

Chairman's Chatter

As I'm going on holiday I'm writing this a few weeks before you will read it. It's actually the Queen's 90th birthday today and watching her enjoying her celebrations and being so highly complimented by the public is amazing. She has had a remarkable life, selflessly, serving our country for decades. It makes me proud to be British.

Attached to this Newsletter is a list of all our groups and their convenors. It is excellent to see such a variety of activities. So many of you give a lot of your time arranging events etc. so that others can benefit from your efforts. Thank you.

The idea of the U3A is not to search for "teachers", but to encourage people with an interest to find others with a similar interest who can spend time together to further that area. In my estimation it is immaterial what the activity is. They all play a part in our continuing learning. Whether it is going for a walk where one visits new places, recognises flowers or birds etc. or just conversing with others on the walk and discussing pertinent issues; or whether the group is involved with discussions in local history, geology or a foreign language. They all have a valuable "educational" aspect.

No matter what your interest is we are always keen to start new groups. If you have any ideas please contact our group coordinator Kitty Watt or speak to any member of the committee. It only needs 2 or 3 members to start a group and then others can always join in.

Shirley Hammond

Implementing a Computerised Membership System



Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A is bringing it's administration up to date by implementing a computerised membership system.

One of the main aims is to improve the record keeping of membership details without having to keep paper records. In the future, all of the membership details will be recorded on a single database which will allow the Committee to share information without having to resort to duplication and paper copies.

The membership system will also improve email communications between the Committee, group leaders and especially our members.

In time, the membership system will improve administration for accounting purposes. For example in a year or two, we will implement an automatic membership renewal process and members will be able to pay for membership via the computer ... but this process will take a while to introduce! For those members who do not have access to a computer or have any computer know-how, you will still be able to renew your membership by completing a paper form and sending a cheque.

The National U3A is supporting the development of a computer system called "Beacon" and our U3A has set up a small project team to look at the system in more depth. The members of the group are Carol Rice, Malcolm Moss, Mike Paxton, Clare Gwilym and Shirley Hammond. Carol Rice has agreed to become the project manager for implementing the system and next year a new membership secretary will be needed to work alongside Carol. The project team will develop an implementation plan and will also keep members informed via regular updates in the newsletter.

If you would like more information, please contact Carol Rice on i.rice@virgin



Outings Group

Friday 20th May - Let Loose in Liverpool - places available - please ring organiser, 427 2861, for details.

Tuesday, 26th July - Chesterfield and Eyam - FULLY BOOKED

Please ring organiser, 427 2861, for waiting list

Thursday, 18th August SOUTHPORT FLOWER SHOW

You will see inspirational show gardens with unique features. The bandstand has a varied programme of music and there will be a range of entertainment in the arena.

Visit Southport's famous Lord Street. The show ground is located in Victoria Park which is a 10 minute walk to the town centre and the famous Lord Street.

Departure Times	Rose Hill 8.45 am	Regent Cinema 8.50 am	Marple Bridge 8.55am
	Northumberland Arms 9.00 am		Romiley Arms 9.05am

NOTE: We will NOT stop for a comfort stop but go directly to the showground in Southport, aiming to arrive at approximately 10.45 am.

We will leave the showground at 4.30 pm, planning to arrive home at approx 6pm (no comfort stop).

The cost of this great day out is £31 per head, including entrance ticket, coach travel driver's gratuity.

Bookings will be taken at the June and July meetings.

Organiser Carol Rice.

Fri. 9th September *RSPB LEIGHTON MOSS* AND LEIGHTON HALL ESTATE

**Originally planned for the Midland Hotel Morecambe but now the Hotel is unfortunately unable to take us on that date. Another time perhaps.*

We arrive at the RSPB Visitor's Centre in time for coffee and a browse. This is the largest reedbed in NW England and hosts really special birds, such as bitterns, marsh harriers and avocets. The cost to go on the reserve is £4 but as there is a public footpath (the Causeway 1.5 miles approx.) which runs up the middle of the reserve (with a hide) and ends up at our destination, Leighton Hall, it is not necessary to pay. The causeway was originally built to allow the family a more direct route to the train station and we propose a gentle stroll to the Hall for lunch/afternoon tea at 1.00 p.m. Of course the coach will leave the RSPB Centre and go direct to the Hall for those who prefer not to walk or, indeed, if the weather is poor. Binoculars and stout foot wear are recommended for the walk.

