

Newsletter 184
May 2025

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The **Open Meeting** will take place on
Wednesday 7th May from 2pm – 4pm

at **Chesterfield Football Club**
(SMH Group Stadium)

1866 Sheffield Road, Chesterfield S41 8NZ

Nick Hodgson, the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire, will talk about National Honours awarded to people in all walks of life. Honours such as MBEs, OBEs, Knighthoods and how anyone can apply.

Your Committee and Key Volunteers 2025–2026:

Chair: Alan Cornwell, 07500 406539, chair@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Vice Chair: VACANT

Treasurer: Irene Trevis, 07434 042215,
treasurer@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Business Secretary: Irene Wilkinson, 01246 234924
secretary@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Minutes Secretary: Ian Hardy, 07811 642464,
minutessecretary@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Other Committee Members:

Volunteer coordinator: Sue Atherton, 01246 229469,
volunteercoord@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

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

Sue Davies, 07967 035784, suekercher@hotmail.co.uk

Judy Stone, 07968 133564, judy.stone1@btinternet.com

New-member Supporter: Valerie Myers, 07928 327876,
newmembersupport@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Assistant Treasurer: Richard Turley, 07811 305886,
assistanttreasurer@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Joint Groups facilitator: Jane Machin,
groupfacilitator@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

Key Volunteers:

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

Assistant Membership Secretary: Richard Turley, 07811 305886

Beacon Administrator: Jean Jefferies, 01246 276161,
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u3a BUSINESS

COPY DATE FOR NEWSLETTER 185 JULY

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

JUNE 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 May**.

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to our new members: Kenneth Tinker, Bryan Smith, Kami Kaushik, Mary Pollard, Jan Slaughter, Susan Hughes, Nigel Hare, Nicholas Billing, Hilary Cave, Ricardo Di Bartolo, Michael Gregory, Susan Lilleker, Elaine Hicks, Maxine Smith, Barbara Hodd, Gail Rushton, Heidi Underwood, Nuala and Philip Green, and Annette Smith.

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

WELCOME TO A BRAND NEW YEAR OF CHESTERFIELD u3a

I joined Chesterfield u3a two years ago. The first year as an ordinary member, and last year as a committee member. So, I'm still fairly new to this organisation. Many members gain much of their social lives from our u3a, and for some it is a real lifeline. I regard it as an honour to serve as Chair.

Since taking over as Chair, I have had numerous people congratulate and wish me success over the next two years. I intend to fulfil the role

to the best of my ability, hoping to be able to match up to everyone's hopes and expectations.

Irene Trevis, the Treasurer, is almost as new in her position, having only been in post for a few months.

The Secretary's role has been split into two parts, with a Minutes Secretary and a Business Secretary. Ian Hardy is taking over as Minutes Secretary. He is new to the post and also new to the committee. Fortunately, we have the experience of Irene Wilkinson as Business Secretary.

In other words, we have three newish people holding three of the four main positions.

We have two "old hands", Irene Wilkinson and Richard Turley, to provide advice where necessary, so I know we will have a successful 2025 together.

However, it highlights a problem. We should have a vice chair, assistant secretary and assistant treasurer in place before next year's AGM so that they can seamlessly take over in due course.

We are the biggest u3a in Derbyshire and have many members with a wide range of experiences and abilities who could make a significant contribution to our organisation. We urgently need some of these people to come forward where they will find they will be warmly welcomed and encouraged within the committee.

You can come and talk to me or any member of the committee about being a bigger part of Chesterfield u3a without giving any firm commitment. So please think carefully. We do need people to volunteer, to join the committee and play an active part going forward. It's vital for the ongoing success of Chesterfield u3a. So, I'll be looking around for likely candidates during this year.

We have a lot to be proud about Chesterfield u3a.

- We've been in existence for 30 years
- It's the biggest u3a in Derbyshire
- We have 70+ interest groups covering a wide range of topics from Architecture to Foreign Languages, Music to Quizzes, Sport to Card Games, Walking to Supper Clubs.

- And we intend to get more involved in the wider Chesterfield community by means of literature and displays, and promoting ourselves to local community groups who have had little involvement with us in the past.

Let's make this an enjoyable year for everyone.

Alan Cornwell, chair@chesterfieldu3a.org.uk

OTHER MATTERS

u3a NATIONAL EVENTS ON OUR WEBSITE

There is now a page on the website that gives a link to the National online zoom events.

<https://chesterfield.u3asite.uk/forthcoming-national-u3a-events/>

EVENTS

There will be a **Coffee Morning** on
Wednesday 4th June
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.
Everyone welcome!

WALKING HOLIDAY TO SELWORTHY

Forty-five intrepid explorers set out for the HF property, Holnicote House, Selworthy on Friday 21st March, little knowing what was in store for them over the next 7 days!

Luckily the sun shone, the food and service were amazing, and the company was scintillating (at times).

We enjoyed five days of walking which ranged from a potter round the shops at Dunster to a trek up hills and down dales following the South West Coastal Path.

The evening entertainment did not fail us; from quizzes to bowling, whist and the 'u3a has talent' show on the last night left us all wanting more!

