

CHEADLE AND GATLEY U3A



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

JULY 2016 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

August	No Meeting	
September 14th	Walthew House supporting People with Sight and Hearing Loss	David Bond
	A Guide to Independent Publishing	Patricia Hulse
October 12th	A History of Arighi Bianchi	Nick and Paul from Arighi Bianchi
November 9th	Celebration Day	Cheadle and Gatley U3A
December 14th	Christmas Entertainment	
January 11th	Trekking for Oldies	Lesley Witton



*Some of the Archaeology Group on their field trip to Hadrian's Wall, Vindolanda and Housesteads
Mary Fanning, Tom Fanning, Pat Ayaydin, Alan Lynn, Lois Evans, and Peter Brooks*

(Online edition with additional images)

Message from the Chair

Cheadle and Gatley U3A has had a full and enjoyable year which was rounded off with a successful AGM in June, and I'd like to thank members for their support and confidence in the committee.

Our finances are sound and over the five years of our existence have averaged a small surplus each year, which is as it should be, as we should do all we can to support Interest Groups and not accumulate a large surplus. I'd like to thank our Treasurer, Batsheva Samely, for her scrupulous management of our finances over the last year.

Work is now in progress to install the new online **Management System** known as **Beacon**, which has been developed by the U3A. This will greatly improve and simplify our management of our own U3A to the benefit of all. Thanks go to Peter Bayley and Allan Witton for their initial research into this project.



I'm pleased to report that since December, three new Interest Groups have been set up. The **Painting Group** has met several times and a **Bowling Group** is just getting into its stride. Members of the **Ukulele Group** have bought their instruments and are practising hard! Plans are being drawn up to begin a group called **ASCENT - A Science Engineering and Technology Discussion Group** - which hopes to start in September.

At the AGM it was announced that we have raised £400 for our charity this year, **The Seashell Trust**. A cheque will be presented at September's meeting. I'd like to thank Mary Sharples and Dorcas Flower for organizing the raffles and all members who have bought tickets and books. Our new charity, voted for at the AGM, is **Walthew House**, an independent local charity supporting people in Stockport who are blind, visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing or who have dual sensory loss.

Plans are well underway for our event in November celebrating the **Industrial and Cultural Heritage of Manchester**. I'd like to thank Tina Kelly for coordinating the working party and all Group Coordinators who have come forward with ideas of how their groups might contribute.

We had a lovely **Christmas social** in December with audience participation in displays of Belly Dancing; a heartfelt rendition of *Fiddler on the Roof* by the Singing Group, accompanied by Dorothy Walker on piano and with Mary Anderson as our guest violinist; a bumper raffle and finally a wonderful spread provided by Gina Gibson and her team.

Our programme of speakers at our monthly meetings has been varied and interesting, thanks to our Speaker Secretary, Mary Sharples, and our Interest Groups continue to provide stimulating activities. Many thanks go to the Group Coordinators. It is a great pleasure to read in their reports about all the fascinating things our members get up to!

With best wishes for the new term!

Lesley Witton

Christmas Social Meeting



Entertainment: first by the belly dancers ...



... then by the choir singing 'Fiddler on the Roof' ...



...followed by a marvellous spread enjoyed by all.



A Celebration of Manchester's Industrial and Cultural Heritage, 9th November 2016

Instead of our usual monthly Open Meeting in November, we would like to invite you to a day of celebration of what has made Manchester and the surrounding area of the North-West proud.

Because our heritage is vast, we can only give a personal glimpse from our local perspective. We hope this will generate further activities during the next year.

The day will touch on Manchester's origins, and the growth of Art, Science, Literature, Architecture, Music and song, Political movements and diasporas and will include songs and a quiz.

We will also have a timeline display, from Roman times to the present day, and that is where **you** can become involved. Do you have a connection with Manchester's past? Please use the next two months to investigate if you can add **in any small way** to our display. It could be for example:

a piece of Roman glass you found in your garden, an old bobbin, a door knocker from a demolished terrace, an old spade used to dig the Manchester ship canal, a photo of the Whit walks, a Madchester Tee-shirt, a traditional poem, a Manchester joke or saying, a piece of craft, a memoir, a story, song, piece of music, letter, DVD, map, painting, old theatre programme, interesting article in old newspaper, a Hacienda memento. Put your thinking caps on. This is for you and will bring the past alive for others. In September we will tell you how to get your contributions to us. Meanwhile, talk to your group Coordinator about it or a member of committee if you are not in a group. Thank you!

