

Registered Charity
Number 1064504

Newsletter 171
March 2023



Chesterfield u3a
OPEN MEETING and AGM
in the Market Hall on
WEDNESDAY 1st March at 2 pm



After the AGM there will be a talk by
MIKE STORR
which is entitled
MASTERS OF MIRTH

Your Committee and Officer Contacts 2022–2023:

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chair@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

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peterhminchin@btinternet.com

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u3a BUSINESS

COPY DATE FOR NEWSLETTER number 172 MAY

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

APRIL 2023 *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 March.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

New members, new groups: It is encouraging to see that so many new members joined our u3a in January, and to learn of the recently established Music Workshop. Ideas for new groups are always welcome.

AGM matters: The Annual General Meeting is the most important meeting of the year – it's the occasion on which you, the members, approve (hopefully!) the accounts and financial report for the previous year, and elect the Honorary Officers and committee members for the forthcoming year. Our constitution requires at least 10% of members to be present at the meeting to be quorate. This means we may need at least 90 members to achieve a quorum.

Please make every effort to come along. This year there is a speaker once the AGM business is completed (see cover for details).

Volunteers: I keep talking about this at Open Meetings and in the newsletter. The volunteers we already have are wonderful and there would not be a u3a in Chesterfield without their assistance. But we need more volunteers. Surely, in a u3a with over 900 members, there are other members willing to help. **It is your u3a**, and u3as are about self-help – and are run by members for members. One role which will need another volunteer after the AGM is that of Meetings Organiser. If no-one comes forward, then the May Open Meeting could be the last one.

At the time of writing, there are two nominations for the committee other than from existing trustees, plus an expression of interest from someone who may volunteer to be co-opted at a later date. The committee can co-opt people so, even if you have missed the opportunity to be elected at the AGM, you could still join us.

Please think about volunteering – most roles can be ‘job-shared’ so talk to a friend or your partner about volunteering together.

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

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to our new members:

Samantha Roberts, Irene Buxton, Sarah Wakeford, Averil Snell, Regina and Alan Steward, Neil Lancaster, Eva Konig, Elaine Schofield, Steven Dodson, Keith Broomhead, Ann Wilkinson, Jill Cooper, Valerie and Richard Scott, Lesley McCabe, Brian Singleton, Sheila Orme, Hazel Hart, Helen and Paul Scott, Dawn Hollingsworth, Christine Lyne, Michael Bestwick, Jean Hoyle, Lynne and Brian Sargeant, Anne Hayes, Theresa Taylor, Beverly Hughes, Elizabeth and David McKenzie, Judith Knowles, Pauline and Dave James, Geoffrey Stapleton-Varga, Elaine and Peter Woods, Margaret Masters, Jill Drury, John Prentice, Judith Key, Jaqueline Tame, Elisabeth Booker, David Gibbon, Julia and Deryck Houghton, Richard Hewitt, Serena Hancox, and Alan Cornwell.

Kathryn Lambert, Membership Secretary

UP AND COMING EVENTS

LAST MINUTE OPPORTUNITY

Chesterfield u3a Walking Holiday – Whitby: 24th to 31st March 2023

Unfortunately, two of the people who were planning to join this holiday at the HF Holidays hotel in Whitby have had to cancel owing to health issues. This means that we have two rooms available, either as single rooms or as doubles. The cost is £562.95 per person. All the accommodation is en-suite and full board is provided: breakfast, packed lunch, and dinner. Whether you are a walker or just someone who loves Whitby, it is a great opportunity to meet fellow u3a members and enjoy some convivial company and entertainment in the evenings.

Clearly this is quite short notice so, if you are interested, please contact Peter Minchin by phone/text on 07973 642203 or by email to peterhminchin@btinternet.com.

There will be a **Coffee Morning**
on **Wednesday 5th April**
with refreshments served from **10.15 am – 11.45 am**
upstairs in Rooms 1 and 2 at the Market Hall.



This a chance to meet other members or catch up
with friends.

GROUP AND ACTIVITY NEWS AND PROGRAMMES

BOWLS GROUP

The Bowls group continues with its indoor sessions at the Sports Centre on Friday afternoons.

The group moves outdoors on 5th May at which point a welcome can be offered to all u3a members wishing to play. The venue is the Robinson Bowling Green, Walton Dam but, to play for the full

summer, membership of the Robinson Bowls Club is required at a cost of £50. An introductory scheme is available for those who have not played crown green bowls before with payment by the session up to 6 sessions. We look forward to seeing you in the sunlit uplands of Walton.

Alan D Wood, Co-ordinator

GARDEN APPRECIATION GROUP

All u3a members are welcome to the following talk at the Chesterfield Library Theatre. It will start at 2 pm and the doors open at 1.30 pm.

Entry is £3 which includes a raffle ticket. Hand sanitiser will be available. Please feel free to wear a mask if you wish to do so.

Thursday 16th March: Kiwi Adventure: Ataroa; Land of the Big White Cloud with Mike Davey. A presentation of the scenery, flowers, wildlife, geothermal areas, and ever-changing skies.

Margaret Barber, 07941020674, June Partington, 01246 232169

MUSIC WORKSHOP

This is a chance to make music with others in a friendly ensemble environment. All instruments are welcome. Ability to read music is necessary.

Sessions will be held at Chesterfield Operatic Society (S41 7LW), on Abercrombie Street, Chesterfield, on Thursday mornings between 10.00 am and 12 noon. There is a room hire cost that is split between the group members.

Why not come along to a taster session to see the range and level of music we play? If interested contact:

Stuart, 01246 866291, or Elaine, 07774 793662



POETRY GROUP

Meetings are on the first Friday of the month at 2 – 4 pm in a private home, Walton, Chesterfield.

