

CHEADLE AND GATLEY U3A

Registered Charity Number:1172853



JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Speakers at our Monthly Open Meetings from September 2022 to January 2023

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| August | No meeting | |
| September 14th | Gatley Carrs | Peter Owen |
| October 12th | Heritage Rambles | Josephine Gosling |
| November 9th | The History of Bagpipes | Michael Billington |
| December 14th | Christmas meeting | |
| January 11th 2023 | Magistrates in the Community | Hillary Clinton |



The Long Walks Group entering the Brushes Valley above Stalybridge



The Explorers Group about to set off on their day out for a Platinum Jubilee Cruise

Message from the Chair Lesley Witton

At our AGM I commented that it was good to be able to report in person this year after two years of email voting and Zoom meetings. I thanked all our members for their commitment to our u3a over the last couple of years and particularly our Group Convenors who kept their groups going online or in gardens.

It was pleasing to report that a new Poetry Group has been formed and the Local History Group is up and running again. Sadly, the Singing Group is discontinuing and I paid tribute to Barbara Wingard, the leader, and Dorothy Walker, the pianist. A full account of their contribution to our u3a can be read on page 4.



I announced that two long-serving members of the committee were standing down. Batsheva Samely joined the committee as Treasurer in 2015 and did a great job in establishing a very efficient system of spreadsheets, introducing online banking and registering us with the Charity Commission. She then switched to the role of Chair and led us superbly through her term, which included the two years of the pandemic.

Mary Sharples also joined the committee in 2015 and has been our Speaker Secretary, Community Liaison officer and our representative on the local Network. In all these roles she has excelled, but I made particular mention of her expertise in finding interesting speakers for us each month.

Batsheva and Mary made a huge contribution to our u3a over the years and were a pleasure to work with. We will miss their tireless enthusiasm and great good humour.

I went on to thank all my fellow committee members for their dedication and support – they are a great team. We were delighted when Elaine Bowker and Margaret Seaby accepted our invitation to be nominated to stand for election to our committee and at the following vote all the nominees were duly elected. I look forward to working with them during the coming year.

June AGM and Platinum Jubilee Picnic

Our AGM was followed by a Loyal Toast to the Queen to congratulate her on her 70 year reign and we then adjourned to the picnic tables outside. It was a beautiful day and we all enjoyed chatting to each other over our picnics accompanied by Prosecco and cake!



Mary gave her report at the AGM



The Loyal Toast, followed by the picnic outside



Eleven years of the Singing For Pleasure Group

Barbara Wingard was one of our first Group Leaders as she rose to the challenge laid down by John Ellison at our launch meeting in June 2011 for anyone with specialist knowledge to come forward. As she had had a great deal of experience in the musical field she decided to start a singing group – not a ‘choir’, but a group for anyone who enjoyed singing for pleasure. Right from the start she inspired us with her enthusiasm and encouragement and within a few months we were performing at the U3A Christmas party.

More performances followed at various local venues, such as Stockport Town Hall, different church halls and care homes, and we averaged three public performances a year. Barbara really brought out the best in us and gave us wonderful opportunities to share in music-making which most of us would not otherwise have had. It was exhilarating to raise our voices in well-known songs from the shows and even the Hallelujah chorus!

Barbara was ably supported by Dorothy Walker our pianist who had to cope with the vagaries of the hall piano and the limitations of our voices, which she did by transcribing several of our pieces into a more manageable key! Barbara and Dorothy provided us with fortnightly sessions, but they also gave up a lot of their time in planning and preparation. Thanks to their dedication a large number of our members have been able to share in the joy of communal singing and we have all felt the benefits. We will miss them greatly.

We had a splendid farewell session with a display in photos of the Singing Group’s history and other mementoes of the music we have enjoyed. For the first half, Barbara and Dorothy took us through some of our favourites in chronological order. We then had the speeches and presentations followed by cake and Prosecco! It was so good to see former group members and to reminisce. We resumed to sing a few more songs and the session finished with a surprise rendition of ‘Barbara’s Song’ to the tune of ‘The Policeman’s Song’ by Gilbert and Sullivan, which greatly amused the eponymous recipient!



Christmas 2012



The Hallelujah Chorus 2017



Prosecco and cake



Dorothy and Barbara



Our Barbara’s Song, led by Jenni and Ian

A fuller tribute including more photographs will be available on our website via a link on the Welcome page.

Gatley Festival

For the first time this year our U3A had a display at Gatley Festival on Sunday 3rd July, with the intention of bringing our group to the notice of a wider audience from the local community. It turned into a beautifully sunny afternoon and there was much interest in our stand.



Gatley Open Gardens

Many of our members, not only those in the Gardening Group, will enjoy the gardens on display at this event.

