

Links 217: April 2025



World of the Book - 10th anniversary

Contact us

Our website is at: <https://su3a.org.uk>

Here you will find all the latest news and information about Su3a, including items that do not appear in *Links*.

Membership Inquiries:

Su3a Membership Team

members@su3a.org.uk

Information about groups:

Fran Rodway

General Coordinator

07774 142409

groupsa@su3a.org.uk

Group Records Team

grouprecords@su3a.org.uk

Health and Safety Risk Assessments

mocave@btinternet.com

University and Research Liaison Officer:

Martin Harvey

harveymk@yahoo.co.uk

07849 137021

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All news and correspondence to the editors: email: links@su3a.org.uk

Please provide text and photos separately. If you are providing photographs please confirm that you have the permission of any Su3a members appearing and that the photographs are not in breach of copyright.

The *Links* team is not responsible for the content of any articles. For any queries please contact the author of the article.

Facebook group

To join our Facebook group, please go to

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sheffieldu3a/> and hit Join. You will be asked to answer two questions and will need your Su3a membership number.

April!! And already a third of the year is gone! I seem to be living in a world where time has broken through a reality barrier and is flying by. Already the bed needs changing again, despite being changed what seems like just a couple of days ago. I'm even more aware of times 'winged flight' because this edition of *Links* contains the formal notice of our Annual General Meeting. Surely it can't be time for that again I hear you say. Well yes it will be, in another 3 months! Preparation has to start early.

Reading my 'From the Chair' in last April's issue of *Links* I note that I was telling you about a number of u3as which had had to close because of a lack of volunteers in key positions. I made a plea for members to come forward and join the Executive Committee (EC) and particularly for someone from an accounting and finance background to be understudy for our Treasurer. Unfortunately, out of 3,000 members we got not one response!

Excluding Group Coordinators, our u3a is run by about 30 or so members and many of them have substantial roles within the organisation. Some of them have more than one role, like our IT manager who also co-edits *Links*. Some of them, such as our Membership Officer, Website Manager and Home Pages Manager also sit on the EC. We have backup plans for most of these roles but there is no backup for the EC and, without a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and at least 4 other EC members, Sheffield u3a would be in breach of Charity Commission rules and would have to be wound up pretty quickly.

This year we are looking for someone to stand for Secretary, someone to stand for Vice Chair and another 2 EC members, one of whom would ideally be a person with accounting/finance skills. Please give this some thought and if you feel able to attend just 6 meetings per year or give some extra time helping our Treasurer or taking on the role of Secretary, please put your name forward.

Mo Cave

2025 Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 8 July at 11:00 am at the Central United
Reform Church, Norfolk Street

The agenda will appear in the next (June) edition of *Links*. If there is any item that you would like including on the agenda you must notify it to the Secretary, Brian Barrett, secretary@su3a.org.uk in writing by 21 April 2025. Decisions at the AGM can be made only on items appearing on the agenda. Decisions cannot be taken on 'any other business' items.

Vacancies and Nomination Form

A number of our Executive Committee members retire at the end of their period in office or when they no longer wish to be a member of the committee. We need new members to apply for election to join the EC at the AGM in July. If you would like to help run our u3a, please apply for one of the vacant posts.

Vacancy: Vice Chair of Sheffield u3a

The Vice Chair is an officer of Su3a who, along with the other officers of the Executive Committee, helps to support the running of our organisation and deputises for the Chair. If you wish to apply for election to Vice Chair please contact Brian Barrett at secretary@su3a.org.uk

Vacancy: Secretary of Sheffield u3a

The Secretary is an officer of Sheffield u3a and amongst other things arranges the meetings of the Executive Committee (Six meetings per year and no minute taking is involved). More information is below. Contact Brian Barrett at secretary@su3a.org.uk for further information.

Vacancies – Members of the Executive Committee of Sheffield u3a

Members of the EC help the Chair and Officers in running Su3a and there will be at least three vacancies this forthcoming year.

Commitment

The commitment is generally one or two hours a week for EC members, or more for the positions of Secretary and Vice Chair, subject to any forthcoming meetings or events. The EC meets six times a year.

