

Cheadle and Gatley u3a

Learn, laugh, live, and enjoy life to the full.

January 2023 Newsletter

No longer working full time?

Our u3a is run by the members for the members.

We have 26 varied activity and interest groups such as Walking, History, Spanish, Painting, Gardening, Bridge, Reading and Craft.



The Long Walks Group at the White Nancy ...



... and in the Longdendale valley

Enjoy activities, talks, outings, social events, fun and friendship,
all for a membership of **£12 per year.**



New Members' Meeting

Message from the Chair

Lesley Witton

Happy New Year to all our members. I hope you have all been able to enjoy the festive season with family and friends and that you are looking forward to a new year of interesting activities with the u3a!

Since last July’s Newsletter, we have had some good meetings and interesting developments. I’m delighted to report that the Singing Group got up and running again thanks to the enthusiasm and persistence of Patricia Williams.

The Convenors’ and New Members’ Lunch in November was very much enjoyed by all who attended and gave us the opportunity to chat to each other and share ideas. One outcome of that was the offer of a new Interest Group for Cryptic Crossword enthusiasts. Please contact Jane Lloyd (07713848734) if you are interested. Peter Briggs has reconvened the Environment Group with a series of monthly walks for the New Year.



We were able to hold a proper Christmas meeting again this year. We all enjoyed entertainment provided by our own members and refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies. The raffle raised £320 for two local foodbanks and the presentations were made just before Christmas.

Heather has arranged some interesting monthly meetings for all members and we look forward to seeing you there.

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are on the **Second Wednesday: 1:15 for a prompt 1.30 start** every month except August at the United Reformed Church Hall, Elm Road, Gatley SK8 4LY.

Speakers talk on a wide range of subjects. Most are illustrated by a slide show, and some are musical. The following are typical:

- The Great American Songbook Roger Browne
- Through the Eyes of a Magician Peter Turner
- Amazing Walks Josephine Gosling
- The History of Dunham Massey Peter Braun
- History and Science of Prosthetic Limbs Dr. Diana Leitch

In November 2022 Michael Billington gave a very entertaining and informative presentation on the History of Bagpipes.



Speakers at our Monthly Meetings from February to July 2023

February 8th	It’s not all about the Pankhursts!	Charlotte Gringras
March 8th	The Plight of the Humble Bee	Louise Bentley
April 12th	Gatley Carrs	Peter Owen (Postponed from September)
May 10th	Hearing Dogs for Deaf People	Brenda Martin & Lexie
June 14th	AGM	
July 12th	The Upside of Down’s Syndrome	Amanda Glennon

Cheadle and Gatley u3a is a Registered Charity, Number1172853

2022 Christmas Meeting

It was wonderful to be able to hold a proper festive meeting in December.

We opened with some entertaining pieces from the Ukulele Group.



Individual members then gave appropriate readings, ranging from poems, the history of Christmas traditions and excerpts from novels.



The Singing Group performed songs from *A Sound of Music* and later led us in singing carols.





We received some magnificent donations for the raffle and Dorcas and Anne arranged them beautifully. Refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies or tea, coffee and biscuits were served, followed by the draw.

The raffle and donations raised a total of £320, and £160 each was given to the Trussell Trust for the foodbank based at Trinity Church in Cheadle and to Bethany Church for the Gatley foodbank. They also received boxes of mince pies!



Convenors and New Members meeting

For the first time since 2019 we were able to hold a Convenors and New Members meeting, a chance for the committee to thank Convenors for all the work they do with their Groups, and for new members to meet Convenors and hear about their Groups.



Janet signs up a new member of the Explorers' Group



Pam Allen's beautiful hand-made cards



The committee serve refreshments

GROUP NEWS

Book Group 1

Lesley Witton 428 1522

What a joy it was to get back together in person again in the summer and to welcome a new member. In July our chosen author, Ali Smith, received mixed reviews. Different novels in her seasons' quartet were read.

Our topic for September was 'Brits Abroad' and memoirs set in Hong Kong, Egypt, France and Andalucia were discussed. October's theme was 'Farming'! Fascinating accounts of agricultural life were enjoyed and two books stood out. One was *The Shepherd's Life* by James Rebanks and the other was a novel by Bruce Chatwin called *On the Black Hill*.



In November we tackled Family Sagas and novels set in Liverpool, Germany, Manchester, Australia, Cyprus, New York and Cornwall gave us some very interesting reading. Can you guess what they were?

