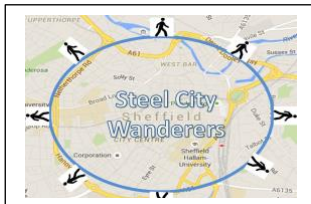
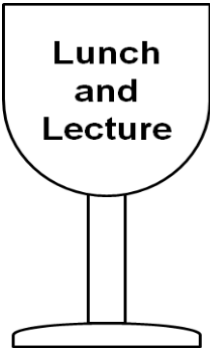


Links Open Groups Supplement



Open Group Committee Members

European Travel Group:

Samina Aslam (0114) 235 1489
Brian Cave (0114) 230 5312

Friday Lectures:

Philip Long 07527 198426

Lunch & Lecture:

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Martin Harvey (0114) 258 1698
Barbara Hutton (0114) 438 4412

Steel City Wanderers:

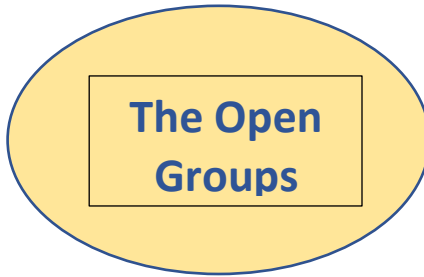
Brian Clark 07541 696008

UK Travel Group:

Sheila Harris (0114) 236 9653
Dawn Hodgkinson (0114)236 8214
Margaret Langrish (0114) 296 2251

This supplement is produced by the various Open Group Committees.
Any comments should be directed to them and not to the Links Editors.

Links 205: April 2022
Copy Deadline: 25 February 2022



The Open Groups are open to all members of Sheffield u3a

Most open group activities require you to send in a booking form with deposit and S.A.E. The booking forms will be found in Links, in the Open Groups Supplement and in the monthly e-newsletter and should be completed and returned to the person named by the due date.

For the opportunity to learn more about our city, go on day trips, travel to Europe, listen to a lecture and meet new people, then one of the open group activities is for you.

Travel Audio System

To further enhance the tours where guides are used, Su3a have invested in the Whisper Audio System. Basically, you are provided with a small receiver (about the size of a pack of cards) which you wear around your neck. This has an earpiece attached. The guide wears a transmitter with a microphone and talks normally. Through your earpiece, you can hear the guide up to 70 metres away.

Ideal for those city walks or when visiting country houses and churches. For those with hearing aids with a 'T' switch, loop receivers are available. Just let the organiser know in advance.

If you prefer to use your own headphones or earpiece with a standard 3.5mm earphone jack (as used by mobile phones, tablets, and portable radios) then just take them with you on your journey.

Your tour organiser will let you know if these will be used on your excursion.



Steel City Wanderers

The rumours are true! The Steel City Wanderers series of walks will return in 2022. We intend to continue on from the previous, and excellent, Urban Adventures organised by Pat & Clare Ryan. Our aim is to arrange walks that are a little bit off the beaten track (ouch!) with wanderings devised around specific themes. We will look to entertain and educate – we see the latter as a ‘two way street’ and always welcome input from participants sharing their own memories and knowledge. There will be Sheffield Music themed walks and wanderings that highlight current and potential Sheffield U3A shared learning projects. Each walk will be open to all U3A members on a ‘first come, first served’ basis. Watch this space!



Brian Clark

blclark9@hotmail.com



Travel Group Visit to Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal 10 May 2022

We shall leave Sheffield between 07:45 and 08:00. There will be a short comfort break on route, arriving at Fountains Abbey around 10.30am. You can explore the visitor centre and top up with refreshments and then take the steep path to the ruins. There will be a tour of the Abbey at 11.30am. We will be departing the site at around 16.30pm, but this is flexible and depends on traffic on the day.

After the tour you will be at liberty to buy refreshments and then explore the grounds of Studley Royal and the Abbey ruins at leisure for the rest of the day.