We are looking for members with common sense, who are comfortable using the internet and emails and who enjoy meeting people.

If you are interested in helping to manage our great u3a, which is the largest in the country with more than 3000 members and about 180 groups, please contact any of the EC members listed on the inside of the back page of *Links* or complete and send in the nomination form on the website together with an email statement of not more than 200 words in support of your candidacy by 30 April 2025.

We need a Secretary!!

Putting it more accurately, we don't just need a Secretary, as a registered charity we must have one.

Our current Secretary, Brian Barrett, comes to the end of his 3-year term in July this year. We therefore need someone to take over from him. The Executive Committee (EC) works as a team to try to ensure that no role becomes too onerous. As Secretary, you would be expected to arrange and attend 6 EC meetings each year, collating all the reports into an Agenda and sending out to all EC members. We already have an experienced Minute Taker so that would not form part of the role. Along with the Chair and Treasurer, you would also be involved in arrangements for the AGM.

Please give this some thought and if you feel you could carry out this role or want more information then please contact Brian Barrett at secretary@su3a or Mo Cave at chair@su3a.co.uk

**NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO
SHEFFIELD U3A EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2025**

Position applied for:

There are vacancies for Vice Chair, Secretary and Committee Members. All posts are elected by the members at the AGM.

Name of nominated person

Address

.....

Email Address..... Su3a membership number.....

Home Tel No..... Mobile No:.....

Groups to which nominee belongs.....

Proposers - A proposer and seconder are required

Name of Proposer

Su3a membership number.....

Home Tel No..... Mobile No.....

Signature of Proposer..... Date.....

Name of Secunder

Su3a membership number.....

Home Tel No..... Mobile No.....

Signature of Secunder..... Date.....

I am a member of Sheffield u3a and agree to be nominated as a candidate for election to the Committee of Sheffield u3a at the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 8 July 2024.

Signature of Nominee..... Date.....

Please send the completed form to: secretary@su3a.org.uk (electronic signatures are acceptable) or by post to Su3a, 32 Newington Road, Sheffield, S11 8RZ no later than **30 April 2025**.



Health & Safety

All groups need to have a risk assessment for their group activity and all members of the group should be aware of that risk assessment. If you have not seen your group's risk assessment you should ask your Group Coordinator for a copy.

Group Coordinators - if you haven't got a risk assessment you need to do one straight away. I am happy to help with this so please contact me at mocave@btinternet.com

Reminder - you should complete an Incident Report Form for every accident/incident which occurs during an Su3a activity even if no one appears to have been injured. Sometimes injuries do not become apparent immediately so it is important we have a record. You can access the Incident form and via our Health & Safety Policy which is on the website. Once on the website, choose 'About Su3a' then select 'Policies & Guidelines'.

Friday Lectures - Now Accessible for those with Severe Hearing Issues

Friday Lectures now have 'closed captioning' for those people for whom the 'Tour Talk' hearing system is not suitable.

Closed captioning means that our speaker's words appear on the cinema screen as they speak. This can result in some amusing mis-translations. However, we have had feedback from two members who had not been able to attend lectures in the past and they have told us that for them, this is a minor thing when compared to the pleasure of being able to attend and fully take part in a lecture.

If a severe hearing issue has stopped you coming to a lecture in the past, please do come and try it out. Not only will you be able to see what the speaker is saying but will also be able to play a full part in the question and answer session afterwards. We also hope to have the Tour Talk system up and running again over the next few months.

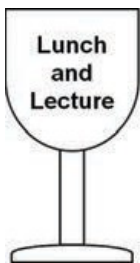
Deborah Beetham & Maureen Cave,
Joint Coordinators Friday Lectures

News

Open Groups Activities

Activities of Open Groups, such as the European Travel Group, UK Travel Group and Lunch and Lecture, are open to all members of Sheffield u3a.

Lunch and Lecture



The Lunch and Lecture (LL) Team trust that you all stayed safe during the cold weather which came with the New Year and hope that the spring has arrived early this year to compensate.

