

York



Newsletter

Number 183 February 2020



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Front Cover Picture

The bridge theme is coming to an end. Here we have an upstream view of the Ouse flowing under the A64. We've had the bars around the wall and the cats around the town -what's next?

Printed on recycled paper



From the Chairman

JANUARY 2020

Any Chairman's opening remark in a January newsletter should, of course, be to wish everyone a Happy New Year (insofar as anything that has already enjoyed one twelfth of its life expectancy can still be regarded as 'new'.)

Blue Monday – supposedly the most depressing day of the year – is probably not the most auspicious day on which to be drafting one's remarks. But, speaking for myself, if this is as depressing as it gets there isn't too much to be concerned about.

For one thing, 2020 is the year in which U3A celebrates its 50th birthday, and with it the friendships and stimulation that have helped to make so many people's retirement more fulfilling over the past 50 years. Your committee is in the process of liaising with other U3As in the region to match other U3As nationally in arranging a suitably celebratory event in the summer.

We will let you know what is planned in our next newsletter.

More immediately, I would like to alert you to an additional Saturday morning talk we are currently arranging, at which Andy Fox from the North Yorkshire Police will give a talk on how to avoid being conned by the increasingly sophisticated scams targeted at our age-group. This meeting will be held at the Meeting House in Friargate (not our usual Central Methodist Church hall venue) on Saturday 4th April, with the talk due to start at 10.30am.

Finally, I would like to put out another (increasingly desperate) call for a volunteer to take on the role of Minute Secretary to the U3A committee. We have divided the Secretary role in two so that the sole responsibility of the Minute Secretary will be just 'what it says on the tin', as the saying goes. It will involve nothing more than attending the 11 monthly committee meetings (or as many as possible – members are allowed to go away on holiday!) and drafting a short minute of the meeting. Jean Haywood, who has served the committee brilliantly in a much wider role as our Secretary, has exceeded the six years allowed by our constitution and will no longer be taking the minutes of our meetings after March.

David Maughan Brown Chairman

Editorial

You are invited to send your items to newsletter@yorku3a.com on or before 12.00am Monday 16th March for the April issue for publishing on Friday 27^h March. Alternatively, post/hand your copy to Newsletter, York U3A, 15a Clifford Street, York, YO1 9RG, same deadline

Groups Co-ordinator

New opportunities

Proposed new Backgammon Group

Backgammon is an exciting game of skill for 2 people, with random dice rolls ensuring frequent swings of fortune. It is combination of games: a race like Ludo as the first player around the board is the winner; a strategy game like chess as the race involves tactical manoeuvres; a board game like draughts as the checkers are the same and move in opposing directions to get home.

If you are interested in joining a Backgammon Group, whether as a beginner or a more experienced player, then please send an email to me atbackgammon@yorku3a.com

Mike Barnard

Group changes

Intermediate Plus Ukulele

Come and join the newly formed Intermediate Plus Ukulele group. We are currently a small group and would welcome new members who have a foundation knowledge of playing the ukulele and are looking to expand their skills and try new challenges.

We enjoy doing concerts (although not compulsory) at care homes and various social events, in fact for anyone who wants to listen!

We meet in Clifton Church on alternate Thursday afternoons 2- 3:30pm.

The cost is £1:50 per session.

The first session after Christmas is Thursday 16th January.

Contact the leader Janet Cordingley on plusukuele@yorku3a.com

Ukulele Intermediate Group

Meeting location of this group has changed to the leader's home in Clifton at 2 pm on alternate Thursdays, commencing 9th January and there will be no charge for playing here. The group is open to players with some level of knowledge. The aim will be simply to enjoy playing music together, and at each session the members will choose the songs for the following session. For health reasons only people who are non-smokers

and do not wear strong perfume/after-shave can participate. Contact Richard Young on ukuele@yorku3a. for further details.

Wildlife Walks by Public Transport

The dates for walks during the first half of 2020 have now been fixed, as below. Please note that there may well be further bus or rail timetable changes before these events so please check start times with me before joining a walk. We would be happy to welcome a few more walkers to explore the wonderful wildlife that can be found within an easy day trip, by bus or train, from York. Please wear suitable footwear and invite any of your U3A friends along too. Please bring a packed lunch to eat en route, but we will also try to finish the walk at a suitable point for refreshment before returning to York. Indeed many nature reserves now include a visitor centre with refreshment facilities, which can also provide warmth and shelter when needed.

