

South Durham u3a

Registered Charity Number 1207225
Active in **Darlington, Cockerton and surrounding areas**
Tuesday 8th September 2026

LOOKING AND SEEING
Dave Phillips on aspects of art

NEWS FROM YOUR CHAIR

Welcome to our new members

Brenda Schofield
Barbara Herd

Lynn Turnbull



After 25 years in Bowen Road Community Hall, our successful u3a is busting at the seams. So, the committee and I have been searching for quite some time now for bigger premises to hold our monthly meetings in.

I am excited to tell you that such a place has been found, which will allow our u3a to continue to grow.

So, from the 10th November, which will be our AGM, we will be meeting in our new location.

Our new location is going to be Cockerton Club in Cockerton. It has better access, a permanent concrete ramp, more room for disability scooters and wheelchairs and more parking facilities than Bowen Road. It can cater for 200 members. The club is on a main bus route which stops right outside the club.

I am sure that we will settle into our new venue well. Over the next few months, I will be giving you more details of this exciting development in South Durham u3a's journey. The entrance fee for our monthly meeting will be going up to £2, with immediate effect. At the next monthly meeting I will hold a 15-minute Q & A session before the speaker, to answer any queries or questions you may have.



Dot Hullah
Chair/Editor



Christmas Event

On Tuesday 8th December

This will be the first Christmas in our new meeting place. We will again have a Ukelele Band, to entertain you, along with a fun quiz, games and a buffet lunch.

Doors will open at 10 am and finish at 2 pm

With such a magnificent spread last year we have asked **Taylor's the Butchers** to cater for us again this year.

Your buffet lunch will include:

Gourmet Pie Selection

2 Bite Pie

Varied Quiche Selection

Oriental Selection

Scotch Eggs

Variety of cooked sausages

Assorted Sandwiches

Cakes and Desserts

There will be a cost, to cover catering and entertainment of £15 to secure your place. As our new venue is bigger, we can welcome 100 members

You can sign up for this event at the meeting on the 8th September

Entry is by ticket only

If you can't attend the meeting, but would like to come to the party, please email Carol

Payment details will follow shortly.

BROTHER KHADIM FROM NEWCASTLE CENTRAL MOSQUE

A Geordie convert speaks



This Geordie convert took many of us further into Islam than we had ever been. When I first heard him last year in Newcastle Central Mosque, he didn't mention the deep personal crisis which led him to convert. This time he did, and I now completely understand what drove him to take such a step and why his wife agreed. Lightly peppered with jokes, props and ad lib questions, this talk certainly did not disappoint and several members wanted a return match. If you ever get to visit his mosque, I can guarantee the best and largest samosas ever! He'll certainly be an asset to his place of worship, but as a convert I suspect he may be among the more punctilious members of his congregation...

Linda Chadd



Calling all our bakers.

As part of the final celebrations for our Silver Anniversary Year, we would like to hold a cake fest. It can be a cake or cupcakes that you have made. Bring your cakes to Bowen Road on the 13th of October where we will be able to sample your delights, as a fitting end to our time in Bowen Road and our year of silver anniversary celebrations.



In order for me to actually make the necessary arrangements, could you please let me know that you would be willing to submit a cake. Send your details to Dot Hullah so that I can arrange for enough display space to be available.



WHAT U3A MEANS TO ME.....



I love being a member of u3a. Everyone is friendly and I enjoy the spin-off groups like current affairs.

I enjoyed organising the Big Quizzes, but I now enjoy participating better

Kate Brown

To keep active following my early retirement and to meet new people. Keeping my brain active playing scrabble.

Anon

A new member this year

A lovely, friendly place. Everybody very welcoming. The groups (lunch, coffee) have been very good

Anon

My husband & I helped to begin a new u3a in our Yorkshire Market town. We made so many good friend, learned a lot, kept fit and appreciated all that u3a offered.

Now alone, I moved to Darlington and encouraged by Penny I joined South Durham u3a.

Lots of interesting challenges, very well run: long may it continue.

Anon

Tell us what you think of your u3a More in next month's newsletter.

