



# MACCLESFIELD u3a

## Newsletter February 2022

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### CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

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**Alec Johnston - chair**

Dear All,

Welcome to our newsletter for 2022 and many thanks to Peter Roberts for taking on the challenge of editorship with the help of Jean Warham. This edition will stand in for the yearbook so do print out the summary listings at the end of the newsletter so you can easily refer to the contacts for groups, locations, and programs.

Those on email will have had details of our publicity drive with a u3a display in the library 7<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> March, coverage in Local People, articles in church magazines and posters in public places. This is all with a view to increasing our membership and finding new people willing to run new events for us. New activities will include 'Tennis Tuesdays', a 'Psychology' discussion group, a 'Geology Studies' group and a revamp of the 'Wild Flower' group. Look out for further email details.

As you know I have mentioned that we need a Members' Morning coordinator to manage the day with a small group including a speakers secretary to find our speakers for the events. We also urgently need a Group Leaders liaison person to help set up new groups, liaise with the newsletter editor, and support our existing activities.

Don't forget to check out the forthcoming Members' Morning program in the handy listing pages at the end of this publication.

Enjoy our newsletter.

With very best wishes,

Alec  
Chair.

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## **RETIRING EDITOR'S GOODBYE**

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### **Fay Bowling**

I am delighted that Peter Roberts has “volunteered” to become Editor. He is well qualified for the job and will make it his own.

Although we have had Newsletters from the start of Macclesfield u3a, when I took over in 2012 it was to produce the first Yearbook—largely making it up as I went along. Challenging at times, the computer often had different ideas from me. However, I have enjoyed the job enormously because the Committee Members and Group Leaders have been so helpful, submitting well written reports in good time, some even from on holiday! Of course, there were one or two who were always on the very last minute (you know who you are!) but I knew that their reports would be worth waiting for.

We've had superb photographs from the Photography Group but also lovely photos from other groups showing their varied activities and a fair sprinkling of memorable poems to delight us.

Over the years we have had occasional contributions from long standing members who were persuaded to write something about themselves. On the whole we know little about other members' backgrounds and it's amazing when they shared some of their experiences with us.

The Newsletter and Yearbook rely on contributions from many people including proof-readers. My thanks to them for spotting most of my blunders and making useful suggestions.

Finally, distribution. Although I sent out Newsletters by email using the Beacon system, printed copies and Yearbooks needed to be delivered by an army of volunteers or sent by post. Our thanks go to Vicky Darlington who has been responsible for that task for the last 10 years.

So now, over to you, Peter. It's all yours!

Best wishes  
Fay Bowling

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## **NEW EDITOR'S HELLO**

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### **Peter Roberts**

Hello everyone.

This is me.



Welcome to the first Macclesfield u3a newsletter of 2022.

The most important thing that I must do is to extend all of our thanks to Fay Bowling for her long service and her excellent stewardship of the editorial position. Fay has been obliged to retire having given long service to the Macclesfield Group and this is my first opportunity to personally acknowledge her and to thank her for the solid training she gave me. I am grateful that she will be there to guide me as I try to get things right. Thank you, Fay, from all of us.

I also extend my thanks to Jean Warham for her valued assistance.

As far as all of you members are concerned, I hope that you enjoy this newsletter to which your group leaders have contributed most ably and I hope that your New Year's resolutions come to fruition and, as part of them, you can enter and enjoy your chosen group activities for the year ahead.

I also hope that you like the style of this new newsletter, which I have adopted to give us a younger image full of colour and vitality. Most of us spend our retirements in energetic activities, so why not reflect that in our newsletter?

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## **NEW MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S HELLO**

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### **Linda Clegg**

Hello everyone,

This is me.



I have been a member of the u3a since 2013 and have enjoyed working on the Members' Morning Committee for seven years. Now, I hope to be able to serve you well as your new Membership Secretary.

In the past I was in administration for many different companies and had a small stint in the USA in my youth. I moved to Macclesfield in early January 2013 to be near to my daughters and they have blessed me with six grandchildren, with two of whom I do the school run.

