

CHEADLE AND GATLEY U3A



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

DECEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

Monthly Open Meetings

The Second Wednesday: 1:15 for a prompt 1:30 start at the URC, Elm Road, Gatley

The Monthly Open Meeting is where to find out about all of our activities and any unforeseen changes to our programme.

Speakers talk on a wide range of subjects

January 13th	The Life of an Auctioneer	Peter Ashburner
February 10th	The Modern Army	Army Presentation Team
March 9th	Understanding Parliament and how it Works	Gary Hart
April 13th	Crown Green Bowling	Peter Brooks
May 11th	The Staff of Life	David Tomlinson
June 8th	Annual General Meeting More than Just a Shop	Gillian Lonergan
July 13th	My Life at Granada	Judy Popley



Members meet Roger Johnson on a tour of the BBC Studios at Media City

(Online edition with added images)

Chairman's Message

The new committee took over in June and during the summer, we had a publicity drive and a noticeboard was put on display in Cheadle Library. This drew many positive comments and, we hope, brought in some new members. We also distributed a 3-fold leaflet to many outlets in Cheadle and Gatley and this was well received.

Tina Kelly, Vice Chair, and I attended the National Conference and AGM in Nottingham in August. This was a wonderful opportunity to meet other members and to learn how other groups operate – and to discover that we are doing many of the right things!



Presentation to Stockport Young Carers

At our September meeting it was my privilege to present the cheque for the money raised over the past year by the Christmas raffle and book sales to Janette Faulkner for Stockport Young Carers.

Our charity for this year is The Seashell Trust.

Membership remains steady and I'm pleased to report that the new Archaeology Group has got off to a fine start and that Family History has re-convened. A Painting group will start in January and interest has been expressed in a couple of other groups which we are hoping might get going in the New Year.

We had a very enjoyable meeting in November with afternoon tea for our Interest Group Coordinators and New Members. It was a good opportunity to thank group coordinators for all they do in organising interest groups and encouraging members to take part and also for new members to find out more about the organisation. We reminded ourselves that the U3A is a self-help charity where the ethos is that 'those who teach shall also learn and those who learn shall also teach'. The founders recognized older people as active citizens with talents and skills to be utilised for the benefit of each other.

We are planning another Study Day to take place in November 2016 and this time the theme will be 'A Celebration of the Industrial and Cultural Heritage of Manchester'. A working party has been set up to coordinate arrangements and Group Leaders are invited to attend the first meeting on Tuesday 12th January at 6 p.m. at the URC. It is hoped that as many members as possible will contribute in a variety of ways.

Your new committee has had a very busy 'first term' and we are still 'finding our feet', but I hope you have enjoyed the autumn programme of events. I'd like to thank fellow committee members for all their support and hard work. At the time of writing, the Christmas meeting was still being ably organised by our Speaker Secretary, Mary Sharples, and I'm sure we're all in for a treat!

I hope you all have a very Happy Christmas and I wish everyone a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Lesley Witton

Group Coordinators' and New Members' tea



North West Region Summer School

The journey couldn't have been simpler: a direct train from the airport to Penrith, a short taxi ride to Newton Rigg Agricultural College and all in just under 3 hours. There were lots of people on their own, as I was, but in next to no time we were all busy introducing ourselves. From the wide range of courses I settled for Architecture, which was excellent. From what I heard, just as interesting were Geology, Medieval Archaeology, Ancient Egypt, Creative Writing and Japanese life, language and culture. In addition there were two evening lectures of general interest, and some courses had half-day trips. The accommodation was in en-suite study bedrooms with 8 to a house with a kitchen where we had lots of discussions. It was just like being a student again! The cafeteria where we had all our meals, the library and lecture rooms were all nearby set in a very attractive campus. I thoroughly enjoyed my 4 days and hope to sign up for next year, 30th August – 2nd September. Details are on the NW website.

Barbara Wingard

Visit to Media City

In September Barbara Wingard organised a tour round the BBC studios at Media City which was attended by 19 members. Two very personable young ladies first of all took us into the control room next door to a Radio 6 studio where a broadcast was going out 'live', and we were told how the technology worked and how key the timings were. We then went into the Blue Peter studio and were let into some of its secrets, including how they produce 'one I made earlier'!

In the next studio two of our members (Jenny and Batsheva) were set up to read the news and Anne presented the weather forecast (not 'for real' of course). They haven't yet heard whether they have got the jobs!



'Just show us where the auto-cue is ...'



'Now here's the news from Cheadle and Gatley ...'

