



Bolton u3a Newsletter

Chat from the Chair

Hello friends!

This is our last newsletter before we have our summer break, so remember to check the group activity listings carefully in this issue. We will still have our monthly speaker meetings in July and August so we can meet up with friends and discuss holidays, or child-minding, then.

Could you be a Bolton u3a STAR? Helping out with short term activities as they arise. Read on to find out more.

Finally, I hope you will join me for our monthly meeting on Friday 27th June when members of our Singing for Pleasure group led by Win Conway will perform a medley for us...and it's always good to meet up and chat.

'Til next time,

Learn, laugh, live!

Jeanne Kelly

chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk

Will you please be a Bolton u3a STAR?

We are in need of some STARs. That is some **Short-Term Additional Resources**.

With a reduced number of current committee members and one member unfortunately on sickness leave, we are calling on members to help out with promotional activities for the short term. So please get in touch if **you can help by putting up leaflets in your area, sharing business card size info with your friends, posting on Facebook and/or Instagram and can help with web site management.**

And if you have time or ideas to help in other ways, please get in touch too.

Email chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk. Remember this is YOUR organisation, run by volunteers, for volunteers.

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES IN JULY and AUGUST 2025

ARTS AND CRAFT: SERENA JOHNSON

No meetings in July and August.

BRIDGE GROUP: TONY SETTLE

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.

**CANAL WALKS: PAULINE TREUHERZ
ALISON DYSON**

No meeting in July. It may be possible to arrange a walk in August - details will be circulated nearer the time.

CHAIR-BASED EXERCISE: 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 **July 7th and 14th** 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. Details of **August** meetings will be emailed to members.

CINEMA GROUP: CHRIS & DUNCAN MACPHERSON

The next cinema group meetings will be on Thursdays **24th July** and **28th August** 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.

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION (GREECE AND ROME): PAUL DYSON

In July and August the group will take its usual summer break. The next meeting will be on Thursday 11th September, 1030 at The Hub.

CLUELESS AT CLAREMONT: STEVE BROWN

The next meetings will be on Wednesdays **30th July** and **27th August** at 1400 at Claremont Church, St George's Road. This is the second branch quiz group, open to all members, including existing members of Mike's group. Another chance to engage in fiendish questions with a bit of fun. New members welcome. Those planning to attend are asked to let Steve know in order to inform refreshment needs.

COFFEE AND CHAT: DUNCAN MACPHERSON

These meetings 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.

Olympus restaurant on Tuesdays 1st and 15th **July**, and 5th and 19th **August**.

Egerton at the Globe Café on Tuesday **8th July** from 1030.

Heaton at The Coffee Shop, New Hall Lane, Heaton on Tuesdays **8th July** and **12th August** from 1030.

Harwood at the cafe at Harwood Methodist Church on Thursday **3rd July** from 1030.

No meeting in August. Everyone welcome, there is a big car park behind the church.

Westhoughton at The Hub on Central Drive on Fridays **11th July** and **8th August** at 1030.

CROWN GREEN BOWLING GROUP: MICHAEL HAWORTH

The group meets every Monday afternoon at 1400 at Bradshaw Bowling Club Green throughout the Season.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS: EAMONN KELLY

Group One will meet on Fridays **4th and 18th July** and **1st and 15th August** at 1400 at Olympus restaurant in Bolton town centre.

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 Tuesdays **1st and 15th July** and **5th and 19th August** at 1400 at Waterstones café, 32-36 Deansgate, 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: JANET THATCHER

We will meet on Friday 4th July at 1030 outside Waterstones in Bolton to work on the theme of 'Bolton Then and Now', and on Friday 18th July we will meet in Waterstones cafe to compare our photos.

August activities will be decided at the July meetings - for information about these meetings contact Janet Thatcher.

DINING GROUP: CHRIS DRUCK

The Dining Group is meeting on Thursday 10th **July** at 1300 at The Wilton Arms on Belmont Rd (BL1 7BT). The pub has a large car park. Please let Chris know by Friday 4th July if you plan to attend.

In **August** we are meeting on Thursday 14th August at 1300 at Luciana's Italian Restaurant (the Millstone) just outside Horwich. It's on the 125 bus route and there is plenty of parking. Please contact Chris Druck by Friday 8th August if you plan to attend.

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP: EAMONN & JEANNE KELLY

The group will meet on Tuesdays **8th July** and **12th August** at 1400 in the Local History section in 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: TONY SETTLE

No meetings in July and August.

LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION: WIN CONWAY

No meetings in July or August.

LOOKING AT LIFE IN OTHER COUNTRIES (INTERNATIONAL STUDIES):

BRIAN JONES No meetings in July and August.

MAH JONG: CHRIS DRUCK

The next meetings will be on Mondays **21st July** and **18th August** from 1030-1200 at the Hub. New players always welcome, no previous knowledge of games required. Please contact Chris (chris.druck@gmail.com) for more information.

MATHS GROUP: PAT TODD

Our next meetings are: Friday **18th July** at 1330 at the Hub when we shall mainly be working with sequences and series - an unusual topic requested by a group member, so it may be new to you.

Friday **15th August** at 1330 at the Hub when the topic will be trigonometry.

