

Newsletter 174
November 2023

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Website: www.u3asites.org.uk/chesterfield



Chesterfield u3a
OPEN MEETING
on
Wednesday 1st November
from **2 pm – 4 pm**
in the **Market Hall**
a chance to
hear from
THE GHOST MAN of CHESTERFIELD

[More details on page 5]

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

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 Borrell,

facebookmoderator@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Meetings Organiser: Samantha Roberts, 01246 557731,

meetingsorganiser@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

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8 Abbeydale Park Rise, Sheffield S17 3PD

newsletereditor@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

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refreshmentcoord@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Website Manager: Mark Hoare, 01246 566722

webmaster@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

u3a BUSINESS

COPY DATE FOR NEWSLETTER number 175 JANUARY

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 December** at the latest. The editor will acknowledge receipt, edit, and abridge as necessary and her decision on inclusion, content and format is final.

DECEMBER 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 November**.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Once again, a year seems to have passed by very quickly. I miss the warmth of summer, but I love the colours of autumn we are enjoying now, and look forward to Christmas Festivities.

I am pleased to welcome two new Joint Group Facilitators (see later feature) and a new Joint Beacon Administrator. I hope as many group co-ordinators as possible will come along on the 16th November to get to know Jane and Brian and to contribute to identifying priorities for support and information.

At a recent zoom Forum meeting of u3a Chairs, one of the topics was 'recruiting volunteers' – an issue for all u3as but more of a problem for some than others. One of the strategies followed by many of the u3as who have been relatively successful in recruiting volunteers is to advertise most volunteer roles as shared roles. This enables the volunteers to provide mutual support to each other, lowers stress levels and makes recruitment of replacements easier because a 'shared' role is less daunting to potential volunteers.

Some of the volunteering opportunities we have are shared roles, working in a team, and other roles could be shared by two people – so don't be daunted if you are a bit hesitant about coming forward to volunteer.

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

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to our new members:

Margaret Haworth, Lindsay Illingworth, Rita Packwood, Lesley Lawe, Debbie and Edwin Hodgson, Oriel Bissett, Tony Elder, Lois Vickery, Paddy Brand, Pamela Little, Joanne Carley, Glynn Woodruff, Christine Thomason, and David McPhie.

Kathryn Lambert, membershipsecretary@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

NEW GROUP FACILITATORS

Hello from your new job-sharing Group Facilitators, Brian Heathcote and Jane Machin.

We are just beginning to get into this role: so far we are arranging a meeting for any Group Co-ordinators who would like to come along. This will be at 10.15 am on Thursday 16th November at St John's, Walton, Chesterfield S42 7LT.

The aim of the morning will be to meet up and share any concerns, ideas etc. around the co-ordinating of groups, of which we have lots!

We are both looking forward to getting around and meeting new people in the coming months.

Brian Heathcote and Jane Machin

VACANCIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Although we now have three new volunteers filling important roles as Joint Groups Facilitators and Joint Beacon Administrator, which is excellent news, we still need more.

Our u3a could not operate without members volunteering to take on the variety of tasks involved in running groups, administration, membership, events, publicity etc. We rely on volunteers, and we greatly appreciate the contribution they make.

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 is a way of meeting people and making friends.

We urgently need from the AGM in March 2024:

a NEW CHAIR, a VICE-CHAIR, and more TRUSTEES for the committee to carry out the essential role of managing our u3a and its activities. Previous committee experience is desirable, but not essential. The Committee meets bi-monthly at 1.30 pm on a Friday afternoon. **Without volunteers coming forward to take on these vital roles, Chesterfield u3a may not be able to continue.**

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTIONS VOLUNTEERS to help with leaflets and displays, promotional events, press releases etc., including at least one event to celebrate Chesterfield u3a's 30th anniversary in 2024. Previous experience of any of these activities would be really useful but not essential. We are not expecting one person to do all these things! It would be good to have a communications and PR team again, with volunteers sharing the different tasks.

ASSISTANT MEETINGS ORGANISER to act as a back-up in case the Meetings Organiser is absent. The bi-monthly Open Meetings with guest speakers are important events enjoyed by members.

