

# CRAVEN U3A PROGRAMME 2025-2026

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Welcome to our new Craven u3a Programme. Craven u3a provides opportunities for people who are retired or semi-retired in Skipton, and the surrounding area. We have over eighty different group activities for our members to enjoy.

The Programme details can be found on our website, and via the Beacon database

<https://cravenu3a.org>

**OPEN EVENT  
TUESDAY AUGUST 12TH  
11 am to 1pm  
SKIPTON TOWN HALL**

Come and chat to our Group Leaders and find out what Craven u3a has on offer for your enjoyment over the next twelve months.

***(PLEASE NOTE THE TIME FOR THE OPEN EVENT HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM PREVIOUS YEARS)***

## Membership

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Members fee	£20 for the year
Group Leaders fee	£15 for the year
Associate	£15 for the year

Membership can be renewed from July 1st 2026

Members can join online, information on how to renew membership will be provided. There will be also be support sessions for anyone needing assistance to join or renew their membership at the following events and times.

Summer Programme- Thursday and Friday, July 24th/25th in the morning. 10.30am to 1pm Ermysteds School Hall

Saturday morning Monthly Meeting, August 9th 10 am to 12pm, Champions Church

Open Event, August 12th 10am to 4pm in Skipton Town Hall, Hub

## Group Enrolment

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Group enrolment for members, will be live on Wednesday August 13th

Craven Stationary on Coach St, will print off copies of the Craven u3a programme, for members, at a small cost

## Craven u3a Newsletter Group ()

Fancy being part of the Newsletter Team? Want to try your hand as a 'roving reporter' or a budding photographer? Craven u3a newsletter is produced by and for Craven u3a members. It is distributed by email fortnightly from October to March, and monthly during the summer. The focus is on Craven u3a's group activities, at a half or one A4 page per group. We try to get as many groups as possible to contribute to each issue. You could be a reporter in a group you participate in. Each written report would be accompanied by picture(s), so if you want to develop your skills in photography or desktop publishing, do join us. This is a team effort, we largely communicate by email, with occasional face-to-face meetings.

**Meets:** fortnightly Anytime 00:00

**Leader(s):**

## Crown Green Bowls Group 1 (Out and About)

Whinfield Bowling Club Guidance on how to play crown green bowls.

**Meets:** Weekly Friday 11:30

**Venue:** Whinfield Bowling Club

**Leader(s):** Rosemary Bootland

## Crown Green Bowls Group 2 (Out and About)

Whinfield Bowling Club Guidance on how to play crown green bowls.

**Meets:** Weekly Friday 14:00

**Venue:** Whinfield Bowling Club

**Leader(s):** Shirley Desgranges

## French Advanced (World Languages and Cinema)

and 8.1.27 - 12/3/27 St Stephen's Church Hall, Skipton An opportunity to practise and improve your French in a convivial atmosphere. A reasonably good grounding in French is advised as contemporary articles and videos will be used. Vas-y donc!

**Meets:** Weekly Friday 10:00

**Venue:** St Stephens Church Hall Skipton

**Leader(s):** Kevin Franks

## French Conversation (World Languages and Cinema)

(not meeting 30/10/26) and (no meeting 12/2/27). Craven Heifer/Blooms An informal course for those already able to speak some French who want to improve their ability and confidence in the spoken word. Members have frequent opportunities to talk in small groups and may also present topics to the class. Modern texts and articles are studied to practice reading, revise grammar and stimulate discussion.

**Meets:** Weekly Friday 10:00

**Venue:** Craven Heifer Blooms

**Leader(s):** Jennifer Hanson

## Railway Study Group (Science and Technology)

Friday and Swadford Centre Assembly Room Illustrated talks by guest speakers and group members on a wide variety of railway topics, both historic and modern, including tramways. While the majority of talks are based on UK railways, overseas subjects are also covered.

**Meets:** weekly Friday 10:00

**Venue:** Swadford Centre Assembly Room

**Leader(s):** Paul Haywood

## Solo Latin Dance Advanced (Indoor Fun and Games)

(except 6/11/26) and (except 12/2/27) Sandylands Sports Centre For people who have done the 20 weeks in 2025/26 and gained confidence in 6 dances. Experienced dancers are also welcome as I shall reinforce last year's routines. High energy so ensure you have water and comfortable footwear with flexible soles. Podcast - copy and paste this link into your browser address field: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7h0fgPtYCIQXskde7DuSk?si=c7fa22d2225f41f7>

**Meets:** Weekly Friday 10:30

**Venue:** Sandylands Sports Centre

**Leader(s):** Jacqui Eames

## Solo Latin Dance Beginners (Indoor Fun and Games)

(except 6/11/26) and (except 12/2/27) Sandylands Sports Centre We will cover the 6 Latin dances starting with Cha cha, Rumba and Jive. Please wear comfortable flexible shoes , not heels and bring water and energy. Podcast - copy and paste this link into your browser address field: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7h0fgPtYCIQXskde7DuSk?si=c7fa22d2225f41f7>

**Meets:** Weekly Friday 12:05

**Venue:** Sandylands Sports Centre

**Leader(s):** Jacqui Eames

## Solo Latin Dance Improvers (Performing Arts)

(except 6/11/26) and (except 12/2/27) Sandylands Sports Centre For people who have completed the Beginners' course or are experienced Latin dancers. Please wear flexible comfortable shoes but no heels. Bring water and plenty of energy! Podcast - copy and paste this link into your browser address field: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7h0fgPtYCIQXskde7DuSk?si=c7fa22d2225f41f7>

**Meets:** Weekly Friday 11:30

**Venue:** Sandylands Sports Centre

**Leader(s):** Jacqui Eames

## Table Tennis (Indoor Fun and Games)

and Sandylands Sports Centre Have fun and improve your fitness and coordination at the same time. Beginners welcome.

**Meets:** Weekly Friday 14:00

**Venue:** Sandylands Sports Centre

**Leader(s):** Jenny Crook

## Birdwatching (Out and About)

Fortnightly Monday 10.00 am - 12.00 (no session 9/11/26) and (no session 15/2/27). Bolton Abbey Village Hall Group has indoor meetings at Bolton Abbey Village Hall every fortnight, mostly with presentations from speakers with accompanying pictures. Expert members contribute and external experts and photographers. These are from 10-12. Outdoor meetings are mostly at RSPB reserves so a good idea to join. You'll also need binoculars and group members are generous in sharing their spotting skills and telescopes! Nearby trips are by car share (passengers contribute 10p a mile for petrol and we leave Skipton at 8.30 as a rule) but we also run several coach trips further afield which are great days out albeit more expensive. We start and end the Autumn programme with a welcome meeting. New members are welcome to this long established and popular group. Podcast - copy and paste this link into your browser address field: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/2nwmX4ixJbtrcJZWO2pOja?si=e19b2e25a1e74999>

**Meets:** Fortnightly Monday 10:00

**Venue:** Bolton Abbey Village Hall

**Leader(s):** Jacqui Eames

## Book Group Fiction A (People and Places)

Monthly Monday 4.00 - 5.00 pm Start date 7.9.26. Members' homes. Meetings take place monthly on Mondays. This is an informal group. We choose a book each month to read and discuss but the discussion is wide ranging so it's always worth coming along if you haven't quite finished. The books are chosen by consensus. The meetings are held in members' homes. Communications are through WhatsApp.

