



u3a
Wyre

learn,
laugh,
live

newsletter

Issue 8.22

Registered Charity Number 1184776

September 2022

September



CHAIRMAN'S CHAT - Kathleen Smith

Having received feedback about the monthly meeting, it seems the way we did it, wasn't up to standard. OK! Let's try again.

Sitting in the same room for two hours is a no-no. Without a break in the middle has caused problems for the social group trying to take bookings for the trips.

The only way out of this is for, the Speakers Secretary, me, to ask our guest speakers to break their talk in two parts. It may work in some cases, so it is worth a try.

Also, to convince more group leaders to introduce themselves and give a short input to encourage more members to join them. I know the newsletter has some good info but, who knows who the leaders are?

All I can do is try.

At the latest Committee meeting so many items had to be discussed deeply. I'll tell you what, I am in awe of the way the ladies have dug themselves into the work they have done and that which is in the process of sorting.

The Secretary, Angela, the Membership Secretary, Susan, the Treasurer, Ann and the Assets Manager, Jennifer, have all stepped up to help each other with the bank

changes, the new memberships and the Third Age Trust procedures. This has not, obviously, been an easy task. but can you imagine what it is like to take on a role like those, without any training?

This is where I am reaching out to every single member of Wyre u3a.

We need a Buddy Programme setting up. What would that mean? It would entail being beside each Committee member at meetings and getting the hang of what that role entails. Then, if the need arises and you are happy with how things work, you could do it with another Buddy.

Another role has come up as well. When you arrived, for the first time at one of the main meetings, you would have had the experience of one of the Meet and Greet Team. The team have done this for a long time and have decided to do something else. If you can smile and make people welcome, we need you at the door.

We have had a message from Third Age Trust (TAT).

They have put forward, for a vote, that TAT will raise the fees for all members annually, using a percentage. Many u3a Groups are objecting to this change. They have already risen the cost to £4 per member. This means that Wyre u3a will be left, this year, with £13 per member to cover all our costs.

That is not too bad but, if they raise this by a percentage each year, we don't know how much we would end up having to charge our members per annum.

As we have to vote at the AGM, in October, we would ask that you support our vote of "NO" to this amendment.

Unless we hear otherwise, we will vote against it.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY -

Susan Cox

Annual subscriptions of £17 were due on 1st July. Closing date for renewals is 30th September. Details of how to pay can be found in the previous newsletters.

Bank details for BACS payments:

NatWest

Sort Code: 01-02-11,

Account No: 22304444

Would all group leaders please ask to see a current membership card at your next meeting and to send a list of attendees to me at your earliest convenience.

A meeting for all group leaders will be held on 31st October at 2.00 p.m.

Venue to be advised.

GROUPS' CO-ORDINATOR - Diane

M. Whitworth

Thanks, once again to all Group Leaders for their dedication and encouragement with their respective groups.

The Amblers Group is still in need of a willing volunteer to assume the role of Group Leader. If you think you could undertake this position please contact Diane.

The Wyre u3a Facebook Page is a Private Group for Wyre u3a members only. It provides a forum, where our members are invited to express their views, share information, photographs and funny stories.

SPEAKERS' SECRETARY -

Kathleen Smith

September is going to be a very interesting afternoon. Geoffrey Cowell is to give a second talk which, I'm sure, will involve geology around areas we have been to.

In October we will not have access to the big screen, so I will have to choose one of our list of speakers who do not need the screen.

I must apologise to everyone about the unfortunate closure of the Speaker from the last meeting without a vote of thanks. I did believe that I had a volunteer for it but there was a confusion. I do hope you were not put into any embarrassment. Stephen did get to speak to a few members who told him that they appreciated his talk.

Please send contributions to u3aNewsletterWyre@gmail.com
When finished with this issue, please forward it to a friend.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Monthly Meetings are held at 2.00 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at Thornton Little Theatre.

Speakers:

Thursday, 8th September

Geoffrey Cowell.

Subject - The Science of the Geology of our Lands made Understandable.

Thursday, 13th October

To be arranged.

Thursday, 10th November

Brian Yates.

Subject - American Country Music.

SOCIAL EVENTS -

Diane M. Whitworth, Helen Kehoe and Norma Culshaw

Coach Trip to Blackwell, Windermere Jetty Museum and Holehird Gardens on Thursday, 22nd September



Blackwell is a Grade 1 listed Arts and Crafts House designed by M. H. Baillie-Scott. It is in Bowness-on-Windermere, and is a beautiful and rare, architectural gem offering a snapshot of early 20th century living.