Sunday, 10th July, 11am - 5pm

Supporting

Gardens, plants, coffee and cake
All proceeds to the Christie Charitable Fund
Tickets from A&I and Armenique in Gatley

The Christie
Charitable Fund



GROUP NEWS

If you are interested in a Group which doesn't have a report in this section you can contact the Convenor for the latest information using the list on the last page.

Book Group 1

Lesley Witton 428 1522

We are still holding hybrid meetings, but hope to be all together again soon. Our choice of Spy Novels as a theme for February produced an interesting discussion on books by authors from different periods. French Writers followed in March with Françoise Sagan, Guy de Maupassant, Annie Ernaux, Edouard Louis and Emile Zola being read. Two of our members even dipped into Proust's *À la recherche du temps perdu*! A fascinating range of historical novels was read for May and in June we discussed novels by Tana French, a writer new to many of us but whose crime novels written in a lyrical style we all enjoyed. What we appreciate most about our meetings is the lively discussion and discovery of writers we might not otherwise have come across.

Book Group 2

Tina Kelly 376 7909

We continue to meet at Cheadle library and have enjoyed the library choices listed below.

A few of our members have joined the new group on Monday mornings and our photo shows it was taken in June near the Queen's jubilee.



| | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| January | <i>Howards End</i> | E M Forster | 4 stars |
| February | <i>Paris Echo</i> | Sebastian Faulks | 3 stars |
| March | <i>Ali & Nino</i> | Kurban Said | 3 stars (1x5 stars) |
| April | <i>Anna of the Five Towns</i> | Arnold Bennett | 4.5 stars |
| May | <i>On the Beach</i> | Nevil Shute | 3 stars |

Book Group 3

Margaret Seaby 221 0944

Reading Group 3 had its first meeting in February of this year. We meet in the morning on a monthly basis (the first Monday in the month from 10.30 -midday) in the Community Room at Cheadle Library and there are currently five members so we are ready to welcome more readers to join us.

We use books from the Stockport Library Service Reading Groups Scheme which we select after researching the author and title. Now that we have had time to understand members' reading tastes, we can better focus our requests from the Library Service.

To give a flavour of the kind of books we read, so far we have discussed: *Girl, Balancing* by Helen Dunmore, *Springtime in a Broken Mirror* by Mario Benedetti, *Love is Blind* by William Boyd, *Journeys on the Other Side of the World* by David Attenborough and *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver.

If you are interested and are available on the first Monday morning of the month, please join us.

Bridge

Linda Ewing 312 5072

The Bridge group has been running very well since we were able to re-open. All our members have been very keen to get back to some semblance of normality and have attended whenever they have been able to do so. We have been getting around a dozen people each time and I think that we have all enjoyed the social contact as well as the Bridge.

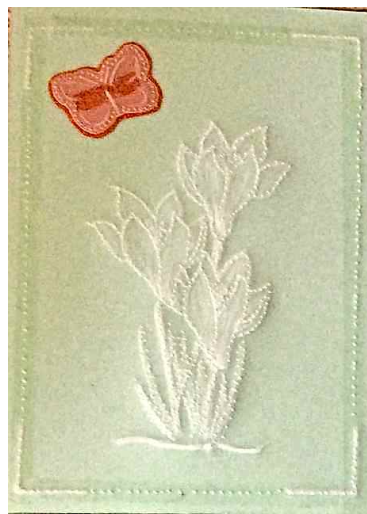
We are a very friendly group and would welcome any new members. We meet at St James Church Hall on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 1-30. If you would like to join us please give me a ring on the number above. Anyone who would like to come along for a visit to see what it is like just turn up on the day.

Computing**Peter Bayley 282 3468**

Rather than being a regular group, the Computing 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.

Craft/Sewing**Josephine Haynes 491 3282**

I'm afraid our numbers are much smaller than they were pre-covid but we remain enthusiastic and our members cover cross stitch, general embroidery, knitting and crochet. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month in the small hall at St James' Church, 10.30 until 12 noon. We don't do tutorials as such, but encourage each other with the different projects that we are each working on. For further details contact me



Parchment craft cards by Pam Allen



Scrappy bag

Creative Writing**Nigel Bann 491 6835**

The Creative Writing group welcomes new members. We meet at a member's house at 2pm on the second Monday of the month. Members bring poems and short stories that they have written on any subject they choose, and read them to the group. For further information please contact me.

