

Buxton & District u3a

<https://buxton.u3asite.uk>

The Bulletin – April 2026

From the chair, Jill Murphy

Pieces from other contributors are shown in boxes – red for Diane Ives, brown for Jean Brown (of course) and green for Darren Finn-Hurst.

Happy Easter Everyone,

This month's bulletin is intended to focus on future events.

Thanks to the Digital Photography Group for the lovely photos taken from their calendar that you see here.

We still need a Vice Chairman for the committee, and I would love the help. The committee meets on the first Monday of the month for about 2 hours. Various committee members take on additional duties e.g. Group Leader Liaison but this role really requires you to stand in for the Chairman and chair the committee meeting when the Chairman is absent. The Vice Chairman might also welcome and introduce the guest speaker at the members' get together on the second Monday of the month, and if you were interested, we need more help with publicity. Write a short piece for the Buxton Advertiser, Pure Magazine, and even this bulletin.

I have looked up some members phone numbers recently, and found that they have given up their landline, and now only have a mobile. If that is you, can you let us know, and if you come to the get-together featuring Ian Bowns talking about the Fringe, please tell us at the Registration Desk, so we can update our records.

To Marge who has been my rock since I became a very 'green' Chairman, and who finishes her time on the committee at the AGM I would like to send my very sincere thanks. She has offered friendship, kindness and support to me since then. Don't be a stranger!

1996 Facts

The Atlanta Summer Olympics took place making 100 years of the modern games. Michael Johnson shattered records by becoming the first man to win both 200m and 400m Gold medals.

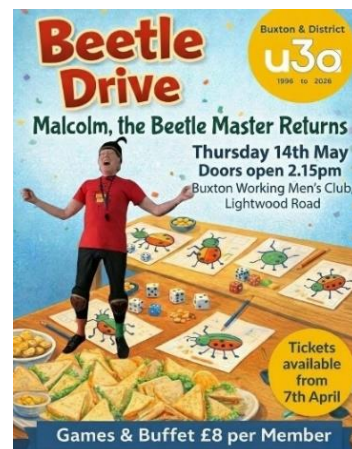
Democrat Bill Clinton was re-elected as U.S. President together with running mate Al Gore as Vice President.





The Countdown has begun!

Our next Celebration Event is the **Beetle Drive** on Thursday 14th May at The Buxton Working Men's Club. Led by our very own Beetle Master – Malcolm.



Doors will open at 2:15 for a 2:30 start and we will finish at 4:45 with a buffet served midway through the event.

For those of you new to Beetle Driving participants take part as a pair. After each game – there will be 12 – each pair moves to a different table to face new 'opponents'. You don't have to sign up as a pair, though, you can simply book a ticket and you will be allocated a partner on the day. There will be a finger buffet, prizes for the winning pair and we hope lots of fun for everyone.

As we need to know how many to cater for this will be a ticket only event and these will go on sale from 7th April. Tickets will cost £8.00 per head to cover the costs of the food and payment will be required at the time of booking preferably by bank transfer to the Buxton and District u3a bank account. The bank details, together with details of how to book tickets will be sent out by email at the beginning of April.

Other Upcoming events

We now have a date and a venue for our **Barn Dance**. This will be on the afternoon of Thursday 25th June at The Town Hall in Chapel-en-le-Frith. We are really pleased that we have managed to secure this venue which has a lovely dance floor and plenty of room to move. Car parking is available in the town, but if you don't fancy driving, the 199 bus from Buxton stops right outside the Town Hall's front door! Watch this space for details of times and how to book a ticket.

Darren is the lead for our **Variety Show** ON Thursday 10th September and is busy gathering acts to appear in the show. If you would like to take part, please contact him by email – see covering email for Darren's address

Several groups have already shown an interest in taking part in our **Creative Arts and Leisure Showcase** on Wednesday 7th October in the ballroom of The Palace Hotel. The leads for this event are Anne Rogerson and Caroline Small so if you would like further details of how to take part please contact Anne by email – see covering email for the address to use.

That's all for now. Hope to see lots of you at the Beetle Drive!