Date 2020	Destination	Target	Transport
16-Mar	Golden Acre Park & Adel Dam, Leeds	woodland & lakeside birds and wildlife	09:38 ZAP Bus from railway station to Leeds, change for Golden Acre Park
01-Apr	Rodley nature reserve	birds and spring flowers	09:38 ZAP Bus from railway station to Leeds, change for Rodley
27-Apr	Potteric Carr YWT reserve	breeding birds	10:02 train to Doncaster, ch to No 70 bus towards Lakeside
18-May	Bempton Cliff RSPB reserve	breeding seabirds	10:00 TPE train to Scarborough, ch to Bempton
15-Jun	Ellerburn Bank	wildflower meadow with butterflies	09:21 Coastliner from railway station to Thornton-le-Dale
06-Jul	Staveley YWT reserve	birds, flowers and insects	09:11 train to Knaresborough, change to 10:15 No 22 bus

Please let me know if you plan to join any of these wildlife walks.

Email: wildlifewalks@yorku3a Phone: 01904 640915

Group Leaders' Meetings

If you are a Group Leader here is a date for your diary. **2nd or 20th April from 1pm – 3.30pm** (approx.). Further information to go out shortly. Your annual opportunity for thanks and sharing your concerns.

Reminder – New Travel Abroad Group

Travel Abroad is changing the way it operates so as to reach members more easily and open up more opportunities for travel. We are planning to operate by email!

We invite U3A members to join one or more of the following subgroups of the new Travel Abroad Group:

- those interested in European visits as currently organised;
- those interested in long-haul visits as currently organised;
- those interested in Small Group Travel.

The details of the subgroups are laid out in the December 2019 newsletter. The first meeting of the Small Group Travel subgroup will be on Tuesday 4th February.

To join any of the subgroups of the new Travel Abroad Group, please send an email with the subgroup(s) you are interested in, together with your name and U3A number to:

Sheila McKilligan, sheilatravel@yorku3a.com .

For those with no email address, please send a note of the subgroup(s) that you are interested in, with your name, U3A number, address and landline number to:

Sheila McKilligan, 46 Lucombe Way, New Earswick, York YO32 4DS.

New Recruits welcome for English Romantic Poetry

We are about to reach reached Wordsworth in our reading of some of the nineteenth-century poets whose lyrical style, emotional depth and interest in nature and the human spirit have characterised them as 'romantic'.

Each class will focus on a few important poems which I will contextualise and we will then read and discuss. No previous knowledge or experience necessary.

The class will meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, on the first floor of my house off Fishergate. If you are interested please contact me. Email: baldwinyork@btinternet.com or phone 01904 637196. Visually impaired particularly welcome! Next classes are Jan 28, Feb 11 and 25.

TURNER STUDY DAY Tuesday 10 March 2020 10 am – 4 pm

Mercer Gallery, Harrogate HG1 2SA

Come and discover the work of Turner through painting, writing or research. There will be three topic groups of no more than 10 operating throughout the day – see below. Attendees should choose ONE group. After a short introduction to the exhibition in the main gallery attendees work with their chosen group before and after lunch. The final session will bring all 3 groups together to share their work.
Cost £25 to include all refreshments and lunch

THE TOPIC GROUPS

Painting - using the paintings in the exhibition attendees can create their own work in his style.

Writing - selecting one of the paintings in the exhibition attendees can work individually or collaboratively to develop a story or poem

Research – using a variety of resources attendees can develop their knowledge and understanding about Turner and his work

All groups will be led by a tutor.

PROGRAMME

9.30 – 10.00 Registration and refreshments

10.00 – 10.45 Welcome and short introduction to the exhibition

10.45 -11.00 Coffee break

11.00 -12.30 Groups

12.30-1.30 Lunch

1.30 -3.00 Groups

3.00-3.15 Tea

3.15 -3.45 Show and tell

3.45-4.00 Evaluation

To book a place please contact Christine Hines - chines845@gmail.com

Scrabble

Social Play 13th February and 12 March at Bishopthorpe Village Hall.
Play starts at 1.45 p.m.