**Meets:** Monday 16:00

**Venue:** Member's Home

**Leader(s):** Chris Bowley

## Book Group Fiction B (People and Places)

Monthly Monday 6.15 - 7.15 pm (Introductory meeting: Thursday 3/9.26, 18.15, venue to be decided). Local pubs Meetings take place on the second Monday of the month, with alternative arrangements if this is a bank holiday. We meet in local pubs, with lift sharing encouraged. Our favourite venue has been the Old Swan in Gargrave. Members negotiate the book choice from a list provided by Skipton Library. All members should be comfortable being in a WhatsApp group which will be used for reminders and recommendations of other books and authors- no pictures of pets or grandchildren!

**Meets:** Monday 18:15

**Leader(s):** Linda Hoole

## Four Great Female Artists (People and Places)

Fortnightly Monday 5.30 - 7.30 Four sessions 26/10/26, 9/11/26, 23/11/26 and 7/12/26. Bradley Village Hall We will be exploring the very different lives and art of four great female artists: Artemisia Gentileschi, Angelica Kauffman, Mary Cassatt and Frida Kahlo. Refreshments will be available. There is ample parking at the Hall; members are encouraged to lift share via the WhatsApp Group.

**Meets:** Fortnightly Monday 17:30

**Venue:** Bradley Village Hall

**Leader(s):** Linda Hoole

## Geology Walks (Out and About)

Fortnightly Monday 10.00 am - 12.00 Please come along and join us on our friendly Monday morning walks, mostly following geology trails of up to 4 miles with a focus on the fascinating geology of Yorkshire. The walks are offered and led by Group leaders but please note we are not experts, just keen to share our knowledge and learn from each other. Walk details will be circulated the week before and will include date, time, meeting place, walk length and geology features.

**Meets:** Fortnightly Monday 10:00

**Leader(s):** Diane Killock

## Indoor Games 26-27 (Indoor Fun and Games)

and Three Links Club The Indoor games Group provides an opportunity for members to meet socially, during the dreary winter months, and to enjoy some FRIENDLY competition. The group meet

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 14:00

**Venue:** Three Links Club

**Leader(s):** Alan Newall

## Italian continuers (World Languages and Cinema)

(no session 2/11/26) and (no session 15/2/27). Quaker Meeting House For students with a reasonable level of fluency. We spend time chatting in Italian. We do listening and comprehension exercises that can be prepared at home. We cover a wide range of topics, focused on Italy and also some advanced grammar or translation.

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 14:00

**Venue:** Quaker Meeting House

**Leader(s):** Sylva Vorstman

## Literary Lives (People and Places)

Group Leaders - David Turner and Judith Barras. Fortnightly Monday 2.00 - 4.00 pm (no session 26/10/26) and St Stephen's Church Hall, Skipton A series of illustrated talks on the lives of literary figures from the 18th, 19th and 20th century by Judith Barras, David Turner and guest presenters.

**Meets:** Fortnightly Monday 14:00

**Venue:** St Stephens Church Hall Skipton

**Leader(s):**

## Music theory & improvisation (Performing Arts)

Fortnightly Monday 2.00 - 4.00 pm and Draughton Village Hall This is a theoretical and practical creative music course supported by piano. We will explore how to develop your music ideas, come up with creative musical phrases and fit them into a musical framework – the start of improvisation and song composition. You will prepare your own musical ideas, (on your instrument or sing them out loud), and then transfer these ideas to piano, explore, harmonize and then develop them into improvisation and possibly a song melody. This course is aimed at musical instrument players with some experience/competency of chords, scales and arpeggios. Any instrument will be fine. In preparation for the above, we will also work on well known pop and jazz songs, playing from memory/by ear without music and a mix of musical theory with practical demonstration, harmony and chord progressions.

**Meets:** Fortnightly Monday 14:00

**Venue:** Draughton Village Hall

**Leader(s):** Chris Brown

## MusicalTheatre:Great Composers (Performing Arts)

Fortnightly Monday 2.00 - 4.00 pm 5 sessions autumn - 5/10/26, 19/10/26, 9/11/26, 23/11/26, 7/12/26 St Stephen's Church Hall Each session will look in detail at the life and music of one composer: Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim. Extensive use will be made of video clips of some of their greatest music and to demonstrate influences on their work and their distinctive styles.

**Meets:** Fortnightly Monday 14:00

**Venue:** St Stephens Church Hall Skipton

**Leader(s):** Judith Barras

## Pickleball (Indoor Fun and Games)

Start date September 2026 - to be confirmed Sandylands Sports Centre Come and try Pickleball. Pickleball is played on a court with the same dimensions as Badminton. It is played by two pairs, using pickleball paddles and a pickle ball over a central net.

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 12:45

**Venue:** Sandylands Sports Centre

**Leader(s):** Anne MacDonald

## Racketball (Indoor Fun and Games)

. Sandylands Sports Centre Played on the squash courts at Sandylands, Skipton. Clothing as for indoor sports with non-marking shoes. A reasonable level of fitness is required. Game details: Singles. 2 games played to 11 points with 2 points clear. Players rotate between opponents and courts. Rackets and balls provided. Fees - £5 on a "pay per play" basis. Payable by cash.

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 09:30

**Venue:** Sandylands Sports Centre

**Leader(s):** Mike Valiant

## Recorder Continuers (Performing Arts)

(except 26/10/26) and (except 8/2/27) St Andrew's Church Primary Room We are an informal, supportive, self-help group (no tutor), and members have a varied amount of musical knowledge. We play all sorts of 2, 3 and 4 part music. Ideally you should have some previous basic experience, but if in doubt please contact me to check standard needed. Requirements: Recorder and portable music stand. Additional costs: allow £10 for music.

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 15:00

**Venue:** St Andrews Church Primary Room

**Leader(s):** Jenny Crook

## Recorder Ensemble (Performing Arts)

(except 26/10/26) and (except 8/2/27) St Andrew's Church Primary Room Four or five part music will be played on descant, treble, tenor and bass recorders, with the addition of soprano and contrabass as required. Music from different genres will be played, from early music to contemporary repertoire. It is an asset if members can sight read and play more than one instrument. The group usually plays at the u3a carol service in one of the Skipton churches. You will need recorders and a portable music stand. Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/77jFhXiPSsPYjP7EuffOIQ?si=4543e959a1874216>

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 13:30

**Venue:** St Andrews Church Primary Room

**Leader(s):** Susan Farmery

## Science and technology disc (Science and Technology)

and St Stephen's Church Hall Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/5wLvrthKX94BCr3fbgzeln?si=549e9607719a4876>

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 10:15

**Venue:** St Stephens Church Hall Skipton

**Leader(s):** Ian Blomfield

## Stretching / Yoga (Indoor Fun and Games)

and St Andrew's Church Hall Exercise to improve balance and flexibility. You should to be able to sit down on your heels and do a shoulder stand to do the positions correctly. Please wear comfortable clothing, bring a mat and bottle of water.

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 10:00

**Venue:** St Andrews Church Hall Skipton

**Leader(s):** Sandra Dixon

## Tenpin Bowling (Indoor Fun and Games)

and Matrix Superbowl We play 2 games per week. Just for fun! The cost for 2 games is £6 or £7 per week.

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 14:00

**Venue:** Matrix Superbowl

**Leader(s):** Gail Matthews

## Woodturning 1 (Creative Arts and Crafts)

and Group leader's home (Skipton) A mixed ability class. Beginners will learn basic techniques. Returners will undertake more ambitious projects. N.B. This course involves moving machinery and sharp tools, so there are health and safety issues, which will be covered. There will be some exposure to dust, so it may not be advisable for those with breathing difficulties. Physical strength is not required, so it is suitable for anyone. Persons with health problems such as postural hypotension MUST inform the Group Leader. Additional cost <£5 for cost of materials, wood.