The programme starts at 9.30 with coffee and pastries and includes lunch and afternoon refreshments. Tickets are £7 (to cover just part of our costs) and will be available from early September.

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

The group has had three talks – Vanessa Oaken from the Portable Antiquities scheme who spoke on Roman coins and local hoards; Tom Fanning on the finds at Sutton Hoo; Norman Redhead, Professor of Archaeology at Salford University and Andy Coutts on local archaeological work. In March we visited South Trafford Archaeology Group to view their work on the Peel Moat in Altrincham. In April some of us went to Hadrian's Wall to explore the two Vindolanda sites and Housesteads Roman Fort. We will soon be linked into the Greater Manchester Archaeology Federation, STAGS and the South Manchester Archaeology Research Group. Various local sites are being considered for digs and some of us hope to become involved.



Inspecting the Roman remains

Lois Evans

428 4373

lois-gatley@hotmail.co.uk

Monday Book Group

In preparation for our Celebration Day, we chose as our theme for January, 'Manchester' and read books set in the city or written by Mancunians. The range was wide, some choosing famous classics and others focusing on modern crime novels. From the discussion, we think we have come up with some ideas for our contribution to the celebration of the literary heritage of Manchester.

In February, we read novels by Anne Tyler and all agreed she writes extremely effectively about the intricacies of family life. Our March choice was Somerset Maugham and members read three different novels and some short stories between them. One of our members brought an article to that meeting about 'Age-Turners', inspirational novels that change lives, and so we decided to choose one off the list that we hadn't read before for the next month. This produced some interesting and controversial discussion on *The Line of Beauty* by Alan Hollinghurst and *The Gracekeepers* by Kirsty Logan. Other novels read were *The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath, *The Member of the Wedding* by Carson McCullers and *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak.

Marilynne Robinson was our choice for May and Lee Fairlie, whose husband David is a member of the group, came along as a guest as she grew up in a place very much like Gilead in Iowa, the setting of the novels. Her photos of her grandfather and his family brought scenes from the novels to life.

To mark the 400th anniversary of his death, Shakespeare was our theme for June. We read plays and sonnets and books about the bard and our discussion was lively and wide-ranging, covering productions we had seen as well as what we had read.

Lesley Witton

428 1522

Tuesday Book Group

The Tuesday and Thursday Book Groups have now amalgamated. Between them, we have read and discussed the following works since January.

The Hare with Amber Eyes by Edmund de Waal (set in various countries visited by the author including Germany and Japan). A Costa prize-winner.

Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee (set in Alabama) Sequel of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, though written before it, yet published only recently.

A State of Wonder by Ann Patchett (set in Rio Negro, Brazil). Shortlisted for Orange Prize.

Kick Back, by Val McDermid (set in Manchester) An early work of this famous Crime novelist.

The Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri (set in India and America). Shortlisted for Man Booker Prize.

The White Woman on the Green Bicycle by Monique Roffey (set in Trinidad).

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson (set in a village somewhere in 'Little England')



We have enjoyed arguing (or agreeing) about and giving a star rating to each of these works and look forward to many an interesting read to come in our current group of 14 members.

Tina Kelly

376 7909

Bowling

The first meeting of the Indoor Bowling Group on 3rd May was attended by 8 members, all beginners.

Once the equipment was set up Vivien took us through a few easy warm-up exercises and then we spent some time getting used to handling and bowling the bowls, which isn't as easy as you might think.

By the end of the session we had improved quite considerably, and everybody said they had enjoyed the experience. We meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 1:30 at the URC, Elm Road.

Anne McCarty

437 9900



Jenny practises her technique

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.

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 Church 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

The Creative Writing group is 8 strong at present and generally meets every month on a Monday, at the first floor room in the Café Unity, in the main shopping parade in Heald Green. There is a car park behind the parade, where parking is free for three hours. The meetings are from 2pm to 4 pm.