Fountains Abbey belongs to the National Trust and is the most complete ruin of a Cistercian abbey in Britain. Studley Royal is an eighteenth century garden designed by John and William Aislaby and is situated in the Skell Valley, with elegant ornamental lakes, tumbling cascades and temples. The site covers 800 acres and there is a deer park, mill, church and many paths and follies to explore. There is a visitor centre with a restaurant and two further cafes on the site where you can buy lunch, or you can bring your own picnic.



The cost of this day visit is **£34.05** for non-National Trust members and **£17.90** for National Trust members; this includes coach travel, driver's gratuity, entrance and tour of the Abbey. **National Trust members must bring their membership card.**

Please note: the ground is uneven and can be slippery in wet weather and you are advised to wear walking shoes and bring weather proof clothing in case of rain. There is a steep path between the entrance and the Abbey.



**Booking Form for Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal
10th May 2022**

Name: Su3a No:

Name: Su3a No:

Address:.....

.....Postcode:

Mobile tel no:..... Landline tel no:.....

Emergency Contact for each person named above:

Name: Tel:

Name: Tel:

Please reserve place(s) for me.

I am a NT member and enclose a cheque for £..... * Payable to Sheffield U3A Travel Group. This includes the coach fare, driver's gratuity and tour of Fountains Abbey. (£17.90 per person)

I am not an NT member and enclose a cheque for £..... * Payable to Sheffield U3A Travel group. This includes the coach fare, driver's gratuity, entrance and tour of Fountains Abbey. (£34.05 per person)

Please return the completed slip **with your cheque and a small stamped addressed envelope** as soon as possible to Dawn Hodgkinson, 58 Hastings Road, Sheffield S7 2GU

Please advise the organiser of any medical condition which might be relevant and remember that INDEPENDENT MOBILITY IS ESSENTIAL.

Please tick your preferred pick up point below:

Bus stop - Knowle Lane / Ecclesall Road South

7.45am (...)

Sheffield Interchange, Platform E5/E6

8.00am (...)



Visit to the Cotswolds and Beyond September 11th - 15th 2022

We are staying at the 4* Alexandra House Hotel a modern hotel in its own grounds four miles from Swindon. The rooms are well equipped and there is a swimming pool.

On our journey there we visit the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford for a behind the scenes tour which will take us backstage to explore the public and private areas. We will be given an insight into production and the history of the R.S.C The afternoon will be spent at leisure in this historic town. You could have a boat ride on the river. We continue our journey to our hotel, arriving early evening.

Day 2 begins with a visit to Highclere Castle, home to the Carnarvon family since 1679, the 6th Earl with Howard Carter discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun. More recently it is the location of Downton Abbey. We continue to Kintbury to enjoy a leisurely horse drawn canal ride along the Kennet and Avon Canal.

The next day we meet our local guide for a full day tour of the Cotswolds market towns and picturesque villages. We continue to Moreton in Marsh to visit the Motor Museum. The day finishes with a steam train ride from Toddington to Cheltenham

On Day 4 we travel to the UNESCO world heritage site of Bath to visit the famous Roman Baths. The afternoon will be spent at leisure in this beautiful city with its many interesting sights

We board the coach on our final day to begin our return journey to Sheffield. On route we visit the University City of Oxford for independent exploration.

The cost for this holiday is £549 per person sharing a room with a single supplement of £91. This includes a full English Breakfast, an evening table d'hote meal of 3 courses with 3 choices and coffee or tea. All travel, admission to places we visit and guided tours are included in the price



To reserve a place please complete the booking form and send it with a deposit of £50 per person and a Links sized (22x 16cm) s.a.e to Margaret Langrish as soon as possible.

BOOKING FORM COTSWOLD AND BEYOND SEPT 11TH -SEPT 15TH 2022

Name:SU3A No:

Name:..... SU3A No:

Address:.....Tel:.....

.....Postcode:

Emergency Contact for each person named above:

Name:.....Tel:

Name: Tel:

Please reserve place(s) for the above named SU3A members.

Room requested: single..... double..... twin.....(please tick)

I enclose a cheque for £..... (£50 per person), payable to Sheffield U3A Travel.