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 14:00

**Venue:** Woodturning

**Leader(s):** Doug Hirst

## Woodturning 2 (Creative Arts and Crafts)

and Group leader's home (Skipton) Mixed ability class. Beginners will learn basic techniques. Returners will undertake more ambitious projects. N.B. This course involves moving machinery and sharp tools, so there are health and safety issues, which will be covered. There will be some exposure to dust, so it may not be advisable for those with breathing difficulties. Physical strength is not required, so it is suitable for anyone. Persons with health problems such as postural hypotension MUST inform the Group Leader. Additional cost <£5 for cost of materials, wood.

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 17:00

**Venue:** Woodturning

**Leader(s):** Doug Hirst

## Woodturning in Summer 2026 (Creative Arts and Crafts)

This group will be held in a woodturning club in Carleton. There will be 10 sessions with a set of medium level projects This course is aimed at those with a bit of experience in woodturning but will not be too challenging. It is not the best environment for beginners as time for individual supervision is limited. NB access to the premises involves rough terrain and a steep staircase. There are no toilet or kitchen facilities in the building or the village so members must bring their own refreshments. As we are hiring a club there is a £20 surcharge and also additional costs for materials. At this stage the dates are indicative. Provisional Dates for 2026 sessions: June - 08, 15, 22, 29, July 09,13,20,27, Aug 10,17 Surcharge £20.00 Podcast - copy and paste this link into your browser address field: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/6CBdEprwN1Gy7C3k9V4zSh?si=1dbb6f2a5326469b>

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 14:00

**Venue:** Carleton Woodturning

**Leader(s):**

## Woodturning in Summer 2027 (Creative Arts and Crafts)

Summer 2027 - dates to be announced in Spring 2027 and will probably run from June to August. Carleton Woodturning This group will be held in a woodturning club in Carleton. There will be 10 sessions with a set of medium level projects This course is aimed at those with a bit of experience in woodturning but will not be too challenging. It is not the best environment for beginners as time for individual supervision is limited. NB access to the premises involves rough terrain and a steep staircase. There are no toilet or kitchen facilities in the building or the village so members must bring their own refreshments. There is an additional cost for materials.

**Meets:** Weekly Monday 14:00

**Venue:** Carleton Woodturning

**Leader(s):** Doug Hirst

## Walking Group Admin ()

For Walking Group administration only. NOT for general use. DO NOT add members without consulting Treasurer

**Meets:** NULL 00:00

**Leader(s):**

## Wharfedale Walking (Out and About)

Saturday 10.00 am A friendly way to walk, at an easy pace up and down the Dales. Walks are mainly in Wharfedale. Typically, walks will be between 6 and 8 miles. You should have appropriate clothing, boots, drink and a picnic lunch. We meet at the start of the walk at 10.00. (Sorry, but no dogs). We like to stop from time to time to take in the scenery and anything else of interest during the walk. A few days before the Saturday walk a description of the walk will be sent by e-mail, and you reply if you want to come on that walk. New walkers can join at any time and members are welcome to offer to lead a walk.

**Meets:** Saturday 10:00

**Leader(s):** Nick Jarvis.

## Allotment (Out and About)

Broughton Road allotment Joint working on three plots at Broughton Road allotments. No experience needed just enthusiasm. The group meets together on Sunday mornings but it is expected that members will work at other times in the week in the busy season and be part of the watering rotation when necessary. Podcast - copy and paste this link into your browser address field: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7j0ncw8F7pwaq0m7p2HVon?si=accb7dd2e9ca41c3>

**Meets:** Weekly Sunday 09:30

**Venue:** Allotment

**Leader(s):** Helena Tudhope

## Sunday Lunch Social Group (Indoor Fun and Games)

Monthly Sunday Our Sunday lunches are are very friendly and all about good food, good chats and catching up once a month. There is no organiser. We all take turns to book and organise a lunch when our name comes round. We stay in touch and organise the lunches on WhatsApp, and we car share wherever possible. So far we've had a great mix of local venues and a bit further afield, which keeps things interesting. So suggestions and recommendations for good venues are always welcome.

**Meets:** Sunday 00:00

**Leader(s):** Sandra Mason

## Adventure into Classical Music (Performing Arts)

St Andrew's Church primary room Do you enjoy listening to classical music but wish you knew more of it and more about it? This group aims to cater for you - we shall listen to all sorts of music - often starting from something familiar and then exploring pieces that relate to it, always accompanied by some explanation or story which sheds new light or asks an intriguing question. There will also be a strand of discovery in each meeting - in this presentation we shall be looking at French music through the ages.

**Meets:** Weekly Thursday 14:00

**Venue:** St Andrews Church Primary Room

**Leader(s):** Chris Skidmore

## Badminton (Indoor Fun and Games)

Sandylands Sports Centre Played on marked courts in the main hall at Sandylands, Skipton. Clothing as for indoor sports with non-marking shoes. A reasonable level of fitness is required. Game details: we usually play doubles but also singles depending on numbers. 2 games played to 11 points with 2 points clear. Players rotate between courts. Rackets and shuttlecocks provided. Fees - £4 on a "pay per play" basis. Payable by bank transfer to the Group Leader.

**Meets:** Weekly Thursday 12:00

**Venue:** Sandylands Sports Centre

**Leader(s):** Jon Tomlinson

## Bridge Play (Indoor Fun and Games)

and . This is a friendly group who enjoy playing duplicate bridge in a relaxed setting. It is intended for people who have played bridge before, but inexperienced players are most welcome. There is a host system, so individuals without a partner will always get a game and players are allowed to refer to their bidding system during play. £1 a year is charged for materials and a 50p charge for tea/biscuits. Members are asked to arrive by 1.35pm. Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/4QG55Oj59CDEllqFmWdFvX?si=ad5e504861bf40ac>

**Meets:** Thursday 13:45

**Venue:** Draughton Village Hall

**Leader(s):** David Lowe.

## Drumming Circle 1 Beginners (Performing Arts)

(no session 26/10/26) Skipton Sports Community Hub Would you like to bang a drum? Then join this group. No experience necessary. Drum circles have grown in popularity in recent years as a means of enjoyment and improving people's wellness. The circle will involve playing a mixture of simple rhythms on hand drums and other percussion from African to Latin. It will be led by an experienced drummer who will help you to play. Some drums will be provided. Course will initially be limited to 12 people due to instrument availability. Please let me know if you have your own drum as this could help the number on the group to be extended. Let's get banging those drums!

**Meets:** Weekly Thursday 13:30

**Venue:** Skipton Sports Community Hub

**Leader(s):** Charles Green

## Drumming Circle 2 Continuers (Performing Arts)

(No session 26/10/26) Skipton Sports Community Hub This course is for those who have previously done the beginners course or who have previously played djembe or some other type of hand drum. Whilst the course will recap on playing technique it will primarily focus on playing together as a group and playing a range of more complex beats and rhythms. The aim as always is to have fun playing together. Some drums will be provided. Course will initially be limited to 12 people due to instrument availability. Please let me know if you have your own drum as this could help the number on the group to be extended. Let's get banging those drums!

