix of Zoom and indoor meetings.

What Counts

It's not the greying hair,
It's not the missing teeth,
It's not the crumpled skin,
It's the person underneath.

It's not the groaning joints,
It's not the fading eyes,
It's not the memory loss,
It's the person deep inside.

It's not the walking stick,
It's not a bandage or a scar,
It's not the outer things,
It's the person that you are.