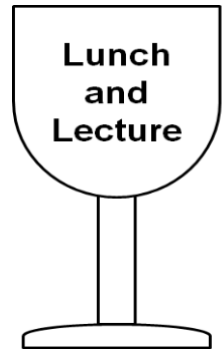
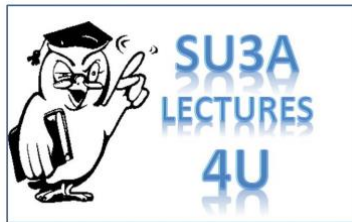


Links Open Groups Supplement



August 2025

Open Group Committee Members

European Travel Group:

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

UK Travel Group:

Samina Aslam	(0114) 235 1489
Brian Cave	(0114) 230 5312
Julia Daine	juliadaine@aol.com
Jo Fox	jo.fox40@icloud.com
Dawn Hodgkinson	dmhodgkinson@gmail.com
Olga Lidbury	olgalidbury@hotmail.com
Val Wiley	georgewiley@btinternet.com

Friday Lectures:

Mo Cave	(0114) 230 5312
Deborah Beetham	(0114) 266 7744

Lunch & Lecture:

Sue Connelly	01246 418251
Martin Harvey	(0114) 258 1698
Barbara Hutton	(0114) 438 4412

Steel City Wanderers:

Brian Clark	07541 696008
-------------	--------------

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

Links 219: October 2025
Copy Deadline: 29 August 2025



The Open Groups

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.

If you are looking 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.

RIVIERA Travel

Riviera Travel offer a 10% payback on the cost of your holiday to your u3a. **Please mention at the time of booking that you are a member of Sheffield u3a.**

Payment is made on completion of your holiday. All money received from Riviera Travel is used for the benefit of all our members.



Sheffield u3a Private Facebook group

Sheffield u3a now has a private, members only group on Facebook. The aims for this group are to share photographs of us in our group activities (please obtain everyone's permission first), share the benefits we gain, promote information about new groups, post updates about drop-ins and new members' meetings, plus links to our monthly e-newsletter and other useful information. This private group will help us all keep much more in touch and aware, and spread the buzz and love about Su3a.

Please go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sheffieldu3a/> and hit 'Join'. You will be asked to answer 2 questions including typing in your u3a membership number. See you in our new Facebook group.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you are unable to print out any application form, please write ALL of the requested information on a sheet of paper and return that, together with your payment, as directed.



Sheffield Pub Heritage Walk #4 – Neepsend

The first walk of the year was on Friday 16 May; the latest in the fabulously informative series hosted by local historian and author of “Sheffield’s Real Heritage Pubs” fame, Dave Pickersgill.

The walk by the river on a beautiful early summers day was sheer ‘urban enchantment’!

Dave enlightened us on the architecture and history of the pubs we passed placing them in the context of recent development in Neepsend, an inner city area that is currently 'on the up' in terms of re-use and repurposing. Highlights included the ex-Samuel Osborn Works (now Church – Temple of Fun), Naomi’s Corner, Ball Bridge, the JC Albyn complex and William Stones Cannon Brewery.



We took a ‘route stop’ at the Forest on Rutland Street - the last South Yorkshire pub to have a ‘beer-only’ license where we were welcomed by Ollie and Marion who opened specially early for us and served us much needed refreshments, including beer brewed in their in-house Toolmakers Brewery. From there we wandered back down Boyland Street and the walk ended in the Beer Garden of the co-operatively owned Gardeners Rest for further refreshments and food.

Parts of the walk were filmed by the Sheffield u3a Video Group who are producing a film on walking in general.

I think we all agreed that we had a fabulous morning of education and entertainment. Thanks to all who accommodated us and especially to Dave, for all the effort he put into the walk making the walk a roaring success!



'Wild in Sheffield' – A Natural History Walk

The next walk was on Friday 13 June and lead by local natural history enthusiasts Arthur and Pat Fisher. We met at the Sheffield Station tram stop at the entrance to South Street Park. Again the weather was kind to us.



We wandered up through the park to South Street and on to Norfolk Road, stopping to look at wild flowers, wild plants, vegetation and nature in general - whatever Arthur and Pat identified to talk about.