Leighton Hall is the historic seat of one of the most famous furniture making families, the Gillow family. A lively entertaining House tour, pretty gardens, breathtaking falconry display but first, a delicious traditional afternoon tea comprising assorted sandwiches, cream scones, homemade cakes and plenty of tea at 1.00 p.m. - Leighton Hall is a quintessential English afternoon out and we hope you will join us.

Itinerary: usual pickups and drop offs - please be in good time

9.15 a.m Leave Rosehill	9.20 Regent	9.25 Marple Bridge
9.30 am Northumberland Arms		9.35 am Romiley Arms

Leave for home : Around 4.45 p.m. (to be confirmed after the falconry display)

Price: £27 p.p. including coach and gratuity, tea and tour package.

Cheques only please to MB&MU3A Outings

Booking 17th May General Meeting and thereafter contact organisers (427 2861)

Tuesday 4th October - TOUR OF WEDGWOOD NEW EXHIBITION CENTRE WITH VISIT TO TRENTHAM ITALIAN GARDENS

The world famous Wedgwood name needs little introduction and a factory tour and museum visit to the new Exhibition Centre has been arranged. There is an optional soup/sandwich lunch available at the group rate of £10 p.p. At approx. 1.45 p.m. we will leave for a 10 minute drive to Trentham Estate and the beautiful Italian Gardens, which have been transformed over the last 10 years from a 10 acre Victorian garden into contemporary schemes including Rivers of Grass and the Floral Labyrinth. Both venues have cafes. Leaving Rosehill 9.15 am with usual pickups at 5 minute intervals.

Price: £26 p.p. and optional lunch at £10 p.p.

Booking: Tuesday 21st June General meeting and thereafter with

Organiser: Jenny Summers (427 2861). Cheques only please to MB&MU3A Outing

Advance Notice: Thursday 24th November -TATTON PARK MANSION & LUNCH

A 'Glorious Christmas' at Tatton Park Mansion, beautifully decorated to celebrate the centenary the birth of one of the world's most beloved children's authors, Roald Dahl, and we have secured an early provisional package at £25 p.p.(plus optional coach at £10 p.p.- all gratuities included) for the Mansion visit and 3 course Christmas lunch with wine (vegetarian option available).

BOOKING FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST AT THE OUTINGS DESK AND - IN THIS INSTANCE - FIRST COME - FIRST SERVED !!

Parking is £6 per car even with a National Trust card.

CHRISTMAS BOOKLET

Further to the article in the March Newsletter so far we have only received a couple of items for the booklet. The aim of the booklet is to produce a collection of work, written or visual, by our members for our members and friends on the theme of Christmas - either collectively (as part of an interest group) or just individual remembrances of Christmases past - stories, poems, anecdotes, recipes, quizzes, hints, sad or funny - anything, but please not too long.

Material should be submitted to the Secretary, Malcolm Moss by the 20th July, General meeting, either by email malcolm3a@gmail.com or handwritten.

The final edited booklet will be produced in time for Christmas at a modest price. All monies will go to our chosen local Charity.

Walking Group

Group Organisers/Co-ordinators

Judy Rhodes - 0161 427 2045

Sue Ward - 0161 312 1621

June/July Walks

Wed June 1st	Longdendale	6m	easy	John Bloower
Tue June 7th	Rambling the runways	7m	mod	Irene Riley
Wed June 15th	Bradwell	4m	easy/mod	Sheila Stafford
Wed June 22nd	Chee Dale	5.5m	mod	Margaret Hogg
Tue June 28th	Bollington	6m	mod	Jean Mitchel
Wed July 6th	Chapel to Combs	4.4m	easy	Sue Ward
Tue July 12th	Hayfield	5.5m	mod	Wendy Greenwood
Wed July 20th	Taxal to Fernilee	4.5m	mod	Judith Lynch
Tue July 26th	Werneth Low	6m	mod	Val Bradshaw

New walkers please contact Judy or Sue before attending a walk.

