

Newsletter 183

March 2025

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The **AGM** will take place on
Wednesday 5th March from **2pm – 4pm**
at **Chesterfield Football Club**
(SMH Group Stadium)

1866 Sheffield Road, Chesterfield S41 8NZ

The ukulele and guitar groups will provide
musical entertainment after the AGM has
finished.



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
secretary@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Treasurer: Irene Trevis, 07434042215
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,
684 Chatsworth Road, Chesterfield S40 3NU
membershipsecretary@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Assistant Membership Secretary Richard Turley, 07811 305886

Beacon Administrator: Jean Jeffries, 01246 276161,
beacon.admin@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

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

Meetings Organiser: Sylvia Jackson, 07941917415

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8 Abbeydale Park Rise, Sheffield S17 3PD
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Refreshment Team Coordinator: Pat Jackson,
refreshmentcoord@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

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

u3a BUSINESS

COPY DATE FOR NEWSLETTER 184 MAY

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 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 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**.

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

These are my final Chair's notes as I shall be handing over at the AGM on 5th March (but more on that below). I hope as many of you as possible can attend the AGM.

I would like to thank all the other volunteers who have supported our work in the past year. Carole Grew is stepping down as Secretary after five years of fantastic service, and I would personally like to thank her for keeping me on track at Committee meetings. Thanks also to the rest of the committee and to those outside who do so much to keep our fantastic organisation going.

My year started badly with the loss of our Open Meeting venue in the Market Hall, but thanks to several people's efforts we have found a new, comfortable home here.

The CAMEO in September, celebrating our 30th Anniversary, was very successful. Once again thanks to Joyce and her team. We all enjoyed ourselves and, as a bonus, recruited around 40 members. As a consequence, our total numbers are starting to climb again after the setback of Covid, and hopefully some of the activities which suffered particularly badly, like Coach Trips, will be reinstated. But, as always, it needs volunteers to organise them!

Which leads me, inevitably, to the general topic of the need for members to run Chesterfield U3A. At the time of writing, we have a reasonable number of nominations for the Committee. We have made arrangements to fill the Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer roles but we will still lack a Chair. As it stands, the Committee could share this role but believe that an organisation benefits from a consistent hand on the helm. If you think you have the potential, please put yourself forward for the Committee to learn on the job. Who knows, maybe you will be writing this report in March 2026.

Roger Watts, chair@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to our new members:

Martin and Catherine Whittaker, Diane Goodwin, Shirley Shire, David Marin, David Batley, Clare Hayden, Marina Anderson, Diana Clay, Marie O'Donnell, Jill Bloxham, Marie-Louise Brendon, Susan Gadsby, Anne Gilliam, Stephen Hibbert, Tina Marriott, Simon Nieder, Ian May, Karen and Paul Muckenbeck, Nigel Ramsden, Chris Rutherford, Margaret Sangster, Debbie Shaw, Barbara Starrs, Peter Thornton, and Natalie Turner.

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

OTHER MATTERS

If you are thinking of travelling with Riviera Travel, when you make a booking and mention Chesterfield u3a, 10% of the total value goes back to Chesterfield u3a.

Call on 01283 901 085 or go to <https://www.rivieratravel.co.uk/>

LIVE STRONGER FOR LONGER

AgeUK is running a new free exercise 24-week programme in Chesterfield (as well as in nine areas around Derbyshire). The free

Strong and Steady 24-week programme runs as an exercise class with activity and a social element.

The chair-based classes around Chesterfield are approximately one hour long at Loundsley Green, Brimington, Walton, Brampton, and other venues.

For further information about times and venues, ring 01773 766922, and ask for the free class or the shorter community-led class.

Alison Cowley, alison.cowley@ageukdd.org.uk

EVENTS

There will be a **Coffee Morning** on
Wednesday 2nd April
from **10.15 am – 11.45 am**



in **Spire Parish Rooms on Church Way.**
There is a sign hanging over the street saying
The Saints Parish Centre.
It is in St Mary's Gate, and the entrance is
down the left-hand side.
Refreshments will be available, and you can
meet new members and chat with friends.

