

## Littleborough u3a July Newsletter

July 2023

Dear Littleborough u3a members,

Welcome to your July newsletter. As the summer holiday season starts to impact on u3a activities, some groups will be taking a bit of a break and others will carry on although members may be absent on beaches, in gardens or playgrounds looking after grandchildren.

Still there is plenty to keep you busy in the u3a.

### **U3a Founder Member: Membership Number 2.**

But first this newsletter starts with the very sad news that one of our founder members, Lis Kay has passed away after a short illness. Lis was one of the three people – along with Janice and Russell Bray – who started the u3a in Littleborough by finding out about u3as then setting up and publicising the initial meeting. The rest, as you see, is history. Lis was the first u3a treasurer and convenor for Scrabble and Italian groups. A positive, smiling person, Lis will be sorely missed and we send out sincere condolences to her family.

In this issue you will find:

1. News:
  - a. Your new u3a committee
  - b. Littleborough u3a annual Open Day
2. Monthly Meetings
3. Outings and Foodies
4. News from the Groups
5. U3a interest groups online
6. Photo quiz results.



Photograph Number 1: Pinnacle of Where?

These pictures, taken by the u3a photography group, show details that sharp eyes can spot in Littleborough. Can you guess where they are taken?

## 1. News

- a. **Your Who's who in Littleborough u3a – the committee:** At the AGM on June 12<sup>th</sup> members elected the new committee and the subsequent committee meeting confirmed the roles that are allocated to members. Just so you know who is who, here is the list:

<b>Chairperson</b>	Bob Coley
<b>Vice Chairpersons</b>	Marilyn Aldred Sue Temperley
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mark Pearson
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Mike Rowley
<b>Business Secretary</b>	Gillian Pearson
<b>Speaker Coordinator</b>	Marilyn Aldred
<b>Groups Coordinator</b>	Cindy Drinkwater
<b>I.T. and website manager</b>	Barrie Whitehead
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Jo Wiggans
<b>Volunteer Coordinator</b>	Brenda Brown
<b>Outings Coordinator</b>	Sandra Kokocki

In addition, not as a member of the committee, Lynn Wild will continue to act as the administrator for the Beacon system which is the u3a membership database.

Obviously this doesn't cover everything that the committee does (Mark buys and stocks the refreshments cupboard for example) but we each take on bits of additional work and we cover for each other when needed. If you want to know something about how the u3a works or you want to offer to help in some way, just talk to any one of us. We can also be contacted through the website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/littleborough>

- b. **u3a Open Day** We are again planning an open day to showcase all that we do in our u3a for the benefit of members and non-members whether they are interested in joining or just want to know what we are about. This drop-in event will be 1-4pm on Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup> in the Coach House. Please put the date in your diaries and tell anybody you know who might be interested in coming along. All our groups will be invited to show what they do – group convenors will be contacted directly. Volunteers will also be needed to serve refreshments and help to set up. More information in due course.



Picture Number 2: Starry Turn

## 2. Littleborough u3a Monthly Meetings.

We were royally entertained by the Creative Writers, Shirley Temple (you had to be there!), the choir and the ukuleles, not to mention by the treasurer's report and the committee elections. All AGMs should be such fun! Many thanks indeed to all who took part.

Our next monthly meeting on [Monday July 10<sup>th</sup>](#) at 2pm in the Coach House features a quite remarkable story of a female **composer and concert pianist called Clara Schuman**. Her story includes an intriguing romance in which, in the year 1840, she takes her own father to court in order to marry her true love. [Winifred Conway](#) is the speaker who will be telling us the story of the talented child prodigy.



Picture Number 3|: Where in 1805?

## 2. Outings and Foodies

### a) Outings

We can but hope that the sunshine will return for the remaining outings planned for this summer. There are still some places available on the following:

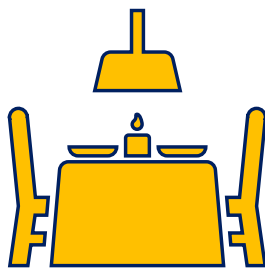
**July 19<sup>th</sup>: Lytham and Lytham Hall.** Cost £29 includes a guided tour of the hall and coach from Littleborough or Rochdale.

