

What's on u3a York June 2026

Dear u3a York member,



Welcome to the June “What’s on” email. We do hope you are enjoying the good weather and opportunities to get out and about.

The email this month is brimming with things for you to do or take part in – do look at opportunities for new Groups, a Group outing open to all u3a York members, and an interesting talk on the second Saturday of the month as well as our ever-popular Saturday Social Games morning. Also please note the message from our Chair regarding seeking interest for volunteers to work on the Communications Team as well as a new Treasurer and Group Finance Officer, some important information from our Membership Team regarding the 2026 membership renewal process, and a research study that you may be interested in.

Please do read the email 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.

Groups news

New Beginners' Piano Group 12060

Hi All, I am looking to start a Beginners Piano Group, and would like to work out if there is demand for this type of Group before finalising details. Here are some details of when, where, cost and capacity:

Where: The group would operate from the music room at York High School, Acomb. u3a members would have to get there themselves. Plenty of parking or No.4 bus.

How Many: There are 12 keyboards. So up to 12 group members.

When: Weekly. The room is available from 5pm onwards on Monday evenings in term time, time to be determined.

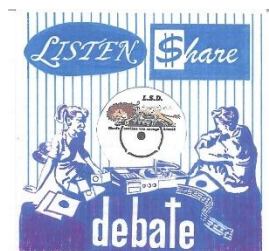
Cost: the room is £24/hour. I think termly (6 or 7 weeks) payment up front, which would be split by the number of participants. Duration also needs to be determined.

Looking for: Members to learn and piano expert to demonstrate. I am happy at this stage to act as Group Leader.

Please email me Andypilot1@yahoo.co.uk to confirm your interest and I will move forward with making this a u3a York new Group.

Andy Pilot

L.S.D Music Club – 12059



Listen, Share and Debate your music collection with other members and make new friends while furthering your musical education and maybe in some cases expanding your existing music interests.

Starting 18th June 3rd Thursday each month at the u3a centre, 2-4pm.

Musical range, anything from Baby Boomers and beyond.

Each month a different subject would be chosen, and each member would bring at least two songs to be played and discussed in that session.

Music played on CD player or your own digital device.

Contact Alan Milner, Tel.01904 613580, Email atmilner@yahoo.co.uk

Gardening for learners (11907) June event open to all u3a York members

Thursday 18th June 10.30 am – Join the Gardening for Learners Group on a visit to Forest of Flowers in Huby.

This is an amazing and successful project that was recently featured in the RSPB magazine, where a piece of farmland has been transformed into a fantastic haven for wildlife of all types.

The cost is £12 per person to include tea, cake and a guided tour. To book a place (spaces are limited) e-mail Group Leader Jane Thurlow at jat15@outlook.com.

Travel monthly news

We are not running a day trip in August so there is no new trip opening for applications this month.

Until 6th June we could take a few extra for Northallerton and Nunnington Hall on 22nd July - the web page below will show if there are still spaces available.

On 1st July applications will open for the Belvoir Castle & Newark trip on 17th September.

As always, keep an eye on the Travel webpage linked [here](#).

For any queries contact travelukyorku3a@gmail.com

Message from the u3a York Chair

Here I am again offering some wonderful opportunities to get involved in. Some vacancies have arisen that need to be filled as soon as possible:

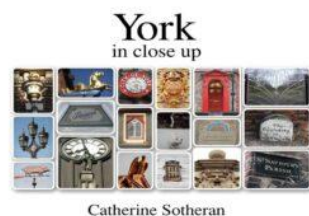
- Communications Lead - can you lead our Communications Team? In the past, the role has involved being a trustee but that is not essential so if you like talking to people and are good with words this may be for you.
- Whatson email producer and publisher - Beryl Oppenheim has worked tirelessly in setting up the new monthly Whatson email and now needs to pass this on. The role involves generating the Whatson email and publishing it every month to a set timetable.
- The u3a York Times producer and publisher - Following the changes to the u3a York Times we are seeking a reporter / correspondent who will move this on to its next stage. We are looking for someone who will engage with the groups and seek out interesting stories about u3a York for publication in the u3a York Times. They will also need to produce the document itself, support is available.

