

CHEADLE AND GATLEY U3A



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

JULY 2017 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

September 13th	Beechwood Cancer Care Writing Crime	Lorraine Fairclough Kate Ellis
October 11th	The Artefacts of Folk Magic	Peter Watson
November 8th	The Story of Pyrex	Dr. Diana Leitch
December 6th	Christmas Meeting with Entertainment	
January 10th	The Last Laugh of the Railway King	Geoff Scargill



The Short Walks Group on the summit of Mam Tor on a bright and breezy day

Message from the Chair

The past year has been quite an eventful one for Cheadle and Gatley U3A. Membership has now increased to 222 and we have 29 Interest Groups.

The new online Management System known as **Beacon**, developed by the U3A, became fully operational in the autumn and I would like to thank **Peter Bayley** for preparing all our data and for overseeing the transfer process. Members of the committee are now using Beacon for Membership and Financial Records and for emailing the whole membership. Group Co-ordinators have been initiated into the use of Beacon for the management of their groups and I should like to thank **Allan Witton** for his work on this.



Both these gentlemen retired from the committee at the AGM having served their full terms of 6 years and I should like to acknowledge the tremendous impact they have made on the running of this U3A from its inception. They have both said that they are willing to act in an advisory capacity and I'm sure we will make good use of them! Allan will continue to produce the Newsletter.

We have also said goodbye to **Judi Marsden** as a committee member. She was co-opted during the year to help with the organisation of the Celebration Day, for which we are very grateful, but did not wish to stand for election because of other commitments. It's my pleasure, however, to welcome two new members to the committee, Peter Briggs and Brian Green. We hope that they will enjoy working with us and will bring us some fresh ideas!

I should like to thank **Batsheva Samely** for her immaculate accounting. She set up online banking for us, which has proved to be very efficient and she has also got to grips with the Beacon system. In addition to this she has overseen our application to the **Charity Commission** to be recognised as a charity in our own right now that our income exceeds £5000 and this whole process has taken place very smoothly. As a committee we have taken the decision that we will have to raise the attendance fee at meetings in hired premises from £1.50 to £2, starting in September. This is because of the increase in room rentals. We felt that this was a reasonable step to take, especially as there has been no increase for 6 years and we do not intend to increase the annual membership fee, which remains at a very reasonable £12. We are aware that some very popular groups will, therefore, raise more than is necessary to cover their room rental, but they enable other groups with small attendance to hire premises and this was one of the founding principles of our U3A.

The highlight of the year for many of us was the event in November celebrating the **Industrial and Cultural Heritage of Manchester**, which I reported on in the last newsletter. Nearly all our Interest Groups were involved in some way and the day was a tremendous celebration, not only of Manchester, but of the enthusiasm and desire for learning of our members and their willingness to co-operate in such a venture. My thanks go to all who contributed in any way.

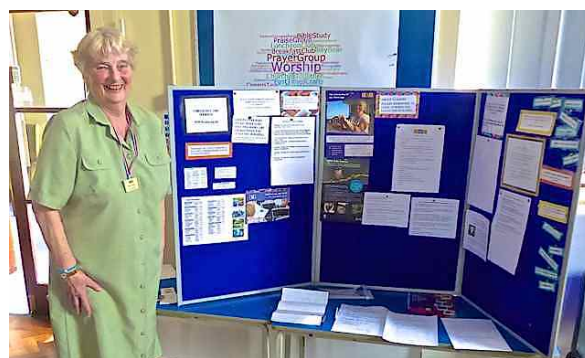
There was an afternoon tea in March to thank our **Group Coordinators** for all that they do and to welcome new members. Thanks go to Judi Marsden for organising this.

Mary Sharples has continued to book a variety of speakers for our monthly Open Meetings and she arranged the entertainment for the Christmas social. We thank her for this interesting programme. I'd also like to thank **Pam Marshall** for her excellent management of our membership and attendance records.

We are grateful to **Pauline Hadfield** for providing the refreshments at our monthly meetings, and to **Dorcas Flower** and her team for organising the book sales and raffle and we are pleased that we will be able to make a donation to **Walthew House, our charity this year, of £400**. Our chosen charity for the forthcoming year is **Beechwood Cancer Care Centre**, Stockport.



