

# Ripon & District U3A – July 2023 Newsletter

## Chairman's Forward

Our speaker for July is Margaret Fiddes, who is our regional Trustee on the National Executive. The Trust resides in London and can be a bit 'out of sight, out of mind' but a lot goes on there, and at present there are changes afoot which, it is hoped, should make communication easier between the Trust and individual U3A branches. Margaret has offered to bring us up to date with all of these changes and her talk will clarify the relationship between the Trust, Regional committees, and U3A branches. Those who receive the Third Age Matters magazine may have seen an interview with Margaret on page 49.

As usual we will take a break in August and in September there will be a 'Meet the Committee' social with scones as well as coffee/tea. More details of this later, but no speaker is booked so if anyone wants to volunteer????

Meanwhile it's time to unearth a fan from the understairs cupboard! Who changed the settings on the weather?

*Joyce*

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## Dates for your diary

26 <sup>th</sup> June	Nick Brazil will make a presentation BY ZOOM ONLY (no meeting at the Rugby Club)  Subject: <b>Castles in the Air</b>
24 <sup>th</sup> July	Margaret Fiddes – will inform us about happenings at The Third Age Trust
August	No Meeting
September	Social meeting with scones – more details later

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## Summer fun!

**What did the beach say to the tide when it came in?**

Long time, no sea.

**How do we know the ocean is friendly?**

It waves.



## Committee News

At our eleventh AGM on 22<sup>nd</sup> May Clare Kinsman, who had done a sterling job as Membership Secretary for many years, stepped down after six years on the committee. As did Nicola Bradbury who helped us all through Covid with her patient setting up of zoom meetings alongside maintaining our website (and uploading it again after it crashed). I am sure members are grateful for all of their hard work.

Meg Wilcox has taken over the reins as Membership Secretary after several months of working alongside Clare.

Nicola Bradbury has very kindly agreed to stay and assist with the website administration and zoom set up for occasional meetings. However, she does want to hand over to a new person quickly and we have been advertising for a replacement for several months with no success. This is the ideal time for a new person to step forward as the u3a nationally is migrating its websites onto WordPress and training will be provided within the next few months by the Third Age Trust. Please, please can someone step forward.

Glenys Bailey stepped down from her role as Groups Co-ordinator.. However, she remains on the committee as Vice Chair. Janet Sutton has taken over as Groups Co-ordinator and I am sure that all Group Facilitators will welcome her in her new role.

We have two members who have volunteered and we welcome Karen Clark and Jane Earnshaw as our new committee members. There are still two vacancies on the committee so more volunteers are always welcome.

Remember that our branch of the u3a can only continue to be active and viable through the work of many volunteers. Can you spare a little time to assist in some way?

Your new committee is as follows:

Chair:	Joyce Walmsley
Vice Chair:	Glenys Bailey
Secretary:	Kathy Wivell
Treasurer:	Jenny Metcalfe
Membership Secretary:	Meg Wilcox
Groups Co-ordinator:	Janet Sutton
Publicity Secretary:	Jean Jayne
Committee members:	Janet Slater, Karen Clark, Jane Earnshaw

We will endeavour to keep our u3a branch vital, interesting, and fun for you all throughout 2023/2024.

## Group Activities

### The Book Reader's Group

**Contact – Karen Clark – [karendalgliesh57@gmail.com](mailto:karendalgliesh57@gmail.com)**

The Book Reader's Group meets every second Thursday. For the July meeting there will be a new venue as the Curzon in Ripon is closing at the end of June. The new venue will be sent via email to all members of the group.

The book for discussion and evaluation is 'The Herd' by Emily Edwards.

Contact Karen Clark on [kdalgliesh57@gmail.com](mailto:kdalgliesh57@gmail.com) for more general information or Karen Rimmer on [karenjones388@hotmail.com](mailto:karenjones388@hotmail.com) for membership details.

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### The Intrepid Traveler Group

**Contact – Glenys and Janet – 01765 635236**



The intrepid travellers, who took part on the Second of our Visits to Places of Interest, took advantage of a beautiful day to visit historic Haworth, a tad windy when we arrived, but our stoic group carried on regardless. Our second visit of the day was an enjoyable sojourn to the David Hockney Museum in Saltaire. A lovely visit and well recommended.

Janet and I are planning our next visit, looking at Bishop Auckland the refurbished Bishops Palace. This will possibly be in September. We will advise the date and details shortly.



