

Newsletter 176
January 2024

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Website: www.u3asites.org.uk/chesterfield



Chesterfield u3a
OPEN MEETING
on Wednesday 3rd January
from 2 pm – 4 pm in the Market Hall
a chance to hear Maureen S Taylor's
talk on GARDEROBES, GRIME and
LEECHES
in the 16th century.

Maureen will be dressed in period
costume to create the right atmosphere.

Your Committee and Key Volunteers 2023-2024:

Honorary Officers:

Chair: Irene Wilkinson, 01246 234924,
chair@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Vice Chair: VACANT

Secretary: Carole Grew, 01246 568841
secretary@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Treasurer: Richard Turley, 01246 591300
treasurer@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Other Committee Members,

some of whom have additional key volunteer roles:

Sue Atherton, 01246 229469, susanatherton56@gmail.com

Lynn Cusson, **(Assistant Treasurer)** 07887 884876,
assistanttreasurer@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Jane Machin and Brian Heathcote **(Joint groups facilitators)**
groupsfacilitator@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Kathryn Lambert, **(Membership Secretary)**
684 Chatsworth Road, Chesterfield S40 3NU
membershipsecretary@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Valerie Myers, **(New-member Supporter)** 07928 327876,
newmembersupport@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Roger Watts, **(Beacon Administrator)** 01246 276161,
beacon.admin@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Other Key Volunteer Roles:

Facebook Moderator: Howard Burrell,
facebookmoderator@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Meetings Organiser: Samantha Roberts, 01246 557731,
meetingsorganiser@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Newsletter Editor: Jeanne Clark, 0114 2367390,
8 Abbeydale Park Rise, Sheffield S17 3PD
newslettereditor@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

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refreshmentcoord@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Website Manager: Mark Hoare, 01246 566722
webmaster@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

COPY DATE FOR NEWSLETTER number 177 MARCH

Please send all items for the Newsletter to Jeanne Clark by email or post to the address above, as soon as possible and by **8th February** at the latest. The editor will acknowledge receipt, edit, and abridge as necessary and her decision on inclusion, content and format is final.

FEBRUARY 2024 e-BULLETIN

Coordinators with new information which they want to pass on to their members, or details of activities or events which are coming up, should send the details to Jeanne Clark by **23rd January**.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

When you receive this newsletter, it will be almost 2024, so I send best wishes to all u3a members for the New Year.

2024 will be an important year for Chesterfield u3a, as it is our 30th anniversary. We hope to have at least one event to celebrate the anniversary . . . but this will depend on whether enough members volunteer to form a promotion/publicity/event team. See the item later in the newsletter.



No volunteers = No celebration

However, even more important for our u3a at this time is to have volunteers to be Chair and Vice-chair from the 2024 AGM onwards. My term of office ends at the AGM in March, and there has not been a Vice-chair for almost four years (traditionally in our u3a, the Vice-chair has taken over when the Chair steps down). Chair and Vice-chair both serve for a term of two years. Please, if you have had experience of being on a committee in other voluntary organisations or through work, think about putting your name forward. Or, if you think you know a member with the capabilities to take on either of these roles, try and persuade them to volunteer.



No volunteers to be Chair = potentially no u3a.

Irene Wilkinson, 01246 234924, chair@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED TO JOIN THE COMMITTEE

Our u3a is managed by the Committee, which oversees all activities and ensures that they comply with the law and with good practice. It consists of up to 12 people (also known as trustees) who are elected by u3a members at the AGM. Without a committee, our u3a would have to close down, and so the role of trustee is the most important voluntary role in the organisation.

For 2024 onwards we need:

A Chair: because my two-year period of office ends in March 2024; responsible for leading our u3a and chairing the committee; previous experience in being a charity trustee is desirable.

A Vice-chair: to assist the Chair and deputise when necessary; previous experience as a committee member is desirable but someone willing to take on this role would quickly gain such experience.

A trustee: willing to take on the voluntary role of Assistant Treasurer; financial experience is desirable; previous committee experience is desirable but a willingness to help manage the running of our u3a is more important.

Two other trustees: previous committee experience is desirable but a willingness to help manage the running of our u3a is more important.

The Committee currently meets every two months on a Friday afternoon and communicates, if necessary, by email in between meetings. Any of the existing committee members, myself included, would be happy to provide more information. As a member you (hopefully) benefit from your u3a – if you have been on committees before or would be interested in contributing to the most important role in the organisation, please consider putting your name forward. As well as helping the organisation, volunteering is known to improve the well-being of the volunteers themselves and to enable them to gain new skills and experiences. It's a way of meeting people and making friends.

