

# Buxton & District u3a

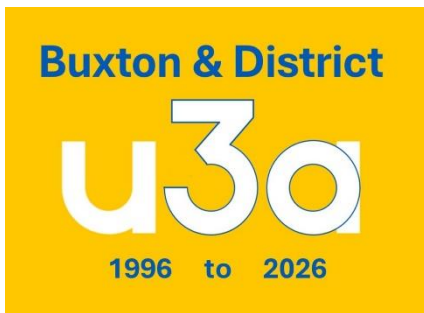
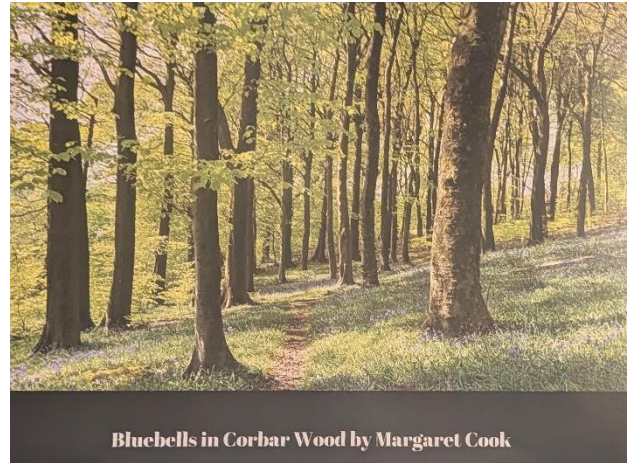
Buxton & District u3a

<https://buxton.u3asite.uk>

The Bulletin – March 2026

From the chair, Jill Murphy

Pieces from other contributors are shown in boxes – red for Simon Rogerson, orange for Trish Hampson, brown for Jean Brown (of course) and green for Darren Finn-Hurst.



You should all have received an email on 20<sup>th</sup> February from Diane Ives, giving an update on plans for our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Only the most recent event has been updated below.

**Thursday 14th May - Buxton Working Men's Club, Fairfield Road - 3 - 5 pm: Beetle Drive; complete** with a buffet to make it a really social event.

**Fun facts about 1996** suggested by Darren: **The Stone of Scone** (The Stone of Destiny) was returned to Scotland by the British Government after being in Westminster Abbey for 700 years. **Shakespeare's Globe** reconstruction officially opened on the South Bank in London.

The first event was the Model Railways Open Day in February which went very well.

## **Buxton & District u3a Celebrates 30 Years with a Miniature Masterpiece**

In honour of the B&D u3a's 30th Anniversary, the Model Railway Group opened its doors on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, offering members an exclusive look at their incredible layout in full operation.

Visitors arrived throughout the day, many standing in awe of the intricate detail and technical skill on display.

Members of the group were on hand to provide live demonstrations of various locomotives and answer technical questions from an inspired audience.

"With model railways, you've got to look at it as an art form... It's not just about the train, it's about the scenery that train is running through, getting the proportions perfect." — Alf Fantham, Chairman of The Warley Model Railway Club.

This philosophy was clearly evident in the B&D layout, where the seamless blend of engineering and artistry created a truly immersive "three-dimensional picture."

The group are keen to welcome new members and so continue on their railway journey!



## OTHER RECENT EVENTS

### February Charabanc Outing to York

What a fantastic day out the Charabangers had in February.

We went to see the annual Ice Sculpture Trail dotted throughout the medieval city but that was not all! York Minster, the Railway Museum, Betty's Café, the Open top bus, snowdrops in the parks and walks along the walls just to name a few places which were discovered during our day in York plus a swiftly rising River Ouse into the coach park!

Why not come with us on our next Charabanc outing?



## Baroness Bolsover - The Etiquette of Taking Tea Victorian Style



65 of the members not only enjoyed being entertained by Baroness Bolsover laughing as we discovered the correct way to dissolve sugar lumps in your tea, how to correctly fold and open and place a napkin when nibbling cucumber sandwiches. But it was just not sitting and watch oh no we had to practice even though our teacups were empty.

We were doing all this whilst wearing our finest hats and fascinators and even medals.

To round off the wonderful afternoon, the Lee Wood Hotel laid out delicious scones with cream and jam, pots and pots of tea and coffee and we were able to practice our new knowledge whilst enjoying the feast.