Send submissions to Dot Hullah

LATEST NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

COFFEE & CHAT



The group meets at Saltfish Townhouse in Houndgate on the last Wednesday of each month everyone is welcome. Do come along between 10.30 and 12.30 for a chat and an excellent cup of coffee in pleasant surroundings.

I look forward to seeing everyone.

Pauline Noble

DOT'S JUNGAGLOW CRAFTS



We had a full house for crafting this month. Our ladies and gentlemen were making decorative wooden picture frames. They had a wide range of wooden buttons to choose from, and I think you will agree the frames look fab.



Our next session is on Thursday the 24th September when we will be making Kumihimo braided bracelets.

Dot Hullah

CREATIVE WRITING



My creative writers this month met to share our theme which was entitled Trapped. We enjoyed all the different interpretations of the title from factual to fantastical.

Next meeting will be on 2nd September from 10 until 12

Dot Hullah

FRIDAY WALKING GROUP



High Force and the Green Trod. 21st August

Five members set off on a day of mixed weather but fortunately no rain. Never have so many jackets been put on and off in one walk! We started at Bowlees Visitor Centre, crossed the famous Wynch Bridge and proceeded upstream passing Low Force and then High Force, both of which were quite dramatic due to previous rainfall. We continued on the Pennine Way through the juniper bushes now in berry, but not ripe enough to make gin. At the waymarkers that we nearly missed because we were either chatting or engrossed in the dramatic scenery, we turned south and found the Green Trod running parallel with the river going downstream. This is an old drove road running from Holwick to the Eden Valley. A “short cut” across the fields brought us back to the Wynch Bridge but it still turned out to be a 7 mile walk so completely justified the huge cheese scones for a few of us. Sadly they only scored 7 on the “sconometer” but the coffee was great.

Lynne

Thanks to Lynne and Jayne for co-leading this walk.

The next walk will be Friday 18th September and will be led by Susan. The route is known as the Crackpots Mosaic Trail at Darrowgill, near Kirkby Malzeard and is approximately 7 miles.. The walk is illuminated with 22 mosaics depicting local scenes, flora and fauna which are encountered along the route. The route uses tarmac roads, gravel tracks, fields and woodland paths. There are some steep sections, gates, footbridges, cows and some stepping stones to cross a beck. Parts of the route can be wet, muddy and rough underfoot. The parking area is on the moor. Participants should be confident they are fit and wear suitable footwear and clothing. It is advisable to carry refreshments and drinking water. While we try to visit a tea shop this cannot be guaranteed. Please make sure that you carry information to be used in the event of an emergency and bring your ICE cards with up to date details.

We need a new group coordinator because I am stepping back. The group has excellent walk leaders already, though more would be welcome. My role has been primarily administrative, bringing sign-up lists with information about the proposed walk to the monthly Tuesday morning meetings, ensuring the walk leaders have information about those walkers who sign up or contact the group through our WhatsApp, and drawing together reports and photographs for the newsletter. Please let any of the group know if you may be interested. It's a great group to work with; I will miss them and the super walks.

Judith

INTERMEDIATE WALKING GROUP

Brampton Lane



Despite being only a few miles from central Darlington, quite a few of us were unfamiliar with this part of town. I say town, but we had barely started before we were in a rural rolling countryside, as unexpected as it was charming. On all sides were fields in every shade of beige, like a paint chart describing the same colour with 50 variations. The only green to be seen were the mature trees, still doing their best not to look desiccated. Along the River Skerne, the banks were full of Himalayan balsam, undaunted by the arid conditions, white trumpets of the bindweed, and flowing grasses moving in a welcome breeze.

We stopped for our lunch break, several of us sitting on a fallen tree trunk, and others reclining on the dry grass. Overhead a drone did that droning thing, while a few of us foraged the hedges for ripe blackberries, or even the odd unripe cherry!

The miles rolled away as we discussed so many topics, Laurie Lee, the First World War, the Spanish Civil War, the Highland Clearances, and our current political masters. Actually I lied about the miles rolling away under our dusty feet, it was only four and a bit, but let's not quibble.

