

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN

As we begin the new year I would just like to reflect on what an outstanding success the Christmas party proved to be. It summed up for me all the qualities that make our charity so effective and relevant. There was great organisation and hard work by the committee, there was impressive attendance with around a third of our total membership supporting the event and there was a real sense of community with people feeling part of the whole and not isolated as can so often happen at these large gatherings.

Our thanks also goes out to those who entertained us so well, our 'in house' Jammers and singers and to the Farmers Daughters, who incidentally donated their appearance fee to the RNLI. A great end to the year and one that we hope will inspire all our members to become as much involved in u3a activities as possible in 2026. Whatever age we are, and whatever our capabilities there is always scope to learn and to stretch ourselves intellectually as well as opening up to the possibilities of new relationships and friends.

Finally may I welcome Mary O'Neill who will be taking over the role of Treasurer from Paul Davies in June of this year. Paul will be remaining as a committee member. Regards *Eamon*



TECH SUPPORT GROUP

**The first meeting will be at 2.00pm
on Wednesday 14th January 2026**

in the main hall at the Driffield Community Centre

Group Leader - Gavin Cutler: Email: gavinlcutler@gmail.com

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Driffield Community Centre - Second Thursday of each month - 2.00pm - 4.00pm

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME



FREE BOOK SWAP

Bring along your old books and help yourself to new ones!



FREE REFRESHMENTS

This month provided by
We're Jammin'



PROGRAMME

2026

Thursday 8th January

Tophill Low Nature Reserve

Thursday 13th February

Green Growers - Nafferton

Thursday 12th March

Malton Museum

All Members Welcome

£1.50 Admission

**Doors Open
from 1.30pm**

TOPHILL LOW NATURE RESERVE



Tophill Low Nature Reserve is a 300 acre wildlife haven, known for its diverse habitats and rich birdlife, making it a popular destination for nature enthusiasts and birdwatchers.

Tophill Low is located 20 minutes outside Driffield near the village of Watton. It is managed by Yorkshire Water and features two large reservoirs that supply drinking water to Hull.

A space that provides a variety of habitats for nature.

CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP



**We are not meeting in
December or January.
Members will be contacted
in the New Year.**

Group Leader: Colin Bickerdyke:
Email: c.bickerdyke@talktalk.net



**Christmas Tree Festival
OPEN FOR VIEWING**

10.00am - 4.00pm

Nearly every weekday

12 noon - 4.00pm

Sundays

Final day 4th January

12 noon - 4.00pm

Our u3a Christmas Tree at All Saints Church

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL - 2025



425 MILERS GROUP

The 425 Walking Group (2nd Tuesday and 4th Thursday of the month)

9.30am in Driffield Community Centre Car Park - car sharing available £2.00

We walk the Wolds, Holderness and the East/North Yorkshire coast. Most of our walks are within a 25 mile radius of Driffield

The 425 group are holding a planning meeting

Tuesday 13th January at 10.00am

at the Community Centre

to plan our walks for 2026.



Group Leader Paul Grinstead - Email: p.grinstead2@btinternet.com or call 07932 494357 or 01377 255272

SOCIABLE STROLLERS GROUP

Meets on the first Friday of each month at 1.00pm in the Community Centre Car Park

Leaving at 1.00pm unless otherwise informed. Strong footwear is advised for the walks.

Walks are between 2-3 miles ending with refreshments at a café.

Friday 9th January - Discovering Driffield's Snickets

Leader: Ruth Pearson Tel: 01377 253926

Followed by a meeting to discuss plans for 2026 walks.



Group Leader - Sue Clarkson:

Tel: 01377 256857 Mob: 07762 782082 Email: clarksonsusan40@gmail.com

WALKING GROUP

Meets on the 1st Tuesday and the 3rd Thursday of each month.

9.30am prompt in Driffield Community Centre Car Park for car sharing.

Please bring picnic lunch.

Thursday 15th January 2026 - Easy 7 mile walk from Barmston.

