

**GUISBOROUGH u3a NEWSHEET No. 41 – NOVEMBER 2025**

**Next monthly meeting** 2pm, 3 December 2025, at the Parish Hall, Bow Street.

Doors open 1.30pm. Meeting begins at 2pm.

The Singing for Pleasure group will be performing – an annual treat, back by popular demand!

**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

A very warm welcome to all our members.

At our monthly meeting Councillor Hazel Meynell gave a very interesting talk on the History of King George V Playing Fields and future development of the site to ensure it remains an open space for all of Guisborough.

Please check out upcoming events and possible new interest groups in the newsletter. There is also information about help needed to keep Guisborough u3a running smoothly. **Moira, Chair**

**SITUATIONS BECOMING VACANT:  
NEWSHEET**

Our monthly newsletter is available by email or hard copy to our members. Pam has compiled and edited this for the last few years. Due to other commitments Pam is unable to continue doing this from the end of this year.

We're looking for a volunteer or group of volunteers to take on the role of newsletter editor. You don't have to be a member of the committee to do this. If you think you can help, please speak to Pam - it would be awful if this valuable communication fails due to lack of support.

**TREASURER – FUTURE VACANCY**

Brian, our treasurer, does a great job ensuring our accounts are in order. He will be coming to the end of his six-year term in office in May 2026. If there is anyone who has the skills and experience to take on this role, please speak to Brian. We're mentioning this now as it gives you the chance to shadow Brian and understand what is involved in the role. **Moira, Chair**

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**What's on?**

**3 December. Monthly meeting.** 2pm, at the Parish Hall, Bow Street. Doors open 1.30pm. Meeting begins at 2pm. The Singing for Pleasure Group will be setting the scene for the festive season. Unmissable!

**9 December. Flower Arranging group.** This month we'll be creating Christmas arrangements featuring a candle(s). If you'd like to join us to try your hand, or see what we're creating, you'll be very welcome. Perhaps enjoy a cup of tea and a chat? Details from Pam.

**Potential new group:**

Are you a Uno and/or Rummykub player, or are you interested in learning how to play?

Uno is a fun card game for 2 to 10 players, where the goal is to be the first player to get rid of all your cards and shout "UNO!" to win. There are also several Uno variants of the original game and you can also play with a standard card deck - which is called 101.

Rummikub is a tile-based game for 2 to 4 players where the objective is to be the first to empty your rack by forming valid sets and runs with the numbered tiles. Players create sets with tiles of the same number but different colours, or runs with consecutive numbers of the same colour. A key strategy involves manipulating tiles already on the table and using the two joker tiles, which can represent any number or colour.

I'm considering starting a u3a group, initially on a trial basis and if we get sufficient interest and support, on a permanent basis. I am thinking the group would meet every other Monday morning for approximately two hours at a local venue.

If you are interested in joining the group, please contact me and I will get back to you once I have had responses and can estimate numbers involved.

**Roy**

**EXCURSIONS:**

**Thursday 13th November. Coach trip to Newcastle.** Cost £18.00. Join Guisborough U3A's excursion to Newcastle-upon-Tyne. We'll arrive on Grey Street at approximately 10.30am and you will have the day free to explore. As well as the opportunity to start Christmas shopping and see the Christmas display in Fenwick's window you could visit Grainger Market. If shopping isn't your thing you could visit the Laing Art Gallery, or The Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art. Alternatively visit the Great North Museum or even go ice skating at the Life Centre!

The coach will depart Fountain Street car park at 9am and thereafter St. Paulinus The Avenue. Pick up for return journey will be approximately 3.30pm. Fully booked. To be added to the waiting list please contact excursion coordinator Pauline.

**Thursday 4th December. The Wonderful Wizard of Oz at Castle Howard.** Cost £42.00. A wicked and wonderful extravaganza awaits at Castle Howard for Christmas 2025. Experience a festive take on L. Frank Baum's much loved story, told in stately surroundings with theatrical installations, immersive soundscapes and projections. Delight in seeing the iconic characters and unique locations from the world of Oz brought to life in technicolour splendour.

The coach will leave Fountain Street car park at 9.30am and thereafter St. Paulinus The Avenue. We plan to arrive at the Castle at approximately 11am before entering the house at 11.30am when you can take as much time as you wish enjoying the displays. After the self-guided tour there will be time for lunch or you might want to walk in the grounds, visit the Christmas or garden shop. We will leave Castle Howard for the return journey at approximately 3pm. For queries please contact excursion coordinator Moira.

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Pauline and Moira would like to thank all those who have joined us on our 2025 excursions. We are now busy exploring options for 2026! (Thank you to those of you who have contacted us with your ideas). Whilst we won't be organising excursions for January and February 2026 - due to needing to recharge our excursion batteries - booking will commence at the January meeting for our March and August excursions.

**Wednesday 25th March. Beyond the Barricade at Billingham Forum** (evening performance). Expected cost £40.00. This is the UK's longest running musical theatre concert and features 2 hours of music from the West End and Broadway, including music from Phantom of the Opera, Lion King, West Side Story, Miss Saigon, Blood Brothers and ends with a spectacular finale from Les Miserables. Full details will be in next month's newsheet and on our website.