Club Play 27 February and 26 March at St Sampson's Centre, Church Street, near Shambles Market.

Play commences 1.45 p.m.

For further information or any queries please ring Bernard on 01904 629027.

New Secretary

We're pleased that we have found a new Secretary for York U3A. Mike Barnard, who joined us last August, has come forward and will be taking over from Jean Haywood in March to deal with the business side of running our branch. Mike has good experience in several areas and will be a real asset to the committee but he has requested that we appoint someone else to take the minutes of committee meetings. This will involve attending a meeting once a month, on the second Wednesday morning each month apart from August and December. Meetings normally last between one and a half and two hours. The minute secretary's responsibility will involve only attending meetings, taking notes then typing up the minutes. He or she will not need to be elected or co-opted on to the committee. If you feel this is something you could do, please contact Jean on secretary@yorku3a.com.

BEACON SURVEY FORMS

Thank you to the 1,322 members who returned their Beacon Survey Forms, especially those who do not have email addresses or computer access. The forms have provided useful information to help in our evaluation of the Beacon System benefits. To reiterate, the Beacon System has been developed by U3A to manage membership, groups and finance. It is currently used by over 280 U3As.

62% have said that they would renew their membership online. This would save a considerable amount of work during renewal time.

Members concerns

- Security - We will not implement Beacon unless we are sure of the security of the system.
- Will I have to renew online? – No, the option to pay by cash or cheque will still be available.
- Shouldn't survey have been non-attributable? - I have analysed the forms but I will not pass any information regarding members to any other committee members.
- Prefer printed newsletter – This will still be an option, although we always encourage members who have email addresses to take the newsletter online as this saves our printing and mailing costs.

Yorkshire & Humber Region Summer School 27-30 July 2020

Learn, laugh, live

's Summer School 2020 will again be held at The Hawkhills, Easingwold, which boasts well-appointed conference facilities and a modern accessible accommodation block providing comfortable en-suite bedrooms with all amenities. The Hawkhills has a reputation for first class cuisine as well as providing a cosy bar, relaxing lounge and conservatory areas, and magnificent landscaped gardens opening out onto woodland with waymarked walks.

The aim of the Summer School is to:

- ❖ Provide members with new learning opportunities
- ❖ Enable our members to explore a topic your U3A may not be able to offer
- ❖ Enable delegates, in a magnificent setting, to share time out with other U3A members from across the region and beyond.

Course topics this year are:

- Jewellery Making (An opportunity to work with a variety of tools to make a range of jewellery)
- Four Philosophers of Four Centuries (René Descartes. Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Friedrich Nietzsche and John Rawls)
- Drawing for Art (A course for artists who wish to develop their drawing skills using a variety of media)
- Talking about our Generation (An interdisciplinary course looking at the iconic decade of the 1960s through its literature, poetry, speeches and social attitudes)
- The Air we Breathe (Looking at issues such as the source of pollutants, their effect on our health and what we, as individuals and communities, can do to improve air quality)
- Battles fought in the County of Yorkshire (Studying the battles of Towton, Stamford Bridge and Wakefield – events leading up to them, how the battles developed on the day and how their outcome affected history)
- Greek Mythology (Developing our understanding of the nature of Greek mythology, exploring how the Greeks regarded their mythological heritage and used it in art, literature, religion, history and politics, and exploring the influence of Greek mythology on subsequent cultures and civilisations)

- Dangerous Women and Murderous Men (Investigating the golden age of crime writing by looking at works written and published between the two World Wars)
- Railway Competition in NE England (Looking at ways in which “established” railway companies responded to competition from new railway companies on their “patch” in the developmental period of companies between 1825 and 1846).

The cost is £380 for a full board delegate (3 nights) or £190 as a day delegate. Further information and a booking form can be found on YAHR’s website – yahru3a.co.uk. Copies of the booking form are also available in the Secretary’s pigeonhole in our office. Early booking is advisable.

