

Buxton & District u3a

<https://buxton.u3asite.uk>

The Bulletin – November 2025

From the chair, Jill Murphy

I am really delighted to thank the Bingham Trust for their grant of £444, to enable us to buy equipment for our new Kurling Group. The inaugural meeting of the group will be on 3rd November (see page 4). I am particularly pleased that the charitable objects for which Buxton and District u3a was formed, are being supported by this local Charity. Special thanks to Jean, our Group Leader Liaison, who did the hard work of form-filling and putting the application together.

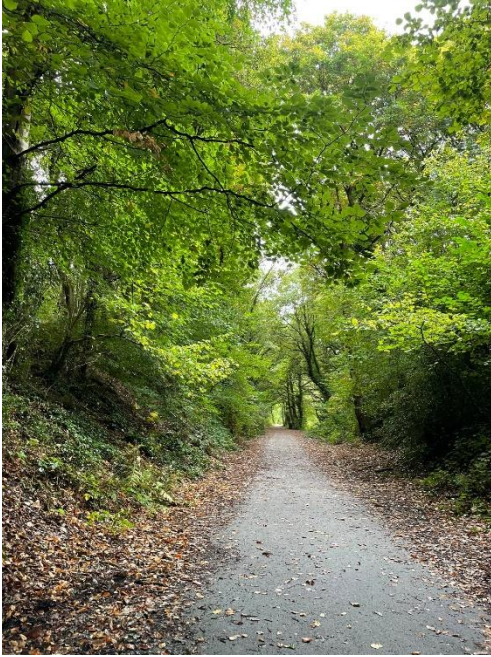
RECENT OUTINGS AND EVENTS

Combined Charabanc and Needlework trip to North Wales on 1st October

On a glorious warm autumnal day, Charabanc and Needlework joined together on a fabulous outing to North Wales. Needlework going to Abakhan, a large retailer of fabrics and yarns, and Charabanc going to Greenfield Valley Heritage Park.

After a visit to their lovely tearoom, **Charabanc** discovered the fantastic heritage park. The ruins of Basingwerk Abbey were a popular start, whilst finding out about Wat's Dyke, about 300 years older than Offa's Dyke.





Others enjoyed a walk through beautiful woods, with many trees showing their autumnal colours, to St Winefride's Well, with a Tudor crypt, dipping hands and even a foot into the very cold water.

The Museum was a must for everyone, with farmhouses displaying what it would have been like to live there, finding out about the cotton mills and copper smelting works that once stood in the valley and watching the blacksmith hard at work.

As we waited for the coach a grey heron posed majestically by the pool for photos.

A wonderful finish to an excellent day out.

The **Needlework contingent** came back with lots of goodies



Book Group 2 took a trip to **Manchester on 21st October**, having a coffee and a look round a wonderful bookshop "The House of Books and Friends", before being given a fascinating guided tour of the Chetham Library where we saw a most amazing piece of furniture which had been used to house books for lending out to areas all around Manchester. The books were well-chained up in such a fashion that the books could be read without damage and without taking them off the shelf.

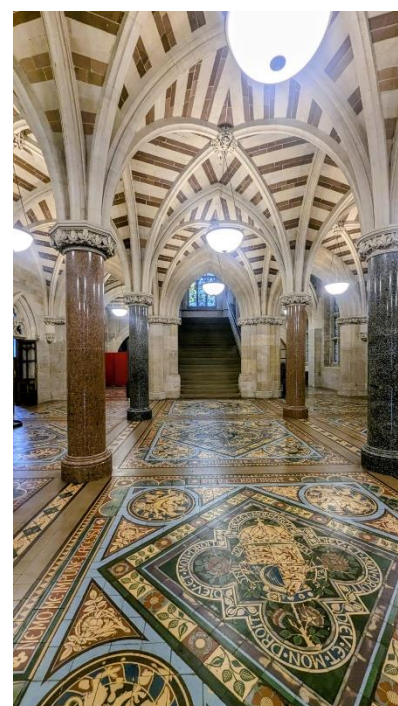
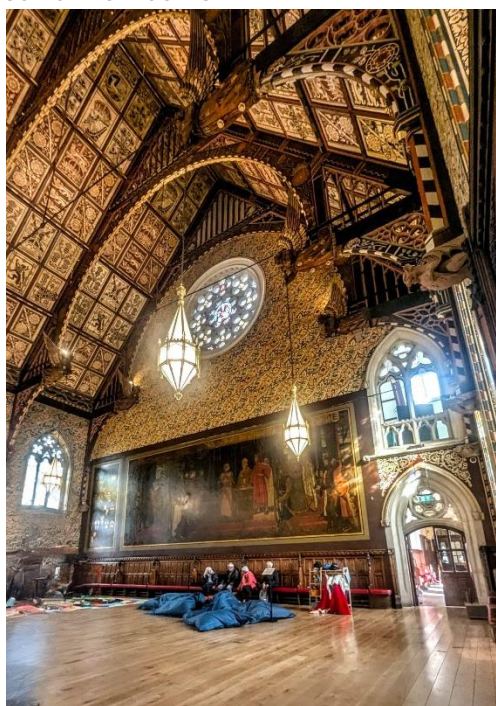