I look forward to seeing you there. New members welcome.

MUSIC APPRECIATION: WIN CONWAY

No meetings in July and August.

PHILOSOPHY: CAROLE COLLINS

There will be no meetings in July and August.

POETRY FOR PLEASURE: EILEEN LORD

The next meetings of the poetry group will be on Thursdays 17th July and 21st August from 1330-1515 at the Hub. The topics for the meetings are:

July : Old Favourites and New Poetic Discoveries

August: Wit and Humour

Please bring poems on these topics to the meetings.

PSYCHOLOGY: STEVE BROWN

Tuesday **1st July** at 1400 at The Hub. The topic will be 'What determines personality?'.
Tuesday **5 August** at 1400 at The Hub when the topic will be 'Phobias and Treatment'.

QUIZ GROUP: MIKE HAWORTH

The next meetings will be on:

Friday **11th July** at 1330 at the Hub when the Question Masters will be Lorraine and Norman Lowe;

Friday **8th August** at 1330 at the Hub with Mike as Question master.

This group is now able to accept new members should anyone like to try this activity.

READING GROUP: ANNIE JONES

The group will meet on:

Thursday 17th **July** to discuss The Water Dancer by Ta-Nehisi Coates,
and Thursday 21st **August** when we will discuss Rory Stewart's The Places In Between. 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
18/09/2025	Sandra Newman	Julia: 1984
16/10/2025	Pat Barker	The Voyage Home
20/11/2025	Kate Atkinson	Death At The Sign of The Rook
18/12/2026	Jessie Burton	The House of Fortune

RUMMIKUB: NELLIE PLATT

SCRABBLE: TONY SETTLE

The next meetings will be on Mondays 21st July and 18th August from 1030-1200 at the Hub. New players always welcome, no previous knowledge of games required.

SINGING FOR PLEASURE: PAUL DYSON

After our concert at the Monthly Meeting on Friday 27th June the group will take a summer break until our next meeting on Friday 5th September at 1030.

We invite new members in all voices (Alto, Bass, Soprano, Tenor) who want to enjoy singing with others. Claremont Church is an excellent 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: CHRISTINE HART

This activity has been going since late last year and is not only good for the body and mind but also very sociable, chatting and having fun along the way. The next meetings are Fridays **11th and 25th July** and **8th and 22nd August** 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. Come at any time during the meeting times. New members welcome. Please contact Christine if you are interested in joining the group.

TEXTILE ARTS: PAULINE TREUHERZ

The next meeting is on Thursday 3rd July at 1030 at Bank Top URC, Ashworth Lane, Bolton, BL1 8RX. We will be working on a range of embroidery stitches and applique with the aim of making a decorative product using those skills.

Bring your own project or join in with the group activity.

No meeting in August.

TOPICAL SCIENCE: ROSEMARY ASHWORTH

There are no meetings in July and August.

Why not take part in the citizen science project - The Big Butterfly Count.

This involves counting butterflies for 15 minutes on a sunny day between July 18th. and August 10th. and submitting the results.

For details see :- <https://butterfly-conservation.org/events/the-big-butterfly-count-2025>

TRIPS AND OUTINGS: JULIE BEAMAN

There are no trips planned at the moment.

WALKING GROUP:

Good News!

The U3a Walking Group is up and running (or should that be walking) again. After an initial meetup at the Olympus on the 20th May about 14 hardy souls threw their hats in the ring expressing interest. The consensus was that we meet once a month on the last Wednesday of the month at 1030 and go for a short stroll (about 5 miles maximum).

After discussions with Lizzie Bomber, who had led a walk earlier in the year, it was decided to pool our efforts and we now have a list of 20 or so possible participants. The first walk is scheduled to take place around the Smithills Hall Estate on the **25th June**, meeting at 1030 at the Hall.

The next two are pencilled in for the **30th July** from Moses Gate Country Park, and **27th August** around Ainsworth.

Anyone else who is interested should contact Dave Haythornthwaite or Lizzie Bomber.

Bolton U3A Monthly Meetings

The next meeting is on Friday **27th June** at 1400 at St Andrew & St George United Reform Church, St George's Road, Bolton, BL1 2BS. Doors open at 1330pm 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.

This month, the Bolton u3a 'Singing for Pleasure' group will entertain us with a musical programme entitled 'The Story of a Life in Song'.

Beginning with the 'mewling and puking' infant described by Shakespeare in 'As You Like It', we illustrate in song the various stages through which humans travel in the process of living, until they arewell, let's say, as old as we are!

Songs are drawn from Folk, Traditional, Old Tyme Favourites, and the Modern Musical. It really is a fun programme and one that should be enjoyed by all. Please come and join us.

Win Conway, Musical Director.

SPEAKERS for 2025

25 th July 2025	My Career with Lancashire Constabulary	Mahmood (Mebs) Ahmed
22 August 2025	Barrow to Baghdad	Philip Caine
26 th September 2025	Blame it on the Beatles	John Winter
24 th October 2025	The Magic of the Musicals!	Marilyn Shalks

Committee Members		
Chair	Jeanne Kelly	chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk
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Newsletter items

Please send contributions to news@boltonu3a.org.uk

Deadline for inclusion in the next newsletter is **Wednesday 20th August**.

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