We ended by sitting in the King's Church cafe in Whessoe Road, recounting tales of how technology tries to defeat us, and how we fight back.

The U3A motto should be Never Give In, especially when the TV stops working.

Thanks to Sue, who never gives up on providing great walks,

Alex Bailey

Walk 17th August

Our walk started at Middleton St. George water park. With some participants joining the rest of the group there.

Most of the walk was new to me and Susan led us along field paths which were still dry underfoot with cracks in the hardened ground.

We stopped for lunch on sitting on convenient benches at Middleton One Row then proceeded along more field paths to the Italian cafe at Middleton St George. Sadly it was closed so we had to move on the next very busy cafe where suitable treats were available.

Thank you Susan for leading an interesting walk on a warm dry day.

Liz

The next walk on 21st September is approximately 5.5 miles, walking along the banks of the River Arkle from Reeth. Road, fields and farm tracks. No cows were to be seen when the walk was reccied by Jane. There are some hills, but not extreme. Going downhill there is a steep descent on paved road, and another on gravel which might be slippery. Care needed. Another hazard is the road bridge between Grinton and Reeth, no footpath although it does have a couple of passing places. To end the walk, Jane plans to visit the cafe at the Dales Cycle Centre. She says it has the best selection of cakes, scones and tray bakes.

The following walk on 5th October will again be led by Jane. "It's a circular from Moulton, roughly 5 miles. There are a couple of slow inclines, some cows in one field, and horses in a different field. The terrain is farm tracks paved and unpaved, fields that might be muddy if we have a lot of rain, and road walking for a short distance. Afterwards, we could drive to Ellerton Lakeside Caf

For both walks we will meet at Cockerton car park for a prompt start at 10. You may wish to bring a packed lunch, drink/fruit.

Members should be confident they are fit to participate and wear suitable clothing and footwear. They should also carry information to be used in case of an emergency. (ICE cards). Could you please check and ensure that these ICE cards are up to date with all details.

To ensure that we do not get mud/ dirt on the drivers mats, could all walkers have a change of footwear or alternatively a plastic bag/newspaper

Susan

Liz

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

FOUNTAINS ABBEY: MAKING SENSE OF THE RUINS

Dr John Ridley is a volunteer guide at Fountains Abbey, and he treated us to his illustrated one hour guided walk – all from the comfort of our seats in Willow Road.

We learned that

- 13 monks who established the abbey broke away from the Benedictines in York, and established a new Cistercian abbey by building a simple wooden church in 1132, later replaced by the stone buildings
- There were two 'types' of monk – Lay monks who were illiterate and undertook the manual work & Choir monks who could read and write in English, Latin and (maybe) French
- The medieval concept of time differed from ours: the day was punctuated by 8 prayer times from 3.30am (before dawn) to 8.00pm (after dark)
- People would donate to the abbey for prayers to be said after their deaths to get them 'out of purgatory' and into heaven; thus, the abbey benefited significantly. Wealth also came from sheep farming and stone quarrying
- The East Lawn (now an unbroken stretch of grass) is the original graveyard where bodies of 2000 monks now lie. They would be buried fully attired, lying east/west ready for the day of resurrection
- The plan of the abbey is identical to that of Durham Cathedral and Westminster Abbey, lying east-west. The original 12th century nave was later extended in the 13th century to include a chapel of 9 altars. A tower was added in 1530 almost immediately before the dissolution of the monastery by Henry VIII in 1539.
- To the south of the abbey is the Cloister (south facing); Chapter House to the east; with Refectories (separate for Lay/Choir monks) and Dormitories beyond there. The Warming Room was only warmed from beginning of November until Good Friday.
- The stone buildings were created by itinerant stonemasons and tilers who travelled around the country using local materials.
- A monk's diet was mainly fish, vegetables and beans – he rarely ate meat – and never knew what a potato was!

Following that informative talk, I for one shall be visiting Fountains Abbey in the near future to look out for a double piscina and the monks' toilets!

