



Bolton u3a Newsletter

Chat from the Chair

Hello friends!

Well, Autumn is definitely here with its “season of mists and mellow fruitfulness...” but we still have plenty of activities to get you out of the house and connecting with friends old and new. This newsletter contains details of all that we have happening in October and there’s lots for you to enjoy so read on.

Our AGM will be held at November’s monthly meeting as usual but now is the time we look for nominations for committee members and proposals to be considered at the meeting. The relevant forms to be completed are shown later in this newsletter but please contact me if you wish to suggest someone or something.

New members, and older ones too, are invited to attend & observe any of the committee meetings we hold. Remember the committee is there to represent members’ interests and develop the activities so if you have any concerns or a view on what you’d like to see at Bolton u3a, do come along or get in touch.

Til next time,

Learn, laugh, live!

Jeanne Kelly

chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk

Notice of Bolton U3A Annual General Meeting 28th November 2025

At St Andrew and St George URC, St Georges Road, Bolton, BL1 2BX.

All members are encouraged to attend the AGM. There is no attendance fee.

The AGM will discuss and vote on issues affecting our members. To that end, included at the end of this September newsletter is a Motions Proposal form and a Committee Nomination form.

Carol Dean, Secretary

Six Reasons to Play Bridge

Stimulating
Solve unique puzzles every few minutes with your partner

Sociable
A relaxing way to share experiences and make new friends

Mindsport
Challenge your memory and develop strategies to better your competitors

Fun
Exciting, friendly and always with a chance to win!

Open to all
Whether shy or extrovert, bridge is like group Sudoku and our clubs are open to all!

Inexpensive
All this for the price of a coffee!

u3a members can learn online how to play bridge.
Find out more at :
<https://www.bridgewebs.com/u3abridgegroup/>

Bolton u3a has a very sociable Bridge group that meets weekly on Wednesdays at 1315 at St Andrew & St Georges URC - see group details later in newsletter for more information. Some of us are very competitive but all of us have great fun and many laughs.

If you've never tried Bridge but would like to, there is an excellent online Beginners Bridge Course with the national u3a Bridge Group. The course is presented by experienced teachers, using [NoFearBridge](#) teaching resources and the [RealBridge](#) platform for supervised practice sessions. And members of our Bolton u3a group can provide assistance as needed.

For further details please visit: <http://www.bridgewebs.com/u3abridgegroup> or speak to group leader Tony Settle: tony.settle@hotmail.com

And here's another great resource, totally free, for learning bridge online, designed for people new to the game: It's a series of YouTube videos created by expert bridge player and teacher John Stell. Start off by clicking [HERE](#) , which will explain how to access the 52 videos.

Newsletter items

Please send contributions to news@boltonu3a.org.uk or

Deadline for inclusion in the next newsletter is **Tuesday 14th October.**

INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES IN *OCTOBER* 2025

ARTS AND CRAFT **Tuesday**

SERENA JOHNSON: serenajohnson@sky.com

The next meeting is Tuesday 14th October at 1030 at the Hive Community Workshop room on the upper ground floor of the Market Place shopping centre.

As the group really enjoyed their introduction to Gelli printing we are going to explore further ways to explore this medium.

If you would like to join the group, please contact Serena.

BRIDGE GROUP **Wednesday**

TONY SETTLE: u3abolton@gmail.com

The group meets every Wednesday from 1315–1530 at St Andrew & St George Church. New players welcome - some interest in cards is useful, we will help with the rest.

CHAIR-BASED EXERCISE **Monday**

JEANNE KELLY: chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk

This is a class to build up your strength and balance, not much is done sitting on a chair. Meetings will be held on Mondays 6th, 13th and 20th October at 1600 for 1 hour at Harwood Methodist Church (old building), Longsight Lane, Harwood, Bolton BL2 3JP. New members welcome. Free parking in the church car park. Great music and a good chat. See the video on www.boltonu3a.org.uk/Groups-in-Action.