MATINEE GROUP

Theatre Visits

New Vic. Newcastle under lyme

Singing in the Rain, Thursday 14th July. Ticket and coach £22. Booking now.

Relatively Speaking , Alan Ayckbourn, at the Lowry on 19th. October, booking now.

Crazy for You at the Plaza Stockport on Saturday 29th. October . Booking in June

The Detective at the Carver, Marple on Saturday 17th. September. Booking in June.

As cheques are not always presented to the bank straight away, it is important to let us know if you have changed your bank account. If your cheque has not been paid in before this change, a charge can be incurred to the Matinee Group Bank Account. So please let us know of any changes, Thank you.

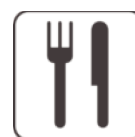
Jean Howells & Sue Humphris



DINING GROUP

Thank you to everybody who has joined us for our recent meal experiences.

Our aim in the Dining Group is to give you all the chance to experience different types of cuisine and, don't forget, everybody is welcome as long as you are a member of our U3A.



The Joshua Bradley was another successful evening, we will go back sometime in the future.

Thank you to Malcolm and Joyce Moss for organising the meal at 'All Things Nice' This very different dining experience was most enjoyable, watch this space for further visits.

Forthcoming Events

Wednesday 25th May - Evening Meal at The Oddfellows, Mellor
Three courses plus tea or coffee £15

Wednesday 29th June - Lunch at The Midland, Marple Bridge
Two course menu plus tea or coffee £12
Dessert will be available for an extra £3 payable on the day.
Bookings will be taken at the May meeting.

Thursday the 7th July - Evening Meal at The Midway, Stockport
Three course menu plus Tea or Coffee £18
Bookings will be taken at the June meeting.

Tuesday the 6th September - Early Evening Meal at The Bee Hive Combs
Three course menu plus Tea or Coffee £12
Bookings will be taken at the June and July meetings.

A £5 deposit to secure your reservation for all dining experiences will be required at the time of booking; this is non-refundable

CD's / DVD's

The CD's / DVD's which we have on sale at the monthly meetings need to be up-dated with different ones, so please can we ask for some more contributions to the stall, so that we can replace some of the existing ones with more up to date ones.

Please have a look at your collection and see if you can bring some along to the next monthly meeting.

Jean Parker & Barbara Littler

Crossword Compiled by Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Crossword Group