Ruth Beckett

Everyone is welcome to come along to our Local History Meetings. Held on the Third Tuesday in each month at Willow Road Community Hall. Doors open @ 1.15pm, refreshments available, talk begins @ 1.45pm. £2 per person.

Sept 15	Judith Phillips	Josephine Bowes: collecting for the museum – Bargains & Beauty
Oct 20	Kaitlyn Beattie	Building for the Future – The project leader @ St Cuthberts Church in Darlington explains what is happening to the building
Nov 17	Penny Moon	'Mary Ward, Pilgrim and Educator'. An historical tale with a family history link, from one of our members.
Dec 15	Richard Annis	What lies beneath the site of an Amazon Warehouse?

Ruth Beckett

NEW MEMBERS (and not so new members) COFFEE MORNING



William Steads – Crown Street - 10.30- 12.00.

Enter by the main door on Crown Street, turn right up two steps to the raised area, where you will find our reserved tables.

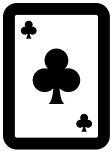
Our aim is to allow new members to get to know each other in a less busy setting than the monthly Bowen Road meetings. There will be committee members present should you have any questions to ask. We hope that this will help you make new friends and meet with our recently joined members in a relaxed environment. No need to book, just turn up.

13 came along to our July Coffee Morning, lots of interesting chat and a warm welcome to the new members who came along for the first time.



Jenny & Brenda (New member Liaison)

CANASTA GROUP



Welcome to our friendly canasta group. We meet on Thursday afternoon twice a month starting 2pm at the Travellers Rest Cockerton.

It's a nice friendly fun afternoon with no previous experience necessary. We, as a group, provide non stressful tuition. We have recently welcomed a new member.

Why not give it a go? Tea coffee and biscuits on offer. Playing cards provided.

Contact Sylvia Elliott or Joan Sadler

Joan Sadler

GARDENING GROUP



Kiplin Hall

On a hot day in August we visited Kiplin Hall, near Scorton. The Hall was built in the early 1620s as a hunting lodge and is a beautiful Jacobean house with formal and walled gardens, parkland, a lake and folly. First, we wandered around the gardens and explored the lovely walled garden, filled with vegetables and some enormous pumpkins! Inside the greenhouse, grapes and tomatoes grew in abundance, while pear and apple trees lined the walls. Beautiful sunflowers and dahlias were also on display in the garden. We walked



through the formal gardens, admiring the topiary birds and neatly shaped hedges, before reaching the lake and taking in the view across to the folly. We then enjoyed a leisurely stroll beside the lake before returning to the tearoom for some tasty refreshments. After lunch we explored the hall's interior, which was fascinating and gave us some lovely views over the gardens and parkland. The tree trail around West Cemetery with Fal Sarker was postponed in August and will now be held on Thursday, 4th September at 2pm. If anyone else would like to join us just let me know by email

Ann Robinson

FRENCH CONVERSATION

What an enjoyable time we've had in French sessions these last few months! We've learnt and discussed about: French exhibits in the Bowes museum; a working trip to Algeria; a dabble into French politics; French heritage and famous sites; gastronomy; and so much more, including games of Scrabble in French and other things that have made us all laugh! We're not perfect in our French but we're all eager to learn and have good chats! Our sessions for the Autumn are on Mondays from 11.15-12.15 in the Newcastle BS.

14 September

28 September

19 October

26 October

9 November

30 November

14 December

Please contact me for further information.

Celia Howarth

DIY GROUP



Our August meeting was held at our new venue: the workshop in the Well Methodist Church. Members selected wood, measured it and cut it to size for their chosen project.

Their chosen projects included planters, a birdbox, a bird table and a sliding seat for a raised plant bed. Following the meeting several members stayed on to enjoy a bowl of delicious homemade soup made from the produce of the Well's garden followed by sponge cake and custard.

Our next meeting will be held on 19th September 2026 at 10 am. at The Well.