Please return the completed slip, with Links sized (22x16cm) sae as soon as possible to **Margaret Langrish, 19 Alms Hill Road, Sheffield, S11 9RR.**



TRAVEL GROUP VISIT to the NEW R.H.S GARDEN BRIDGEWATER

TUESDAY JULY 5th 2022

This new and exciting R. H. S. Garden is set in the grounds of the former Worsley Old Hall



It features one of the largest Walled Gardens in the country.

Within the Walled Garden there is a Paradise Garden, Kitchen Garden, Fruit House and many other attractions.

Highlights outside the Walled Garden include a Chinese Streamside Garden, lake and meadows.

There is a Plant Centre, Shop and Café, kiosks selling drinks, picnic areas and benches.

I suggest we take a picnic and drink in case the refreshment areas are busy particularly the Cafes although this is up to you of course.

The cost for R.H.S. members is £14 and I need your MEMBERSHIP NUMBER on the BOOKING FORM.

The cost for non R.H.S. members is £22



TRAVEL GROUP VISIT TO R.H.S. GARDEN BRIDGEWATER
TUESDAY JULY 5TH 2022

NameSU3A No:

Name SU3A No:

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Tel:Mobile:

Emergency Contact for each person named above

Name:Tel:

Name:Tel:

Please reserve places for me . I enclose a cheque for £
Payable to Sheffield U3ATravel.

THE COST FOR NON MEMBERS OF RHS IS **£22**

THE COST FOR MEMBERS OF RHS IS **£14** and I need your
MEMBERSHIP NUMBER ON THIS FORM PLEASE

MY RHS NUMBER IS.....

We are using Ellenders Coaches , please tick where you want to board

Sheffield Interchange E5/6 08.30.a.m. ()

Bus Stop Knowle Lane/Ecclesall Road South 09.00.a.m. ()

Please return this form with your cheque and a small s.a.e to Margaret
Langrish 19, Alms Hill Road S11 9RR



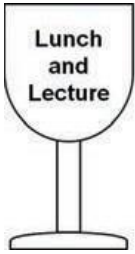
The Friday Lecture Programme: Back to the Future?

The monthly talks at the Showroom Cinema have been missed during their suspension throughout the Covid pandemic. We hope that we will be able to return for a monthly event from April subject to the public health situation. The Showroom is keen to have us back and we are keen to return!

However, in order for this to happen a small team of 3-4 members is required to propose, correspond and introduce speakers and to liaise with the Showroom regarding technical requirements. We need to return to the *modus operandi* of the pre-Covid lecture planning team who agreed among themselves who was to take responsibility for which dates. Please contact me at pelong54@gmail.com if you are interested and able to commit. Other roles welcoming members and reviewing talks for Links will also need to be revived.

In the meantime, the Zoom talks will continue. A speaker is to be confirmed for January. On Friday 18th February, Brian Groom will give a talk entitled, '*Northerners: A History. From the Ice Ages to the 21st Century*'. Brian is a journalist, formerly assistant editor and political editor of the Financial Times and editor of Scotland on Sunday. On Friday 18th March, Dr Rosie Knight of the Department of History, University of Sheffield will present a lecture on '*Legacies of Slavery in Sheffield*'.

Philip Long



LUNCH AND LECTURE

The new Lunch and Lecture Team (Barbara Hutton, Sue Connelly and Martin Harvey) are now firmly established having successfully run their first event in November 2021. It was a great afternoon - "a good time was had by all!" The meal was delicious, as usual, and the talk, about our very own Sheffield Castle, was interesting and informative.

It is usual for Lunch and Lecture to take place twice a year: once in May and again in October/November. Talks are varied, entertaining and are open to any u3a Sheffield member. Booking forms will be available in the monthly E-Newsletters for a few months before the event and in the hardcopy of *Links* prior to the event.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES – the next Lunch and Lecture will be held on **Friday, 6 May 2022**. Full details and booking form will be published in E-Newsletters beginning February 2022 and in the April copy of *Links*.



Our next speaker, Andrew Thwaite, has a job that we would all love – he works with chocolate! A chocolatier at York Cookery School, he has been working with chocolate since 1995. His lively talk will not only be on the history of chocolate, but also on his amazing international travels in his quest to understand cocoa, whilst giving a practical demonstration of his artisan chocolate cooking skills.



