



August 2022 saw the welcome return of the Open Event – the annual opportunity for existing and potential members to see the range of activities on offer and to talk with many of the group leaders who run them.

It is also something of a social occasion, a chance to catch up with old friends and, of course, new gossip. I had been looking forward to this unrestricted Open Event, the first for three years, and I wasn't disappointed.

The event was busy – I can't remember a busier one – and, as expected, many familiar faces were encountered.

The difficulties of the last two years were written on several of those faces, but so was the usual cheerfulness. It is a great tonic to see an old friend's surprise at one's continued existence!

I enrolled online for my chosen groups via the Beacon system, but I was aware of many who had turned up for advice on how to use what is, for them, an unfamiliar process. I hope the Open Event endures, even when everyone is happily enrolling online.

*Roger French*

We acknowledge the exceptional life of Queen Elizabeth II and the deep loss to the nation with her passing.

## **CRAVEN u3a COMMITTEE 2022-23**

Our multi-tasking new committee is:

**Mick Richings**

Chair & Summer Event Manager, group leader of Stories of Scientists.

**Ann Macdonald**

Vice Chair & Venues Secretary, group leader of the Gardening group.

**Nigel Holden**

Secretary & Group Leader Rep, group leader of Iron Curtain – the Trauma of Eastern Europe.

**James Enever**

Treasurer, group leader of Geography Forum and People: a Story to Tell.

**Nick Jarvis**

Membership Secretary, group leader of Wharfedale Walking.

**Jacqui Eames**

Programme Secretary & Monthly Meetings, group leader of World of Art.

**George Mackley**

Website Editor & Database Manager, group leader of Safety on the Web and the Walking Group.

The committee is small enough to share ideas and keep in regular contact but this does mean we are all pretty busy and hands on, which we think is important!

We're determined to be responsive to members, our life blood, and supportive of group leaders, whose knowledge, energy and commitment are what make our u3a so special.

Between us we lead eleven activities across 4 of the 6 areas so we do understand how much time it takes to develop courses.

Craven u3a has 71 different groups (list given on back page), and so far 904 members, and still increasing.

*Jacqui Eames*

### **THIS NEWSLETTER**

is produced by Craven u3a newsletter team: Jacqui, Roger, Maurice and Keith.  
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*Further details of all Craven u3a activities are on [cravenu3a.org](http://cravenu3a.org)*

## SUMMER SCHOOL

Craven u3a Summer School was held this year at Ermysted's School in Skipton in July. It was a hugely successful event, after being postponed by Covid for two years.



*From top left: Ermysted's School, venue for Craven u3a's 2022 summer school; William Blake (David Hawkins), Japanese houses (Judith Edy), Victorian Town Halls (Ian Adams), John Ruskin (Judith Barras), Chicago (Robert Fort), Rubbish and Incinerators (Joan Nicholson), Bumblebees (Maurice White), Mozart's Magic Flute (Michael Lovitt).*

Presentations spanned many interests. The photo-montage above gives only a glimpse of the treasures offered.

An impressive twenty-four presentations were given over the two days.

The sessions crackled with energy. The speakers, most of them Craven u3a members, made each presentation inspiring and inspired. What hard work it must have been for each speaker, and how rewarding it was for us audience. We cannot thank them and the organisers enough.

And it was such a pleasure to meet friends old and new at the tea breaks – so important for u3a events. We look forward to further Summer Schools in the future.

*Keith Berrington*

## SUMMER GROUP ACTIVITIES

Summertime brings us all outdoors: walking groups, exercise groups, sport groups, as well as the allotment, gardening, and flower groups.



*Left: Sandra Dixon's **Stretching Yoga** group in the park (photo Marjorie Smith 22 Aug 2022).*



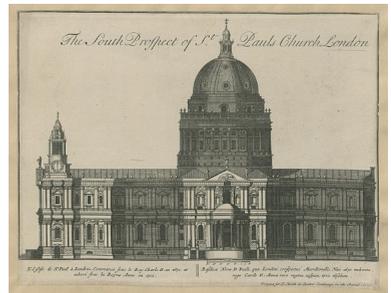
*Right: **Walking Groups** in the summer. (photo by Roger French 9 July 2022)*

## MONTHLY MEETING

Our September meeting welcomed many new members and introduced them to plenty of returning friends. An array of cakes, generously provided by members, were consumed with considerable gusto before an interesting, indeed moving, talk by Sally Horner, the co-ordinator for Craven Carers, a very worthwhile local charity. She organises volunteers who give carers much needed breaks from their-often 24/7 duties.