Anyone interested in joining our friendly group please email Sue Clark

Sue Clark



FAMILY HISTORY

After our lay off over the Summer I am pleased to announce that the Family History Group will begin meeting again in the Centre for Local studies at Darlington Library in Crown Street. As before this will be from 2pm until 4pm on the second Friday of the month

Jane Laninga

READING GROUP 2



For our August meeting we read “The List of Suspicious Things” by Jennie Godfrey. Back in the late 1970s, Margaret Thatcher was Prime minister and events in West Yorkshire were terrifying everyone. It was the time of the Yorkshire Ripper and the author was witnessing events which inspired her to write the novel based on events taking place in her local area. The book is written from the perspective of Miv and reflects her childhood during the above period. She is part of a local community containing a variety of characters all with their own secrets. Together with her friend Sharon, Miv, desperate not to have to leave the local area, attempts to find the Yorkshire Ripper by completing ‘the list of suspicious things.’ The author’s understanding of relationships was evident throughout the book, which covered many topics, friendship, domestic and racial abuse and murder. The racial abuse clearly showed how foreigners were perceived at the time by some British people. As always with many different views from the group, some felt the book produced a variety of emotions while some felt it was aimed at younger readers, but it did have a happy ending for the family which we were all pleased about.

Debbie

Next meeting: 11th September. The book choice is “What We Can Know” by Ian McEwan.

Next meetings

Judith Bryant

BRING YOUR OWN CRAFT & NATTER

A small group of crafters met at Newcastle Building Society’s upstairs meeting room for our August Craft and Chat session on a lovely warm morning for a catch-up of recent days out etc. We were later joined by Alan from the building society for an informative talk about financial planning in later life.

Christine Walker

Do You need help with appointments



We have been told that if ever you need help getting to hospital appointments the Friends of Darlington Memorial Hospital do a volunteer car service taking people to and from appointments. The service relies on donations given to the driver. To book the telephone number is 01325 743866.

READING GROUP 1



“The Foxhole at Piercebridge was the setting for our August lunch and an enjoyable time was had by all. This took the place of a regular meeting so I’m sending a review of “Raising Hare” which discussed earlier in the year and didn’t make it to the Newsletter.

“Raising Hare” by Chloe Dalton, a book we all agreed was a delightful choice.

This story portrays the way in which a human being can live in harmony with nature by developing a lasting relationship with a young hare. The author rescues the day-old leveret nestling in the winter grass at the centre of the farm track which leads to her home, a converted barn in the midst of deep countryside.



The story starts during the Covid lockdown when the author, a high-flying political advisor, is experiencing deep restlessness and anxiety about the future. She is conflicted in her response to the care of the tiny creature: what skills and knowledge can she bring to rearing this vulnerable animal?

Slowly but surely her hesitant steps result in the leveret growing into an adult hare and later producing her own offspring in the author’s house, displaying a quite stunning confidence in Dalton’s ability to nurture and protect her tiny babies.

In order to foster this extraordinary partnership, the author delves into research about hares, finding references dating from ancient times. Interestingly, though she finds many recipes telling her how to cook hare meat, she has great difficulty finding what to offer her leveret to wean it off the lactose-free milk substitute given to kittens which her farm-owning sister suggested she used. She eventually finds what she is looking for in verses written by the 18th century poet, William Cowper. He had found solace after a failed romance from a pet hare.

Dalton describes the beauty of the animals and the routines of their behaviour. She becomes a creature of habit herself, circling the areas of her house and garden warily, enjoying her home space rather than focusing excessively on her work and becoming aware of how this experience is changing her.

In living in such close proximity to nature the author becomes more aware of the dangers which threaten the lives of hares on a daily basis. Many are damaged by farm machinery and then there is “hare coursing” a so-called sport which has no closed season unlike we have for game birds.

This experience has brought the author in contact with others’ experiences, both at home and abroad, learning more about these wonderful animals, how they cling on to life despite the changes in their environment.

I marvelled at the Author’s skill in describing the beauty and wonder of these extraordinary creatures. To be able to write such a book after spending a career writing political reports reveals talent indeed!

Toni Carr

LUNCHEON GROUP



In August we returned to the Bay Horse at Middridge when 14 members enjoyed delicious food, excellent service & very good company. It was a slightly smaller group than usual, due to holidays & childminding duties but I received a lot of positive feedback.