Penelope Lively was our chosen author for December and we agreed that her fascination with memory and how it evokes different perceptions of the past for different people is really engaging.

Our Group is a house group, meeting on the first Monday evening

Book Group 2

Tina Kelly 376 7909

This group meets monthly at Cheadle library community room on a Tuesday afternoon to discuss a book chosen by the library. The book providers do take into account requests by the group from their database of book sets.

The room is free to use and we are able to prepare tea and biscuits without charge.

We are also provided, via their Borrowbox service, with online book sets and individual books for those groups who prefer virtual meetings.

Here are our latest reads with a star rating out of 5.



Our Christmas meal at the Horse and Farrier

June :	<i>Shuggie Bain</i> (not everyone read this)	Douglas Stuart	1x2*,2x4*,1x5*
July :	<i>The Boy Who Belonged to the Sea</i>	Denis Theriault	4*
August :	<i>The White Queen</i>	Philippa Gregory	3*
September :	<i>The Burning Chamber</i>	Kate Mosse	3*
October:	<i>The Woodlanders</i>	Thomas Hardy	4*
November:	<i>The Time Machine</i>	H G Wells	(TBC).

Anyone wanting a "taster" of this group please contact me.

Book Group 3**Margaret Seaby 221 0944**

Members of the group are now selecting books from the Stockport Library Services Reading Group sets based on our wide-ranging reading interests. As can be seen from the list of recently read books, we have read novels with varied themes and styles which have provoked lively discussion.

Since the last Newsletter we have read:

<i>Moon Tiger</i>	by Penelope Lively;
<i>The Children Act</i>	by Ian McEwan;
<i>The Librarian</i>	by Sally Vickers;
<i>Shuggie Bain</i>	by Douglas Stuart;
<i>1979</i>	by Val McDermid.

We continue to meet on the first Monday in the month at 10.30 -12.00 in the Community Room at Cheadle Library. New members are warmly invited to join us.

Bridge**Linda Ewing 312 5072**

The Bridge group has been running very well since we were able to re-open. We have been very keen to get back to normality and membership has increased. 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.

Christmas treats and wine at our December meeting (not all were able to attend)

**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**

We are a small but enthusiastic group with interests in most craft work; our members cover knitting, crochet, sewing and various paper crafts. We have been pleased to welcome two new members recently. We don't do tutorials as such, but encourage each other with the different projects that we are each working on. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month in the small hall at St James' Church, 10.30 until 12.00. For further details please contact me or come along to the church hall.

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.

Trees are Different

Joan Proctor

Trees are different - they're not like you or me
In summer when we wear less clothes
They cover themselves in their bright green finery

When autumn comes and evenings turn cold
The trees dress brightly in reds, yellow and gold

Come winter we don coats and hats that cover our hair
The trees stand proudly naked
Their leaves all shed, their branches bare
Silhouetted against the crisp white snow
The trees bend and sway as the cold winds blow

One year ends and a new one begins
And we welcome signs of the coming of spring
Green shoots, buds, blossom on the trees
Followed on by fresh green leaves

And so the cycle continues again
Whatever the weather, sun, wind or rain
The trees dress for the season
And so do we
It's just we do it differently.

Environment

Peter Briggs 485 6871

The Environment Group will be re-convening in January 2023 and will give members opportunities to enjoy a variety of both natural and built environments in the North of England. A programme of 6 visits has been prepared for January to June 2023. The walks will take place on the second Thursday in the month at 10am. They are all local and about 3-4 miles in length. Details of the first walk in January are given below. The full list can be found on the Environment page of the C&G website under > Groups > Environment.

Date: 12th January 2023

Abney Park, Cheadle Green and Moseley Old Hall (approx. 3 miles).

Meet: free car-park Abney Hall (off B5095) @10:00am

Explorers

Janet Farrall 428 7883

The Explorers Group are pleased to welcome members who enjoy a chat and a cuppa and a chance to set off on one of our well-organised, interesting days out or on a holiday, all with good company.

We already have exciting outings in the pipeline and lists ready for your name. The only thing we ask is that you have to be responsible for yourself.

We are pleased to have supported our own u3a with tri-monthly donations (in lieu of rent) May-December £259. To the Gatley Food Bank (money donated by our members and distributed from Bethany Church) May-December £143.94 and from our Members Main Account £150.