Our speaker on 1 November 2024 was Mike Newbold. He had us all enthralled with tales of the 'Life of a Television Extra' – a very amusing and informative talk after a delicious meal.

The Booking Form for our next Lunch and Lecture on Friday, 9 May 2025, at the Doubletree by Hilton Sheffield Park Hotel, Chesterfield Road South, Meadowhead, SHEFFIELD S8 8BW is below. As usual, arrive at 12 noon for a 12:30 start. The cost is £27.00. The hotel has increased the price by £2 per head therefore we have had to do the same. You can be assured that we will continue to do our utmost to keep the price down as

much as possible.

Caroline Dewar, the chairperson for the charity *Friends of Graves Park*, has kindly consented to join us on 9 May 2025 to enlighten us about the Rose Garden Café in Graves Park and its rise from Tea Pavilion to a locally listed building.



Saved from demolition by strong public support, this much-loved building, built in 1927, was closed with 15 minutes notice in July 2022, when Sheffield Council announced that the roof was unsafe. The charity group *Friends of Graves Park* is working in partnership with the 'Save the Rose Garden Café Group' and Sheffield City Council to restore the building to its former glory.



Photographs of the Café from the early 1940s and more recently are shown with the permission of *Friends of Graves Park*.

Menu choices:

A Butter Roasted Salmon Fillet served with Parsley Crushed Potatoes, Green Beans and Tarragon Cream

B Chicken Breast Wrapped in Prosciutto (GF) served with Tarragon and Caper Crushed Potatoes, Cracked Pink Peppercorn Cream and Vegetables

C Thyme Roasted Butternut Squash and Brie Wellington (V)

D Strawberry and Vanilla Cheesecake served with White Chocolate Paint and Ripple Cream

E Trillionaires' Tart (GF, VE) with Ice Cream

Please note: This is a set menu and once you have made your menu choices you cannot change your mind.

LUNCH AND LECTURE – GRAVES PARK – ROSE GARDEN CAFE

Doubletree by Hilton Sheffield Park Hotel, Chesterfield Road South, Meadowhead, SHEFFIELD S8 8BW Friday, 9 May 2025 - 12 Noon for 12:30 start.

NAME Su3a No(s)

ADDRESS

..... POSTCODE

TELEPHONE

Email address

(I **agree/do not agree** to you retaining my email address for the purpose of sending me further information about this event or future similar events - please delete as applicable.)

MENU CHOICES – please tick one main and one dessert per person

A	B	C	D	E

Special dietary request:

Please reserve place(s) for me at £27.00 per person.

I enclose a small stamped addressed envelope and a cheque for £ payable to **Sheffield U3A Lunch and Lecture**.

Forms should be sent to arrive no later than Monday, 29 April 2024, to Barbara Hutton, 57 Bradway Road, SHEFFIELD S17 4QR

NB If you have the E-Links, not a paper copy, please print the form or write out the required information clearly to send with your cheque and SAE.

(Enquiries: Barbara Hutton barbara_hutton@hotmail.com 0114 4384412 or 07873 202996; Sue Connelly ksueconnelly@hotmail.com 01246 418251 or 07890 522014)

Resources to help with hearing at the lecture - if you would like to find out more, please tick this box for someone to contact you:





Visit to Richard III Museum, 11 June 2025

Visit to Richard III Museum, his tomb and the historic Guildhall



A visit is planned to the very popular Richard III Museum in Leicester. This will be followed by a visit to the nearby Leicester Cathedral, to see the tomb. The body of King Richard was discovered in a car park in 2012. This visit will take place on Wednesday 11 June 2025, and I am advertising early to gauge interest. The itinerary will be as follows: Depart Sheffield by 8:15 am. Arrive in Leicester by approximately 10:00 am where we will be served tea, coffee and biscuits in the Kings Suite which will be followed by a talk about the history surrounding the discovery and recovery of the remains of King Richard. The talk will be followed by a self-guided tour of the museum. At around 12:45 a sandwich platter lunch will be served with fresh fruit, tea and coffee. At 1:45 pm we will take a short stroll to the cathedral where there will be a brief talk giving information about the tomb. Members will then be free to explore the rest of the 900 year old cathedral. The final visit of the day will be to the nearby historic Guildhall. There is a Café next door to the cathedral for further refreshment before departure at approximately 4:30 pm.

