
Wishing you all a Happy & Prosperous New Year

Chairman's chatter

May I take this opportunity to wish all members a Happy New Year. May 2012 be a healthy and prosperous year for us all. I hope you have all enjoyed the festive celebrations.

Our Christmas meeting in December seemed very successful. Many of you expressed enjoyment at the fun filled event and the tasty and hearty lunch. It was lovely to see you meeting up with friends and having time to chat. Our meetings normally are so full that there isn't time for socializing. My thanks go to all committee members and friends who helped out to make the event so successful.

I wish to remind you about the AGM at the February meeting. Our arrangements are different this year. The meeting will start with the speaker at 10.15am and this will be followed by the AGM at 11.15am. We are looking for people to join us on the committee. New blood is always welcome. If you are interested and want to know more about the role of a committee member please speak to any of the committee. Why not get yourself nominated and seconded. Nomination Form attached to the November Newsletter. Our Secretary, Anne Eade, resigned in November, for family reasons, and Nora Glennon has stepped in as Acting Secretary. Nora has been nominated as Secretary and this will be voted on at the AGM, along with any other nominations.

Shirley Hammond

Annual General Meeting - 21st February 2012

Any Questions to be discussed in "Matters Arising" at the AGM must be submitted to the Secretary, in writing, at least two weeks before the date of the AGM, to allow time for any necessary research for information.

The meeting will begin at 10.15am there will be a speaker, and the AGM will follow at 11.15am, see back page for details and Agenda.

REMINDER - MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2012

Those members who have not yet renewed may do so at the monthly meeting on the 17th January or alternatively send the completed application form, cheque and a stamped addressed envelope for return of membership card to : Carol Rice, 5 Highfield Road, Marple , SK6 7NG

Please note, we shall only post out the newsletter to members if they attach 6 stamped addressed envelopes, sized 230mm x 160mm (A5 size).

Application forms available at the January meeting, also attached to the November Newsletter

*** Membership Cards should be shown at all meetings and when booking events and must be shown at the February AGM**

MERSEY FERRIES AND LIVERPOOL

MONDAY 16th APRIL, 2012

At the end of last year, the Queen officially opened the latest Museum to be built in this Country. It is the Liverpool Museum, a magnificent building set on the newly constructed beautiful Waterfront. It is all about Liverpool and demonstrates the city's unique contribution to the world and showcases its popular culture while tackling social, historical and contemporary issues. It was opened exactly 100 years after the Royal Liver Building.



The galleries and floors are wonderful - and there is plenty of seating from where you can look both ways up and down the river.

The whole of the newly built Waterfront is most impressive and there are lots of benches overlooking the Mersey - so plenty of places to sit comfortably and picnic if you wish. It is also only a stone's throw from 'Liverpool 1' and the Maritime Museum.

Anxious as we were to see this new Museum, we decided not to approach it directly by road but from the water and, not having been on a "ferry 'cross the Mersey", we drive to Seacombe, on the Wirral, and cross to Pier Head on 'The River Explorer'. On the return journey we enjoy the views looking towards the Wirral side of the Mersey. The total round journey on the water lasts 50 minutes and has a commentary indicating the points of interest.

The new Liverpool cruise liner docking point is now open too. If we are lucky we may be able to see a liner there.

The return ferry from Pier Head leaves at 3.00pm - do make sure that you catch this as our coach will be waiting for us on the other side of the river!!

We shall have a tea stop somewhere on the Wirral on the way home.

We shall leave:	Rose Hill 8.15am	Regent 8.20am	Marple Bridge 8.25am
	Northumberland 8.30am		Romiley Arms 8.35am

The cost of £ 16.00 includes coach, driver's gratuity and 'The River Explorer' fare.

BOOKING AT FEBRUARY MEETING

Organisers: Ann & Tony Matthews

Thanks to all on the Chatsworth and Ferraris coaches for your ideas for new outings and those outings you would like repeated.

Our thanks to 2 people who have already volunteered to take an outing in 2012.

Also thanks to the people who would like to join an outings working party (16 to date) The first meeting of the working party has now been arranged for Thursday, 26th January, 2pm at Marple Library.

Please let us know if you will be able to join us at that meeting.

Happy New Year.

ANN & TONY MATTHEWS

DINING CLUB

Shirley Hammond and Pat Walker have arranged an evening meal at Reflections Restaurant at Tameside Catering College in Ashton under Lyne, on February 22nd 2012, 6.30 for 7.00. This will be a 3 course meal for £9.95. 100% of any gratuities will benefit the Students European Scholarship, offsetting the cost of their European activities. Booking will commence at the November general meeting.

