

Buxton & District u3a

<https://buxton.u3asite.uk>



June 2026



July 2026

These are Digital photography's photos for June and July in their calendar. August and September will be shown in the next issue of the bulletin

The Bulletin – June 2026

Sent on behalf of our Chair, Jill Murphy

Jill has contacted us to say thanks for all the very kind wishes, and to let you know that she's well on the way to recovery.

We have been asked to inform all members that the Third Age Trust (TAT), who are conducting research to understand the profiles and perspectives of u3a members have now extended the deadline for completing the survey until 14th June 2026. Thank you to all those who have already completed it. They would like as many members as possible to have their say. This important UK-wide research will help build a better understanding of who u3a members are, what motivates people to join and participate, and how the movement can continue to grow and support members in the future.

An email advising members of this extension with the details of how to complete it has been sent to everyone.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Following the AGM on May 11th, we are very pleased to announce we now have two new committee members - **Eileen Whittaker, our new Vice Chair** and **Paula Shaw, our new Webmaster**

Eileen writes – Hello, I am the new vice chairman, Eileen Whitaker. I am also a technophobe so reluctantly put myself forward to try and take over from Jean and Marge who as you all know, did an excellent job. A hard act to follow! According to the regulations/rules, without a vice chair Buxton u3a would have to fold.

I will try my best but if you need to contact me, I prefer face to face, much friendlier than emails etc. If anyone knows they can do a better job than me (which wouldn't be difficult) please step forward and I will happily hand over!

Best Wishes

Eileen

Paula has taken over from Marge Rose who has been the webmaster for 3 years and overseen the changeover to the new SiteWorks system. She has been a fantastic asset to the u3a committee and will be sorely missed. Marge was also instrumental in editing the bulletin for the chair. We now need a **new editor for the bulletin**, please if you can help – even for a short period of time - contact Eileen or Jean.

There will be no bulletin in July or August.

30th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS UPDATE

Hi All

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Beetle Drive. This is an excerpt from a write up of the event by Trish Hampson. You will be able to read Trish's full report with photos on the Buxton and District Website soon. It's also on the Facebook page.



“A wonderful retro Beetle Drive”

What a fun Thursday afternoon we had, as we transported ourselves back to being young teenagers again playing Beetle. Malcolm, our Mad Beetle Man, his antennae trained to listen into all our questions, told us how to play, how to score and blew his referee whistle for us to start and then long and sharp blast from his whistle telling us to stop as a team had a completed beetle.

Jane and Mary were the winners, narrowly beating Mary and Andrew by 1 point. At half time we had a fabulous finger buffet organised by the Anniversary Committee.

A huge thank you to the 30th Anniversary Committee and all the helpers for giving everyone such a fun retro afternoon, and especially Malcolm our Mad Beetle Man tuning in with his antenna”



BARN DANCE

Our next Anniversary event is the Barn Dance on Thursday 25th June from 2-5pm in Chapel-en-le-Frith Town Hall.

Thank you to everyone who has booked a spot already. There are still spaces available so if you haven't reserved a place yet and would like to, just drop Diane an email. There is no charge for this event so please come along. You don't have to know how to dance there will be a caller to guide you through the steps so just come along and have some fun. This event is open to non-members so feel free to bring a friend. just let me know the name(s) of the people you are bringing so that I can add their names to the list.

The proposed Variety Show, which had been planned for 10th September has been cancelled

This means that after the Barn Dance we will be focussing on our main 30th Anniversary Celebration Event which is the **CREATIVE ARTS AND LEISURE SHOWCASE**. This is to be held on Wednesday 7th October in the Palace Hotel Ballroom. The event is our opportunity to show off to each other. It is also open to members of the public so is our opportunity to promote the u3a and show the people of Buxton and District what we do. We want to advertise the event and would like to draw on the breadth of talent and experience within our u3a to help us so please look out for an email to your personal account in the very near future with more details about how you can get involved. That's all for now but keep an eye out for my email next week!

From Diane and the 30th Anniversary Team

1996 facts from Darren

- The **Spice Girls** released "Wannabe" and within months they were the biggest thing on the planet.
- **Take That** officially split, causing such national heartbreak that the government had to set up a telephone helpline for distraught fans.

CHARABANC OUTINGS

Charabanc has been busy this month with two outings, the first was our second outing to Lincoln on 7th May, a real gem of a small city with its majestic cathedral and on May 21st to Speke Hall near Liverpool for our first visit there.