Deadline for the next issue is Thursday, 29th September 2022

The garden has been designed by Thomas Mawson in a series of terraces, which offer wonderful views of the lake. There is also a contemporary craft shop and lovely tea room.



The newly refurbished Windermere Jetty Museum is an award winning and incredibly, interesting place that has a huge story to tell about the history of the lake through its boats and steamers. The Museum houses over 40 boats from the 18th century to the present day plus a brand-new conservation workshop. A culinary delight is a visit to the cafe, which has spectacular views over Lake Windermere. There will also be ample opportunity to take a walk around the wharf, along the Jetty, visit the model boat pond, the Old Fire Station and Windermere itself.

Holehird Gardens is the home of The Lakeland Horticultural Society. The 12 acres of gardens consist of a large variety of plants particularly suited to the local climate with its high rainfall.

THIS TRIP IS GREAT VALUE FOR MONEY AND THERE ARE STILL PLACES AVAILABLE



We have been requested to forward final numbers and transfer payment early on in September.

Therefore, a payment of £28.00 per person can be made, preferably by bank transfer, into the Wyre u3a Social Account.

Please send contributions to u3aNewsletterWyre@gmail.com
When finished with this issue, please forward it to a friend.

The NatWest Bank details are as follows :-

Sort Code: 01-02-11

Account No: 22304452.

We will depart from the bus stop on Fleetwood Road South, Thornton at 9.00 a.m., picking up opposite The River Wyre Hotel at 9.05 a.m. We will be departing from Holehird Gardens at 4.00 p.m.

Coach Trip to Liverpool on Thursday, 27th October



A wonderful opportunity to visit Liverpool, a vibrant and diverse city, which boasts a considerable abundance of activities.

Indulge in retail therapy, saunter along Liverpool Dock, visit the Cathedrals, Art Galleries and Museums. The city houses some of the best museums in the country including The World Museum, The Maritime Museum and The Museum of Liverpool.

Names and a non-refundable payment of £14.00 will be taken at the Monthly Meeting on Thursday, 8th September at Thornton Little Theatre.

Coach Trip to Castle Howard on Thursday, 24th November

After the sell-out success of the "Christmas in Narnia" theme last year, the event designer team are back with "Into the Woods: a Fairytale Christmas".

Grand rooms will be transformed into magical forests and faraway kingdoms and you will be

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enchanted by theatrical installations and projections.



Visitors can indulge in Christmas Shopping from unique gifts to local produce in the gift shops, garden centre and farm shop.

There are various food outlets on site including The Courtyard Cafe and Fitzroy, offering a range of delicious food.

Names will be taken at the Monthly Meeting on Thursday, 8th September at Thornton Little Theatre.

If you require more information about any of the above events, please contact the Social Committee by email.

Wyre u3a Trip to York on 28th July

A full coach load took the long journey to York, we were a little apprehensive about motorway delays and the weather, but these proved groundless.

We had about five hours to stroll around, enough time to have a leisurely lunch followed by at least one visit to the many museums in York. We could try the Castle Museum, Clifford Tower, Yorvik Viking experience, the City Art Gallery, the Minster, the Merchant Adventurers Hall, etc.

On a perfect day for walking around, the city walls were also a must. A number of quirky shops and a bustling market were attractions for those of us who wanted to fit in some shopping.

Altogether, a grand day out!

- Martin Johnson.

A Request from the Social Committee

If any Wyre u3a events, day trips or holidays are being planned in the future by Wyre u3a members, we, the Social Committee, would sincerely appreciate it if we could be informed of your plans as soon as possible please.

This information will then enable us to plan our events accordingly so that, as far as possible, dates don't clash.

A reminder from the Committee

Please note that, unfortunately, dogs are not allowed on any walks.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

The Amblers -

The September Amblers Walk will be on Thursday, 15th September meeting at The Millers Arms in Singleton, at 10.30 a.m.

We will follow the road back past the old fire station up to the Church and explore the many pathways which converge there before following the track back to the Millers Arms to either have welcome drink or stay for food. Let Geoffrey Cowell know that you intend to participate.

Creative Writing - Ann Fewson

The usual varied interpretations came from "A Fresh Start", a topic that allowed for both imaginative and more reflective pieces. One story lulled us into believing it was about a young Ukrainian refugee finding solace on an English farm when the last sentence revealed that it was a cat!

