



## Whitby Whaler Newsletter May 2021

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### What do I need to make the Newsletter?

YOU.



What are the Groups doing? - Leaders or Members

Share YOUR stories, photos, poems, funnies etc etc.

email: [Whalersnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:Whalersnewsletter@gmail.com) or [magsnphil@outlook.com](mailto:magsnphil@outlook.com)

**\*\*Newsletters will go out on the 15th of each month; submissions by 14th please\*\***

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**In the accompanying email, there is a list of hyperlinks which will take you to a website where you can find out more about some of the information / articles in this Newsletter.**

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## **MESSAGE FROM ANNE JACKSON - COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Hi everyone

I hope you are all well and enjoying the good spring weather when it appears.

I would like to let you know that the Committee is working toward the opening of groups, and some are ready to start in the next few weeks. So, if you are a Group Leader can you please contact Wendy Price about when you wish to open - and the same applies if you wish to start a new group. Wendy will be pleased to hear from you.

Sadly, the Committee has lost two members in this last year and they will be missed, so we wish them well and thank you.

The Committee is currently short a Secretary and Health and Safety Officer. Also, in October a new Chair will need to be appointed. The jobs are not too onerous and the Committee Members are fun to work with, so if you feel able to come on board you can sit in on the meetings before you decide. Contact Clair Stones or myself.

I look forward to National u3a Day on June 2nd, and hope to see you on the beach or at Dock End or the Market Square. Please come and support your u3a.

See you there

Anne Jackson

[annejay1234ra@gmail.com](mailto:annejay1234ra@gmail.com)    [stonesclair1@gmail.com](mailto:stonesclair1@gmail.com)

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## **WHITBY U3A COMMITTEE THANKS - Ann Storr**

Ann Storr is stepping down from organising the coffee mornings and we would like to express our thanks for the hard work she put in. Ann had a lot of zeal, she created a very good list of volunteers and tried to make sure that the rota she created ensured no one person was 'over-used' and that the kitchen ran smoothly. It is no mean task to ensure that literally dozens and dozens of hot drinks are dispensed, and she personally handed mugs of tea and coffee to the leaders in the hall who couldn't leave their tables, and to all speakers and helpers on the day. The kitchen was left spick and span before she left. (By Lillian Kelwick)

From Anne Jackson, Chair - Ann has been a tireless worker for the u3a and will be missed, but no doubt will still be around. So thanks once again.

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## WHITBY U3A COMMITTEE NEWS

Some of the Whitby Whaler Committee Members have found it was not possible for them to carry on in their roles - as if Covid wasn't enough on its own - and we have lost two very valuable Officers in the past few months.

This week, Lillian Kelwick has made the decision to step back from being not only a Committee Member but also as the Whitby Whaler Health and Safety Officer.

### WENDY PRICE - confirmation of email address

There has been a little confusion over the email address that was included in the last Newsletter for the Curriculum Organiser, Wendy Price.

A Wendy Price in Canada has been receiving our Wendy's emails. It is a simple thing, but so easy to overlook or misread - the correct email address has a punctuation mark between wendy and pk. This is an underscore ( \_ ) and not a dash ( - ).

**wendy\_pk@hotmail.com**

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### OPEN FORUM

Every Monday, via Zoom, there is an Open Forum at 2pm. It's open to anyone who wants to join in - drop in and drop out, stay for as long as you want, it's all very flexible and relaxed.

Come and see some familiar and unfamiliar faces, and chat about anything, everything, and nothing. Compare lockdown hairdos, admire other people's wallpaper, learn from others how they are coping (if you are finding things difficult) or help those who aren't coping so well if you are OK, or just have a general chat.

Look out for the regular email from **Clair Stones** giving joining details.

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### GROUPS STARTING UP

All things being equal, it is planned for the following groups to open up. Both will be held at The Metropole on the West Cliff.

Line Dancing - Tuesday 18 May      Latin In-Line Dancing - Wednesday 09 June

Anyone wanting details, contact the Group Leader or Wendy Price: **wendy\_pk@hotmail.com**

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# GARDENIAS' WORLD

## FROM MONTY TITCHMARSH



WHEN PLANTING CATS, MAKE SURE THEY ARE SPACED 6 INCHES APART



(is this how you grow pussy willow?)