CINEMA GROUP **Thursday**

CHRIS&DUNCAN MACPHERSON duncan@dcamacpherson.me.uk

The next cinema group meeting will be on Thursday 23rd October at the Light Cinema in Bolton. Details of the film chosen and time to meet will be emailed to members the weekend before. New members wishing to join us please contact Duncan to be included in the email list.

COFFEE AND CHAT **Tuesday Thursday Friday**

DUNCAN MACPHERSON: duncan@dcamacpherson.me.uk

These drop-in events are held in **5 different venues** across Bolton and are an excellent way to meet and chat with other members in a friendly and informal setting. New members are always welcome.

Olympus restaurant in Bolton centre on Tuesdays 7th and 21st October from 1030.

Egerton at the Globe Café on Tuesday 14th October from 1030. Some members stay for an optional early lunch/brunch.

Heaton at The Coffee Shop, New Hall Lane on Tuesday 14th October from 1030.

Harwood at the cafe at Harwood Methodist Church on Thursday 2nd October from 1030 - come and join us, you will be made very welcome. Lunches can also be bought - there is a big car park behind the church.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS **Tuesday** **Friday**

EAMONN KELLY: u3abolton@gmail.com

Group One will meet on Fridays 3rd and 17th October at 1400 at Olympus restaurant in Bolton town centre at 1400. This group has learnt all the basics of how to solve cryptic crosswords and completes two moderately difficult crosswords in each session.

Group Two will meet on Tuesday 7th October at 1400 at Waterstones café, Bolton. This group has learnt the basics of how to solve cryptic crosswords, is now learning about more challenging clues, and also completes two crosswords in each session.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY **Friday**

JANET THATCHER: u3abolton@gmail.com

The group will meet on Friday 3rd October at 1030; field trip venue still to be decided - Janet will email details to members nearer the time.

On Friday 17th October we will meet at 1030 in Waterstones coffee shop to compare photos.

DINING GROUP **Thursday**

CHRIS DRUCK: u3abolton@gmail.com

The Dining Group is meeting on Thursday 9th October at the King William pub near Edgworth (BL7 9AN). There is a large car park. Please let Chris know by Friday 3rd October if you plan to attend.

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP **Tuesday**

EAMONN & JEANNE KELLY: chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk

This group will meet on Tuesday 14th October at 1400 in the Local History section, Bolton Central Library. We use the Council's free edition of Ancestry, pairing an experienced Ancestry user with a novice to help the novice uncover their own family history. New members welcome.

HISTORY GROUP Thursday

TONY SETTLE: u3abolton@gmail.com

Thursday 16th October from 1030-1230 at The Central Library, opposite the aquarium in the basement. Topic - Social Unrest 1780-1830, Part 1.

How close did England come to its own French Revolution in the early 19th century? Including a look at The Luddites, Spa Fields riots and the Blanketeers. All this in the lead up to the Peterloo Massacre 1819. Always room for all members.

LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION Friday

WIN CONWAY: u3abolton@gmail.com

The next meeting is on Friday 24th October at 1030 at the Hub. We will be thinking about the many and multifarious uses of language, with particular reference to the language of social control. It sounds hi falutin', but it's fun. New members welcome.

LOOKING AT LIFE IN OTHER COUNTRIES Monday

BRIAN JONES: emersonbjo1@outlook.com

The next meeting is Monday 6th October at 1400 at the Hub when there will be a presentation on Sicily from Steve Brown.

MATHS GROUP Friday

PAT TODD: u3abolton@gmail.com

We meet on Friday 17th October at 1330 at the Hub. I do hope you can come to re-learn some calculus (as requested by a group member.) It uses algebra of course, but I shall help with the methods needed.

This is a lively, lovely group of people who enjoy the challenge of maths and want to learn more of this fascinating subject. We always start each topic with the basics and aim for GCSE level, so come and give us a try. Liven up those brain cells!

MUSIC APPRECIATION Monday

WIN CONWAY: u3abolton@gmail.com

The next meeting is on Monday 13th October at 1030 at The Hub when we will begin a new course of lectures on the Life and Music of Franz Schubert. Everyone welcome.