A new programme of subjects for the coming year was also discussed.

There will be no meeting in September.

Next meeting: 10th October

Crown Green Bowling - Ken Speakman

Another month has passed without any major rain on a Monday morning, and whilst the sun has not always shone on the group, I think that most of us have enjoyed the outdoor exercise and companionship.

With only another five or six weeks of the season left there is still time for anyone to give it a go, so come along to the green on Monday morning (if you wish to bowl please turn up by 9.50 a.m. at the latest to allow time to set up the teams.

We have a spare set of bowls for you to borrow for the morning if required.

Dining Group - Irene Evans



Wyre u3a at the Clay Oven in August

Our next meal will be at the Castle Gardens Pub on **WEDNESDAY, 14th September - 6.00 for 6.30 p.m.**

Anyone wishing to join us can you please let me know by text asap on 07889761757 and your choice of food by 10th September at the latest.

The menu is available on the website: emberinns.co.uk

There is a limit to the number they can seat . Hope lots of you can make it .

Gardening - Kathleen Smith

This year has either had an amazingly great effect on local gardens or, because of the heat and lack of water, a devastating effect. So, the challenge has been to make sure that our plants have received the love and

attention they need. Some of the goodies are these.



Lancashire Rose



Madonna Lily



Goldenrod.

The next four meetings have been arranged by our members and will be at their own gardens. If you wish to attend any of them, please email me and you will be sent the address.

History - Susan Cox

It has proven difficult to arrange the proposed walk and talk in Fleetwood for September due to heritage events taking place and holidays. I trust some members have been able to join a heritage talk.

The meeting on 12th September will now be a member's meeting as usual at Carleton Memorial Hall at 2.00 p.m.

You are invited to bring along an object of historical interest and talk about it for five minutes or longer if you wish. Hopefully, we will have a varied and interesting meeting.

New members welcome.

The speaker, on 10th October at 2.00 p.m., will be Christine Storey on the History of Carleton.

History of Art - Martin Johnson

September's artist is the Spanish master, Francisco de Goya.

We will consider his important etchings and prints as well as his paintings. The royal court portraits, the depictions of war and the late 'Black' pictures are all significant in the history of Western Art.

Line Dancing - Kathleen Smith

I do really love this group of barmy folk.

I am beginning to wonder why so many of us "older folk" keep dancing, bouncing, laughing and totally losing the plot! Sometimes, because there are so many dances learned, one comes up that we haven't done for ages, the funny looks go around as if I am shoving a new dance at them.

Anyway, I really must thank all of those dancers who remember bits that I forget and to Joyce for, sometimes, teaching us all new dances.

Just as a reminder, we have now returned to our 1.00 p.m. – 2.00 p.m. tea break for catch up and 2.15 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. schedule.

Play Reading - Graham Bannister

The reading of "Amadeus" took rather longer than anticipated. Normally we can read a play in two meetings, however this play took three meetings to complete.

Due to a change of plan, next month's play will not be "The Amorous Prawn" but will be "Broadway Bound", a two act play by Neil Simon.

The play was first produced at the Broadhurst Theatre New York in 1986.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 20th September at 2.00 p.m. at our normal venue, Carleton Memorial Hall.

Poetry for Pleasure - Ann Fewson

There have been satirical poems written through the ages; from Greek and Roman times until the present writers have made fun of well known people, aspects of society and injustices using ridicule and irony.

We were spoilt for choice though several of us chose the same poems – "Thank You for Waiting" by Poet Laureate Simon Armitage for instance was a popular choice as was Dorothy Parker's acerbic wit.

Next meeting: 1st September

Subject: Tony Harrison

Recycling - Kathleen Smith

We are a little bit excited!

Why? We were contacted by TAT about our recycling group and, when we told them about what we do, they have asked us to do a few reports to spread to all other u3a's. They were very impressed by the things we have made from pallet wood, old doors and decking boards, so, the next project is going to be photographed from start to finish. Hopefully, this will encourage more green fingered members to think twice about what goes to landfill.

Time will tell.

Science and Technology - Graham Topping

We had a very good turnout (32 members) for Tony Ward's talk on the "Recent history and current applications of Artificial Intelligence".

It was clear from the outset that Tony had put a lot of effort into preparing and then presenting a series of slides and videos on this very complicated subject in a way that the audience could appreciate and more importantly, understand.

