

Monthly Newsletter
11th May 2026
Priory Campus Lundwood
1.00pm - 3.00pm

The plan for the meeting is to allow time (between 1.00pm and 1.30pm) prior to the presentations to socialise, book tickets, swop jigsaws, buy raffle tickets, and look at the displays before all the other things that normally happen before the meeting. There will be a **flip chart** for your ideas about many things eg. new groups, the monthly meeting, bu3a in 2026 / 27 and the future, 30th Anniversary ideas.

We will start the presentations at 1.30pm so please be seated by 1.25pm

Presentation by bu3a's Drama group
Update on Dearne Initiative Jean Embury
Update on 30th Anniversary events Helen Rose
Anthology Presentation Mac McKechnie
The Handy Hand Pauline Buttlng
Followed by announcements and the raffle

bu3a Drama Group



On Monday May 11th there will be a sneak peek into the workings of bu3a's Drama group. As the group is based on improvisation and spontaneity what happens on the day will be a surprise to us all.

We hope you all go away having enjoyed an interesting interlude into the realm of creative drama, or as one member has dubbed the group - Pensioners' Playtime. We laugh a lot during our sessions so we hope this mirthful occasion tickles your chuckle muscles!

The handy hand



A quick trip around your hands! What you can see and what lies underneath!

Possible reference to basic anatomy and function to make sense of it all!!

Annual General Meeting Priory Campus Lundwood Monday 1st June 1.30pm



After the AGM our June presentation will venture into the world of art with Fiona Clarke. Fiona's 'Looking at Art' group started at the end of last year and has proved to be a popular group. Comments from group members include: 'My brain has been expanded' and ' Fiona has opened up a whole new world for me'. 'I understand so much more about art even after just a few months.'

Please come along to the MMM and find out more about a fascinating subject!

Drop in Sessions

The last two sessions were well received and it was good to see so many members and future members, come and have a drink and a chat about anything.



There will be another drop in session along the same lines on Wednesday 13th May, 12 noon to 2pm at the Lightbox library in town (Ground floor Sofa 1!) and on Saturday 16th May, 10am to 12 noon at the Ibis Dodworth, S75 3TX. Future sessions may move around the borough. Any question can be discussed and a solution or advice offered. Members of the committee will be there and we would like to invite coordinators to be present, to answer points about their groups as they have the most up to date information. It is also a chance to promote the group.

This is a chance to meet each other, socialise, get things off your chest, get help for a problem or just find out more about us.

Travel

7th May - a day trip to Saltaire

11th May at the monthly meeting we are taking deposits of £50 for our trip to Longleat on 14th-17th November to include a coach trip to Bath alongside a visit to the house, safari by coach and a light trail.



UPDATE RE SMART PHONE ASSISTANCE

I mentioned this in the last newsletter and have been to EE to see how it is progressing. It is still being planned and the manager there has assured me that as soon as they are ready, they will let me know. It will need a small group of people as they can't just do one on ones.



*EE in the Alhambra in Barnsley has offered Bu3a members the opportunity to spend an hour with their staff after normal working hours from 5.30pm - 6.30pm. The focus is to help setting up and managing your smart phone (emails sending and receiving / what a smart phone can offer / dealing with any queries etc). There is no cost and a minimum of 10 people are required. If you are interested let me know and I will collate names etc.
(bu3achair@gmail.com)*

Committee Update

Over the last few months we have been asking for a Support Treasurer to work alongside the current treasurer to gain insight into what the post involved. The post has changed dramatically over time, as the final accounts are reviewed ready for the AGM by an external company, and the use of PayPal has reduced part of the workload for both the treasurer and the membership secretary. What remains is regular book keeping to keep us in order. **If anyone has book keeping skills and would like more information, get in touch.**



The current treasurer steps down next year after being on committee for the maximum of 6 years. Barnsley & District u3a cannot exist without a treasurer. National u3a expect us to have a treasurer as part of our committee. Not having one means that we would have difficulty in managing our financial resources. The committee is reluctant to transfer this work to an external accountancy, due to the expense, which could have an effect on the management of reserves, membership fees and much more.

Dining out

The Turkish Night is fully booked for 21st May at Istanbul.

The Chinese Night is on 18th June at China Court - taking bookings at the May MMM.



Riviera Travel

When booking your holidays, remember Riviera Travel offer a scheme where they give a donation to a charity of your choice when making a booking. Bu3a has previously benefitted from this courtesy of our members and we are very grateful for this.