Janet Farrall, as our Liaison Secretary, has sent cards on behalf of the committee to members on birthdays and when ill or bereaved and we thank her for this important service. She also prepares the Welcome Packs for our new members and keeps the notice board up-to-date. A very successful day-trip to Llangollen was co-organised by Janet and was very much enjoyed by all who participated.



Finally, I'd like to express my appreciation to all my fellow committee members for their continued support over the year.

Lesley Witton

Presentation to Barbara Wingard

One of our members, Barbara Wingard, celebrates a significant birthday this summer and the committee decided that we'd like to take this opportunity to thank Barbara for the tremendous contribution she makes to our U3A.

She leads the Singing for Pleasure Group; she organises Lunchtime concert trips; she arranges musical entertainments for us, and she took part in the regional Summer School (at which she got the idea of encouraging the setting up of a Ukulele Group!). She also attends several Interest Groups; she is the perfect U3A member!



A 90th Birthday card was signed by all the members who attended the AGM and some of the committee went round to present Barbara with a rose as a token of our gratitude for all that she does for Cheadle & Gatley U3A.

The rose is called Benjamin Britten, which we thought was entirely appropriate as the Singing Group has performed some of his works!

Coach Trip to Llangollen and the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct

The augurs were not good when the coach left Elm Road at 9.25 on June 8th, for the forecast was for wind and rain. We travelled first to a garden centre and then by the picturesque route to Llangollen.

Without the many visitors it hosts in July and August the town was picturesque, pretty and quiet, unlike during the Industrial Revolution when it was the centre of the mining industry. That was when Thomas Telford built the iconic Pontcysyllte aqueduct over the river Dee to take the Llangollen canal.

This was our next venue and we embarked on a narrow-boat to enjoy the views from the canal and aqueduct, as well as having afternoon tea and a commentary.

The weather hadn't turned out as bad as forecast, and many thanks are due for the exemplary organisation which made it a very good and enjoyable day out.

Ruth Segal



Pontcysyllte Aqueduct on a sunny day



Afternoon tea on the narrow-boat

Gatley Open Gardens

A great big THANK YOU to everyone who attended Gatley Open Gardens. It was a most enjoyable day and YOU helped raise over £5,000 for the Christie Charity. THANK YOU!

Batsheva Samely

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

We have been lucky to receive a number of copies of 'Current Archaeology' magazine kindly donated by John Doughty. These have proved a valuable resource and members have been giving short talks based on items of interest to them. In May, John gave us a very enlightening talk on the work of James Brindley the canal engineer.

Our field trip in April was to South Wales where we visited the excavated 14th century Newport ship; Caerleon Roman amphitheatre and museum; Caerphilly's 13th century castle; the Welsh Folk museum which has reconstructed buildings from sites throughout Wales; the Big Pit mining museum which included a tour underground and Blaenavon Iron works site. Apart from getting lost we had an enjoyable, if tiring, three days.



Newport Ship museum: Lois Evans, John Pollard, Peter Briggs and Peter Brookes & the museum curator



The excavation of Newport ship



Lois Evans and John Pollard at Blaenavon Iron Works



Caerphilly's 13th century castle

Also in April, South Manchester Archaeology Research Trust began a preliminary excavation on Gatley Hill. At the end of June we participated in the Greater Manchester Archaeology Festival and joined SMART for an Open Day in Cheadle.

Lois Evans

428 4373

Monday Book Group

The authors chosen for the first half of this year have provided us with some challenging and entertaining reading. Iris Murdoch was January's choice and the group read six different novels between them. Comments included: 'very good at homing in on feelings and attitudes'; 'fascinating exploration of character and relationships'; 'a net of language and web of words'. February was devoted to John Le Carré and we found the moral ambiguity in his novels fascinating and the plots very clever and really gripping. A little light relief was sought in March with our choice of Bill Bryson. We found his caricatures of national characteristics well observed and amusing, but some felt his style was rather repetitive and became irritated by his negative approach. On the other hand, it was acknowledged that his factual writing is well researched and informative.