We welcome any ideas for other places to visit, which can suit various tastes.

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## Collectables Group

**Contact – Gwyn Sagar – Tel – 01765 677650**

The July Meeting is at the Magdalene Pub on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> July – 2 to 4 pm

New members welcome

There is no meeting in August

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## Local History Group

**Contact – Maurice Taylor – [mauricehtaylor@gmail.com](mailto:mauricehtaylor@gmail.com)**

Our upcoming presentations are –

**On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 10.00am Joyce Walmsley** will present – ‘**Going Places**’. Joyce’s presentation, with slides, covers the development of transport over the ages, with particular reference to Ripon.

N.B. Due to a mix up at the Rugby Club, for this meeting we are at St John’s Chapel on Bondgate, 10.00 am as usual.

On the subject of transport – there is **no parking** at St John’s Chapel. However, there is plenty of free on-street parking on Bondgate Green Lane (which runs parallel to Bondgate – from Ripon Leisure Centre to the Canal Junction/Navigation Inn) All three roads/footpaths opposite Navigation Pub lead to St John’s from Bondgate Green Lane. Just head towards the Chapel Tower keeping the former Ship Inn to your left and you will find it is only 150/200 metres, or a 5 minute walk.

**July and August** We have no meetings during the school holiday period.

**28<sup>th</sup> September** – We will be back at Ripon Rugby Club at 10.00 am when **Hilary Jones** will present ‘**Milestones Through the Ages**’. This presentation was recommended by one of our members who heard it elsewhere .

**If you are not a member, but would like to become one, please email Maurice Taylor at [mauricehtaylor@gmail.com](mailto:mauricehtaylor@gmail.com)**

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## Science for All

**Contact – Keith Surman – [ksurman@outlook.com](mailto:ksurman@outlook.com)**

For July we have a change of plans. It will now be a meeting, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2pm in Sharow VH, when Stuart Ward will be speaking on “More Artificial Intelligence”. There will not be any charge for tea/coffee at this meeting, & we do not have a meeting in August. Then on the 11<sup>th</sup> September Mick Stanley will lead a walk around Ripon looking at “The Science of Building with Bricks”.

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## Screen Scene

**Contact – Karen Clark – [kdalgliesh57@gmail.com](mailto:kdalgliesh57@gmail.com)**

Unfortunately, due to the closure of the Curzon in Ripon, we will no longer be able to have this group. Many thanks for your support during its short existence.

## Singing for Fun

**Contact – Karen Clark – [kdalgliesh57@gmail.com](mailto:kdalgliesh57@gmail.com)**

Singing for fun is for enthusiastic singers of all abilities and no experience is needed, We sing a range of styles from pop to classical, folk and world music too. The aim is to simply enjoy singing together sometimes with simple harmonies. The session is on the first Friday of the month at 11.00a.m. at Allhallowgate in the Centre Room.

Contact the group leader Karen for more information

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## Photographic Group

**Contact – Julia Bertenshaw –**



**[juliabertenshaw@yahoo.com](mailto:juliabertenshaw@yahoo.com)**

*Canal Clouds by Julia Bertenshaw*



We are a small, friendly group of photographers who like taking photos. Our next meeting will be on the 28<sup>th</sup> June when we will look at making videos from photographs. For this month on 13<sup>th</sup> July we will have a photoshoot at Ripley and on the 26<sup>th</sup> we will look at processing our images. Our indoor meetings are at Littlethorpe Village Hall commencing at 2.00 pm every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday.

If you would like to know more please contact - [juliabertenshaw@yahoo.com](mailto:juliabertenshaw@yahoo.com)

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## **Theatre Visit Group**

**Contact – Arlene Coulson – [dvrarlene@btinternet.com](mailto:dvrarlene@btinternet.com)**

The committee hope you have enjoyed the extended hot spell. We know some are wanting rain, but I am sure it will soon be back to showers.

July sees the much anticipated, TVG day trip to Keswick and once again to experience the Theatre by the Lake and the Lakeside restaurant. On the morning of Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July the coach will leave Ripon Coach Station at 9.15 am and return early evening. Members will have the opportunity to spend time in Keswick town centre, before the 2 pm matinee of “The Blond Bombshells of 1943”. A post-play dinner rounds off the day before leaving Keswick at 7 pm. Booking forms and pre-orders from the menus have now been returned from 37 intrepid members.