Travel Group Visit to Richard III Museum, Wednesday 11 June 2025

Please complete the Booking Form in Block Capitals.

NAME 1 Su3a No

NAME 2 Su3a No

ADDRESS

..... POSTCODE

TELEPHONE MOBILE

Email address

In case of an Emergency Contact details:

Name: Tel No:

Enclosed is my cheque for both venues for £59.50 pp made payable to Sheffield u3a UK Travel Group.

Please state any dietary requirements and food allergies:

Please tick your preferred pick-up point below:

Old Mother Redcap, Bradway at 7.50am ()

Bus Stop Knowle Lane/Ecclesall Rd South at 8.10am ()

Sheffield Interchange, Platform E5/6 at 8.30am ()

Please return this completed form together with your cheque and a stamped self-addressed envelope to Dawn Hodgkinson, 58 Hastings Road, SHEFFIELD, S7 2GU. Tel 07595 232472

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 18th APRIL 2025



Port Sunlight & Liverpool Bay Cruise Saturday 21st June 2025

Last year following the successful visit to Port Sunlight, we were unable to do the Liverpool Bay Cruise due to an engineering problem. So we are running the trip again this year. It will give those who did the guided coach tour an opportunity to spend more time in the wonderful Lady Lever art gallery and for those who missed the excellent guided tour to go on it, followed by the Liverpool Bay Cruise. This tour is open to all members, whether you have been before or not.

Arriving at Port Sunlight, you will have the choice of a guided tour of the village in our coach or to do your own thing and wander round yourselves to discover the many unique aspects of this village. The coach tour lasts for 1 hour and then there is free time to go back to the places that were of interest.



The village is home to more than 900 Grade II listed buildings set in 130 acres of parkland and gardens. More than 30 different architects created the buildings, monuments and memorials we still see today, and nearly every period of British architecture is represented through revival design.

The village is a good example of the aesthetic movement, which emphasised visual and sensual qualities of art and design, and the Arts and Crafts Movement, with its emphasis on traditional craftsmanship. Lever built Port Sunlight to house the workers at his soap factory, Lever Brothers, which eventually became the global giant, Unilever. The village

represents one man's vision to provide industrial workers with decent, sanitary housing in a considered architectural and picturesque form. A buffet lunch is included and will be available at The Bridge Inn from 12:45.

After lunch our coach will collect us from the pub and take us to Seacombe where we board our cruise ferry for a cruise of the Liverpool Bay. During the three-hour cruise, you'll enjoy incredible scenery and learn more about the fascinating history and geography of the River Mersey and Liverpool Bay with expert commentary from a Blue Badge Guide. Our cruise offers incredible panoramic views of the river as you sail past Royal Seaforth Docks, Fort Perch Rock at New Brighton and along the Crosby Channel towards Blundell sands and Formby. This special sightseeing cruise will also give you the chance to experience Anthony Gormley's spectacular *Another Place* art installation at Crosby Beach from the river, and enjoy incredible views of the 100 cast-iron life-sized figures spread across the foreshore, stretching out into the sea.



The cost of this day trip is £63 per person and includes the coach from and return to Sheffield, the guided coach tour of Port Sunlight, buffet lunch, the Liverpool Bay Cruise and all gratuities. To join us, please complete the application form and return as shown by the due date.

Port Sunlight & Liverpool Bay Cruise Saturday 21st June 2025

Please complete the Booking Form in Block Capitals.

NAME 1 Su3a No

NAME 2 Su3a No

ADDRESS

..... POSTCODE

TELEPHONE MOBILE

Email address

In case of an Emergency Contact details:

Name: Tel No:

Enclosed is my cheque for both venues for £63.00 pp made payable to Sheffield u3a UK Travel Group.

