

GUISBOROUGH u3a NEWSLETTER No. 51 – SEPTEMBER 2026

Welcome

We had another bumper turnout at our September monthly meeting and enjoyed a very interesting talk from our speaker, Graeme Aldous. He gave us a fascinating insight into his time with Radio Cleveland, with his talk titled, "Welcome to the Studio". He had some very amusing stories that made us all laugh and remember bygone days and celebrities and he was ably assisted by his well-behaved dog Tia.

I hope you all enjoyed the Summer and as we are now getting into Autumn, some of our groups that paused for the Summer are now starting back up again, so please visit the groups page on our website to see what's on and what new groups have started.

If you know of a friend that should be getting this newsletter by email and is not, please let us know and we will try to rectify it.

Looking forward to the joys and colours of Autumn.

Roy, Vice Chair

What's On

Date	Event	Location/details
Wed 7 Oct	Monthly meeting Speaker: see Important Notices	2pm, Parish Hall, with refreshments from 1:30 pm
Thu 17 Sep	Coach excursion: Burton Agnes , near Driffield	Further details below
Thu 15 Oct	Coach excursion: Castle Howard Arboretum	Further details below
Thu 12 Nov	Coach excursion: Newcastle with optional tour at The Laing Art Gallery (Pre-Raphaelites)	Further details below
Tue 8 Dec	Coach excursion: Treasurer's House, York	Further details below

Important notices

- **The next monthly meeting** will be on **Wednesday 7 October**, at the Parish Hall, Bow Street. The doors will open at 1:30 pm and the meeting will begin at 2:00 pm. We will be joined by Stella Barnard, who will be talking about the National Parks.

Guisborough u3a Excursions

Burton Agnes Hall and Gardens, near Driffield - Thursday 17 September 2026

The cost is £38 (£22 if you are a member of Historic Houses)

Burton Agnes Hall has been described as a “splendid and glittering composition”. The family stress it is a lived in family home! The original Norman Manor House was built by Roger de Stuteville in 1173. The Hall underwent development in 1457 under the ownership of Sir Walter Griffiths. The principles of Tudor Renaissance architecture are in clear evidence (the architect was Robert Smythson, master mason to Queen Elizabeth 1st).

There are extensive gardens including a walled garden with borders, a jungle area, a yew maze, and the woodland area has a peaceful arboretum walk. There is a café and a shop selling food and souvenirs as well as plants. We will have a guided tour of the hall (lasting approximately 1 hour 15 mins). There will then be time for you to explore the gardens at your leisure. The coach will leave Fountain Street car park at **9:00am** and thereafter St. Paulinus, The Avenue. The return will be approximately **3:30 – 4:00pm**.

Castle Howard Arboretum - Thursday 15 October 2026

The cost is £35. The Castle Howard Arboretum is 120 acres of peace and tranquility in the heart of North Yorkshire. Immerse yourself in the stunning landscape of parkland, lakes and ponds within a collection of more than 7,000 trees from around the world.



We will have a tour of the Arboretum with a specialist guide and then you are free to wander and explore peaceful hidden glades and meadows and discover the wildlife that call the Arboretum home. The Arboretum is home to one of the UK's most successful Red Squirrel breeding programmes. During your visit you can visit the red squirrel enclosure. There is a café at the arboretum for coffee and light lunches.

*****NEW*** Newcastle with optional tour at the Laing Art Gallery - Thursday 12 November 2026**

The cost is £18 or £25 with the tour. Join Guisborough u3a's excursion to Newcastle upon-Tyne. We will arrive at the drop off point at Theatre Royal on Grey Street at approximately **10:30am** and you will have the day free to explore.

We have arranged a talk and tour of the **'PRE-RAPHAELITES: ART AND POETRY'** at the **Laing Art Gallery** at **11am**. This exhibition is a highlight in the year for the Laing and the North-East and will show the interconnection between decorative art and the written word; it features over 100 masterpiece paintings, drawings, and objects, some of which have never been displayed in Newcastle before. The artists on display include Hunt, Millais, and Rossetti, as well as Edward Burne-Jones and William Morris.

You will have the opportunity to start Christmas shopping and see the Christmas display in Fenwick's window, or you could visit the Grainger Market or one of Newcastle's many museums.

The coach will depart Fountain Street car park at **9:00am** and thereafter St Paulinus, The Avenue. Pick up for the return journey will be approximately **3:30pm** with expected arrival in Guisborough at **5:00pm**.

*****NEW*** Treasurer's House, York - Tuesday 8 December 2026**

The cost is **£30.00** (or **£17.00** for National Trust Members and coach only). Join Guisborough u3a for a self-guided tour of this hidden gem in the heart of York. Every year, the house is decorated for the festive season. Along with Christmas merriment, music and twinkling lights, each room tells a story - a different way to get to know the long history of the place. There is an on-site cafe.