Be sure to mention the Affinity Partner (charity/organisation/club - hopefully bu3a!) at the time of booking, as this is not something which can be added at a later date.

Book online - Please contact them within 48 hours of making your booking either by emailing affinity@rivieratravel.co.uk or calling 01283 523 470 with your booking reference and the name of your Affinity Partner (charity/organisation/club).



You're Invited



To Quizzomers!



Looking for a fun, relaxed Friday evening? Join us on Zoom for Quizzomers, held twice a month on Fridays at 6.30pm!

No driving, no pressure, just bring your drink of choice and settle in from the comfort of home. 🍷🍺☕

It's easy to join, and you'll be part of a team, so if you don't know an answer, someone else might. That's half the fun!

Ever thought about joining a quiz but told yourself, "I'm not clever enough"? This is exactly the place to prove that wrong. It's all about enjoying yourself, having a laugh, and maybe learning something along the way.

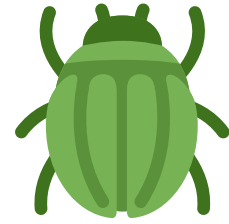
Come along and give it a go , you might surprise yourself!

Message the coordinator for the Zoom link or more details. We'd love to see you there!

Social Events

Beetle Drive

An amusing and entertaining game
featuring a drawn beetle!
Not played this for ages?
Come and enjoy the fun!



Where else could you have a good evening out for that price!!
15th May Gilroyd Social Club Cost £5.00

Summer 30th Anniversary Bash

Hotel 19 Bluebell Suite Dodworth
Hot Buffet

Entertainment: Strangers in Trainers
Tickets available from monthly meetings @ £25



News: a walking football tournament

kicks off our sporting events
during our 30th Anniversary



10th July at the Miner's
Welfare Club, Dodworth Green Road S75 3RF

Two bu3a teams against two teams from Doncaster.
Starting at 10am

All welcome
Come and support us!!

Wentworth Castle Gardens

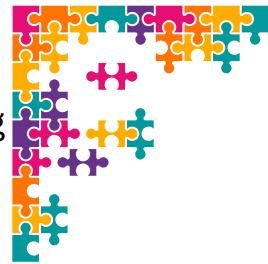
On 9th May local choirs will be singing in the Union Jack Gardens from 11.30am - 2.30pm. The choirs will move from section to section of the gardens. There is an admission charge as the property is owned by National Trust .

As you know we have a bu3a garden there, that has been expertly revived by some of our members. It has gone from an unkempt plot to a beautiful place to sit and just relax in peace. Perhaps the rhododendrons will be in full bloom.

If it rains (have to be prepared!), the choirs will sing in the conservatory.

Jigsaw Swop

There will be a jigsaw swop at the May monthly meeting so find your “done” jigsaws and exchange them for a different one - easier or harder?



What's on Offer – May 2026

7 May 8.30am Day trip to Saltaire. £23 Booking at MMM (Local Election Day)

7 May. No Drop in at Penistone

11 May MMM. 1pm Priory. Looking at hands and Creative Drama

15 May 7pm Beetle Drive. Gilroyd Social Club. £5 Book MMM

21 May 6.30 pm Turkish Night at Istanbul, Town centre £20 Book at MMM

1 June 1pm. MMM & AGM. Priory

18 June 6.30pm Chinese Night at Chirt, Mapplewell

1-3 July u3a festival at York University Booking required

3 July 7pm Summer Anniversary Bash. Bluebell Suite, Hotel Nineteen, Dodworth. £25. Strangers in Trainers. Booking at MMM

6 July 1pm MMM. Priory

16 July Curry Night. Thaal. Darfield. Booking at June MMM

21 July 1-3.30pm Choir Concert. Wombwell Methodist Church. Book at MMM

3 August 1pm MMM. Priory

24 – 27 August YAHR Summer School. York. Booking required

7 September 1pm MMM Priory

7th - 11 September Warner's Gunton Hall £445 Speak to Travel Group

19– 27 September National u3a week. Details to be announced 5

October 1pm MMM Priory

2 November 1pm MMM Priory

14-17 Nov. Longleat, Bath and more. Booking at 11 May MMM

7 December 1pm MMM Priory. Old Blowers

8 December 1pm Choir Christmas Concert. Wombwell Methodist Church. Book at MMM

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10 December Christmas lunch at Burntwood Court Hotel. Booking required

More details on Travel and Social Events to follow.