And more there will be next year at Derwent Water. Details to be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thanks to everyone involved in the organisation; Val for everything, Irene for keeping the finances straight, Carole and her walk leaders - Andrew, Geoff, John, Cliff, Val, Mick, Sara - for not getting anyone lost, and Pamela for supplying the Strollers options.

Hope to see some of you again next year. Photos are available in the online newsletter.

Carole Grew









WALKING HOLIDAY MISFORTUNES

On Friday 21st March, 45 members had the misfortune to take part in the Chesterfield u3a's Walking Holiday based at Holnicote House near Selworthy. Instead of being accommodated in a modern, featureless hotel we found ourselves in an historic 18th century mansion with Victorian chimney pieces, ornamental plaster work and a croquet lawn which served as the meeting point should the fire alarm go off. It did not, so there was no excitement there.

Even with a television in every room to broadcast the usual depressing news every evening, we entertained ourselves in the lounge by participating in quizzes, diminishing whist, skittles, and even provided

our own concert entitled *Chesterfield u3a has Talent*. Compared to the professional standards of the singing, poetry, piano and saxophone playing, Italian lesson, choir and slide show, John and Pamela's rendition of *u3*, *u3a* was greeted with roars of laughter and may have shown a certain lack of talent!

Food wise, all that was on offer was the varied choice of traditional, wholesome, home-cooked English Fare, with never the comforting smell of hot dogs and burgers with chips cooked in old, burnt animal fat. Even a nourishing picnic was provided for lunch so there was no chance of losing weight on this holiday.

We were most disappointed that throughout the week we hardly walked on a tarmacked pavement and, in fact, rarely had the opportunity to walk down the middle of a road in a town to disrupt the traffic. Where was all the traffic? We searched in vain for gridlock, caravans, juggernauts and vehicles belching out fumes and ignoring the Highway Code. We even had to settle for courteous drivers who waved and smiled as they slowed down to let us pass on the narrow lanes. Why were there so few cars on the roads? Were we missing some mass population event?

As for the scenery, no urban sprawl or high-rise flats to appreciate, no busy city centres with cars polluting the atmosphere, and no out of town DIY stores reminding us of all the jobs that we would prefer to be doing at home. Sometimes we could not even find a civilised loo and had to make do with a handy bush or tree. Our outlook was limited to mile after mile of panoramic views of the varied Exmoor countryside, of hills and valleys with streams, hedgerows full of white may blossom, daffodils, woods, and meadows full of sheep, pheasants, occasionally Exmoor ponies and pretty villages. The paths were a constant challenge as they meandered their way through the undulating countryside, some with bracken tearing at your ankles. There was even one hill that was so steep it took us at least three minutes to get to the top. At one place we had to take to a pack horse bridge/stones to get over the water, carefully avoiding the ducks swimming there. Even our satnav could not find this place and sent us miles round the countryside in the wrong direction.

The final thing to mention was that we were not even required to put on our waterproofs as the weather remained sunny and cloudy but dry, so we walked for several days with the weight of our wet-weather gear in our rucksacks, 'just in case'.

Surely Val cannot produce another HF Walking Holiday which combines an historic hotel in beautiful surroundings with friendly members enjoying a week together. Will our impresario, Andrew, manage to arrange another concert and evenings of entertainment? Can Carole find three walks of varying distances again each day, and can Pamela and Dave come up with 'Strollers' walks for the less athletic members, including another Heritage Train ride and boat trip? I doubt it, but to prove me wrong we will definitely be going to this event again next year.

Disgusted of Ashgate

SPRING WALKING HOLIDAY AT HF HOLIDAYS,

DERWENT BANK, KESWICK: Friday 27th March to Friday 3rd April 2026

- The holiday is full board including packed lunches
- There will be an option of three walks each day and a rest day on the Tuesday
- There will be a variety of evening activities

About Derwent Bank

Set right on the banks of Derwentwater, it was built in 1785 for Joseph Pockington Stenhouse, High Sheriff of Newark. It has been part of HF Holiday since 1937. There are beautiful views from its garden room, orangery and terrace. A short walk takes you to Keswick. There is a large lounge, licensed bar, boot and drying room and discovery point.

Derwent Bank, Portiscale, Nr Keswick, Cumbria CA12 5TY

W3W///equity.fool.issued

- The cost will be no more than £690 per person with no single person supplement. Exact cost will be notified by email in November 2025 when total numbers are finalised, and the balance is due by 30th January 2026.
- Enquiries to Valerie Myers vmyers1949@gmail.com

WHAT THE GROUPS ARE UP TO

ARCHITECTURE GROUP

We have a few spare places for the guided tours planned for the spring and summer months. They include

- Guided tour of Derby cathedral and chapel on the bridge, Monday 12th May at 2pm
- Ashford-in-the Water – a walk and talk with a blue badge guide on Monday 9th June at 2pm
- Walk and talk round Bakewell on Tuesday 15th July at 2pm

Please email for further details:

tony.clark1@btinternet.com

COUNTRY DANCING

Country dancing is on Thursday 22nd May, from 7 to 9pm at The Ragged School Church Hall, Markham Road.