Hazel Ward YAHR

Whitby Whaler U3A Captain Cook Event in conjunction with YAHR

Although it is planned for the end of June, early booking is advised. The event will take place from the evening of Tues 23rd June, through to Wed & Thurs, with the option of a free day in Whitby on Friday. See the application form on how to register. Applications can be made directly to Trevor Barrowcliffe who is the Co-ordinator for this event:

twbarrowcliffe@yahoo.co.uk Please contact Trevor 01947 600963 if you have any queries. He is in the process of producing a list of places for accommodation, including hotels and guest houses and suggests that early booking would be advisable due to the popularity of Whitby as a tourist attraction.

This information will appear on the YAHR website towards the end of January.

This is a unique opportunity for your members to learn more about Captain Cook whilst enjoying all that Whitby and the area can offer.

Trevor and his organisers are looking forward to receiving applications from your members,

Best Wishes on behalf of Trevor, Whitby Whaler U3A and the YAHR Committee,

Hazel Ward (YAHR Secretary)

I'm looking to gauge interest in the formation of a new monthly York U3A group.

Rock Music Appreciation as a working title - listening to, sharing and discussing Rock music (the widest possible interpretation thereof!).

Anything and everything from the '50s onwards to the present day.

The format might be for each person to bring a couple of tracks along, based around a theme for the month.

It would be an opportunity to meet like-minded individuals and share new and old music! You might be surprised at what music you end up discovering and enjoying.

Please email me if you are interested.

Andy [-rockmusic@yorku3a.com](mailto:rockmusic@yorku3a.com).

FINAL NEW MEMBERS' MEETING 2019/2020 YEAR

The last new members' meeting of the 2019/2020 year will take place on Thursday March 19th. The meeting will be in the Penn Room at the Friends' Meeting House from 10 a.m. to noon with refreshments available from 9:40 a.m.

The meeting will give new members an opportunity to find out more about York U3A, meet some of the committee members and also meet some of the other new members.

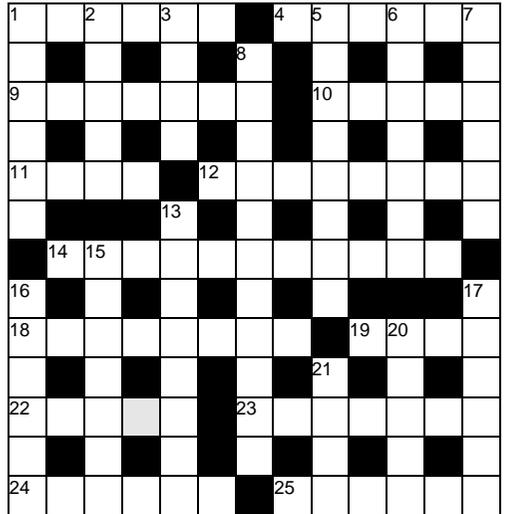
Sandra Mason Membership Secretary membership@yorku3a.com

Sandra Mason, Membership Secretary

Cryptic Crossword

Created by
Brian Waddington

Solution Page 15



Across

- 1 The effigy may be astute (6)
- 4 Stuck-up Bill was thrashed (6)
- 9 Classified afresh after error (7)
- 10 Sticky rinse (5)
- 11 Restrain on the edge (4)
- 12 Fatty weepers? (8)
- 14 Yet it still had twenty-four hours! (8,3)
- 18 Sounds like the doll is able to make an entrance (8)
- 19 Frightful Tibetan (4)
- 22 Penny in the earth will mar (5)
- 23 Dangle around north for the country (7)
- 24 Put you in the garment under force (6)
- 25 Local enactment is clearly compulsory (6)

Down

- 1 Come out and attack! (6)
- 2 Croat in the cast (5)
- 3 Hump is out with a gasp (4)
- 5 Tumblers in a ring (8)
- 6 Stone in the picture. 7)
- 7 Pastry from the EU (6)
- 8 Diluted, but still sounds unsuitable for children (11)
- 13 Recitals may become indefinite (8)
- 15 Hospital shelter is a safe refuge (7)
- 16 Sailor employed but exploited (6)
- 17 Mild bridge players found where there's damp (6)
- 20 Message from eastern Mali (5)
- 21 Hideous fruit (4)