Walk leader is Steve Whitaker:

Email: sp.whitaker@yahoo.co.uk

Mob: 07952 981786

Christmas lunch, The Forge in Sewerby



For more details contact Group Leader **Steve Whitaker** Email: sp.whitaker@yahoo.co.uk Mob: 07952 981786

INDEPENDENT PERSONS' GROUP

We meet on the second Friday of each month at the Cricket Club, King's Mill Road, Driffield
10.30am - 12 noon

We had a lovely, relaxed, social get together on the 12th of December
and enjoyed Christmas 'nibbles'.

Our January meeting is on Friday 9th. See you all there.
Have a wonderful Festive period everyone.

For more information contact: Marian Carter - Mob: 07702 317441 / Penelope Kinsley - Mob: 07837 604166

Members not on Email are always phoned and updated!

SUNDAY DINING GROUP

Our next lunch is scheduled for 18th January.

Ross Weekes has kindly offered to organise this one and it's hoped it will
take place at the Masonic Lodge in Lockwood Street, Driffield.

Details of menu and prices will be sent to group members
as early as possible in the new year so check your inbox!



It is intended that these lunches will be on the 3rd Sunday of the month.
If you would like more information please contact the Group Leader:

Eamon McGeough: Email: eamonm56@gmail.com

TAI CHI



We have two Groups - Feel free to turn up and have a go!!

Entry Fee - £1.00

**Meetings are held in the Driffield Community Centre main hall
on the first, third and fourth Monday & Thursday of the month.**



MONDAYS: 2.00pm - 3.00pm THURSDAYS: 1.00pm - 2.00pm

Both groups are suitable for beginners and will include warm up exercises, Qigong, Meditation and Lee style Tai Chi form. Tai Chi can help you improve your health by learning to breathe correctly, improve flexibility and balance and help calm the mind.

Don't set into one form, adapt it and build
your own and let it grow, be like water.
Change is constant in life. It's important
to learn how to explore and dance
with change. Embrace it.
Be flexible in order to make the best of
the circumstances in life.
Bruce Lee

Dates for January:
Mondays: 5th, 19th & 26th
Thursdays: 15th, 22nd & 29th

Group Leader: Maggie Bray
Mob: 07753 224793 email: maggie.bray@hotmail.com

NEW AGE KURLING

Our regular weekly playing sessions are Tuesday afternoons - 1.00pm to 3.00pm
(**term time only**) at the Driffield Leisure Centre, Bridlington Road.

Cost £3.00 per person and refreshments/biscuits
will be provided by the Leisure Centre at 50p each.

**Kurling restarts on January 6th and we will be in training for a friendly
competition with Filey and Bridlington u3a teams early in 2026.**

We are also getting our own team polo shirts because we aim to win!

Group Leader: Ann Wilkinson: Email: wilkynaff@yahoo.co.uk Mob: 07747 102635

CARD MAKING and CRAFT GROUP

Meetings are held in the Community Centre on the last Friday of the month from 10.45am-12.45pm
£5.00 per person to cover rent, materials and refreshments.

Our next CRAFTING meeting is - FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY

Come along and meet Netty who is starting a new group
which is meeting in conjunction with the Craft group.

SEWING



Please contact: Adrienne Bailey - 07530 714186 - adrienne.bailey@outlook.com
or Debbie Ireland-O'Neill - 07917 447974 - d.ireland-oneill@hotmail.com

THE ARTS SOCIETY - Driffield Wolds

Thursday 15th January at 7.30pm - Driffield Rugby Club

“Auctioneer’s Tales: 25 Years in the Art Market”

Lecturer: Marc Allum

For more info: <http://theartsociety.org/driffield-wolds>

GEOLOGY GROUP

We meet on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month at the Cricket Club between 10.00am and 12 noon

**Indoor Geology meetings will resume on Thursday 8th January
with a further meeting on 22nd January.**

We will continue with our study of plate tectonics this term which will include the important topic of earthquake measurement and prediction.