Crisis in Europe by Joan Proctor (written in March)

The sun is shining - it's a beautiful day
Yet in a land not far away
The snow is lying on the ground
The birds maybe singing but mostly the sound
Is of gunfire, explosions, the rumble of tanks
The destruction of homes, hospitals, blood banks
The sounds of WAR

Ordinary people just like you and me
Are having to choose whether to fight or flee
Families are split, their homes are gone
The advance of the Russians goes on and on
Seizing cities and towns where people once thrived
Now cold, hungry and thirsty and barely alive
The result of WAR

Why is this happening, what can we do?
We don't want another war like World War 2
Huge numbers of lives lost and wanton destruction
The lust for power under one man's instruction
The loss of freedom in his quest for control
Does this man have any heart or soul?

So we hope and pray that they will win through
To fly their flag of yellow and blue
To hold Kyiv and to regain
Their country - their UKRAINE

We meet every third Thursday in the month at the Piccolo Restaurant (near Gatley Green) at 10.00 with notices at 11.00 to let you know what is being planned. We are a very welcoming, friendly and active group, so do come along if only for a cuppa, cake and a chat. In order to be part of the Explorers Group and participate in our visits you need to be a member of C&G U3A and be capable of being responsible for yourself. We are very lucky as a group to have lots of friends in it who are prepared to help out in many ways, for instance taking photographs and writing articles for the Newsletter, thanks to everyone. Thanks also to 'Mr Piccolo' for continuing to let us meet in his restaurant for free. We are more than happy to keep supporting Gatley Food Bank.

We were delighted to be able to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a Grand Cruise. All bedecked in red, white & blue we sailed along the Upper Peak Forest Canal. After the Loyal Toast we enjoyed a delicious 2-course lunch with a lively and informative commentary on the passing beauty spots. We were accompanied by the Jubilee Teddy beautifully and appropriately dressed by and donated by Ginnie, and won by Dorcas.



Outside the Tatton waiting for the coach



Stephanie Harrison



Pat Pritchard



Our Jubilee Cruise boat, the Pride of the Peak



We are continuing the Royal theme by going to RHS Bridgewater in the autumn, this time accompanied by members of the Art Group.

In the meantime more outings are being organised, so if you're interested, join the U3A and come along to our Thursday meetings at the Piccolo Restaurant to find out more.

Cruising the Upper Peak Forest Canal

The family history group is a small group, currently numbering 6, which meets in my house off Styal Road. Recently we have been taking it in turns to give short presentations to the group about some aspect of family history research. Also we usually discuss where we have got to in our own research. Currently, as most of us have had our DNA tested, we have been considering DNA matching as a tool for research - and some of us have had success in breaking down 'brick walls', or in confirming that previous research is correct. We continue, as always, to help each other by giving advice if necessary. If anyone is thinking of taking up family history as a hobby, but doesn't know where to start, I can help.

We have welcomed several new members to our group this year. We began 2022 with our usual gardening quiz - nothing too difficult and good fun! In February we went to Rode Hall to see the display of snowdrops and hellebores. We stayed nearer to home in March and went to the Fletcher Moss and Parsonage Gardens Didsbury for Spring bulbs and flowers. The sun shone and all the spring flowers and blossom trees were a delight. All rounded off with an ice cream or coffee. Very enjoyable!



March at Fletcher Moss

By popular demand we made two returning visits, to Arley Hall in April and Bluebell Cottage Garden in May.



Arley Hall in April



Acacia paradoxa at Arley Hall

Yet to come are visits to two gardens belonging to our u3a gardening group members and a plant swap, to see a garden in the National Garden Scheme in Stretford and an outing to RHS Bridgewater.

The German group has resumed meetings at the URC hall in Elm Road, and we meet on the third Tuesday of the month from 10 till 11.30. There are usually about 6 or 7 of us and we take it in turns to prepare and lead a session. Our main aim is to improve our spoken German in interesting and entertaining ways using games, puzzles and songs. At the moment we are considering starting to all use the same book to bring more structure to our lessons. New students are welcome.

History**John Houghton 428 2892**

We decided to extend our horizon and examine the history of India, starting from very early events to the present. We are currently looking at the influence of early European explorers on the sub continent from the Sixteenth century with the voyages of the Portuguese and Spanish explorers. Later we will include the Dutch, British and French, progressing to the formation of the British Empire. New members are welcome.

History of Art**Mary Sharples 428 4901**

We have been learning about artists and their innovations and achievements from the beginning of the twentieth century. It spans an era rich in artistic exploration and diverse discoveries. We studied work by Seurat, Gauguin, Picasso, Matisse and Van Gogh. The works of sculptors Rodin and Brancusi have also been analysed and discussed. Our study of Van Gogh's paintings led us to the present day relevance of the issue of mental illness and the expression of experience in poetry and popular music.

When opportunities for visits to Art Galleries fully resume our group will plan visits to interesting exhibitions.