We lingered by the entrance to the Shrewsbury Hospital Almshouses. In 1616 the Earl of Shrewsbury left money in his will to found a 'hospital' (almshouses) for 20 poor persons. The original properties became dilapidated and in the early 19th century the site on Norfolk Road was chosen for new almshouses built in the Gothic style. They still look very impressive.



Crossing Norfolk Street, we entered Sheaf Valley Park and visited the Cholera Monument where we took a rest stop with magnificent views out onto the city centre. We walked back down through Clay Wood Bank and finished where we had started.

Those who wished to do so adjourned to the Sheffield Tap (the bar and brewery in Sheffield Station). for much needed refreshments and a good natter. Having organised the walks for a few years now, the 'tradition' of a post walk gathering has, for me, become a valuable and enjoyable part of the walk.

As one walker said: "I hadn't realised you could walk along a country lane in the centre of Sheffield!".

A big 'thank you' to Arthur and Pat for the sharing their knowledge with us.

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 below.

Thank you.

Brian Clark – blclark9@hotmail.com





EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST REQUIRED

GOOD FOOD SHOW – BIRMINGHAM NEC

Sunday 30th NOVEMBER

The Good Food Show Winter is back packed with more festive flavour and foodie fun than ever!

Join top chefs and experts live including Michel Roux, James Martin, Si King, Jane Dunn of Jane's Patisserie and many more cooking their very best seasonal recipe live, bursting with inspiration. Explore and shop from hundreds of artisan producers and big brands perfect for you Christmas shopping lists, discover the new Good Food Hub where the magazine recipes come to life with book signings, live podcasts and the brand-new Kitchen Clinic, enjoy free demos and talks across the show with top names to be announced and add some sparkle to your day with hands-on workshops and tastings!

We are considering organising a visit to the NEC Good Food Winter Show at the NEC in Birmingham on 30th November 2025. The cost of the visit based on 40 entry tickets and coach from/to Sheffield would be £40 including an amount for the driver's gratuity. Some shows would need to be booked separately.

Obviously, we need to make a decision as soon as possible, so please **REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY**, as this show is so popular. Register by replying to juliadaine@aol.com. Stating name and number of tickets required. Additional advertising and a booking form will be sent once we know if we are likely to have the required numbers for the trip to go ahead.

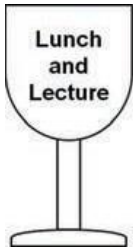
Julia Daine – UK Travel Organiser Team



Memories from some of our 2025 UK Travel trips so far



LUNCH AND LECTURE (LL)



Important Information

We have a new venue commencing with our next meeting on 24 October 2025.



Photograph courtesy of the Kenwood Hotel

Do you recognise it? Yes, it's the Kenwood Hall (a Mercure hotel in Kenwood Road, SHEFFIELD. S7 1NQ)

We understand that the Doubletree by Hilton Sheffield Park Hotel at Norton is closing down; the Kenwood is an admirable replacement for us.

On viewing the Kenwood we were thrilled to find that the Lakeview Room is available to us. Not only has this room a fantastic view over the grounds and lake, offering plenty of natural light but it is ideally situated on the ground floor of the main building close to the reception and lounge bar, offering easy

access via a couple of steps or a ramp with a hardly noticeable upward slope.

There is free parking in two areas to the left of the reception. (Once inside the reception area, there are two facilities for you to record your registration number.) Parking is also available on the road by the gate.

The area is well served by public transport: you can take the bus, number 218, from Furnival Gate/Moorhead MH3 in the city centre which will take you to Psalter Lane/Southcroft, which is a short walk from Kenwood Hall. The 218 runs every 30 minutes and is approximately a 15 minute journey. We understand that buses 56, 83 and 86 are also convenient bus lines which we will check out and report on.

Please reserve **Friday, 24 October 2025**, for our next **Lunch and Lecture** at **The Mercure Sheffield, Kenwood Hall Hotel & Spa**, Kenwood Road, SHEFFIELD S7 1NQ. As usual, we advise arrival at 12 noon for a 1230 start.

Our **speaker** for October is Peter **Machan** whose topic will be '**The Last of the Little Mesters?**'. Peter is a well-known speaker and author on topics of Sheffield's local history, having a Masters Degree in the subject. Peter has been fascinated by the surviving heritage of the Sheffield cutlery industry and has





charted and researched the traditional craftspeople and their premises over the last 40 or so years. This talk is based on his recent book and follows the rise, decline and survival of the Sheffield metal trades. In particular it illustrates the state of the traditional cutlery and silverware trade in the city today.