POETRY FOR PLEASURE Thursday

EILEEN LORD: u3abolton@gmail.com

We next meet on Thursday 16th October from 1330 - 1515 at the Hub, when our topic is 'The Kingdom of Animals'.

In line with group wishes, we're mentioning in advance the topic for Thursday 20th November, which is 'War and Peace'. This gives us more time to enjoy choosing what we read aloud. If you have not attended our group before and would like to come, please ring Eileen for further information.

PSYCHOLOGY Tuesday

STEVE BROWN: steve492011@492011.hotmail.co.uk

Tuesday 7th October at 1400 at The Hub; discussing simple explanations of Psychological Effects. As always in this group we are looking to understand where psychology can have a practical impact on our daily lives. Please come and join us. This month we also start a new series of lectures - Serendipity. The title is to differentiate these talks from the monthly meeting programme of speakers. See below for further details.

QUIZ GROUP Friday

MIKE HAWORTH: mrh170744@gmail.com

The next meeting will be on Friday 10th October at 1330 at the Hub when the Question Masters will be Patsy and Paul. New members welcome.

READING GROUP Thursday

ANNIE JONES: j.annie@virginmedia.com

The group will meet on Thursday 16th October when we will discuss The Voyage Home by Pat Barker. The meetings start at 1030 on Zoom and normally last about an hour. Our other books for the year are listed below. New members welcome, if you would like to join us, please contact Annie.

Date	Author	Title
20/11/2025	Kate Atkinson	Death At The Sign of The Rook
18/12/2025	Jessie Burton	The House of Fortune

RUMMIKUB, SCRABBLE & MAH JONG **Monday**

TONY SETTLE: u3abolton@gmail.com

CHRIS DRUCK: u3abolton@gmail.com

NELLIE PLATT: u3abolton@gmail.com

The next meeting will be on Monday 20th October from 1030-1200 at the Hub.
New players welcome to join a lively session. No previous knowledge required.

SERENDIPITY SESSIONS **Wednesday**

STEVE BROWN: steve492011@492011.hotmail.co.uk

The first session will be on Wednesday 1st October at 1400 at the Hub.

The term Serendipity is meant to convey the occurrence of finding something of unexpected interest and of value. Each session will be a stand alone topic delivered by a Bolton speaker or about a topic relating to past or topical interest about life in Bolton. Our first session will be delivered by Steve Irwin from Halliwell Heritage, who will tell us about the Lancashire Cotton Famine, caused by the effects of the American Civil War on the Lancashire Textile Industry.

To inform seating layout and refreshment plans, would you please let Steve know if you plan to attend.

SINGING FOR PLEASURE **Friday**

PAUL DYSON: u3abolton@gmail.com

Rehearsals in October will be on **Fridays 3rd (first Friday) and 31st (fifth Friday)** at 1030 in the Seminar Room at Claremont Church, St George's Road. We welcome new members in all voices (Alto, Bass, Soprano, Tenor) who want to enjoy singing with others - there are no auditions. Our repertoire is varied, leaning towards light traditional and folk. Claremont Church is a central venue on bus routes 125, 501 and 575 about a 5-minute ride from the Interchange. There is ample car parking at NCP Topp Way, a short walk from the church.

TABLE TENNIS **Friday**

CHRISTINE HART: hart863@btinternet.com

The next meetings are on Fridays 10th and 24th October from 1030-1230 at Triangle Annex, New Church Road, Bolton, BL1 5QP. For Sat Nav use: BL1 5SH. Free car parking at Doffcocker Lodge behind the annexe. There are nearby bus stops on the 501 and 125 routes, if travelling by bus. You can come at any time during the meeting times.

As we are now at the beginning of Autumn, it is time to start thinking about what you would like to do to keep up your activity levels during the coming colder months. So how about giving Table Tennis a try? It's indoors, good for mobility, social and fun -the list goes on! Ask the Members who have already joined us. New members welcome. Please contact Christine Hart if you are interested in joining this group.