Having canvassed opinion at the last main meeting I have booked the September Lunch Group at Yarm Road Fish & Chip Shop which has its own restaurant. This will take place on Friday 25th September at 1pm. It offers a more varied menu than you may think. As well as standard cod & chips, there is haddock, scampi, fishcake, sausage, corned beef savoury, cheese & onion savoury & even haggis!! They also offer starters & desserts. I will bring copies of the menu to the main meeting although we don't have to choose our meals in advance. Therefore, I just need numbers who wish to attend.

There is parking available on the road to the side of Cummins & if you are travelling on public transport, you can get the no. 2 bus from the town centre to Redhall which stops across the road from the restaurant.

Stella Barnes

An important reminder. If you sign up to come to the Luncheon Club and then find you can no longer attend, please let me know in advance so appropriate cancellations can be made.

SCRABBLE GROUP



Held on 2nd and 4th Mondays at The Travellers Rest in Cockerton. All abilities are welcome. We are currently almost full, but if enough people are interested a second group could be formed.

Brenda Ellidge

ITALIAN CONVERSATION

We have 16-17 in the group and find learning Italian fun, rewarding and interesting - though sometimes quite challenging! Over recent sessions we have learnt how to: describe clothes; talk about aches and pains; describe our daily routines; book a room at a hotel. We can have short conversations in Italian - and usually have lots of giggles!

Our sessions in the Autumn are in the Newcastle BS on Mondays from 10am to 11am on these dates:

14.09.26 - 28.09.26

19.10.26 - 26.10.26

9.11.26 - 30.11.26

14.12.26

The group is now better for Intermediate rather than Beginner learners of the language.

Celia Howarth

BRIDGE CLUB

Our friendly Bridge Group meets in The Travellers Rest in Cockerton at 1.30 on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. We are a noncompetitive and supportive group. If you would like to improve your play by joining our group, please contact Kay Walker or Jackie Roberts

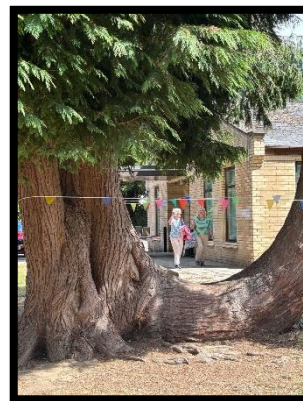
Picnic and Tree Planting at Elmridge



On Saturday the 8th August, we held our third anniversary event at Elm Ridge Church. The day dawned fine, warm and sunny, a bonus. My team of helpers made short work of setting up the refreshment stand, putting out the tables and chairs and setting up the games. By 1 o'clock we were ready to welcome our members for a brilliant afternoon. We planted one of the three Silver Birch trees, the other two will be planted

when they have received some care and attention, they have not fared to well in the heat. Everyone enjoyed the picnic and we even had a full table of teddy bears to be judged by Roy Lockwood the Elm Ridge grounds man who helped with the tree planting.

Dot Hullah



Teddy Bear Picnic Winners



Winners of the Teddy Bear competition: -

Well-dressed Bear – Jenny Hurt
 Cutest Bear – Pat Garnett
 Most Colourful Bear – Sue Clark
 Most Vintage Bear – Sue Storey

Thank you to all who entered their bears.



OPPORTUNITYS FROM REGIONAL



**A Festival of Fun, Music
and Learning.**

**The Festival of Fun,
Music and Learning held
on May 12th 2026 at
Ushaw Historic House,
Chapels and Gardens, DH7 7DW**

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

success that The Regional u3a Events Team and Committee have decided to organise a similar day in 2027.

**This special day at Ushaw Historic House, Chapels and Gardens, DH7 7DW is on
Wednesday 19th May 2027.**

To enable this day to be a success we rely on members to contribute to the day. We had a great response from members for 2026, but we would like others to put their names forward.

Can any member, or a group of members, offer to present a workshop or an activity for everyone to enjoy? Is your expertise in eg history, geography, crafts, such as card making, genealogy, photography, calligraphy, playing an instrument, singing in a choir etc. Could you lead a walk from Ushaw Historic House? Could you give a taster session about carpet bowls, any genre of dancing, ceramics and so the list goes on.

