

Conversation Club Leeds

Newsletter

Number 2 March 2022

Welcome to our second newsletter!

Meetings

We can meet inside again! Now that the number of Covid cases is going down, we can start having meetings inside our two buildings. This will be good news for many of you as it means we can now be warm!

So now, regular indoor meetings are happening at:

- The Holbeck, Jenkinson Lawn, LS11 9QX on TUESDAYS from 1:30 to 3:30 pm
- Mill Hill Chapel, City Square, LS1 5EB on THURSDAYS from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

At both venues, you can enjoy a hot drink and a snack while you chat to friends or do the quiz!

Thank you to those people who came to our walks around the city centre and Holbeck Moor when we couldn't meet inside. We will still have some short walks sometimes in the future, because many people enjoyed them and discovered interesting places in the city.

Covid safety: we will let people decide themselves whether to wear a mask in meetings, but we ask that you try to keep some social distance if possible, and to do a Covid test before you come.

Other news

Football at The Holbeck

If you like playing football, you can join in the **new football project** happening right after our Holbeck meetings on Tuesday afternoons. The football sessions are run by an organisation called



Active Leeds, and the Leeds United Foundation. All equipment and some coaching is provided.

So now you can have *twice the fun* on Tuesdays – the Conversation Club meeting followed by a game of football! How cool is that?

We also have a couple of footballs and basketballs of our own.

Now we just need some ladies to start a female football team.....

Some of the guests playing football on Holbeck Moor

‘Stirring Up the Past’ – Storytelling Walk By Anne Collins

As audio tour guide it was wonderful experience to walk with Conversation Club on an audio tour on 3rd February 2022. We were 16 people in a group listening to an audio track on eight different stops. We started from Mill Hill Chapel to Leeds Market Penny Bazaar.

When I came across the project and went through the audio tracks and heard different stories from the past, Conversation Club came in my mind, to take on the audio tour. It’s a group where I can share the story and tell them about how migrants have changed Britain’s history and contributed in the country.



Here is a picture of two participants in the Leeds Library, with headphones on.

Also being a member of Conversation Club, it was a very friendly and fun walk. We all enjoyed in the Leeds Library and for most of us it was the first time to visit that (private) library. It was exciting to go inside the library, listening to the audio track about the library and discovering the old books which were preserved and well maintained, and seeing how things have shaped and changed all the surroundings after decades.



Thank you all wonderful volunteers at Conversation Club who have encouraged and supported me. I also want to thank all who took part and the whole group.

Anne Collins
Conversation Club
3rd March 2022

Activities in Leeds museums and libraries

Leeds libraries and museums are starting activities again, like this **craft session** on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month, from 3 to 4pm. The next one is 2nd April.

<https://museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk/events/leeds-city-museum/keep-crafting-780/?occurrence=2022-04-02>

You can join the **Museum Choir**. A choir is a group of people singing together. You can do this in person or online - joining a choir online means nobody else can hear you! You will need to register online for this.

<https://museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk/events/leeds-city-museum/virtual-museum-choir/>

If you want to **learn to draw pictures**, you can try this 4-week FREE course in the Central Public Library, which will teach you the basic skills of drawing. From 23rd April to 21st May.

<https://www.leedsinspired.co.uk/events/yes-you-can-draw-0>

All the materials (paper, pencils etc) are provided.

You can find out about other museum **events** here:

<https://museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk/leeds-city-museum/whats-on-leeds-city-museum/>

New volunteers at CCL

Now that we are going back to meeting inside, we have advertised for more volunteers to help us at Conversation Club. We have had quite a few people saying they would like to come along, so look out for some new faces at our regular gatherings! We know you will make them feel welcome.

Just to let everyone know, all the people who help at Conversation Club are volunteers. They don't get paid, they come along in their own time.

This month's quiz (Geography!)

1. What is the name of the river that flows through London?
a) River Clyde b) River Thames c) River Avon
2. What is the biggest county in the UK?
a) Lancashire b) Kent c) Yorkshire
3. Where is 'Land's End'?
a) The north of Scotland b) Cornwall c) The west of Wales

Answers at the end of the Newsletter.

Useful information

Refugee Community Organisations (RCOs)

There are 50 Refugee Community Organisations in Leeds, with members from many different countries. The Refugee Forum has a list of them all on its website. Here is the list:

<https://www.leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk/rcos/>

The Refugee Forum is a very useful organisation. Their address is: **One Community Centre, Cromwell Street Lincoln Green, Leeds LS9 7SG**

This is their website home page: <https://www.leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk/>

English classes

Some guests have asked for details of English (ESOL) classes, apart from Leeds City College which sometimes has waiting lists.

There are many organisations providing English classes in Leeds, **the best way to find them is the *Learning English in Yorkshire and the Humber* website:** <https://www.learningenglish.org.uk/>

This website is a directory of all the formal and informal English classes in Yorkshire.

We have done some research and have found 5 places not too far from the city centre:

- **Leeds Refugee Forum**
- **Swarthmore Adult Education centre**
- **English4All**
- **YMCA**
- **Learning Partnerships - various locations**

If you would like more information, please contact us at <ccleeds20@gmail.com>

Training and jobs

If you are allowed to apply for jobs you may find this website useful:

<https://www.beingemployedleeds.org.uk>

Some firms offer training schemes also.

This month's poem!

You Got To Sing

You got to sing like you don't need the money

Love like you'll never get hurt

You got to dance like nobody's watching

It's gotta come from the heart

If you want it to work.

You like it? Maybe you could write one to share with your friends in Conversation Club. Or do it in your own language and then we can get it translated!

Contact us

Remember to follow us on Facebook and Twitter !

<https://www.facebook.com/TheConversationClubLeeds/>

Twitter: @cclmct91

Website: in preparation

<http://www.millhillchapel.org/>

<https://www.slunglow.org/what-is-the-holbeck/>

Answers to the quiz: 1. b) River Thames 2. c) Yorkshire 3. b) Cornwall.