

Ripon u3a Newsletter – September 2023

Chairman's Forward

Hello to all members

I haven't seen some of you for a while, but September sees most of our activities back for the Autumn. September's meeting will be a bit different – see below (go on – read past this paragraph – I dare you!). We even have plans for Christmas, also see below.

September's showcase is in a different format than usual, as an experiment. We had the chance to try something new with a table outside Sainsbury's displaying our activities, and we will see how successful we are. A review after the event will decide on how to take things forward next year. We are planning to obtain some new and improved publicity materials, to use not just for this event, but for future use.

Our monthly programme with speakers resumes in October and, as advanced notice for next year, you will see u3a's first Summer Festival is to be held in York. So, we will try to keep you up to date on that as plans progress.

See you in September, I hope.

Joyce

Dates for your diary

Monthly General Meetings

September 25th – all members are invited to an informal social get together with free scones and tea/coffee at the Ripon Rugby Club at 2.00. This will give you an opportunity to talk about the activities of your u3a and to socialize with your committee and other members. Further details will be given about plans for a meeting venue in 2024, our Christmas Lunch and future outings to place of interest. Please come along with your ideas and suggestions.

October 23rd - Eric Jackson will give a talk on The Gunpowder Plot

November 27th - Jeremy Hutchinson will again visit us, talking about The Kiplin Hall Portraits this time

september 28th – showcase table

Sainsbury's have offered us the opportunity to have a display table in the corridor leading into their store. Here we will advertise our activities and we encourage you to support us and to perhaps learn about activities of some of the groups you are interested in joining. Please come along and bring friends and family who may be interested

Friday 29th September 2023 – Outing to place of interest

Auckland Castle – a symbol of authority and wealth, once home to the powerful Prince Bishops of Durham

Auckland Castle is one of the best-preserved bishops' palaces in the whole of Europe and is at the centre of The Auckland Project. The Castle recently reopened after undergoing major conservation work, which has transformed its state rooms to their original Georgian Gothic splendour, as designed by the renowned English architect James Wyatt.

Here you can visit the castle and gardens, the Mining Art Gallery and/or the Spanish Gallery.

For members wanting to attend please complete the booking form already circulated and prepare for an amazing outing by pre-planning your visit. Full information on aucklandproject.org.

A separate flyer advertising this event along with a booking form have been circulated to all members.

December 4th - Christmas Lunch

We have booked a traditional 2 or 3 course Christmas Dinner at the Ripon Rugby Club and music will be provided by local group Retrobeat. Diarise the date and details with booking form will follow shortly.

Groups News

New Group

Culture Club – Karen Clark - kdalgliesh57@gmail.com

This is a new group starting in September for anyone interested in going to local cultural events. The focus of the group is to visit concerts, festivals and places of interest, making good use of the excellent provision in our region.

In September we plan to attend an afternoon of Poetry on Saturday 23rd September at 2.00p.m. at the Operatic Hall. Ticket price is £5. [The event is part of Ripon's Poetry Festival]

In October, we have a musical treat with 'Vintage Red Priest' - a baroque extravaganza at Holy Trinity Church on Saturday 7th October at 7.30p.m. [This is part of Ripon's International music season.] Also in October - the 28th, is a Deer Walk at Studley Royal which is a National Trust Guided Walk and is completely free with no booking required.

Coming up in November and December: Orchestral music, Wild Life Lecture, Latin concert and hopefully a trip to Markenfield Hall - when the Christmas decorations are up!

On **September 8th** there will be a Coffee Morning to get us started - details will be e mailed to members who have registered an interest in the group.