Looking forward to next month. A coffee morning has been booked for Wednesday August 16<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 am, Ripon Rugby Club. Please make a note of the August date in your diaries. For more information on the group’s membership and events, please contact Arlene or visit the website pages.

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## **Walking Group**

I hope everyone is enjoying the good weather, and doing plenty of walking!

Here is the list of walks for June and July; please remember that if you are planning to join any of the walks, you are asked to contact the Leader in advance.

### **Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> June**

Leader - Janice Sherman (01423873330 or 07930316107)

Meet at 10.00am at Back Lane car park, Boroughbridge (free/honesty box donation) The walk will follow the River Ure from Boroughbridge via Myton Bridge and Milby. A riverside walk, with road walking on return. There is one awkward stile. Bring a packed lunch and a drink  
Length - 7 miles

### **Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> July**

Leader - David Osborne (01423 866433 or 07484368080)

in Castle Street, Spofforth. On street parking, but usually plenty of space, for 10.00am

The walk will be from Spofforth via Plumpton rocks, an easy walk mostly on the level. Park near the Castle pub

Length 5 miles

**Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> July**

Leaders - Astrid and Brian Wood (01423 561497)

Meet at Lofthouse car park at 10.30am

The walk is a circular walk up to Middlesmoor and back to Lofthouse

Possibility of lunch at the Crown in Middlesmoor, or bring a packed lunch if you prefer.

Length 5½ miles

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

Leader - Chris Bennett (07518 376881 or 01423 324011)

Meet in Middleham at 10.30am The walk is from Middleham via the River Cover, Coverham and the gallops, with a few small ascents and descents and several stiles.

A packed lunch is recommended with the option of refreshments at the end.

Length 6½ miles

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July**

Leader - Sandra Blyton (07990 507879)

Meet at Ripon Bus Station to catch the 9.45am bus to Galphay. The walk is back to Ripon via Braithwaite Hall, Azerley and Ellington Banks.

Bring a packed lunch and drink

Length - 7 miles

There are 2 walks already planned for August -

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August - Led by Liz and Tony Gilbank. Sutton Bank, details later

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August - Bring and share lunch with a short walk. Details later

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**Wednesday Lunch Club****Contact – Margaret Crewe – [Cell 07799 622095](tel:07799622095)**

This month we are going to have lunch at 'The Station Hotel in Birstwith'.

Meeting At 12-30 pm as usual on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July.

They would like us to pre-book before the meeting, but I said that wasn't possible, so please choose what you wish to eat on arrival so the people who are cooking can start to get everything prepared.

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**Sketch and Scribble Group****Contact – Kathy Wivell – [kathywivel@gmail.com](mailto:kathywivel@gmail.com)**

At our first meeting we concentrated on sketching trees. Our next meeting will be held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 10 am. Meet in the market square beneath the obelisk. All you need to bring along is paper and writing/drawing utensil. Hope to see you there ready to write or sketch or both.

## **Local Events you may wish to experience**

### **Ripon Arts Hub – [reppublicity@gmail.com](mailto:reppublicity@gmail.com)**

**June 21<sup>st</sup>** - the Ripon Charity Pantomime Group will hold an introductory evening about their upcoming pantomime. To find out how you can join in next year's show - in front or behind the curtain, go along to the Arts Hub theatre in Allhallowgate at 7.30 (free light refreshments).

**June 24<sup>th</sup>** at 2pm there will be auditions for the chorus and at 3pm for the principals.

### **Spa Gardens Bandstand Concerts**

Brass Bands will play in the Bandstand in Spa Gardens on the afternoons of July 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. More information at the café.

### **G4 Concert in November**

#### **Special Offer for u3a Members**

Raymond and It Production Company have sent us the following message:

I work for a production company that is currently in charge of organizing G4 and their Christmas tour. G4 is a classical/cross-over harmony quartet group that rose to fame after winning the first X-factor.

As we have had a lot of bookings from u3a members in the past, we would like to offer the u3a a 10% discount using code U3A2023 should you wish to come to one of our shows.

They will be coming to Ripon Cathedral on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November as part of the aforementioned tour, so if any of your members may be interested in the offer or would simply like to have some more information please do get in contact at

[Production@amickproductions.co.uk](mailto:Production@amickproductions.co.uk)

**Please note that there will be no newsletter for August**

**Hope you all enjoy a fabulous summer break**

**The deadline for the September issue is August 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Send contributions to [editoru3aripon@gmail.com](mailto:editoru3aripon@gmail.com)**

**Or see our webpage at Ripon u3a**