Finally, we were escorted into the BBC Breakfast studio (the one with the red sofa) and were fortunate to meet Roger Johnson who is the anchor man on the 6.30 p.m. North West Tonight news programme. He explained the workings of the studio and answered all our questions, which was particularly kind of him as he was on his lunch break. He also allowed us to have our photograph taken with him on the sofa, and we liked him so much we felt like U3A Groupies! Our escorts emphasised that meeting Roger wasn't part of the tour - we were just lucky.

Ann Walker



'You don't happen to be free for dinner this Friday do you Roger?'

News from around the Groups

Anyone interested in joining a Group should in the first instance telephone the Coordinator, or speak to them at the Monthly Meeting.

Archaeology

Following an introductory meeting in July, in September the group visited the Wood Mine Open Day at Alderley Edge. Later we were able to arrange a private conducted tour of the Engine Mine to view the Iron Age and Roman workings.

The group pursued this interest with a tour of the Iron Age and Roman artefacts held in Manchester Museum. The Curator, Brian Sitch, gave us an excellent informative talk and showed us various Roman items in their collection which are not on general view.



Back: Pat Ayadin, Susan Bayley

Middle: Alan Lynn, Brenda Attak, Nuala Lynn, Lois Evans, Tom Fanning, Peter Brooks

Front: John Houghton, Peter Bayley with the Archaeology Curator Dr Bryan Sitch

We had a fascinating talk on Prehistoric Cave Art given by John Doughty who illustrated the talk with photographs taken of sites he has visited worldwide. In November John Pollard will talk about a twenty year study undertaken at Alderley Edge, focussing on the Archaeological and Geological findings, which will be published next year.

There will not be a December meeting but members will be invited to see a collection of programmes on Archaeology which have been previously broadcast on BBC4. In the New Year we will be having a visit from the Portable Antiquities Scheme, a visit to Trafford Archaeology Group and a possible Field Trip to Hadrian's Wall.

Lois Evans

428 4373

lois-gatley@hotmail.co.uk

Monday Book Group

Our September session on Booker Prize nominees included *A Sense of an Ending* by Julian Barnes; *Offshore* by Penelope Fitzgerald; *According to Mark* by Penelope Lively; *Last Orders* by Graham Swift; *The Luminaries* by Eleanor Catton and two books nominated this year: *The Green Road* by Ann Enright and *A Spool of Blue Thread* by Anne Tyler. *The Life of Pi* by Yann Martel provoked an intriguing discussion on the nature of the tiger as many of us had read it before. It was interesting to see how many Booker Prize Winners turned up on our shelves! Copies were passed round and, as so often after our meetings, members were supplied with ample reading material to occupy them in addition to the choice for next month!

Biography was our theme for October and subjects included JMW Turner (Peter Ackroyd), Beethoven (John Suchet), The First Churchill: Marlborough (Correlli Barnett) and Shakespeare (Bill Bryson). The general consensus was that we learned more about the period in which each of these lived rather than personal details about the men themselves; fascinating nevertheless!

Our chosen author for November was William Boyd and his novels including *The Blue Afternoon*, *Restless*, *Any Human Heart*, *An Ice Cream War* and *Brazzaville Beach* were very much enjoyed, with all of us agreeing that we would read more.

In December we will be talking about the novels of William Trevor.

Lesley Witton 428 1522

Tuesday and Thursday Book Groups

READING GROUP 2

This semester Cheadle library has once more provided us with a range of literature for our group of 10 members, who get on well together while often hotly debating the offerings. The books are often “acclaimed” but we may not agree. We have given star* ratings out of 5 for each. Refreshments are provided. We meet in the library community room except at Xmas when it’s often a restaurant.

<i>1000 Splendid Suns</i>	Khaled Hosseini	(5*)
<i>The Girl on the Landing</i>	Paul Torday	(2/3*)
<i>Afterwards</i>	Rosamund Lupton	(0*)
<i>Why be Happy when you can be Normal?</i>	Jeanette Winterson	(4*)

Something more factual, *The Hare with the Amber Eyes* by Edmund de Waal will be our review for January 2016



READING GROUP 3

This smaller group of 6 members has been sampling Library-supplied book sets, as above, set in various countries. Their overall verdict is in brackets.