Here we are sitting in Chetham Library at the very spot where Marx and Engels worked on “The Communist Manifesto”. We’re trying to look revolutionary.



Charabanc trip to Rochdale on Wednesday 22nd October

Rochdale Town Hall, built in the 1880s, can only be described as magnificent. It recently underwent a multi-million restoration and as we walked in, we were stunned by its Victorian flamboyance. After refreshments we had excellent guided tours followed by a sandwich buffet.



A short coach ride took us to the Pioneer Museum telling us of the start of the Cooperative Society which had its birth in Rochdale. Two very different visits which together made a superb day out on our Charabanc outing. If you would like to join the Charabanc emailing list, email Trish Hampson.

Digital Photography

The month's "Reflections" submissions were displayed on the big screen. After much admiration and discussion, Sue and Ann's photos were chosen as Photos of the Month. They were warmly congratulated as deserving winners — though the judges admitted it was a tough decision, as the standard of entries was exceptionally high. One member even commented on how much the quality of everyone's photography has improved since the group began earlier this year. The group have decided to produce a **calendar for our u3a for 2026**. Enquiries to Darren Finn-Hurst.



Some members recently enjoyed a Manchester photography trip, where members learned how to make the most of mobile phone photography — particularly using iPhones — followed by a photo walk led by two professional photographers. Everyone agreed it had been an inspiring experience and that more outings like this should be arranged in the New Year.

FORTHCOMING u3a EVENTS, OUTINGS AND GROUP MEETINGS

Monday 3rd November 2025. The Inaugural meeting of the **Kurling Group** will be held at St Anne's RC Church Community Centre 1.30-3.30pm. Contact the group leader by clicking here https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/kurling/

Wednesday 5th November 2025. There is a waiting list for the **lunch at Harpurs Bistro** in the Devonshire Dome on Derby University Campus. £25 per person. Contact Bridget Woodhouse.

Thursday 6th November 2025. There are 4 places left for the **Quiz** at the Conservative Club, Concert Place, Buxton from 2.30 – 5pm. The doors will open at 2pm to allow you to buy drinks. 10 rounds of questions including a picture round, set by Diane Ives. Tickets are £3 from Jill Murphy

Friday 7th November 2026. The inaugural meeting of the Travel Talk group will be held at the New Inn. See https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/travel-talk/

Sunday 9th November 2025. 11am
Remembrance Sunday at the Cenotaph on The Slopes in Buxton. Diane Ives accompanied by Jean Evanson will be presenting a wreath made by Sue Brown and Diane on our behalf. Come along if you can.



Monday 10th November 2025

The speaker at monthly meeting will be **David Poppitt** who will give a talk on the **History of the Christie Hospital**. Tech Team will be there before and after to answer your queries.

Coffee and Chat will not take place in November or December. Back in 2026.

Saturday and Sunday 15th/16th November 2025. We will have our publicity stall in the Octagon Hall of the **Pavilion Gardens**, Buxton. The hours are 10am to 7pm **on** Saturday and 10am to 5pm on Sunday. The festive lights switch-on ceremony begins at 6.00pm on Saturday evening. We show what we do as a charity organisation and use the opportunity to recruit new members. We need some help from you. The slots are 1h 30mins and we ask you to talk to enquirers about the u3a and provide information. Application Forms, information about our Groups, and leaflets will be available. If you can volunteer some time, please contact Christine Marrison.

Friday 28th November 2025. Charabanc Outing to Tatton to enjoy their Christmas display. £36 including soup and a roll. Further information from Trish Hampson.