Local History**Lesley Witton 428 1522**

The Local History group resumed in March with talks by our own members. Jennifer Bradbury gave a very interesting presentation about the site of High Grove House, which is near her own home. She had heard that L S Lowry had painted the house in 1936 and was intrigued by this information and determined to find out more. She did some research and discovered that the Georgian mansion once stood near the junction of the present Buttermere and Grasmere Roads and was demolished in 1960. She brought along some photos and told us about the family who once lived there. Dorcas Flower then shared some stories about her mother's experience of working in one of the Stockport mills. Both these talks sparked off comments from the audience and it was good to share knowledge and memories.

The April meeting was a visit to St James' church in Gatley, where Martin Davey shared fascinating facts about the village and the church building. He has done extensive research and has a wealth of knowledge about local history.

Unfortunately, our speaker for May was unable to attend, so a quiz about Gatley based on the Mitchells' *Pictorial History of the Parish of St James* and John Hartley's *Gatley Then and Now* was hastily put together and this provided an entertaining and informative session.

In June, the former County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester, Norman Redhead, gave us an illustrated talk on the archaeology of the local area focusing particularly on excavations in Cheadle.

In future we hope to have more visits to places of local historical interest.



Written and compiled by
Frank and Teretta Mitchell
to commemorate the Centenary
of the Consecration of
St. James Parish Church in 1881

Above: St James Church and Hall, 1874. (See Chap. 2)
Right: Mr. Potts and his horse bus, 1895. (See Chap. 4)

GATLEY

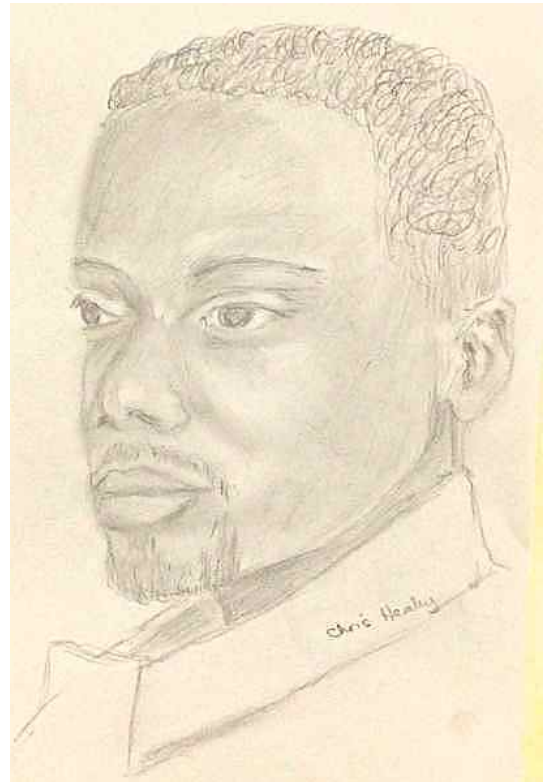
A Pictorial History of
The Parish of St. James
The Apostle



We have about ten members who work individually on a variety of subjects using pencil, chalks and paints. There is an informal and friendly 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.



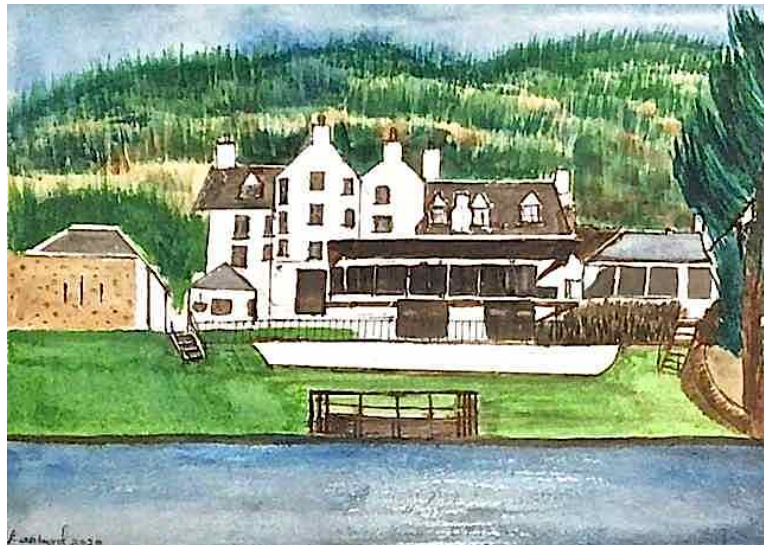
Pastel pencils by Pam Allen



Portrait by Chris Healey



Parakeet in chalk by Janet Davies



Kenmore Hotel, Scotland by Rajinder Bijra



The Great Escape by Val Davison

This painting is based on a real event which took place on Gatley Carrs.

Surprisingly, a pair of geese swam under the viewing platform and then jumped up next to Janet causing great consternation. Amongst screams of 'run for it' both courageous women survived!!!

