



What's On

Plenty of pictures this month, please open the PDF version

Mau3a NEWS

Coffee Morning and Social

Monday 4th November

Matlock Football Club 10.30 until 1.00pm

This month's coffee morning will be in 2 halves.

Firstly:

10.30 to 11.30 Coffee and chat with a short presentation from Stephen Chaytow on reopening the Matlock to Buxton railway line

Secondly:

11.30 to 1.00 An introduction and guidance on using a **defibrillator** from Ralph Emerson with a chance to have a hands on practise. Ralph is a Matlock GP whose demonstrations have been frequently recommended.

Some of you may wish to do one or both of these, please feel free to mix and match.

Open Morning

Many thanks to all those individuals and groups who helped to make last month's coffee morning such a huge success.



It was fabulous to see the range and variety of interests we all have, and to see so many members. We all beaver away with our own particular fascination, and it was lovely to see so many things going on. We did attract many new members which is important if groups are to develop and thrive.

TIMETABLE.

Future dates and themes for coffee mornings are as follows:

- DEC 2nd Xmas celebrations and entertainment.
- JAN 6th Jackie Doherty from Matlock Citizens advice will be revisiting.
- FEB 3rd Bert Flitcroft. Staffordshire's Poet Laureate
- MAR 3rd Mike Storr. Masters of Mirth
- Mar 24th AGM. Imperial rooms 2.30

New Painting/ Art Group?

Following the open morning there was considerable interest in forming a new art group, as the current one is full. Seven people have put their names forward, so we have the nucleus of a new group. If you would like to add your name to this list please send your email address to me and I will collect these together and forward them to the groups sec. <mailto:lizzyeditor@gmail.com>

U3a 40th Anniversary Woodland

You may remember, and indeed have contributed, to the u3a 40th anniversary woodland back in 2021. We purchased two copses of 100 trees each on behalf of Matlock Area u3a. The national u3a have produced an update video on how the trees are progressing. Search U Tube under **u3a 40th anniversary woodland** to see how your trees are getting on. I shall stream this at the Dec coffee morning if you wish to see it.

Groups News

History 3

As a change to discussing an aspect of nineteenth century world history, this month the group brought along heirlooms dating from the 1800s and explained their family history.

And what a wide range of interesting artifacts there were as the photograph illustrates. They included a canteen of 19th Century silver spoons which family



members had sewed into their clothing to use to barter as they fled from Nazi Berlin. Contemporary books described the Boer War. A beautiful and intricate sampler evidenced the skill of a fourteen year old whilst a smoothing iron heated by slugs of iron placed in the fire was evidence of every day domestic life. We admired an early English gold pocket watch and a beautiful silver Chatelaine. These small clasps were used by ladies to carry coins to a dance.

The afternoon concluded with a recital played on a rare square piano.

We aim to hold a similar event again next year with a further glimpse into the lives of our nineteenth century forebears. Contact [John Entwistle](#)

Archaeology

Thank you to Kevin Wagstaffe for leading our visit to Chelmorton on Monday 14th October. Personally I learnt so much about the development of the village and the system of strip farming. We were very fortunate in the weather which enabled us to walk in the dry and to visit the Five Wells Megalithic tomb. Kevin's excellent research made it a fascinating visit for the ten of us plus our two visitors.

Our final meeting of the year is on Thursday 14th November at 10.30am at the Wirksworth Heritage Centre. We will go for a short walk around the centre of Wirksworth looking at some of the buildings from different centuries and end again at the museum. We will then finish at the museum itself and Webster's cafe. Please let me know if you are planning to attend.

There is no meeting in December, as we will all be busy involved in lots of seasonal events.

On **Saturday 25th January** we are all welcome and encouraged to attend the Derbyshire Archaeology Day at the Winding Wheel Theatre in Chesterfield. Currently there are plenty of tickets available at concessionary rates. It would be good to know if you are planning to attend as we could arrange to share cars.

Thank you for your support in 2024 and if you can't attend in November, I look forward to seeing you next year.

Please do contact Cameron Butland for more information.

[Cameron Butland](#)



Bridge

This year's bridge break ran for 3 days from Wednesday 9th October and was attended by 28 club members. 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 kicked off with a mid-afternoon welcome and drinks get-together, followed by the first playing session. In total we all enjoyed three exciting, nail-biting playing sessions on Monday and Tuesday afternoon/evenings and Wednesday morning.

Tuesday morning was "bridge free" to take full advantage of the local area's attractions. The weather was a little problematic, but despite that



everyone made good use of the day walking, golfing, sight-seeing or just relaxing. We then all got together for a further bridge session, either side of dinner.

On Wednesday morning, the final bridge session was completed, leading to the overall winners being decided and announced over lunch: N/S – Liz Walker and Angela Elkins and E/W –

Jane and Lionel Stout. All very worthy winners!

The few days together were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone there, so particular thanks are due to Sue Wyatt for her considerable efforts in organising the whole event.

Next year's trip will be on October 6 – 8, but we will be changing venue and going to Llandudno.

FOR INTEREST

History Talk

As you may know, Cromford Mills has been running, jointly with Belper North Mill Volunteers, a series of local history talks throughout this year and last, with support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

We have 1 more talk in 2024:

" Powering the Derbyshire Derwent Valley in the past, the present and the future." The Speaker is Ian Jackson, who is a real expert on the topic (he wrote his PhD about it!). Ian describes the talk as an investigations into how the Strutts, Arkwrights, English Sewing Company and Derwent Hydro have harnessed the power of the Derbyshire River Derwent and its tributaries past and present, and its future potential.

It promises to be an excellent finale to the series, which has been well attended, with several almost sold out. So, get you tickets now! There may only be a small number on the door. The talk will start at 19.30, with the doors open at 19.00. With questions, we expect the talk to end at approximately 20.45. The venue is No 28, Belper Marketplace.

Best wishes

Joan Link

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This **November 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.