I cannot emphasise enough the importance of someone coming forward to volunteer to become the Chair for the next two years. Without a Chair, neither the committee nor the u3a itself can function properly, and we would have to consider closing down Chesterfield u3a.

Irene Wilkinson, Chair, chair@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR A CAMEO EVENT NEXT SEPTEMBER

To celebrate and promote Chesterfield u3a's 30th Anniversary in 2024, we are planning at least one event – a CAMEO Day (Come And Meet EveryOne) at the Winding Wheel. It will take place on Wednesday 25th September, during National u3a Week.

CAMEOs will be familiar to people who have been members for at least five years. For more recent members, a CAMEO comprises displays by u3a groups to showcase their activities, including both tabletop displays and performances by music and dance groups. Members have the opportunity to learn about groups they have not yet tried out, and the event is widely publicised to attract potential new members.

Two people have volunteered to organise the overall event, but more volunteers are needed to help with individual elements of the day, e.g. publicity. Please think about offering some of your time.

For more information about what is involved, contact:

Joyce Hart, 01246 567667 hartjoyce056@gmail.com

PS: With lots of volunteers, more publicity and more events might be possible. Get involved!

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to our new members:

Wendy Hamm, Kathryn Sheldon, Ludwik Michalek, William Watton, Patricia Nixon, Roy Slater, Susan Hill, Susan France, Georgia Thomas, Marilyn Wood, Brenda and Peter Hawkins, Pauline Nunn, and Angela Madin.

Kathryn Lambert, membershipsecretary@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

GROUP FACILITATORS

I would like to share with members some notes following the recent meeting of Group Coordinators on 16th November.

This was arranged by our Chair, Irene Wilkinson, together with Brian Heathcote and me, as Joint Groups Facilitators.

Over 40 Coordinators attended, which was brilliant, and there was lots of lively discussion, in groups and then in a plenary session. Those attending generally had done so out of a desire to meet each other and a sense of responsibility to the organisation.

Various issues of concern were raised such as finding suitable venues, costs and access, Health and Safety, IT issues, the management of registers,

getting members to engage actively (especially finding people willing to take over or share the role of coordinator).

After an open discussion time, it was decided that a small group would meet in the fairly near future (Christmas notwithstanding) to come up with revised guidance documents for the Facilitators and the Coordinators, and that we hold meetings such as this one on a regular, maybe six-monthly, basis. Two coordinators came forward to volunteer to be part of the small group; if anyone else would like to be involved, please contact either Brian or me.

A final note – if you have ever wished there were an interest group on a particular topic, please do consider starting one yourself. This does not need to become an onerous task, and we are here to help!

Jane Machin

UP AND COMING EVENTS

There will be a **Coffee Morning**
on **Wednesday 7th February** from **10.15 am – 11.45**
am

in Rooms 1 and 2 at the Market Hall.
Refreshments will be available whilst you meet new
members or chat with friends.

GROUP AND ACTIVITY NEWS AND PROGRAMMES

GARDEN APPRECIATION GROUPS

There will be a talk in the Chesterfield Library theatre on 18th January, starting at 2.00 pm (doors open 1.30 pm) and the cost will be £3.00 which includes a free raffle. Any Chesterfield u3a member can attend.

The title is *A Garden within Doores* by Danny Wells. He is an interesting and experienced speaker who will speak about the history of gardening indoors from the Georgian Age to the mid-20th century.

Group one co-ordinator: Irene Trevis, 074340 42215

Group two co-ordinator: June Partington 01246 232169

GEOLOGY GROUP

The Geology Group (or Pamela's Rock Group) will get "down to earth" with another awesome programme for 2024.

This year we continue the topics in *How the Earth Works* with Professor Michael E. Wysession. As usual, members have volunteered (or been volunteered!) to give their version of the topics.

January 9th: Making Matter/Big Bangs + Pamela

February 13th: Creating Earth/Recipe for a Planet + Judy

March 12th: The Rock Cycle/Matter in Motion + David F

April 9th: Minerals/The Building Blocks of Rocks + David F

* **May 14th:** Clowne Railway Cutting + Frank

* **June 11th:** Anston Woods Geo Site + Pamela

* **July 9th:** Curbar Edge and Linacre Reservoir+Hazel/Marjorie

September 10th: Magma/The Building Mush of Rocks + Janet

October 8th: Crystallization/The Rock Cycle Begins + Frank

November 12th: Volcanoes/Lava and Ash + Hilary

December 10th: Guest Lecturer + Christmas Lunch

All meetings take place at Eyre Chapel, Newbold on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10.00 am.

* Trips out: meet in the car park to share lifts leaving at 10.00 am.