For 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, and poetry. Anything goes. We try to make the pieces around 600 to 800 words. Come and join us.

Nigel Bann 491 6835

Dining

The group has continued to meet in various pubs and restaurants at lunchtime on the third Wednesday of the month. We enjoy the company as much as the food and would welcome any new members who care to join us. Some members may prefer an evening dinner and to venture a little further afield. If that appeals to you please do not hesitate to contact me.

Lois Evans 428 4373

Family History

Our little group has made good progress since we restarted last September, and we would welcome new members.

If you are interested in discovering your family's history, and have access to the Internet, then do come and join us on the first Tuesday morning of each month at my house in Northenden. We use free websites, but the occasional £10 may be necessary for a copy marriage certificate. For anyone lacking confidence, I am always happy to give one-to-one sessions to help you get started.

Sheila Harkin **998 7276**



French Conversation

I'm pleased to say there has been a good level of interest in the Group. In fact, the last couple of meetings we have been almost to capacity. We have been using the audio magazine *La Vie Outre-Manche* for listening and speaking, and also BBC video material, mainly *Ma France*.

Jim Crook **428 5764**

Gardening

The Gardening Group is led by a small committee of its members. We continue to meet monthly and during the winter months we use a room in URC Elm Road. Once the weather improves we try to plan outings to see the gardens of fellow members or visit local public gardens.

In January and February we had our indoor meetings; January, a fun Quiz and in February a *Gardeners' Question Time* when Thelma Bishop came along to help us with our gardening problems. This was a very informative meeting and we thank Thelma for sharing her expertise with us.

For our March meeting we toured the garden of 1, Lawson Ave. In April we had a very interesting talk about the Flora and Fauna of Gatley Carrs and we thank John Pollard for sharing his extensive knowledge with us. May saw us having a private tour of the Kitchen Gardens at Tatton Park by one of their volunteer gardeners and in June we look forward to seeing Pam's new garden.



The Gardening Group at Tatton



There is a varied programme arranged for the rest of the year culminating with a Christmas meal in November.

We also continue to maintain the planting commemorating Patsy Calton at Cheadle Library.

Nuala Lynn 258 0503

German

This informal group aims to build members' confidence, fluency and understanding of German by engaging in conversation, activities and discussion at our monthly meetings. We come from a varied background and level of competence in German language, but share the enjoyment of meeting together and exchanging information and opinions in German. We feel that we are beginning to 'hit our stride' and are certainly enjoying learning together. Now in our third year, we have a membership of 10 persons with an average attendance of 6 at monthly meetings. New members are welcome.

Lee Fairlie 428 4791

History

For this year we have been concentrating on the developments between the two World Wars. This has led us to examine a wide range of topics, including the relationship between Britain and Ireland leading to the formation of the Irish Free State, the League of Nations and the Weimar Republic, the rise of Bolshevism and events in Britain including the General Strike. We aim to complete the period examining developments in the United States, the rise of Fascism, Nazism and Hitler, concluding with the causes and origins of the Second World War.

John Houghton 428 2892

Tom Fanning 428 8666

History of Art

Since January our group has been studying the Art of the 19th century. We have been focussing on Classical, Romantic and Impressionist artists of the period.

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

Tom Fanning 428 8666

Local History

Our numbers continue to rise and we have well over 20 people at any meeting or visit.

In February we had a talk about John Alcock and Son, the local undertakers, but it included the family haberdashery shop on High Street which all the ladies remembered, as apparently they bought their underwear there!

The next meeting was a disaster with the lecturer not turning up! We did recover at the April meeting, held at The Crown in Heaton Mersey, where we had the talk on street architecture of Heaton Mersey that we should have had previously and then a visit to see the area.

It was a long meeting but a wonderful tea and home made cakes put on by The Crown brought it to a successful conclusion.

Then Diana Leitch, a regular lecturer, talked about the Neville family who lived for a time at Bramall Hall. Our last meeting will have Nick Bianchi to talk about Arighi Bianchi's history with our last visit being to Ordsall Hall, Salford.



Looking round the street architecture of Heaton Mersey



The entrance arch of St John's



Tea and home made cakes at The Crown

Nick Rogerson

428 6114

John Pollard

428 2150

Lunchtime Concerts – for free

We have attended concerts at Chetham's School many times but it was an added interest to combine our visit in February with a tour of the school, which was in the heart of Manchester in the Middle Ages.