It was evident from the level of questioning at the Q&A session that Tony's presentation had gone down well with the audience.

Our next meeting in the Carleton Memorial Hall will be on 19th September when Stephen Fewster will present a talk on "Vaccines, past and present".

Spain Beyond the Costas - Sue Clark

I had to change the date of the tapas evening, for family reasons, to the following Saturday, 13th August which unfortunately meant that some members of the group were unable to come. However, for those that could make it, the weather was perfect and by sheer chance we ended up with a really good mixture of tastes and textures in the food.

Even Keith's activity/quiz was perhaps more accessible than sometimes so everyone was happy.

There won't be meetings in September or October as we will be in Valencia.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 2nd November.

The Listening Readers - Neil Hendrie

The Listening Readers would welcome three new members as we begin our ninth year as a reading group.

We cover biography, autobiography, novels, short stories, diaries and "best of" articles. The distinctive feature of this group is that after a discussion of the book in question, every member reads a short passage from the book that particularly appeals to them. It is a group that suits those who enjoy both reading to others and equally importantly being read to.

At the start of our programme every member suggests two books they have read and enjoyed. The group then selects one of the two to add to the list.

Each member provides their own copy of the selected books.

We meet on the first Monday morning of every month between 10.30 a.m. and 12.00 noon in my home in Thornton.

Our first meeting will be in October when we will make our book selections for the forthcoming programme.

New members will be guaranteed a warm welcome.

If you are interested please email me.

Travel - Mick Carey

At the July meeting we had a "Show and Tell" session. This produced a great response and we enjoyed talks on a wide variety of objects from lots of different places.

It was gratifying to see that some of our regular members, who are often quite reticent, picked up the baton and gave fascinating presentations.

We will return to this format later in the season.

We do not meet in August, so *the next meeting will be on 21st September.*

It will be chaired by Clive Jones and will feature a presentation by Claire and Bryan Fretwell-Parker on their recent visit to Northern Ireland.

Walking - Graham & Susan Essex-Crosby

The August walk is scheduled for the last day of the month and therefore after the Newsletter deadline. Hopefully, the group will have enjoyed good weather (fingers crossed) and a seven mile walk from the village of Sabden in the Ribble Valley.

Anno domini catches up with us all and several long-standing members of the group are gravitating to the Amblers Group. This is a natural progression, but we were particularly sorry to lose Alex and Kay Herschell. Over the years they had led many walks and their knowledge and support will be sorely missed.

The September walk will be around Leighton Moss and the Silverdale area with leaders, Ken and Marjorie Sykes. Further details will be circulated to group members in due course.

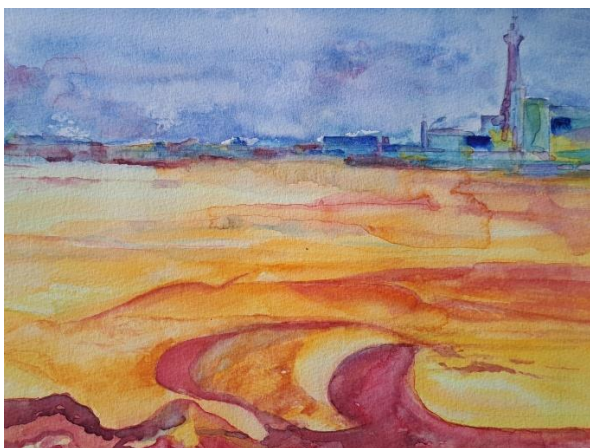
Plans for the annual walking holiday in March 2023 are well advanced with some 30 members or so already signed-up. On this occasion we are planning on a new venue based on Skipton for the Yorkshire Dales.

Watercolours -Christine Cutts

Our theme for August was 'Coastal Charms' and I'm sure you'll agree our paintings have captured them well.

At our last group meeting, we tried a speed exercise which involved spending a maximum of 15 minutes to paint one item before moving on to the next. These items included a banana, plant, an ornament, a pile of books and a bottle of wine.

The purpose was to just paint freely without labouring over fine details which some of us do. It proved quite useful. Why not have a go at home, even just sketching if you've no paints. It's quite good fun.



