

Newsletter 179
July 2024

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Future Events

The **Open Meeting** will take place on
Wednesday 3rd July from **2 pm – 4 pm**
at **Chesterfield Football Club**
(SMH Group Stadium), Sheffield Road
Dr Ann Featherstone will be giving a
summer-themed talk entitled
Sand Between The Toes



Your Committee and Key Volunteers 2024-2025:

Honorary Officers:

Chair: Roger Watts, 01246 276161,
chair@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Vice Chair: **VACANT**

Secretary: Carole Grew, 07739 383772
chesterfieldu3asecretary@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lynn Cusson, 07887 884876,
treasurer@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Other Committee Members: some with key volunteer roles:

Sue Atherton, 01246 229469, susanatherton56@hotmail.com

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

Alan Cornwell, 07500406539, alan_cornwell@talktalk.net

Nicola Hoskin Stone, 01246 275807, nicolahoskinstone@gmail.com

Irene Wilkinson, 01246 234924, iw43@central@gmail.com

Other Key Volunteer Roles:

Joint groups facilitators Jane Machin and Brian Heathcote
groupfacilitator@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Membership Secretary Kathryn Lambert,
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membershipsecretary@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

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u3a BUSINESS

COPY DATE FOR NEWSLETTER 180 SEPTEMBER

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

AUGUST 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 July**.

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

We have a new home for our Open Meetings. Many thanks to Sam and her team of supporters for all their efforts. The details are in the newsletter, and I look forward to seeing all the familiar faces and, hopefully, some new ones at the Football Stadium on Wednesday 3rd July. And, no, you don't need to bring your training kit!

In September we shall also be holding our 30th Anniversary CAMEO event there, in a larger room. This is a chance for us to celebrate the range of our activities and to showcase Chesterfield u3a to friends, the public and hopefully new members.

Talking of new members, I am regularly surprised by the number of people I meet who have never heard of u3a, despite the efforts of our umbrella organisation, Third Age Trust. A lot of people could benefit from the experiences to which so many of us can testify. I am often confronted with, "u3a, what's that?"

So it's up to all of us to spread the word – and remember that there's no lower age limit! We are preparing some promotional material, small leaflets, 'business' cards etc. and will be distributing them soon. And we welcome any ideas for raising our profile in Chesterfield.

Finally, a big thank you to Samantha Roberts, our Meetings Organiser. She has reluctantly given her resignation on ill health grounds. She has done a great job, but now we are looking for someone to take on the role basically of finding speakers or activities for our Open Meetings

(six a year). We have bookings until 2025 but it would great if someone could take on the role now. You get to meet and talk to some very interesting people and there is plenty of support from similar organisations in finding people.

If you would like more information, please talk to me or to Sue Atherton, our Volunteer Coordinator.

Roger Watts, chair@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

CHANGE OF VENUE FOR THE OPEN MEETINGS AND COFFEE MORNINGS

Introduction

Owing to financial constraints, Chesterfield Borough Council has had to close the upstairs rooms in the Market Hall and seek a long-term tenant instead. Many of our u3a groups have had to seek alternative premises including for the Open Meetings and Coffee Mornings.

Ideally, we would have liked to keep both meetings in the town centre, and the committee has spent a considerable amount of time looking for the best solution. We looked at all town centre venues and at several out-of-town places, but none was found to be suitable for the Open Meetings.

SMH (Chesterfield Football Club) Stadium lounge
1866 Sheffield Road, Chesterfield S41 8NZ
OPEN MEETINGS AT 2 PM



The new premises are modern, inviting and well-lit with both natural and artificial light. There is a lift, and the toilets are suitable for both able bodied and disabled people.

There is ample free car parking all around the ground and several buses travel along Sheffield Road past the Stadium with large, sheltered bus stops, including bus numbers 25, 43, 44 and 50.



The cost of renting the premises is similar to the Market Hall and there are free refreshments for anyone attending one of our meetings there. There are cafés across the road at the Batch House and Donkey Derby for people who like to stop for a drink or a bite to eat.

It is the Committee's considered opinion that this is by far the best option for our future Open Meetings starting in July.