<i>The Arch and The Butterfly</i>	Mohammed Achaari	Morocco	(difficult to read)
<i>The Book Thief</i>	Markus Zusak	Germany	(mixed reception)
<i>Small Island</i>	Andrea Levy	Caribbean and Britain via "The Windrush"	(liked as well as found educational)
<i>The Housemaid's Daughter</i>	Barbara Mutch	South African Karoo	(enjoyed)
<i>The Miniaturist</i>	Jessie Burton	Holland	(fascinating but long)

Sometimes a member's personal experiences can throw light on a book e.g. one member has been to Cape Province 16 times so was able to relate to *The Housemaid's Daughter* and further enlighten the rest of us! We also have 2 members with literary secrets but you may have to join us at this stage to find out....



For further information about either group, please contact me.

Tina Kelly

376 7909

Bridge

The Bridge Group exists to give those who wish to learn an opportunity to play Bridge. It is suitable for beginners and the atmosphere is very relaxed. The format is that we simply deal the cards, bid and then play the hand. We then discuss how the hand was played, what went wrong and what went well. Progress comes from experience and learning from mistakes. As coordinator I have prepared a number of written notes on the game, which will be made available to new members.

Occasionally we have enjoyed some duplicate sessions in the form of a team of four event. In duplicate bridge, the same hand is played more than once, so eliminating the luck of happening to hold good cards. All who participated seemed to enjoy the experience. I hope to introduce duplicate Pairs some time soon.

Also, I have introduced a monthly bridge problem. At the start of each month, all members of the group are invited to solve a bridge problem. The problems will mostly concentrate on features of the play of the hand, but it gives a format for introducing ideas, e.g. endplay or squeeze, which may not readily occur in randomly dealt hands. In this way, it is hoped that expertise might be gained.

We meet at St James' Parish Hall at 1.30pm on the first and fourth Wednesday of each month for about 2 hours. There is a charge of £1-50 to cover the cost of hiring the room and a small additional charge for refreshments.

Godfrey Jackson

437 7890

Computing

Rather than being a regular group, the Computer Group has become more of a Helpdesk, where members can make contact to obtain practical advice on particular issues that concern them. This approach enables members to become more comfortable in the use of their own computers and able to progress independently. Members should feel free to contact me by telephone or email.

Peter Bayley

282 3468

p.bayley@ntlworld.com

Craft/Sewing

This is a small but enthusiastic group of people who have interests in sewing, knitting, card making and general fabric and paper craft. Members bring along their own ongoing projects and share their skill and experience with the rest of the group. It's very informal with no set programme of events but with lots of friendly chatter and exchange of ideas over refreshments. We meet in St James' Church Hall on the third Tuesday of the month at 10.30.

Josephine Haynes 491 2382

Creative Writing

There is a saying that there is a good book in everyone, waiting to get out. If you feel like testing the theory, come along to Creative Writing and see what you think. We are eight strong at present and none of us are professionals.

Generally at each meeting, we bring a piece of work on a subject that has been agreed at the previous meeting. Each person reads out his/her work and the group discusses the piece. It is informal, and gentle constructive critiques are the norm. We write stories, reports, poetry. Anything goes. We try to make the pieces around 600 to 800 words.

In one of our meetings we were given a writing workshop by a young lady who had been published. She asked us all to write down five words on a sheet, any words, a name, an object, a verb etc. We all then shared the random words and were asked to write a paragraph incorporating as many of the random words as possible. The exercise seemed to stir up the creative juices, and it was quite surprising how we all managed to come up with sensible work. Have a go at the exercise at home and it will give you the confidence to try out our group. Do come and join us.

Nigel Bann 491 6835

Dining

We have had a variety of interesting lunches. In **July** we had an expedition by train to the 'finest fish and chip shop in the North West' located in Bolton. A good afternoon out was enjoyed by everyone.

*Janet Stoppard, Pat Ayadin,
Lois Evans, Janet Farrell
and Lois Haslam*



September's meeting was lunch at the Istanbul Turkish restaurant in Cheadle; **October's** visit was to Pizza Express in Cheadle and in **November** we will be having a light lunch in Coffee Fix, Gatley. We always welcome suggestions for venues to try, but current members prefer meeting at lunchtime. New members are always welcome to join us.

Lois Evans 428 4373

Family History

The Family History group was restarted in September 2015, after a break of a year, and it is still at my house in Northenden on the first Tuesday morning of the month. The new members have already made remarkable progress. If you'd like to join us and try solving the question "Who do you think you are?", then do come along, with or without a laptop, and learn how to get started on being a family detective.

Sheila Harkin 998 7276

French Conversation

Thanks to the U3A committee for funding the group's purchase of the bi-monthly magazine *La Vie Outre-Manche*. This is based at an intermediate level, but the diction on the CD is very clear. I think the group will find it very useful, and of course back numbers can be circulated among the group. We continue to use BBC audio-visual material.