Please tick your preferred pick-up point below:

Knowle Lane () Sheffield Interchange ()

Please return this completed form together with your cheque to Brian Cave, 73 Highcliffe Road, Sheffield, S11 7LP to arrive no later than the 20th April 2025. Acknowledgement will be by email

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 20th APRIL 2025

If you cannot print out the form, please send the details requested on a separate piece of paper to the address shown together with your cheque.



Great Yorkshire Show - Thursday 10th July 2025

Come with us and visit the Great Yorkshire Show. This includes so many things to see and experience. If you click on the interactive map at the website (<https://greatyorkshireshow.co.uk>) you can see the range of activities from watching the showjumping (the Cock of the North competition is taking place on that Thursday) to a working forge and lots more. There are many tents full of treasures to look at/sample and buy. Produce and cakes a plenty and plenty of local crafts, etc. We can see and listen to TV Host Matt Baker and also Yorkshire Vet Peter Wright. There will be culinary demonstrations. The participating chefs have not yet been confirmed. Watch the website. Farming skills can be seen including sheep shearing, Land Rover driving (a participation sport for some) etc. and lots of farm animals to see. If you would like to buy a souvenir programme this can be done on line or at the show. There will be a seated Grandstand at the show at an additional cost of £8 for the day allowing you to come and go as you wish from the stand. To ensure a seat we have to book in advance. Tickets may not be available for sale on the day.



Please indicate below if you would like to order a ticket for access to Grandstand seating. There is also standing room around the ring to see the events. I can't wait to see the Atkinson Action Horses who are appearing each day. We will be parking in the coach parking area at the show. A certain amount of mobility will be necessary to move around the showground. If you need to bring a mobility aid, please let me know so that I can inform the coach company to accommodate space in the luggage compartment. If the weather is against us Harrogate is close by. A trip to Betty's and tea and cake (especially Fat Rascals) is always a treat.

Great Yorkshire Show - Thursday 10th July 2025

Please complete the Booking Form in Block Capitals.

NAME 1 Su3a No

NAME 2 Su3a No

ADDRESS

..... POSTCODE

TELEPHONE MOBILE

Email address

In case of an Emergency Contact details:

Name: Tel No:

I/We wish to book Grandstand seats at £8.00 per person.
Enclosed is my cheque for (£53.50 without
Grandstand seat/£61.50 with Grandstand seat) per person made payable
to Sheffield u3a UK Travel Group. The cost includes travel, entrance and a
gratuity for the coach driver.

Please tick your preferred pick-up point below:

Bus Stop Knowle Lane/Ecclesall Rd South at 8.15am ()

Sheffield Interchange, Platform E4/5 at 8.30am ()

Please return this completed form together with your cheque to Julia
Daine, 27 Gaunt Close, Killamarsh, Sheffield, S21 1SW.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 21st APRIL 2025



Registration of Interest - Thursford Christmas Spectacular and Norfolk 9-11 November 2025



Interested in joining us to see this year's Thursford Christmas Spectacular? With a cast of over 100 performers, the Thursford Christmas Spectacular is a pageant of spectacle and colour and has become the largest Christmas Show in England with a unique blend of festive songs, carols, dazzling dancers and beautiful costumes.

This 3-day, 2-night trip includes private executive coach throughout our journey and 2 nights half-board accommodation at the 3* George Hotel in Norwich. All rooms are ensuite and feature telephone, television, hairdryer and tea and coffee-making facilities. While there are many rooms on the ground floor, please note that the hotel has no lift.

On arrival in Norwich we will have a guided tour of the Sainsbury's Centre for Visual Arts in Norwich. Here we can see modern European paintings and sculptures by the likes of Henry Moore, Francis Bacon and John Davies as well as pieces from around the world and sculptures from the ancient world. We will then continue to our hotel.

The next day we have a guided tour by coach of Norwich, England's best-preserved medieval city, and we will take in sights such as the Norman Cathedral, Norman castle and the City Hall with free time for lunch. We will then travel to Thursford to attend the matinee Christmas Spectacular performance starting at 2:00 pm. We have 'Deluxe Central' seats that have been reserved for us.

