

Got a query about your membership and need to contact Trudy Atkinson, Membership Secretary? Please note her NEW email address: membership@bu3a.org.uk

MONTHLY MEETINGS – NEWS

THE METRODOME

The Metrodome has issues with visibility, sound quality and during school holidays with noise and parking. The Committee is now reviewing its use of the Metrodome and would welcome any suggestions from members as to an alternative. The venue needs to hold up to 150 people, has a good audio/visual set-up, café, access to public transport, is comfortable and affordable. **IF YOU KNOW OF ANY SUITABLE VENUE, PLEASE TELL US:**
bu3anews@outlook.com

MONTHLY SPEAKERS/PRESENTATIONS

The Survey showed that members would like to hear about the other 125 groups in the organisation. So, for future meetings, as well as inviting a few outside speakers, we'd like to invite Group Coordinators to come and tell us all about their group/s. It doesn't have to be a long talk; short and snappy is best. Please get in touch, we can give you all the support you need.

UPCOMING MONTHLY MEETINGS

May 15th Millie Johnson – Barnsley author
June 5th Barnsley u3a AGM
BUZZ DISTRIBUTION
July 3rd Philip Caine – Thriller writer

AUGUST – NO MEETING

GIFT AID

GIFT AID is the government's way of encouraging people to join and support charities, giving the charity an extra 25% from fees and donations. Bu3a is a charity and if you sign up for Gift Aid your £12 membership fee becomes £15 and the Tax Office (HMRC) give us £3. Potentially, Bu3a could receive an extra £3,900 every year. Make sure you tick YES on your Personal Profile page on Simple Membership if you are happy for us to collect the Gift Aid contribution.

BARNSELY u3a ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) MONDAY JUNE 5TH AT BARNSELY METRODOME

Come and meet the Committee and hear what we've been up to over the past year and what we propose for 2023/24. Committee members who have been in post for 6 years need to move on and nominees for those posts need to be voted in by members, so a good attendance is important. Alan Swann will stand again as Honorary President, but we say goodbye to Hilary Newton, Treasurer and Margaret Saxton, Social Secretary. Many thanks to them both for all their hard work over the years. If you intend to come to this meeting, it would be useful to bring your Spring Buzz. It contains the day's agenda and minutes of the previous AGM.

It won't all be minutes, agendas and voting, folk group Barnsdale Hood (Bu3a members Dave Alton, Alan Jones and Phil McNulty) will be playing and raising money for disabled Mapplewell lad Louis George. They'll be bringing their bucket, so if you can spare some change please donate to this worthy cause.

The Bu3a Ceilidh Band will also be playing jigs, reels, hornpipes and waltzes. It's their first public outing since forming last October and they're looking forward to performing for an audience.

See you all there.

SIMPLE MEMBERSHIP

Hundreds of you have been logging on to your Personal Profile page and the 1,200 email users have been receiving notifications from Coordinators and Committee members.

All this year's April membership renewals have been done using Simple Membership and the new website on the Simple Membership platform is under development and promises to be more attractive and forward-looking to members and the wider public.

Many thanks to Robin Northcut (Simple Membership Manager) and Trudy Atkinson (Membership Secretary) for all their hard work in getting to grips with this new system, transferring data and completing renewals. It's been a massive job.

CONSULTATION SURVEY

Many thanks to those who have completed and returned the Consultation Survey. However, only a small percentage of members have responded. There is still time to have your say, the closing date is 30th April. The hard copy Survey was in the Spring Buzz. For an e-copy contact us at bu3anews@outlook.com

GROUP NEWS

PHOTOGRAPHY

The Bu3a Photography Group is ready to make a comeback. The objective is to help members improve their photography and enjoy their images whether taken by mobile phone or camera. The choice is yours. Dates, time, location and structure of meetings is dependent on the collective decision of the group.

Indu Kumar (Development Officer) is taking names of interested members and will arrange a time for a first meeting to decide how best to go forward.

Please contact Indu if you're interested in joining. Details in the Contact List.

THE CHOIR

The Choir will be presenting two concerts at their new home, Wombwell Methodist Church.

27th June at 1.45

12th December at 1.30

Tickets will be available at Monthly Meetings.

MODERN JIVE FOR BEGINNERS

Two left feet? No problem, come along to Modern Jive and we can sort it. No partner? No partner required, come along anyway.

We meet at Staincross Christian Fellowship in Mapplewell on Wednesdays 6pm to 8pm except for every second Wednesday of the month.

For further information find us on Simple Membership: [Groups | Barnsley \(bu3a.org.uk\)](#)

HOLIDAY COMPANION

Are you tired of holidaying alone? A female Bu3a member is looking for a female companion to share a holiday with. This isn't for any booked holiday, but just to see if there is anyone interested in sharing an adventure.

Contact Bu3anews@outlook.com and I'll pass the

MAC MCKECHNIE AND WALKING CRICKET

Mac's assault on national media continues.

Following appearances on Look North and Calendar and in print in The Guardian, the BBC's One Show picked up his story. Angela Rippon came to Dodworth and spent a day filming Mac and the Bu3a v Wakefield u3a walking cricket match.

The results will be broadcast in mid-June to coincide with the start of the Ashes Tour.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE SUMMER BUZZ IS 12TH MAY – THANKS (ED)

Bu3anews@outlook.com



GeoWeek 2023

Active Geoscience 27 May – 4 June

BARNSELY THROUGH GEOLOGICAL EYES

GeoWeek is an initiative that seeks to introduce geoscience to as many members of the public as possible. <https://earth-science.org.uk>

If you are interested in knowing more about the geology under Barnsley, Bu3a member Rick Ramsdale is leading a walk.

We'll meet by the front steps of the Old Town Hall, close to Millennium Square **at 10.30 on Saturday June 3rd**. The walk will be a 2.5 to 3 hour ramble from Millennium Square to Locke Park, stopping to look beneath the surface of Barnsley and its buildings.

Please dress appropriately for the weather, be aware of traffic and children should be accompanied by an adult and properly supervised. Please respect other people's space during talk sessions. No booking required, just turn up.

FAMILY PHOTOS AND FAMILY HISTORIES

PILOT SESSION ON ZOOM

WEDNESDAY 14TH JUNE AT 10.30am

Photos are often the most common and sometimes the only record we have of our families' lives in the past. This pilot session will explore how to make the most of family photograph collections. Led by social historians Laura King (University of Leeds) and Jane Hamlett (Royal Holloway, University of London), the session will provide a toolkit for exploring the meanings of personal photo collections.

For further information contact Maggy Simms: slp@u3a.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We will be promoting Bu3a at the Barnsley Main Colliery on **Saturday 3rd June**. We need just a handful of volunteers to distribute leaflets and chat to people about what we do. If you can spare an hour or two between 11.00 and 14.00, please contact Derek Bacon (details in the Contact List).

'Every member should be doing something'

Eric Midwinter: u3a Founder

This article, published in Third Age Matters, the u3a national magazine, revisits some of the original 'aims and objects' of the organisation. It stresses the importance of volunteers in u3as. 'The u3a is, or should be, a self-mobilising, self-energising agency. It is fuelled by the human equivalent of sustainable rather than wasteful fossil energy.' The full article will be reproduced in the Summer Buzz.