We look forward to your visit. Not a member? Not a problem we have the technology. Janet and Pat

Llandudno welcomed us with mellowed autumnal weather and an unusually calm Irish sea. After coffee (Delia and friends in some style at the Imperial Hotel) plans were being made and each in their own way, set off to do their own thing.

From the Stone Age, the limestone headland, known to seafarers as the Great Orme, drew many of us to it. Some walked, some took the little bus upwards, past the Kashmiri goats, who have roamed wild there for nearly 100 years, (excluding covid) on up towards the summit. At every tightly turned corner we were afforded spectacular views right over towards the Snowdonia Mountain range then across to the sandy bays. At the top decisions were made, some stayed on the bus to go back down whilst others took the tram, walked, or decided to explore the old copper mines.



Val, Michelle and Hedi took the cable car down to Happy Valley, and Val took the photograph of the pier stretching out into the sea. Back on the promenade a boat trip was a must for some. Out into the Irish Sea you were given a different view. You could see the Bronze Age caves, lots of Cormorants on the cliff edge. Being on board with a large extended family, Dorothy wished that I had got to know their country of origin and where they were staying in the UK- but she enjoyed with them their pleasure.

On them disembarking they had a picnic on the prom. Made Llandudno seem quite cosmopolitan. Others set off walking right round the bay whilst some like Rosemary enjoyed just strolling along and sitting talking to people. Someone had had quite a few upsets lately so was glad to sit with a couple of friends just looking out over the calm sea. Others just watched people kayaking on the sea. Further along the prom was a charity motorbike rally. Organised annually by the British Motorbike Preservation Society (North Wales). They came from all over the world. A cavalcade of highly polished chrome alongside their proud owners. We couldn't resist stopping watching the children, sitting crossed-legged, pointing and shouting excitedly "It's behind you". All good things come to an end — well almost — time for an ice cream before we get on the coach homeward bound.

**Hop on and hop off at your favourite seaside place
Lytham St. Anne's, Blackpool, Cleveleys or Fleetwood for the market.**

Janet Farrall

An August invitation that the Explorers couldn't resist, and 30 of us hopped on at Gatley, outside the new Co-op, in the bright morning sunshine. We all had designated home times to hop back on again. In the evening as we travelled back along the Fylde coast, Janet waited with bated breath, list in hand, as from our chosen and varied destinations, we all began to hop back on again. It didn't matter some of us had strayed and walked along the coast or arranged to meet a friend not seen for years. Nerve held, every name was ticked off, (we knew they would be.)

Everyone had really enjoyed their day, (we knew they would have.)

Buxton 5th October

Gloria Rhodes

A more dismal start to a day out would be hard to find, with rain bucketing down and such heavy traffic, but this didn't dampen the spirits of the Explorers as they set off for their day out in Buxton. There's no such thing as bad weather, just wrong clothing!

On arrival at the Pavilion Gardens we divided into groups for our heritage tour of this lovely town and how interesting it was visiting the Old Hall Hotel where in the 16th century Mary Queen of Scots had visited many times to take the waters while under the supervision of the Earl of Shrewsbury. On then to the Pump Rooms and St Anne's Well opposite the beautiful crescent which is the 5 star spa hotel.



Next a visit to the Devonshire building which boasts the largest unsupported dome in Europe. Built originally as stables for the horses of the many visitors to the town in former times, it later became a hospital and now is a place of learning for students of Buxton and Leek College. A most interesting experience is the 'whisper effect' when standing in the centre under the dome.

With our tour completed we had lunch and explored the Cavendish shopping mall, followed by the gardens with the changing colours as autumn was approaching. What's more, the rain stopped and there was a patch of blue in the sky. It had turned out to be a really good day with lots of interest and such pleasant and friendly company. Many thanks to Janet for another super trip, to our driver and to Mike, our very able guide in Buxton.

Twenty-seven of us boarded a very prompt coach for our trip to the RHS Bridgewater Gardens at Worsley. We were met by an enthusiastic member of staff who supplied us with relevant information that would help us get the most out of our visit.

The gardens were impressive with lots of fruit and vegetables ready to be harvested. We had a friendly chat with a local community well-being group who tended an area of the walled gardens, donating any surplus produce to the RHS restaurant. A group of us enjoyed a tasty lunch in the Italian restaurant. It was a pleasant walk with lots of areas still to be discovered on future visits.



Pensioners? What pensioners? Fun on the adventure playground!