I am delighted to say the Poetry Group is back up and running, meeting on the third Monday of each month at 1.45 at the URC. Each month a new topic is chosen to investigate, explore and discuss. To date we have shared our favourite poems under the headings of 'Spring', 'Land', 'Happiness' and 'Childhood'. Personal contributions are always welcomed and encouraged. So if you wish to discover your inner poet or just enjoy the works of others, then come along - all are welcome.

Childhood

Yes I can. No you can't. Yes I can.
Mummy said you can't.
Mummy said I mustn't, She didn't say I can't.

I think Mummy's rotten, how am I to learn
How am I to know what's good, what's bad, if I can't have my turn.
To never know what I can do. What's possible for ME.
If I am not allowed to see, if I can really climb that tree.

Swimming seems real dangerous, but I'm told I have to try,
Grown-ups are so silly and I really can't think why.
Have they all forgotten what it's like to be
Young and full of fun, just wanting to be free.

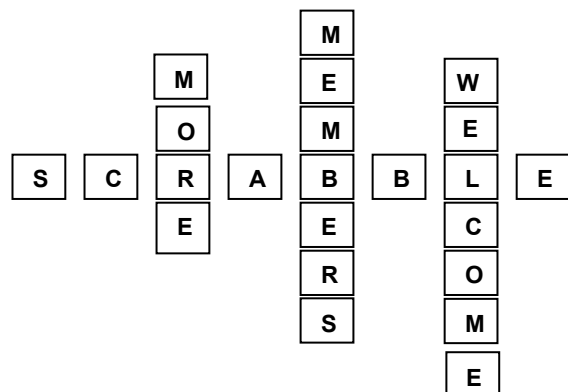
I've got to try it all - just once, so that I will know,
What I really Can and really Can't. That's the way to go.
Mummy's shouting now - it must be time for tea
Or something I've forgotten. I'd better go and see.

Scrabble

Ann Gane 428 0204

Our Scrabble Group is friendly and non-competitive. We usually get between five and seven at our fortnightly meetings.

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



Singing for Pleasure

Barbara Wingard 428 5922

What a remarkable final session of Singing for Pleasure we have had. There were well over thirty people present including twelve members who were at the very first meeting nearly eleven years ago.

The programme of songs traced the progress of the choir from folk songs and musicals to the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah. With songs also from Ian with his guitar, we certainly have had a very varied musical diet over the years. Let's hope that it can continue before long when a new conductor and pianist are found.



The group continues to improve, and we are managing to meet most weeks even though some of us are beginning to go on holidays. Those of us who have been able to get to Spain since restrictions were lifted are more confident and prepared to 'have a go' at using what we have learned and practised in our sessions.

Peter went to Sitges near Barcelona in February when it was carnival time.



Michelle visited César Manrique's cactus garden in Lanzarote when she was there.



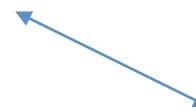
I have just returned from Moraira on the Costa Blanca and caught the end of their Moors and Christians fiesta. The Spanish certainly know how to party!



Whether out shopping in the supermarket or selecting from the 'menú del día', fish is always a popular choice. Can you link the Spanish and English words together?

1. Los pescados
2. La lubina
3. El bacalao
4. El atun
5. La merluza
6. Los mariscos

Sea bass
Shellfish
Hake
Fishes
Cod
Tuna



Theatre Visits

Chris Bester 376 7909

Since the pandemic began there has been a drop-off in the number of people attending our theatres. I am sure there are several reasons for this and I am as guilty as anyone for my non-attendance. However, it would be a great pity if any of our local theatres were to close because of this, and so I am asking that anyone who wishes to join the group should get in touch with me so that I can forward all relevant information concerning forthcoming events at our theatres.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|
| Heald Green | October 4 th - 8 th November 29 th -December 4 th | <i>Time and the Conways</i> <i>Sleeping Beauty</i> | J B Priestley adapted by Charlie Cook |
| Chad's | September 3 rd -10 th October 22 nd -29 th November 15 th -19 th December 10 th -17 th | <i>Separate Tables</i> <i>Ladies in Lavender</i> <i>Shadowlands</i> <i>God of Carnage</i> <i>39 Steps</i> | Terence Rattigan Shaun McKenna William Nicholson adapted by Patrick Barlow |
| Northenden Players | October 9 th - 15 th December 4 th | <i>Oh, What a Lovely War</i> <i>Murdered to Death</i> | Joan Littlewood |
| Garrick, Stockport | September 10 th -17 th October 22 nd -29 th November 15 th -19 th December 3 rd -10 th | <i>Happy Jack</i> <i>Diary of Anne Frank</i> <i>Height of the Storm</i> <i>Towards Zero</i> | John Godber Agatha Christie |

At the present moment the Players Theatre have no plays in rehearsal. If you would like to join this group please get in touch.

