

30th Anniversary Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2026

Hello and a warm welcome from our community

Dates for your diary ...

u3a
Barnsley & District

Saturday 5th September 2026 10am – 12 noon

Dearne North Drop-In Coffee Morning

Goldthorpe Pentecostal Church Market Street, Goldthorpe. S63 9HA

Find out what's happening in the Dearne. Meet committee members and group co-ordinators. Ask about IT, membership, or anything Bu3a-related. Share ideas, suggestions, or new group thoughts. Everyone welcome Come in for a chat and enjoy a hot drink. No need to book — just pop in and say hello!

Jean Embury - Bu3a Dearne Project Coordinator

Our monthly meeting will be on:

Monday 7th September 1.00pm - 3.00pm at Priory Campus Lundwood

Members Monthly Meeting.

The connections between Wentworth Woodhouse and the village school. The talk will focus on the relationships between the school staff, pupils and the 'big house' as well as the expectations the Fitzwilliams had of both pupils and staff during the Victorian era.

Sue taught at the school for over twenty years and has used the school log books and records to assemble an interesting and surprising account of life at the village school during this time.

Sue Green from Bu3a

7th September At 7pm Cosmology group at Monk Bretton Methodist Chapel
The talk is about Pulsars! The Lanterns of the Universe.

17th September - Turkish Night Istanbul Restaurant £22 6.30pm for 7pm
Booking and deposits (£6) at MMM

19th September EcoFest at Emmanuel Church

19th - 27th September National u3a week

26 September Dearne Arts Festival 2026 Goldthorpe Astrea Academy
10-4 Free Entry. Championing Creativity.

5th October 1pm MMM Priory

Thursday 22nd October 2026 Chinese Night, China Court, Mapplewell 6.45 for 7.00pm
£21 excluding tip Booking at (Monthly Meeting 7th September 2026)
non-refundable deposit of £6 when booking.

2nd November 1pm MMM Priory

14th - 17th November, Longleat, Bath

19th November Dining Out Curry Night at Bombay Rasoi
- bookings at Oct.MMM

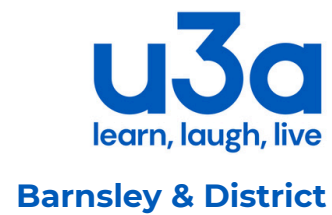
7th December 1pm MMM Priory, Old Blowers

8th December 1pm for 1.30pm
Christmas choir concert, Wombwell Methodist Church Book at MMM

10th December Christmas lunch
Hotel Nineteen, Bluebelle Suite, Elmhirst Lane, Dodworth Barnsley S75 4LS
Tickets £25.00 on sale at monthly meeting - 7th September at 12.30pm



*Special Events to
celebrate our . . .*



30th Anniversary 1996 - 2026

The planning of 30th Anniversary events have taken into account other group events that have been planned (travel, Christmas activities etc) to reduce the impact of cost and time for members.

**There are no events planned with a cost above
£10 per session.**

**Most sessions last for 2 hours.
These events are for members only.**

The first tranche of events will be from August to December and tickets will be available at the September Monthly Meeting and following meetings on a first come first served basis.

Some sessions have limits on numbers due to the leads requesting these numbers, the space available or the hire of the venue.

**If there are 2 of the same event, it will only be
possible to book one of them to allow as
many members as possible to join the sessions.**



Seated Yoga

Seated Yoga or Chair Yoga is a gentle way of maintaining and improving balance, strength and mobility. All exercises are done either in a sturdy chair or using the chair for support, so no need to get on the floor! Movements are slow and controlled and aim to improve strength and flexibility.

There are 2 separate sessions with a maximum of 16 members in each.

Session 1 is on Friday 9 October 2026 from 10.00 to 11.30 am, Tickets £5

Session 2 is on Friday 6 November 2026 from 10.00 to 11.30 am Tickets £5

Both will be held at the Roundhouse Library on Laithes Lane, Athersley, S71 3AE

Parking is available at the Roundhouse library and nearby Poundstretchers Supermarket

You will need to wear loose clothing. Footwear should be comfortable. If it is removed there should be non-slip socks worn to reduce slipping. Water is a necessary addition. A blanket may be used for relaxation at the end of the class. You will be asked to complete a health questionnaire before the session begins, to enable the lead to assess the limits of the group and fashion the session accordingly.