York U3A Committee

David Maughan Brown

*Jean Hayward

Sheila Wilson

*Brian Frodsham

Eve Birch

Chris Sykes

Sandra Mason

Alison Holmes

John Powderley

Lorrae Atkins

Paul Howarth

Peter Jarman / Anna Baldwin

*Hilary Davies

*co-opted on to committee

Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Regional Representative

Office Co-ordinator

Volunteer Co-ordinator

Membership & Communications

Groups Co-ordinator

Newsletter Editor

Website

IT & Audio Visual

Joint Talk Secretaries

Travel Representative

Contacting the Committee

Messages can be left at the office or by using email

chair@yorku3a.com	membership@yorku3a.com
secretary@yorku3a.com	talks@yorku3a.com
treasurer@yorku3a.com	technical@yorku3a.com
office@yorku3a.com	communications@yorku3a.com
vols@yorku3a.com	groups@yorku3a.com
newsletter@yorku3a.com	travel@yorku3a.com
web@yorku3a.com	

Office Opening Hours:

10-12 am Mondays, Tuesdays Thursday & Fridays. **NOT** Wednesday

Groups cannot operate in the building on Bank holidays.

Fell Room and Woolman Room are **NOT** accessible when the Friends'

Meeting House is closed.

Website

Our new look website can be viewed at www.yorku3a.com

Saturday Morning Talks February and March

A full list of talks can now be found on the Events section of our website, www.yorku3a.com

A life in skin by Callum Lyon

We are sorry that some people could not fit into the hall to hear this talk. I recorded it and it may be possible to access this on our website. If not please email Baldwin york@btinternet.com and I will attempt to send it to you.

There will be a Members' Table at the back of the hall from next month's talk onward. Please bring a piece of paper with any class you would like to attend, written on it in large print and be available to tell anybody attracted to join this class about it.

February 8th John Guest will speak on Lessons from an Aircraft Crash.

John Guest worked as a pilot for British Airways for 33 years. Towards the end of his career he was involved in a major training course for cabin crew, which included a detailed look at the British Midland 737 crash in 1989 at Kegworth.

The talk will tell the story of this flight and then look at the many reasons which combined to cause this crash. Using this example John will explore the idea of 'error chains' and 'authority gradients which have important lessons for all safety critical environments

March 11th

Bishopthorpe Road: 150 Years of Shopping History

Susan Major will be talking about her research with Clements Hall Local History Group into the development of shops on Bishopthorpe Road over the last 150 years. Retail trading has changed through the decades, reflecting consumer trends, with access to equipment such as freezers, and the impact of transport and supermarkets. The Group used archival sources including the census and directories, as well as oral history testimonies. Results have been published in a successful book, with a resource pack for local primary schoolchildren.

Susan is a social historian living in York. Most of her research has been carried out since she retired 12 years ago, including achieving a doctorate in railway history at York. She has written two books on railway themes

and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in 2019. She will be bringing her own books and others published by this Group for U3A members to purchase.

The lectures take place in the Central Methodist Church Hall in St Saviourgate and are open to all members (£1.50) and their guests (£3). Coffee is served from 9.15 until 10.10 and more volunteers to help with this are always welcome. Talks will start at 10.30 am

Solution to Crossword on Page 12

ACROSS

1. Statue 4. Pasted. 9. Retyped. 10. Resin. 11. Kerb. 12. Blubbers
14. Shortest Day 18. Barbican. 19. Yeti 22. Spoil 23. England.
24. Duress 25. Byelaw

DOWN

1. Strike 2. Actor 3. Umph 5. Acrobats 6. Tessera 7. Danish
8. Adulterated 13. Articles 15. Harbour 16. Abused 17. Mildew
20, Email 21. Ugly

Travel Section

Drax Power Station Visit

The picture shows half of our group of 30 members who visited Drax Power Station on Wednesday 4 December. After assembling and being given an excellent talk about the merits of Biomass pellets and discussions on other methods of generating electricity – (coal, wind farms and solar panel), we were kitted out with safety helmets and glasses (and once inside the



generator area with ear defenders/microphone connection with guide) and split again into very small groups. The tour of the generator area was very interesting and the staff all kept us safe on stairways and walkways with workmen and machinery moving about. The tour of the control room was probably the highlight. It was just like a James Bond set! So very interesting and we learned so much about the operation of sending electricity, newly generated, to electricity generating boards and from there into our homes and factories.