TRAVEL TEAM: We are seeking to set up a travel team of volunteers to share the organisation of day trips from the beginning of 2024.

REFRESHMENT TEAM: to help with serving refreshments and with greeting new members at Open Meetings and Coffee Mornings.

Contact Pat Jackson by email:

refreshmentcoord@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Contact Irene Wilkinson for more information about other roles:

chair@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk



UP AND COMING EVENTS

OPEN MEETING

If you feel brave enough, come along to the Market Hall on Wednesday 1st November from 2 – 4 pm to hear The Ghost Man of Chesterfield deliver an entertaining talk on the ghosts and murders of Chesterfield. He is looking forward to spooking us all!

There will be a **Coffee Morning**
on **Wednesday 6th December**
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.

2023 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL AT THE CROOKED SPIRE

Head to the famous 'Crooked Spire' Church for this year's Festival of Christmas Trees!

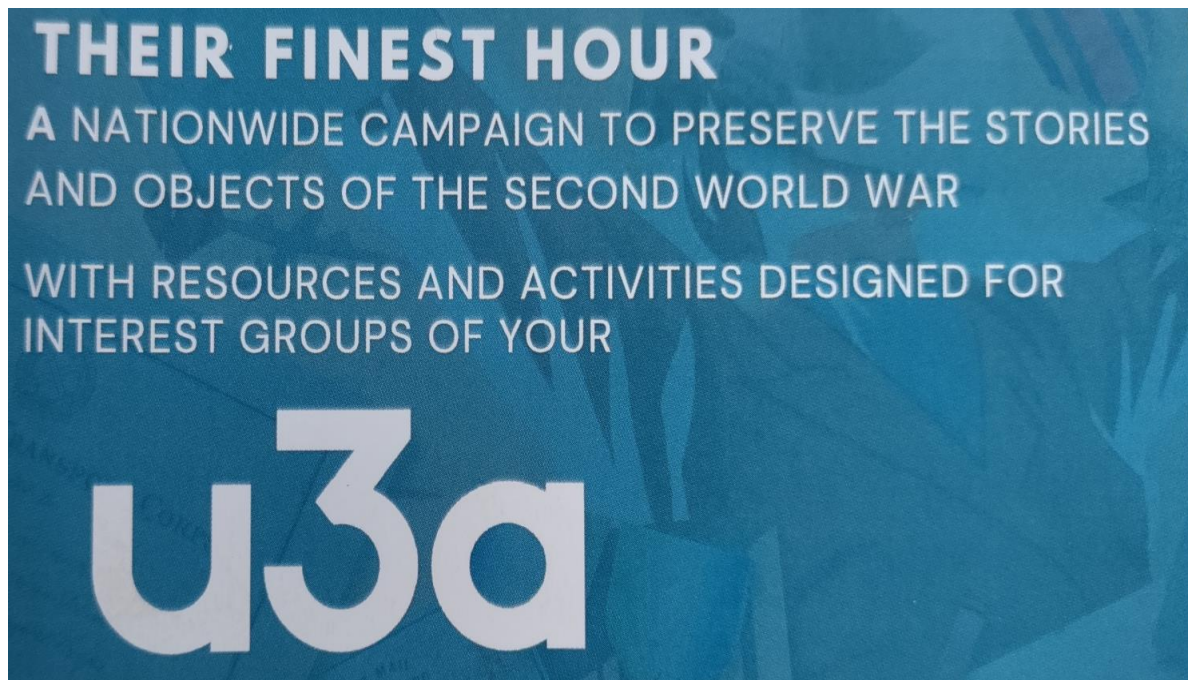
The Spire is the largest church in Derbyshire and will again be filled with Christmas trees. The trees are decorated by local people, groups, and shops, from scout to guide groups, from schools to high street stores, from accountants to Chesterfield Museum and many more besides.

Once again Chesterfield u3a will have a Christmas Tree on display, arranged by Joy Houghton with decorations made by herself and other volunteers, so please go along to see it.