It is always a delight to discover new writers and this pleasure came in April when we read Sarah Moss. *Names for the Sea*, *Night Waking*, *Lost Songs of Childhood* and *Bodies of Light* (the latter set in Victorian Manchester) are all highly recommended. Kazuo Ishiguro was the choice for May. Five different novels and a set of short stories were discussed. It was agreed that one of his main themes seems to be an exploration of memory and its effects on the narrator. In June, we read Margaret Atwood. Her novels provide disturbing reading, especially in their emphasis on the precarious position of women, but the plot structure in *The Blind Assassin* and *Hag Seed* was admired. The latter is a re-working of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and our reader found it 'intriguing'. We like to set ourselves a challenge every so often and we have been reading Dostoyevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov* all year to be discussed in October!

Lesley Witton **428 1522**

Tuesday Book Group

Our group is now 15 strong and meetings continue at Cheadle library with library book sets provided by the Stockport council distribution service.

In the previous 6 months we have discussed and rated as follows:-

December	<i>Anil's Ghost</i> - Michael Ondaatje	1 star
January	<i>Public Library</i> - Ali Smith	0 star
February	<i>A Place Called Winter</i> - Patrick Gale	5 star
March	<i>The Scent of Death</i> - Andrew Taylor	4 star
April	<i>The Slaughter Man</i> - Tony Parsons	2 star
May	<i>A Girl is a Half-formed Thing</i> - Eimear McBride - (too stylistically difficult to read)	



In the event of a book choice being unacceptable by group consensus (as with the May offering) we read a book of our own choosing from an agreed list of respected authors. Therefore in June we will have discussed books either by William Boyd or by Kate Atkinson. Any members wishing to join will be welcomed onto a waiting list.

Tina Kelly **376 7909**

Bowling

We meet at the URC, Elm Road, Gatley on the first Tuesday afternoon in the month 1pm to 3pm with a short break for refreshments. We commence and finish with a few gentle stretching exercises. You do not need any equipment apart from a pair of light shoes which have not been worn outdoors, to protect the mat.

We are a happy group and new members would be very welcome. No previous experience is necessary. If you are interested please contact me.

Anne McCarty 437 9900

Bridge

We continue to meet on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at the small hall at St. James' parish hall. We normally have 3 tables but could accommodate a few new members if anyone is interested. What would be of great benefit is if an experienced player could come along on an occasional basis to keep us on the right track. If anyone feels that they fit the bill perhaps they could get in touch; we cannot promise a fee but there would be copious tea and biscuits.

Linda Ewing 312 5072

Bus Pass Explorer

We started this group for members who wanted to get out and about and use their Bus Pass more, and at our first meeting at Bill's Coffee Shop we were delighted with the response.

We found people were so friendly and, chatting over a cuppa, soon began inviting people to join them on a visit, so no-one feels left out.

Members tell us of their previous journeys and we have added these, and their comments, to our collection, which is what it is all about.

We have a growing portfolio of over 30 places that you can visit using your Bus Pass. We hope to continue to organise Group Bus Pass Days and, for those who tell us they now can't walk very far, in-house Bus Passless Days. We look forward to seeing you on the third Thursday at 11 a.m. at Bill's, or you can pass on your email and we will keep you in touch.



Janet Farrall 428 783 jango123@btinternet.com

Report on some Bus Pass Explorer Visits

There have been visits to Southport, Etherow Park, and the Macclesfield Treacle Market. The visit to Poole's Cavern in Buxton, a natural wonder comprising vast limestone caverns millions of years old, was truly awe-inspiring.

During May to September in many towns and villages in Derbyshire the unique spectacle of Well-Dressing takes place to celebrate water and the life it brings. On a fine, sunny day some of us travelled to Bakewell and spent a happy afternoon looking at these living-art installations, made from natural materials such as wool, bark, flower petals and seeds, some depicting Biblical scenes. Four of these were to be found in the attractive gardens in the centre of Bakewell.

