



What's On

Open Event

Tuesday 22nd September from 2.00pm



This is a chance to see what other groups are doing, to introduce friends and neighbours to the u3a, to chat to friends from other groups, and to encourage new members and new groups to form.

Please come along and invite others to do so. It would be great to have as many groups as possible represented.

Lots of news in this months' newsletter and lots of pictures. Please open in PDF version to view all.

GROUPS' NEWS

Local History Group



The Local History group had two very interesting historical walks, one to Belper and the other to Ash-over. With thanks to John and Jayne for organising these.

The group normally meets on the last Monday of the month at Tansley Village Hall, from 2-4pm in the Upstairs Room, with a small charge to cover the hire of the

room and refreshments, and we have room for some new members.

Our aim is to educate members about the history of our diverse county, both of the people and the places. We realise that some members will have loads of spare time to do their own research, and some members will have little spare time, but we would like to encourage all members to participate in educating the other group members. So it is hoped that members of the group will conduct their own research into a chosen area of interest, maybe just working alone, or in pairs or even small groups, and give a short talk on their findings.

16th September we have Nancy with "The village that no longer exists"

21st October is Penny "Not just White Horses"

18th November TBA

New members welcome. Contact: Susan Tomlinson email localhistory@mat-lockkareau3a.org.uk



Family History Group

We are now meeting in the small room at St Mary the Virgin at South Darley, on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2pm, and would welcome some new members. The purpose of the group is to discuss all aspects of family history, to learn from each other's experiences and to utilise the various resources available for researching one's ancestry.

Part of each meeting is usually led by one of our members with a particular interest in some part of their family history and members are encouraged to bring details of some unusual fact that they have discovered or even a problem they have with their tree, so that other members can assist.

Contact Susan Tomlinson:

familyhistory@matlockareau3a.org.uk or by telephone on 01629 583763.

Future dates:

28th September - Susan with "Beyond Matlock with a twist"

26th October - TBA

30th November - TBA

December – TBA

History 3



This year History3 enjoyed our annual barbecue under a shady tree on a swelteringly hot August day. Spouses again joined the social occasion. The photograph shows empty dishes after working our way through a wide range of tempting desserts - the savoury courses having already been devoured.

The group studies the history of the nineteenth century across the world and meets on the first Monday afternoon of the month. Contact John Entwistle on: history3@matlockareau3a.org.uk

Ukulele Group

If you're looking for a new challenge this autumn I'm starting two ukulele groups in Matlock this September. Learning something new and meeting different people is so good for your brain and all the laughter that we generate will definitely improve your mood.

There will be a beginners' group for those who would like to learn how to play from scratch. I do have some ukuleles for you to borrow and I'll provide all the

song sheets. You don't need any previous musical knowledge just a willingness to have a go and to do 5-10 minutes practice a day at home. You've nothing to lose and if after 8-10 weeks it's not for you, no hard feelings if you and the ukulele don't manage to bond. Some of my present beginners are moving onto an Improvers group which I'm happy for new members to join. If you already play guitar or have played in the past or if you feel like it would be a better fit come along.

If there are any **drummers** out there who'd like to play a cahon to help us keep time you'd also be very welcome, as would bass guitar players. I have a spare ukulele bass

Starting on **Monday 14th September**

Beginners 3-4 pm Improvers 2-3pm £3 per week.

If you'd like to stay for both sessions £5 per week.

All Saints Church Hall. Smedley Street. Pay as you go.

Contact: Sylvia Pearson 07714 710099. sylviapearson8@hotmail.com

ukulele@matlockareau3a.org.uk

Gardening Group



The gardening group were joined by several other Matlock u3a members on a coach visit to the RHS garden at Harlow Carr near Harrogate.

With delightful, not too hot, weather a fine day was had - and the gardens, while having suffered from the drought, were still magnificent and colourful.

The group visits mainly local gardens during the summer months with occasional talks in the winter.

Contact Liz Walker: gardening@matlockareau3a.org.uk

Archaeology Group

The groups next meeting is on Tuesday 8th September.

Kevin Wagstaffe will be leading us to High Rake to look at lead mining in the

area. The walk will last about an hour and a quarter. If you are interested please contact me by 5th September. The Archaeology Group will be at the Open Afternoon on 22nd September, do come along to find out more.

In October we are making a site visit to Cromford Mill and in November we are hosting an Open meeting in the Imperial Rooms on the theme of 'The Bayeux Tapestry'. The new programme will be available in September, the group is planning indoor meetings over the winter months. Please contact me to join the mailing list to get all the information about the group's autumn and winter programme.

Contact: Cameron Butland archaeology@matlockarea3a.co.uk

ADVANCE NOTICE

One of the Matlock U3A history groups that focuses on '***The history and culture of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire***' invite ALL Matlock Area u3a members to their November meeting - an illustrated talk - '***Riber Castle - A landmark for 160 years***' - to be presented by **Jane Middleton-Smith**, archivist at **John Smedley**. Come and join us on:

November 11th 09:45 for a 10:00 start, at the Orangery, St Elphin's Park.

There is no attendance fee but we would appreciate it if participants purchase a beverage at the bistro.

Booking essential - please contact the convenor, Roger Clough cloughrj@gmail.com.

Jane will trace the remarkable history of Riber Castle from its construction in the 1860s to the present day. Using historic photographs, she brings to life the story of the iconic hilltop landmark overlooking Matlock.

*Riber Castle was built as a private family home by **John Smedley (1803–1874)**, a successful hosiery manufacturer and pioneer of hydrotherapy. Designed by Smedley himself, the castellated building was completed in just six years and featured a dramatic full-height central saloon.*



*After periods as a boys' school, wartime food store, and decades of dereliction, the Castle was rescued from ruin in the late 20th century. Since **1999**, owners **the Wright family** have overseen a sensitive restoration, transforming the building into **26 luxury apartments** while reinstating key architectural features. Once again illuminated on the skyline, Riber Castle has been given a new chap-*

ter—no longer a ruin, but a restored landmark with a remarkable past.

FOR INTEREST/ REASSURANCE

A company called Beacon have been in the news recently because of a data breach.

This is **NOT** the Beacon that we us to store our data and we are not affected.