



Littleborough u3a Newsletter June 2024

Dear Friends,

It's officially summertime! My garden is green and full of flowers, many of which I have no recollection of ever planting... The slugs and snails are happily munching their way through tender stems, pausing only to complain that it's unseasonably cold at night. I love the green at this time of year and the hawthorn blossom is just wonderful so I will try to tame my wild flower meadow in a week or two. So welcome to your June newsletter and here's wishing you many opportunities to sit in the sunshine this month.

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1. News and Information

New Member Meetings

We now have 385 members in Littleborough u3a and new people join us every month. We are again planning to hold some special meetings for new members to give you a chance to meet others, ask questions, get some more information about the u3a in Littleborough and the u3a movement nationally. It is also a chance to get more involved in the u3a if you want to. Members of the committee will be there to chat to you. The meetings will be held at Hare Hill

House in Littleborough Hare Hill Park. The next meeting will be on Thursday July 11th from 2 to 4pm.

Member Emergency Contact Details

When we join a u3a outing as a couple who are both members of the u3a, we probably have given each other as our emergency contact. Whilst it is extremely unlikely that we would ever need to contact a third person, it would be useful to have a second emergency number listed against one of the names in a couple. I hope this makes sense. If you could let the membership secretary know, he can amend the records which are then available for the trip organiser. Email membership.littleboroughu3a@gmail.com

Monthly Meetings at the Coach House

It's very easy to understand why members want to make sure of a seat at our sometimes crowded monthly meetings in the coach house BUT those of us who are upstairs preparing the room can struggle to get things ready for you before 1.30 so please can you bear with us for a few minutes, if necessary, so that we can get the room set up for you. I'm making a little notice to hang on the gate to say if we are still in the process of preparing the room.

Well done for remembering to bring your own cups!!



2. Events

a) u3a 10th Anniversary

Our 10th Anniversary lunch with entertainment takes place on Saturday December 7th at 1pm. We still have a few tickets if any member wants to book their place.

Bookings will be closed in October or as soon as the total available number is reached. As a reminder, members will pay £20 in total and we require a £10 deposit to secure a place. More than 200 tickets have already been taken.

Below is the schedule of what will happen next:

By end of August 2024: Final payments to be requested

Tickets issued to all fully paid members – note that you need to keep these safe and that tickets for non-members will be issued to the member who made the booking.



Dietary requirements will be collected from all

Final requests for table seating will be requested (we will try but cannot promise to deliver exactly what you want but you will be free to move around.

We are very grateful to Val Bracken for lending us this lovely drawing to use on our 10th Anniversary event tickets.

If you have any questions about the event, please get in touch with one of us on the organising committee. This includes me so you might as well start with me!

3. Monthly Meetings

Our next monthly meeting is our **Annual General Meeting on Monday June 10th** at 2pm in Littleborough Coach House. Whilst this can sound rather boring, it is vitally important that we have the support of members to elect a new committee and check and approve the annual accounts. However, past experience tells us that we can conclude the business of the meeting quite quickly and move onto the **entertainment**, this year to be provided by our own members who will be singing and playing and amusing us. We are guaranteed entertaining performances.



In addition, the gardening group are organising **a plant sale** to take place at the AGM. All members are invited to contribute seedlings, potted up plants from the garden or house plants, to add to the plant sale. If you do bring a plant to add to the stall, please label it to say what it is and maybe add a note about where it wants to grow and any other particular needs. Plants will be priced at 50p, £1.50, £2 etc. So, please bring cash to take home a lovely plant, and a bag to carry it in!

4. Outings and Foodies and Fundraiser events

The town hall tours have proved very popular and I can personally vouch for the interesting stories and the glorious colours of the refurbished building. The volunteer tour guides are wonderfully enthusiastic and informative. All the u3a tours are currently full but Sandra will be organising another for September so watch this space. Meanwhile here are a couple of pictures to whet your appetite.



Members also enjoyed a day out in Thirsk:



Here are some opportunities that you can now book for:

July 11th Thursday - Lytham Hall and gardens. There are various options:

- Just the coach £23
- Coach and tour of Hall £33
- Coach and Afternoon tea £40
- Coach, tour and Afternoon tea £52

If you wish to sign up please get in touch with Sandra asap to make sure there is a space before making any payments.

August 22nd Thursday - Lune viaduct Cruise, with Fish and chip lunch.

Time in Lancaster

Total cost £43

Deposit £20

Please pay at the June meeting or by Bank Transfer.

Please sign up for all the above at the meeting or contact Sandra Kokocki (sandrakokocki12@gmail.com)

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday October 12th in the afternoon: **Beetle Drive.** This is a fundraiser for the town hall event. Come on, you loved it last time! And if you weren't there, you will love it this time! For now, just put the date in your diary.

5.Groups

a) New Groups:

See the Groups table at the monthly meetings for details of new groups and sign-up sheets to indicate your interest. For existing groups you simply need to contact the group convenor, usually by clicking on the bird on the group page on our website:

<https://www.u3asites.org.uk/littleborough>

If you can't get to monthly meetings and you want to let Cindy Drinkwater, our Groups Coordinator know you are interested in any of the groups please contact her directly at: cindysdw@gmail.com

We are going to have an option for groups to be run as 'short groups'. This doesn't mean they will be restricted to people under a certain height but just that they will set out to run for a limited number of sessions.

We already now have an established **Map-reading group** that has met twice and is hoping to put its map-reading to the test in practice next.

Ant now we have an offer from a member to set up an 8 week group starting in September on a Wednesday morning. This group is called '**Nifty after Fifty: successful ageing, health and wellbeing**', Its guaranteed to make you feel good!

After the inaugural trial session there is a new Crochet Group starting soon.

b) Group dates:

The regular meeting times for groups are on our website. Where dates or venues vary, group convenors email group members directly so you need to be included as a group member to receive information directly.

Quiz Group: June 20th at 2.30 in the Red Lion pub, Halifax Road, Littleborough

Craft Group: June 6th: Origami
June 17th: Painting a flowerport

All Craft Group meetings at Hare Hill House. Contact Sandra Kokocki (see details

I would very much like to hear from some of our groups for the next issue of the newsletter. If you have a piece of news, a picture or just a little poem please let me have it before the end of the month.

The sun is shining and I think we are going to get the barbecue out. Now that's what I call summer!

Very best wishes to you all. I look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Jo Wiggans