Spire Parish Rooms

The Saints Parish Centre, Church Way/St Mary's Gate, Chesterfield S40 1XJ

COFFEE MORNINGS 10.15–11.45 am

The Committee particularly wanted to keep at least one of the meetings in the town centre. The room is a decent size for coffee mornings and is well lit both naturally and artificially. There is a lift, more than one toilet, a spacious room and plenty of seating. Access is via the left-hand side door.

Refreshments will, of course, be available as usual.

We have used this room in the past and have restarted using it for some



other u3a group activities. Finally, it is attractively priced.

Why not come and join us at future meetings and see for yourselves what attractive locations they are? You are assured of a very warm welcome.

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



in **Spire Parish Rooms on Church Way.**
Refreshments will be available whilst you
meet new members and chat with old
friends, in new surroundings

GROUPS FACILITATOR

IT and other digital device training on offer

If you would like to improve your IT skills, whether you know absolutely nothing or would like to know more, read on.

We have been offered, free of charge, training and individual help with any aspect of IT - computers, laptops, smartphones and tablets tailored to our needs as u3a members.

The offer, which has come from Workpays, an award-winning training provider based locally, was discussed at our recent committee meeting and, following this, I was asked to move the idea forward. I met with Rachael Sellors, who is the Derbyshire Contracts Manager within the organisation, and we have come up with a plan which, I hope members will agree, looks exciting.

We are offered two different types of session.

One would be a series of weekly drop-in sessions at a town centre venue with free parking, for members who wish to have help with specific individual issues around anything digital, from the use of smartphones and updating laptops, to help with broadband and Wifi. Laptops will also be available for personal use during the session if you fancy popping in to use the internet, with tea, coffee and biscuits included. It is hoped these sessions will get up and running in August.

Then, hopefully to start in September, a course of eight sessions, again in the town centre, aimed at beginners (or near beginners). Up to date equipment will be available in the training room, or people may bring their own gear.

Spaces are, of necessity, limited, so it will be first come, first served. If the training proves popular with members, it may well be that more is available in the future. At present, Monday mornings and Friday mornings and afternoons are available.

So, if you are interested, please let me have your name and email address or phone number, telling me which type of session you think will suit you, and your preference as to timing. If you would like to talk this through with me, please let me know and I will try to ring you.

Jane Machin, 01246 239408, groupfacilitator@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to our new members:

Chris Hayes, Hilary and Stephen Rugless, Susan Austin-Burr, Barbara Wilkes, Helen Dytkiewicz, Alison and Robert Hall, Glenis Oldfield, Susan and James Browne, Anne Huggins, Linda and David Robinson, and Margaret Stevens.

Kathryn Lambert, Membership Secretary

CAMEO EVENT – WEDNESDAY 25th SEPTEMBER

Our 30th Anniversary Open Day

On 25th September we'll celebrate our u3a with a '**Come and Meet Each Other**' Open Day.

Members and prospective members can see the range of things we do, spark new interests, and meet people from other groups. We invite groups to come forward to show off what they do. This could be through a table display, a display board, or even a performance. The photographs in the online newsletter show some of the range of displays at previous events.

This is not a recruitment event, though you are welcome to bring an interested non-member friend. It's chiefly a chance to meet members you don't usually encounter and see a little of what other groups do. We still want you to come if your group is 'full' – in which case the u3a thing to do is to help an additional group to form round your interest.

Thank you very much to all the groups who have already offered a display or demonstration to make the event a success.