Registered Charity Number: 1184776

Wyre u3a

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Committee Contact Details

Chairman:	Kathleen Smith:
Secretary:	Angela Porter Maher:
Treasurer:	Ann Davies:
Membership Secretary:	Susan Cox:
Groups' Co-ordinator:	Diane M. Whitworth:
Speakers' Secretary:	Kathleen Smith:
Social Committee:	Diane M. Whitworth, Norma Culshaw and Helen Kehoe:
Property Co-ordinator:	Jennifer Machell:

Other Contact Information

Newsletter Team:	u3anewsletterwyre@gmail.com
Webmaster	web.wyreu3a@gmail.com
Wyre U3A Website:	http://u3asites.org.uk/wyre-lancs

Schedule of Group Meetings and Venues

If unsure about any aspect of a Group meeting, always check with the Co-ordinator

Activity	Regular Meeting	Co-ordinator Contact	Venue
The Amblers Walking Group	Monthly to be arranged (see Newsletter)		See Newsletter
Artists and Paintings in the 19 th and 20 th Centuries	3 rd Monday at 1.00 pm-2.30 pm		Check with Co-ordinator
Badminton	Weekly on Wednesdays 10.00 a.m.-12 noon		All Hallows Church Hall Bispham.
Book Group (Monday)	1 st Monday at 2.00 pm		Thornton Library
Book Group (Wednesday)	2 nd Wednesday at 10.00 a.m.		Poulton Library
Card Making	2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays at 2.00 pm		Carleton Memorial Hall
Creative Writing	2 nd Monday at 10.00 am		Lodge Cottage
Crown Green Bowling	Weekly on Mondays 9.50 am for 10.00 am		HASSRA Green closed until 2022
The Dining Group	See Newsletter		See Newsletter
Family History	1 st Monday at 2.00 pm		Carleton Memorial Hall
French Refreshers	1 st & 3 rd Thursdays at 3.00 pm		Fleetwood Golf Club
French for Improvers	1 st and 3 rd Thursdays At 1.30 pm		Fleetwood Golf Club
French Conversation	See report in "News from the Activity Groups"		Thornton Library
Gardening	3 rd Wednesday at 1.30 pm		Various. Check with Co-ordinator
Gentle Movement	Every Monday 1.00-2.00 pm		St. Hilda's, Carleton
History	2 nd Monday at 2.00 pm		Carleton Memorial Hall
Italian Group	See report in "News from the Activity Groups"		Poulton Library
History of Art	2 nd Tuesday at 10.30 am		Check with Co-ordinator
Line Dancing	Every Friday from 1.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m . 1 st hour beginners		Carleton Memorial Hall

Schedule of Group Meetings and Venues (continued)

If unsure about any aspect of a Group meeting, always check with the Co-ordinator

Activity	Regular Meeting	Venue
Live Music	1 st and 3 rd Thursdays 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.	Sandyforth Arms Trunnah Road Thornton
Philosophy	4 th Tuesday at 2.00 pm	Carleton Memorial Hall
Play Reading	3 rd Tuesday at 2.00 pm	Carleton Memorial Hall
Poetry for Pleasure	1 st Thursday at 10.30 am	Various. Check with Co-ordinator
Recycling	2 nd Tuesday	Contact Co-ordinator
Science and Technology	3 rd Monday at 2.00 pm	Carleton Memorial Hall
Singing for Fun	2 nd Wednesday at 2.30 p.m.	Carleton Memorial Hall
Spain beyond the Costas	1 st Wednesday at 2.00 p.m	Carleton Memorial Hall
Spanish Conversation	Fortnightly on Monday at 2.00 p.m.	Various. Check with Co-ordinator
The Listening Readers	1st Monday at 10.30 a.m	Thornton Contact Co-ordinator
Travel	3 rd Wednesday at 10.00 a.m.	Carleton Memorial Hall
Unsolved Murder Cases	To be arranged	Various venues
Walking	Last Wednesday of each month.	Various. Check with Co-ordinator
Watercolour Painting	1 st Tuesday at 1.30 p.m.	Carleton Memorial Hall

Risk Assessment Advice

Members are reminded that, when participating in Wyre u3a activities, they do so at their own risk.

This is particularly relevant when undertaking any physical activity.

Carleton Memorial Hall

Bookings should be addressed to Peter Farrell.

Peter must be notified, in advance if the hall is not going to be used otherwise a charge will be made for the room

Wyre u3a Newsletter

This newsletter is published for members of Wyre u3a. Any opinions expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the newsletter team, or of the Wyre u3a committee, or of the u3a Trust.

