

Buxton & District u3a

<https://buxton.u3asite.uk>

The Bulletin – January 2026

It's 30 years since we were founded so we're celebrating

A small working party has been set up and is being led by Diane Ives and Jean



Brown. Simon has produced this clever logo for the celebrations.

Diane has produced a summary of the initial ideas below. She says -

We had our first meeting on Thursday 8th January to discuss various ideas. We have been given

a very generous gift from an anonymous donor which we will be using to make our celebrations really special. I say celebrations because the team think that instead of just one event we could have several!

Ideas that we are working on are:

A u3a Fair

This would be similar to that held annually by the Rotary Club but would be exclusively for the Buxton and District u3a to showcase the various groups and to show everyone what we get up to.

A Creative Arts Day

A whole day set aside to show off the artistic talents of our members from painting and photography to needlecraft and flower arranging. Also, we would like there to be timetabled items throughout the day like poetry readings or piano recitals.

A Variety Show

Calling all you budding thespians and performers. A chance to take to the stage and show us your hidden talents. Are you a magician or a comedian? Can you sing, dance or maybe recite the words of Shakespeare? If you can

and would like to perform for your fellow u3a members we'd like to hear from you.

A Barn Dance

Complete with food, a chance to 'swing your partners' and let your hair down.

Guinness World Record Attempt

My personal favourite! A chance for the Buxton and District u3a members to get a mention in the Guinness Book of Records. Any suggestions for what we could do to achieve this would be greatly appreciated.

So that's what we have been talking about so far. If any of you have any other suggestions, ideas or would be available to help in any way please get in touch with Diane Ives by email and/or come to our meeting as below.

Our next meeting is on Monday 19th January at 2pm in the Pavilion Gardens so if you would like to come along you would be most welcome. I plan to keep you all up to date with how we are progressing by sending a brief report to you all via Beacon email after each meeting but that's all for now!

From the chair, Jill Murphy

Happy New Year Everyone.

Do make sure you come along to our Review of 2025, presented by Trish Hampson on Monday 12th January 2026 in the Buxton Methodist Church Hall, Market Place, Buxton, SK17 6HX. Be there at 9.30am if you can please. The meeting will start at 10am but there are refreshments and the TechTeam will be available to answer your queries beforehand.

We are setting up the Hall in a 'Café' style and Teas, Coffees and Cakes will be available.

So, I am relying on Trish's Review to tell you all about what has been going on in our many Groups over the last year and in December. We have all been busy.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS, OUTINGS AND GROUP MEETINGS

In view of the current weather conditions, I really urge you to keep checking our website and to keep in touch with your group leader for up-to-date information about your Group. Please don't take unnecessary risks.

There are some venue changes due to the announced (and then postponed) closure for works to the Pavilion Gardens Café/Tea Rooms

- MOTO are meeting in the Pump Room
- Board Games are meeting in the Vault
- Gardening for Pleasure – please contact the Group Leader

Beginners Bridge: There is still time to join the new course which is being held in the Hardwick Room at the Buxton RC Church Community Hall, Hardwick Square, Buxton on Wednesday afternoons at 1.15pm. If you like cards, you will enjoy learning this game. When you have learnt the basics, you can graduate to playing in the Main Group. Contact Mary Bramwell if interested.

The Dos and Don'ts of Afternoon Tea Etiquette: There is a lot to learn to be correct with your etiquette, especially no slurping or elbows on the table! Followed by a scone, cream and jam and of course, tea. The event will take place at the Lee Wood Hotel on Tuesday 24th February at 2.30pm, and the cost is £12. Trish guarantees a funny, cheerful afternoon with lots of laughter, so contact her to book a place. She adds – **Do come, we all need a laugh and a chat in dank and dreary February**

The **February monthly meeting** will be on Monday 9th February at 10am. The subject is the **History of the Buxton Opera House** and the talk will be given by **Jonathan Thompson** who is Head of Operations & Deputy CEO at the Opera House. Tea, coffee, biscuits and Tech Team available from 9:30

OTHER MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The Early Bird 5.30pm Greek Meal at the Ithaca Restaurant is taking place on 15th January. Please contact me (Jill) if you have booked with me and cannot come.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF THE NEW (1 year old) GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF THE NATIONAL U3A MOVEMENT?

The East Midlands region, of which our u3a is a part, is entitled to 2 representatives on the u3a council which advises the Trust Board on the wishes of u3a members. We currently have only one rep, John Lewis, so another is sought. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Marge or Jill to find out more and to obtain the candidate pack or you can download it from the national u3a website

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/agm-2020/council-representative-candidate-pack>

The closing date for applications is 3rd February 2026. You will need the support of Buxton & District u3a and one other u3a. There is a substantial time commitment involved in the role.

A PLEA FOR HELP from SIGHT SUPPORT DERBYSHIRE

Sight Support Derbyshire are looking for new befriending volunteers in Buxton in particular (as well as other areas of Derbyshire). Their service users are elderly, living with sight loss, and are very isolated and lonely. You can contact the volunteer coordinator for more information. She is Fiona Bateman – phone 01332287005 or email fiona.bateman@sightsupportderbyshire.org.uk

Jill Murphy

Chair of Buxton & District u3a