As for the other concerts, one of the most outstanding was a programme of chamber music given by the Manchester University quartet in residence, the French-based Danel Quartet. Unlike the usual concerts given by the college and the university, this one was performed by a professional group of international standing. Although for many of us string quartet music was not a familiar experience, we were so impressed by the dynamic playing of the Danels that we shall definitely attend one of their concerts in the autumn.

The Little Bite summer concerts are on again at the Bridgewater Hall, with the usual varied programming. These concerts attract large audiences so we are making the effort to get there by midday to get a seat. The Scott brother piano duo on 8th July will be especially popular.

More delight to come in September once the programmes arrive.

Barbara Wingard **428 5922**

Painting and Drawing

This group of 6 has met 4 times now on the first Friday morning of each month. They are a friendly group and welcome new members. They all report enjoying the informal atmosphere (and the refreshments!) and helping each other along the way.

If you want to know more, please get in touch with us.

Pat Marsden **428 7820**

Science

The Science Group is now a Network Group, organized by Graham Beech of Wilmslow U3A.

Full details and the programme 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.

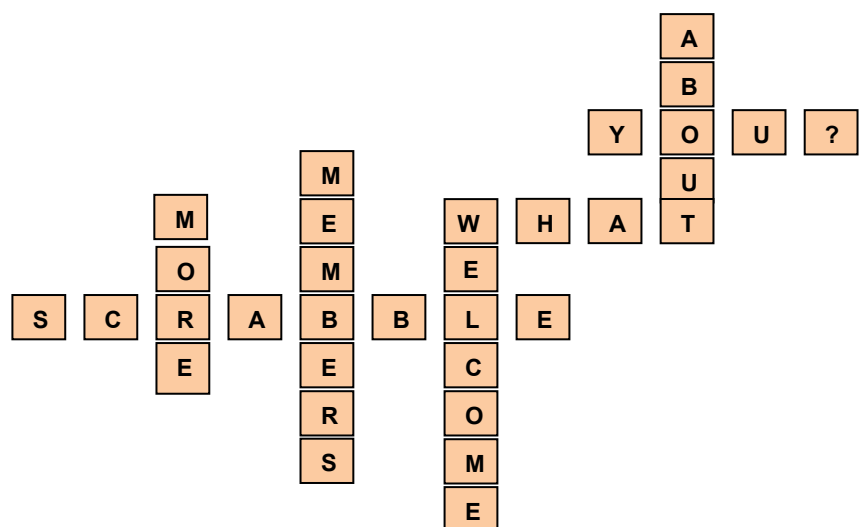
David Gane **428 0204** davidjgane@btinternet.com

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

In the past few months we have had two special events at our Tuesday meetings. The first was to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. The choir's contribution was songs from Bernstein's *West Side Story* which was based on *Romeo and Juliet*. Solo songs from other plays were performed by Jenny Smith, Susan Bayley and Keith Harris, accompanied by Dorothy Walker and Barbara Wingard. Lesley Witton not only put the songs into context, but she also gave an excellent account of Shakespeare's life and times. This was a most successful joint effort.



Singing for our Ukulele Band visitors

A visit from the Heaton and Reddish U3A Ukulele Band was our second special event. This was to introduce this increasingly popular instrument to Cheadle and Gatley U3A in the hope of setting up our own group.

Clyde Raine demonstrated just how accessible the ukulele is, and with the six instruments he had brought along, most who wanted to were able to 'have a go'. The choir then joined in the variety of songs that the band had with them to the accompaniment of ten ukuleles.

This went very well and it was therefore no wonder that eighteen people signed up for the new group, which will be led by Ian Ewing.

Barbara Wingard 428 5922



How do I get to G7?

Theatre Visits

The Theatre group continues to thrive. This year we have seen *I Ought to be in Pictures* and *Brief Encounter* at Chads, *The Crucible* and *Death on the Nile* at Northenden, *Arms and the Man* and *Do we ever see Grace* at Heald Green and some of us went along to the very funny Heald Green panto! We are going to see *The Ladykillers* at Chads during May and hope to go back to our local theatre at Heald Green for *Ladies Down Under* at the beginning of June.

