New Year with West Pennine Villages U3A

Villagers are being urged to take up new challenges for the New Year.

The West Pennine Village U3A formed just six months ago but already has 116 members and 24 groups up and running.

The U3A meets at Withnell Social Club and in members’ homes and offers everything from table tennis to crafting and from family history to walking. There are also indoor games, table tennis, Pilates and theatre trips.

New sessions for 2020 include handbell ringing, Dancercise and country dancing.

Ann Furlong, the U3A chairman said: “We have far exceeded our expectations and it is so exciting and positive.”

The U3A is a national organisation for retired, semi retired or those no longer in full time employment and the WPVU3A is accessible to people living in the Withnell, Wheelton, Hoghton, Abbey Village, White Coppice, Heapey, Riley Green, Brinscall, Whittle and Clayton-le-Woods.

The U3A holds a drop-in session every Wednesday from 10am until noon at Withnell Fold Sports and Social Club (PR6 8BA) where members can enjoy a coffee and a chat with other members and to see which groups are on offer. There is a speaker every month.

Visit the website at <http://westpenninevillagesu3a.org.uk> for information about groups, dates of the speaker sessions and a calendar of events, or send a message to [contact@westpenninevillagesu3a.org.uk](mailto:contact@westpenninevillagesu3a.org.uk)

Ann added: “We are always looking to move forward and welcome any advice, suggestions etc. New groups can be formed at any time provided there is sufficient interest and someone to start up the group. We can arrange transport for those who need it. So, a New Year – a New You? Come and join us.”