



Happy New Year and welcome to the first of our monthly “What’s on” emails!

The email will be popping into your inbox on the first day of each month, and for those of you preferring to receive communications by post, will be landing on your doormat soon after. We hope that this approach will allow you to better plan the weeks ahead, and avoid unnecessary additional emails.

“What’s on” will contain everything you need to know for the coming month about new Groups, talks and events, news about forthcoming travel, and opportunities for volunteering. Please do read it all the way through and respond where relevant as noted in the email, or if you do not have access to email, please contact the Office on 01904289293. Please DO NOT respond to this email as responses will not be monitored.

If you need to alert the membership to a relevant opportunity or event please contact eventsleadYorku3a@gmail.com, or if it relates to a new or changing Group get in touch via Yorku3agroups@gmail.com. Any communication for the next month’s email must be received at least seven days before the end of the month. The “What’s on” team will contact you to let you know whether we are able to include your piece or to suggest a different method of communication.

New Group – short term course

Introduction to Printmaking with Linocut

Level: Aimed at beginners, those coming back to printmaking, or people who just enjoy trying something new. Maximum 10 places. The course will be structured but relaxed, allowing you to work at your own pace with guidance. There will be examples to follow, or if you prefer you can create your own designs.

What will we be doing? During the course you will create a sampler and a series of prints in at least 2 designs. You will take away your carved lino blocks so you can continue printmaking at home if you like.



We will:

- experiment with different tools to carve and make marks
- plan for positive and negative space in designs
- transfer images onto lino
- print with different papers and inks
- try different methods of pressing by hand

When? Tuesday afternoons 2.00-4.00 pm, for 6 weeks: 10th, 17th, & 24th February; 3rd, 10th, & 17th March 2026.

Where? The Art Room, Clements Hall, York.

Cost: £85 per person for the 6-week course. All materials and equipment included.

The tutor: Kathryn lives in York. She enjoys working with a range of methods and materials, especially relief printmaking: lino, woodcut, Tetrapak, embossing, imprinting clay with textured objects, mosaic forms with eggshell, sun prints, mono-printing with leaves, watercolour brush-

prints, light art, and nature photography. Her prints have featured in group exhibitions in York and Sheffield. She is a member of Thin Ice Press, the York Centre for Print.

Need to know:

- Printing can be messy. Although we will be using water-based inks that wash out quite easily, you may want to bring an apron or wear older clothes!
- There is a sink and kitchen in the Art Room.
- The Art Room is on the first floor of Clements Hall. The stairs are wide with handrails, and there is a lift.
- Please see [here](#) for the location of Clements Hall and transport options.

If you are interested in joining this course please contact yorku3agroups@gmail.com. Spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis and we will hold a wait list in case of cancellations. If you are accepted on the course payment will need to be paid in advance by bank transfer during January.

Saturday Talk 10th January 2026 Central Methodist Hall 1030 -1130am (Tea/coffee available from 945am)

Printing in York: an extraordinary history

Helen Smith (Professor of Renaissance Literature at the University of York) will explore the past, present and future of printing in York, including stories of civil war, hidden geese, and printing on ice; the revival of ancient printing techniques in the City; and the next half century of print.

Cost: £3 plus £1 for refreshments

The talk will be available live via zoom and the recording will be made available following the talk. Watch out for details in forthcoming emails

No need to reserve spaces to attend in-person.

Saturday Social Talk 24th January 2026 10am Penn Room, Friends Meeting House

You can't stop the rain, but you can take an umbrella – research into later life housing decisions. Speaker: Alice Walker

Alice has undertaken a PhD alongside City of York Council, researching how people think about and make decisions about housing in later life and she will share some fascinating insights and findings which I am sure will be of interest to all of us.

This is bound to be an extremely popular talk so do keep an eye out for the email and follow the instructions to reserve a place.

Cost £3 to include tea/coffee and refreshments

Volunteering opportunity

Wellbeing Advisor

We are excited to be launching a new service to our members and are looking for a suitable person to take on a voluntary role as wellbeing advisor.

u3a York runs 140 group activities for members. The age profile of the membership is such that health and related problems start to become more likely. Occasionally a Group Leader or member is concerned about the wellbeing of another member, especially when that has an impact on the effective running of the group or activity. We are looking for a small team to support the Group Leaders and the Board of Trustees in managing those situations which can be quite tricky. A suitable person would have experience in healthcare or social care, or a related field, and in dealing with complex and challenging situations, and will work with the Wellbeing Overseer, Paddy Neligan.

For further information or an informal discussion, please contact Paddy, at paddy.neligan@btopenworld.com or by telephone on 07889 544579, or Karen Sawyer, Chair of the Board at chairyorku3a@gmail.com.

u3a Nationally

For a wide range of free online talks and events just sign up and book at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events#Events>. Highlights for January include From Roman Britain to the Dark Ages by author Charles Boundy, and The Worlds Most Enchanted Archipelagos – A Voyage through the Scottish Hebrides by Monty Halls.

With best wishes

Beryl

Beryl Oppenheim

u3a York