On our final day we visit Wroxham and included is a 90-minute cruise on the Norfolk Broads with mulled wine and mince pies. There will be free

time to explore Wroxham and have lunch on an individual basis before making our way back to our drop off points in Sheffield.

The cost for this trip is £584.00pp with a £39.00 single supplement, subject to minimum numbers being met. Please note single rooms are limited and any extra single rooms required are subject to availability and may incur an additional cost. All gratuities for coach, hotel and guides are also included. All applicants should have their own travel insurance. Su3a cannot be responsible for any claims. This tour is arranged by Tailored Travel who provide travel insurance if needed.

The deadline for registering your interest in this trip is Monday 21st April. If the trip is over-subscribed all names will be put into the proverbial 'hat' and names selected at random. This will also apply if single rooms are over-subscribed.

If you wish to join us on this trip, you can apply by: 1) To save on postage send an email with your name(s), telephone number and Su3a membership number(s); 2) If you prefer/have to use the postal service please send a sae A5 *Links*-sized envelope with your name(s), telephone number and your Su3a membership number. Whichever method you choose, should your application be successful, you will be sent more details about the trip, a booking form and the tour operator's T&Cs.

Samina Aslam,
342 Abbey Lane,
Sheffield, S8 0BY
sammamas1747@gmail.com
0114 2351489

Advance notice - Three Yorkshire Medieval Churches - Monday 14th July 2025

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Make a note in your diaries for this annual outing which has proven to be extremely popular for many years. Details and application form will be in June *Links*.

I'm pleased to announce that the Steel City Wanderers will be back 'on traxck' in 2025, with a series of urban 'themed' walks.

The first walk will be the latest in the fabulously informative series hosted by local author and historian Dave Pickersgill - *Sheffield Pub Heritage Walk #4 – Neepsend* - and will take place on Friday 16 May with an 11:00am start. Dave will enlighten us on the architecture and history of the pubs we visit and the walk will be a maximum of two hours in duration.

Dave has tailored the walk so that we will actually spend time in one or two of the historic venues that he will speak about (which – depending on whether you 'fancy a tipple' – may add a bit of time to the schedule!). If you're not aware of it, the Neepsend area is relatively flat and the walking will not be too arduous. We will start from a tram stop to facilitate us all easily arriving at the right place.

As you may imagine it is necessary to limit the number of people who participate, so we are looking to welcome twenty (maximum) enthusiasts and places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Please lodge your expression of interest (one per person) by emailing me at: soundsheffield@gmail.com

I will reply by return as to whether I have been able to allocate a place for you. It's essential that you remember to include your email address in the correspondence.

I hold back from sending out the exact details on the meeting place and time, the route and other general information, until about a week before the day of the walk.

Further walks will be announced over the coming weeks so please keep an eye on the notice board.

COULD YOU 'HOST' A WALK?

We are always on the lookout for new 'themes'. Do you have knowledge of a subject pertinent to the fabric, structure or culture of Sheffield? Could you share it with us on a walk? Areas we have covered in the past

(but would be happy to cover again) include street art, music, local authors and other subjects. I would be happy to take on the administrative and publicity tasks, if you can lead the walk. If you would like to give it a go, please contact me at the email address shown above.

u3a ShortCourses

Two short courses that run when enough people register interest - at least twice a year. Please register your interest directly with Jo (joanna.mutlow@humanistcare.org.uk) who will notify you of dates.

1. **Tying up your Loose Ends**

This informative course runs over two afternoons as a forum to discuss how to prepare for any loss of capacity and for our inevitable death by leaving things in good order and communicating clear instructions. It may well prompt you to have important conversations and sort through some stuff, rather than leaving it for others to do. Practical information and tips with Jo Mutlow who draws on her experience as a funeral celebrant and pastoral carer where she has encountered many people who regret not having sorted things when they were well.

2. **What might we do with the Ashes?**

You may be wanting to leave instructions for your own ashes or have ashes in a cupboard that you want to move on. Direct cremations are now more common when there is no ritual, just the delivery of the body and collection of the ashes; you may now be wondering how to hold a fitting ritual to scatter or inter the ashes. There are environmental considerations too and some etiquettes to observe. This half day course will give you the information you need and confidence to decide how best to dispose of your ashes. Jo draws on her experience as a funeral celebrant to guide you in your options.