Please email kdalgliesh57@gmail.com to join 'Culture Club' and receive details about the events

Established Group Activities

Collectables Group Contact – Gwyn Sagar – Tel – 01765 677650

The September meeting is at the Magdalene Pub on Thursday the 14th September – 2 to 4 pm
New members welcome

Photographic Group – Julia Bertenshaw – juliabertenshaw@yahoo.co.uk



Our Wednesday meetings this month at Littlethorpe Village Hall will be September 13th and 27th. On 13th Mike Clunes will give an illustrated talk on a Norwegian holiday. On Sept. 27th the subject is Photobook Making. Please contact juliabertenshaw@yahoo.co.uk

If you are interested in joining the group or wish to know more. Contact Julia Bertenshaw

Singing for Fun – Karen Clark - 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 in unison and sometimes tackling more challenging songs and dividing into part singing.. Currently we have a lovely group of friendly, harmonious singers who are great fun to work with. The session is on the first Friday of the month at 11.00a.m. at Allhallowsgate in the Centre Room. Come and join us! Contact the group leader Karen Clark on kdalgliesh57@gmail.com for more information.

The Book Reading Group – Karen Clark - kdalgliesh57@gmail.com

The Book Reader's Group meets every second Thursday at 2.00p.m. at the Wakeman's House Cafe in Ripon. Our selected book for September is 'Picnic at Hanging Rock' by Joan Lindsay. Each month the book is chosen by a group member which results in a wide variety of genres and topics. Most books provoke a lively debate!

For more information, please contact:

Karen Rimmer on: karenjones388@hotmail.com

Karen Clark on: kdalgliesh57@gmail.com

The Family History Group – Anne Reid - annereid220@hotmail.com

After our summer meetings outdoors, our group joins with Harrogate Family History by Zoom on 14th September at 2pm to welcome back popular speaker Jackie Depelle, whose talk is entitled "Two Wars, Two Wives - the Stage is set. This talk draws on research into the life and experiences of a British civilian internee in Germany.

Email me for further details about our group if you'd like to join us.

Wednesday Lunch Club – Margaret Crewe

I have decided not to include the Wednesday Lunch Group in the newsletters because it has 12 regular members and the restaurants need to know what they want to eat a month before we actually meet if you go over that number of people.

Most people change their minds a few times before actually deciding which dishes they want, so to choose a month before is not going to work.

This is for information only

T'ai Chi Mondays 9.30-10.30

Please note that this class has been suspended for the rest of 2023. Hopefully it will resume in early January.

Keep fit - Mondays, 9.30-10.30 and 10.45-11.45

At Allhallowgate Church hall. Classes begin a new 16 week course on September 4th. There are still spaces in the 9.30 class. If you are wishing to enrol, please contact Caroline on carolinedmarston@gmail.com or phone 01765698549.

* The fee (payable in advance) is £64 for the whole course.

Theatre Visits Group

As predicted, after the June heatwave, July was back to showers. Indeed, it proved to be the wettest July “on record” – whatever that now means. Unfortunately, the Keswick July day trip saw “heavy” rain, but the brilliant show went on!

Members have now received their booking form for the September trip; “Murder in the Dark” at York Theatre Royal Thursday 21st September 2pm. The play is a “world premiere” and performed by the outstanding Original Theatre. Members have previously laughed with the Original Theatre, now comes the time for a “spine chiller”.

Rather than a play, the October outing is a lunch at “The Inn” South Stainley. The date will be confirmed after the August coffee morning.

For more information on the group’s membership and events, please contact Arlene Coulson at dvralene@btinternet.com or visit the website pages.

The Sunday Lunch Group- Sue Eddleston - 01765 650070

The Sunday Lunch Club has been very busy exploring new venues in the past few months. Our next lunch will be on 10th September when we will be going to the Bluebell Inn at Arkendale. The usual time is 12.30. We are a happy relaxed group, enjoying our Sunday outings, good company, good food and then walking away without having to wash up!!!! We have already booked our Christmas Meal at The White Bear at Masham on the 10th December.

For any inquiries about the Sunday Lunch Group, contact Sue Eddleston, 01765 650070 or 07445 839 784. Unfortunately, we are at the maximum capacity for most of the venues, but we do have a waiting list.

Science for All Group - Keith Surman - kjsurman@outlook.com

We restart the programme on 11 September, Sharow VH 2pm, with Richie Green on Restoring Holgate Windmill. Then on 25 September, Mick Stanley will lead a walk around Ripon looking at The Science of Building with Bricks – this is fully booked. Some way off yet, on the 24 October we have a visit to Uredale Glass, Masham. A limit of 10 for this visit so please let me know if you are interested.