Come and give it a go, for some light exercise and a lot of fun!

The next session will be on Thursday 26th June.

Joy Houghton, joyhoughton@msn.com

UPWORDS

The next meetings are 30th April, 14th and 28th May, 11th and 25th June.

Tony Clark, tony.clark1@btinternet.com

WILDFLOWER GROUP: Walks Programme: May and June

9th May: Whitwell Wood: for woodland flowers. Meet at car park - layby on the north side of A619, east of Barlborough, SK526773; Postcode S80 3EE; *W3W///picture.quitter.tastes*

23rd May: Magpie Mine: for limestone grassland flowers. Park on the roadside near the path leading to the mine. SK173682; nearest postcode DE45 1QU; take B5055 Monyash road out of Bakewell, then, after 3 km, turn right towards Chelmorton; the mine can be seen to the right after 2 km.

6th June: Hoe Grange Quarry Nature Reserve: From the A5012 (Via Gellia), turn left at the Grange Mill crossroads onto the B5056, then

right at the crossroads at Longcliffe. After a few hundred yards Haven Hoe Farm is on your left; turn left into the track just before the farm and park at the end of the track just before the gate. SK2242 5626; postcode DE4 4HX; What3Words [///bookmark.reds.arrival](https://www.what3words.com/#!/bookmark/reds.arrival)

20th June: Monsal Trail/Chee Dale Nature Reserve: Meet at Millers Dale Station car park, SK138732; W3W *thighs.suddenly.tabs*

All the walks are morning-only walks, but people can always opt to stay for longer if they wish. We meet at the venue at 9.50 for a 10am 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, 01246 234924, iw43central@gmail.com
on the day only 07967 123703

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.**

6th May: GR 295749 S18 7WG Shillito Wood CP on Fox Lane (free): Harry, 6 miles Easy – no stiles

13th May: GR 269830 S32 1BR Upper Burbage Bridge CP (fee): Mel, 5.5 miles Moderate

20th May: GR 228842 S32 1BQ Dennis Knoll CP (near cattle bridge below Stanage Edge and above Hathersage) roadside parking also available: Moira, 6 miles Moderate: lovely views

27th May: GR 196632 DE45 1LS Middleton-by-Youlgreave: Joyce and David 07926 547112, 6 miles Easy

3rd June: GR 269623 DE4 2GL Darley Bridge CP, near cricket ground: Valerie and Mick, 6.5 miles Moderate

10th June: GR 340733 S42 7AS Top CP, Peacock Inn, Cutthorpe: Sue A and Nicky, 6 miles Easy

17th June: GR 256777 S11 7TZ Hey Wood NT CP (free to NT members): Liz and Peter 07527 995776, 6 miles Easy/Moderate

24th June: GR 235750 S32 4TB CP 500m on left after lights at Carver crossroads, towards Stoney Middleton, nearly opposite Edge View (donation, no toilets): Dave and Sue G, 5 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 for a number of reasons. Emails will be sent to all members of the group to advise. Therefore, 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.

1st May: SK290557 Black Rocks CP; meet by the kiosk in the top CP; free parking on the approach road: the Star Disc, High Peak Trail; Geoff and Mary: 5 miles/850 ft Moderate

8th May: SK354701 Somersall Park CP: Holymoorside, Chanderhill, Piper Lane and back; Ron and Lynn: 6 miles Easy

15th May: SK257681 Carlton Lees CP pay: Ballcross Farm and Edensor; Sarah: 5.6 miles Easy

22nd May: SK127604 Hartington Duck Pond: Morson Woods, Beresford, Wolfscote and Biggin Dales; Mike: 6 miles Moderate

29th May: SK194644 Moor Land CP, Youlgreave; Youlgreave, Lathkill Dale, Conksbury; Carole: 7 miles TL Moderate

5th June: SK177521 Tissington CP: Wibben Hill, Gorsehill Farm to Parwich back Crakelow Farm; Bob: 6 miles

12th June: S32 3XQ, SK240747 Calver Sough Lane nr cricket: Across fields to Stoney Middleton, Eyam, Riley Graves, Stoke Hall, river Derwent back to Calver; Cliff: 6.3 miles Moderate

19th June: SK172837 S33 6RG, Eccles Close, Hope: Lose Hill, Hollins Cross, Castleton, Hope; Steve L.: 7 miles TL Harder

26th June: GR267800 Longshaw NT CP: Longshaw, Hathersage and Padley; Andrew: 5 miles Moderate

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

STROLLERS (Saturdays)

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

26th April, 10th and 24th May, 7th and 21st June, and 5th July

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



LINK WORDS:

e.g. PLASTER IRON (4)

answer: CAST links both words

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. STUDIO | IRON (4) |
| 2. HORROR | FESTIVAL (4) |
| 3. DOUBLE | GUITAR (4) |
| 4. SMALL | TURKEY (4) |
| 5. TICKLED | GIN (4) |
| 6. BLIND | CHECKS (4) |
| 7. FUNNY | CHINA (4) |
| 8. ROUND | OVER (4) |
| 9. BUMPED | ORBIT (4) |
| 10. PENCIL | STUDY (4) |

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