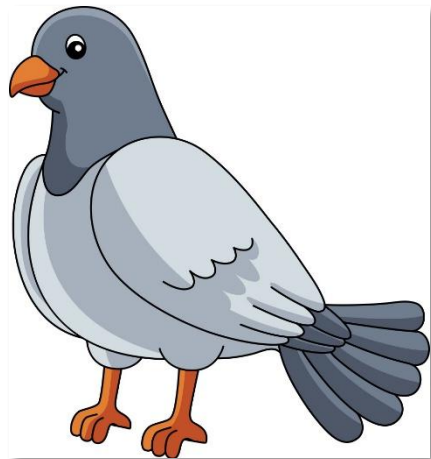
The staff of the historic house will also be able to offer tours of the house giving an insight into its history.

Please contact Cecilia Coulson for further information

Pigeons

Pigeons are such stupid birds
They don't seem to have a brain in their heads.
They wake up at 5 as they stomp on your roof,
Destroy your plants and perch on your sheds.
Then after that they land on the road
Ignoring cars travelling at speed
Because they've seen a juicy bug
And just decided to have a grand meal.

So drivers beware, you'll have to go slow
And toot your horn to make them fly
Back to the trees and the sky above –
Unless, of course, you'd enjoy pigeon pie ...



Kate Brown

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MEMBERS



AUTUMN NORTH EAST REGIONAL QUIZ



Hosted by South Durham u3a

Venue: Hurworth Grange Community Centre, DL2 2BN

Date: Wednesday 18th November 2026

Time: 2pm -5pm

Entrance fee: £4 per member (6 members per Team)

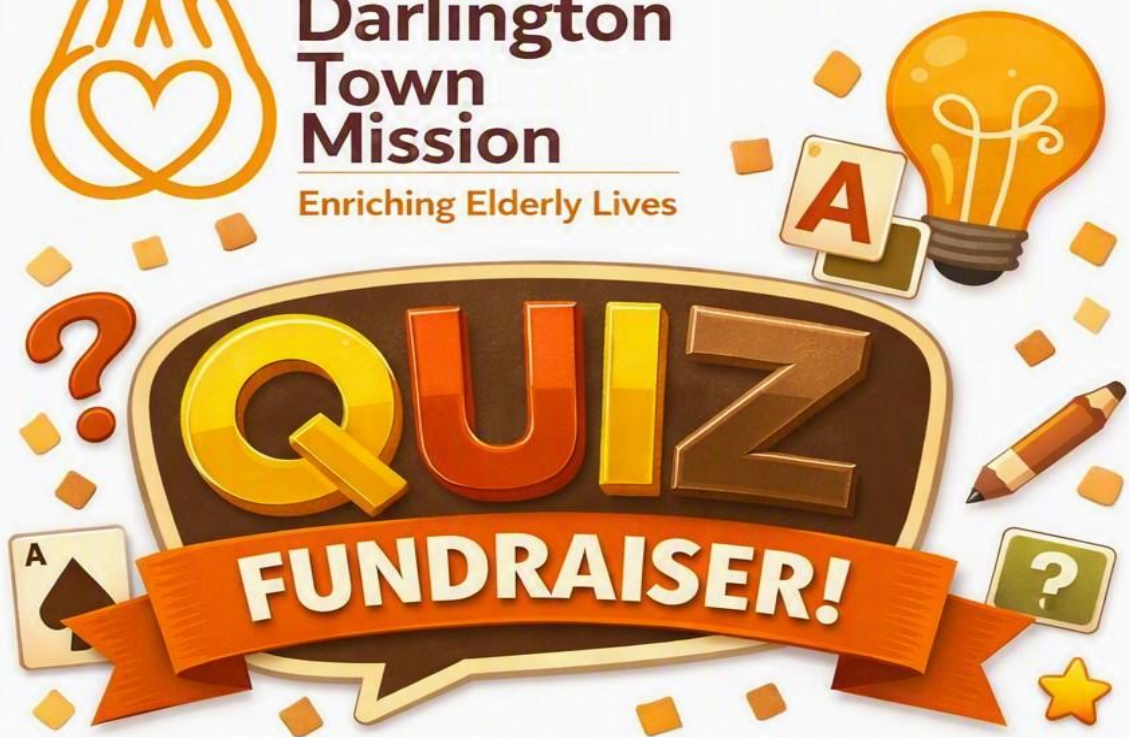
Here are the details of our autumn quiz, it's a fun filled afternoon
shared with quiz teams from
other u3a's.