On behalf of the whole of Cheadle and Gatley u3a, the Treasurer would like to thank all member of the Explorers Group for their generous decision to donate £1 per member per meeting to general u3a funds.

Family History **Linda Corry 428 4094**

The family history group is a small group which meets in my house off Styal Road. We usually discuss where we have got to in our own research, and try to help each other by giving advice. Recently some group members have been giving short presentations to the group about some aspect of family history 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. If anyone is thinking of taking up family history as a hobby, but doesn't know where to start, I can help.

Gardening **Heather Wilkinson 428 9278**

In June we visited the gardens of two of our group, Sheila Burns and Deborah Connell, admiring their displays and enjoying first class hospitality. A visit to a National Garden Scheme garden in Stretford was our July venue. It was a really inspiring garden owned by a very knowledgeable plantswoman. Well worth a visit!

Marjorie Ding organised our August visit to Cheadle Hulme Allotments. It was a very good time to go with lots of crops at their best! We had a very warm welcome and introduction and refreshments too.

In September the group visited RHS Bridgewater at Worsley and were lucky to meet a volunteer who guided us around. The visit was curtailed by heavy rain.

Liz Arden, one of our group, led us in a Christmas craft workshop in October. By the end, we each had a bauble to decorate our homes.





We rounded the year off in November with a Christmas meal at the Vinery in Bruntwood Park. Our New Year meeting will start with our usual gardening quiz and a discussion about our programme for 2023. The garden group does not have a single convenor, but is run collectively so each member contributes if possible. Thanks to those who helped this year.

German

Marianne Owen 491 3323

The German Group meet at the URC hall in Elm Road 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.

History

John Houghton 428 2892

We have accepted some new members and have now decided to study Russian history.

History of Art

Mary Sharples 428 4901

The meetings combine academic study of the “World’s Greatest Paintings” with research by our group on individual works chosen from their own interest. We have studied works by Hokusai, George Suerat and Edward Hopper. In October we visited a local cinema to watch “Hopper: An American Love Story” In 2023 we hope to continue our studies with “Whistler’s Mother” and other World Paintings. When opportunities arise for visits to art galleries our group will plan trips to exhibitions and films. The History of Art Group meet in the afternoon on the last Wednesday of the month, at URC Elm Road. New members are always welcome.

Local History

Lesley Witton 428 1522

In September we enjoyed a fascinating visit to Heald Green Theatre, where Martin Davey gave us an illustrated talk about the history of the theatre and then took us on a guided tour backstage.

A virtual trip down Cheadle High Street was the topic of October’s meeting with Andrew Frazer from Cheadle Civic Society leading the way.

Fellow members John and Judith Houghton gave a presentation about Manchester Cathedral in November.

Our final meeting of the year was to hear all about The Towers in Didsbury from one of our favourite speakers, Diana Leitch.



Our visit to the Heald Green Theatre

Lunchtime Concerts for free

Barbara Wingard 428 5922

Lunchtime Concerts have really got going again and I now feel ready to start attending some of them in February. The University with its weekly Thursday events and Chetham's School of Music Tuesday to Thursday concerts are still free, but the Royal Northern College of Music now make a charge of £5 and tickets have to be booked online, so I leave that to individual choice.

Details of the February Concert with times, transport etc. will appear at the end of this month. I look forward to our meeting again.

Painting and Drawing

Pat Marsden 428 7820

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.