Monday 8th December 2025. Christmas Lunch at the Lee Wood Hotel £35. Further information from Bridget Woodhouse. We would be very grateful for donations of bottles for the tombola and non-consumables for the Christmas hamper. Please bring them to the next monthly meeting on 10th November or contact Bridget.

Tuesday 9th December 2025. Charabanc is going on their annual shopping trip to Handforth Dean.

3hrs of concentrated Christmas shopping! Whether you are looking for that sparkly shimmering Christmas dress, or a thick woolly whilst hunting out those Christmas presents for the family or even stocking up on goodies for Christmas you have chance to do it on our Christmas shopper. No hassle of parking the car, a comfy coach dropping us handily close by.

There will be pick-ups in Buxton, Doveholes, Chapel and Whaley Bridge.

Cost £12. Book your seat by emailing Trish Hampson



Monday 15th December 2025. Our **Singing for Fun Group** will hold a **concert** from 12.15-1.15pm in the Hall of the Methodist Church. Teas, Coffees and Mince Pies will be available. Please bring some mince pies along if you can. Everyone welcome.

GROUPS WHO WOULD WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Latin – see https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/latin/

Mahjong – see https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/mahjong/

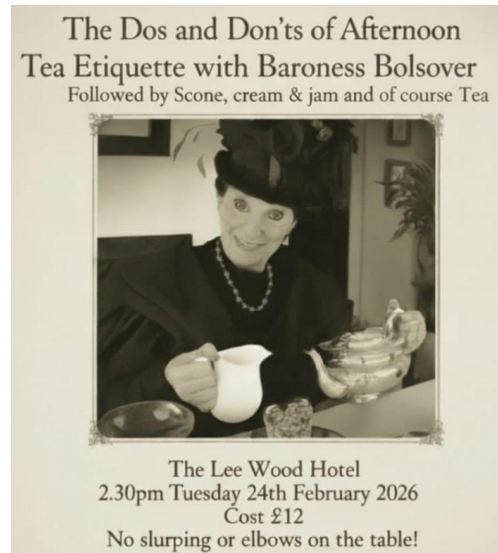
Piano Playing – see https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/playing-the-piano/

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 7th January 2026. The **Bridge group** will be running another free-to-members **beginners' course** in the Hardwick Room of St Anne's RC Centre starting at 1.15. The ordinary members bridge sessions continue. A partner is not needed, so do come along. There were 26 players this week. Book your place on the course or make any other enquiries to Mary Bramwell.

Tuesday 24th February 2026 - Baroness Bolsover will introduce us to the correct etiquette for partaking of afternoon tea.

Contact Trish Hampson to book.



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – NOT BOOKING YET

Sunday 8th February 2026 - a Charabanc outing to **York Ice Sculpture Trail**

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

The following request was received by email from Fiona Bateman

fionab@sightsupportderbyshire.org.uk . Phone: 01332287005

Hi, I've recently started as the **Volunteer Coordinator for Sight Support Derbyshire** and am exploring opportunities to partner with u3a groups across Derbyshire to find befriending volunteers for people who are blind / partially sighted. We are desperate for more volunteers to support our service users, particularly in your area. Would it be possible to promote some volunteer opportunities in your group?

If you can spare some time and want to volunteer, please contact Fiona direct. Thanks.

NON-u3a EVENTS

Friday 31st October 2025. 5pm at Lee Wood Hotel Buxton, **Halloween Entertainment.** £10 tickets from buxtonmurdermystery@gmail.com in aid of the **Air Ambulance.** It may not be under the auspices of the u3a, but you will recognise many of the participants!

Who is this under the hat?? And what are they hiding under the triangle?



Sunday 7th December 2025. The **Rotary Club of Buxton** are running a **Christmas Charity Concert** featuring Opera, a Christmas Songbook, Organ, Rhythm and Blues and a children's choir. Venue: St John's Church, Buxton. Cost: £10 per person - children free. Tickets available from Hargreaves (cash only please) or on the door
Doors open 1.30pm with concert starting at 2pm and ending at 5pm
Refreshments available during the interval.
All proceeds to local charities

Jill Murphy

Individual email addresses of u3a members to contact about items in this bulletin are not given here to preserve their privacy. Members of Buxton & District u3a receive a separate personal email giving these email addresses.