

What's On

This **December 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.

Christmas Social.

Our next coffee morning is on

**Monday 4th December at Matlock Football Club. DE4 3AR
10.30am.**



There will be Christmas entertainment from the recorder group and from Tom Pilkington. Christmas goodies will accompany your tea or coffee.

Please put £1.00 towards the costs in the honesty box.

Festive jumpers are optional but encouraged!!

The **Coffee Morning** after this will be on **January 8th** as the 1st is a bank holiday

Mau3a NEWS

Coach Trip

I have now booked a coach for a visit to **The National Memorial Arboretum**. This will take place on **Monday 8th April**. The cost of the coach will be £15 and will be open to all Mau3a members.

As I said in last month's newsletter, this will be following up the talk which will be given at the AGM on March 18th. Save the date and I will be sending out booking details immediately after Christmas.

Subs.

We are moving the date that subs are due to the **1st February**. **Please do not send subs before you get notification from the membership secretary.** This is to help Brian our treasurer to reconcile the financial year before the new year's subs start coming in.

Facebook.

Some people love it, some people hate it! I am thinking of setting up a Matlock area Facebook page (tech savy grandson at the ready!) in order for us to share information about anything or everything .. groups, meetings, useful services or builders, and to promote our u3a to potential new members.

Is there someone out there who does use/visit Facebook regularly who could join me as a moderator, to take down any posts that we feel are unsuitable.

I would not like to censor this site, but would like to block out any extreme or unsavoury postings that might find there way to us.

Contact: [Chair](mailto:Chair@matlockareau3a.org.uk) chair@matlockareau3a.org.uk

GROUPS NEWS

Write your Own Story

Over the summer months David Gray proposed the formation of a new group within Matlock u3a, which would provide support and assistance to those looking to record their life story. He considered that this was a specific type of writing that would not sit readily within the existing Creative Writing group. Half a dozen existing members responded to the outline proposals and their interest culminated in a recent meeting. The founding members have resolved to hold monthly meetings (1st Wednesday of the month) and each will take turns at hosting responsibilities. Meetings will be about 2 hours long and whilst detailed critique of writing will not be undertaken at meetings, the group will help and support all members to progress their individual objectives. Anyone who would like more details, or who is interested in joining the fledgling group should contact [David Gray](#)

Shorter Walking Group



On 11th November twelve walkers enjoyed a sunny two hour walk in the Ashover area. Afterwards some enjoyed refreshments in the local pub.

As one member said “This was worth getting out of bed for”

The group meets twice monthly, either on a Wednesday or a Saturday, and new

members are always welcome. Details are on the website or contact [Debbie Davis](#)

Book Group 2

Book group 2 have a vacancy for a new member. With 12 members in total each person chooses a book in the year, so variety is ensured. Some light, some serious, some odd! At the end of the year they choose a favourite.

Contact [John Mann](#)

Bridge Group Cober Hill

28 members attended our Cober Hill break, commencing on Monday, 2 October, with a mid-afternoon welcome and the first playing session.

Cober Hill, now a conference centre, is a beautiful Victorian mansion, situated on the glorious north Yorkshire coast, just 6 miles north of Scarborough. We have been visiting Cober Hill for our annual 'away days' for over a decade.

We all enjoyed three exciting, nail-biting playing sessions on Monday and Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday morning. Tuesday morning was free for rest and recuperation and to take full advantage of the local area. For those of a more energetic disposition, this included two walks – a 'long' and a 'short' – and a round of golf at the lovely Filey course. In the event, the 'short' walk turned out to be longer than the 'long'.

On Wednesday morning, the excitement steadily grew as the playing session progressed to its shattering conclusion. The tension was only eased when the overall winners of three sessions were announced over lunch: N/S - Chris and John Barnes and E/W – Sue Wyatt and Janet Green. Very worthy winners who justifiably received a standing ovation.

A most enjoyable time was had by all participants. Particular thanks to Sue Wyatt for organising the event



Further, there is no longer a waiting list at the Bridge Club therefore we are able to welcome new players - the only proviso being the ability to play a reasonable game of Bridge. Unfortunately, at the moment we don't have anyone available for tuition, so the ability to play is essential, but we are friendly and supportive to novices and those who are rusty.

We also welcome back those who were previously members but for a myriad of reasons felt they needed a break.

In all cases, it is preferable to have a partner but we can help to pair people up.

Please see the website for further information and/or contact the Co-ordinations, Rachel Jenkinson on 07752 402409 [Bridge Group](#)

or Roger Spells on 07918 030260 [Bridge Group](#)