Maybe it would be quicker to get to such places by car, but on the bus one can relax and enjoy the scenery in the company of like-minded travellers. We are fortunate in having an excellent bus, rail and metro service, so let's use it!

Jill Pritchard

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 2 pm 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

Since Christmas we have visited Brezo; Golden Days Garden centre café; Istanbul; Turquoise; Bellinis; and the Farmers Arms – all in the Cheadle area.

Apart from Brezo, which is new, all were revisits. We have many new members in our Group, so for some of them it was a first visit, for others a welcome return.

All our visits are very sociable and, as most of us live alone, it's good to be able to join a lunch out with U3A friends. We always welcome new members and generally meet at lunchtime.

Lois Evans **428 4373**

Family History

Since Sheila Harkin sadly gave up as leader in January, the group is now meeting in my house in Gatley, still the first Tuesday morning in the month. Currently a very small group, we would welcome new members. We are using the Internet for our research, using free web sites as far as possible, with the occasional need for an outlay of about £10 for a certificate in order to progress further. I am happy to give one-to-one advice to anyone who doesn't know where to start.

Linda Corry **428 4094**

French Conversation

The group continues to meet each fourth Wednesday of the month. We use *La Vie Outre-Manche* audio magazine for listening and conversation practice. We also enjoy the BBC videos *Ma France*, but the clips are short, the material is not updated. We shall have to do some research to find alternative video material.

Jim Crook **428 5764**

Gardening

The Gardening Group does not have a Coordinator but is run collectively by the members of the group. We meet every fourth Thursday in the month, except December.

We began this year at United Reform Church in Gatley with our usual gardening quiz - nothing too intellectual but good fun. In March we then got down and dirty at Marianne Owen's newly acquired allotment. After a couple of hours digging, weeding and planting vegetables we deserved our cuppa. In April we had a visit to Hare Hill in Over Alderley where the rhododendrons, magnolias and azaleas were in full bloom. During May we took a day trip to Bodnant Garden in Wales, where the stunning Laburnum Arch was a sight to behold.



Underneath the Laburnum Arch at Bodnant Gardens

Still to come this year - visits to two gardens belonging to our U3A gardening group members and at one we will be looking at varieties of bamboo. A visit to see a garden in Great Budworth, which is in the National Garden Scheme, is planned for July and we will round off the year with a celebratory meal in November at The Vinery in Bruntwood Park.

We also continue to maintain the planting commemorating Patsy Calton at Cheadle Library, and grateful thanks should go to Brenda Attack and Marianne Owen who go regularly to weed and put in fresh plants.

Pam Marshall **282 5359**

German

We are fortunate to include native speakers and students with varied levels of German fluency in our group. Our shared language, cultural and family interests often lead to stimulating and amusing discussion. In addition to conversation, we include other resources including articles of current interest. New members are welcome.

Lee Fairlie **428 4791**

History

Our group is concluding its current topic, which has been 'The development of health and medicine through the ages' and we are now considering our next topic, which looks as though it will be 'The Middle Ages', which will start in September.

John Houghton **428 2892**

Tom Fanning

428 8666

History of Art

Since the group's formation 18 months ago we have been studying the history of Western Art from the Renaissance to the end of the 20th Century. This year these meetings have been interspersed with two visits to Art Galleries in the North West. In the Autumn we had a guided tour of Manchester City Art Gallery, and in February we had a guided tour of the Victorian Treasures Exhibition at the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool.

In addition some members have viewed the Exhibition Presentations at Parrswood Cinema on Goya, Monet at Giverny, and Michelangelo.

If anyone is interested in joining the group now is a suitable time as we have completed our study of Western Art, and we are about to embark on a new course on the most important artists of the last 600 years.

Tom Fanning 428 8666

Local History

We have a large and thriving membership who are provided with a mixture of talks and visits.

In February the Wythenshawe Local History Group came and gave an excellent illustrated presentation on the history of Wythenshawe.

In March we had a discussion on what we should be looking to do in the future and a plea for more people to help with research.

In April we went to visit Elizabeth Gaskell House, with a talk on the writer, refreshments including a choice of excellent cakes and finally a tour of the house itself with a guide explaining the furnishings and decoration.