Our grateful thanks to Richard Myerscough who gave an excellent talk on Hildenley Limestone at our meeting at the end of November. Our next speak will be Paul Hildreth who is booked to talk to us on Thursday 12th March, his topic is "The rocks and birds of Flamborough Head" so please put this date in your diaries.

For further details contact the Group Leader: **Kathy Chilver: 01377 255052**

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm in the Driffeld Community Centre

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

WEDNESDAY 21st JANUARY

'How to use your phone to look back into our local history.'

For example - point your phone at the Pocklington Carpet building in George Street and lo and behold you see the original building!

Sam Bartle - Archivist

For more information contact **Ross Weekes** Tel: 01377 253832 Email: rossweekes@btinternet.com

ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY GROUP

Meets on the first and third Tuesday each month at the Driffeld Community Centre 10.00am to 12 noon

**Sadly, due to seating constraints, we are temporarily
closing this group to new members.**

Tuesday 20th January

Who made Avebury?

Dr Fran Allfrey

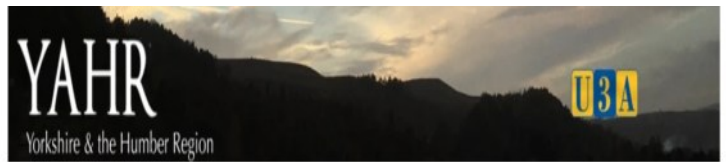
For more information contact Group Leader: **Susan Adamson** Tel: **01377 270429**

Driffield and Wolds u3a website

The Newsletter is up to date as of the first of each month, but sometimes things change.

To get the latest news, visit our website at:

<https://driffieldwolds.u3asite.uk>



YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER REGION U3A

Details of regional activities for u3as in the Yorkshire and Humber Region can be found on their website:

<https://yahru3a.uk>

READING GROUP

We meet on the last Thursday of the month in Members' homes.

In January we shall be having a late Christmas lunch on the 29th.

As we meet in each other's homes our Group is currently at capacity.



For more details please contact:

Julia Spencer-Jones

Mob: 07726 264712

Email: charles.juliasj@gmail.com



BRIDGE GROUP



For Beginners to the more Advanced

We meet every Wednesday at 2.00pm in the Committee Room of the Community Centre

Our Meetings for January 2026 are:

7th, 14th, 21st and 28th



For more information please contact
Group Leader - **George Ansell** Mob: 07929 299362



SCRABBLE

Gerald Massey - 01377 257063



MAH JONGG

Mike Smith - 07955 733514



RUMMIKUB

Carole Salmon - 07905 682103

Kay Maslen - 07838 208025

The Games Group

The Games Group is an amalgamation of three separate groups (Mah Jongg, Rummikub and Scrabble) who meet together to defray costs. They all meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at the Cricket Club from 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

This is a friendly social occasion with tea, coffee and biscuits.

We would be pleased for anyone who is interested in any of our three groups to drop into one of our meetings there is no obligation. Patient help will be given to anyone interested in any of the games even if you have no experience.

January our meetings are Tuesday: 13th & 27th
We look forward to seeing you!

u3a HOLIDAYS 2025 - 2026

NORTHUMBERLAND - MAY 2026

THIS HOLIDAY IS NOW FULLY BOOKED

4th OCTOBER 2026

Departing 4th October 2026 this is a 5 day holiday staying at the

4* Blunsdon House Hotel in Swindon.

Price £470 pp (single supplement is £34 pp per night)

Places still available!

Visiting Oxford and Bath and Cotswold tour. Leaflet available at our January Monthly Meeting

Please contact Cairngorm Travel direct on 01405 761334 or Ann for further details.

WATCH THIS SPACE

We are negotiating with the travel company to visit Northern Ireland in

Spring 2027 and hope to have some information before too long.

No passports needed and hotel quite near ferry terminal this time.

Enquiries to: Ann Wilkinson: email: wilkynaff@yahoo.co.uk Mob: 07747 102635

AWAY DAYS



Our trip to Sheffield was blessed with good weather and all went without a hitch. Our first two "Day Trips" have encouraged us to be more adventurous with the next - watch this space!!