WHAT THE GROUPS ARE UP TO

GARDEN APPRECIATION GROUPS 1 and 2

Our Winter talks are now held at The Ragged School on Markham Road, opposite Ravenside Retail Park, starting at 2pm. Doors are open from 1.30pm and entrance costs £3 which includes a raffle ticket.

20th March: You may have visited Millthorpe Nursery, and I am delighted to welcome Carl Leaman who runs it with his wife, Deirdre, to talk on *Starting a Nursery*.

Group 1 coordinator: Irene Trevis, 07434 042215

Group 2 coordinator: June Partington, 07580 543449

GEOLOGY GROUP

The Geology Group (or Pamela's Rock Group) will get "down to earth" with another oresome programme for 2025.

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

11th March: Plate Tectonics + David

8th April: Ocean Seafloor/Unseen Lands + Joanne

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

Pamela Boulton, 01246 237622

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Our winter talks are open to all u3a members; we meet in the library lecture theatre at 2.00pm, doors open at 1.45pm, £3.00 on the door.

Tuesday 4th March: David Speed's talk is about *Beauvale Priory – Between Two Worlds*

David is a retired Methodist Minister who has served in Stoke, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, and Chester. He has a deep love of history, and a desire to show how important our local history is in the

nation's history. He hopes by doing so, we shall feel that we also have importance.

Beauvale Priory Between Two Worlds explores how significant leaders of Beauvale had different reactions to how their beliefs should respond to the kings of the day. It shows the lands that Beauvale owned, and how it was a landowner as well as a monastic house.

We look forward to seeing you

Sandra Frost

SCIENCE GROUP

The Science Group welcomes new members; we meet in a large room at St Thomas' Church, Brampton.

All our meetings are from **2 pm – 4 pm** on the **first Thursday** in each month.

Thursday 6th March: Pamela Boult on *Geological time, life on earth*.

Thursday 3rd April: Joy Partridge on *The vagus nerve: A chance to learn about 'the body's superhighway'*.

Thursday 1st May: A possible visit to Jodrell Bank open to all u3a members. This would be an all-day outing arriving at the centre at 12.00 and returning at 4.15pm. There is a café at the centre. The cost of entry is £14 if you are under 65, and £12 for those of 65 plus. There are usually special shows in the Planetarium for which there is an additional charge of £5 each. The plan is to travel by car on an expense sharing basis – volunteer drivers needed for about 45 miles and one and a half hours each way. Please contact me by email through the website if you are interested.

For all our sessions at St Thomas' we ask members to contribute £3 per meeting to hire the hall and provide hot drinks and biscuits.

David Hart

UPWORDS

The next meetings are 5th and 19th March, and 2nd and 16th April.

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 10am and all walks include a coffee stop and 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 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 climbs and descents, some of which may be steeper or longer. **Hard** walks will be 7 miles or a little longer 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.**

4th Mar: GR 350783 S18 1RA Dronfield Sports Centre: Mel 07875 156869, 5.5 miles Easy

11th Mar: GR 178521 DE6 1RA Tissington CP: Sue H 07854 321475, 5.5 miles Moderate

18th Mar: GR 256657 DE4 2EB Rowsley: Sue A and Nicky 07517 435890 or 07539 597245, 6 miles Easy

25th Mar: GR 191768 S32 5QR Foolow: Joyce and David 0792 6547112, 6 miles Moderate

1st Apr: GR 258685 DE4 2NX Carlton Lees CP: Helena 07813 215888, 5.5 miles Easy/Moderate

8th Apr: GR 149611 SK17 0AZ Hartington Old Station CP: Andy 277292 6.6 miles Easy

15th Apr: GR 203664 DE45 1JE Over Haddon CP: Moira 559365 or 07944 590817, 5.5 miles Moderate

22nd Apr: GR 267801 S11c7TZ Longshaw Woodcraft CP: Peter and Liz 07527 995776, 5 miles Moderate