In May our regular speaker Dr Diana Leitch gave us a talk on the 'Scientists, Engineers, Mathematicians and Medics Associated with Didsbury' and what a lot there were!

In June one of our members Janet Farrall gave a talk on Gatley Hill and the folks that lived there which was excellent, full of interesting local people.

Finally in July we are visiting Manchester Cathedral with a tour followed by refreshments in a local cafe.

Nick Rogerson 428 6114 John Pollard 428 2150

Lunchtime Concerts – for free

Although there have been no orchestral concerts at suitable times for us since January, we have attended some small-scale chamber recitals which have given us a chance to appreciate such instruments as the cello, trumpet and harp at close quarters. Our repeat visit to hear the Danel String Quartet playing early Beethoven was most enjoyable and will feature again in our future programme planning.

In June and July when the college and the university are busy with exams, The Little Bite Concerts at the Bridgewater Hall fill the gap with some most unusual music. How lucky we are in Manchester to have such a variety of lunchtime concerts!

Barbara Wingard 428 5922

MOOCs – The Online Learning Group

Massive **O**pen **O**nline **C**ourses (MOOCs) continue to give us massive enjoyment and learning opportunities. In the past year we studied a wide variety of courses: from Cultural Studies to Nutrition, Government, Italian, Mindfulness and Empire, to name but a few.

Some of these topics we investigated as a group and some we studied as individuals. Sharing our findings with the group benefits everybody, and we get to hear and understand many things which we might never have chosen to research of our own accord. Fabulous!

We are a small but fun group of nine people (only six in the photo) and would very much welcome anyone curious and open-minded to join us. BIG DATA is one of our next topics.



Batsheva Samely 428 6030

Painting and Drawing

Since March our group has been meeting twice a month. We have about ten members who work individually on a variety of subjects using pencil, chalks and paints. There is an informal atmosphere but we work with concentration, seeking advice and inspiration from each other, making it an enjoyable and fruitful experience. New members are always welcome.

Pat Marsden 428 7820

Science

The Science Group is now a Network Group, organised 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>

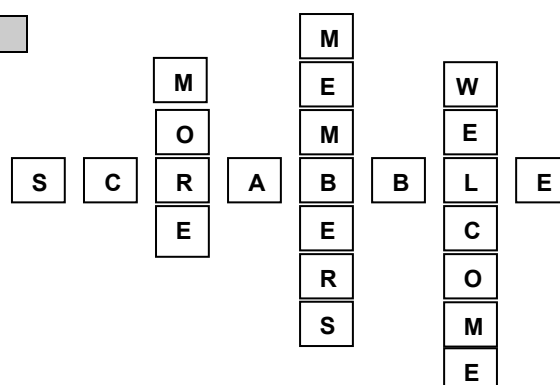
Anyone interested in the talks should contact Graham Beech on 01625 402946 or email him at gb.u3a@talktalk.net to be put on the e-mailing list, or contact the C&G representative, David Gane.

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

Over the past five years various members of the choir have presented me with either copies of music they have sung in other choirs or collections of pieces handed down in the family. There have been some gems amongst these such as a full score of Edward German's *Merrie England*, an early edition of that Edwardian favourite, *In a Monastery Garden* and three selections of early twentieth century music hall songs. We shall be using the latter as one of our themes in the new term in September. Many thanks to all you kind donors!

Since February we have been working on a group of songs by Stephen Foster (1826-1864) that were in a volume of Parlour Songs given to me by David Williams. Foster wrote many memorable songs such as *Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair*, *Beautiful Dreamer* and *My Old Kentucky Home*. We hope to include these in our Christmas concert.

By then we should also have the *Hallelujah Chorus* from Handel's *Messiah* ready for performance. This piece has been quite a challenge but we are getting there!!

Barbara Wingard 428 5922

Vouchers for the Bridgewater Hall were given to Barbara and Dorothy with thanks for all their hard work. A Birthday cake for Barbara was enjoyed by all during our interval, after which we were entertained by the Ukulele Group.