**Meets:** Weekly Thursday 15:00

**Venue:** Skipton Sports Community Hub

**Leader(s):** Charles Green

## Films on Thursdays (World Languages and Cinema)

and . Champions Church Champions Church is a comfortable venue close to the town centre. We show films from a variety of genres, foreign and English. They all have English subtitles. We welcome new members. Like the Tuesday film group, we are happy to see members who just want to come occasionally. If you cannot come every week, it is a good idea to enrol anyway so that you are on the mailing list. We break for refreshments halfway through the film. We find the films stimulate plenty of conversation. Details of the programme will be available at the Open Event in August. There is a

**Meets:** Weekly Thursday 13:30

**Venue:** Champions Church

**Leader(s):** Jean Crampton

## Floral Art (Creative Arts and Crafts)

Twice monthly Thursday 2.00 - 4.00 pm (on second and fourth Thursday of month) (except 3/12/26). St Stephen's Church Hall, Skipton This group is aimed at people who enjoy flowers and creative thinking. With a different theme each session, and including development of technical skills, it provides an opportunity to interpret titles in individual ways. There is no right or wrong, just your own take on flowers, foliage and mechanics. A supportive and friendly group shares ideas, materials and conversation. We finish with discussion of our ideas and the pleasure of admiring each other's arrangements and learning from each other, before some planning for our next session.

**Meets:** Thursday 14:00

**Venue:** St Stephens Church Hall Skipton

**Leader(s):** Jesca de Rijk

## History Happens (People and Places)

Fortnightly Thursday 10.00 am - 12.00 and Swadford Centre Assembly Room A series of lively talks, on all things historical, with a variety of speakers. Fortnightly, from October to March, specifically designed for our members who enjoy hearing about historical topics that cover unfamiliar ground . . . that take them to unexplored realms . . . that open up new vistas. On a broad range of topics - ancient to modern. From social and cultural history to people, events and politics - such as the story of Rapanui (Easter Island), the peace that followed World War One, archaeology in Uganda, plus geology, garden history and much more. Plenty to entertain and stimulate.

**Meets:** Fortnightly Thursday 10:00

**Venue:** Swadford Centre Assembly Room

**Leader(s):** Jane Houlton

## Mah Jong (Indoor Fun and Games)

and Three Links Club Mah Jong is an old Chinese game based on three suits, winds and dragons. It stretches the mind, is competitive and satisfying, but needs concentration!

**Meets:** Weekly Thursday 14:00

**Venue:** Three Links Club

**Leader(s):** Andrew Todd

## Politics Discussion Group (People and Places)

(except 29/10/26) and (except 11/2/27) Swadford Centre Assembly Room The Politics Discussion Group meets

**Meets:** Weekly Thursday 13:00

**Venue:** Swadford Centre Assembly Room

**Leader(s):** Dick Newson

## Walk to Lunch 25-26 (Out and About)

Group Leaders - Jenny Robinson and Brigida Martino Fortnightly Thursday 10.00 am We offer morning walks of up to 5 miles, every fortnight, followed by a pub/café lunch. Please note that a regular commitment to walks is required and pre-booking for walks/lunches is essential. Members must be fit to walk at a good pace and able to manage hills and stiles. Meeting points and pub menus are circulated by email a week before each walk. You'll need boots, waterproofs, email access and (sometimes) a sense of adventure !! Your own transport to the varied meeting points is required.

**Meets:** Fortnightly Thursday 10:00

**Leader(s):**

## Weimar Republic (People and Places)

Fortnightly Thursday 10.00 am - 12.00 Oct 8th and 22nd, Nov 5th and 19th, and Dec 3rd Swadford Centre The combination of defeat in 1918 and the exceptionally harsh terms of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919 traumatised the German nation. Against this grim background the newly installed Weimar Republic sought to bring democracy and stability to post-war Germany. But it was destined to preside over a tumultuous, fractious era only to be ousted in 1933 to make way for the Nazis under Adolf Hitler. But the Weimar Republic was no mere 'mechanical', let alone inevitable prelude to the Third Reich. It was also period of striking developments in new social freedoms as well as in art, architecture and cinema. In short, the Weimar Republic was a momentous, epoch-changing era in German and hence European history. Try to attend all five talks. Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/0bVjIW9f4gegEbWK0VYxSE?si=036cc42e312a4ffe>

**Meets:** Fortnightly Thursday 10:00

**Venue:** Swadford Centre

**Leader(s):** Nigel Holden

## Art and Calligraphy (Creative Arts and Crafts)

Autumn .2026. Spring . Skipton Sports Community Hub Come and enjoy spending time sharing your artistic skills and learn from each other using different media, watercolours, pastels, pencils, charcoal and acrylics. Come and spend a couple of hours, relaxing with friends painting or drawing. Beginners are welcome for Calligraphy and guidance will be given by experienced Calligraphers. Practising beautiful handwriting is mindful and relaxing. Come and join our friendly group.

**Meets:** Weekly Thursday Weekly Autumn Spring 10:00

**Venue:** Skipton Sports Community Hub

**Leader(s):** Anne MacDonald

## Art Forum face to face (Creative Arts and Crafts)

Fortnightly Tuesday 10.30 am - 12.30 pm 13.10.2026 - 08.12.2026 (final date to be negotiated). 05.01.2027 - 16.03.2027. Members' homes We are essentially a discussion group, meeting in each other's homes once a fortnight. We share all things Art in a variety of ways - individual members sharing favourite artists, paintings, sculptures or artistic movements interspersed with Mix and Match sessions when we each choose one image around one theme. We might continue looking at various aspects of one artist in depth or we might have a picture Quiz. We are beginning to explore 'What Art is, who makes it, what The Art World is and who decides what happens in it.' Please click on this link for the podcast: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/33EolpbE88K9YqE1Svyheh?si=c71c47e834fe4e6f>

**Meets:** Fortnightly Tuesday 10:30

**Leader(s):** Ginny Wilkinson

## Early 20th Century Art (Creative Arts and Crafts)

(5 sessions) Skipton Sports Community Hub ART 1900+ We will have a close look at the major figures of the period following the Post Impressionists. Powerpoints, presentations and books will support our discussion. Matisse and Picasso will be considered in detail. Podcast - copy and paste this link into your browser address field: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/1Eka0bDVHfAKWEDphQ1ws?si=24c2df7b6eed4e98>

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday 03:15

**Venue:** Skipton Sports Community Hub

**Leader(s):** Jacqui Eames

## Films on Tuesday international (World Languages and Cinema)

and . Champions Church Films chosen from around the world as well as the UK to lighten the mood during Winter and beyond into Springtime. ALL films shown will have subtitles regardless of the language of the film. Tea, coffee and biscuits midway (£1). Pick and choose the films you want to see, you don't have to come every week.

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday 13:30

**Venue:** Champions Church

**Leader(s):** Vee Eastham

## German (World Languages and Cinema)

and . St Andrew's Church Primary Room If you have a knowledge of German, and wish to improve your spoken German fluency and read a variety of newspaper/ magazine articles from German speaking countries, this group is ideal for you.

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday 10:00

**Venue:** St Andrews Church Primary Room

**Leader(s):** Sheila Clark

## History of Art (Creative Arts and Crafts)

(except 27/10/26) and (except 9/2/27). Embsay Village Hall Side Room The story of Western art - major movements in the arts from Ancient Greece to Postimpressionism, set against their wider historical background. Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7BgKWGzWa5NWkOW0R6vOPv?si=dc22d40d0bef4100>

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday 10:15

**Venue:** Embsay Village Hall Side Room

**Leader(s):** Ian Adams

## Indoor Curling and Boccia (Indoor Fun and Games)

and Skipton Sports Community Hub Boccia is the most inclusive and accessible sport in the world. It can be played by anyone regardless of age or ability. Anyone can play it as long as they remain seated during play so if any of our members need to use wheelchairs. This might be a fun game to come and have a go. The venue has a free car park, disabled access and toilet facilities. Indoor Curling is a fun, accessible game, no ice just great vibes and competition. Come and join the group for a bit of fun!