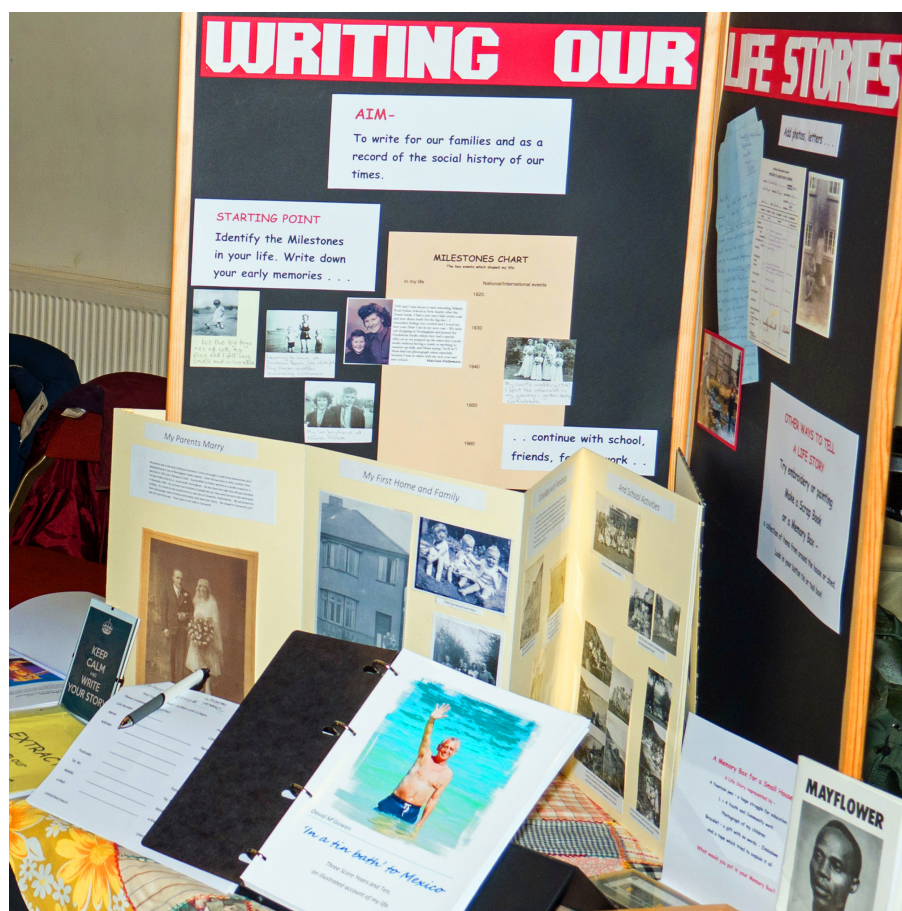
Circle Dancing



The Recorder Group



Life Story Writing



Painting and Drawing Group



The CAMEO will be on Wednesday 25th September from 2 to 4 pm at the new venue of the SMH Group Football Stadium, which has ample free parking and is on several bus routes. The event is on the first floor but there is a lift and the toilets on that floor are accessible. Tea, coffee, and celebration cakes (some of them gluten free) will be available.

Group Co-ordinators: if you haven't already replied, please let me know as soon as you can whether your group will support the CAMEO and whether you want a table, a display board, or to give a performance. Please reply even if it's to say your group will not support the event.

Joyce Hart, 01246 567667, hartjoyce056@gmail.com

GROUP AND ACTIVITY NEWS AND PROGRAMMES

UPWORDS

The next meetings are 3rd, 17th, and 31st July, 14th and 28th August, and 11th September.

Tony Clark, tony.clark1@btinternet.com

WILDFLOWER GROUP WALKS

12th July: Calver/River Derwent for riverside flowers. Meet in the layby alongside the school and the Bridge Inn; GR SK247744; postcode S32 3XA.

26th July: Chesterfield Canal: for waterside plants. Meet at the car park for the Hollingwood Hub (café) on Station Road, Hollingwood, just across the canal from the Hub; postcode S43 2PF; GR SK416746.

9th August: Carr Vale/Peter Fidler nature reserves, Bolsover: for plants of wetland and grass verges. Meet in the County Council Stockley Trail car park (off the bottom of Bolsover Hill, A632); GR SK463707.

23rd August: Burbage Edge: for heather and other moorland flowers. Meet in the main National Trust Longshaw Estate car park (charge for non-members) off the B6055; GR SK267800; postcode S11 7TZ.

All the walks are morning-only walks, but people can always opt to stay for longer. We meet at the venue at 9.50 for a 10 am start. If anyone needs a lift, please contact me and I will email round group members. Please car share, if possible, in this time of increasing energy and other costs. It would be helpful if people let me know if they will be coming on a walk.