Leader: Terence Jarvis: Email: thejarve@googlemail.com Tel: 01377 254615

Terry Jarvis Mob: 07484 847816 Sue Hudson: Mob: 07923 431609

***** MEMBERSHIP *****

Members joining between now and 31st March 2026 will have their Membership extended until 1st April 2027 for the annual cost of £15.00!!

NATURE GROUP

We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month. For more information contact Group Leader:
Marian Carter: Mob. 07702 317441 or Carole Salmon: Mob. 07905 682103

Once again the weather was kind and we had a lovely potter
around Bempton Cliffs and the Nature Trail.



January we shall be meeting to discuss plans for 2026
so get your thinking caps on!

Members have been notified of the meeting details.

CROQUET

Driffeld Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club



Sadly, we have come to the end of our Croquet Season.
Enjoy the winter and other u3a activities and I look forward to
meeting up with everyone in the spring.

With very best wishes and Happy New Year, Peter

For more information: Email: peter_mathews@gmx.com Mob: 07740 780933

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

The Cricket Club, King's Mill Road.

on the third Monday of each month 10.00am - 12 noon

We have a varied membership, all with experience to share.

Tea, coffee and treats are included! Why not join us?

Theme: Movement - People at Play/Leisure



For more information please contact:
Penelope Kinsley on 07837 604166

Our next meeting will be on
Monday 19th January
Theme: Man & Beast



TABLE TENNIS

Methodist School Room

Westgate, Driffield

Every Tuesday 1.00pm - 3.00pm

Our first session this year will be Tuesday 6th January

The group is now at full capacity so anyone wishing to join will need to contact me in the first instance. Regards John

All equipment is provided - you just need suitable clothing and footwear.

For more details please contact Group Leader: John Cawley: Mob: 07584 041909



WALKING TENNIS



This option, kindly made available to us by Driffield Cricket & Recreation Club, is now closed for the year. Hoping to restart mid to late May.

More information available from: Anita Oxtoby: email: anita_oxtoby8@hotmail.com



ART GROUP

Meeting every Thursday 2.00pm - 4.00pm
at the Roman Catholic Church Hall, Westgate, Driffield.

Our first meeting of 2026 will be Thursday 15th January

A group for everyone whether you can paint - but haven't done it for a while - or can't paint but would like to.

Working together we can help one another in a pleasant and easy going atmosphere.

Why don't you come along and see what we do.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Group Leader: Colin Seddon: Email: colinseddon@hotmail.co.uk Mob: 07443 002450



We're Jammin'

We meet every Wednesday at Driffield Methodist School Room
10.00am to 12 noon - Doors open 9.30 for setting up.

Our first meeting of 2026 will be Wednesday 7th January

As this group is currently full members will be kept fully informed of any changes.

Group Leader: Chris Taylor: chri_taylor@btinternet.com Mob: 07484 160660

Guitar: Starting Out



'Starting Out' is a group for beginners.

Our first meeting of 2026 will be Monday 5th January

All you need is a guitar and some enthusiasm.

**The sessions are held in Driffield Community Centre
Mondays 10.00am - 11.30am**

Group Leaders: Chris Taylor: chri_taylor@btinternet.com Mob: 07484 160660
Paul Patterson: Mob: 07802 513175



The Discussion Group

The Group meets every Friday at 9.30am
in the Driffield Community Centre.
All u3a Members are welcome to join us.

Friday 9th January - "It's a wonderful life" Discuss

What will we make of this topic? Do we appreciate what a wonder life is?
What do we do if it all seems a mess?

Friday 16th January - "The day I joined the Navy" - my first job.

John will tell us about the experience of his first day in the Royal Navy.
The rest of us will recall our own experiences when we started our first jobs.

Friday 23rd January - Do retirees contribute to society?

When we retire and draw a pension are we simply a drain on the country's resources,
or do we still have a role to play?

Friday 30th January - Do we understand risk?