Stamford and the Open Air Theatre Saturday 16 July 2022: Hay Fever



For July 2022 the Weekenders team invite you to join us at the Rutland Open Air Theatre to see a matinée performance of Noel Coward's *Hay Fever* performed by the Stamford Shakespeare Company on their open-air stage set in beautiful grounds.

A cross between high farce and a comedy of manners, *Hay Fever* is one of Noel Coward's most durable comedies, continuing to delight audiences with its astute observations on family relationships and rivalries. The action takes place in the house of the Bliss family over the course of a weekend and the Bliss family members, have all privately invited guests for the weekend, unbeknownst to anyone else. As the guests arrive, it becomes clear that it is not them who will be the problem, but the family themselves. As the weekend wears on, each guest pairs off with the wrong person with dramatic effects. Confused and angered by the strange behaviour of their hosts, the guests all agree that they must leave straight away! *Hay Fever* provides a shrewd, farcical look at a dysfunctional family oblivious to their ill-mannered behaviour.

All the seats in the theatre are under cover and no performance is cancelled because of rain. (A T loop is available for anyone hard of hearing.) There will be free time in Stamford to have lunch and wander around this interesting little town before attending the performance. The cost of the trip is **£36** per person which includes the coach fare, theatre ticket and the driver's gratuity. Places are limited so if you would like to join us, please complete the form on the next page.

Samina Aslam

sammas1747@gmail.com

01142351489

Stamford and the Open Air Theatre
Saturday 16 July 2022: Hay Fever



Full name: SU3A No.....

Full name: SU3A No

Address.....

.....Postcode:.....

Tel:email:

Emergency contact name and number

.....

Please reserve place(s). I enclose a cheque for £.....
(£36.00 per person) payable to **Sheffield U3A Weekenders.**

Please send to Samina Aslam, 342 Abbey Lane, Sheffield S8 0BY with a small sae by Friday 25th February 2022.

Please indicate your preferred pick up point:

Ecclesall Road South/Knowle Lane 08.30 (.....)

Pond Hill (Penny Black Pub) 08.45 (.....)

Su3a Executive Committee

Chair	Philip Long	07527 198426 chair@su3a.org.uk
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Vice Chair		
Members	Philippa Bartlett	07841 487305 Philippa1@btintertnet.com
	Mo Cave	07831 353243 mocave@btinternet.com
	Jonathan Powell-Wiffin	07502 165184 jwpw@su3a.org.uk
	Clare Chiba	01433 659864 data@su3a.org.uk
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<hr/>		
Minutes Secretary	Michael Clift	
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Drop-in Organiser	Samina Aslam	Ranmora, Ranmoor Lane Hathersage, S32 1BW (0114) 235 1489 dropin@su3a.org.uk
Links Editors	Camilla Jordan David Jordan	(0114) 268 5355 links@su3a.org.uk
Equipment Officer	Roger Vernon	07769 696909 Roger.vernon@btinternet.com
Home Pager Manager	Stuart Barlow	homepages@su3a.org.uk

Calendar 2022

February 1	Drop-in	10:00 – 12:00 CURC*
February 18	Lecture (via ZOOM)	Brian Groom 'Northerners: A History. From the Iron Age to the 21 st Century'
March 1	Drop-in	10:00 – 12:00 CURC*
March 18	Lecture (via ZOOM)	Dr Rosie Knight 'Legacies of Slavery in Sheffield'
April 5	Drop-in	10:00 – 12:00 CURC*
April 23	Weekenders	Canal Cruise & Lunch
April 24	Weekenders	Canal Cruise & Lunch
May 3	Drop-in	10:00 – 12:00 CURC*
May 6	Lunch & Lecture	Andrew Thwaite - Chocolatier
May 10	UK Travel	Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal
May 15 – 22	ETG	Santiago de Compostela & River Douro
June 7.	Drop-in	10:00 – 12:00 CURC*
July 5.	UK Travel	R.H.S. Garden at Bridgewater
July 16.	weekenders	Stamford Open Air Theatre Noel Coward's "Hay Fever"
Sept. 11 – 15.	UK Travel	Cotswolds & Beyond

*CURC: Central United Reform Church, Norfolk Street
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