How would you like to come home with me and die?



When you need to bury a body, cover it with endangered plants...



...that way it will be illegal to dig it up.

## Have you seen our Facebook page?



Yes, we have a Facebook page! Search for **Whitby Whaler u3a** and have a look at what we are getting up to. We use Facebook as another format to keep our members connected to each other, to give information about news and events that are coming up, to share photos of all the great things that our members and groups are doing, to promote our organisation and what we do plus we hope seeing all this will attract more new members.

Now that things are beginning to get back to normal our Facebook page can really help keep you up to date with all the changes as we slowly start to get back to our groups and all the things we do together. Zoom has been an amazing and entertaining way of keeping in touch, keep learning and 'seeing' friends. We now post on our page all our Zoom events and the programme for the week ahead so you will never miss an opportunity to tune in.

Like all volunteer organisations we need you to help us help you so that our page is current and interesting. We need all Group Leaders to share news about your group when are you restarting and what will be any new arrangements etc. Leaders and members can share their photos of activities directly onto the page Don Readman does a great job of sharing his so why not join him.

Plus we really need you to 'Like' our page, the thumbs up button is at the top under our photo as this helps with promoting our organisation. Please also 'Like' any photos or items and 'Share' anything you think others would like to see. If you choose to 'Follow' our page you will get updates as they happen but to be sure just regularly check our page.

Facebook is as safe to use as anything on the internet and is a great way to keep in touch. Jan Jennings is our main link so if you need any help or want her to put anything on our page, email her at [jan.jenn@hotmail.com](mailto:jan.jenn@hotmail.com) and join our Facebook community.

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## CALL-OUT TO GROUP LEADERS - OLD AND NEW

The time has come for Group Leaders to dust down their class plans and start to think about 2021/22.

We are hoping that publicity will alert and encourage current and previous members to think about enrolling for the next year; so we need some classes to tempt them with. Registration Day will hopefully be at the beginning of September.

Although, at the present time, we don't know what the exact position is going to be Covid-wise, we have to make plans now so that, if we are able to open up, - partly or fully - we are as prepared as we possibly can be. Venues will be taking bookings and we don't want to be at the back of the queue or stood holding the door for everyone else. It's less than 5 months until u3a opening time, so it is important that we get (and keep) on top of the game.

As you will have seen earlier, Wendy Price has now taken over as Curriculum Organiser, so you will need to liaise directly with her.

Her email address is: [wendy\\_pk@hotmail.com](mailto:wendy_pk@hotmail.com)

## NEW GROUPS

It is always good to have New Groups and consequently new Group Leaders. Recent additions have included:

- Walking Cricket
- Walking Netball
- Raspberry Pi Computers
- Family History
- Sewing for Beginners
- Egyptology
- Dominoes

Do you have an interest, skill, or passion that you would like to share with others?

Contact Wendy Price and discuss what you might be able to contribute. If you find it interesting, there are bound to be others of a like-mind. Groups can be small or large, weekly/fortnightly/monthly. Interactive or lecture-type.

Email to Wendy Price at: [wendy\\_pk@hotmail.com](mailto:wendy_pk@hotmail.com)

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## ROYAL MAIL SCAM

You get a text on your phone telling you that you've missed a parcel delivery. How annoying!

And now it's going to cost you £2.99 for them to arrange another delivery slot. Really annoying!

But you have to pay, or else you won't get your parcel. Just click here and it takes you through to the Royal Mail website, and fill in your details - Name, Address, Date of Birth, Bank Sort Code, Bank Account Number. £2.99 - thank you very much. Your parcel is on its way.

Next thing there's a phone call. It's your bank telling you there's been some suspicious activity on your account. What?!! Panic!! Don't worry, we'll help you to sort it out. The best thing for you to do is to move your money to a safe account and then we can investigate what's going on. Your money will be protected and, when it's all sorted out, it can be put back into your account.

Do you:

- a) say thank you very much, this is so worrying, can you help me through this? or
- b) stop and think that this is actually all a bit wrong and hang up?

Yes, this latest in a long line of scams will clean out your bank account and possibly leave you with further debt.