The visit was very well organised and was absolutely fascinating.

Janet Fearnough

The National Science and Media Museum Bradford 12th November 2019

On our arrival at the museum in Bradford we were greeted with tea, coffee, juice and large home-made biscuits and although the journey there had only been a short one, this was a welcome start to our day there.

We had ample free time to enjoy all the floors of the museum, taking great delight in trying out the light and sound effects and marvelling at how early photography had progressed until now, when some people choose mobile phones on their ability to take good photographs. It is a well set out museum and the staff were extremely helpful and friendly. It was good to reminisce over the cameras we had owned over the years and seeing them in the cabinets stirred many memories. The cabinets containing The Wombles and other animated creatures was interesting, with their small sets with tiny

light switches, ladders and furniture, which appear so much larger on screen. We even had time for a quick breath of air to see some of the magnificent Victorian buildings before heading back inside for a welcome lunch of soup, sandwiches and cake with drinks. Then it was our turn for the 'behind scenes tour.'

Our guide was Toni, a lady who was obviously passionate about her job and showed us so many early examples of early photographs and answered our many questions with great patience and knowledge. It was interesting to find that early photographers wrote on the back of negatives, the colours in the photographs so that they could be hand tinted; a method that was used when my aunty was a young girl about seventy years ago. We learned how it was beyond the ordinary worker's realm to have a photograph taken. Even when I started taking photos, over sixty years ago, every picture had to be thought out before snapping the shutter, as it was expensive getting them developed, but I don't think I can be the only person to recall the colours of the clothes I was wearing in those black and white photos. It's a wonderful experience snapping away now and being able to go through and discard ones not deemed good enough! Lots of people collected Carte de Visite, small photographs, of royalty mainly, that became affordable to be collected and placed in albums.

It was amazing to learn that 95% of items offered to the museum are turned down as they simply don't have the room, there must be a tremendous amount of personal history going to landfill! We saw special effects from films, including the actual fangs that Christopher Lee wore playing Dracula, and we learned how porridge and corn flakes were used to paint on the face as injuries.

There were many large wooden cabinets housing small televisions in the object store, including ones made by John Logie Baird who used any odd bits of wood to make his prototypes. He thoroughly deserved to be named as one of the ten greatest Scottish scientists in history. There was a clapometer used on Opportunity Knocks, an organ for sound effects, even a scaled down model of Big Ben; Little Ben, used for the end of the day when there was an end of day for television viewing. There was even a prison chair used for 'mug shots', complete with head re-strainer. The shelves strained with items, some which brought back memories for us but would be alien, laughable even, to our grandchildren. After all, what would they think if they had to watch TV on a nine-inch screen with just thirty lines?

There was a fascinating cabinet of tiny cameras, some of which were given away in cornflake packets and could some of them have been used by spies?

The tour was special and over far too soon and then we were on the coach and heading home in the evening light. It had been wonderful seeing the autumn colours on the trees on the way there and I, for one, missed 'our special driver', Irwin, who is always so cheerful, helpful with the lesser abled of us and has always lots of knowledge about where we are headed.

I found this an excellent trip, as usual well organised and thank you Philip and Tina Dearle for such an enjoyable day.

Shirley A Goodyear

14 January 2020 Visit to Manchester and Museum of Science and Industry

Manchester remained as a typical small British township until the latter years of the eighteenth century but as the Industrial Revolution gathered pace people began to flock into Manchester to work in the mills and factories that were established there and by the end of the nineteenth century it had become the world's first industrial city. The harnessing of steam as a power source, and the ideas of many, often self-taught, men ensured that what had been cottage industries were transformed into factories with enormously increased outputs. Chief among these was cotton cloth and as the nineteenth century began Manchester was referred to as "Cottonopolis" as it produced no less than 70% of the world's cotton cloth. But there were other industrial developments that contributed to Manchester's prosperity and the Museum of Science and Industry was opened on its present site in 1983 to record not only the city's industrial past but also its present because Manchester and its University are still prominent in several technical fields.