Jim Crook

428 5764

Gardening

It has been a good year for the Gardening Group, and members have enjoyed all activities, visiting each other's gardens and allotments. Wreath making with Leena's had to be cancelled and she has agreed to demonstrate her skills for us in November next year. Other activities that the sub committee are exploring for next year include visits to Arley Hall, Rode Hall and Harlow Carr gardens. We may also visit the voluntary gardeners at Tatton. Other months we will visit each other's gardens and explore activities such as taking cuttings. We also continue to maintain the planting commemorating Patsy Calton at Cheadle Library.



Afternoon Tea at Wilmslow Garden Centre



Memorial planting

Nuala Lynn

258 0503

German

The German Conversation Group meets on 3rd Wednesday morning in a member's home. We focus on conversation, reading and discussion in German. Our members include a native speaker through to intermediate levels. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 16th December at 10 a.m. Please bring something to share for lunch. New members are welcome to join. Please contact me for details.

Lee Fairlie

428 4791

History

Since September the Group has been examining the period in Europe after the First World War; in particular we are looking at the impact of the decisions made by the Treaty of Versailles on the various countries which played a part in the conflict. After that we will continue our examination of the effect of the First World War on European affairs up to 1939.

John Houghton

428 2892

Tom Fanning

428 8666

History of Art

During recent months our group has been studying the Art of the 17th and 18th centuries, focusing in particular on the Baroque and Rococo paintings. In the New Year, our attention will be on 19th century Art. We will focus on Classical, Romantic and Impressionist artists of the period.

Meetings held at URC, Elm Rd at 1.30 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month.

Tom Fanning

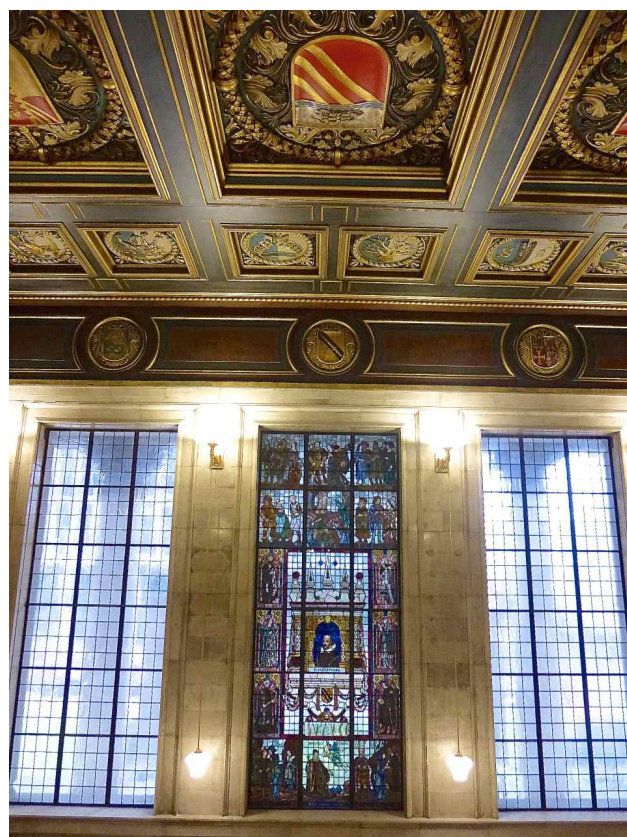
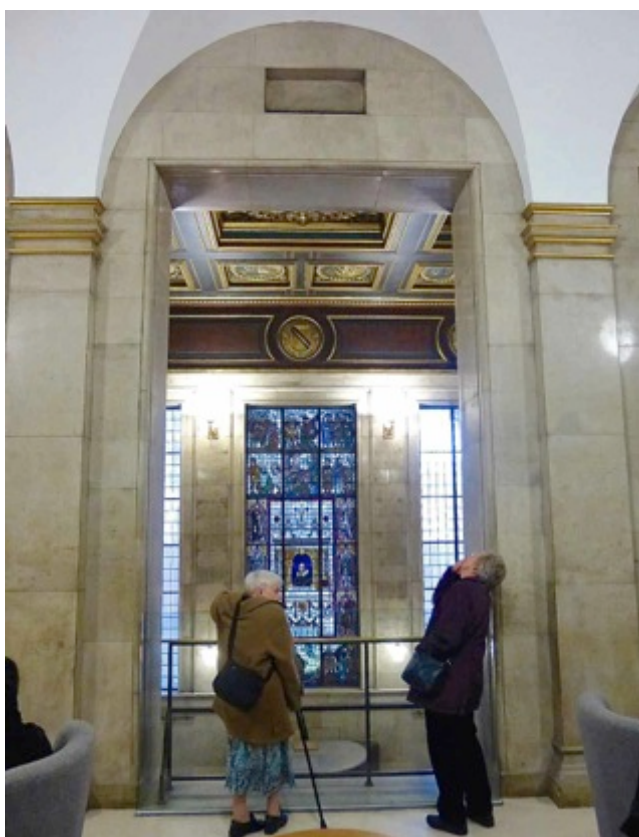
428 8666