As reported on **BBC Rip Off Britain**, this has happened to a number of people. The text looks genuine - there are so many people having parcels delivered now. The website you are directed to looks genuine - that's because it will all be copied from the real website. And the people who ring you "from your bank" sound so plausible - because they are practised in inspiring confidence in people. Hence the term "Con Artist".

But the money moved to a "safe account" goes into one run by the scammers. You have given them all of the personal details they need to take out loans in your name. Suddenly you have no money and a loan company is coming after you for payments. Nightmare!

- The Royal Mail will never charge you for re-delivering a parcel. Neither should other companies.
- Your bank will never ask you to transfer money like this. "Safe accounts" don't exist.
- Be very careful clicking through a link on a text. Think about it, then think again.
- If you receive a call saying they are from your bank, tell them you will ring them back, then -
- - find a number for your bank - your bank statement / internet etc - DO NOT USE ONE THAT A COLD-CALLER/TEXTER GIVES YOU.
- If you do fall for it all - and it is all too easy to be drawn into things when you are in fear of your money being stolen - ring your bank to report it as soon as you can.
- Report it to the police at Action Fraud - 0300 123 2040.

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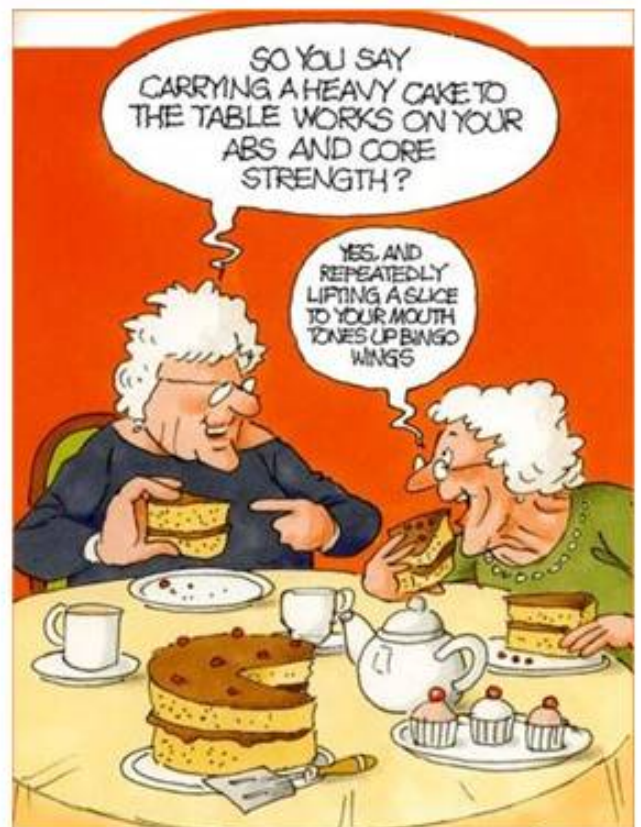


# YE MERRIE MONTHE OF MAIE

I asked my grand-daughter to pass me a newspaper. "Oh grandpa" she said "get with it and use my phone instead."



That fly never knew what hit it.



Someone told me it takes 4 sheep to make one jumper



I didn't even know they could knit

**Did you ever play "Knock-a-door-run" when you were a kid?**



**We've got the perfect job for you**

When I see ads on TV with smiling happy housewives using a new cleaning product, the only thing I want to buy is the medication they must be on



My neighbour asked if he could borrow my cordless drill. Well, no-one can say I'm not the sharing kind....



I'm thinking of complaining about this wine box. It said "once opened will last 8 days" – but it only lasted 3.

#### 10 FUN FACTS

1. You can't see your ears without a mirror.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose with your tongue out.
4. You just tried 3.
6. When you did 3, you realised that it is possible but you look like a dog.
7. You are smiling because you realise you were fooled.
8. You skipped No 5.
9. You just checked to see if there IS a No 5.
10. You sighed.

M&S v Aldi confrontation rumbles on:

Colin the Caterpillar at risk of the sack as nude photos are leaked online.



# COVID DIARY

## Part 17

(from Mike Scholey)

Freedom Day. Hairdressing salons, the favourite destination  
Bookshops and clothing outlets had a certain fascination.  
Footfall prize went to Pubs and others selling outdoor refreshment  
Bringing happiness, laughter and a good deal of merriment.