Gentle Belly Dancing and Exercise

A fun, friendly and gentle activity session — no previous dance experience required! Belly dance can help improve posture, coordination, muscle tone, core strength, flexibility, cardiovascular health, confidence and self-esteem.

What to Expect:

Gentle warm-up and heart warm-up

Learn basic belly dance moves

Fun join-in dances

Demonstrations from our regular Silver Shimmy dancers

Gentle cool-down

Exercise level: Low to moderate

What to wear:

Loose, comfortable clothing and non-slip soft shoes, bring a bottle of water.

Interested? Come along, have fun, get moving and enjoy yourself!

Special Events to celebrate our 30th Anniversary 1996 - 2026

Barnsley & District

Halloween Tea Dance

Saturday 31 October 2026 at Monk Bretton Methodist Chapel, S71 2EG

Come and strut your stuff to a wide range of music being played to suit all tastes. The dance floor is all yours from 3.00pm – 5.00pm, so get dressed up – even take the Halloween theme on when you are choosing your outfit! No prizes though!

Tea dances originated ages ago when afternoon tea was the norm and what better way to move all those calories except by practising your moves and perhaps learning a new dance or two. The French called them “Thé dansant” as an early afternoon event often with champagne, but that’s the French for you! No alcohol is allowed on the Chapel premises, but a good cuppa with cake will hit the spot!

Maximum number is 40 so that we have room to dance!

Posh Puds

Posh Puds is a culinary experience! You will make and bake a winter style pudding guided by Chrissie White. Chrissie has been running this event for some time now and has wealth of experience in baking. Only 6 places for his unique event. The ingredients will be provided for you in her kitchen and she will guide you through the process of baking the pudding. While your creation is cooking, you will be able to relax and eat a pre-prepared pudding with a cup of tea or coffee and chat to your fellow bakers about the afternoon. Then you will be able to take your pudding home to share with family, friends or keep it to yourself! The cost covers the ingredients provided, any sundries needed i.e. energy/cling film etc. plus the cost of a share of the sample pudding.

**The afternoon lasts from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on Monday 9 November 2026.
Further information will be given regarding address after tickets are booked.**

Walk Through Nature

Any walk is beneficial for our health. This walk is being led by one of our members who has an interest and experience in nature. It will focus on looking at the nature around us and offer insight into what we are seeing. There may be additional vegetation to see but it is not primarily a fungi hunt and identification walk. Picking any fungi is entirely at your own risk. The walk is on easy terrain, mostly paths, but some walking on grass. It is not anticipated that there will be fields crossed with animals in them. Please dress according to the weather and wear comfortable shoes.

**Meet at St. Peter's Church, Black Lane, Tankersley S74 0DU
at about 10.00am – 10.30 am**

Where coffee/tea and biscuits will be available before the walk starting at 11am. There is adequate parking available on the lane. The walk will last approximately 1½ hours. Numbers are limited to 15. The walk is free but based from the church - donations are welcome.

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE FOR TIMETABLE →

The Civic 150 Group

The Civic 150 Group are holding an informal CIVIC 150 drop-in on the last Friday of every month, 10am-12pm. If you have any of your memories that you would like to share and possible mementos, come and have a chat with the team and help build a community archive celebrating nearly 150 years of Barnsley Civic.

Pauline

MONTH	SESSION	VENUE	COST TO MEMBERS
23 rd September	Bu3a Day Penistone	Tesco Supermarket: subject to confirmation	Free
9 th October 10 - 11.30am	Seated Yoga 16 places Ticketed	Roundhouse Library Athersley	£5.00
10 th October	Walk through Nature Max of 15 members	Tankersley Area approx. 1½ hours	Free
31 st October 3.00 - 5.00pm	Halloween Tea Dance Max 40 memebers Ticketed, Tea/coffee/cake	Monk Bretton Methodist Chapel Main hall Middle room for refreshments	£5.00
6 th November 10 - 12	Seated Yoga 16 Places Ticketed	Roundhouse Library Athersley	£5.00
9 th November 2 - 4	Posh Puds 6 places Ticketed	Chrissie White	£5.00
14 th December 10.45 - 11.45	Silver Shimmy Workshop Ticketed Maximum 10 places	Mapplewell Village Hall Small Hall	Blue Box Donation



NEW GROUPS?