We also still have an urgent need for a Treasurer and Groups Finance Officer, are either of these things something you could help with? If you would like to talk about any of these vacancies, or indeed any on the website, please email me at chairyorku3a@gmail.com.

**Saturday Talk 13th June 2026 Central Methodist Hall 10.30 -11.30am
(Tea/coffee available from 9.45am)**

Talk: York in close-up

Speaker: Catherine Sotheran



Catherine Sotheran is a retired seamstress who has lived in York all her life. When she stopped working she began photographing York's built environment, and also

developed an interest in local history, questions often arising about the buildings she was photographing. She mainly posted her photos on the Facebook group "York, Past & Present ", whose members were usually very good at answering her history questions.

She found a bit of a niche on the group, posting photos of lots of the little details on buildings that often go unnoticed. The talk will be based on her first book "York in close up", and will show you a selection from different themes. This will be followed by a short picture quiz if time allows.

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

There is no admission charge for members, but we ask for a voluntary donation from guests.

NO need to reserve spaces to attend in person

Saturday Games Social 27th June 2026 10am – 12pm Penn Room, Friends Meeting House

Do come and join us at our Saturday "Games" Social on the 27th June 2026 10.00-12.00 to have fun playing board-games, to meet with some old friends and to make new ones.

Typically, the morning starts with coffee/tea and the odd biscuit, followed by about two hours of board games such as Scrabble, Canasta, Rummikub, Bananagrams, Ticket to Ride, plus any games brought along by enthusiastic participants (new games always welcomed!!).

Members participating for the first time will always feel very welcome as the session is fully hosted. The Games Socials are always very well attended and booking is essential. Do keep an eye out for the email and follow the instructions to reserve a place.

No cost to attend.

Deadline for Summer edition of The u3a York Times

The deadline for submissions to The u3a York Times Summer edition is 8 June 2026. We would love to hear from you regarding things you have been up to both within u3a and in your outside world. For this edition only while we set up our new email address, please send submissions directly to eventsleadYorku3a@gmail.com

Membership Renewals Information

Renewal time starts soon and there are a few things that will make it easier for all members.

1. If you are registered on the Portal you will receive an email to notify you that renewals have started and instructions on what to do.
2. If you have not registered at the Members Portal, please do so as soon as you can. Go to the "[Members](#)" page on the u3a York website (Members Information - u3a York), then click on the "Members Portal" button. When renewals start you will also get a reminder.
3. Everyone else will be contacted later.
4. Reminder: Our bank accounts have changed!
5. Membership cards will be issued starting August. This will both prevent wasting card and make it easier for the volunteers.

Please always remember that the office is staffed by volunteers all trying to do their best.

External research study

Request to Share Research Study on Falls in Older Adults

University of Leicester are looking for interest in a research study they are conducting on concern about falling in older adults. The study aims to understand whether witnessing or hearing about other people falling (e.g., friends, family members, or others) influences individuals' own concerns about falling. Participation is entirely voluntary, anonymous, and confidential. Members can access the survey

online at their convenience, and there are no right or wrong answers – they are interested in participants' experiences and perspectives.

See link below for further information regarding how to take part

<https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/leicester/how-seeing-or-hearing-others-falling-affects-older-adults-worri>

u3a Nationally

For a wide range of free online talks and events nationally, just sign up and book at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events#Events>. Highlights for June include “An ABC of Victorian Painting” by Simon Evers and “Of Mice and Men: how experience shapes the ageing brain” by Professor Sarah King. These do tend to fill up quickly so do take a look at what is on offer and book early.

Best wishes

Beryl

Beryl Oppenheim

Events Lead

u3a York