Theatre Visits

We have made several visits to our local amateur theatres, which are of a very high standard, and continue to attract our attention and admiration.

We have visited Heald Green to enjoy *The Good old Days*, *The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomens Guild Murder Mystery* and are hoping to go to see *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* in June. We also visited Northenden for their farce, *One Man, Two Guvnors*, and Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*.

At Chad's in Cheadle Hulme we went to see *On Golden Pond*, *The Rivals* and *Visiting Mr Green* and we also went to The Garrick in Stockport to see their youth theatre production of *Daisy Pulls It Off*.

I also went to the Brookdale theatre in Bramhall and intend to go to the Poynton Players in order to see what their facilities were like and to see if their productions would suit us. I shall give you more information when I get their next season's programmes and pass on the information in my next email.

These local theatres provide us with very good entertainment and I shall continue to make us aware of their productions so that we can build up our support for them and cherish them as an integral part of our community's cultural activities. If you would like to join our group please contact me.

Chris Bester

376 7909

Ukulele

The ukulele group plonks ever onwards and our numbers (in terms of tunes and members) continue to grow.

We are at present trying to master new rhythms (as opposed to "umpty tumpy tumpy tum"); hard work but we'll get there.



This is how to do it



Ian Ewing

312 5072

Walking (Long Walks)

The Long Walks Group continues to thrive, and we offer varied walks to suit a variety of abilities. 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.

Jan:	A '23-stile' circuit above Bollington on a clear, crisp day	(6 miles – moderate)
Feb:	A walk up Eccles Pike from Whaley Bridge	(6 miles – moderate)
Mar:	A circuit of Bottoms, Valehouse & Rhodeswood Reservoirs in Longdendale	(5 miles – easy)
Apr:	From Leather's Smithy along the Gritstone Trail to Sutton Common	(8 miles – strenuous)
May:	From Mossley to Winberry Rocks on the moors above Dove Stone Reservoir	(9.5 miles – strenuous)
Jun:	A four-hills circuit of the moors above Watergrove Reservoir near Wardle, Rochdale	6 miles moderate)



Walking up from Bollington on a crisp January day



A wet walk in Longdendale in March



High above Dove Stone reservoir in May



On Winberry Rocks in May

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.

On the moors above Watergrove Reservoir in June



Allan Witton

428 1522

Alan Lynn

258 0503

Walking (Short Walks)

The Short Walks group undertake walks of 5 miles or less. We meet outside the URC church on the third Thursday of each month. The walks are led by members of the group which this year will have had 9 leaders. We have 18 members and we have averaged 9 members on each walk.

This year we have undertaken walks at New Mills, Sale, Tegg's Nose, Lud's Church and Mam Tor. We will be visiting Sawley, Lantern Pike, Holcombe Moor, Dovestone and several other places.

Anybody who would like to join should contact me.



On the walk from New Mills

Stuart Forsyth

491 3592

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. We would welcome any new members.



Strollers on their walk along the Rochdale Canal in central Manchester

Marianne Owen 491 3323

Wine Appreciation

The wine appreciation group has been meeting for over 5 years, our meetings are held monthly usually at the different homes of our members.

The three hour meetings tend to follow a different theme based on either wine types or region of production, typically 'studying' about four or so different wines assisted with lively conversation and accompanied by interesting light bites. We usually select a set of very different wines of a wide budget range and looking back we have probably enjoyed well over 250 different wines.

We have an annual quiz, a barbecue evening and a seasonal banquet in December and weather permitting some outdoor garden evenings, including 'Wine under the Vine'.



The Wine Appreciation Group studying hard during the 'Round the World' Wine Quiz

Although we could possibly meet in a larger hall, it is felt that the more intimate home locations help with the convivial ambiance of our meetings; the downside of this is that the group is essentially limited to its current size. I am very much aware that there are several other C&G members who might like to form a further Wine related group, either a 'Tasting' group or another 'Appreciation' group.

If there is a sufficient level of interest I would be happy to convene a meeting to explore the possibility of creating another group which would then meet with its own format and programme.

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.