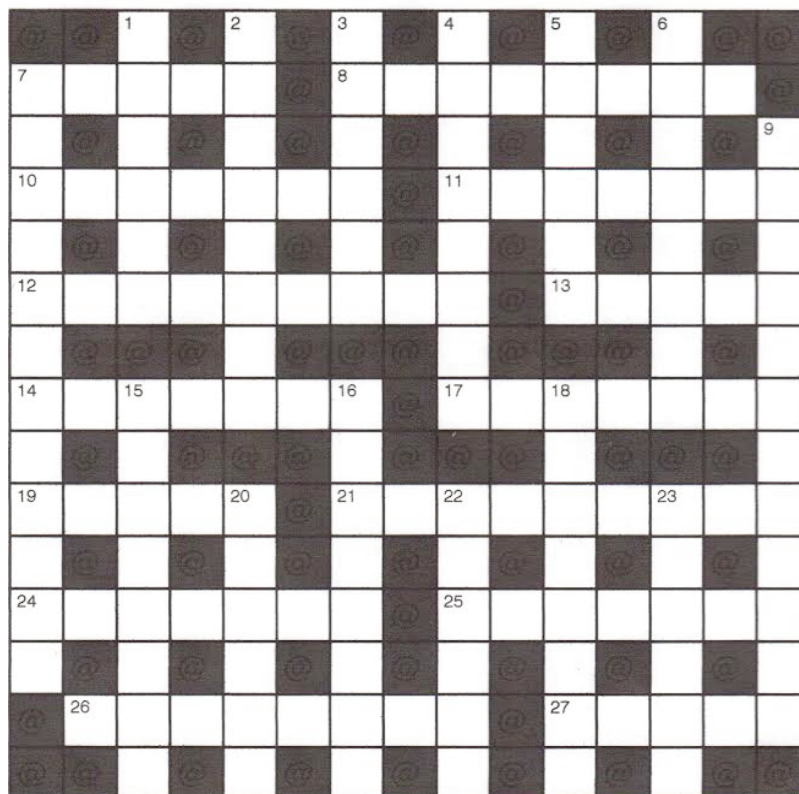
Geoff Heath

Clues across

- 7 Anger suppressed by Andrew Rathbone (5)
 8 Reduce price about a type of pastry returning in abundance (8)
 10 Ma and I moan about pungent gas (7)
 11 Nice cakes, nice cakes (7)
 12 Oh, so here=s surprisingly a token of good luck (9)
 13 Guide bullock (5)
 14 Stop ire somehow with a quick answer (7)
 17 Cocktail originally made of lime, orange, tequila or vodka (7)
 19 Fairground entertainment in iridescent splendour (5)
 21 Rebellious girl and vet got on, in a fashion (9)
 24 Blew up Lilo before Pam put out light (3,4)
 25 My personal view is: work at home with another one working (7)
 26 In case the Queen comes back inside for more (8)
 27 Unconventional change of route (5)

Clues down

- 1 Agriculturist spoken of in the pharmacy (6)
 2 Unfortunate clash around north-north-east in these straits (8)
 3 A little soda-water could make pals quiet (6)
 4 Exited mongrel started training inside for a considerable stretch of time (4-4)
 5 Awkward gap when A1 shut off (6)
 6 Heard "filler", meant "fibre" (8)
 7 Footwear rep has first reorganised what walking boots should be (12)



Clues down (cont)

- 9 Wasteful spending engenders craven age tax (12)
 15 Penny plus Heather trying the water (8)
 16 One no longer using francs or marks, perhaps? No, a rupee! (8)
 18 Sounds like money is needed for fizzy drink and child=s confection (8)
 20 Bright rats back on line (6)
 22 Spring flower - love it madly (6)
 23 Do I sit making chumps? (6)

Meetings - FUTURE SPEAKERS

17th May	Karen Corcoran	" The Lady Policeman"
21st June	Rebecca Done	" My Life within Entertainment"
19th July	Bill Walker	" Four Ages of the Canal"

Unless otherwise notified, the ordinary monthly meetings are held in St Paul's Church Hall, Compstall on the third Tuesday of each month at 9-45am (for coffee and socializing). To enable members to use the bus service, the business of the meeting will start at 10-15 and will finish at 11.45 am approx.

- * *When attending a meeting please have your entrance fee ready (£1) preferably in exact money*
- * *You should show your membership card when booking in at the monthly meetings and at U3A groups and other events.*
- * *Please do not park near the War Memorial, use the Etherow Country Car Park*
- * *Please remember to bring and buy books and C.D's at the monthly meetings.*

Local Theatre Group

Here is the next play coming up. Please contact Carol Rice email i.rice@virgin.net to book in for the play by the given "book in" date. This will allow the purchase of tickets in advance.

The programme for the next season plays will be published in the July newsletter

Book in date	Performance date	Production
14th May	Mon 20 June 16	Cheshire Cats by Gail YoungPoynton Players

Printer Inks for HP Photosmart C6200 363 series (one in one series)

I have recently changed my printer and have a series of inks which I no longer need and would like to pass them on to someone who can make use of them.

I would like someone to take these inks and give a donation to the U3A Charity which Mellor & Marple Bridge is supporting this year

All 5 colours not used, plus extra black still full of ink

please contact Jean Howells 427 5691

Bogus Telephone Calls

Just recently one of our members received a telephone call from someone saying that they were from they bank asking them to up-date their information. This was a bogus call and the person receiving the call realised that it was. Please be aware that these sort of calls do happen and be sure not to give any information regarding your personal bank, credit card or any other personal information to anyone over the telephone. No bank, credit card company would ever ask for these details on the telephone. If this happens to you please report it to your bank and to the police or to the Action Fraud Group as in the article below.