We laughed, we chatted and we went home with big smiles on our faces and some clutching the raffle prizes which they had won.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS, OUTINGS AND NEWS FROM AROUND THE GROUPS

### Bah Humbug is changing and evolving

This group will continue to meet as before but with a new leader, Peter Crook – see [https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/bah-humbug/](https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/bah-humbug/) The previous leader, Rebecca, has offered a new separate group that will meet about quarterly to have something to eat and a chat – with no moans! Details to be published in due course.

## Charabanc outings in March (2 identical)

**Rufford Old Hall, NT, TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH (A few places left)**  
**TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH (Fully Booked)**

Rufford Old Hall is mentioned twice in the latest National Trust magazine; once about a very special bog oak screen and the trail there.

One of the NT smaller properties but well worth a visit with the café, gardens and a chance to stroll alongside the canal. Have a look for more details on the Charabanc groups page and come with us on a super day out leaving behind the drabness of winter Buxton. Enjoy a chat and some laughter whilst riding along in a comfy coach.

NT members £15 for the coach and drivers tip and bring your NT card

Non NT members £27.35 for the coach, driver's tip and entry into the property

Email Trish to book or for more information

## Charabanc Outing - Thursday 30th April

**On 30<sup>th</sup> April, we are off to Lincoln, a beautiful cathedral city.**

The stunning cathedral, magnificent castle, the Usher Art Gallery, Lincolnshire's premier art gallery, enjoy an open top tour of the city or discover yourself Roman history using the Heritage trail guide. And much more!

The coach drop off is 3-4 mins walk to the Cathedral (which has a good refectory) and 7 mins to the Castle, all in Upper Lincoln. Cost £18 which includes the coach travel and driver's tip. To book please email Trish – see [https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/charabanc-outings/](https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/charabanc-outings/)

## Knitting, Crochet and Needlework groups together

Members of these groups are getting together to knit or crochet every day in March to raise funds for Alzheimer's Research as part of a nationwide campaign. If you would like to donate, please visit their fundraising page - <https://socialsync.app/fundraiser/cr-qm3o49698d66>

Also, the **Crochet and Needlework** groups are **moving venue** from 19<sup>th</sup> March from the Methodist Church to the Hardwick Room at St Anne's Parish Hall on Hardwick Square.

## Kurling

Do you know Buxton and District u3a have thriving Kurling teams that play on Monday afternoons? Our "stones" may be plastic Frisbees on casters, but all 26 group members are practising hard to take on Team GB at the next Winter Olympics.

Why not come and give it a go on Monday afternoons at St Anne's Community Centre. It's not as far as Cortina to go.

Contact Joan, the group leader for more information,  
[https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/kurling/](https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/kurling/)

## Movie Matinée

The MOTO movies group will be changing its name as above and moving venues from Barry and Darren's home to the Conservative Club in April so room for lots more people! Look at the group page on the website for further information. [https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/movie-matinee/](https://buxton.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/movie-matinee/)

## Photography



The group got together for our monthly catch-up.

The theme was "Something Old." I'll be honest -I was this close to submitting a selfie, but the camera flash had the nerve to make my hair look grey

The Big Screen: Darren presented a slideshow of three photos from each of our 21 members. It looked brilliant, projected up on the big screen!

Congratulations to Trish and Margaret, who took home the "Photo of the Month" accolades.

We also had a lovely chat about what actually sparked our love for photography in the first place. It was great to hear everyone's "origin stories."

Looking Ahead

Get your wellies ready! Our next meeting is at the end of March, and the theme is Water. Whether it's a puddle, a lake, or a glass of tap water, we can't wait to see what you splash out on.

## Travel Talk

The second meeting of this group was held on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February. The 14 members present discussed, amongst other topics, travel insurance, mainly the high cost for travellers who have medical conditions, and Richard Sinfield gave a very interesting and enjoyable talk about his trip to Okinawa amongst other areas of Japan. His full write-up with photos can be seen on the group website. The high tech toilet is definitely worth a look!

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

Jean sent a summary for the bulletin to whet your appetite. Richard explained how long and thin Japan is; travelling up and down is further than going from here to Italy. We heard about high tech toilets, rotating car parks and their railway system which has shops at every station. Souvenirs and clothes are so inexpensive that tourists often take one suitcase - then buy another and fill it with their purchases. The airlines allow 2 x 23kg suitcases and are surprised if you go home with just one!

