



# Harrogate u3a Newsletter

Committee News October 2026

## Shape the Future of Our u3a: Join Our Friendly Committee!

Do you love being part of our u3a? Have you enjoyed learning new skills, exploring hobbies, and meeting new people? Behind every great interest group, monthly meeting, and coffee morning is a small, dedicated team of members working together to make it happen. Just a reminder – we are a self-help co-operative, run by its members for the benefit of its members. It would be great if you wished to get involved.

Right now, we are looking for a few more friendly faces to join our committee. Details of positions vacant are on our website.

### Why Join Us?

- **Make a Difference:** Help keep our u3a vibrant, active, and welcoming for everyone.
- **Share Your Skills:** Whether you are organised, enjoy chatting with people, or like playing with computers, we have a place for you.
- **Meet New Friends:** Our committee meetings are a team effort, filled with tea, biscuits, and a few laughs. (*Honestly!*)
- **Learn Something New:** Just like our interest groups, being on the committee is a great way to pick up new skills.

### "But I've never done this before!"

Don't worry! You do not need any special qualifications or corporate experience. We are simply looking for enthusiasm and a desire to help our community thrive. We work as a team, so you will always have plenty of support and guidance from current members. We can also shadow roles or share tasks if you want to try it out first.

### Find Out More

We would love to chat with you, with absolutely no obligation to sign up.

Come say hello to any committee member at our next monthly meeting, or come to a **"Drop In"** at the Place coffee shop in The Crown Hotel, which is held every second Saturday morning in the month, or send a quick email to [chair@harrogateu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@harrogateu3a.org.uk)

Let's work together to keep our u3a amazing!

*Sue Collingham,, Membership Secretary*

**"Drop-in"**

**at The Place at the Crown Hotel**

**on Saturday 10th October from 10.30am to midday**

*members and their friends can call in to meet and chat with committee members  
raise questions or issues,  
make suggestions  
or just find out about groups and events*

## Members' Talks

entry with members' card

at St Mark's Church, Leeds Road

buses 36, X52 & A2 stop outside

on **Friday 25th September 11am (doors open 10.30am)**

**Paul Jennings**

### ***"Harrogate Hotels in the Spa Era"***

*Dr Paul Jennings is a prominent social historian, retired University of Bradford lecturer and author who has researched the workforce, hotels and daily life of Harrogate during its spa heyday.*

on **Friday 30th October 11am (doors open 10.30am)**

**Sasha Hill**

### ***"The Great Train Robbery"***

*An accomplished and engaging speaker, Sasha Hill is an education professional with 25 years' teaching experience and a strong background in leadership and management. Holding a degree in English Literature and Social History, she brings a distinctive interdisciplinary perspective to her talks, combining scholarly insight with accessible, thought-provoking storytelling.*

*Her lifelong fascination with historical crime was shaped by growing up with parents who served as police officers, giving her work a compelling personal foundation. This unique background adds depth and authenticity to her exploration of social history, crime, and narrative analysis.*

## **Bingo Quiz and Supper**

on **13th November** from 7pm to 10 pm

at **St Paul's U. R. Church, Victoria Avenue, Harrogate**

**Cost £18**

*to include  
a  
welcome drink  
buffet meal  
and quiz*

**Please note that this  
is not a bingo game,  
just a different style of quizzing!**

*To book a place and receive payment  
details*

*please contact Cheryl on [committee.three@harrogateu3a.org.uk](mailto:committee.three@harrogateu3a.org.uk)*

***You are welcome to  
bring your own drinks  
for the evening***

## **Group News**

to find out more about groups click here: [harrogate.u3asite.uk/groups/](http://harrogate.u3asite.uk/groups/)

**Our French Conversation Intermediate has some vacancies.**

Join up now to get your skills in shape for next year's holiday season. See more details here if you are interested

[https://harrogate.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/french-conversation-1/](https://harrogate.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/french-conversation-1/)

## Going Gently Workshop at Wesley Centre, Oxford Street, Harrogate

on **Monday 19th October** from **10.30am** to **4pm**

One thing that all of us will have to face eventually is our own mortality. Whether death comes suddenly or is signalled from afar, it will be easier for us and for those we leave behind if we can plan for its arrival.

Based on the successful Going Gently course, we are now offering this as a one-day Workshop running from 9.30 am until 4.00 pm with breaks for tea/coffee and lunch. There will be a mixture of presentations, discussions and Group work.

**booking is required as places are limited.**

**For more information and to book see the *Events* page on the Hu3a website**

**[https://harrogate.u3asite.uk/u3\\_events/going-gently-workshop](https://harrogate.u3asite.uk/u3_events/going-gently-workshop)**

## Knaresborough Christmas Tree Festival Calling all crafters!

**In just over 100 days we will be displaying a Harrogate u3a  
Christmas Tree at this lovely festival.**

*If you would like to help create the decorations,*

*please contact the Craft Group leader*

*who will give you all the details*

**[https://harrogate.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/craft-group-2/](https://harrogate.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/craft-group-2/)**



## Hu3a website

By visiting our website - [Harrogate.u3asite.uk](https://harrogate.u3asite.uk) you can find out more about groups, which ones have spaces and which are currently full. You will also be able to find there information about all our policies, procedures and lots more.

### Please note

If you sign up to a group and then find you are unable to attend meetings, you should communicate with your Group Leader, especially if you are not intending to continue being in the group.

***This will make it easier for Group Leaders to allow those on waiting lists to join more readily***

**Editors - Beulah and Catherine    Contact [news@harrogateu3a.org.uk](mailto:news@harrogateu3a.org.uk)**