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday 00:00

**Venue:** Skipton Sports Community Hub

**Leader(s):** Anne MacDonald

## Music for fun (Performing Arts)

(except 27/10/26) and (except 9/2/27). Trinity Methodist Church This course is purely for the enjoyment of singing and/or playing music. We are not a choir and no perceived ability to do either is required. If you only sing in the shower that's fine! Everyone welcome. We don't provide music but words and chords are projected onto the wall. We sing and accompany a very wide variety of songs old and new, including folk and sea shanties, classic pop, American song book jazz etc. We would like it to be a proactive group where members feel relaxed enough to request songs and/or lead them if they wish and make suggestions. Otherwise the course leaders will choose around ten songs each. We have a coffee break when members are encouraged to socialise. All instrumentalists welcome whether you sing or not. Likewise singers who don't play an instrument welcome. There is a beautiful piano available for anyone who can play.

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday 10:30

**Venue:** Trinity Methodist Church

**Leader(s):** Lesley Widdop

## Popular Music (Performing Arts)

(no session 27/10/26) and Three Links Club Nostalgia is our choice of music. The sessions include delightful refreshments, good company and enjoyable music. We listen to various composers, singers and big bands, approx 25 songs each week, remembering songs our parents and ourselves have enjoyed over the years.

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday 14:00

**Venue:** Three Links Club

**Leader(s):** David Wiseman

## Proms Catchup 2026 (Performing Arts)

Tuesday evenings 20th July to September 2026 Group Leader: Doug Hirst Watch the Proms by catch-up on BBC I Player. The idea is for a small group of members to watch Prom concerts on BBC I player at home in the company of others interested in Classical music. Tuesday nights from 20th July to September at my house are suggested but the day, time and venue could be varied by mutual agreement. The iPlayer schedule will be circulated when it becomes available. Nibbles may be provided but members bring their own wine. Surcharge - £0  
Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/4QbUhAGrc5gCJly8s3wsU2?si=740c68a6904e449b>

**Meets:** Tuesday 19:30

**Venue:** Member's Home

**Leader(s):**

## Proms Catchup 2027 (Creative Arts and Crafts)

Tuesday evenings July to September 2027 Group Leader: Doug Hirst Watch the Proms by catch-up on BBC I Player. The idea is for a small group of members to watch Prom concerts on BBC I player at home in the company of others interested in Classical music. Tuesday nights from 20th July to September at my house are suggested but the day, time and venue could be varied by mutual agreement. The iPlayer schedule will be circulated when it becomes available. Nibbles may be provided but members bring their own wine. Surcharge - £0  
Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/4QbUhAGrc5gCJly8s3wsU2?si=740c68a6904e449b>

**Meets:** Tuesday 19:30

**Venue:** Member's Home

**Leader(s):**

## Sketching outdoors (Creative Arts and Crafts)

We will go on short walks (up to 1 mile or so) using our sketchbooks to observe and capture sights and experiences as we go. Destinations will include woods, rivers, canal, villages, moorland. We will keep it simple - just bring your own sketchbook and some pencils / crayons / charcoal to draw with. For all abilities; this is not a tutored group but advice can be sought, and we can all share our ideas, approaches and techniques. Surcharge £0.00

**Meets:** Tuesday 10:30

**Leader(s):** Nancy Stedman

## Two Hour walks (Out and About)

Fortnightly Tuesday 10.00 am - 12.00 This group is intended for people who only want a short walk every fortnight, (about 3.5 to 4 miles) or have limited time. They are not necessarily easy, just short. The walks are always within a ten mile radius of Skipton, and there is consideration of access by public transport or lifts can be arranged. There is a small group of walk leaders, but members with walk offers are always welcomed. In the unlikely event of more than twenty wanting to come on a walk, we will restrict numbers in order to keep within the time limit. Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/75P49gyiEy9nhLNy3NU7F6?si=41d7e12903e24123>

**Meets:** Fortnightly Tuesday 10:00

**Leader(s):** Jay Cundell Walker.

## Victorian Women Novelists (Performing Arts)

(five weeks) Skipton Sports Community Hub A more detailed look at Mrs Gaskell, the Brontes and George Elliot. Context-readings and discussion. No need to read the novels beforehand, unless you want to. Podcast - copy and paste this link into your browser address field: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/20vj8upM4CNYMAUknMuobN?si=6adf971bfc7149cb>

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday 15:15

**Venue:** Skipton Sports Community Hub

**Leader(s):** Jacqui Eames

## Walking Cricket (Indoor Fun and Games)

Skipton Sports Community Hub Come and have a go at Walking Cricket! The game is played between teams of 6 or 8 players, with each team batting in pairs. Each pair bats for 4 overs. Each time the batter is out, the batters change ends, unless it occurs at the end of the over or is a run out. Each bowler bowls at least one over (max balls 6). Can bowl underarm. Extras are worth 2 runs. No one is allowed to run!! Modified soft ball is used. No protective equipment needed.

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday 10:00

**Venue:** Skipton Sports Community Hub

**Leader(s):** Anne MacDonald

## Walking Netball. (Indoor Fun and Games)

Oct 6th to Dec 15th 2026 (except Oct 27th) and Jan 12th to March 23rd 2027 (except Feb 9th). Sandylands Sports Centre To introduce ex-players to a sport they have always loved or to engage adults in a sport they didn't realise they could enjoy. We will develop netball skills at a slower pace for everyone to increase physical and social health; open to everyone; there is a health questionnaire for participants to assess themselves, anyone unsure if they are fit to participate should speak to someone at their GP surgery.

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday 11:00

**Venue:** Sandylands Sports Centre

**Leader(s):** Clarissa Jarvis

## Walking Group 25-26 (Out and About)

We meet every Tuesday and Thursday Podcast: Please copy and paste this link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/4MfTbfXcJE5pU0DlidgbEb?si=0e2e297b379045f9>

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesday and Thursday 00:00

**Leader(s):** Fran Valiant

## Creative Arts 4 Wellbeing (Creative Arts and Crafts)

Skipton Sports Community Hub Each session will contain a mix of creative arts activities designed to boost wellbeing in a friendly group setting. Group members will be encouraged to express preferences and influence how the programme develops. Suitable for anyone who is keen to try various creative arts activities, which may include exploring different art media (eg. mark making, sketching, painting, collage, abstract patterning, etc), singing, dancing, creative storytelling, photography, etc. No prior experience or expertise needed - just a willingness to explore the feel-good power of regular, varied creative arts activity in a sociable setting. Materials fee - £10.

**Meets:** Weekly Tuesdays 14:00

**Venue:** Skipton Sports Community Hub

**Leader(s):** Maureen Wright

## Ad Hoc Walking Group (Out and About)

There is no programme; walks are proposed by group members at short notice taking advantage of good weather. Any group member can propose a walk anytime, anywhere, any length. The proposer can set the maximum group size. Groups are usually small (historical maximum: 18, average: 6). On joining the group, you will be sent the latest guidelines.

**Meets:** All year Varied 00:00

**Leader(s):** Mike Valiant

## Culture Vultures (Out and About)

If you're into the arts but your friends and/or family aren't, the Culture Vulture group could be for you! Via our WhatsApp group, we arrange to meet up with other members to attend theatre, cinema, music and other arts events, both in Skipton and further afield. Where appropriate, we arrange to travel together and have been known to meet up before or after events for a drink or two! Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7pWTUujyl3HaE8jr3kgTAP?si=72701b9a50924833>

**Meets:** Various Varied 00:00

**Leader(s):** Wendy Brown

## Day Trips social group (Out and About)

We are a friendly group who enjoy getting out and about together. We organise our trips on WhatsApp and travel by train, bus and car share. We don't have an organiser, we hope that everyone will suggest destinations. If there is somewhere you want to go or somewhere you enjoy going just ask on our WhatsApp group if anyone is interested in to going to a particular place and people will respond. We have been to Liverpool, Carlisle and lots of interesting places both near and further afield, as well as some lovely scenic walks.