The museum is located in central Manchester in a number of converted industrial buildings and incorporates the Manchester terminus of George Stephenson's Manchester to Liverpool railway which opened in 1830. This was the world's first inter-city railway line and the original 1830 station building and goods warehouse have been preserved as parts of the museum. Also forming part of the museum is an adjacent Victorian cast iron and glass building housing a collection of original Crossley cars and Avro aircraft, both of which firms were based in Manchester. There are also simulators giving an idea of what it was like to fly in the aircraft and these were much in demand by parties of school children during our visit.

The main museum comprises themed galleries featuring the several industries that have been based in Manchester. Chief among these is the one dealing with the production of cotton thread and its weaving into cloth where we were able to see these processes reproduced on restored, full size machines operated by museum staff. We were dismayed to be reminded about mill staff working with unprotected and deafeningly noisy machinery while breathing air containing cotton dust and were not surprised to learn that their life expectancy was less than forty years.

A more acceptable display was a reconstruction of Baby, the world's first electronic stored programme computer, completed in 1948 at the University of Manchester. This comprised a series of units about five metres long containing banks of glass valves, resistors and dials connected by a mass of cabling and it was sobering to think how the principles of this monster with its tiny capacity have developed at an ever-increasing pace to create today's electronic based world.

However, not all members spent their time in the museum and others took the opportunity to explore Manchester or to visit the John Rylands Library. This is housed in a magnificent Grade 1 listed neo-gothic building which was erected in 1900 by Enriqueta Rylands in memory of her husband John to house their extensive collection of books and papers. This library was merged with the University library in 1972 and together they now contain more than a quarter of a million printed volumes and over one million manuscripts written by prominent Victorians, a selection of which documents are displayed to visitors in the John Rylands library.

Of course, being Manchester, it rained during our visit but our Dutch coach driver, Erwin, enlivened our journey with an informative commentary as we drove through Manchester and thanks are due to Tina Dearle for arranging such an interesting and instructive day out for us all.

Andrew Burnard

Coach trip to THE AUCKLAND PROJECT, Bishop Auckland, County Durham: Thursday 23rd April

Pick-up times are :- Fulford Main Street (opposite Pavilion Hotel) at 8.30 am, Memorial Gardens at 8.45 am, Middlethorpe Grove (corner with Tadcaster Rd) at 9.00 am.

The Auckland Project originated in 2012 with the aim of regenerating the town of Bishop Auckland after the devastating impact of the closure of the area's coal mines. The strategy is to use art, heritage and faith to drive this regeneration, in partnership with individuals, local and national government, funding bodies, other charities and churches of all faiths. To date, Auckland Castle (until 2010 the residence of the bishops of Durham) has been fully restored and re-opened (and now includes a visitors' restaurant), a Mining Art Gallery has been opened and the Auckland Tower and viewing platform established. The site has been developed with accessibility in mind wherever possible. (The Kynren pageant held in August is also part of the Project).

We plan to arrive around 11 am and then explore the restored Castle, starting with St Peter's Chapel, then moving through the Castle's State Rooms and then on to the private apartments. Each room presents episodes in the life of a particular Bishop; interpretation within the rooms is delivered with a range of interactive media. Then at 1 pm we will have a soup & sandwich lunch (to include hot drinks) in a room reserved for us attached to the visitors' restaurant in the Castle. After lunch there will be time to visit the Tower, the Mining Art Gallery, the castle gardens, and indeed the Market Place shops and even the Bishop Auckland Gothic Victorian Town Hall (restored in the 1990s). We plan to leave around 4 to 4.30pm (depending on the weather) to get back to York by around 6 pm.

Cost including the coach, gratuities, admission to the Auckland Project and the soup & sandwich lunch is **£28.00** per head.

Organiser: Robin Jenkins Tel: 01904 744690
(Mobile for use on the day only: 07432-793641)

Bookings: Robin Jenkins



RSPB BEMPTON CLIFFS AND BURTON AGNES HALL WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2020

Pickups: Fulford, Main St opposite Pavilion Hotel 8-15 am
Memorial Gardens 8-30 am
Tadcaster Rd/Middlethorpe Grove 8-45 am

We will first visit the RSPB Bempton reserve at a good time of the year for watching nesting seabirds and of course the puffins. Coffee can be bought from a machine, but to avoid the queue you may prefer to bring a flask. We will drive to Burton Agnes Hall in time for lunch. If the weather is good the gardens provide lovely picnic spots, and food is available from the café. There will be a tour of the house in the afternoon.