**Saturday 15 August 2026.** We are planning a visit to **Kynren** at Bishop Auckland, leaving Guisborough at 17:30pm. Expected cost £60. Kynren is an epic outdoor theatre spectacle taking audiences through iconic moments from England's past – from Boudicca's battles with the Romans to Vikings, Tudors and the fate of Charles I. With a cast and crew of 1,000 on a breathtaking 7.5 acre stage, you'll see awe-inspiring stunts, incredible horsemanship, dazzling pyrotechnics and jaw-dropping special effects

*In order to secure your ticket we will require a £20 non-refundable deposit.  
Booking will commence at our January meeting.*

**Please visit the "Events" tab on <https://guisborough.u3asite.uk/events/>**

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**RECENT HISTORY OF THIS NEWSHEET.**

**In March 2021, I wrote "Hello everyone, this is your tenth Alternative Newsletter from the Committee, to keep in touch with you during the government's continuing restrictions."**

Remember the dark rather frightening days of Covid? Diana and I decided it was important to keep in touch with our members. I started writing an "Alternative Newsletter", Diana distributed it by email; I distributed it by hand to those without internet access and between us we phoned everyone who wasn't online for months, or until we felt confident they had family or other contacts and weren't alone.

In chatting to members, I learnt some of their stories and asked if I could publish them, wrote them down over the phone, sent them a hard copy for correction and published them in the next edition. My Mum had written about her early days when she and my Dad went to South Africa as refugees so her humorous stories also featured along with other articles.

When life returned to "normal" we changed the style to punchier and shorter and the name to "Newsheet".

Regrettably, due to increasing personal commitments, I'm unable to continue compiling the Newsheet. It's an important way of keeping our members in touch with what's happening in our u3a and beyond. I'll produce two more editions but then I'm afraid I'll have to back out.

If you'd like more information, please get in touch – Pam.

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<https://www.clevelandconnected.co.uk/>

Have you joined Cleveland Connected yet? It's well worth doing so to receive information about crime, protection and other matters and, not least, to contribute your views. During the last month:

Conveyancing fraud.

Neighbourhood Watch, November Newsletter: [November 2025 newsletter.pdf](#)

Neighbourhood Watch has partnered with Future-Proof Estate Planning (FPEP) - a trusted UK firm that believes no two families are alike. A Will, Trust, or Lasting Power of Attorney may share a name, but your plan should reflect *you* - your family, your priorities, and your future. [Click here to learn more.](#)

If you are suspicious of a text, email or message and you want to check if it is legit or not before responding, you can upload it to Ask Silver on the Get Safe Online website and whereupon it will return an indication of whether the communication is safe or a 'red flag' for fraud. This can be accessed here:

[Ask Silver - Get Safe Online](#)

### **Make your voice heard**

Have your say on Police funding: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/PoliceFunding25-26/>

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### **MISSION TO SEAFARERS CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES**

Many Seafarers are far from home at Christmas. They may have joined their ship in a warmer part of the world bringing only a tee-shirt and shorts with them. If you'd like to donate a shoe box packed with treats, here are some ideas to fill one with: warm gloves, woolly hat, disposable razors, toothpaste and brush, bar of chocolate, biscuits, aftershave, shower gel and other similar items. (I always include a pack of playing cards or sometimes a box of dominoes, so there is a bit of fun to be had, too - Ed.) Clark's usually have spare shoe boxes, if you'd like to fill one (or two?). Please deliver to Graham and Audrey. Please ask Pam for contact details. **Closing date – Sunday, 7 December.** If you don't drive, Pam can collect and deliver.

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**Northumbria Region u3a**, of which Guisborough u3a is a member. <https://northumbria.u3asite.uk/about/>



**British Museum – virtual tour of galleries** <https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/galleries>

**Woodland Trust** <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/> Discover our rain forests, get out and explore – and much more.

**National Archives – online talks and much more.** If you book early, you can usually get free tickets. Interested in Feasts and Tournaments at the royal Court of Edward III, or Jane Austen?

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/visit-us/whats-on/online-events/>

Your Ed attends lots of these talks, if you'd like more information please get in touch.

**P.S.** Just think, Alternative Newsletters/Newsheets have been delivered by hand to some members over 50 times!

**Deadline for the next Newsheet is 6/12/25. Contact Pam.**



**u3a** learn,  
laugh,  
live

## **A Festival of Fun, Music and Learning for all u3a members**

**The North East Regional u3a Events Team is organizing a day to celebrate the wealth of knowledge and expertise which exists within our Region.**

**Enjoy this special day at Ushaw Historic House, Chapels and Gardens, DH7 7DW on Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup> 2026.**

**Improve your knowledge, discover new activities, learn new skills and meet new and old friends.**

The timetable for this day is looking very impressive with presentations eg geology, art appreciation, hieroglyphics, local history, photography, creative writing and much more. There's also taster sessions of Tai Chi and Circle Dancing, a full day of music in the theatre and chapel, tours of Ushaw, a walk around Ushaw and a wild flower walk. In all 18 u3a members have offered to make this day a success.

**12<sup>th</sup> May 2026 is a date for your diary.**

**Further information and registration will be made available in the New Year.**

**Please contact Cecilia Coulson [cecu3a@gmail.com](mailto:cecu3a@gmail.com) for further information.**