Local History

Our Group continues to thrive with new members replacing those who cannot continue. Since the June Newsletter we have had our usual eclectic mixture. We have had talks on *Aliens and the PoW Camp at Handforth* by John Pollard, *Derivation of Placenames in the North West of England* by George Hastie and *Bruntwood Hall and its Occupants* by Janet Farrall. Our visits have been to the John Rylands Library and the Central Library.



The group is impressed by the conservation work carried out at the Central Library



Marvelling at the wonderful ceiling and stained glass

Our last talk this year is on *Health Care In Stockport in the 19th Century* by Judith Houghton. It is great to see that three out of the four talks have been given by members of the Group.

Nick Rogerson

428 6114

John Pollard

428 2150

Lunchtime Concerts – for free

The last concert of our summer season was at yet another new venue, the recently extended and renovated Whitworth Art Gallery. Organised by the biennial Manchester International Festival, this concert was most unusual. It consisted of one short piece for a small unaccompanied choir by the contemporary Estonian composer Arvo Pärt. Without any introduction the music suddenly started up, conducted by a young man standing on a box. The choir were dotted about the standing audience in this lovely new gallery with an enormous window looking down on the park.

The music was beautiful with echoes of barcarolles with a modern touch; it lasted about 5 minutes. We applauded and then to our amazement the choir sang the same piece a second time. We applauded again and then most unobtrusively the group formed into a more conventional semi-circle in the centre of the gallery and sang once more. More applause and then they made their exit leaving us bemused but enchanted by the experience.

Our final concert this term will be much more traditional, with the various singing groups in the University presenting their annual Vocal Showcase. There will be more musical delights in the New Year as soon as I have the programmes.

Barbara Wingard 428 5922

Science

The Science Group is now a Network Group, organized by Graham Beech of Wilmslow U3A. Full details and the programme for 2016 can be found on the Wilmslow U3A website:

<http://wilmslowu3a.org.uk/interest%20groups/science.htm>

Anyone interested in the talks should contact Graham Beech on 01625 402946 or email him at gb.u3a@talktalk.net to be put on the e-mailing list, or contact the C&G representative, David Gane.

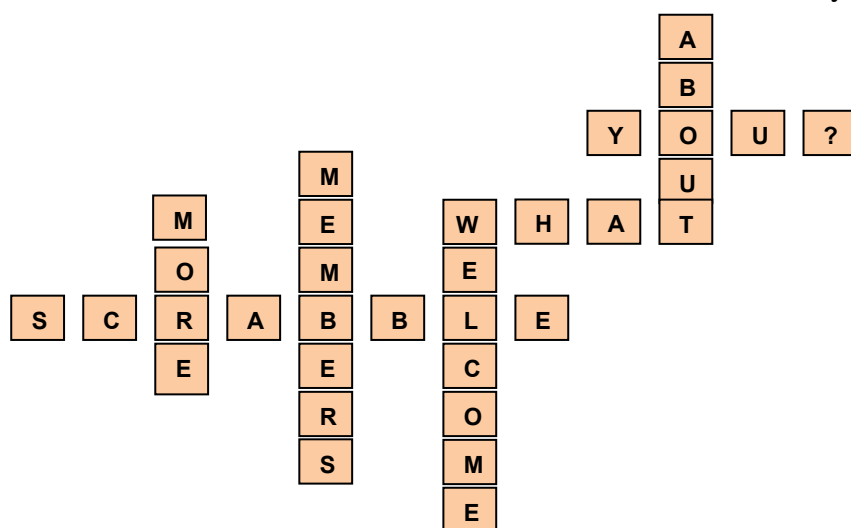
David Gane **428 0204** davidjgane@btinternet.com

Scrabble

Our friendly and non-competitive Scrabble Group is flourishing.

We now have nine members and usually get between five and seven at our fortnightly meetings.

We can still accommodate new members and would welcome anyone interested in joining us.