Cost £25-50. RSPB members £20-50. HHA members £14-50.

Members of both RSPB & HHA organisations £9-50.

Organiser Margaret Hamilton. Please send booking form and cheque to Margaret Hamilton, 5, Poppleton Hall Gardens, Nether Poppleton, York YO23 6LE in an envelope marked BEMPTON.

If the trip is fully booked you will be contacted by phone or email and put on a waiting list. If a place becomes available later, you will be contacted again.

KENT, THE GARDEN OF ENGLAND.

SUNDAY 21ST – THURSDAY 25TH JUNE 2020

Come with us to explore some of the lesser known attractions of this beautiful area.

Depart Fulford Main street (opp Pavilion Hotel) 7-30 am, Memorial Gardens 7-45am and Tadcaster Rd (Middlethorpe Grove) 8-0am.

On the southward journey we will stop for lunch at William Morris's Red House (NT) in Bexleyheath, with time to enjoy the house and garden. We will be based near Hever Castle at the well appointed Hever Hotel, Edenbridge .On Monday we explore Rochester, it's cathedral and Dickensian history, and nearby Chatham historic dockyard in the afternoon.. On Tuesday a scenic train trip from Tenterden takes us to Great Dixter, the home and stunning gardens created over forty years by Christopher Lloyd, the world renowned plantsman. On Wednesday we venture over the county border into Surrey. Denbies, near Box Hill has for many years produced excellent white wine. We will have a tour of the vineyard before the drive back to Hever Castle to visit Anne Boleyn's childhood home. On our last day we visit Knole (NT), the magnificent home of the Sackvilles in Sevenoaks. The great house stands in a vast deerpark and has a new and interesting conservation studio where you can watch experts working on pictures, furniture and textiles. After lunch we will begin the journey home, arriving in York in the early evening.

The cost includes coach, dinner bed and breakfast, lunch at Red House, all entrance fees and gratuities.

Shared room £404pp National Trust members £380-50pp

Single room £524 National Trust member £500-50

Organisers Hilary Davies paul@talgarthbb.plus.com

Margaret Hamilton kmhamilton05@gmail.com

Booking Form**PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY!****Visit to Bishop Auckland on 23 April 2020**Please reserve place(s) at £28.00 per person.I/we enclose a cheque for £ payable to York U3A Travel UK

I/we will join the coach at (please circle as appropriate):

Fulford 8.30 Memorial Gardens 8.45. Middlethorpe Grove 9.00 am.

Name(s)	
Membership Number(s)	
Address	
Telephone Number	
E mail address	
Emergency Contact Name & Tel No	
Any dietary allergies?	

If the trip is fully booked, you will be contacted by phone or e-mail and put on a waiting list. If a place becomes available, you will be contacted again.

Please send booking form and cheque to the organiser :-

Robin Jenkins, Pear Tree House, Main Street, Appleton Roebuck, York YO23 7DD in an envelope marked "**Bishop Auckland**".



Auckland Castle



Hever Castle

Booking Form

U3A Trip to Kent, The Garden of England

21st June to 25th June 2020

Cost of trip: shared room pp £404 National Trust members £380.50
Single room pp £524 National Trust members £500.50

Please reserve a Double/ twin/ single room

I/We will join the coach at Fulford	7.30 am
Memorial Gardens	7.45 am
Middlethorpe Grove	8.00 am

Name/s.....

Address.....

Post code.....

U3A Membership Number/s.....

Email
address.....

Any mobility
concerns.....

Dietary
requirements.....

Emergency
contact.....

Phone.....

Please send a cheque for £100 pp deposit made out to "York U3A Travel UK" to Hilary Davies, 16 Dikelands Close, Upper Poppleton, York YO26 6HY. Please write "Kent" on the outside of the envelope.

You will be notified if the list is full and you are on the waiting list.



This is a strange unremarkable photo, viz the underside view of the bridge over the A64. However, it indicates that the structure is virtually 2 bridges. The gap between the 2 sets of dual carriage way is merely filled in with a wire mesh.