Wolf by Linda Corry

Poetry

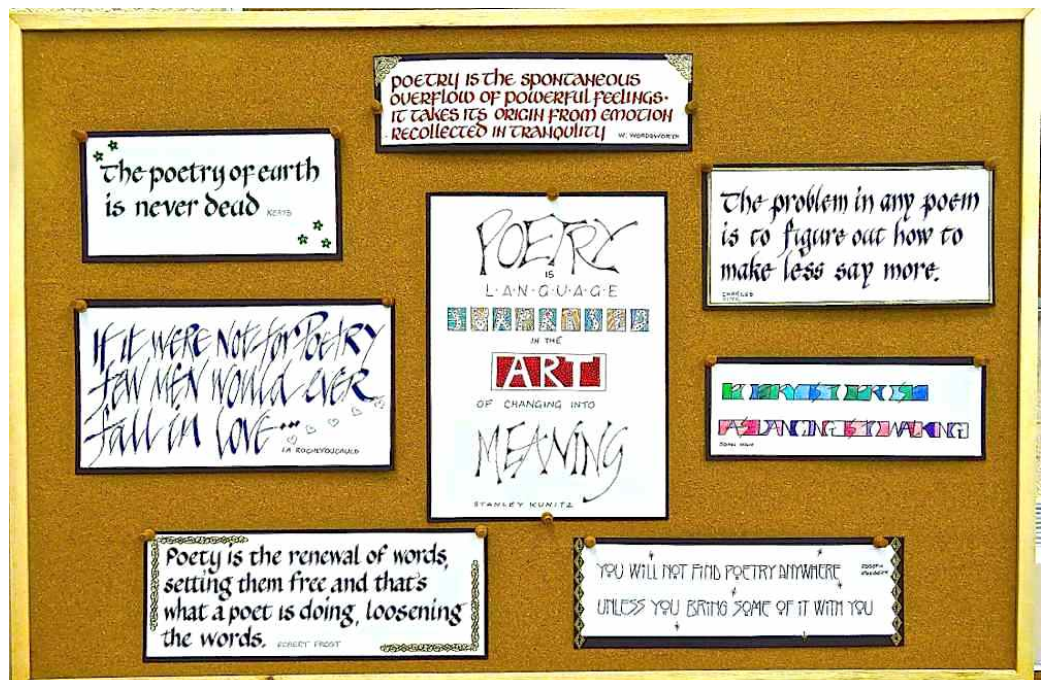
John Barnard 436 4150

We meet 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 such headings as '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.

Zoom in to read the text on the board



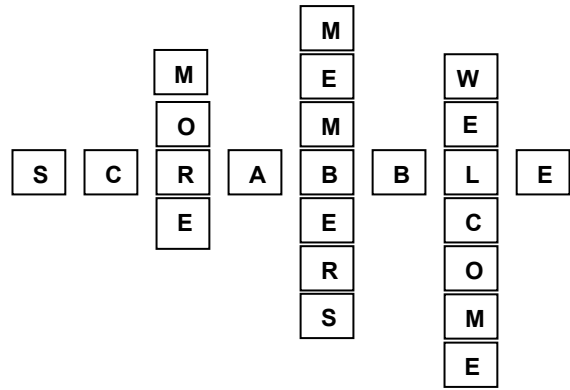
Scrabble

Ann Gane 428 0204

The Group is temporarily suspended due to illness, but it is hoped that it can resume in the spring.

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

Patricia Williams 428 9850

After many successful years led by Barbara Wingard and Dorothy Walker who both retired from their roles in the summer of 2022, the group re-started last October under the direction of a new leader, Barbara Clark and a new pianist, Brian McGlone. We were asked to present a short programme for the u3a Christmas concert and initially therefore the group concentrated its efforts on achieving that. More recently however, Brian decided to step down as pianist, leaving Barbara Clark in sole charge of the group. We plan to re-start our meetings in late January and will see where the new line up takes us.



Spanish

Elaine Bowker 437 8480

Since the Convenors' and New Members' meeting, we have welcomed Marianne Owen into our group. We are still meeting every Wednesday on Zoom and try and keep up with what we have already learned and to add to our vocabulary and improve our fluency. In December we went to watch *Sleeping Beauty* at the Heald Green Theatre, an excellent panto performance. Also, we have met in my house to speak Spanish and enjoy a glass of wine or two!! Most of the group have been on holiday in Spain since the last Newsletter.



Barbara saw this beautiful Poinsettia in November in Lanzarote



Val visited this gorgeous beach in Cala Galdana, Menorca

I call this my **Spanish Sweet Treat Quiz** – all the answers are names of well-known sweets. The clues need to be translated but the answers are in English. The answers are on the last page.

1. Una calle elegante
2. Navidad, Pascua de Resurrección, Fiesta, Cumpleaños
3. Nueve, diez, once
4. Nativos de una isla mediterránea.
5. Botín de piratas

Theatre Visits

Chris Bester 376 7909

Forthcoming performances at our local theatres.