Ann Gane **428 0204**

Singing for Pleasure

Fiddler on the Roof has proved to be quite a challenge for the choir and the conductor too, but with three public performances we hope it will have been worthwhile.

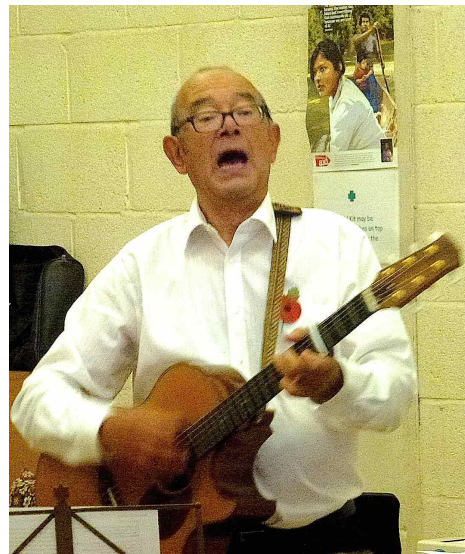


The Choir entertains the St James Friendship group

Over the past four years part of our programme has been a musical tour of the British Isles. This recently came to an end with a selection of Welsh songs, but we start a new tour in the New Year with a trip round Europe. The first stop is Italy and we start with a song about a train – *Funiculi, Funicula!*

Please come and join us if you are interested.

Barbara Wingard 428 5922



*Ian sings a solo –
The Manchester Rambler*

Theatre Visits

The Theatre group has been to Chads theatre in Cheadle Hulme see *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde and *Woman In Mind* by Alan Ayckbourn. Both occasions were greatly enjoyed. We are now planning to go to the Northenden theatre to see *Charley's Aunt* on December 15th. There is also the possibility that some of us will be visiting the Heald Green theatre to enjoy their annual pantomime, which this year is *Dick Whittington*. If anyone wishes to join us they are more than welcome. For details of our future visits and the plays please ring me.

Chris Bester 376 7909

Walking (Longer Walks)

The Longer Walking Group continues to thrive, with the average number of participants having increased by one in each of the last 4 years to 10 in 2015. We are fortunate that a number of people are prepared to lead the walks, so there is always someone available in the absence of others.

- | | | |
|------|--|----------------------|
| Jun: | A splendid walk from Furness Vale with panoramic views from Black Hill | (5½ miles – easy) |
| Jul: | A moorland stroll around Rivington and its reservoirs | (7 miles – moderate) |
| Aug: | ‘This way, that way, the other way’ signpost walk from Bollington | (7 miles – moderate) |



Which way do we go from here?



I think it's that way!

- | | | |
|------|--|----------------------|
| Sep: | Another fine walk from Furness Vale, this time towards Chinley Churn | (6 miles – moderate) |
| Oct: | Along the flanks of the moors above Chapel-en-le-Frith from Sparrowpit | (7 miles – moderate) |
| Nov: | Matley Moor and Robin Hood's Picking Rods from Rowarth | (5 miles – easy) |



Alan finds a handy stile



On Rivington Moor



Lunch in Roych Clough



Our researcher, Lesley, relates the possible origins of the standing stones called Robin Hood's Picking Rods

Car sharing from Gatley Hill House is the normal arrangement. If you would like to join us for fresh air and exercise in marvellous countryside with convivial company, then register your email to receive monthly details of the forthcoming walks, and feel free to come on as many or as few as you wish.

Allan Witton

428 1522

Alan Lynn

915 6421

Walking (Shorter Walks)

The Short Walks group undertakes walks between 4 and 5 miles in distance . We currently have 18 members and about 9 is the usual number who come along. This year walks have included Wildboardclough, Delamere, Heswell, Rudyard Lake and Turton. The walks are run by the group members and this year 8 people have led walks. In 2016 we will be walking in Disley, White Nancy, Bumbury and Astbury and several more places.

From next year we will meet outside the URC church at 10:15 on the third Thursday of the month. If you wish to join us please contact me.

stuart.forsyth4@gmail.com

Stuart Forsyth **491 3592**

Walking (Strollers)

The Strollers meet every 1st and 3rd Monday morning at 10.30 at Elm Road URC for a walk of about one hour followed by a drink of at least an hour. We often walk in parks not far away such as Bramhall Park, Wythenshawe Park, Abney Hall Park and Vernon Park.

It's a very friendly, welcoming group, and there are usually about 10 people taking part.

Marianne Owen **491 3323**



The Strollers deep in the woods at Bruntwood Park

Wine Appreciation

The raison d'être for the group is to enjoy evenings of lively conversation in a convivial atmosphere when we can share and add to our knowledge and appreciation of various wines.