Pamela Boulton, 01246 237622, pamelaboulton@hotmail.com

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Our talks are open to all u3a members and are held in the library lecture theatre, 2.00 pm (doors open at 1.45). No booking is required, and the cost is £3.00 per person on the door.

Tuesday 2nd January: *Wingfield Manor* by Val Duke

Val is a former custodian of Wingfield Manor, Hardwick Old Hall and Bolsover Castle. She will look at how the building evolved and its most famous inhabitants, Mary Queen of Scots, George Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury and Bess of Hardwick.

Val has asked for her fee to be donated to Ashgate Hospice.

Tuesday 6th February: *Richard III - The Man and the Mystery* by Dave Andrews

Dave is a former BBC Radio Leicester presenter and producer. Previously he was a Deputy Headteacher in a Leicestershire comprehensive school, and his degree was in history where he specialised particularly in Medieval History at York University.

This illustrated talk combines the story of Richard III's life and his place in 15th century history, his life living at Middleham in Yorkshire, with the amazing story of the search for his bones which were eventually discovered under a Leicester car park.

Tuesday 5th March: *The History of the British Motor Industry in the East Midlands* by Paul Adey

Paul is experienced in management recruitment, training and development as well as having a wide knowledge of the motor industry. Being retired for a number of years, he is now developing a new career in delivering his presentations nationwide. Paul will look at some of the many car manufacturers that sprung up in the early years of the motor industry; there were a few modest successes but many failures. We focus on, among others, Sheffield-Simplex, Laycock-Charron, Humber, Raleigh, Brough and Bentley. Some went on to greater things, while others faded into obscurity.

Sandra Frost

POETRY GROUP

The group would like one or two more members to join them. Please contact John Tait and Anne Meakin.

taitmeakin@googlemail.com

UPWORDS

The group meets every other Wednesday at 1.45 pm at Loundsley Green Community Centre. The next meetings will be on:

3rd, 17th and 31st January, and 14th and 28th February.

We play by the slightly informal "Chesterfield" rules, aiming to learn new words as we play.

Tony Clark, tony.clark1@btinternet.com

WINE GROUP



The wine group enjoys itself!

WALKING GROUPS

WALKING GROUP D (TUESDAY)

These walks are usually of 5 to 7 miles. We set out at 10.00 am and all walks include a coffee stop and lunch stop (bring your own). New walkers are always made welcome. **Easy** walks have no or very short steep climbs and descents and are up to about 5 miles long. They may include long but gentle climbs and descents. **Moderate** walks will be up to 7 miles in length and may have climbs and descents, some of which may be steeper or longer. **Hard** walks will be up to 7 miles or a little more in length and will have steep or long climbs or descents.

The named leader will decide if the weather is suitable for the walk: if you are in any doubt, please ring them.

9th Jan: GR 154743, SK17 8SN: Tideswell Dale CP (fee) Joyce and David: 5.5 miles Moderate

16th Jan: GR 479698, S44 6LW Hillstown Village Hall overflow CP Dave: 5.5 miles Moderate

23rd Jan: GR 290556 DE4 4GT Black Rocks CP (fee) Shirley and Valerie: 6 miles Moderate

30th Jan: GR 258685, DE4 2NX Carlton Lees CP (fee) Helena: 5 miles Easy

6th Feb: GR 128659 SK17 9QJ Hurdlow CP (fee) Mick: 4 miles Easy

13th Feb: GR 626676 NG21 9QB Edwinstowe CP (fee) Sue and Dave: 4.75 miles Easy

20th Feb: GR 339692, S42 7EW park near The Bull's Head in Holymoorside Ken and Nicky: 5 miles Easy (some slopes)

27th Feb: GR 223689, DE45 1GE Bakewell Old Station CP (fee) Liz and Peter: 5 miles Easy

For any enquiries please contact:

Joyce Hart 0792 6547112 and Peter Smalley 07527 995776

More photographs taken on one of the Tuesday walks.





WALKING GROUP B (Thursdays)

We start promptly at 10 am. Please arrive in good time to be suited and booted for 10. On walks of over 6.5 miles, a drink for a coffee stop and a packed lunch should be carried. These walks are shown with TL after the distance. On shorter walks there will be a stop for coffee (which you should carry) and a pub or café lunch may be arranged at the end.

Easy walks involve a total ascent of less than 500 feet (150 mtrs), Moderate walks have between 500 and 1000 feet (305 mtrs) and Harder walks have over 1000 feet. Remember, if using Grid Reference finder, you need to put SK before the number.

If you are thinking of joining us for the first time, give me a call or drop me an email so that I can look out for you.