News from Groups

Where Groups are encouraging potential new members to make contact, details may be found either in the Centre Pages of the hard copy or on-line at <https://su3a.org.uk/grouppages/interest-and-activity-groups/groups-a-z/>.



Su3a Gardening at Whirlow Brook Park

Open morning - May 21st 2025



The Su3a Commemorative Garden in Whirlow Brook Park always looks particularly lovely in May when the rhododendrons and candelabra primulas are in flower. We would thus like to invite u3a members to an Open Morning on Wednesday May 21st, from 10:30 to 12:00. Come and have a wander around the garden to see the various plants that the Whirlow Brook Gardening Group work hard to look after throughout the year. We will be having a plant stall, as well as serving refreshments in the form of tea/coffee and cakes.

If you have not visited the Commemorative Garden before then Bus services 81 and 272 stop opposite the entrance to Whirlow Brook Park. Alternatively if coming by car you will find the Park off Ecclesall Road South. Take the first right turn after passing the Whirlowdale Road junction, and then drive into the Park to use one of the two car-parks.

Please note that if we are unlucky enough to get a wet morning then sadly we will have to cancel the event. Let's hope that won't be necessary.

Anne Johnson



Su3a Intermediate French

The French Intermediate Group is looking for someone to supplement the teacher in place, who is unable to be with us every week. We are an enthusiastic group of about 16 people, who meet weekly each Thursday from 11.00 to 12.00 at Sharrow Old School. We usually have a varied combination of conversation, translation, reading, listening and grammar in a fairly informal manner. If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in joining us in a teaching/leading role, I would be glad to hear from you.

Janet Threlfall
Teaching Co-ordinator,
French Intermediate Group,
0114 263 1039
07947 504962
janethrelfall@gmail.com

Spring greetings to everyone from Vintage Voices. Here we are enjoying our Christmas meal at the Cafe Piazza on Church Street in the centre of Sheffield.



Oh, and by the way, we do actually sing as well as enjoying ourselves socially. We sang at the South Yorkshire Federation of WI's Carol Service and at St John's Church, Abbeydale Road, Christmas luncheon club in December and both organisations were so impressed with our singing that both have invited us back in December 2025.



We rehearse on Monday mornings and always welcome new members to our choir (and the social events!) especially Basses, Tenors and Altos.

Please see our group details on the Su3a website if you are interested in joining us or contact Jackie Hall on email via jackie-hall3@sky.com

Jackie Hall



World of the Book

In January 2015 our Book Group was set up and, since then, we have met in a room at the Victoria Hall on the last Wednesday morning of each month. Initially there were 12 of us and it was decided that we would study books thematically, or by author or place. We didn't need to rely on what the libraries could offer.

We began with books published in the year 1961 and therefore classics like the *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* and Iris Murdoch's *A Severed Head* were read alongside John Le Carre's first 'Smiley' novel and Ian Fleming's Bond in '*Thunderball*'. It was fascinating to see the world changing through the books we chose. It was the time of the Space race, the Cold War and, in literary terms, the *Lady Chatterley's Lover* court case.

Since then, we have changed the theme every three to four months by voting democratically for books we think would enhance the theme. We also ask for a volunteer who does a little research on the author for each session and relates facts and information to the whole group before we discuss the book we have read.

Examples of some of our themes, from a total of over 30 themes over the last 10 years, are Russian authors, Childhood, Books about Artists, Climate Change and Romanticism.

We now meet at the former Sharrow School and there are still 12 members 6 of whom are original members. So, we decided to celebrate our Group and the friendships we have made at a celebration meeting to share a cake (thank you Anna, it was delicious!). We were each invited to present the books that had had a special meaning for us and the memories they evoked. This made for a really fun morning.



Roll on the next 10 years!

Denise West,
Founder of the World of the Book Group



This was a beautiful day last October for cycling around the three Derwent Valley Reservoirs in all their glorious autumn colours 😞 Not getting out much so far this year!