The festival will be open to the public from Saturday 18th November to Sunday 3rd December. Opening times are:

- ▲ Monday – Thursday: 10.30am – 4.30pm
- ▲ Friday and Saturday: 10.30am – 5pm
- ▲ Sunday: 12 noon – 5.30pm

THEIR FINEST HOUR



Their Finest Hour is a nationwide project organised by Oxford University. It aims to record for posterity those memories handed down in families, of life during and after the events of 1939-1945. You don't need to have been there, but maybe your family talked about 'the war'. Maybe you have snapshots, or objects, that have significance in your family. Your family memories may be from military life or may be based in home life or in working life, but all are valued.

u3a groups such as genealogy, local history, creative writing, photography, and storytelling, as well as individual members, are encouraged to get involved to tell their Second World War-related stories and memorabilia.

To find out how to take part in 'Their Finest Hour' and get to know what's happening near you, look at their website:

<https://theirfinesthour.english.ox.ac.uk/about>

RENEWALS FOR 2024

We are pleased to announce no increase in membership fees for 2024.

The renewal fees for 2024 are £14.00 for individual membership and £28.00 for joint membership, respectively.

You can renew from 22nd October. We would like as many of you as possible to renew using Beacon via the members' portal on our website, printing off your own membership cards.

Alternative methods are available for those of you unable to do so.

Renewal option 1:

Beacon/Paypal using link:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/chesterfield/page/129932>

If you need help, please contact the Beacon Administrator whose contact details are on page 2 of this newsletter.

Renewal option 2:

Paperless using link to our online form

<https://forms.office.com/r/0JnAqtC2XR> or QR code

Payment may be made by bank transfer, or by cheque
(Post cheque to Membership Secretary)

Payment details below.

If you need help, please contact the Treasurer whose contact details are on page 2 of the newsletter.



Renewal option 3:

Paper renewal with cheque:

Print off and complete the enclosed renewal form

Payment details below

If you need help, please contact the Membership Secretary whose contact details are on page 2 of the newsletter.

CHEQUE PAYMENT

Cheques to be made payable to **Chesterfield U3A (no alterations!!)** with your membership number(s) on the back of the cheque.

Please do not send cash.

Please send your cheque and completed form, if you're using one, to the Membership secretary, at the address on page 2 of the newsletter

BANK TRANSFER

Transfer to: **Chesterfield U3A:**

Sort code: **30-91-93** Account No: **00507200** at the TSB, with your membership number(s) as the transfer reference.

If you need help, please contact the Treasurer whose contact details are on page 2 of the newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

These will be emailed to you once your 2024 renewal has been processed. Printed membership cards can only be obtained by sending a **stamped addressed envelope** to Membership Secretary.

Kathryn Lambert, Membership Secretary

Richard Turley, Treasurer

GIFT AID

Thank you to the increasing number of members who currently Gift Aid their subscriptions; it is a valuable source of extra income for the organisation. We would encourage any members who are eligible and willing to gift aid their membership subscriptions to tick the gift aid box.

Richard Turley, Treasurer

GROUP AND ACTIVITY NEWS AND PROGRAMMES

BOWLS

The indoor bowling group are enjoying the start of this year's season at Queen's Park Leisure Centre. Whilst the group is currently full, if you are interested in joining us you are welcome to add your name to the waiting list.



Mike Nind

CANASTA GROUP

Ian Hardy has taken over as co-ordinator of the canasta group. He has taken over from Flora Smith who has retired after ten years.

Ian Hardy, 07811 642464, kismet45@hotmail.co.uk



Flora is presented with a well-deserved bunch of flowers when she retired after 10 years as co-ordinator of the Canasta Group.

DARMSTADT GROUP (part 1)

The AKA 55 from Darmstadt will be visiting Chesterfield in 2025. If you interested in joining in with any of the activities (not yet planned!) or in the return visit to Darmstadt in 2027 (forward planning!!), please email Hazel at hazellinsey@gmail.com with your name, address, telephone number and email address.

Pamela Boulton, Hazel Linsey, Maureen Hehir-Strelley

DARMSTADT GROUP (part 2)

A group of Chesterfield u3a members have recently returned from an action-packed visit to their partner organisation in Darmstadt. The

tour included visits to Frankfurt, Heidelberg, Mannheim, the Merck visitor centre and a cruise on the River Main from Miltenberg. An invitation was extended to the Darmstadt hosts to visit Chesterfield in 2025.