Our current format is that we take it in turns to read out a shortish poem or extract. You maybe could introduce a few of your own choices and say why you like it. People might comment on the poem afterwards.

We're friendly and enjoy discussion.

A drink and a biscuit are provided at half time.

We would like one or two more people to join our group.

John Tait

UKULELE GROUP

The ukulele group continues to flourish, and we now have fourteen members. We start the meeting by practising chords and strumming, led by Tony or Kaye. Everyone will shortly have a folder containing 13/14 song sheets.

Complete beginners are always welcome but must have their own ukulele, as we don't have any spares to lend, unless someone has a ukulele not needed and would be willing to donate it to the group.

The next meeting dates are: Friday 10th March and 24th March.

Vera Worthington, Ukulele co-ordinator

UPWORDS

We meet every other Wednesday at 1.45 pm at Loundsley Green Community Centre. The next meetings are on 1st, 15th and 29th March, and 12th and 26th April. We play by the slightly informal "Chesterfield" rules, aiming to learn new words as we play.

Tony Clark, tony.clark1@btinternet.com

WALKING GROUPS

WALKING GROUP D (Tuesdays)

These walks are usually of 5 to 7 miles. We set out **promptly** at 10 am and all walks include a coffee stop and a packed lunch (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 may be up to 7 miles in length, and may have a number of climbs and descents of which some may be steeper or longer. **Hard** walks will be 7 miles or a little more in length and will have a number of steep or long climbs or descents. **Please note that on most walks you should bring a packed lunch.** Some shorter walks may include the option of a pub/café lunch after the walk. If this is the case it will be shown below

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

7th Mar: GR 264799, S11 7TZ Longshaw CP free to NT members:

Dorothy and Shirley 0775 708 9914 or 208120; 6.5 miles Moderate rocky paths.

14th Mar: GR 295750, S18 7WG Shillito Woods CP: Charles and Penny 566519; 5 miles Easy

21st Mar: GR 223698, DE45 1GA Bakewell Old Station CP (fee): Liz and Peter 07527 995 776 or 208857 5 miles Easy

28th Mar: GR 365796, S18 3AX free CP behind Coal Aston Community Centre: Mel 07875 156 869; 6 miles Easy

4th Apr: GR 194582, DE4 2PN Minninglow CP: Joyce and David 07926 547 112; 7 miles Easy

11th Apr GR 167834, S33 6SB Hope CP (fee): Dave M and Mick 07999 306 996; 6.5 miles Moderate/Hard

18th Apr: GR 141712, SK17 9TU Taddington by the church; Andy 277292; 6 miles Easy

25th Apr: GR 420496, DE5 9QA Codnor town centre CP (free); Mary 07979 937 441; 7 miles Easy/Moderate

Joyce Hart 07926 547112, and Peter Smalley 07527 995776

WALKING GROUP B (Thursdays)

We start promptly at 10.00 am. Please arrive in good time to be suited and booted for 10.00. On walks of over 6.5 miles a drink for 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. Grid references for starting points are shown and should be prefixed by SK if you are doing a search.

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, numbers below.

2nd Mar: GR 286680 Beeley Top (roadside parking where the road is closed): Across moor, Chatsworth House, Carlton Lees, Beeley plantation; Cynthia and Eileen 5.5 miles Moderate

9th Mar: GR 351632 Ashover parish hall carpark: Abrahams Lane, Milltown, Overton Hall, Fallgate, Eastgate farm; Bob 6 miles Moderate

16th Mar: GR 259685 Carlton Lees CP (possible charge): Hell Bank, Chatsworth Lakes, Hunting Tower; Cliff 6.5 miles Moderate

23rd Mar: GR 190768 Foolow Pond/memorial in village centre, parking on road: Wardlow, Burnt Heath, Peter's Stone, Housley; Sarah 7 miles TL Moderate

30th March NO WALK: WHITBY WALKING HOLIDAY

6th Apr: GR 266800 Longshaw CP: fee): White Edge Moor, Hurkling Stone, Lady's Cross, back; Carole 5.5 miles Moderate

13th Apr: GR 195697 Ashford-in-the-Water church: Route via Pennyunk Lane, Monsal Head, Monsal Dale and Great Shacklow Wood; Adrian 5.75 miles Moderate

20th Apr: GR 154927 roadside Top Howden Reservoir loop: Alport Castles, Lockerbrook, reservoir track; John 7.1 miles TL Harder 1310 ft

27th Apr: GR 275628 Whitworth CP Darley Dale: Hall Dale and Ladygrove's millponds; Cliff 6.5 miles TL Moderate

**Carole Grew 01246 568841, 07739383772,
carole.grew64@gmail.com**

STROLLERS (Saturdays)

As usual walks take place fortnightly and will be on the following Saturdays:

4th and 18th March, 1st, 15th and 29th April and 13th May

We do our best to avoid stiles and steep slopes and walk for a maximum of 3 miles. We meet at 10:20am in the lower car park of Holmebrook Valley Park. This is on Linacre Road, which is off Loundsley Green Road. We leave for our walking venue at 10:30.

We are not currently organising pub/café lunches at the end; however members may organise these themselves or bring a picnic.

If weather conditions are very poor on the morning when we meet we sometimes go for a coffee at a local garden centre instead of attempting the walk. If a walk is to be cancelled in advance, we send out an email to members the evening before if possible.

We must stress that everyone who joins us will do so at their own risk. If there is a social distancing rule in place, it will be up to each of us to observe it. Having said all that, it is always lovely to see members and we hope we have many pleasant walks ahead of us this year.

Sue & Brian Taylor, 07532 160 324, sue_taylor@live.com