

## Hello and Welcome

The north wind doth blow, and we shall have snow, and what will the robin do then, poor thing? He'll sit in a barn and keep himself warm and hide his head under his wing, poor thing. And so it follows with the swallow, the dormouse, the honey-bee and finally children who will skip and jump and run until they have made themselves warm! Such is the month of March!



This poem was written in 1805 by an unknown hand. Many of the traditional folk ballads we know today may have begun as songs sung by wandering minstrels; authorship was unimportant. But it is ageless in its content.

Maybe despite the weather we have had this year so far, and possibly ongoing, we can still have a smile on our lips and maybe we should try skipping and jumping to make ourselves warm!

On a calmer note there is a lot to look forward to with the year beginning to move forward. This month we have the change of hour, unfortunately we lose an hour that day! I'm not a natural early riser, and rather stay up later. The interesting thing is if you have pets, how they seem bewildered by the change of feed time etc. and appear to need time to adjust as well.

This month's offering of news includes the .....

## Outings

Kath writes: Our recent trip to the Wakefield Rhubarb festival was a trial to see if it would be viable to join the organised Acklams coaches day trip. It was a good day out but a very long day, so we will not be pursuing this arrangement. Hence the **Harrogate Spring Flower Show** trip **will not** be going ahead. However if anyone wants to make their own arrangements with Acklams they have pick ups in Beverley and Hull.

**The Stamford Bridge Tapestry & Langlands Garden Centre trip is on Tuesday 19 May 2026 - £25.** Leaving Hornsea 9.45 (exact times and pick up locations to be advised) Visit Langlands Garden Centre, then on to see the Stamford Bridge Tapestry. Refreshments and talk about the Tapestry 2pm (included in price), Leave Stamford Bridge approximately 3.30pm

There will be a sign up sheet at the monthly meeting on 7 April or email [hornseau3a.outings@gmail.com](mailto:hornseau3a.outings@gmail.com) to express your interest.

## Group Events/ Group Leaders Thank-you

Thank you to all the Group Leaders, co-ordinators, contacts - whichever your preferred title - for coming to the 'Get together' on Tuesday 17th February. Hopefully you found it informative and enjoyed the cakes!

**Ever wondered.....** What goes on during the Musical Instrument Group.. Ted Gray writes: The quote "if music be the food of love, play on" is a famous line from

Shakespeare's play Twelfth Night and many of us do just that, whether it be on a guitar, a keyboard, a clarinet or any other musical instrument. Enjoyable though that may be it is often a solitary pursuit as it is not easy to achieve the confidence to play in the company of others.

Our Musical Instruments Group was formed to help members to overcome this largely unnecessary hurdle to their progress. They bring their own various instruments and are encouraged to play at least one piece of music during the meeting so the group can offer helpful support and appreciative comments. The group do not normally play together as it is not the intention to form an orchestra. The aim is to provide insight for each member to not only improve their skills during their individual practice but confidence in their developing ability to perform.

The Group meet fortnightly on a Friday with a light-hearted afternoon of music and much banter and definitely no criticism. New members are very welcome to join the Group.

### **Bra-lliant News!**

Angela has been searching for possible fund raising ideas and she came across the Bra Box Scheme. We will collect unwanted but clean bras, regardless of condition. These then go to women in poverty all over the world and the unsuitable ones go too be recycled. We in turn receive 50p per kilo collected. So as you begin to change from your Winter to Spring wardrobe, remember your u3a needs you; and bring along your old bras to the next meeting and feel uplifted!

Beginning in April the bra box will be in sight at very monthly meeting and you can just pop your contribution into it. Angela will then collect and store them until a sufficient weight has been gained. Don't forget to ask your family, neighbours and friends for their contributions.

### **Volunteers needed**

Whenever you go somewhere for the first time, especially as a single, it can be daunting walking in on your own. So we would like to initiate a Buddy Arrangement, whereby we can pair up a new member with an existing member, to show them the ropes and help them feel welcome. If you are willing to do this, please see a member of the committee at the next monthly meeting for more information.

### **News from Third Age Trust (TAT)**

#### **Discover the lives of iconic women from history**

u3a members can travel back in time with us on Thursday 12 March in our special online event, *British Women's History Day*, as part of *Women's History Month*. With four speakers across the day, you'll learn about The Match Girls' Strike, The Lancashire Witches, Katherine Swynford, and Empress Matilda. You can come to one or multiple talks, all delivered by knowledgeable u3a members,



and hosted by British History Subject Adviser, Ian McCannah. Other upcoming national learning events include Introduction to cryptic crosswords, Flight Inspirations Aviation Group: the new space race, and Novel writing with Jenny Newman.

NB u3a members can access a wide range of free online talks, workshops and courses through their membership. Most sessions are led by fellow members, sharing their expertise, with additional talks from notable speakers and organisations.

All events are bookable via Eventbrite. Please ensure you can attend when booking and cancel if you're unable to make it so others can participate. Events are exclusively for u3a members. [events@u3a.org.uk](mailto:events@u3a.org.uk)

### **Travel by train for less with u3a Friends Extra**

u3a members can access cheaper train tickets with *TrainPal*, through *u3a Friends Extra*. From smart split-ticketing to no booking fees and instant eTickets, *TrainPal* helps u3a members save time and money on every journey with an exclusive discount code. New customers can save 5% on train tickets or unlock up to 20% off Railcards for even bigger long-term savings.

[Start saving on your travel with u3a Friends Extra website.](#)

### **u3a Festival 26 booking now open!**

u3a Festival is back – the biggest celebration of the curiosity, creativity and community spirit that makes u3a so special.

Join us for three days of hands-on workshops, musical performances, sports tournaments, fascinating talks and many more surprises.

Tickets are limited - so book now and avoid disappointment!



1-3 July 2026



University of York



Tickets cost £18 for a day, or £50 for all three days

### **Help**

Ken is still looking/ hoping for someone to help him with the 'tech' side of things or some of the other jobs he does. Please see him for more information at the monthly meeting.

**Are you aware**, that the first 2 rows in the Floral Hall are specific for hard of hearing members. So if you find it hard to hear, or are distracted by the ongoing necessities by committee members at the back of the hall, please try out the seats at the front.

### **Co-op Funding**

There is no need to spend any money! Just sign up and choose Hornsea & District u3a to promote your u3a. At the April subs meeting Lisa - our allocated Community Champion - from the Co-op (not local) will be on hand to help you sign up, explain a little more and help you, in order to enable your u3a obtain funding.



**February's speaker, Neil Hanson,** had us all engaged and smiling as he related his time as a pub landlord in the highest pub in England.

**March Speaker is Angela Beaumont,** Angela lives in Driffield and will be presenting Wheels off the Bus, when they actually did!

**Finally ...**

You will now be able to pay your subs by card! We have a card reader to do this, but you can still use cash, BACS, or cheque. And from March renewal forms will be available, and also online.

Unfortunately I won't be with you at the monthly meeting in the Floral Hall on Tuesday (ahh!) as I am needed elsewhere.

I am sure Paddy (Vice Chair) and the committee will look after you all, and you will have a good and interesting time with Angela and her many exploits. Enjoy March, every day counts.

**Hazel**

Chair & Speaker Seeker for Hornsea & District u3a. Website: [hornsea.u3asite.uk](http://hornsea.u3asite.uk)