Heald Green Theatre	<i>Til Death Us Don't Part</i>	February 15 th – 19 th
	<i>60 years of Musical Theatre</i>	February 21 st – 25 th
	<i>Bride for a Vampire</i>	April 17 th – 22 nd
	<i>Bazaar and Rummage</i>	June 6 th – 10 th
Players Theatre	<i>One Man, Two Guvnors</i>	March 20 th -
	<i>Private Lives</i>	May 22 nd - 27 th
CHAD'S Theatre	<i>Round and Round the Garden</i>	January 28 th – February 4 th
	<i>Copenhagen</i>	February 14 th – 18 th
	<i>Humble Boy</i>	March 18 th – 25 th
	<i>Quietly</i>	April 25 th – 29 th
	<i>She Stoops to Conquer</i>	May 6 th – 13 th
Northenden Theatre	<i>The Pitmen Painters</i>	February 5 th – 11 th
	<i>Ladies Down Under</i>	March 29 th – April 1 st

Ukulele

Ian Ewing 312 5072

The Ukulele group has now settled down to about 7 or 8 members. We have had a busy couple of months with performances at the Oasis group at Bethany Church (for which we received an unexpected fee which we have put to U3A funds.) We also played at the U3A Christmas party. Both were well received and we are now available to perform at other occasions. We currently meet at St James' Church Hall on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 2pm. As always if anyone is interested in joining the group they should contact me on the above number.

Long Walks

Allan Witton 428 1522

We offer varied walks to suit a range 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.

Lunch with the view north from Kerridge Hill



- | | | |
|------|--|------------------------------|
| Jul: | Along the Macclesfield canal and over Kerridge hill via the White Nancy | (6 miles - moderate) |
| Sep: | From Valehouse Reservoir up to the edge of the moors at Lad's Leap | (7 miles – fairly strenuous) |
| Oct: | From Birch Vale, along the Sett Valley trail via Hayfield and up to Mount Famine | (6 miles - moderate) |
| Dec: | Our shorter winter walk, this year in the area around Lindow Common followed by a festive lunch at the Horse and Farrier | (4 miles - easy) |



Heading from Lad's Leap down into Longdendale



Sunny rest stop on the way back



Cloudy over Kinder on the way up Mount Famine ...



... with sunny intervals on the way down to Birch Vale



By the un-named lake near Saltersley Hall Farm



Mulled wine, stollen and mince pies at Black Lake



Our festive meal at the Horse and Farrier

The Short Walk leaders for this year will be sending out the details each month about the location and any important points. We are a group that walk every third Thursday of each month covering 4 to 5 miles in length. During the winter months we do try to walk fairly close to home due to the weather and the short hour of daylight. We do venture further afield during the other seasons. We have fluctuating attendance depending on weather and location so any number from 7 to 14 may be on the walk. If you would like to join us please contact me.

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. New members are always welcome

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.

I was sent more images than I had space to include in this edition. To fill this spare half-page, here are a few which didn't make the main pages.



Memorial sculpture at Heald Green



Wood sculpture near Black Lake



Ice crystals in the Big Freeze

Your Committee

Chair	Lesley Witton	428 1522
Business Secretary	Sue Somerville	0730 531 1716
Treasurer	Allan Witton	428 1522
Membership Secretary	Brian Green	428 8535
Speaker Secretary	Heather Wilkinson	428 9278
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, but the list is currently being revised. The following list includes just those for which C&G does not currently have a Group. I have been notified of no changes at January 2023, 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 Lesley Witton 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

The disaster that befell all u3a websites operated by u3a sitebuilder in November resulted in all our uploaded documents and images being irretrievably lost. Fortunately we have original copies of them all, and the painstaking task of uploading all 150 of them again was completed by the end of last year. We encourage those of you who are online to look at it periodically. The simplest way is to do a web search for cheadle-gatley/home and then save the site in 'favourites' or on your desktop for easy access. Clicking on the link below may take you directly to the site:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/cheadle-gatley/home>

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, Diversity 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 easiest way to send text or images is to reply to any U3A Beacon email you receive and attach any images.

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
Environment	Peter Briggs	485 6871	2nd Thursday	10:00	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
Lunchtime Concerts	Barbara Wingard	428 5022	As arranged	Various	Various
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
Singing for Pleasure	Patricia Williams	428 9850	2nd and 4th Tuesday	1:00	URC Hall
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

Sweet Treat Quiz - Answers

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Una calle elegante. | 1. Quality Street |
| 2. Navidad, Pascua de Resurrección, Fiesta, Cumpleaños. | 2. Celebrations |
| 3. Nueve, diez, once. | 3. After Eight |
| 4. Nativos de una isla mediterránea. | 4. Maltesers |
| 5. Botín de piratas. | 5. Bounty |