It should be pointed out that all members of our U3A are invited to come along to any of the plays we advertise. Those who have joined the Theatre Group receive e-mail notification of planned visits. Anyone else who wishes to join us simply signs the notice placed on the board at our monthly meeting. For details of our future visits and the plays please ring me.

Chris Bester **376 7909**

Ukulele

Barbara, our irrepresible choir leader, decided that our U3A needed a Ukulele Group and, knowing that I possessed an old uke, decided that I should lead it. She therefore invited the Ukulele Group from Heaton Mersey and Reddish U3A to come to Elm Road to give us a demonstration, which they duly did. They regaled us with *Rock Around the Clock* and *Let's Twist Again* and left us so enthused that 23 members signed up on the spot. So, first job: get ukuleles. Four members decided to provide their own (one of which proved to be a fetching little pink number) leaving me to get 19 from our local music store, which gave us a favourable deal.

At our first session, after an hour of tuning, plucking and strumming most of us could tell our left hand from our right and count to 4. Music (sic) will take a little longer but I am confident that we will be belting out a decent repertoire by Christmas. Anyone else desperate to join should contact me.

Ian Ewing **312 5072.**



Walking (Long Walks)

The Long Walks 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.

- Dec: Our shorter pre-Christmas walk, this time from Marple Bridge along the Goyt Valley and Macclesfield canal, with mince pies and mulled wine for elevenses (5 miles – easy)
- Jan: A splendid walk above Hayfield with snow lying in the hills. (6 miles – moderate)
- Feb: A new route in Macclesfield Forest and via Chapel House Farm (6 miles – moderate)
- Mar: A loop round Ladder Hill from Combs Reservoir (5 miles – moderate)
- Apr: A circuit from New Mills (6 miles – easy)
- May: From Sparrowpit up to Rushup Edge, and back by an interesting pothole (5 miles – moderate)
- Jun: A circuit from Newhey above the reservoirs of the Piethorne valley (6½ miles – moderate)
- Jun: Kinder Mass Trespass Walk (7 miles – fairly strenuous)



Our December walk along the Goyt Valley



On the shoulder of Mount Famine in January, with Kinder Downfall and Kinder Low End on the skyline



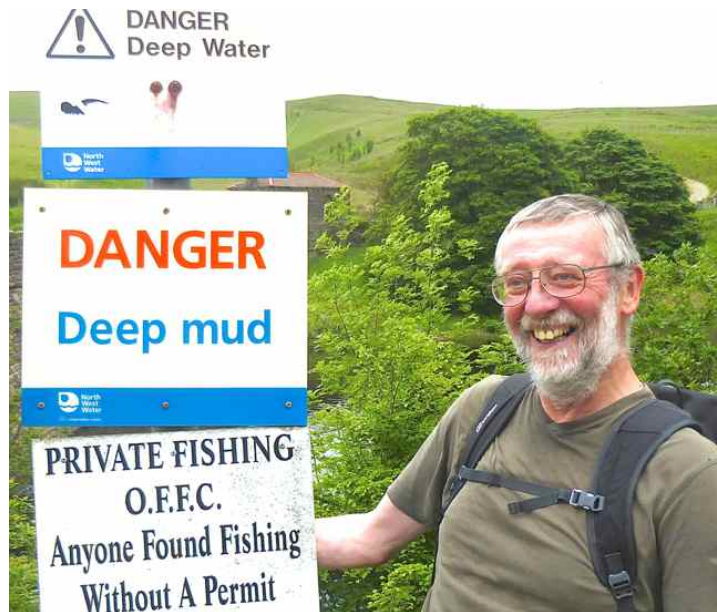
Coming off Rushup Edge with Eldon Hill quarry in the distance



Michelle finds a handy stile!



Geoff spots one of his favourite post boxes



Alan reconnoiters a new walk

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

258 0503

Walking (Short Walks)

The Short Walks group meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month outside the URC on Elm road at 10:15. The membership now stands at 18 and we average 10 on each walk.

The walks are between 4 and 5 miles and are led by different members of the group. This year we have visited Combs Reservoir, Daisy Nook, Disley and White Nancy. The remaining walks for this year will include Turton, Bambury and Dunham Massey. If anyone would like to join us they can contact me.