Photographs relating to the Little Mesters talk are owned and were supplied by Peter Machan with permission given by him for use in the LL publicity information.

Menu choices:

A Chicken, tarragon & wild mushroom casserole

B Grilled Hollandaise Salmon

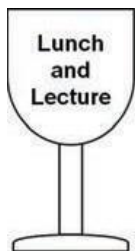
C Seasonal Risotto (VE)

Served with Seasonal Vegetable and Potatoes

D Baked Vanilla Cheesecake, Berry Compote and Chantilly Cream

E Sticky Yorkshire Parkin with custard

Tea & Coffee with Mints



LUNCH AND LECTURE BOOKING FORM: 'The Last of the Little Mesters?'

Friday, 24 October 2025,

Mercure Sheffield Kenwood Hall Hotel & Spa, Kenwood Road,
SHEFFIELD S7 1NQ 12 noon for 1230 start.

NAME Su3a No:

NAME Su3a No:

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.)

Signed

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

A	B	C	D	E
---	---	---	---	---

Special dietary request:

.....

Please reserve place(s) at **£27.00 per person**. I **enclose a small SAE** and a cheque for £ payable to **Sheffield U3A Lunch and Lecture**.

Forms should be sent to arrive no later than Thursday, 2 October 2025, to Barbara Hutton, 57 Bradway Road, SHEFFIELD S17 4QR

Please note that our deadline for notifying numbers to the hotel 3 weeks before the event date and we cannot be as flexible as in the past. When received **please** keep your receipt safe and bring it with you to the event.

Enquiries: Barbara Hutton (01144384412 ~ 07873202996)

barbara_hutton@hotmail.com Sue Connelly (01246418251 ~ 07890522014)

ksueconnelly@hotmail.com

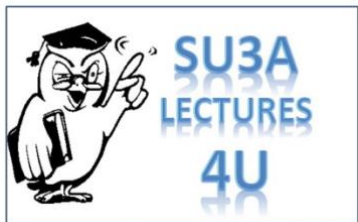
NB If you have an E-Links or E-Newsletter, not a paper copy, please printout the form or write out the required information clearly to send with your cheque and SAE.

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

☐

Please remember to send a Stamped Addressed Envelope with the booking form as you need your receipt.





Friday Lectures

Lectures take place usually on the 3rd Friday of the month at the Showroom Cinema on Paternoster Row, central Sheffield. There's no lecture in August.

Coming up:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 19th September | Nature's Recovery, Alison Gardener, Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust. |
| 17th October | Emergency Care, Identifying the most urgent cases in A & E, Prof Steve Goodacre |
| 21st November | The Hebridean Way: A personal journey. Rachel Firth & Hilary White |
| 19th December | Who Wants to be a Millionaire? A light- hearted lecture of her experiences on the show by Pat Collard, with the usual Christmas bonus of complementary mince pies! |

This year so far we've had several very successful talks, **Roman Britain** by West Yorkshire u3a member Derek Barker, attracted 176 members, only bettered by Barnsley u3a's Derek Bacon on **Gaudi's Barcelona** which saw a turnout of 187 members. Not to be outdone, in May our own Lynne Blake talked to an audience of 125 about the people who built and have lived in **Bolsover Castle**.

In June, 2024 Su3a/Helsi student Prize-winner, Emily Haycock talked to us about **Housing for older people**. Emily, who is now doing some work at an architecture firm before furthering her studies, still retains her interest in this topic. Emily's talk struck a chord with some in the audience and sparked a lively question and answer session afterwards. As a result of that a new u3a group may be starting up to look at the problems being faced by older people as they make the momentous decision of whether to move from a well-loved family home to something more manageable. Contact our General coordinator Fran at groupsa@su3a.org.uk if you would be interested in joining the group.