Our next Monthly Meeting will be held on **Saturday 1st October at Champions Church**, Carleton Rd Skipton, from **10am** with refreshments.

Our speaker is **Douglas Goode** who will be providing us with a talk on **The fascinating story of Christopher Wren and his involvement with St Paul's Cathedral**.



## WORLD OF ART

Jacqui Eames reflects on starting a new group.\*

I'm leading a group for the first time this year, having decided it was high time I gave something back after several years of attending Birdwatching, Advanced French, French Films and History of Art.

The latter made me realise how many galleries I'd been fortunate enough to visit.

Preparing the course has prompted me to get out my art and travel books and go through a decade's holiday pictures – which has been a joy.



I can't wait to share my enthusiasm with group members and hear about their favourite artists and galleries.

I confess I've learnt to admire Picasso alongside the Renaissance artists and Impressionists I've always loved but have yet to even appreciate Rothko or Pop Art – no doubt I shall be challenged and stimulated as one always is on u3a courses.

Our shared virtual tour begins on 30th September.

*\*The following groups are new for 2022/23: Climate Forum, Coffee & Chat, Exploring mythology, Gardening Group, Hey Nonny No: an Introduction to Madrigals, Orienteering, People: a Story to Tell, Shorty Walks, World of Art.*

## CRAVEN u3a GROUPS FOR 2022/23

AD HOC WALKING	ITALIAN - CONTINUING *
AEROBICS HIGH INTENSITY	MAH-JONG
ALLOTMENT GROUP	METAL DETECTING
ARTS FORUM - ZOOM	MOTORCYCLE GROUP
ASPECTS OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE	MULTI MEDIA *
ASTRONOMY	MUSIC FOR FUN
BIRDWATCHING	ORIENTEERING
BRIDGE BEGINNERS	PEOPLE: A STORY TO TELL
BRIDGE PLAY	PLAY READING
CALLIGRAPHY	POLITICS DISCUSSION GROUP *
CLIMATE FORUM	POPULAR MUSIC 1920-1970
COASTAL NAVIGATION	QUILTING AND SEWING *
COFFEE AND CHAT	RACKETBALL
CRAVEN U3A NEWSLETTER *	RAILWAY STUDIES
CRAVEN U3A ORCHESTRA	RECORDER (CONTINUERS)
CREATIVE WRITING *	RECORDER ENSEMBLE
CROQUET	RENAISSANCE GARDENS AND OVID
CROWN GREEN BOWLS. groups 1 & 2 *	SACRED MUSIC MEDIAEVAL TO BAROQUE *
EXPLORING MYTHOLOGY *	SAFETY ON THE WEB. groups 1 & 2
EXPLORING POETRY *	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY DISCUSSION *
FILM - FRENCH	SHORT HISTORY OF THE USA. groups 1 & 2 *
FILM INTERNATIONAL	SHORTY WALKS
FILM INTERNATIONAL EXTRA	SPANISH INTERMEDIATE *
FLOWER ARRANGING	STORIES OF SCIENTISTS
FRENCH (ADVANCED)	STRETCHING/MOVEMENT *
FRENCH CONVERSATION *	STRETCHING/YOGA *
GARDENING GROUP	TABLE TENNIS *
GEOGRAPHY FORUM *	TEN-PIN BOWLING
GEOLOGY WALKS	WALK TO LUNCH *
GERMAN (CONTINUING)	WALKING GROUP
HEY, NONNY NO! INTRODUCTION TO MADRIGALS	WALKING NETBALL
HISTORY OF ART	WATERCOLOUR LEISURE
HOMES FIT FOR HEROES	WHARFEDALE WALKING
INDOOR GAMES	WOODTURNING. groups 1 & 2 *
IRON CURTAIN: TRAUMA OF EASTERN EUROPE	WORLD OF ART
ITALIAN BEGINNERS *	

\* Group currently full (if this is your favourite, why not form a new group?)