



What's On

This **October newsletter** is sent to all members of the Matlock Area u3a who are registered as current members on the Beacon database and for whom we have an email address.

Please open the PDF version, there are a lot of photos this month which will only open in pdf.

Coffee Mornings.

Our next coffee morning is on

**Monday September 2nd at Matlock Football Club. DE4 3AR
10.30am.**

We will be having entertainment from **Roger Browne**, who played for us at the AGM back in lockdown. He will be giving us an insight into **Scott Joplin** With live piano he will be outlining the story of Ragtime and why the creator of 'The Entertainer' died penniless.

***** **NOTE******* We are returned to our traditional venue of the football club. The entrance is the blue gates just by the new flats. There is parking round the rear of the club which is free, or it's a pleasant walk through the park from the bus station.

GROUPS NEWS

Short Walks and Dawdles,

After a recent survey of the Short Walks group it has been decided to have a short walk on the 2nd Saturday of the month and on the 4th Wednesday of the month. There will also be a Dawdle on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Wherever possible, the Wednesday Dawdle will be in the same area as the short walk.

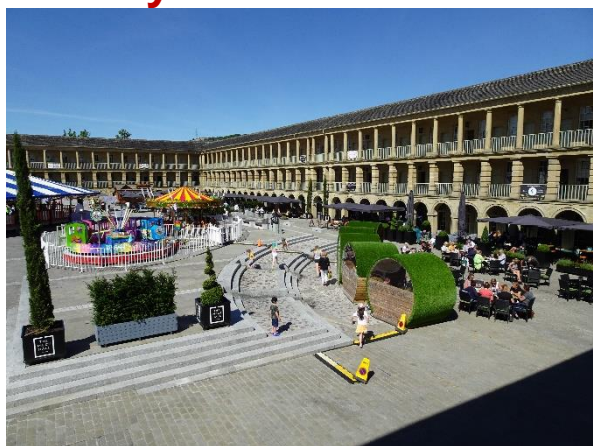
Short walks are 3-5 miles (4-5 miles on easy ground and 3-4 miles where terrain is more of a challenge). A lot of people said that they would be put off where the description mentioned tricky stiles, muddy sections and steep ascents. We will try to avoid these on all walks.

Dawdles are a maximum of 2 miles. All walks are planned to be as level as possible with no step stiles.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list for either group, please contact Donna: shortwalks@matlockareau3a.org.uk

DATE	LOCATION	SHORT WALK LEADER	DAWDLE LEADER
Wednesday 27/9/23	Stanton Moor	Donna Hawkins	Roy Jones
Saturday 14/10/23	Stone Centre	Nigel Neale	X
Wednesday 25/10/23		John Anderson	Donna Hawkins
Saturday 11/11/23	Ashover	Hilary Essen	X
Wednesday 22/11/23		Anna Williams	Donna Hawkins
Saturday 9/12/23	Ashford in the Water	Iseult Cocking	X
Wednesday 27/12/23		NO WALK	

History 3



This year's field trip for History 3 took us to Halifax. The group, which studies the nineteenth century, visited the home of industrialist Edward Akroyd. His mansion, with separate servants' wing, is set within its own park and is now a museum. Close by is All Souls Church which he had built. It was designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott who was responsible for 800 buildings including the

Midland Hotel at St Pancras, the station and - even the iconic red telephone box. Although it is now rarely open the group was able to look round the church - which Gilbert Scott believed to be the finest he ever designed. Edward's model village was the next on the itinerary. The houses he provided were years ahead of their time having gas and mains water supplied as well as private toilets.

Other sites included Halifax Minster, which was remodelled in the nineteenth century but retains its Civil War glass, and the world famous **Piece Hall (Illustrated)**. This was designed to trade hand woven cloth in pre-industrial times and became a fruit and veg market in the 1800s.

The trip concluded with the Wainwright tower. A bombastic landowner, who boasted that no one could see into his private estate, made an enemy of a Halifax factory owner, Mr Wainwright. He retaliated by converting his new factory chimney into a huge viewing platform with uninhibited views into the estate.

Bridge Group

Along with John Boadle, Frank Hemming was a founder of the Bridge Group some thirteen years ago. In 2017, Frank donated a silver salver to the Group which has been competed for each year since.



This year the competition took place on 6th September, followed by our Summer Buffet Lunch.

The joint winners, sharing a score of 60.94%, were Linda Boadle with Gill Rebaudi, and Audrey Foster with Peter Dawson.

Archaeology Group

On Thursday 21st September the archaeology group visited Fin Cop Hill Fort. The site commanding the local landscape is still two and half thousand years later a place people come to visit at Monsel Head. Fin Cop Hillfort dates from the Iron Age. The local excavation in 2009-10 revealed that the fort was in use for probably 400 years before being dismantled in 300BCE. However the function and role of Hill Forts is still a matter of considerable debate. The members enjoyed visiting Fin Cop and debating its meaning and purpose. Our last site visit of the year is to Warslow on Wednesday 25th October to look at the medieval field barns.



To find out more or to join the group please contact the co-ordinator [Cameron Butland](#)

French Conversation

The group have moved its venue. The aim is to provide an opportunity to practice spoken French. We meet on Tuesday afternoons on the LAST Tuesday in the month. Time: 1:30-3:00pm in the library at St Elphin's.

Please contact Candy or Maddie if interested at email frenchconversation@matlockareau3a.org.uk

Mau3a NEWS

Committee News

One of the stalwarts of our committee and of the History and Walking groups, Linda Wilson, is moving to the sunny pastures of Wales. We wish her every happiness in her new home and thank her for all her hard work. She has been behind the hugely popular Walk and Talk Events (below) and has kept me on track as Chair. Her input will be greatly missed. Helen Boocock, who was Business Secretary before Linda, has kindly agreed to be coopted onto The Committee until the AGM in March to fill this necessary role.

Photos?

Our Publicity Officer, Steve Bailey is revising the leaflet we give out to the public and to new members. He would like to include 'action' shots of groups (with the permission of those included) If you have any photos that you think would be suitable please send them to Steve with a brief description of the group [new leaflet](#)

Derbyshire u3a Network Events

Walking Week 1st to 7th October

Attached to the email are details of the Walking Week for the Network. There are a series of walks during the week from the u3a's in Wirksworth, Chesterfield, Belper, Ripley, Buxton and Matlock. Do peruse them and book if you would like an accompanied walk in a new area.

FOR INTEREST

Chesterfield Theatre

Margaret McCall is a member of local history group, and also a member of Chesterfield Theatre Friends(CTF). As a CTF she wondered if any u3a members would be interested in an event at the Winding Wheel on Thursday 19 October at 11.00. There is a 1 hour talk followed by homemade soup roll and grated cheese. Cost for talk and food £7.20

Tales of the Pomegranate

Join former Technical Manager, Stuart Basson, for stories of his time at the theatre from when he started in 1979 until retirement in 2022

People can access details and booking through Chesterfield Theatres

From: Sight Support Derbyshire

Befriending Volunteers Required!

Do you have 1-2 hours a week to spare? Would you enjoy visiting people for a chat? Would you like to make a difference to the life of someone who is blind or partially sighted?

Could that someone be you? There are people in your community who may feel lonely and socially isolated. You could support someone by having a chat, and assisting them

with simple tasks such as sorting mail, reading the local paper, going out for a walk and socialising. So go on, do something amazing! Contact us now and become a volunteer today!

To find out more please contact us on:

01332 292262 Website: www.sightsupportderbyshire.org.uk