The group resumed, post Covid, in April. Unfortunately numbers are down and we've lost a couple of our most experienced players, Jerry who can no longer make it to meetings and Lawrence who has sadly passed away. But the show goes on with a core of 6 or 7 players.

As you probably know the group was a spin off from the Singing for Pleasure group. With the imminent retirement of both Barbara and Dorothy the choir seems likely to be put on hold for the moment. (I'm sure this will be covered elsewhere in this Newsletter but I must add my thanks for the tremendous work Barbara and Dorothy have done over the past 10 years).

As a temporary stop-gap if any member of the choir (or indeed anyone else) would like to come along to our ukulele sessions just to sing you will be more than welcome. I cannot promise you the Hallelujah Chorus but we do play quite a varied programme of popular music. I propose to start after the summer recess on Tuesday 13th September at 2.00 at Elm Rd URC.

Long Walks**Allan Witton 428 1522**

We offer varied walks to suit a variety of abilities, mostly between 6 and 8 miles.

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.

Feb: Our walk in the Poise Valley was postponed because of impending storm Eunice.

Mar: A loop from Birch Vale over Lantern Pike and via Rowarth.

(6 miles – easy)

Apr: Poise valley from Woodbank Park

(5½ miles – easy)

May: A section of the Sandstone trail from Kelsall, Cheshire

(8 miles - moderate)

Jun: From Hollingworth up the Brushes Valley and through Hollingworth Nature Reserve (8 miles - moderate)



Sunny but very windy on the top of Lantern Pike ...



... but a warm sheltered spot for elevenses



In the Poise Valley



On the Sandstone Trail with a view of distant Beeston Castle



Heading up into the Brushes Valley



Short Walks

Stuart Forsyth 491 3592

We are coming to the end of our programme for this summer. The one remaining walk will be around Cheadle Hulme on the 21st of July. Then in August the group will get together and arrange a new list for the next 12 months. In accordance with the wishes of the members we have tried to keep the walks as local as possible, so over the year we have visited places like Sale water park, the river Mersey incorporating Sharston and Didsbury, Nether Alderley and Chelford. The membership is currently around 17 but on recent walks the warm weather has depleted attendances. We aim to do 4 to 4½ miles with not a lot of ascent. Anyone wishing to join us can come along on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:00 outside the URC or contact me.



A sunny spring day overlooking Park Bridge Country Park



Near Nether Alderley in June

Strollers

Marianne Owen 491 3323

We meet twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 10.30 at Elm Road. We usually do an hour's walk in a local park such as Fletcher Moss, Bramhall or Bruntwood. Sometimes we just do a walk from Gatley and occasionally we take the train or bus to walk a little further afield, and always finish with a coffee and a chat. Recently we welcomed a guest walker from Australia and her sister from Whitefield, making a total of 9 of us, and we strolled in Abney Park. New members are always welcome

Wine Appreciation

Peter Bayley 282 3468

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.

Financially we have emerged from the pandemic period unscathed, having made a small operational surplus each year and with a healthy balance to carry forward. A significant part of our balance is due to the Committee decision to register our C&G U3A as a charity in its own right, and hence to be able to claim Gift Aid on subscriptions. The £1169 claim in 2020-21 was for the 4-year period 2017 to 2021, and a similar sum to this year's claim of £270 will be claimed each year going forward, depending on the number of Gift Aid forms completed. **A huge thanks to those who have completed a Gift Aid form to enable us to make the claims.** Only one form needs completing to cover all your period as a member. Full details are given on the Gift Aid form, which can be downloaded to complete, in the link to the Welcome page of our website.

As a consequence of our sound financial position, our annual subscription of £12 and the charge of £2 for those attending Group meetings in hired premises will remain unchanged for the foreseeable future.