There have been requests from members regarding a possible yoga group, a line dancing group and a possible short course in British Sign Language. Are there any members with those skills who would like to share them?

Let me know!
Thanks Pauline





☀ Discover u3a Interest Groups Online (IGO) ☀

Looking for something new to learn, enjoy or get involved with? 😊
To join one of these groups, you'll need to subscribe to:
Interest Groups Online (IGO).

It costs just £12 per year and also includes a subscription to u3a Matters, the u3a magazine.

There is a great range of online groups, talks and courses, including a six-month course on how to play Bridge 🎴

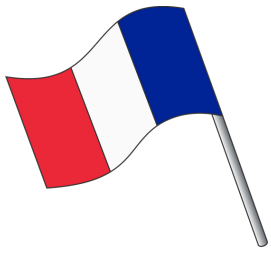
Whether you want to pick up a new skill, meet like-minded people, or simply try something different, there's something for everyone!



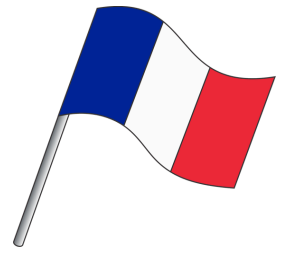
👉 **For more information, please visit:**
the Interest Groups Online Page



Vanda



FRENCH GROUP



We are planning to set up a new French Group in the Autumn, to be located in the north of Barnsley, the group will be at improvers/intermediate level.

Venues in Darton and Mapplewell are being considered and it is likely to run fortnightly on Fridays from: 10.30 to 12 noon depending on the availability of the venue.

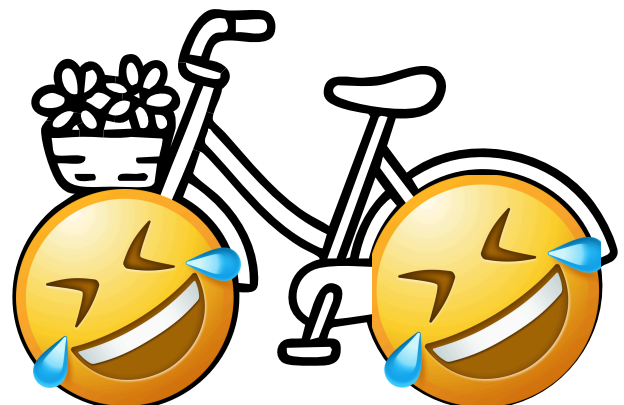
We already have 10 members who have shown an interest so - keep an eye out for more details when everything is finalised.

EXPRESS INTEREST VIA:

bu3a.webmaster@gmail.com



**Why did the bicycle fall over?
Because it was two-tired!**



Could you become a Trustee?

The Yorkshire and Humberside Region in conjunction with the Third Age Trust are holding a workshop to anyone that would like to become a trustee.

The workshop on the 22nd September in Leeds is aimed at existing trustees, old and new, but more importantly to your members who you think could be an asset to your management team and to members who are thinking about joining it in the future.

We have heard many reasons why members do not want to join a management team and become a trustee – it takes up too much time, is too onerous, too much responsibility, could be sued, could lose my house if things go wrong and many more.

We will cover the basics such as the role, responsibility, benefits and opportunity such a role plays within the u3a family. However, the focus is to break the myths that surround trusteeship and inform old and potential trustees the value of being a trustee.

Trustee Workshop
22nd September 2026, 10am to 3pm
at St. George's Conference Centre, Leeds
To register please visit the YAHR website at
<https://yahru3a.uk/>

***We look forward to seeing you on the
22nd of September and to meeting a number
of your new and potential trustees.***