29th Apr: GR 149611 SK17 0AZ Hartington Old Station CP: Valerie and Mick 07854 509129 or 07415 025326, 6 miles moderate

Any enquiries please contact the coordinators:

Joyce Hart 07926 547112 and Peter Smalley 07527 995776

WALKING GROUP B (Thursdays)

We start promptly at 10am. Please arrive in good time to be suited and booted for 10am. 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 m), Moderate walks have between 500 and 1000 feet (305 m) and Harder walks have over 1000 feet. Grid Reference for starting points are shown. Remember if using the grid reference finder you need to put SK before the number. Any problems, give me a call or text.

Walks can be changed/cancelled because of a number of reasons. Emails will be sent to all members of the group to advise. Therefore, 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.

6th Mar: GR 177520 Tissington CP: Tissington trail, Wibden Hill, Parwich, Limestone trail; Bob: 5 miles Easy

13th Mar: GR 216767 Eyam free CP: Darlston Quarry, Black Harry Gate and Stoney Middleton; Adrian: 6 miles Moderate

20th Mar:

27th Mar: SELWORTHY

3rd Apr: GR 238242 Winster CP opposite Miners' Standard pub: Nine Ladies Birchover; Andrew: 6.5 miles Moderate

10th Apr: GR 256778 Haywood NT CP: Froggatt Edge, Curbar Edge, Spooner Lane, Grindleford; Adrian: 7.5 miles TL Moderate+

17th Apr: SK 26107470 Curbar Edge CP: White Edge, Froggatt Edge; Carol: 7 miles TL, Moderate

24th Apr: GR 116799 park on wide verge of lane to Sweetknoll (farm) near Peak Forest – CAR SHARE PLEASE: via Rushup Edge, Perry Dale; John: 7.3 miles TL Harder 1150 ft

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

STROLLERS (Saturdays)

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

1st, 15th and 29th March, 12th and 26th April, and 10th May

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

Emails detailing venues and how to get there are sent out to members regularly. You must be booted and ready to leave for the walk at 10:45am. Members often organise pub/café lunches at the end on an informal basis which you may join if you choose. 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



PLANTING YOUR SPRING GARDEN

For the garden of your daily living:

Plant three rows of peas

Peace of mind

Peace of heart

Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash

Squash gossip

Squash indifference

Squash grumbling

Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce

Lettuce be faithful

Lettuce be kind

Lettuce be patient

Lettuce really love one another

No garden is complete without turnips

Turnip for meetings

Turnip for service

Turnip to help one another

To conclude our garden, we must have thyme

Thyme for each other

Thyme for family

Thyme for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love

There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

WORD PLAY

Can you work out this well-known saying by providing alternative words?

Girl = ? objection = ? defect in wood = ? rented = ?

Here are some pointless proverbs or aphorisms of a self-evident nature. They were thought up for a New Statesman weekend competition (1969)

- Many hands make a tall horse.
- If there is no lead in your pencil, you don't need a rubber.
- Tomorrow is what today was yesterday.
- He who has the biggest feet will cover the most ground.
- Gloves make a poor present for the man with no hands.
- One does not moisten a stamp with the Niagara Falls.
- A bald man does not fear grey hair.
- He digs deepest who deepest digs.
- A new dishwasher can't mend a broken heart, but it will do the washing up.
- Seek not cherry blossom on the plum tree

1973 saw these questions, with a famous person's name for the answer:

- W-w-when w-w-will you b-b-bee f-f-finished c-c-cutting m-m-my hair? Sassoon
- Where do magistrates get their clothes? AJP Taylor
- What sort of noise does an old French war-horse make? Marshal Ney
- How do you arrive at British Summer Time? Adenauer
- In which tent do the public vote? General Booth
- What's the secret of Italian cooks? Pasternak
- Lift a police officer's skirt and what do you get? Copernicus

Answer to puzzle on the previous page

Lass but knot leased

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