**Irene Wilkinson, iw43central@gmail.com; 01246 234924;
on the day 07967 123703**

WALKING GROUPS



WALKING GROUP D (TUESDAY)

These walks are usually of 5 to 7 miles. We set out at 10am and all walks include a coffee stop and, usually, a lunch stop (bring your own). New walkers are always made welcome. **Easy** walks have no or very short steep climbs and descents and are usually around 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 a number of climbs and descents, some of which may be steeper or longer. **Hard** walks may be 7 miles or a little more in length and will have 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.

2nd July: GR 453640 S44 5QJ Hardwick ponds CP (free for NT members): Sue H, 5 miles Easy

9th July: GR 220646 DE45 1LG layby in Alport: Dorothy and Shirley, 6.5 miles Moderate

16th July: GR 149830 S33 8WH Castleton main CP (fee): Joyce and David 07926 547112, 6.5 miles Moderate

23rd July: GR 356731 S41 8XF Holmebrook Valley CP: Moira, 5 miles Easy

30th July: GR 217874 S33 OAX Cutthroat Bridge layby: Mel, 6 miles Moderate

6th August: GR 354703 S40 3FL Somersall Lane CP: Penny and Charles, 5 miles Moderate

13th August: GR 237622 DE4 2BG Meet at the Druid Inn, Birchover, park considerably along main street: Sue G, 5 miles Moderate, steep uphill to start

20th August: GR 125603 SK17 OBE Hartington, park in main village (free): Dave M, 6 miles Moderate, rocky paths

27th August: GR 186716 DE45 1NL Park on lane to Little Longstone, opposite Monsal Head Hotel: Liz and Peter 07527 995776, 5.5 miles Moderate, one steep climb

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 am. 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 the 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: 07739 383772.

4th July: GR 128605 Hartington Village Square: via Pilsbury Castle and Crowdecote; Carole: 7 miles TL (900ft) Moderate

11th July: NO WALK

18th July: GR 441781, S21 3WF, meet at CP just east of Sitwell Arms, Renishaw on A6135: Spinkhill, Westthorpe Hills, Brindley Loops of canal; Cliff 5.5 miles Easy

25th July: 53.261049, -1.179228, Welbeck Estate CP (free): Welbeck courtyard, Robin Hood Way, Belph, Hodthorpe, Whitwell, Creswell, Creswell Crag; Mike 7.6 miles TL or eat at end at café Easy

1st August: Longshaw CP (pay): Carl Wark, Higger Tor, Millstone Edge, Padley Gorge: Sarah 6.5 miles Moderate

8th August: GR 219645 Alport: Lathkill, Over Haddon, Middleton; Stuart 7 miles TL Moderate

15th August: GR 221687 Bakewell Coombs Road CP (pay): River Wye to Haddon Hall, Over Haddon, Bakewell; Carole 6 miles Moderate (800ft)

22nd August: GR 231813 Hathersage Oddfellows CP; via Mitchell Field, Millstone Edge, Tanncliff Wood and Kettle House; John 6.8 miles Harder (1227ft)

29th August: GR 295749 Shillito Wood CP: Rob 6 miles Easy

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

STROLLERS (Saturdays)

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

22nd June, 6th and 20th July, 17th and 31st August, and 14th September

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

We now 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

YEARS AND EVENTS

The initials of the words give the answer to what happened in the year.

e.g. 1066 = B of H 1066 Battle of Hastings

1	1314 = B of B	
2	1452 = YLdVB	
3	1789 = S of the B	
4	1215 = S of the M	
5	1912 = S of the T	
6	1990 = JMBNM	
7	1605 = GP	
8	1989 = BWD	
9	1953 = C of QE11	
10	1580 = FDC the W	
11	1968 = Y of the OG in MC	
12	1776 = AD of I	
13	1431 = J of A, B at the S	
14	2000 = YSRW a FGM	
15	1969 = FM on the M	

16	1649 = KC1WB	
17	1997 = D of D,P of W	
18	1963 = A of PJFK	
19	1912 = SA at the SP	
20	1966 = EW the WC	

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