Speke Hall is a beautiful black and white Tudor house with fabulous Victorian



interior, immaculate gardens, hidden woodland glens and a brilliant place to sit, to chat and to relax over a cup of tea before a look round at their second-hand book shop, Speke's Volumes.

I have 2 places left on the second coach on 4th June if anyone would like to have a great day out and has not booked. NT members £18 and non-NT members £33

Our **next Charabanc outings** are to

- Wednesday 24th June to Hodnet Hall Gardens and Market Drayton Cost £26
- Wednesday 22nd July to The Churnet Heritage Rail, Coffee and Cake Cost £28

Both of these are **fully booked** but why not add your name to the waiting list? - you may be lucky to be able to come.



No outings in August



Tuesday 8th September Hardwick Hall NT with the limited time exhibition of Bess of Hardwick and her 400-year-old gown. Also, a chance to discover the house in summer, walking trails, beautiful flower beds and sit in a deckchair relaxing with friends or having a cup of tea and delicious gooey cake, sitting chatting. Choose a book or two from their second-hand bookstore to read as the evenings begin to draw in. Cost £12 for National Trust members which includes a coffee/tea on our way to Hardwick Hall. Or £33 for non-members.

If I have enough people on the charabanc waiting list, I am more than happy to take a second coach to Hardwick on a different date.

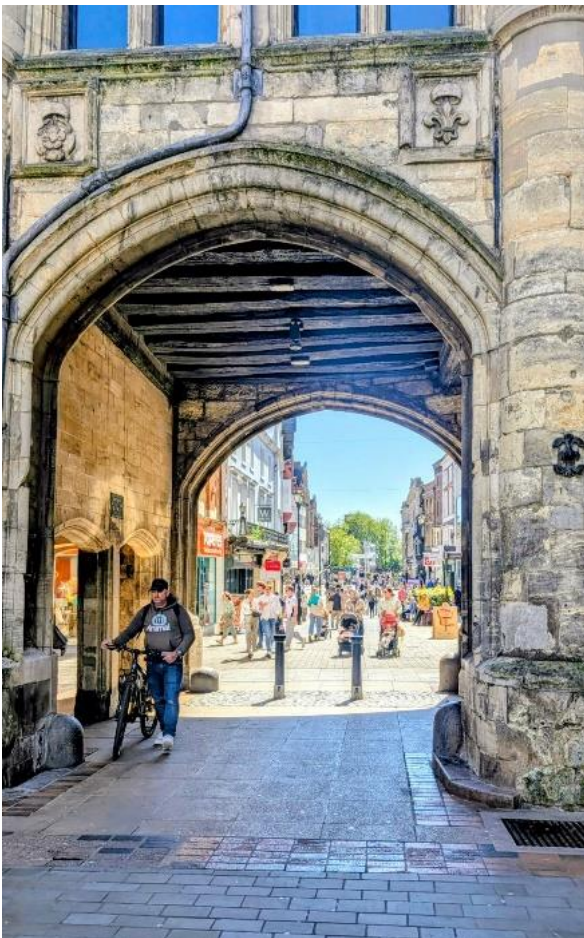
Make 2026 a year you go out of Buxton and discover places all around us without the hassle of taking the car or watching out for the next bus. Air-conditioned comfy coaches with toilet. What else could you ask for? The Sweetie box!

Please contact me, Trish, via the website group page - Charabanc

GROUP NEWS

Digital Photography - Darren

May's Digital Photography group met and the subject was street scenes. There were some amazing photos taken from across the world, from Canada to Greece. The two winning photographs chosen by Members were by Darren with a street scene taken on the recent Charabanc to Lincoln and from Margaret and her photograph from Cove Wynd, Pittenweem, Fife



The new **Gourmet Gossips** group had their first meal together on Wednesday 20th May in the Vault. This lunch time chat group will be held approximately 3 monthly on the second Tuesday of the month. The next will be on Tuesday 8th September. Please contact Rebecca Leeson Group Leader for more information. (Details on the website)

The **Bah Humbug** group has now unfortunately had to close. Our thanks go to the Group Leaders Peter Crook and prior to that Rebecca Leeson for running this thought-provoking group.

