



THE BULLETIN BOARD!

The Important Notices from Dronfield and District u3a

February 2026

EDITORIAL

What a great start to 2026, we now have over 400 members, 45 groups, 7 Day Trips and speakers booked into 2027 for our Monthly Meetings. Thank you so much to everyone who is helping these things happen. We are particularly encouraged to see new faces getting involved and others stepping up to take on extra responsibilities. We wouldn't be where we are today without such willing souls. Thank you.

Julia Harris (chair)

GROUP BIDS FOR EQUIPMENT

Please note the bidding process for equipment is now closed.

Ed Green (Treasurer)

Appreciation for Our Volunteer First Aiders

We extend our sincere thanks to those four members who kindly offered their names as volunteer first aiders following the announcement at our recent General Meeting. Your willingness to support the safety and wellbeing of our u3a community is greatly appreciated.

Training will be arranged in due course, providing volunteers with the opportunity to develop a valuable new skill while helping us strengthen the level of care and reassurance available at our meetings.

We are genuinely grateful for your commitment and your readiness to contribute to the smooth and safe running of our activities.

Andy Baldwin, (executive committee)

INVITATION TO AMBASSADORS

It is people like you that enable our u3a to grow. The majority of our members joined because they spoke to a u3a member at some point and were told what a great organisation we are for making friends, keeping active, having fun and learning new skills.

Many of these early contacts were made by our team of ambassadors who have manned publicity stalls at around half a dozen local public events for several years since we were formed over 10 years ago.

They are proactive individuals who have spent an hour or two at one or more event, sharing information and interests with non-members. Their efforts have helped our membership to increase, maintain affordable subscriptions and kept the association alive.

For 2026 we would like to increase our ambassador pool to spread the workload more evenly. Often u3a membership is about giving time to others to the benefit of all. To quote Charles Dickens "The *day wasted on others is not wasted on one's self*".

If you'd like to achieve the immense spiritual fulfilment of being a u3a ambassador to help our organisation grow please contact -

Phine Wright <phine.wright@dronfieldu3a.org.uk> or Terry Goodyear <groups-manager@dronfieldu3a.org.uk>

COFFEE MORNINGS

The Coffee Mornings are a chance for New and Prospective Members to meet and learn more about the u3a and to socialise. Any relatively new or prospective members are welcome to pop in to the The Manor House on Dronfield's High Street, on Wednesday 4th February 10-11.00, to meet other new members, and members of the committee and find out more about us.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Don't forget that details of all the monthly meetings are available on our website.
To reach it click on the link below or type it into a search engine.

<https://dronfield.u3asite.uk/events/>

CITIZENS ADVICE

Citizens Advice will be available from 11am - 12noon in the Council Chamber to advise members on a variety of matters including understanding smart meters, changing energy providers, winter fuel payments, warm home discounts, cold weather payments and any consumer or other legal problems.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The meeting on February 11th will be in the Civic Hall and the speaker will be

**Jim Williams on
"Great Forgers."**

The meeting on March 11th will be in the Civic Hall and the speaker will be

**Mike Newbold on
"My 'Xtra' Life."**

Afterwards there will be time for a coffee, biscuit and a chat. All members and visitors are welcome.

TRIPS AND VISITS.

"Our first Trips & Visits of 2026 will be to Halifax on Tuesday 14 April

[.https://dronfield.u3asite.uk/u3a_events/halifax/](https://dronfield.u3asite.uk/u3a_events/halifax/)

Seats will be on sale for £16 at our next monthly meeting on Wednesday 11 February. We have kept costs to a minimum enabling you to decide if you want to visit places of interest once we arrive in Halifax

The Piece Hall is a magnificent Grade 1 listed Georgian cloth hall dating from 1779 now home to independent shops, cafes and live events. Entry is free but if you want a guided tour at £8.50 a reservation will be necessary (tel: 01422-525200)

Shibden Hall, a distinctive half-timbered historic house dating back to 1420 is another popular destination. Once the home of 19th C. diarist Anne Lister (TV series Gentleman Jack). Entry to the park and grounds are free with admission to the house at £7.50, reservation necessary (tel: 01422-352246). This is approximately a 10 minute bus ride from the town centre bus station on Horton Street served by a frequent bus service.

Halifax Minster A beautiful historic church dating back almost 900 years found around the corner from the Piece Hall.

Halifax Town Hall An ornate Grade 11 listed Victorian Landmark designed by Sir Charles Barry.

Lynn Wood (Trips Co-ordinator)

GROUP MEETINGS IN FEBRUARY

WEEKENDERS - The Weekenders are meeting on Sunday 1st and Sunday 15th at Wards garden centre.

GEOGRAPHY - The next meeting is on Tuesday 3rd. The subject is the U.S.A.

HISTORY - On Wednesday 25th A talk by Rod Amos. 'If looks could kill,' the Victorian use of arsenic.

Pickle Ball - The Thursday Group will re-start on the 12th at the Dronfield Sports centre.

TEN PIN BOWLING - Due to the school holidays the Lane Rangers only meeting will be on Monday 2nd.

GAMES CAFÉ - The café will be open every Friday this month for various games and table tennis.