We are looking for quiz enthusiasts to represent South Durham.
There will be a sign-up sheet at the monthly meeting if you would like
to take part, or
alternatively, please email Jenny



**Darlington
Town
Mission**

Enriching Elderly Lives



Saturday 24 October 2026 at 7.30pm

Hurworth Grange, DL2 2BN

Teams of 6 • £6 per person

Raffle & Prizes!

All Welcome!

**Please book your teams in advance by contacting,
the Secretary, Penny Moon**



Monthly Speakers

Oct 13	GARY BANKHEAD ON HIS TIME AS A FIREMAN
Nov 10	AGM and Talk by Newcastle Building Society
Dec 8	U3a Christmas Party

Groups on Offer

Bridge – Jackie Roberts/Kay Walker	Travellers Rest - Cockerton	1.30 -4pm every other Tuesday
Current Affairs – Gill Turnbull	Members' homes	10am-12 noon on the 3rd Monday of the month
Coffee & Chat - Pauline Noble	Salt Fish Town House	10.30-12.30am last Wednesday of each month
Creative Writing – Dot Hullah	Leader's home	10-12am first Wednesday of each month
Canasta	Travellers Rest - Cockerton	Every other Thursday
Own Craft and Chat	Newcastle building Society Community Room	9.30 untill 11.30 – last Wednesday of the month
DIY Club		Variable check with leader
Family History – Jane Laninga	Crown Street Library	2-4 2 nd Friday of the month
French, Advanced Celia Howarth	Above Newcastle Building Society, Market Place	11.15 - Fortnightly
Friday Walking Judith Bryant	Park cars in Linden Ave (nearest Coniscliffe Rd end)	9.30am on the 3rd Friday of each month
Gardening Group Ann Robinson	Harroway Room – Elm Ridge Methodist Church	October to April 3 rd Thursday of the month – 10 - 12
Intermediate Walking Susan –	Cockerton car park	10am on the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month
Italian for beginners Celia Howarth	Above Newcastle Building Society	10 until 11 - Fortnightly
Jungalow Crafts – Dot Hullah	Above Newcastle Building Society, Market Place	10am-12pm Last Thursday of the month
Local History – Ruth Beckett/Linda Chadd	Willow Road Community Centre	1.30pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month
Luncheon Group - Stella Barnes	Pubs/restaurants	1.00pm on the last Friday of each month
New Members (and old) coffee morning Jenny Hurt	William Stead Weatherspoon's	10.30-12 on 4th Tuesday of each month
Play Reading – Muriel Jones	Members' homes	2pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month
Reading Group 1 – Toni Carr	Members' homes	2nd Wednesday of each month
Reading Group 2 – Judith Bryant.	Members' homes	10.30am on 2nd Friday of each month
Rummikub – Liz Kay	Members' homes	10am-12 noon on the 1st Friday of each month

Scrabble Brenda Ellidge	Travellers Rest Cockerton	2pm on 2nd & 4th Monday of each month

Useful email addresses if you need to contact us

NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS	REASONS
Dot Hullah		Anything to do with the running of our u3a or advise and help in general.
Dot Hullah		Anything you wish to contribute to the monthly newsletter
Penny Moon		Administration queries
Sue Clark		Any financial queries
Ann Robinson		Anything to do with Membership including yearly fees
Jenny Hurt		Any queries with regards to social events
Dave Cooke		Any queries to do with our groups, including new groups and availability of groups
Carol Boyd		Any welfare matters