TEXTILE ARTS **Thursday**

PAULINE TREUHERZ: u3abolton@gmail.com

The next meeting is Thursday 2nd October at 1030 at Bank Top URC, BL1 8RX. This is a very creative and friendly group where we explore various textile skills and decorative techniques with the aim of making a product using those skills. Most equipment and many materials are provided - so do come and join us. You are most welcome to bring any textile project that you would like to work on, or join in with a group activity.

TOPICAL SCIENCE **Monday**

ROSEMARY ASHWORTH: u3abolton@gmail.com

The next meeting will be on Monday 20th October at 1400 at the Hub.

Topic: Precious Fresh Water Supplies - in the UK and the World - the Future?

Science in the news this Month - members are welcome to bring in any items of interest that they have found.

No specialist knowledge needed - just an enthusiastic enquiring mind!

All are very welcome - just come along.

WALKING GROUP **Wednesday**

DAVID HATHORNTHWAITE: daveh39@hotmail.co.uk

LIZZIE BOMBER:

The group will meet on Wednesday 29th October at 1030 at the Jolly Crofters, Horwich.

The walk will cover Wallsuches and Wilderswood and is about 5 miles long.

Bolton U3A Monthly Meetings **Friday**

The next meeting is on Friday **26th September** at 1400 at St Andrew & St George United Reform Church, St George's Road, Bolton, BL1 2BS. Doors open at 1330 and the cost for u3a members is £2. Visitors for an entry fee of £3 are welcome to attend two talks and need to sign in and pay at the door.

Carol Dean, Speaker secretary.

Committee Members		
Chair	Jeanne Kelly	chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk
Vice Chair	Steve Brown	vicechair@boltonu3a.org.uk
Business Secretary	Carol Dean	secretary@boltonu3a.org.uk.
Treasurer	Mark Pillar	treasurer@boltonu3a.org.uk
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Website Manager	Maggy Simms	venuescoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk
Venues Coordinator	Maggy Simms	venuescoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk

Help us to stay informed

If you know of a member who has been ill, or is recently deceased, please inform the relevant group leader so that the information can be circulated appropriately. Please leave a phone number if you want a group leader to respond to a phone message.

Groups and activities

We are always happy to support new groups and activities.

E-mail: groupscoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk

Visit our website: www.boltonu3a.org.uk

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Bolton u3a Annual General Meeting

MOTIONS FORM

Our AGM 2025 will be held on **Friday 28th November 2025 at St Andrew and St George United Reform Church at 2pm**. This is a member-only event and there is no attendance fee. The Agenda will be published in the November newsletter.

In addition to the formal business of receiving Officers' Reports and electing Officers and Committee members, this is an opportunity for members to suggest motions for discussion and voting if appropriate. If you have any questions for the Committee or views you would like discussed, please use the form below.

Motions must be submitted to the Business Secretary (secretary@boltonu3a.org.uk) via any Committee Member, or posted to The Secretary, 14 New Tongfield, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9XU no later than **Friday 21st November 2025**. All proposed motions must be seconded, and a signature of the seconder is required.

PROPOSED MOTION FOR AGM (continue overleaf if necessary)

Proposed by.....(Please Print)

Signature of proposer.....

Seconded by.....(Please Print)

Signature of Seconder.....

Bolton u3a Annual General Meeting

NOMINATION FORM

Our AGM 2025 will be held on **Friday 28th November 2025 at St Andrew and St George United Reform Church at 2pm**. This is a member-only event and there is no attendance fee. The Agenda will be published in the November newsletter.

In addition to the formal business of receiving Officers' Reports and electing Officers and Committee members, this is an opportunity for members to make nominations to the Committee.

Nominations must be signed by the nominee, and by a seconder, using form below. Once completed, nomination forms can be handed to any Committee member at any time before the AGM or posted to The Secretary, 14 New Tongfield, Bromley Cross, Bolton. BL7 9XU.

Nominee's Signature:

PRINT NAME:

Proposer's Signature:

PRINT NAME:

Secunder's Signature:

PRINT NAME:

Date