Mixing again brings many benefits to all  
But outdoors only. Normality journey is such a crawl.  
Keep your eyes on the figures published every day  
Herd immunity may kick in and pave the way.

Economic recovery should be quicker than most  
Vaccine success is something to boast.  
Variant changes could disturb the order,  
Essential we retain control of our border.

Four day week, with robots and AI accelerating  
Some unemployed training for the new jobs arising.  
Hospitality increase to cover more useful leisure time.  
If only it was so simple, our new life would be fine!

Criticism of the PM has taken centre stage  
Let us keep to the main event and turn the page.  
Success in the vaccinations is making our future clearer  
As that magical day, the 17th May draws ever closer.

Our confidence is growing day by day.  
Promised hugs and kisses will soon be on their way.  
Awaiting other Nations to quicken their vaccination plan  
Before answering all Covid queries with a bold "YES WE CAN".

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## TRAVELS FROM YOUR ARMCHAIR

Back in early March when the weather was cold and wet Trevor Barrowcliffe took us on a tour of South Andalucía. The southernmost autonomous community bordering Spain's southern coast. A region of hills, rivers and farmland. We found out that the area had been under Moorish rule from the 8-15th centuries a legacy that shows in the architecture and we were treated to this in the photos of the Alcázar castle and cathedral of Seville, the capital city, as well as Cordoba's Mesquita Mosque-Cathedral and Granada's Alhambra's Palace.



In Cordoba we were informed there was one of the most extraordinary art works of all time - The Mosque-Cathedral, a Muslim legacy in Spain. There are more than 500 columns and overlapping arches inside and rooms with stunning decorations, artisanal filigrees and in the centre The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption – a Renaissance Cathedral which dates to the 16th century.

Malaga, is the main airport to the Costa del Sol but, despite its industrial heritage, is an historic centre with elegant squares and a very impressive cathedral; that despite never being finished is one to rival Granada and Seville. The Museum of Pablo Picasso houses over 200 of his works in the Nasrid Palace - Picasso was born in Malaga. Some of his paintings were done on family holidays when he returned to the area.



Granada is famous for its UNESCO -listed Alhambra complex consisting of palaces, gardens, and military fortresses. We were taken back into a regal and flourishing age with intricate patterns, magnificent architecture, and the experience of flamenco music. I could almost smell the sweet scent of the orange blossom, the swish of the flamenco dress and the beautiful gardens we were shown.

In Seville, the 4th largest city in Spain with 3 UNESCO sites – Alcázar, Cathedral and General Archive of the Indies we were treated to a view of the romantic Plaza de Espana with its old-fashioned street lamps, decorated benches and beautifully ornate bridges and not forgetting its 500m canal.

The grand semi-circular Art Deco brick building is lined with tiled alcoves representing the 48 provinces of Spain. Seville's majestic cathedral, the largest Gothic building in Europe houses the tomb of Christopher Columbus, masterpieces by Goya and Murillo as well as the world's largest altarpiece decorated with gold from the New World. Fantastic!



Thank you, Trevor for an enjoyable talk. It really was a treat to visit this sun kissed region with its majestic cathedrals, intricate Islamic architecture and not forgetting the passionate flamenco dancing. An area that needs to be put onto everyone's 'bucket list'. It certainly will go onto mine!

By Clair Stones

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**Travels from Your Armchair** takes place via Zoom every Tuesday- fortnight at 1030 am.

Look out for the email from Clair Stones giving joining details.

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**WHAT IS THERE TO DO**  
**ON THESE STILL-NOT-QUITE-WARM-ENOUGH EVENINGS?**

**National u3a**

The national arm of u3a might not seem very relevant. But why not have a look-see and find out what they have to say and what they have to offer.

Just copy and paste these addresses into your address bar or see the accompanying email:

National u3a website:

[\*\*https://u3a.org.uk\*\*](https://u3a.org.uk)

You can sign up for the National u3a Newsletter here:

[\*\*https://u3a.org.uk/newsletter\*\*](https://u3a.org.uk/newsletter)

u3a National Learning Programmes:

[\*\*https://u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes\*\*](https://u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes)

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## **NHS ANNOUNCEMENT**

“**NHS 111 First**” is a national programme, aimed at improving the way people access urgent care services by ensuring they receive the right care in the most appropriate setting first time. In the North East approximately 60% of emergency department (A&E) attendances are currently unannounced “walk-in” patients, which can make it difficult to manage social distancing.