**September 15<sup>th</sup>. Harrogate and Harrogate Flower Show.** £22 for the coach and £47 to include the ticket for the flower show.

In conjunction with the Gardening Group but open to all u3a members, there is also a trip to **RHS Bridgewater Gardens on Thursday August 24<sup>th</sup>.** £18 for the coach. Admission to the garden is free for RHS members who can also take a guest for free. Admission to the garden for non-members is £12.

For all the above, please contact Sandra Kokocki on 07828297991 or via the website.

### b) Foodies



#### **FOODIES AUGUST EVENT: Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August at 13.00**

Come and join us for Sunday Lunch at the Yew Tree Inn, Oldham Road, Rochdale OL11 2AZ

Traditional or vegetarian Sunday lunch price £11.95. Desserts start at £4.50. Smaller portions and the pub menu are also available.

Please register your interest either at the July monthly meeting or by emailing Lynn Wild: [lynnwild.u3a@gmail.com](mailto:lynnwild.u3a@gmail.com)

A deposit of £10 is required for this event. Please book before making any payment.

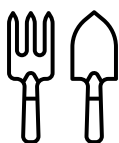
You can pay by:

- Cash or card at the July monthly meeting
- Cheque (made payable to Littleborough u3a) at the July monthly meeting or post to: M.Pearson, The Treasurer, Littleborough u3a, 12 Southview Terrace, Rochdale OL16 2SW. (Please quote your membership number and event reference YT20)

- Bank transfer to account 93984028; Sort Code 20-72-67 Littleborough u3a account. (Please quote membership number and event reference YT20)

Deposits are non-refundable unless the event is cancelled, a substitute can be found or the cost of the event is not affected, in which cases your deposit will be refunded to you.

### 3. News from the Groups



This morning the **Gardening Group** braved the pouring rain to take a walk round the allotments in Littleborough. They deserved the tea and cake in the allotment shed! U3a groups are hardy folk. There was a brief quiz too – so here are a selection of the questions for those of you who were not there:

What pernicious weed has roots that go so deep that coal miners used to see them in the deepest mines?

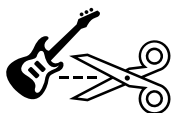
What are the two main kinds of raspberry plant and what do you need to know about the difference in their treatment?

What is Strulch and what is it used for?

What event triggered the legislation that made allotments something that every local authority must provide?



**Creative Writing Group 2** meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 2pm in Littleborough library. We set ourselves a task each month and we read our work to each other then try a quick writing challenge to share. It's fun and gets us thinking. Please do come and join us. Ellen Cruse is the convenor.



#### **Craft Group**

July 13<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in Hare Hill House: Gift Boxes

Monday July 24<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in Hare Hill House: Felt Hangings



**Quiz Group:** next meeting in the Red Lion, Halifax Road, Littleborough at 2.30pm on Thursday July 6<sup>th</sup>. .

### 4. U3a Interest groups online

Just in case we in Littleborough don't have the group you need or just in case there comes a time when you are more stuck at home than usual and you really want something to keep your mind active, or just in case you want to take a look at what else the u3a nationally has to offer: there are a number of national online groups that are open to all. The national website has the details: [www.u3a.org.uk/learning/interest-groups-online](http://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/interest-groups-online)

The groups work in a range of ways, maybe with a lecture or presentation or introduction followed by discussion or activities. They meet at set times and you do have to register as a member of u3a groups online (this is a separate membership from your local u3a) and pay a fee of £12 per year to join. This gives you access to a wide range of groups. Note that some groups are full. Subjects vary from Armchair archaeology to Zentangle (?) through the languages, Crime, Railways and a host of other interests.

Take a look and if you have any experience of participating in the summer schools or other national or regional u3a activities I would be keen to hear about it for inclusion in a future newsletter.

## 5. Answers to the Photo Quiz

Picture Number 1: Pinnacle of where? On the roof of the bandstand in the park

Picture Number 2: Starry Turn. On the bandstand ceiling

Picture Number 3. Where in 1805? Sale Street, off Harehill Road

How did you do? I will take a look inside the bandstand and see that star next time I pass!

Meanwhile I look forward to seeing you at u3a events and I send you all my very best wishes,

Jo Wiggans

Very best wishes to you all,

Jo Wiggans.