Ann Prophet

National U3A Events 2012

"U3A Explores Science at the Ri" - Tuesday 27th March

"Summer School 1" - 16th to 19th July Harper Adams University College Newport, Nr Telford

"Summer School 2" - 20th to 23rd August Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester

For further information about these events see the Notice Board at the monthly meetings or contact Nora Glennon, or see NW U3A Newsletter No.16 on our Website.

U3A Open Gardening Group Meetings

2nd Wednesday of each month
9-30 am for coffee and chat 10am - 11.30am meeting

Dates for 2012

January 11th A Garden Through the Seasons -
An illustrated talk by Walter Mason

February 8th A visit to Rode Hall at Snowdrop Time

March 14th Spring Lawn Care & Maintenance -
An illustrated talk by Martin Webb

April 11th Propagation Techniques - A presentation by Anthony Norman,
from Conquest Plants Nursery, Bosley near Macclesfield. - Plants for sale.



Snowdrops at Rode Hall

WALKING GROUP - February / March Walks

Weds 1 Feb 4/5 m. Easy
Glossop
Irene Riley

Tues. 7 Feb 5 m. Mod
Rowarth
Hazel Marshall

Weds 15 Feb 5 m. Easy+
Hayfield
Wendy Greenwood

Weds 22 Feb. 5/6 m. Mod
Bollington
Margaret Hogg

Tues 28 Feb 5 m Easy+
Haughton Dale
Carole McConnell

Weds 7 March 5 m Mod
Chinley Churn
Sheila Stafford

Tues 13 March 5 m Easy
Fairly Local
Doreen Scotte
Shirley Molloy

Weds 21 March 4/5 m Easy
Woodley
Agnes Barlow

Tues 27 March 6/7 m Mod+
Sponds Hill
Judy Rhodes

Please keep this list in a visible place !

Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A - Speakers for 2012

17th January	Liz McConnell	'The Lighter Side of Pharmacy'
21st February	Elaine Bates	'My Weekend Home - Lyme Park'
20th March	Robert McGregor	'The Magic of Toys'
17th April	Anna & David Drackley	'Africa'
15th May	Kevin Fitzpatrick	'Life as a BBC Reporter'
19th June	Father Michael Burgess	'For Better for Worse'
17th July	Alan Hayhurst	'Banking in a Gentler Age'
21st August	Social Meeting	
18th September	Pollyanna Pickering	'The Red Wolves of Ethiopia'
16th October	Ken McLoughlin	'Birds of Prey in Scotland'
20th November	Susan Powell	'North West Air Ambulance - Care from the Air'

Just to say a big thank you to everyone who helped me by recommending speakers for 2012. It is very much appreciated and I would welcome further suggestions for the 2013 programme please.

*Thank you
Chris Brooke*

North West Region U3A Science Day

Tuesday 6th March 2012

All members of North West U3As are invited to attend the **NW U3A Science Day** on Tuesday 6th March at West Lancs Investment Centre, Maple View, White Moss Business Park, Skelmersdale WN8 9TG

This is an all day event, with the theme "**Science in the North West - past, present and future**" The North West of England has been a major contributor to science and technology: its major universities have produced Nobel Prize winning scientists, and its industry, from the early days of the industrial revolution to its current strengths in aerospace, nuclear and the chemical industries, has been a major developer of technology.

Four illustrious speakers from the region will explore this theme, highlighting past contributions, current developments and future possibilities.

More details at <https://u3ascienceday.wordpress.com/>.

This is a unique opportunity to gain an appreciation of our scientific heritage in the North West.

See Notice Board at the Monthly Meeting for further information, or get an application form from Nora Glennon.

The NW U3A Newsletter No 16 is available to be read on Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A Website

Crossword Compiled by Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Crossword Group