The group operates on a self-financing basis and during the year our meeting costs have ranged from £5 to £7.50 per person.

Peter Bayley **282 3468**

Parking near Elm Road Church

Please remember to be considerate to local residents and not cause an obstruction when parking in Elm Road or nearby streets.

Free Legal Advice

The Third Age Trust has arranged free, 24-hour legal advice for U3A members. FirstAssist can advise members on **any** legal issues, not just U3A-related ones. Simply telephone FirstAssist on 01455 251 500 and quote the following details: Name – The Third Age Trust, Number – 70494.

Photographic Competition

As many of you will know, Lesley and I are keen amateur photographers, and as a result the majority of the images in all the Newsletters to date were taken by us. This is not out of any preferential treatment by the Publications Editor, but rather because not many images have been submitted by others. To raise the profile of photography and to encourage an interest in taking better pictures, (and as a spin-off to provide some additional images for the Newsletter and the website), I am proposing to organise an annual Photographic Competition along the following lines.

Those interested may submit two digital images on the current theme by email to me by the deadline of 30th November 2016 (Lesley and I are excluded). All entries will be forwarded anonymously to an independent judge who will select a winner and two runners-up, assuming there are at least 4 entries!

The winners will be announced at the January 2017 Monthly Meeting and the photographers who took them will be presented with framed A4 prints of their winning entries, which will be published in the January 2017 Newsletter. The winners and any other commended entries will also be published on our website. The theme for 2016 will be *Nature in Cheadle and Gatley*. The entries must have been taken during 2016 and must state when and where they were taken.

Allan Witton

Your Committee

Chair	Lesley Witton*	428 1522	
Vice Chair	Tina Kelly	376 7909	07909 126362
Secretary	Janet Farrall*	428 7883	
Treasurer	Batsheva Samely*	428 6030	07722 026278
Membership Secretary	Pam Marshall*	282 5359	
Speaker Secretary	Mary Sharples*	428 4901	
Groups Coordinator	Tina Kelly	376 7909	07909 126362
Webmaster	Peter Bayley	282 3468	
Publications Editor	Allan Witton	428 1522	
NE Cheshire Network	Tina Kelly	376 7909	07909 126362



Pam Marshall Mary Sharples* Tina Kelly Batsheva Samely* Janet Farrall* Lesley Witton**

* Newly elected to the Committee in June 2015.

Many thanks to Pauline Hadfield, who continues to coordinate refreshments, and to Dorcas Flower for running the book stall and helping with the raffle.

North-East Cheshire Network

Representatives from each U3A in this network (Cheadle and Gatley, Cheadle Hulme, Bramhall, Poynton, Wilmslow and Macclesfield) meet every quarter to discuss ideas, recent activities, issues of common interest and study days open to all. **Bramhall U3A** are hosting a **Network Arts Study Day** on 7th April 2016: **Music – From Classical to Jazz**. Full details and an application form can be found on our website, in the Links section of the Welcome page.

Network U3As sometimes have Open groups, which you can join on our U3A membership card. For other groups you have to join their own U3A.

For more information on any of the above, contact the C&G Network representative:

Tina Kelly 376 7909 Email: cmk45@live.co.uk

Cheadle and Gatley U3A emails

We are increasingly making use of emails to communicate with our members. In June the colour edition of that month's Newsletter was circulated, and an expanded edition of this Newsletter (the same as the one on the website, with additional images all in colour) will be emailed to all members.

Other information that has recently been emailed includes details of:

- A First Aid courses especially for U3A members;
- The North West Regional Study Day, *Living well in later life - Learn, Laugh, Live*
- The exciting new BBC Quiz Show, *For What it's Worth*

Most of you have already provided us with your email address, but if you have email and have yet to give us the address, please consider doing so. If you don't have email, would you consider adopting an 'email buddy' whose email address you could provide? This could be a friend, neighbour or family member (grandchild?) who you see regularly and who could pass on an email message.

Cheadle and Gatley U3A Website

We are making efforts to keep our website up-to-date, and we encourage those of you who are online to look at it periodically. The simplest way is to search 'Cheadle and Gatley U3A', and then save the site in 'favourites' for easy access. In addition to summaries of all our active groups you will find:

- the two latest editions of the Newsletter, with additional images all in colour;
- membership application and renewal forms to print;
- a New Members' Leaflet with an overview of our U3A;
- information about our last Study Day on World War 1;
- links to the North-West region and the National U3A websites with details of courses etc;
 the Seashell Trust – our charity for fundraising for 2015 – 2016.