AROUND THE GROUPS

April sees the commencement of our new group **Movie Matinée**. This will run twice a month on Tuesdays (when possible) at the Conservative Club. From 3pm. First features are A Star is Born (14 April) & Shawshank Redemption (28 April). Movies will be shown on a big screen and will have subtitles.

Join this group by clicking here [Movie Matinée - Buxton & District](#)

'Ave a Go April: Dressmaking for beginners

Paula writes - To celebrate our move to **St. Anne's Community Centre** (behind the Catholic Church on Hardwick Square West), the **Needlework** group is inviting u3a members to try something new this month! If you've always wanted to learn how to read a sewing pattern but didn't know where to start, come and **'ave a go** on Thursday 9th and 23rd April from 2-4pm. Places are limited, so please contact **Paula** via the [webpage](#) to secure your spot.

Croquet starts again for the summer on Monday 6th April at Cote Heath Bowling Green. Contact John Hampson Group Leader for more information

Members may also be interested in a **second Beginners/Improvers' Croquet** - this will be held for a few weeks in May, again at Buxton Croquet Club Ashwood Park as last year, please contact Jean Brown (Group Leader Liaison) if interested.

Results of the Group leader Survey

Last year Group leaders were invited to take part in a survey to try and identify ways in which the role of GL could be made easier. We value our Group Leaders and want to help and support groups as much as possible. A third of GL's returned the survey. A big thank you to all those who did. A full report is on the website under the Group Leaders tab - click [here](#). We have looked at what the GLs said and are updating the small payments policy.

East Midlands Workshop Day (The Third Age Trust)

On March 11th two of our committee members, Diane Ives and Jean Brown, attended the East Midlands Regional Workshop at the Braunstone Civic Centre. (Near Leicester). A write-up is available on the website under the News tab - look for the text on a green background [here](#)

LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 6 April Croquet starts again at Cote Heath. Contact our New Group Leader, John Hampson, and remember booking is essential. Some new equipment has been approved and the committee will consider a further request shortly.

Thursdays - 9 April and 23 April 'Ave a Go April: Dressmaking for beginners – see page 3 of this bulletin

Monday 13 April 9.30 Monthly Members' Get together with Guest Speaker Ian Bowns from **Buxton Festival Fringe**, at the Methodist Church Hall Market Place Buxton SK17 6HX

The Tech Team will also be there from 9:30 to help with tech queries.

Tuesday 14 April 3pm inaugural meeting of the **Movie Matinée Group** at the Conservative Club, (where we have been holding the Quizzes). It will be starting at 3pm so you can avail yourself of the Residents' Free Parking Scheme. Refreshments are available, and Paula makes beautiful cakes, be warned!! The feature is '**A Star is Born**', with Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper.

Friday 17 April at 7pm (members houses) **Sharing Supper**. Contact Jane Offord. Participants bring a course; starter, dessert or cheese. Come along and give it a try.

Tuesday 28 April 3pm Movie Matinée, the **Shawshank Redemption**. See above for registration, and the group's page on our website for the future films programme.

Thursday 30 April and Thursday 7 May Charabanc trips to Lincoln. Contact Trish to book.

Friday 1 May Beginners/Improvers Croquet at Ashwood Dale Croquet Club. 5 weekly sessions are proposed. Contact Jean Brown for more information.

Monday 11 May at 10am our **AGM** at the Methodist Church Hall as above, please do vote online (postal vote also available) beforehand, and come along to the face-to-face event as well. **Colin & Janette Sykes** will be there to entertain us afterwards.

And celebrating our anniversary,

Thursday 14 May 2.15 pm for a 2.30 start - Beetle Drive with -----Malcom Bradbury Beetle Master!! Buffet will be served. Booking essential. Tickets from 7 April.

Thursday 25 June A Barn Dance in the afternoon, at the Town Hall Chapel-en-le-Frith more information to come

Thursday 10 September a Variety Show, being organised by Darren, volunteers to perform to u3a members very welcome

Wednesday 7 October a Creative Arts and Leisure Show in the High Peak Ballroom Palace Hotel, Buxton

Jill Murphy