'Play Folk Music Group - : Ian Stalker, istalker22@gmail.com

This group of currently up to a dozen or so amateur musicians, meets at Ripon Rugby Club at 2-4pm twice a month, on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays.

We play for companionship and fun; also to try out tune suggestions members may have. Sadly, we can't take absolute beginners, but if you already blow, squeeze, pluck, hit or scrape an instrument at any level, please bring it along and try us out.

Contact: group leader- Ian Stalker

Local History Group – Maurice Taylor – mauricehtaylor@gmail.com

Our upcoming presentations are:

On Thursday **28 September** We will be back at Ripon Rugby Club at 10.00am when **Hilary Jones**, of the Milestones Society, will present '**Life Before Sat Nav**' (Milestones through the Ages). This presentation was recommended by one of our members who heard it elsewhere!

The Rugby Club has plenty of free parking, comfortable seats, and the help-yourself coffee/tea and biscuits are splendid. We pay £2 each to the club for unlimited drinks from when we arrive.

If you are not a member of this group, but would like to become one, please email Maurice Taylor at mauricehtaylor@gmail.com

Walking group

We have our lunch and planning meeting on **Monday 21st August**

Bring and share lunch at Margaret Smith's home followed by a short walk.

Bring and share either savoury or sweet items. 12.00 noon lunch and short walk after lunch from her house.

Please let Margaret Smith know if you intend to be there. She lives at the Morrisonsend of Ripon, telephone [07448 781610](tel:07448781610) or 01765 608566 and the address will then be provided!

The Autumn programme of walks will be discussed so come with dates and ideas. Hopefully we can fill the diary up to Christmas! (I know - where has this year gone?).

Group members have already offered to lead walks in September:

Thursday 14 September

Carole and Peter will lead a 5.5 mile walk to Staveley.

Contact them on 07960 264428 to book and learn more.

Monday 18 September

Chris Bennett will lead a 5 mile walk to Aislaby. Telephone Chris on 07518 376881 for more details.

2nd October and 20th November also have volunteer leaders so we have a good start.

If you are unable to make the meeting but can volunteer to lead a walk, please send details to Heather Law heatherlaw@freeuk.com or call 07828580309.

Painting and Drawing for Pleasure Dorothy Taylor – dorothy.taylor0@me.com

We continue to meet fortnightly at St.John's Chapel Bondgate .This long established group continues to enjoy drawing and painting, extending our use of various media. Numbers are restricted because of the nature of the venue, but if you are interested give me a call on Ripon 604778. The next meeting is on September 5th 10 to 12.

Poetry for Pleasure – Dorothy Taylor – dorothy.taylor0@me.com

This group has been in existence for 10 years and yet we hardly ever repeat reading a poem read on a previous occasion. There is usually a theme for the poem and we enjoy reading poems from classics to modern. We meet on zoom the second and fourth Monday of the month from 2.30pm and on the third Monday from 2 to 4pm at St John's Chapel. The next zoom meeting is on September 4th and the next in person meeting is on September 18th

If you like poetry and in good company join us. Call me on Ripon 604778

News from your committee

We are very pleased to announce that we have a new Website Administrator – Margaret Derbyshire and her contact is m_derbyshire@yahoo.com. Will **Group Leaders** please ensure that their group information is correct on the website?

We also have another volunteer to join our committee and welcome Marla Studmore.

Thank you to both Margaret and Marla for volunteering.

Thought for the month:

Children are returning to school, college or university to start a new chapter in their lives. New goals and projects are planned by them. So maybe this is the best time of year for us all to develop new interests.

We are reminded to let of what is holding us back by the trees letting go of their fading leaves. Ask yourself what you can do differently. Maybe you could join a new u3a Interest Group or even start a new group with a friend or alone, read different books, visit new places, go for a walk, paint a picture or explore your family history.

Your u3a can help you to develop your new interests. If you are unsure about what to do, come along to our show table on September 28th at Sainsbury's entrance to gain some inspiration or guidance.