**Meets:** Various Varied 00:00

**Leader(s):** Anne Macdonald

## E-biking (Out and About)

We are a relaxed, friendly and supportive group of cyclists of varying experience and fitness. We arrange outings on an ad hoc basis via a WhatsApp group, riding more frequently in the better weather! Our routes tend to start from Skipton or Gargrave, and are usually between 20 and 30 miles, with a stop at a tea-room. All members are encouraged to propose and plan routes. Some members can transport several bikes if necessary.

**Meets:** Various Varied 09:00

**Leader(s):** Linda Hoole

## Gardening (Out and About)

. If you enjoy gardens and gardening, this is the group for you. You do not even have to have a garden. We share plants and gardening tips. We visit formal gardens and spend time in each other's gardens. It is a lovely way to spend a couple of hours in the spring and summer, in a garden, chatting with our gardening friends over a coffee. We can communicate with each other via WhatsApp and email. We get together a couple of times a year to plan the following gardening year.

**Meets:** Various Varied 00:00

**Leader(s):** Anne MacDonald

## Motorcycle Group (Out and About)

- usually Monday or Friday March - October 2027. The motorcycle group restarted its formal Programme for motorcyclists who enjoy a ride out and a chat. All are welcome. There are scheduled rides from March to October, usually on a Monday or Friday, a couple of times a month. There are also impromptu rides outside the formal programme, around the year, depending on the weather. Send a WhatsApp message to Harry Taylor on 07522 343181 and you'll be added to the group. If you're not already a member of u3a you'll be expected to join after a couple of rides. Send an email to harrytaylor1950@hotmail.com and you'll be sent the Programme for this year, but watch out for changes on the WhatsApp group. The rides start from Morrisons Car Park in Skipton at 10 am unless otherwise advised on the WhatsApp group. Surcharge - £0.

**Meets:** Various Varied 10:00

**Leader(s):** Harry Taylor

## Nature Rambles (Out and About)

. The aim of the group is to encourage members to look at the natural world around them, plants and invertebrates, but not exclusively, and note seasonal changes. Group members can bring and share their knowledge so we all learn from each other. There is also a WhatsApp group where members can share their photographs, observations, questions and comments from other locations and keep interest going between rambles. The rambles will be suggested and organised by group members using WhatsApp. Locations should be within a reasonable distance of Skipton, and accessible to suitable parking if needed. Rambles should be approximately an hour. Current knowledge about Nature is not important as the group is about learning from each other.

**Meets:** Various Varied 00:00

**Leader(s):** Maurice White

## Photo Group (Out and About)

If you are keen on photography, either using your camera or phone, this group will enable you to share your skills with others and maybe learn some new tips on how to improve your photographs. It will be a Whatsapp group where members will meet up at a specific location to take photographs, share your photos on line and discuss the results. There is no leader of the group as the aim is for group members to communicate with each other to decide what they want from the group.

**Meets:** Various Varied 00:00

**Leader(s):** Anne MacDonald

## Podcasts (Performing Arts)

The aim of this group is to gather a group of members who are interested in any aspect of producing podcasts. This can involve not only actually direct involvement in the podcast, but also planning, finding prospective volunteers, recording, editing, posting, promulgating, publicising. The hope is to start off by meeting through Zoom and WhatsApp and use these systems for most operations, but also have an occasional social gathering in a cafe or bar to get to know each other better. We will first need to agree some aims and objectives so we are all pulling together. I would like all who want to join this group to have an involvement in putting out podcasts, and not just be there as an observer. If you think you have a skill which might help please let us know. Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/5jkmyV1hLZ16iTAsFH4zsN?si=afe5fafa9c4e4ea1>

**Meets:** Various Varied 00:00

**Leader(s):** Doug Hirst

## Shorty Walks (Out and About)

Walks of up to 5 miles can be offered by any group member. The walks can be anything any member would like to share with the group. Amongst others, we have enjoyed town trails, moors walks and canal walks. A walk can be any day of the week, throughout the whole year. If you wish to lead a walk or there is a particular place you would like to walk, please contact me.

**Meets:** Various Varied 00:00

**Leader(s):** Sally Crowley

## Adaptive Tennis (Indoor Fun and Games)

. 10 sessions in total Skipton Tennis Club Adaptive Tennis is suitable for anyone but especially members who have mobility issues, or lack full muscle strength. It is played on a shorter court with a lighter ball. The serving technique can be flexible. All equipment is provided.

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 13:00

**Venue:** Skipton Tennis Club

**Leader(s):** Anne MacDonald

## Adaptive Tennis summer 26 (Indoor Fun and Games)

There are six sessions starting on Wednesday June 3rd Coaching support will be available on June 3rd Adaptive Tennis is suitable for everyone but especially for those with reduced muscle strength The court is shorted, the balls lighter and the serve can vary to suit the member All equipment is provided

**Meets:** Wednesday 13:00

**Venue:** Skipton Tennis Club

**Leader(s):**

## Aerobic Fitness Training (Indoor Fun and Games)

Autumn . Spring . Sandylands Gym The course is aimed at improving overall body fitness levels. Activities include some upper body strength training, as well as the generally accepted aerobic workouts, resistance training, incorporating light weights and use of gym equipment. Numbers are limited so members should be prepared to do press-ups, squats, lunges and be able to sustain some high intensity aerobic exercise (HIIT). Suitable clothing essential. Please bring water and check with your doctor that HIIT is OK for you, as heart rates will be elevated.

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 14:00

**Venue:** Sandylands Gym Multi use Gym

**Leader(s):** John Dixon

## Book Group - Non-fiction (People and Places)

Monthly Wednesday 6.45 - 7.45 pm Various venues The only requirement for this group is to have read the book! Meeting on the first Wednesday of the month. Members can choose books in advance from a list provided by Skipton Library which will be emailed before the first meeting. Everyone is responsible for collecting from and returning their book to the library by the due date. There is no requirement to be a member of the library. The venue may vary, using local pubs to meet. Ideally, everyone should be happy to be a member of a WhatsApp group which will be used for reminders and recommendations about books and authors - no pictures of pets, holidays or grandchildren!