Stuart Forsyth **491 3592** stuart.forsyth4@gmail.com



At Daisy Nook Country Park



By the cage in Lyme Park



At White Nancy

The combined Mass Trespass Walk

As part of the Celebration Day activities, on 27th June the Long and Short Walks Groups combined to replicate the Kinder Mass Trespass of 1932. Twenty of us gathered at Bowden Bridge Quarry where the original Trespass began, and we followed the route of the original trespassers to William Clough.

From there the Short Walkers returned via White Brow and Hayfield, while the Long Walkers went up to Sandy Heys and Kinder Downfall. Fortunately, neither group met any gamekeepers with sticks, there was no brawl, and nobody was arrested when we returned!



The group at Bowden Bridge Quarry, with the plaque commemorating the original trespass on the rock above



At the start of William Clough

There will be a display about the original Trespass and its significance at the Celebration Day in November.

Walking (Strollers)

The Strollers meet twice a month 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.



The Strollers in Styal Village ...



... and at the tea shop

Marianne Owen 491 3323

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 averaged about £8 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

This seemed to be a good idea at the time when I announced it in last December's Newsletter, but given the huge amount of apathy it has generated, this year's competition may well be the first and last. Although I have had lots of promises, I have so far had just one image submitted.

Those interested may submit two digital images on the current theme by email to me by the deadline of 30th November 2016 (allanwitton@yahoo.co.uk). 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 is *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	Vacant	
Liaison 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	Vacant	
Webmaster	Peter Bayley	282 3468
Publications Editor	Allan Witton	428 1522
NE Cheshire Network	Mary Sharples	428 4901



*Pam
Marshall* *Mary
Sharples*



*Batsheva
Samely* *Janet
Farrall* *Lesley
Witton*



*Peter
Bayley*



*Allan
Witton*

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

Our fellow committee members from Bramhall, Cheadle Hulme, Wilmslow, Poynton, Macclesfield and Bramhall have continued to meet and work together. Macclesfield have just run a very successful study Day for all Network members on *Music from Classical to Jazz*.

We are planning a “Get-together Day” later this year, so each committee member can meet their opposite number in the other areas and share hints, experiences and learn from each other. Several of our neighbours have a group of people called “**Friends of U3A**” These are members who can be called upon occasionally to help out generally when need arises. If you would like to be “A Friend” of C&G U3A, please email or speak to any of the committee. We welcome your support.

Cheadle and Gatley U3A emails

We are increasingly making use of emails to communicate with our members. In December 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) has been emailed to all members. Several other notices of interest to the membership as a whole have also been circulated.

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 have changed your email address please inform us. If you haven’t been receiving U3A emails, we don’t have your correct address! 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 could pass on an email.

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 (<http://u3asitec.org.uk/live/code/u3asite.php?site=333&page=0>) or more simply, 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, amongst other things, links to:

- 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;
- the North-West region and the National U3A websites with details of courses etc;
- various other items of information and interest to our U3A members.

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.

Please make an effort to renew your membership on time each year

Editor’s note: Thanks very much to those who have submitted photographs for this Newsletter, and particularly to Lesley Witton and Tina Kelly who have submitted the large majority between them.

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.

My email address is allanwitton@yahoo.co.uk

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

DETAILS OF INTEREST GROUPS (At 10th July 2016)

The 4 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
<i>Bowling</i>	<i>Anne McCarty</i>	<i>437 9900</i>	<i>1st Tuesday</i>	<i>1:00</i>	<i>URC</i>
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	<i>3rd Tuesday</i>	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
<i>Painting and Drawing</i>	<i>Pat Marsden</i>	<i>428 7820</i>	<i>1st Friday</i>	<i>10:30</i>	<i>URC</i>
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
<i>Ukulele</i>	<i>Ian Ewing</i>	<i>312 5072</i>	<i>2nd and 4th Tuesday</i>	<i>3:15</i>	<i>URC</i>
Walking (Long) (Up to ~8 miles)	Allan Witton Alan Lynn	428 1522 258 0503	3rd Friday	9:30	Meet at Gatley Hill House car park
Walking (Short) (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.