From November, people will be asked to contact **NHS 111 First** if they have an **urgent, but not serious or life-threatening, medical need**. Where appropriate, the service will book a time slot for attendance at an emergency department or, if appropriate, may book or direct people to an alternative local service such as an urgent treatment centre, GP practice or pharmacy, as close to home as possible.

People will still be able to walk into any A&E Department. This will not change and nobody, who attends an emergency department unannounced needing urgent treatment, will be turned away. They will be assessed on arrival and, if immediate treatment is required, this will continue in the same way as now. However, by contacting **NHS 111 First**, people will be able to get a timed appointment in an emergency department when they need one, reducing the time they spend in the waiting room and helping to minimise the risk of spreading Covid-19.

**\*\*Anyone with serious or life-threatening illnesses or injuries should continue to dial 999 as before, and everyone who needs an emergency “blue light” response will continue to receive one.\*\***

- Call **111** on your phone
- Call **18001 111** on a text phone or using the **Next Generation Text (NGT) Lite app** on your smartphone, tablet, or computer
- Use the **NHS 111 British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter service** if you're deaf and want to use the phone service

See more on the NHS 111 website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/urgent-and-emergency-care-services/when-to-use-111/>

Or find some FAQs from the Royal College of Emergency Medicine:

[https://www.rcem.ac.uk/docs/Policy/NHS111\\_FAQs\\_October\\_2020.pdf](https://www.rcem.ac.uk/docs/Policy/NHS111_FAQs_October_2020.pdf)

NHS 111 BSL Interpreter Service

<https://interpreternow.co.uk/nhs111>

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# Current Covid-19 situation in the Scarborough Borough Area

## Scarborough Borough Estimated Population 2019 - 108,757

In the 7 days up to 10 May, there was an average of **1.5** new cases identified per 100,000 people every day. (The average per day across England over the same period was **2.5**.)

This leaves the R-rate estimated at **0.8-1** across the North East and Yorkshire; because unfortunately, adjoining areas are still not doing as well as us - especially West and South Yorkshire, and Middlesbrough. The National R-rate is currently estimated at **0.8-1.1**, a slight rise on last month and possibly linked to the new India Variant.

However, UK death rates have fallen dramatically and are levelling out to an average of **10** per day.

The USA is only a day or so away from reaching **600,000** recorded deaths. But better news for Czechia and Belgium who now have greatly reduced death rates, after being overrun only a few weeks ago.

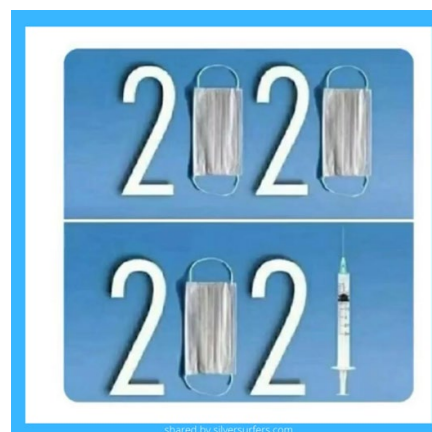
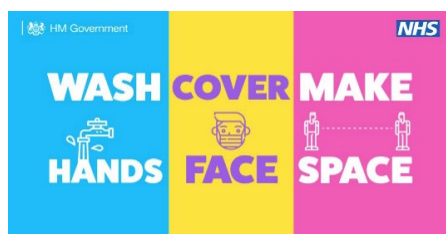
UK vaccination totals to 13 May are as follows (source gov.uk):

**36,115,955** First Doses - 68.6% of the adult population (up 4 million on last month)

**19,319,010** Second Doses - 36.7% of the adult population (up 11 million on last month)

The number of people in hospital in the UK has dropped too, with a total of **1,060** patients as of 12 May - compared to approximately **39,000** at the end of January 2021.

**We can't control what other people do, but we CAN control what WE do.**



**STAY SAFE**