Membership

We would be delighted to welcome any new members to join our U3A.

Interested people are welcome to attend one Monthly Open Meeting or one Interest Group meeting before being required to join the Cheadle and Gatley U3A.

Fees to join Cheadle and Gatley U3A are £3 as an initial joining fee and £12 per year pro-rata, April to March; e.g. someone joining in September would pay £3 + £7 (for September to March). In addition there is a charge of £1.50 for each Monthly Open Meeting and a similar charge for most group meetings in a hired venue to cover room hire and refreshments where appropriate. Renewals are due each April.

Editor's note: Thanks very much indeed to those who have submitted photographs for this Newsletter.

Photographs break up the text, add considerable interest and, by the facility of re-sizing them, give flexibility to page layouts. Please bear this in mind for the next Newsletter, especially those groups that go out-and-about.

It doesn't have to be the Group Coordinator who takes and submits the photos!

For reasons given in the last Newsletter, from July 2016 the Newsletter will be published in July and January.

DETAILS OF INTEREST GROUPS

(At 9th December 2015)

The 6 changes are in bold italic.

GROUP	COORDINATOR	CONTACT	DATES	TIME	VENUE
Archaeology	Lois Evans	428 4373	3rd Tuesday	2:00-3:30	URC
Book Group 1	Lesley Witton	428 1522	1st Monday	7:30	House
Book Group 2	Tina Kelly	376 7909	2nd Tuesday	1:30-3:00	Cheadle Library
Book Group 3	Tina Kelly	376 7909	1st Thursday	1:30-3:00	Cheadle Library
Bridge	Godfrey Jackson	437 7890	1st and 4th Wednesdays	1:30	St James' Hall
Computers	Peter Bayley	282 3468	As arranged	Various	House
Craft	Josephine Haynes	491 2382	3rd Tuesday	10:30-12:00	St James' Hall
Creative Writing	Nigel Bann	491 6835	2nd Monday	2:00-4:00	Café Unity
Dining	Lois Evans	428 4373	3rd Wednesday	Various	Various
Family History	Sheila Harkin	998 7276	1st Tuesday	9:30	House
French Conversation	Jim Crook	428 5764	4th Wednesday	10:00-12:00	House
Gardening	Nuala Lynn	258 0503	4th Thursday	1:30	Various
German	Lee Fairlie	428 4791	3rd Wednesday	10:00-12:00	House
History	John Houghton Tom Fanning	428 2892 428 8666	2nd and 4th Fridays	2:00	URC
History of Art	Tom Fanning	428 8666	Last Wednesday	1:30	URC
Local History	Nick Rogerson	428 6114	1st Wednesday	1:30	Cheadle Library
Lunchtime Concerts	Barbara Wingard	428 5922	Periodically as arranged	Various	Various
Science	David Gane	428 0204	Monthly as arranged	7:30	Wilmslow Library
Scrabble	Ann Gane	428 0204	Fridays Fortnightly	2:00	House
Singing for Pleasure	Barbara Wingard	428 5922	2nd and 4th Tuesdays	1:00-3:00	URC
Theatre Visits	Chris Bester	376 7909	Monthly as arranged	Various	Various
Walking (Longer) (Up to ~8 miles)	Allan Witton Alan Lynn	428 1522 258 0503	3rd Friday	9:30	Meet at Gatley Hill House car park
Walking (Shorter) (4 - 5 miles)	Stuart Forsyth	491 3592	3rd Thursday	10:15	Meet at URC
Walking (Strollers) Easy local walks	Marianne Owen Anne Taylor	491 3323 428 2683	1st and 3rd Mondays	10:30	Meet at URC
Wine Appreciation	Peter Bayley	282 3468	Monthly as arranged	7:00	House

Please note that occasionally dates or times do change between updates of the Interest Group List. In the event of a change in group details, it would be most useful if the Coordinator would inform Allan Witton, so that this Interest Groups List can be kept as up-to-date as possible. Anyone interested in joining a Group should in the first instance telephone the Coordinator, or speak to them at the Monthly Open Meeting.

Forthcoming events for Groups which meet 'Periodically as arranged' are usually announced at the Monthly Meeting. Otherwise contact the Coordinator for details.

No group which caters for your particular interest? Then why not form one?

In order to form an Interest Group there must be:

1. sufficient people with a common interest;
2. someone (one or more people) prepared to act as the Coordinator(s).

Anyone interested in setting up a new Group should contact any member of the Committee.