

# Buxton & District u3a

<https://buxton.u3asite.uk>

## The Bulletin – June 2025

From the chair, Jill Murphy

Hello Everyone,

As well as outlining recent and future events and outings, this month's bulletin focusses on our Groups.

It's a great credit to Group Leaders, Registrars, Event Organisers and our Group Leader Liaison that all registers from Groups and Events have been received. Thank you.

**New Groups which have taken off are**

### **1. Mahjong**

This is a board game for 4 players, that originated in China, and it is played with tiles with symbols, where players aim to create a winning hand forming sets and pairs. There have been three games running simultaneously on occasion. The group meets on a Thursday afternoon from 2-4pm, in the Community Centre, (rear of St Anne's RC church) Hardwick Square, Buxton. The Group Leader is Bridget Woodhouse [REDACTED]

### **2. Board Games**

continues to run on a Thursday morning at 10am upstairs in the Pavilion Gardens Café, the Group Leader, is Sheila, and further information is on our website [https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/board-games/](https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/board-games/)

### **3. Needlework**

is meeting fortnightly on the second and fourth Thursdays at 2pm in the Upper Room of Buxton Methodist Church, Market Place Buxton.

**There are new groups in the offing too, and these are**

### **1. Mindfulness and Relaxation**

The initial set-up meeting will take place on 18<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm, downstairs in the Pavilion Gardens Café. This will be to discuss content and day, time and venue. Come along if you are interested. Group Leader Tracy will be pleased to meet you.

### **2. Beginners' Croquet**

Andrew Matthews writes - We are testing the water to see if there is a demand for a new group for interested members who have not tried the sport or who have only played occasionally.

Members will be taught the basics of how to play Golf Croquet. This is much easier to learn/play than the original game of Association Croquet.

Skills such as running a hoop, stop shots and jump shots will be coached as the sessions progress. We have a practice lawn for players to gain confidence hitting and aiming. We have two playing lawns and by doubling up, can have 16 playing at the same time. We have plenty of chairs so that players can rest /spectate with a cup of tea /coffee.

The sessions will take place at Buxton Croquet Club, Ashwood Park, and run from 2-5pm on Fridays starting on June 6th. There is no expectation that members will play for 3 hours continuously!

If you've never played before, or played in the distant past, come along and give it a go, and bring a friend as well. All equipment provided. Please will players wear flat-soled shoes/ trainers.

To make this a sustainable group, we need at least 10 interested members.

Please contact me through the website -

[https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/croquet-beginners/](https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/croquet-beginners/) if you are interested/have any questions.

I look forward to seeing you on June 6th.

**This Beginners' Croquet group introduced above is in addition to the well-established Croquet group which meets on Monday afternoons in Cote Heath Park – see photo below and the website for details.**



## **Prospective new Groups**

### **1. A Travel Group**

Hopefully a New Group to discuss all forms of travel, and perhaps, .... Arrange some! Initial meeting to discuss, probably August.

### **2. New Age Kurling<sup>1</sup>**

Trish writes, 'No, you do not need to dig out those ice skates from that cupboard under the stairs or go hunting in the attic, this is New Age Kurling.

No ice rink is required or heavy curling stone but what we need are members who want to have a go at something new to Buxton u3a and have fun. New Age Kurling.

A New Age Kurling stone can only be described as a frisbee on casters, which is propelled across a wooden floor towards a bull's eye, so, yes, it's an indoor game!

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<sup>1</sup> New Age Kurling is spelt with a 'K' whereas Scottish outdoor curling is spelt with a 'c'. Thank you, Mr Google – ed.

We would be playing in the winter months just like Scottish outdoor curling. A winter group.'

If you would be interested in finding out more or playing, please email me - Trish Hampson [REDACTED]

### **3. Wine Appreciation**

We are trying to develop a model which might help members appreciate and enjoy wines from all over the world, at an affordable price for them, and be accessible. A poll taken earlier in the year indicated that there is a good level of interest, but members expressed concern about not wanting to drive after imbibing, cost, and time of day.