| CHEADLE AND GATLEY U3A | | FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022 | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| CURRENT ACCOUNT | | 2021 -2022 | 2020 -2021 | 2019 -2020 | 2018 -2019 | 2017 - 2018 |
| INCOME | | Note | | | | |
| Subscriptions | £2,214.80 | | £2,396.00 | £2,981.00 | £2,576.00 | £3,104.00 |
| Gift Aid | £270.50 | 1. | £1,169.72 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 |
| Monthly Meetings | £509.35 | | £0.00 | £1,218.00 | £1,239.00 | £1,278.51 |
| Groups | £1,444.00 | | £200.00 | £4,187.50 | £3,601.00 | £2,770.00 |
| Catering (Monthly meetings) | £0.00 | | £0.00 | £186.25 | £0.00 | £110.15 |
| Study Day | £0.00 | | £0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | £0.00 |
| Christmas tea | £0.00 | | £0.00 | £300.00 | £387.00 | £354.00 |
| Visits | £425.00 | 2. | £0.00 | £975.50 | £802.00 | £0.00 |
| Miscellaneous | £376.30 | 3. | £0.00 | £0.00 | £100.00 | £0.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | £5,239.95 | | £3,765.72 | £9,848.25 | £8,705.00 | £7,616.66 |
| EXPENDITURE | | | | | | |
| Monthly meetings rent | £210.00 | | £0.00 | £420.00 | £350.00 | £315.00 |
| Monthly meeting speakers | £405.00 | | £50.00 | £445.00 | £445.00 | £310.00 |
| Group rents | £1,404.00 | | £515.00 | £3,321.00 | £2,928.00 | £2,653.00 |
| National U3A membership | £682.50 | | £875.00 | £913.50 | £871.50 | £717.50 |
| Third Age Matters postage | £347.20 | | £1,139.96 | £20.70 | £520.26 | £413.10 |
| Beacon | £195.00 | | £251.00 | £261.00 | £123.50 | £99.50 |
| Zoom licence | £143.88 | | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 |
| Newsletters | £0.00 | | £24.00 | £204.00 | £216.00 | £206.00 |
| Administration | £208.25 | | £161.18 | £571.67 | £140.16 | £210.21 |
| Christmas tea | £0.00 | | £0.00 | £634.51 | £826.50 | £760.34 |
| Catering | £256.00 | 4. | £0.00 | £596.14 | £0.00 | £475.00 |
| Conferences and Workshops | £0.00 | | £0.00 | £334.45 | £82.80 | £451.10 |
| Equipment | £95.00 | 5. | £0.00 | £184.55 | £20.00 | £39.45 |
| Visits | £425.00 | 2. | £0.00 | £975.50 | £802.00 | £0.00 |
| Study Day | £0.00 | | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 |
| Miscellaneous | £0.00 | | £115.10 | £100.00 | £0.00 | £172.46 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | £4,371.83 | | £3,131.24 | £8,982.02 | £7,325.72 | £6,822.66 |
| SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR YEAR | £868.12 | | £634.48 | £866.23 | £1,379.28 | £794.00 |
| BALANCE AT 1 APRIL 2021 | £6,875.00 | | £6,240.52 | | | |
| Surplus for Financial year | £868.12 | | £634.48 | | | |
| BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2022 | £7,743.12 | | £6,875.00 | £6,240.52 | £5,374.29 | £3,995.01 |
| Balance as a percentage of income | 148% | 6. | 183% | 62% | 62% | 48% |
| For Operational surplus: | | | | | | |
| Deduct: Miscellaneous | -£376.00 | | | | | |
| Deduct: 2022-23 advance renewals | -£108.00 | | | | | |
| Deduct: Error deposit on 22/3/22 | -£90.00 | 7. | | | | |
| Add: overdue group payment | £32.00 | | | | | |
| Operational balance | £7,201.12 | | | | | |
| Operational surplus | £326.12 | | | | | |

1. Gift Aid claim for just 2021-22
2. Explorers Group Plaza visit
3. Cash float from the (temporarily) suspended Local History Group
4. For September Welcome Back Meeting
5. Refurbishment of Lenovo laptop
6. The large percentage is due to the large fall in our income from its 2019 -2020 pre-pandemic value
7. In error, **two** cheques for the £90 cash received for the February monthly meeting were deposited

Your Committee

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Chair | Lesley Witton | 428 1522 |
| Business Secretary | Sue Somerville | 07305 311716 |
| Treasurer | Allan Witton | 428 1522 |
| Membership Secretary | Brian Green | 428 8535 |
| Speaker Secretary | Heather Wilkinson | 428 4901 |
| Trustee | Margaret Seaby | 221 0944 |
| Trustee | Elaine Bowker | 437 8480 |



Elaine
Bowker

Sue
Somerville

Allan
Witton

Lesley
Witton

Brian
Green

Heather
Wilkinson

Margaret
Seaby

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.

North-East Cheshire Network

The North East Cheshire Network of U3As (NECN) comprises Cheadle and Gatley, Bramhall, Cheadle Hulme, Poynton, Macclesfield, and Wilmslow..