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	
NE Cheshire Network	Mary Sharples	428 4901
Member	Peter Briggs	485 6871
Member	Brian Green	428 8535



Pam Marshall Janet Farrall Brian Green Mary Sharples Peter Briggs Batsheva Samely Lesley Witton

North-East Cheshire Network

We have continued to meet with our fellow committee members from Bramhall, Cheadle Hulme, Wilmslow, Poynton, Macclesfield and Bramhall and work together and share good practice.

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.

Liaison Secretary

On behalf of all the members I am pleased to send anyone who is having a special birthday a card, or where this applies, a Get Well Soon card etc., so do please let me know of anyone appropriate. I am also happy to promote any of your Group's information on the Notice Board or to generally point you in the right direction should you have a query.

Janet Farrall 428 7833

Cheadle and Gatley U3A emails

Sending emails is an important method by which we communicate with our members. An expanded edition of each Newsletter (the same as the one on the website, with additional images all in colour) is sent to all members for whom we have an email address. An email containing all the notices announced at the Monthly Meeting is sent shortly after the meeting, and other notices of interest to the membership as a whole are also 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.

Online Management System: Beacon

The Cheadle and Gatley version of this U3A National system is now being used to enable many aspects of our membership and finance to be managed centrally online. Emails to all members are now sent via Beacon, and Group Coordinators who wish to can now use the system to maintain their group's membership list and to communicate with members of their group. We are also looking into the possibility of joining and renewing membership online.

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.
Please pass this Newsletter on to anyone you think might be 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.**

The fee to join Cheadle and Gatley U3A is £12 per year pro-rata, April to March; e.g. someone joining in September would pay £7 (for September to March). In addition there is a charge of £2 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.

We are pleased to announce that for the first time our membership has topped 200.

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

Editor's note and plea for help: Thanks very much to those who have submitted photographs for this Newsletter, but I have had a limited choice for this edition.

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!**

Please send them to me at allanwitton@yahoo.co.uk (using 'at' in the address helps reduce the spam emails I receive; replace it with the usual symbol if you wish to use the address).

Since starting to feature an image of one of our groups or events on the front cover of the Newsletter in June 2013, I have chosen different groups each time: Long Walks; Lunchtime Concerts; Gardening; Strollers; Local History; Media City Tour; Archaeology; Christmas Lunch; and for this edition, Short Walks.

DETAILS OF INTEREST GROUPS

(At 12th July 2017)

The 3 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
Bowling	Anne McCarty	437 9900	1st Tuesday	1:00	URC
Bridge	Linda Ewing	312 5072	1st & 3rd Wednesdays	1:30	St James' Hall
<i>Bus Pass Explorer</i>	<i>Janet Farrall</i>	<i>428 7833</i>	<i>3rd Thursday</i>	<i>11:00</i>	<i>Bill's Café</i>
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	Linda Corry	428 4094	1st Tuesday	9:30	House
French Conversation	Jim Crook	428 5764	4th Wednesday	10:00-12:00	House
Gardening	Pam Marshall	282 5359	4th Thursday	1:30	Various
German	Lee Fairlie	428 4791	3rd Tuesday	10:00-12:00	House
History	John Houghton	428 2892	2nd and 4th Fridays	2:00	URC
	Tom Fanning	428 8666			
History of Art	Tom Fanning	428 8666	Last Wednesday	1:30	URC
Local History	<i>John Pollard</i>	<i>428 2150</i>	1st Wednesday	1:30	Cheadle Library
Lunchtime Concerts	Barbara Wingard	428 5922	Periodically as arranged	Various	Various
MOOCs	Batsheva Samely	428 6030	3rd Wednesday	Various	Various
Painting and Drawing	Pat Marsden	428 7820	<i>1st and 3rd Friday</i>	10:30-12.30	URC
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
Ukulele	Ian Ewing	312 5072	2nd and 4th Tuesday	3:15	URC
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	10:00	Meet at URC
Walking (Strollers) Easy local walks	Marianne Owen	491 3323	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.

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

Details of forthcoming events for Groups which meet 'Periodically as arranged' can be obtained by contacting the Coordinator.

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.