Sandie Andrews



Walking Group A

Our happy sociable walking group covers routes of five to six miles each week in the countryside surrounding Sheffield, usually well within an hour's drive from the city. We alternate our walks between Tuesdays and Wednesdays and between five and fifteen members join us each week. We take in locations as diverse as Peak District hills and moorland, woodlands, villages and local Sheffield countryside, as well as places of interest throughout South Yorkshire and Derbyshire.

website: <https://su3a.org.uk/>



Our group's walks usually involve a café or a pub at the end for more socialising and liquid refreshments. Members' ages range from 50s to 80s and we aim to walk every week although very occasionally we are not afraid to cancel or postpone if the weather forecast is too severe - we don't mind the odd shower when we are out but prefer to avoid relentless rain or snow if possible! New members are always welcome, so please contact Sarah McCauley if you would like to join us in the 'A' group.

Sarah McCauley



The Bus Pass Explorers

Our February outing (trip number 70) was to Wentworth Woodhouse which, from the 1950s to the 1970s, was home to The Lady Mabel Ladies P.E. Teachers Training College.



Two ex-students, Sue and Cheril, gave us a most enjoyable and informative "Lady Mabel Tour" of The House and they obviously loved their time there and are now enthusiastic volunteers.



After our tour we explored the grounds with the impressive display of snowdrops before having a drink in the beautifully restored Camellia House.



Our March outing will have been to Bradford (City of Culture - 2025) with exhibitions by David Hockney and Bill Bailey (and an Indian meal).

Many Su3a members have been disappointed that spaces weren't available for The Bus Pass Explorers but a Waiting List of six is now going to be set up. If you are interested in being on the Waiting List, please e-mail david@dnhague.f9.co.uk or, if you haven't got an e-mail address, send a letter to 403, Wood Lane, Sheffield, S6 5LR. If more than six wish to go on the list, a ballot will be done on May 1st to give you time to respond.

David Hague



Racketball

The racketball group at Abbeydale is thriving, but new players, beginners or restarters, are always welcome. We are a convivial group and our Social Secretary organises some off-court activities to boost morale. There are some pictures of some of the group below and if you would like more information please contact Peter Keen at pckeen2000@yahoo.co.uk.





Peter Keen

Forthcoming lectures

18 April 2025

Gaudi's Barcelona – Derek Bacon The 'must see' architecture that puts Barcelona on everyone's bucket list.



Gaudi's Cathedral, Barcelona

16 May 2025

Bolsover, a castle in the Heart of England – Lynne Blake

13 June 2025

Alternative Modes of Living for an Ageing Population in the Rise of Intergenerational Living – Emily Haycock The Prizewinner – former Architecture student Emily Haycock, winner of the Su3a Undergraduate Dissertation Prize, will tell us about her findings.

u3a Sheffield **Su3a Executive Committee**

Chair	Maureen Cave	07831 353243 chair@su3a.org.uk
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Asset Grant Manager	Brian Cave	bpcave@hotmail.com

As always, this is subject to change. See Page 9 for Lunch and Lecture details and Page 34 for Friday lecture titles.

April 1	Drop-In	10am-12 midday, CURC*
April 18	Lecture, Derek Bacon	11am, Showroom
April 29	Day Trip to Beningborough Hall and Knaresborough	
May 9	Lunch and Lecture, Caroline Dewar	
May 6	Drop-In	10am-12 midday, CURC*
May 9	<i>Links</i> Copy Deadline	
May 16	Lecture, Lynne Blake	11am, Showroom
May 19-23	An Exploration of the History of Northumbria	
May 21	Open Morning, Su3a Commemorative Garden	10:30am-12:00 Whirlow Brook Park
June 3	Drop-In	10am-12 midday, CURC*
June 11	Visit to Richard III Museum	
June 13	Lecture, Emily Haycock	11am, Showroom
June 16	Visit to Southwell Minster and Recital	
June 21	Port Sunlight and Liverpool Bay Cruise	

Links 218: June 2025
Copy Deadline: May 9, 2025

Regd. Charity No 703147

* CURC: Central United Reformed Church