Some Interest Groups within the Network have been designated as 'Open Groups'. These can be attended by members of other U3As in the Network provided they are current members of their own U3A and pay for attendance at the meeting. Members who attend a meeting of an Open Group should show their current Membership Card (or confirmation of renewal email) for their own U3A. C&G Open Groups are: Bridge; Environment; and German. There are 27 Open Groups across the whole Network. The following list includes just those for which C&G does not currently have a Group. I have been notified of no changes at July 2022, so the list remains as before.

| | | | | |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Bramhall | Embroidery | Scottish Country Dancing | Line Dancing | Video & Film Making |
| Cheadle Hulme | Art Appreciation | Photography | | |
| Poynton | Film Discussion | Geology | Hallé Concerts | Needlecraft |
| Wilmslow | Cycling | English Country Dancing | | |

Further information about all 27 Groups is given in a link from the Welcome page of our website, and you should use the contact details provided there if you are interested in joining an Open Group.

Liaison with members

Please give any notices about your group's activities or anything else of interest to members to Sue Somerville so that these can be displayed on the noticeboard at Wednesday monthly meetings and emailed to members afterwards.

We will continue to send cards on behalf of the committee to anyone having a special birthday or undergoing an operation or illness or suffering a bereavement, so please let a member of the committee know of anyone appropriate, preferably by email so that we can act promptly.

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 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. If you acquire a new email, or change your email address, please let one of the committee know so that we can update our records.

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 to be managed centrally online. Emails to all members are now sent via Beacon, and Group Convenors who wish to can now use the system to maintain their group's membership list and to communicate with members of their group.

Cheadle and Gatley U3A Website

Our website is fully updated twice a year, in January and July on the publication of the Newsletter, with minor updates at other times, and we encourage those of you who are online to look at it periodically. The simplest way is to do a web search for 'Cheadle and Gatley U3A', and then save the site in 'favourites' or on your desktop 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;
- membership application and renewal forms to print;
- a New Members' Leaflet with an overview of our U3A;
- various documents to help Convenors in the Convenors' Reference link;
- our Privacy and Safeguarding Policies;
- 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,

Editor's Note

Thanks very much to those who have submitted articles and photographs for this Newsletter. I have had a very good selection of images 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 Convenor who takes and submits the photos!**

The simplest way to send them is to reply to any U3A Beacon email you receive and attach the photo.

Allan Witton

DETAILS OF INTEREST GROUPS

Network Open Groups are in **bold blue**

Anyone interested in joining a Group should in the first instance telephone the Convenor, 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 Convenor.

Please note that occasionally dates or times do change between updates of the Interest Group List.

If you are interested in setting up a new Group, please contact any member of the committee.

| GROUP | CONVENOR | CONTACT | DATES | TIME | VENUE |
|---|-------------------|----------|--------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| Book Group 1 | Lesley Witton | 428 1522 | 1st Monday | 7:30 | House |
| Book Group 2 | Tina Kelly | 376 7909 | 1st Tuesday | 1:30-3:00 | Cheadle Library |
| Book Group 3 | Margaret Seaby | 221 0944 | 1st Monday | 10:30-12:00 | Cheadle Library |
| Bridge | Linda Ewing | 312 5072 | 1st & 3rd 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 | House |
| Early Christianity | Tom Fanning | 428 8666 | 3rd Monday | 10:30 | URC Hall |
| Environment | Peter Briggs | 485 6871 | Periodically as arranged | Various | Various |
| Explorers | Janet Farrall | 428 7883 | 3rd Thursday | 10:30-12:00 | Piccolo |
| Family History | Linda Corry | 428 4094 | 1st Tuesday | 9:30 | House |
| Gardening | Heather Wilkinson | 428 9278 | 4th Thursday | 2:00 | Various |
| German | Marianne Owen | 491 3323 | 3rd Tuesday | 10:00-11:30 | URC Hall |
| History | John Houghton | 428 2892 | 2nd and 4th Fridays | 1:30 | URC Hall |
| History of Art | Mary Sharples | 428 4901 | Last Wednesday | 1:30 | URC Hall |
| Local History | Lesley Witton | 428 1522 | First Wednesday | 1:30 | Cheadle Library |
| Painting and Drawing | Pat Marsden | 428 7820 | 1st and 3rd Friday | 10:30-12:30 | URC Hall |
| Poetry | John Barnard | 436 4150 | 3rd Monday | 1:45 | URC Hall |
| Scrabble | Ann Gane | 428 0204 | Fridays Fortnightly | 2:00 | House |
| Spanish | Elaine Bowker | 437 8480 | Weekly on Wednesdays | 10:00-11:00 | On Zoom |
| Theatre Visits | Chris Bester | 376 7909 | As arranged | Various | Various |
| Ukulele | Ian Ewing | 312 5072 | 2nd and 4th Tuesday | 2:00 | URC Hall |
| Walking (Long) (Up to ~8 miles) | Allan Witton | 428 1522 | 3rd Friday | 9:15 - 3.00 | Meet at Gatley Hill car park |
| Walking (Short) (~ 4 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 |

Spanish quiz answers