We can become very agitated about some sources of risk, while blithely accepting others.
Is our attitude a sensible one?

For more details of planned discussions contact: **Chris Taylor: Mob: 07484 160660**

FUN QUIZ

Generally held the third Friday of the month at the
Driffield Recreation Club, Kings Mill Rd.

Friday 23rd January (4th Friday) - 1.30pm-3.30pm

All welcome, it's a fun quiz not MENSAs so do come along and make up a team.
If any of our members would like to host this, or a future quiz, let me know
it's not too onerous and I can help if needed - Ann

Tea and biscuits - Free Raffle - £3.00 per person

If you would like more details call: **Ann Wilkinson - Mob: 07747 102635**

Your u3a Committee

CHAIRMAN	Vacant	
SECRETARY	Amanda Evans	07932 759262
TREASURER	Paul Davies	haven4angels@hotmail.co.uk
VICE CHAIRMAN	Eamon McGeough	07950 057373
BEACON ADMINISTRATOR	Maggie Bray	07753 224793
WEBMASTER	Maggie Bray	07753 224793
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Carole Salmon	07905 682103
MEMBERSHIP TEAM	Kay Maslen	07838 208025
ACCORD ADMINISTRATOR	Vacant	
SPEAKER FINDER	Eamon McGeough	07950 057373
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Carole Salmon	07905 682103
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Steve Sansom	07714 178832
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	Janet Kish	07896 113301
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Gavin Cutler	07977 042021

Non Committee Roles

GROUP SUPPORT	Ann Wilkinson	07747 102635
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Groups and Group Leaders

425 Milers	Paul Grinstead	07932 494357
Archaeology/History	Susan Adamson	01377 270429
Art	Colin Seddon	07443 002450
Away Days	Terence Jarvis	07484 847816
Bridge	George Ansell	07929 299362
Card Making and Crafts	Debbie Ireland-O'Neill	07917 447974
	Adrienne Bailey	07530 714186
Classical Music	Colin Bickerdyke	c.bickerdyke@talktalk.net
Croquet	Peter Mathews	07740 780933
Digital Photography	Penelope Kinsley	07837 604166
Discussion Group	Chris Taylor	07484 160660
Geology	Kathy Chilver	01377 255052
Guitar Starting Out	Chris Taylor	07484 160660
Independent Persons	Marian Carter	07702 317441
	Penelope Kinsley	07837 60416
Local History	Ross Weekes	01377 253832
Mah Jongg	Mike Smith	07955 733514
New Age Kurling	Ann Wilkinson	07747 102635
Nature Group	Marian Carter	07702 317441
Quiz Afternoon	Ann Wilkinson	07747 102635
Reading Group	Julia Spencer-Jones	07726 264712
Rummikub	Carole Salmon	07905 682103
	Kay Maslen	07838 208025
Scrabble Group	Gerald Massey	01377 257063
Sociable Strollers	Sue Clarkson	01377 256857
Table Tennis	John Cawley	07584 041909
Tai Chi	Maggie Bray	07753 224793
Tech Support	Gavin Cutler	07977 042021
Walking Group	Steve Whitaker	01377 271447
We're Jammin'	Chris Taylor	07484 160660

Membership

If you have any questions about Membership or would like details sent to a friend:

Please contact:

Carole Salmon:
carolesalmon@hotmail.com

Our Website

Our u3a website contains information about the Driffield & Wolds u3a and full details of our events.

<https://driffieldwolds.u3asite.uk>

What? When? Where?

Details of all our events can also be found in this Newsletter, on our Website, in Chris's weekly 'Dates for your Diary' email and in the Driffield & Wolds Weekly.

Gift Aid

Donating through Gift Aid means The Driffield & Wolds u3a can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give. It is completely free and the form is available on our website or at our monthly meetings.



Important Reminder to Group Leaders!

If you hire a venue to hold your meetings and have to cancel, for whatever reason, please ensure that you inform them. otherwise you may be charged!

Registered Charity Number:

1183231