There will be no meeting of the Travel Talk group in March. Next meeting will be on 10<sup>th</sup> April.

## Fancy taking on a group or giving a talk at monthly meeting?

We have had various suggestions for new groups - Tai Chi, Pilates, sharing lunches in members own homes, breakfast group and restaurant luncheon group. Also, a theatre trip group, flower arranging (the existing one is full) and chess for beginners.

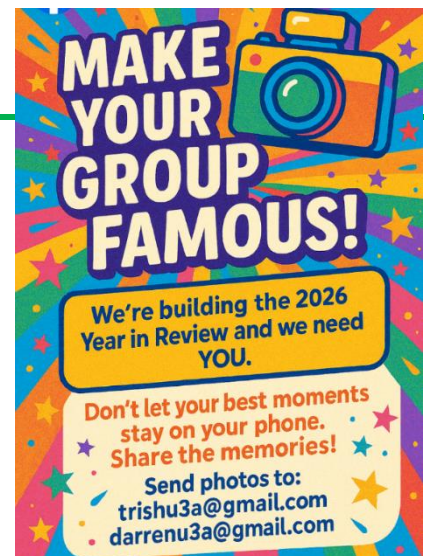
If you are interested in any of the above or have any other suggestions please contact Jean Brown, Group leader/ Co-ordinator Liaison. We would especially like to hear from anyone with a special interest in any of the above who would be interested in leading or setting up a group.

If you have given or heard a good talk lately or you have given or heard a really interesting general talk at your group meeting, please consider suggesting it for the monthly meeting.

## REMINDER

**A reminder to all group leaders  
and members –**

keep taking photos and sending them in for  
the Annual Review of 2026 –  
due to take place in January 2027



## NEWS FROM THE THIRD AGE TRUST

Members may be interested in finding out what is going in other u3as around the country – see [February 2026 u3a Friends newsletter](#)

## LOCAL NEWS

If your group meets at the Pavilion Gardens complex, keep an eye on your group page for any further information about closures due to the forthcoming works.

## BREAKING NEWS

Members should have had an email from our Membership Secretary, Tineke, very recently about the annual renewal of membership due on or before 1<sup>st</sup> April. The good news is, while maintaining the reserve recommended by the Third Age Trust, due to our increasing number of members, and despite the number of venues we are paying for, **your committee has decided we can maintain the annual subscription at £47.00**. Details of how to pay are in the email.

The **AGM** will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00 in the Methodist Church. Nomination Forms for committee roles, Vice Chairman, and a general committee role are available. We really need you, so please do come forward. The date for submission of member resolutions has now passed. If you have any questions, you will have the chance to ask them at the March and April monthly meetings.

## Brief summary of what's on

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**, 2 for 2.30 start Quiz in the Conservative Club, Concert Place, just off the Market Place Buxton, with a new 'themed' picture round and prizes, including medals for winners, and all for **FREE**. Please let me know if you want to come. We have one or two places left.

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March - Tech Team**, at 9.30 to help with those peskie technical queries about your phone, ipad, tablet, laptop etc and **Monthly Meeting** in the Methodist Church 10.00 (with teas and coffees from 9.30) with Guest Speakers Simon Mahoney and Terry to talk about **Sailability** - sailing for people with disabilities at Carsington Water.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March** - Charabanc outing to **Rufford Old Hall, NT (A few places left)**.

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** - Charabanc outing to **Rufford Old Hall, NT (currently booked out but there is a waiting list)**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - MOTO lunch in Baileys (currently booked out but there is a waiting list)**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April - Tech Team and Monthly Meeting** with a talk by and about **Buxton Fringe** at 9.30 for 10 with teas and coffees

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April** – Charabanc outing to Lincoln

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May - AGM** with **It Takes Two**, Janette and Colin to entertain us afterwards, collection for Riding for Disabled People

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June - Tech Team and Monthly Meeting** with comedy speaker Sue Holden telling us about **'Bringing Law to Life with Laughter'**. As above for April i.e. 9.30 for 10 at Buxton Methodist Church

Jill Murphy