After your visit, you will have free time in York to shop, wine and dine, and/or explore the city. There are no Christmas markets on a Tuesday. The Minster will have its annual display of Christmas trees but there is a charge to enter the Minster of £20.00. Please note that the walk from the coach park to The Treasurer's House is approximately 15 minutes and involves negotiating some cobbled pathways.

The coach will depart Fountain Street car park at **9:00am** and thereafter St. Paulinus, The Avenue. Our return will be at approximately **3.30pm-4:00pm**. Booking will begin at the October meeting.

Guisborough u3a's Trip to Kynren



We had a marvellous evening at Kynren this weekend on a u3a trip organised by our amazing Excursion Team.

We arrived in time for a wander around, a bite to eat and a drink before the main event started. A spectacular show performed by the Kynren team at Bishop Auckland.

Graeme Aldous – our September speaker

The speaker at September's meeting was Graeme Aldous. Graeme worked for radio stations including in Northern Ireland and for BBC Radio Tees. Some attendees remembered listening to his programmes on the radio. Graeme spoke about some of the most memorable events and interviews, including interaction with other broadcasters and the fun they had. He played extracts from recordings of some of his interviews with famous people including Eartha Kitt, the Rev Ian Paisley, Terry Wogan and many others, prompting many laughs and much nostalgia. He will definitely be invited to speak on another topic next year, so please be sure to watch out for details in the newsletter and on the website.



Pam Rayment

Group Information

*****NEW Beginners Canasta Group*****



Due to unforeseen circumstances, the new Canasta Beginners Group will start on **Wednesday 14th October** and run weekly on **Wednesday** afternoons from **1.30-3.30pm** at St. Nicholas Parish Hall, Bow Street, Guisborough. A decision has yet to be made about the clash with the monthly meeting on the first Wednesday of each month.

National u3a Information

Run the TCS London Marathon as part of Team u3a

Could you take on this iconic race? We have charity places for the TCS **London Marathon** on **Sunday 25 April 2027**. You could enjoy the sights of London while supporting the Third Age Trust. Applications close **18 September**. Apply now on our fundraising page <https://www.u3a.org.uk/get-involved/fundraising> and let us know your connection to u3a and your fundraising plan.

Expand your horizons this September with u3a week

From **19-27 September**, we'll be celebrating **u3a week** and we are delighted to announce our programme of online events, designed to present new perspectives.

Monday 21 Sept - Secrets of the human brain: Sleep and dreams

Tuesday 22 Sept - The Enchanted Archipelago - a journey through the Galapagos with HX

Thursday 24 Sept - Promoting brain health: from evidence to action

Friday 25 Sept - Live cookery demonstration - try something new

Alongside our online events, we are encouraging members to try something new just for fun. Visit the u3a week page <https://www.u3a.org.uk/what-we-do/events/u3a-week> to book your place at an online event and discover ideas for getting involved - and don't forget to let us know what you try.

Take learning on tour: u3a Getaways

Make learning and laughter the centre of your next trip with **u3a getaways**. Each trip offers opportunities to learn about specific topics while meeting other u3a members. Join us from 12-15 October for Appreciating Shakespeare and explore the life and legacy of history's most famous playwright in the town he was born, Stratford-upon-Avon.

Looking forward, you can discover the festive treats of Yorkshire in November, learn about aviation heritage in March 2027, explore Dartmoor Zoo in April and experience expert-led wine tasting in May.

Find out more on the u3a getaways website <https://www.justforgroups.com/u3a-getaways>

Saltburn District u3a Information

As most of you know, Guisborough u3a (Gu3a) has an affiliation agreement with Saltburn District u3a (SDu3a). For an annual **£5.00 fee**, you can join Saltburn District u3a and enjoy the groups they have to offer.

They currently have 65 interest groups offering a wide range of activities and you can look at them here: <https://saltburndistrict.u3asite.uk/groups/>. There are quite a few groups that we don't have at Guisborough u3a (like Mexican Train Dominoes, Parchment Craft, Intermediate Russian and Country Dancing), so it is worth giving the list of groups a look. It may also give you an idea about leading a group yourself at Guisborough u3a – if so, please have a chat with our Group Activities Co-ordinator

Next newsletter

The deadline for contributions to the next newsletter is **10th October**. The newsletter will be distributed by email or through the letterbox soon after this date.

Contact: newsletter@guisboroughu3a.co.uk.

I would like to say a massive thank you to our new volunteer newsletter distributors – **Jane, Linda, Barbara and Sue**. Having delivered them myself for just a few months, I know how much pavement-pounding is required and splitting the task up has been a great relief. I would also like to thank our **Membership Secretary, John** who has the challenging task of keeping our huge database of contact details correct and sends out the newsletter out electronically each month. **Tricia, Newsletter Editor**

Contacts

Chair chair@guisboroughu3a.co.uk

Newsletter Editor) newsletter@guisboroughu3a.co.uk

Useful links

Guisborough u3a website <https://guisborough.u3asite.uk/>

Guisborough u3a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61577605674673>

North East Region u3a website <https://northumbria.u3asite.uk/>

National u3a website <https://www.u3a.org.uk/>