Any problems please give me a ring: 01246 568841, 07739 383772

4th Jan: GR 336727 Linacre Res CP: TBC; Carole: 5.5 Moderate

11th Jan: GR 499643 Pleasley Country Park: to Hardwick and Rowthorpe trail; Bob: 5.5, Easy

18th Jan: GR 386729 53.251995, -1.4218896: Cuckoo Way, West Wood, Tapton Grange; Stuart: 6.5 miles TL, Moderate 600 ft

25th Jan: Chatsworth House CP. Meet at the toilets near the house entrance: Edensor, Moatless Plantation, Carlton Lees: Geoff and Mary: 6.25 miles, Moderate

1st Feb: GR 403804 Ford behind Bridge Inn: Ford, Troway, Marsh Lane, The Moss: Carole: 5.6 miles, Easy

8th Feb: GR 172607 Friden CP: Friden, Newhaven, Minninglow, Long Dale; Steve L: 6 miles Easy

15th FEB: GR 339692 Bulls Head, Holymoorside; via Somersall Hall and Old Brampton; Adrian: 5.5 miles Easy

22nd Feb: GR 231813 53.328810, -1.6540582, Hathersage, Oddfellows Rd CP: via Hurstclough Lane, Dennis Knoll, Stanage Edge, Toothill: John M: 7.3 TL Harder 1380ft

29th Feb: GR 173894 Fairholmes CP: Fairholmes, Wellhead, Abbey Bank, Upper Derwent reservoir: Andrew: 5.5 miles Moderate

Carole Grew 01246 568841, 07739 383772, carole.grew64@gmail.com

STROLLERS (Saturdays)

As usual walks take place fortnightly and will be on the following Saturdays: **6th and 20th January, 3rd and 17th February, and 2nd March.**

We do our best to avoid stiles and steep slopes and walk for a maximum of 3 miles.

NB: From January, we will no longer be meeting initially at Holmebrook Valley Park but will meet directly at the walking venue and you must be ready to leave from there sharply at 10.45 am for our walk. Emails detailing venues and directions to get there are sent out to members regularly.

We are not currently organising pub/café lunches at the end, but members may organise these themselves. If a walk is to be cancelled in advance, we send out an email to members the evening before if possible, suggesting an alternative coffee meeting place. If weather conditions are very poor on the morning of the walk it would be advisable to contact the coordinators or walk leaders to ask if the walk is going ahead before you set out. Again, a coffee alternative may be suggested. **Anyone wishing to join the group should contact the coordinators beforehand for details of the next walk.**

Sue and Brian Taylor, 07532 160324, sue_taylor@live.com

AN AUTUMN WALK

On 21st November, 18 members of the Tuesday walking group set off from the car park next to the Robin Hood pub. As we set out across the field of grass dotted with bracken and trees - silver birch and hawthorn, the sky was dull but showed glimpses of blue. Following a steady climb through the woodland under Gardom's Edge, with a coffee break near the top, sitting on boulders amongst the trees, we crossed over Bar Brook via an ancient packhorse bridge. This led us to a path that goes along under Baslow Edge and emerges onto the top.

We stopped here for lunch. The sky had cleared to bright blue; the sun was warm and the views over the valley of the river Derwent were lovely. From there we walked along Eagle Stone Flat and picked our way across marshy moorland to arrive under the rocky cliffs of Birchen Edge and back to the car park.

Sue Atherton

SOLUTIONS

Bucket down (4) POUR Prompt (3) CUE Yearn (4) PINE = PORCUPINE
Rule (5) REIGN Ship (4) BOAT Defeat (4) ROUT = RAINBOW TROUT
Haze (4) MIST Thyme e.g. (4) HERB Pastime (5) HOBBY = MR BLOBBY

WORD LADDERS

**ARMY, ARMS, AIMS, DIMS, DAMS, DAMP, CAMP
MEEK, SEEK, SEED, SEND, MEND, MIND, MILD**

SURELY IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR CHRISTMAS DINGBATS?

[I do know these were in the December e-bulletin, but not seen by those without the internet.]

You can work these out by saying exactly what you see!

1. **Spear, Pepper, Polo** **Cottage, Shepherd, Apple**

2. **TOFRANKUCH**

3. **CCCCCC
FESTIVE**

4. **ABCDEFGHJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ**

5. **NIGMASSHT**



6.

7. **HELLO SPRING! HI SUMMER! HOWDY AUTUMN! YO! WINTER**

Chesterfield u3a
AGM on Wednesday 6th MARCH
from 2 pm – 4 pm in the Market Hall
We rely on volunteers and we greatly appreciate the
contribution they make.

Could you be a volunteer too?

The AGM will be followed by a talk about the work
of the Marie Curie organisation.

The agenda and nomination forms are on the
website.

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