Safer Stockport Community Messaging - Action Fraud Email Alert

(National Fraud Intelligence Bureau)

This alert is a reminder to be aware of emails that appear to have been sent from a legitimate organisation. Fraudsters often use fake email addresses designed to encourage recipients to open attachments or links. You are advised that if you are in any doubt as to the origin of an email, do not open it. Consider that emails can be spoofed and used to generate spam to recipients far and wide. If you receive a spam email, you MUST NOT open it. Instead, delete it from your email system to avoid infecting your device. If you have opened an attachment from a spam email, you should get your device checked over by a professional and change the passwords for all your bank, email and online shopping accounts.

Protect yourself:

- Do not click or open unfamiliar links in emails or on websites.
- Make sure you install and use up-to-date anti-virus software.
- Have a pop-up blocker running in the background of your web browser.
- If you have opened an attachment and 'enabled macros' it is very likely that all your personal data will have been breached. You MUST change all your passwords for personal accounts, including your bank accounts.
- Ensure Adobe, Flash and any similar software is up to date on your computer.

If you think you have been a victim of this type of email you should report the email to Action Fraud, the UK's national fraud and cyber crime reporting centre: www.actionfraud.police.uk If you do make a report please provide as much detail as you can about the email and any effects it has had on your computer. Additionally if your Anti-Virus software detects any issues in relation to this email please provide us with the details.

CONTACTS

Chairman: Shirley Hammond
chairman@mbmu3a.org.uk

Vice Chairman: Pat Walker
vicechairman@mbmu3a.org.uk

Secretary: Malcolm Moss
secretary@mbmu3a.org.uk

Minute Secretary: Joan Fogg
minutesecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk

Treasurer: Michael Paxton
treasurer@mbmu3a.org.uk

Group Co-ordinator: Alan & Kitty Watt
GroupCoordinator@mbmu3a.org.uk

Membership Secretary: Carol Rice
membershipsecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk

Speaker Organiser: Ulla Mehta
speakerorganiser@mbmu3a.org.uk

Almoner: Pat Walker
almoner@mbmu3a.org.uk

Newsletter Editor: Malcolm Moss
newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk

Outings: Jenny Summers
Wendy Atkinson

Outings@mbmu3a.org.uk

Other Committee Members

Tony Addy, Geoff Fogg, Clare Gwilym, Derek Hesketh
& Pam Taylor

Webmaster:

Tony Wolfendale

e.mail: webmaster@mbmu3a.org.uk

Website: www.mbmu3a.org.uk

National Website: www.u3a.org.uk

National Office:

The Third Age Trust

The Old Municipal Buildings

19, East Street, Bromley Kent, BR1 1QE

020 8466 6139

More about the Christmas Booklet

on Page 3

Announcements

It is with regret that we record the death of Ann Astley. We send our sincere condolences to her family

Newsletter

If you would like to see the Newsletter early go to our Website, www.mbmu3a.org.uk and click on the relevant Newsletter heading. You can also view past Newsletters on the website

Crossword Solution

Across 7 Wrath; 8 Profit; 10 Ammonia; 11 Gateaux;
12 Horseshoe; 13 Steer; 14 Riposte; 17 Molotov;
19 Rides; 21 Revolting; 24 Oil lamp; 25 Opinion;
26 Increase; 27 Outre.
Down: 1 Farmer; 2 Channels; 3 Splash; 4 Long-term;
5 Hiatus; 6 Filament; 7 Weatherproof; 9 Extravagance;
15 Padding; 16 European; 18 Lollipop; 20 Starry;
22 Violet; 23 Idiots.

This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be published July 2016

Please send items for publication by email or disc in Microsoft Word.

to Malcolm Moss, Email: newslettereditor@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 Friday, 8th July**