Howard Borrell, 01246 221400



The group's visit to Merck (the largest employer in Darmstadt).



The group visited Mannheim, a city near to Darmstadt.

GARDEN APPRECIATION GROUPS

All u3a members are welcome to the talks in the Chesterfield Library Theatre. They are every 3rd Thursday in the month (except the Christmas one which is the 2nd Thursday 14th December)

The doors are open at 1.30 pm to start at 2 pm. The cost is £3.00 which includes a free raffle.

16th November: PLANTS AROUND THE HOME.

Dr Gillian Fearn is the speaker. She is a retired university lecturer, botanist, and researcher. The talk is about plants around the home and how to care for them in different conditions.

14th December: THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Ellen Outram will talk about the meaning of Christmas and where its traditions came from, which is very apt for the time of the year.

Group one co-ordinator: Irene Trevis, 074340 42215

Group two co-ordinator: June Partington 01246 232169

GEOLOGY GROUP

Continuing with our oresome programme:

November 14th: The Basics of Plate Tectonics + Janet

December 12th: Guest Lecturer + Christmas Dinner

All meetings take place at Eyre Chapel, Newbold.

New members welcome.

Pamela Boult, 01246 237622, pamelabout@hotmail.com

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The talks are from 2.00 pm, doors open at 1.45 pm at Chesterfield Library Lecture Theatre. No booking is required for the winter talks as these are open to all u3a members, £3.00 on the door.

Tuesday 7th November

John Robinson and Home Brewery by Bob Massey

The story of Sir John Robinson and the Home Brewery Daybrook. From a simple farm to a large company owning pubs, hotels and maltings as well as a major brewery, and the troubles and success along the way.

Bob Massey is a retired Theatre Consultant and Lighting Designer who has designed many theatres and performance spaces throughout the world. For 30 years he was Technical Manager of the Bonington Theatre in Arnold, Nottingham. He is a historian, lecturer and founder member of Arnold Local History Group and a member of cinema, theatre and aircraft research groups, and an experienced speaker and lecturer for over 30 years.

Sandra Frost

SUPPER GROUP 3

Here are some photographs from the lunch club outing on Monday 9th October to the Soulvile Steakhouse in Chesterfield town centre. There were nine of us and we all had such a good time and good food, that everything was gone before we thought about taking pictures!

We are Supper Club 3, and some of our group prefer not to drive in the winter at night. So, we have decided that during the winter months we will make it a lunch club, which suits everyone. And we are all looking forward to our next meal together in November.

Good food, good company - what more do you need?

Samantha Roberts





UPWORDS

The group meets every other Wednesday at 1.45 pm at Loundsley Green Community Centre. The next meetings will be on 8th and 22nd November, and 6th and 20th December.

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 (TUESDAY)

These walks are usually of 5 to 7 miles. We set out **promptly** at 10 am and all walks include a coffee 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 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 may be up to 7 miles or a little more in length with a number of 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.

7th Nov: GR 454640, S44 5QJ Hardwick Country Park Centre CP by Hardwick Ponds (free to NT members): Mary 7 miles Easy with a few slopes.

14th Nov: GR 220646, DE45 1LG Lay-by in Alport: Dorothy and Valerie 6.5 miles Moderate.

21st Nov: GR 281721, DE45 1PU Birchen Edge NT CP (free for NT members): Ken and Sue A 6 miles Moderate.

28th Nov: GR 202860, S33 0AQ Heatherdene CP (£6.50 all day) near Ladybower Reservoir: Mel 6 miles Moderate.

5th Dec: GR 350542, DE4 5DD Crich Market Place: Joyce and David H 07926 547112 5 miles Easy.

12th Dec: GR 403804, S12 3XW Ford picnic site near Bridge Inn: Liz and Peter 07527 99577; 6 5 miles Easy, some short ascents.

19th Dec: GR 335705, S42 7BW Lay-by next to Ladywood garage on Chatsworth Road: Penny and Charles 566519; 5 miles Easy.