MOTO (Members on their own) has also ceased. The group, originally set up to enable u3a members to come together to plan group outings, has changed of late into mainly a WhatsApp information and chat forum. Our thanks go to Brenda Artingstall and Darren Finn-Hirst who led the MOTO Group.

The **Travel Group** - no meeting in June, next meeting 3rd July at The New Inn

Needlework group

We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has so generously donated fabric and embroidery threads recently, our cupboard is now absolutely bursting at the seams (no pun intended). Your donations are already making a difference as a few of our beginner sewers have already chosen some fabrics and are well on their way to developing some new skills. Thanks, Paula



Trish would like to remind group leaders to send in any photos they would like to be included in the 2026 review – see poster for where to send them.

Coffee and Chat - The last Coffee and Chat before the summer is on Friday 19th June at 2.00pm in the Pump Room. All welcome.

Monthly Meeting, Monday 8th June

We are very pleased to invite Sue Holden as our speaker at the next meeting. Sue, a past lawyer and present entertainer,

will be “Bringing Law to Life with Laughter”

NON u3a EVENTS

Rotary concert

Rotary are organising a Midsummer Charity Concert in St John's Church on Sunday June 14th, 2pm to 5pm.

Doors open from 1.30pm. All profits will go to the following local charities

- High Peak Baby Bank
- Peak Music Centre
- Serpentine Community Gardens
- Charis House

Those performing are:

- Take 2: performing Summer Cabaret songs with a French twist
- High Peak Music Centre Senior Ensemble
- Sophia Penn-Critten: harpist/ singer
- Buxton Community Choir

Tea and home-made cakes will be available during the interval.

Tickets cost £10 (cash only please) and will be available from Hargreaves or on the door.

Under 14s free

Our Christmas Charity Concert enabled Rotary to share £2,200 between 4 local charities.

Any queries/questions to Andrew Matthews: am4045@outlook.com

Buxton Fringe 2026 July 8th-26th, 2026

The Fringe has its biggest ever event this year with around 230 entries, so it is on the lookout for more volunteer reviewers. Even if you could just write one or two it would be fantastically helpful. Reviewers receive a complimentary ticket for the show they are reviewing. As well as bulging theatre and music sections, there is a particularly huge comedy category and several out-of-town events posing particular challenges. For further information see: <https://www.buxtonfringe.org.uk/news200507a.html>

and to be added to the reviewers' list or if you have other queries, please contact Stephen Walker at reviews@buxtonfringe.org.uk

Buxton Mayoral Charities Committee proudly present

Richard Hazelwood The Big Band Singer at Buxton Conservative Club, 3-5 Concert Place SK17 6EE on 26th June starting at 7:30. Tickets £10, including Chip butties, in aid of Local Charities.

For more information or to get tickets, contact Linda Grooby.

linda.grooby@btinternet.com or 07870652293

Invitation to Sailing at Carsington

You may recall that Terry and Simon Mahoney came to talk to us on 9th March about Carsington Sailability. They offered us a taster session and this still stands. As the weather, and the water, is considerably warmer they say that it would be lovely to have a group of us down to the club for a session.

On June 17th, the Hansa TT roadshow comes to Carsington. The briefing is at 10.00 and we race at 11.00. if you would like to watch a monumental shambles resolve itself into a great day's racing do come and join us at the club. It would be lovely to see a group of you and if you arrive before 10.00 Terry or Simon would be able to greet you.

Simon recommends 'Blue Mind' theory – he says 'Google it!'

If you are interested, please email Marge who will pass on enquiries.

SUMMARY LIST OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Details of all u3a events are on the website (use the Search facility in the top right-hand corner of any website main page to find what you're looking for).

The list below is for your convenience. It only includes events in this bulletin, including the non-u3a ones.

4th June – Charabanc – second coach to Speke Hall

8th June – Monthly meeting with speaker – Sue Holden, preceded by the Tech Team

14th June – Rotary Midsummer Charity Concert

17th June – Invitation to the Hansa TT Race at Carsington Water

19th June – Coffee and Chat

24th June – Charabanc – Hodnet Hall Gardens (full)

25th June – 30th Anniversary Event - Barn Dance in Chapel-en-le-Frith

26th June – Big Band Singer at the Conservative Club – in aid of local charities

22nd July – Charabanc – Churnet Heritage Rail (full)

8th September – Charabanc - Hardwick Hall

10th September – 3 Course Lunch at Buxton Crescent Champneys (full)