We are now looking at the programme for 2026 and again we have a great range of potential topics. We are hoping to persuade Derek Bacon to leave Barnsley (temporarily) for the big city and talk to us about **Picasso: the artist who everyone says they don't like!** We've already had talks about the use of Artificial Intelligence in medicine and other areas but one of our members is hoping to arrange a talk about **the use of AI in everyday life.** We've also got a member of the curatorial team at Chatsworth coming to speak about **How the First Duke Built Chatsworth**

Did you know?:-

1. There's obviously a lot of talent and knowledge in the u3a movement so if you feel you could give an interesting talk to 100 plus people, please let us know.
2. The Showroom cinema now has a very sophisticated "closed captioning" system which means that the lectures and the question and answers afterwards are accessible to people who have even the most severe hearing issues.
3. Do you have a friend who is not an Su3a member but would like to come to a lecture? Non-members can try a maximum of 2 sessions of a u3a activity before deciding whether to join. Bring them along, they'll be asked for their name (for insurance purposes) and who knows they may decide to become a member.

Deborah Beetham & Maureen Cave
Joint Coordinators

Important notice about the Monthly Drop In **There will be no Drop-in in August**

From September the timing of the monthly Drop-In will alter. It will be advertised as 10.00 am to 11.30 am. For those members who meet friends for a coffee or call in for information we will still be open until 12.00 noon but last entry for everyone, members and non-members alike will be at 11.30.

This has been done because we have had people turning up shortly before 12.00 which doesn't give us enough time to deal with them properly and still be out of the building shortly after 12.00.



Memories from our tour of Sicily 2025



NOTES

Su3a Executive Committee

Chair	Maureen Cave	07831 353243 chair@su3a.org.uk
Vice- Chair	Anita Brough	07377 657156 vice-chair@su3a.org.uk
Secretary	Maria Buller	07478 667848 secretary@su3a.org.uk
Treasurer	Les Baker	07847 383636 treasurer@su3a.org.uk
Membership	Clare Chiba	01433 659864 data@su3a.org.uk
Publicity	Shirley Taylor	07949 537807 shirley@shirleytaylor.com
Member	Brian Barrett	07950 943738 barrettbb3@gmail.com
Member	Jo Beadle	07889 595313 iojobeadle@yahoo.co.uk
Member	George Hampson	07540 585887 george@thehampsons.net
Member	David Longson	07715 360987 Longson56@gmail.com
Member	Jonathan Powell-Wiffen	07502 165184 jwpw@su3a.org.uk
Member	Sarah Williamson	07458 311789 slwilliamson49@hotmail.com

Membership Team	Clare Chiba	01433 659864 wa-admin@su3a.org.uk
Web Coordinator	Elaine Burtoft	07803 130021 web@su3a.org.uk
General Co'dinator	Fran Rodway	07774 142409 groupsa@su3a.org.uk (0114) 698 9887 dropin@su3a.org.uk su3ait@su3a.org.uk
Drop-in Organiser	Barbara Doyle	(0114) 268 5355 links@su3a.org.uk
IT Manager	Camilla Jordan	homepages@su3a.org.uk
Links Editors	Camilla Jordan David Jordan	bpcave@hotmail.com
Home Pages Mngr	David Longson	
Asset Grant Mngr.	Brian Cave	

Calendar 2025

Aug 16	UK Travel	Stamford Open Air Theatre – Agatha Christie
Aug 18 – 21	YAHR	Summer School
Sep 2	Drop-in	10 -12 at CURC*
Sep 19	Friday Lecture**	Natures Recovery by Alison Gardener
Sep 27 – Oct 5	European Travel	Little Boats of the Mediterranean
Oct 7	Drop-in	10 – 12 at CURC*
Oct 17	Friday Lectures**	Emergency Care, Identifying the most urgent cases in A & E, by Prof Steve Goodacre
Oct 24	Lunch & Lecture	Last of the Little Mesters?
Nov 4	Drop-in	10 -12 at CURC*
Nov 21	Friday Lectures**	The Hebridean Way: A personal journey. By Rachel Firth & Hilary White
Nov 30	UK Travel	Good Food Show at the NEC (provisional)
Dec 2	Drop-in	10 -12 at CURC*
Dec 19	Friday Lectures**	Who Wants to be a Millionaire? A light-hearted lecture of her experience on the show by Pat Collard with the usual Christmas bonus of complementary mince pies!
Dec 25	Merry Christmas to one and all from the Open Groups Organisers	

*CURC: Central United Reform Church, Norfolk Street

** Friday Lectures are held in the Showroom at 11:00

Sheffield u3a is a registered charity No: 703147

<https://su3a.wildapricot.org/>

<http://su3a.org.uk>