26th Dec: NO WALK – MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

For any enquiries please contact:

Joyce Hart 0792 6547112 and Peter Smalley 07527 995776



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, numbers below.

2nd Nov: GR 173894 Fairholmes CP: Fairholmes, Wellhead, Abbey Bank, Upper Derwent reservoir; Andrew: 5.5 miles, Moderate

9th Nov: GR 153742 (lat 53.26493, long 1.77130) Tideswell Dale CP, pay & display £4 coins: Tideswell Dale, Litton Mill, Monsal Trail, Miler's Dale, Tideswell; Cynthia and Eileen: 6 miles, Moderate, one steep bank

16th Nov: GR 402804 CP near the Bridge Inn, Ford: Troway, Bramley Farm and the river Moss; Adrian: 5.5 miles Moderate

23rd Nov: GR 324633 Eddlestow Lot picnic site off Slack Hill; Hodge Lane, Peasunhurst, Uppertown; Carole: 6 miles, Moderate

30th Nov: GR 270624 CP Darley Bridge: Oker, Snitterton, Wensley; Cliff: 6 miles, Moderate

7th Dec: GR 195697 Ashford in the Water near the Sheepwash Bridge: Churchdale Hall, Monsal Trail and Headstone Tunnel, Monsal Head, Pennyunk Lane; Geoff and Mary: 5 miles Easy 1000ft

14th Dec: GR 281721 Robin Hood CP: Over End, Curbar, Bubnell; Stuart: 8 miles TL Moderate 1000ft

21st Dec: NO WALK

28th Dec: NO WALK

Carole Grew 01246 568841, 07739383772,

carole.grew64@gmail.com

STROLLERS (Saturdays)

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

11th and 25th November, 9th December, and 6th January

We do our best to avoid stiles and steep slopes and walk for a maximum of 3 miles. We meet initially at 10.20 am 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. Or, you can go straight to the venue for about 10.45 to 11 am. 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 at Holmebrook, 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. **Anyone wishing to join the group is advised to contact the leaders beforehand for details, as sometimes we all go straight to the venue, depending on its location.**

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 and Brian Taylor, 07532 160 324, sue_taylor@live.com



Saturday strollers reach the highest point in Nottinghamshire.

PUZZLES and SOLUTIONS

SOLUTIONS from the last newsletter:

Can you work out what these phrases are?

VA DERS:	SPACE INVADERS
JOBINJOB:	IN BETWEEN JOBS
GESG:	SCRAMBLED EGGS
METAMETAMETAMETA:	METAPHOR (meta x 4)
M1YL1I1F1E:	FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE (4 x 1)
1357SAFETY2579:	SAFETY IN NUMBERS
DEEF:	FEEDBACK
ICE³:	ICE CUBE
SPIBRED:	BE INSPIRED (B in spired)
STA4NCE:	FOR INSTANCE (4 in stance)
DR.DO (a film):	DOCTOR DO LITTLE
IDEJEHT (a film):	RETURN OF THE JEDI

Answer each clue so that every word contains the same letters as the previous word plus or minus one letter.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Beer | ALE |
| 2. Repast | MEAL |
| 3. Stroll | AMBLE |
| 4. Accuses | BLAMES |
| 5. Rafters | BEAMS |
| 6. Foundation | BASE |
| 7. Ocean | SEA |

PUZZLES

Solve the clues and together they make another word when read aloud.

Bucket down (4) _ _ _ _ Prompt (3) _ _ _ Yearn (4) _ _ _ _

= a spiky animal (9) _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Rule (5) _ _ _ _ _ Ship (4) _ _ _ _ Defeat (4) _ _ _ _

= a fish (7,5) _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Haze (4) _ _ _ _ Thyme e.g. (4) _ _ _ _ Pastime (5) _ _ _ _ _

= a bulbous pink character with yellow spots (2,6) _ _ _ _ _ _ _

WORD LADDERS

Change one letter each time moving from the top to the bottom.
The clues are NOT in the correct order.

ARMY		MEEK
CAMP		MILD
Goals		Despatch
Limbs		Try to find
Water barriers		Repair
Reduces light		Intellect
Slightly wet		Inside plant ovule