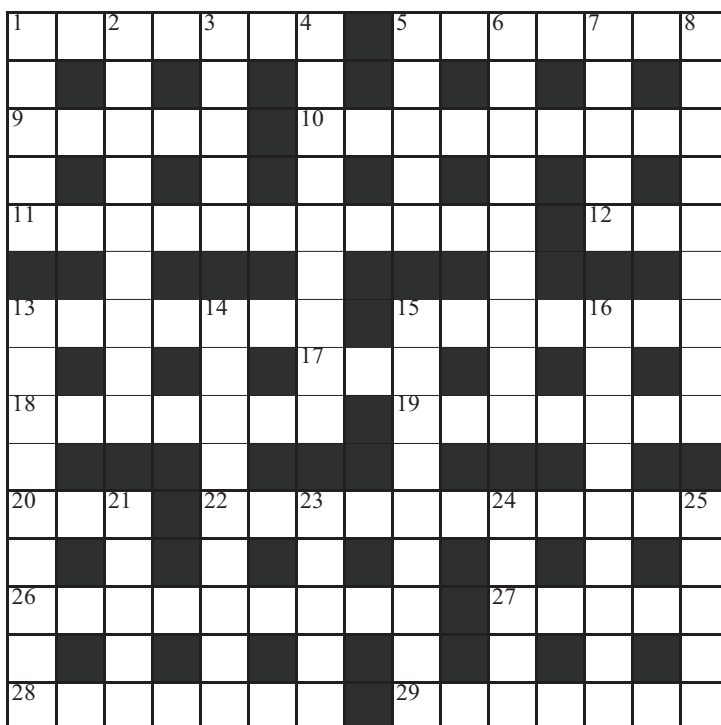
Geoff Heath

Clues across

- 1 Flapping ears - cor! That's not so elegant! (7)
 5 Enormous moth covers a very short distance (7)
 9 Opening move without gravity gives scope (5)
 10 Can one run around as master of ceremonies?(9)
 11 Miriam and 27 are confused, seeing things
 wrong way round (6,5)
 12 Regret hearing Australian marsupial (3)
 13 Pull in a non-drinker on cart, distressed (7)
 15 Eccentric male goes after vehicle - light brown
 colour (7)
 17 She's not even Indian (3)
 18 Do manic performance wandering about (7)
 19 Pry loose, with nothing removed from worrying
 skin disease (7)
 20 Encouraging word from many esteemed colleagues (3)
 22 Alpine choir, off key, provides morbid fascination
 with the dead (11)
 26 Run cassis cocktail for beautiful youth (9)
 27 Boy, rascal ogling girls eagerly responsive at first (5)
 28 Uses mole and spy contentiously (7)
 29 Gay sent off for Chinese flower (7)

Clues down

- 1 Spell "trinket" (5)
 2 Amber took tour around tree plantation (9)
 3 Begin an argument (3,2)
 4 Life-like Lear stumbles; I stick and king vanishes (9)
 5 Mother carrying girl gets heavenly food (5)
 6 Route-maps torn up in long-running play (9)
 7 Happen once - oddly, to a dog (5)



Clues down (cont)

- 8 Equus? No, just larking about! (9)
 13 A canny one made to show aggravation (9)14 Instruction for
 and worker at home with nothing (9)
 15 Shout "Lousy rubbish!" heartlessly (9)
 16 Work illegitimately in thin gloom? That's out of order! (9)
 21 Football kit - take it off! (5)
 23 Assigns part to lead singer in "Cats" (5)
 24 We gather on the pond, catching predatory bird (5)
 25 Somewhat eager to get on together (5)

Volunteering for the National Trust

Volunteering at a National Trust property can bring many rewards - learning new skills, utilising old ones, meeting like minded people and generally enjoying being a part of a beautiful and historic Estate.

Although we are currently at the end of the 2011 Season, we are now looking forward to the 2012 season and we are anticipating a busy year ahead. If possible, we would like to invite any of your members who may be interested in volunteering at Lyme Park along to our Volunteer Recruitment session on Saturday 14th January 1-3pm in the Boiler House in the Timber Yard at Lyme. The aim of the session is to give potential new volunteers the opportunity to have a chat with members of the team about the available roles.

Anyone who is interested in volunteering, but cannot attend the recruitment session on the 14th January, should contact me:

Jeanette Connolly, Administrative Assistant
 The Estate Office, The National Trust
 LymePark, Disley, Stockport, Cheshire, SK12 2NX

Tel: 01663 761403 Fax: 01663 765035

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MARPLE BRIDGE & MELLOR U3A

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 17th February 2012

10.15 am St Paul's Church Hall, Compstall

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Chairman's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Appointment of Independent Examiner of the Accounts
5. Election of Officers Secretary
6. Election of Committee Members
7. Members Annual Subscription
8. Any other business
9. Votes of thanks
10. Formal conclusion of the AGM by the Chairman

Crossword Solution
Across: 1 Coaster; 5 Mammoth; 9 Ambit; 10 Announcer;
11 Mirror image; 12 Rue; 13 Attract; 15 Caramel; 17 Ida;
18 Nomadic; 19 Leprosy; 20 Yes; 22 Necrophilia;
26 Narcissus; 27 Roger; 28 Employs; 29 Yangtze.
Down: 1 Charm; 2 Arboretum; 3 Set to; 4 Realistic; 5
Manna; 6 Mousetrap; 7 Occur; 8 Horseplay;
13 Annoyance; 14 Andantino; 15 Callously; 16 Moonlight;
21 Strip; 23 Casts; 24 Heron; 25 Agree.

This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be published March 2012

Please send items for publication by email or disc in Microsoft Word, but hand written will do, to

Malcolm Moss

Email: newslettereditor2010@mbmu3a.org.uk

Any stories, articles or photographs of interest to members are welcomed.

You can read all issues of the newsletter on our website www.mbmu3a.org.uk

***All contributions for the next edition of the Newsletter
should be received no later than 9th March 2012***