**Meets:** Various Wednesday 18:45

**Leader(s):** John Hoole

## Crafting for Christmas (Creative Arts and Crafts)

Fortnightly Wednesday 2.00 - 4.00 pm Draughton Village Hall We will make a variety of Christmas decorations, cards and presents, primarily using fabric and ribbons. Each session we will work together to make a different item, some of which we should be able to finish during the session and some of which you will need to finish at home. Basic sewing skills required. There will be an additional charge of £20 for materials. Podcast - copy and paste this link into your browser address field: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7pWTUujyl3HaE8jr3kgTAP?si=72701b9a50924833>

**Meets:** Fortnightly Wednesday 14:00

**Venue:** Draughton Village Hall

**Leader(s):** Wendy Brown

## Craven u3a Orchestra (Performing Arts)

(no session 28/10/26) and (no session 10/02/27). Embsay Village Hall The orchestra welcomes instrumental players of all abilities. We have varying levels of skill but all share an enthusiasm for making music together. We have a wide repertoire ranging from Handel's Water Music to Morricone's film music. The rehearsals are always an enjoyable and rewarding way of spending an afternoon. Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/18kSyNNvpebWrw0C3Mymke?si=821971406e42456c>

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 14:00

**Venue:** Embsay Village Hall

**Leader(s):** Sue Stidworthy

## Croquet (Indoor Fun and Games)

. Pendle and Craven Croquet Club The group provides friendly, social competition playing 'golf Croquet' from the beginning of May to the end of September (weather permitting). The rules are very straightforward . It is suitable for all members. All equipment is provided. Flat soled shoes should be worn. There will be a

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 13:30

**Venue:** Pendle and Craven Croquet Club

**Leader(s):** Graham Read

## Fabrics,Threads and Yarns (Creative Arts and Crafts)

(no session 28/10/26) and (no session 27/2/27). Skipton Sports Community Hub Working with fabrics and threads is a wonderfully extensive skill that can be applied to small and large, simple and complicated projects. Items to use daily or pieces to give as presents. The Group embrace all aspects of working with fabrics and threads. Everyone can learn to sew or knit, you just require a vision of the finished project and the determination to complete it. If you enjoy sewing or knitting or want to learn to then come along and join our group. We are interested in making all things patchwork from placemats to sophisticated quilts and all the other ways of using this versatile skill. Bring your own work, or a basic sewing kit and some fabric if you want to learn something new. I have ideas for simple starter projects. Everyone welcome, from experienced Quilters/dressmakers/knitters to complete novices. We can all share with each other what we know and ask for help with what we don't know.

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 10:00

**Venue:** Skipton Sports Community Hub

**Leader(s):** Anne Reay

## Geography Forum (People and Places)

(except 28/10/26) and (except 17/2/27). St Stephen's Church Hall, Skipton Talks, mainly by members of the Forum, on Geography, History, People and Places. Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/2ulifYh5pmBdNIqYBLGybU?si=a83acc6c041d4ba4>

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 10:00

**Venue:** St Stephens Church Hall Skipton

**Leader(s):** Jonathan Hauxwell

## Italian Improvers (World Languages and Cinema)

(except 4/11/26) and (except 17/2/27). Quaker Meeting House This year's course will build on last year's vocabulary, covering a few more topic areas and revising last year's work. The emphasis will be on how the language is structured, covering very basic grammar: definite and indefinite article, gender, adjectives, how to form singular and plural nouns and adjectives; also verbs; basic present tense, the most used past tense, and the future. At the end you should be more comfortable with a basic level of fluency and be able to make up your own language and construct your own sentences. You do not need knowledge of English grammar to do this.

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 14:00

**Venue:** Quaker Meeting House

**Leader(s):** Sylva Vorstman

## Modern Art and Architecture (Creative Arts and Crafts)

(no session 28/10/26). Embsay Village Hall Side Room Art, Architecture and Design in the 19th and 20th centuries - concentrating on developments in Britain in the 19th century and the wider western world in the 20th century. Podcast - copy and paste the following link into your web browser address: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7BgKWGzWa5NWkOW0R6vOPv?si=dc22d40dbef4100>

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 10:15

**Venue:** Embsay Village Hall Side Room

**Leader(s):** Ian Adams

## Padel Tennis (Indoor Fun and Games)

and Skipton Tennis Club Two covered courts + one outside court(subject to availability). All equipment is provided. Two groups of 8 playing for one hour each week. There will be a coach at the first session to explain the rules. Wear tennis shoes with flat soles please. No trainers or running shoes There is a club house to socialise in whilst waiting to play. Craven u3a has negotiated two sessions of one hour, for the 10 week block.. Two courts

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 13:00

**Venue:** Skipton Tennis Club

**Leader(s):** Roland Styles

## Singing Madrigals (Performing Arts)

and St Andrew's Church Primary Room In this course we shall get together to sing examples of English madrigals and other simple part songs. Singing in parts is a group activity where we support each other and is good for both body and mind. Enthusiasm and a willingness to try will be more important than musical experience, although some knowledge of musical notation will help.

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 10:30

**Venue:** St Andrews Church Primary Room

**Leader(s):** Chris Skidmore

## Spanish Intermediate/Advanced (World Languages and Cinema)

Fortnightly Wednesday 7.00 - 8.30 pm 7/10/26, 21/10/26, 4/11/26, 18/11/26 and 2/12/26 St Stephen's Church Hall An opportunity for those who already have a good level of spoken Spanish to improve their knowledge and ability. We will use some videos and newspaper articles to learn useful Spanish colloquial expressions. The emphasis will be on spoken Spanish although some reading may be required to facilitate it. The course is not suitable for beginners.

**Meets:** Fortnightly Wednesday 19:00

**Venue:** St Stephens Church Hall Skipton

**Leader(s):** Phil Lawler

## Stories of Scientists (Science and Technology)

(except 17/03/27) Skipton Sports Community Hub Stories of Scientists their background and discoveries.

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 14:00

**Venue:** Skipton Sports Community Hub

**Leader(s):** Mick Richings

## Stretching /Movement (Indoor Fun and Games)

(except 14/10/26) and St Andrew's Church Hall Chair exercise to improve posture, balance and flexibility. Seated exercise, with some standing positions using the chair as an aid. Please wear comfortable clothing and light soft shoes. Bring a bottle of water.

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 10:00

**Venue:** St Andrews Church Hall Skipton

**Leader(s):** Sandra Dixon

## Victorians (People and Places)

(no session 11/11/26) Swadford Centre Ten speakers, ten topics. Everything from Queen Victoria to the songs of the Victorian streets, and from John Ruskin to work and play in Victorian Skipton. There will be a £3 (for the term) contribution to the costs of guest speakers.

**Meets:** Weekly Wednesday 02:00

**Venue:** Swadford Centre

**Leader(s):** Vera Brearey

## Monday

Group	Venue	Contact	Time	Status
Birdwatching	Bolton Abbey Village Hall	Jacqui Eames	10:00 - 12:00	Fortnightly
Book Group Fiction A	Member's Home	Chris Bowley	16:00 - 17:00	-
Book Group Fiction B		Linda Hoole	18:15 - 19:15	-
Four Great Female Artists	Bradley Village Hall	Linda Hoole	17:30 - 19:30	Fortnightly
Geology Walks		Diane Killock	10:00 - 12:00	Fortnightly
Indoor Games 26-27	Three Links Club	Alan Newall	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Italian continuers	Quaker Meeting House	Sylva Vorstman	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Literary Lives	St Stephens Church Hall Skipton		14:00 - 16:00	Fortnightly
Music theory & improvisation	Draughton Village Hall	Chris Brown	14:00 - 16:00	Fortnightly
MusicalTheatre:Great Composers	St Stephens Church Hall Skipton	Judith Barras	14:00 - 16:00	Fortnightly
Pickleball	Sandylands Sports Centre	Anne MacDonald	12:45 - 13:45	Weekly
Racketball	Sandylands Sports Centre	Mike Valiant	09:30 - 10:50	Weekly
Recorder Continuers	St Andrews Church Primary Room	Jenny Crook	15:00 - 17:00	Weekly
Recorder Ensemble	St Andrews Church Primary Room	Susan Farmery	13:30 - 14:45	Weekly
Science and technology disc	St Stephens Church Hall Skipton	Ian Blomfield	10:15 - 12:15	Weekly
Stretching / Yoga	St Andrews Church Hall Skipton	Sandra Dixon	10:00 - 11:00	Weekly
Tenpin Bowling	Matrix Superbowl	Gail Matthews	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Woodturning 1	Woodturning	Doug Hirst	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Woodturning 2	Woodturning	Doug Hirst	17:00 - 19:00	Weekly
Woodturning in Summer 2026	Carleton Woodturning		14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Woodturning in Summer 2027	Carleton Woodturning	Doug Hirst	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly

## Tuesday

Group	Venue	Contact	Time	Status
Art Forum face to face		Ginny Wilkinson	10:30 - 12:30	Fortnightly
Creative Arts 4 Wellbeing	Skipton Sports Community Hub	Maureen Wright	14:00 - 15:00	Weekly
Early 20th Century Art	Skipton Sports Community Hub	Jacqui Eames	03:15 - 04:45	Weekly
Films on Tuesday international	Champions Church	Vee Eastham	13:30 - 16:00	Weekly
German	St Andrews Church Primary Room	Sheila Clark	10:00 - 12:00	Weekly
History of Art	Embsay Village Hall Side Room	Ian Adams	10:15 - 12:15	Weekly
Indoor Curling and Boccia	Skipton Sports Community Hub	Anne MacDonald	00:00 - 00:00	Weekly
Music for fun	Trinity Methodist Church	Lesley Widdop	10:30 - 12:15	Weekly
Popular Music	Three Links Club	David Wiseman	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Proms Catchup 2026	Member's Home		19:30 - 22:00	-
Proms Catchup 2027	Member's Home		19:30 - 22:00	-
Sketching outdoors		Nancy Stedman	10:30 - 12:30	-
Two Hour walks		Jay Cundell Walker.	10:00 - 12:00	Fortnightly
Victorian Women Novelists	Skipton Sports Community Hub	Jacqui Eames	15:15 - 16:45	Weekly
Walking Cricket	Skipton Sports Community Hub	Anne MacDonald	10:00 - 12:00	Weekly
Walking Group 25-26		Fran Valiant	00:00 - 00:00	Weekly
Walking Netball.	Sandylands Sports Centre	Clarissa Jarvis	11:00 - 12:00	Weekly

## Wednesday

Group	Venue	Contact	Time	Status
Adaptive Tennis	Skipton Tennis Club	Anne MacDonald	13:00 - 15:00	Weekly
Adaptive Tennis summer 26	Skipton Tennis Club		13:00 - 15:00	-
Aerobic Fitness Training	Sandylands Gym Multi use Gym	John Dixon	14:00 - 15:00	Weekly
Book Group - Non-fiction		John Hoole	18:45 - 19:45	Various
Crafting for Christmas	Draughton Village Hall	Wendy Brown	14:00 - 16:00	Fortnightly
Craven u3a Orchestra	Embsay Village Hall	Sue Stidworthy	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Croquet	Pendle and Craven Croquet Club	Graham Read	13:30 - 15:30	Weekly
Fabrics,Threads and Yarns	Skipton Sports Community Hub	Anne Reay	10:00 - 12:00	Weekly
Geography Forum	St Stephens Church Hall Skipton	Jonathan Hauxwell	10:00 - 12:00	Weekly
Italian Improvers	Quaker Meeting House	Sylva Vorstman	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Modern Art and Architecture	Embsay Village Hall Side Room	Ian Adams	10:15 - 12:15	Weekly
Padel Tennis	Skipton Tennis Club	Roland Styles	13:00 - 15:00	Weekly
Singing Madrigals	St Andrews Church Primary Room	Chris Skidmore	10:30 - 12:30	Weekly
Spanish Intermediate/Advanced	St Stephens Church Hall Skipton	Phil Lawler	19:00 - 20:30	Fortnightly
Stories of Scientists	Skipton Sports Community Hub	Mick Richings	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Stretching /Movement	St Andrews Church Hall Skipton	Sandra Dixon	10:00 - 11:00	Weekly
Victorians	Swadford Centre	Vera Brearey	02:00 - 04:00	Weekly

## Thursday

Group	Venue	Contact	Time	Status
Adventure into Classical Music	St Andrews Church Primary Room	Chris Skidmore	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Art and Calligraphy	Skipton Sports Community Hub	Anne MacDonald	10:00 - 12:00	Weekly
Badminton	Sandylands Sports Centre	Jon Tomlinson	12:00 - 13:00	Weekly
Bridge Play	Draughton Village Hall	David Lowe.	13:45 - 15:45	-
Drumming Circle 1 Beginners	Skipton Sports Community Hub	Charles Green	13:30 - 14:45	Weekly
Drumming Circle 2 Continuers	Skipton Sports Community Hub	Charles Green	15:00 - 16:15	Weekly
Films on Thursdays	Champions Church	Jean Crampton	13:30 - 16:00	Weekly
Floral Art	St Stephens Church Hall Skipton	Jesca de Rijk	14:00 - 16:00	-
History Happens	Swadford Centre Assembly Room	Jane Houlton	10:00 - 12:00	Fortnightly
Mah Jong	Three Links Club	Andrew Todd	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly
Politics Discussion Group	Swadford Centre Assembly Room	Dick Newson	13:00 - 15:00	Weekly
Walk to Lunch 25-26			10:00 - 00:00	Fortnightly
Weimar Republic	Swadford Centre	Nigel Holden	10:00 - 12:00	Fortnightly

## Friday

Group	Venue	Contact	Time	Status
Crown Green Bowls Group 1	Whinfield Bowling Club	Rosemary Bootland	11:30 - 14:00	Weekly
Crown Green Bowls Group 2	Whinfield Bowling Club	Shirley Desgranges	14:00 - 16:30	Weekly
French Advanced	St Stephens Church Hall Skipton	Kevin Franks	10:00 - 12:00	Weekly
French Conversation	Craven Heifer Blooms	Jennifer Hanson	10:00 - 12:00	Weekly
Railway Study Group	Swadford Centre Assembly Room	Paul Haywood	10:00 - 12:00	weekly
Solo Latin Dance Advanced	Sandylands Sports Centre	Jacqui Eames	10:30 - 11:20	Weekly
Solo Latin Dance Beginners	Sandylands Sports Centre	Jacqui Eames	12:05 - 12:55	Weekly
Solo Latin Dance Improvers	Sandylands Sports Centre	Jacqui Eames	11:30 - 12:20	Weekly
Table Tennis	Sandylands Sports Centre	Jenny Crook	14:00 - 16:00	Weekly

## Saturday

Group	Venue	Contact	Time	Status
Wharfedale Walking		Nick Jarvis.	10:00 - 00:00	-

## Sunday

Group	Venue	Contact	Time	Status
Allotment	Allotment	Helena Tudhope	09:30 - 12:00	Weekly
Sunday Lunch Social Group		Sandra Mason	00:00 - 00:00	-

## Varied

Group	Venue	Contact	Time	Status
Ad Hoc Walking Group		Mike Valiant	00:00 - 00:00	All year
Culture Vultures		Wendy Brown	00:00 - 00:00	Various
Day Trips social group		Anne Macdonald	00:00 - 00:00	Various
E-biking		Linda Hoole	09:00 - 10:00	Various
Gardening		Anne MacDonald	00:00 - 00:00	Various
Motorcycle Group		Harry Taylor	10:00 - 00:00	Various
Nature Rambles		Maurice White	00:00 - 00:00	Various
Photo Group		Anne MacDonald	00:00 - 00:00	Various
Podcasts		Doug Hirst	00:00 - 00:00	Various
Shorty Walks		Sally Crowley	00:00 - 00:00	Various

The charitable purpose of Craven u3a is the advancement of education, and in particular the education of older people and those who are retired from full time work, by all means including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development, in district of Craven and its surrounding locality.