For more information about any of the above Groups please contact Jean Brown [REDACTED]

### **Thanks, and Farewell to the Oral History group**

**Anne Rogerson writes -**

It is 10 years this month since I started the Buxton & District u3a Oral History group. It was great fun establishing it, running meetings, conducting interviews and encouraging others to do so. In collaboration with Viv Doyle, we produced 2 shows for the Fringe Festival in 2017 and 2018, using extracts from OH recordings. Thus, the profile of u3a was raised along with funds to be ploughed back into the organisation. The Matlock Record Office holds some 124 recordings in the catalogue collection called Present from the Past (available through quick search D8048 at the Record Office), the vast majority of which came through the u3a route. A show was also produced for one of our monthly meetings, featuring members as its focus.

**I have included the information provided to me because I think it is important that we all know how to get access to this fascinating set of records, which I doubt can or will ever be replicated.**

**Thank you so much Anne and Viv, a true contribution to local history.**

## RECENT OUTINGS AND EVENTS

### 1. Charabanc May Outing to Trentham Gardens

See lots of photos from this outing on our website at [https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/charabanc-outings/](https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/charabanc-outings/) under the ‘**Previous Outings**’ section.



There were many options – cafes (of course), walks right round the lake 1 mile in length, a stroll round the Italian garden with its many benches, the fantastic smell of the wisteria tunnel was a must, viewing the many “fairies” and just listening to so many birds and spotting the wildlife all around made it a fabulous day.

Darren has created a reel (essentially a little video) of this outing. Press and hold the Ctrl key while you press Click on the link below to be taken to Facebook to view it. To move the reel on and listen to the soundtrack you need to enable them – click the little right-facing arrow and loudspeaker to the right of the main title.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/16Gh7LbCBb/>

### 2. Derbyshire Network

This is a group of Derbyshire-based u3as (although no one is very focussed on location in view of pending local government changes) that comes together to discuss common interests and solutions. About 9 u3as attended, and Jean Brown and I went. Our suggestion to run a Derbyshire-wide Quiz during u3a week was well received, and the plans are being laid. Other topics discussed included the new structure in the National u3a body, how to recruit new members, how to recruit new group leaders, committee succession generally, sharing outings with other u3as to make up numbers, taking and retaining attendance lists, numbers attending the monthly meeting.

### **3. Digital Photography**

From the Digital Photography group May meeting (it meets 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month) at the Methodist Church.

‘The theme, chosen at the previous meeting, was "Chimneys." Darren presented members' photos in a PowerPoint presentation, including labelled images from those who were unable to attend. Two standout photos were selected as this month’s featured entries, belonging to Ann Leblanc and Desi Lauder—congratulations to them both!



### **4. Lunch at Harpur’s Restaurant in the Dome**

22 of us enjoyed a delicious lunch served by graduate students of the 2025 year. It was a long time since I had eaten in the University, and in a different location, but it was bistro style, and thoroughly enjoyable.

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS, and OUTINGS**

### **31 May 2025**

We will be at the Rotary Fair in the Octagon of the Pavilion Gardens from 10am - 4.30pm

**9 June 2025 9.30 Tech Team** here to help with your tech queries in the Methodist Church Market Place Buxton – before and after

**Members Meeting 10.00 (Tea and Coffee from 9.30)** in the Methodist Church. Jim Williams will entertain us with a talk about **Charlatans, Frauds and Fools**

### **13 June 2025 10.00**

A walk in the Park and the Serpentine, meet outside the Café at the Pavilion Gardens

**10.30 Coffee and Chat In the Café** (Ground Floor in the Pavilion Gardens)

### **24 June 2025 Charabanc Outing, Tuesday all day to –**

**Attingham Park NT and Foodhall Organic Farm Cafe.**

Charabanc outings are very popular. You can read all about this June outing and the two in July on the website. Click on the link below and scroll down to 'Forthcoming Events'

[https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/charabanc-outings/](https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/charabanc-outings/)

**To book**, contact Trish through the group page on the website as above

There will be 2 further Charabanc outings in July, 10<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, (contact Trish as above), and a general meeting for members in July, when Darren will entertain us with 'A funny thing happened on the way to the Theatre', (14<sup>th</sup> July in the Methodist Church Market Place Buxton).

Jill Murphy