I am part of the Discussion Group which, I am happy to note is freshly set to meet up again after the covid break.

Linda.

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## NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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### MACCLESFIELD u3a NOTICE 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date and time: 10:00 am Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
Venue: Calvary Church, Merebank Road, off Earlsway  
Macclesfield SK11 8RH

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## NOTICE OF OUR NEXT MEETING WHICH WILL BE ON ZOOM

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### From the Chair

Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> February 10.00 for 10.15 am start

Our speaker is Jenny Mallin on "The Early Days Ancestors"

She tells how Benjamin Hardy, in 1798, a seventh-generation weaver ancestor of hers, from Mirfield in Yorkshire, sailed to Madras with his British Army unit, fought for the next 22 years in India, and decided to settle his family there. They stayed for the next five generations. Through new research she has been able to offer more on three of her ancestors who have an ancestral record going back to the 17th century. They came from different backgrounds but were, ultimately, all in the British Army.

This is a more in-depth look at the start of Jenny's ancestors, with a storyline which brings together the reasons for her family being linked to India.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87369652225?pwd=ck5QSEh4d20vTk44K3FoZ29pYTl3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 873 6965 2225

Passcode: 317580

Jenny Mallin's earliest memories are of her mother in the kitchen, tapping a wooden spoon against the side of the metal '*dekshi*' and then tasting her curry sauce and checking the seasoning. From that moment, Jenny was hooked, and her mother continued to nurture her love of cooking throughout her childhood. The kitchen—a wonderfully warm and intoxicating environment—became an indoor playground filled with new experiences, challenges, and the end result—something delicious on a plate. She took such a pride in helping her mother that it wasn't considered a chore, but as a special time together. Consequently, that love of cooking coupled with a desire to please someone with her food has never left her.

With her passion for cooking, India, research and writing, the outcome has been a labour of love—a memoir that mingles the history of her family when they lived in India, with her grandmothers' recipes that were prudently passed down through the generations. Each recipe has been lovingly researched, leading Jenny on a road of discovery about her ancestors, with her grandmothers' legacy continuing to assist in providing clues to their rich and eventful past.

Jenny has travelled extensively throughout India and has also visited many other countries, including Hong Kong, Japan, Australia, and America. Her travelogues and written anecdotes of her journeys are much enjoyed by her family and friends.

Now a writer and public speaker, Jenny has had a successful career in television production at the BBC.

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The Members' Morning on the **24<sup>th</sup> March**, is live at **The Calvary church** with our u3a stalls and speaker, Bob Bracegirdle, from Gawsworth on Campanology. Bring a friend *and your membership subscription* for the year.

Very best wishes

Alec Johnston

## CURRENT NEWS FROM THE MACCLESFIELD u3a GROUPS

**Thank you to all the group leaders for their excellent and timely contributions. Well done!**

### ALLOTMENT AND GARDENING

**Leader: Steve Fallows**

**Leader: Patti Chu**

Meet every fourth Thursday of the month at 2.00 pm.

Meet at Byrons Lane Allotment or Fairways Garden Centre—confirmation of venue will be sent a few days prior to meeting depending on the weather forecast.

At present **there is one available vacancy**. Please contact Steve or Patti if anyone is interested in sharing the joy and fun of gardening at the allotment.

During the unprecedented pandemic, the group managed to continue its individual activities throughout the lockdowns of 2021. Someone once said it was one of the best groups to belong to during the pandemic as it not only provided social distancing, fresh air, exercise, and edible end-produce, but also a feeling of calm, peace and satisfaction following each session of digging or planting.

We had a very great summer last year. Most of the members had good successes. Hence, a lot of their friends and families also benefited from the home grown produce. The group comprises 10 to 12 members with various gardening abilities. We all have different areas of the allotment plot to work on. Each member grows their own favourite fruits, vegetables, and flowers, reaping their own success.

There is a communal greenhouse, and a shed with a range of gardening tools for members to use. The maintenance jobs around the site are normally led by one or two of the members and supported by the others if necessary. We also provide support to the Byrons Lane Allotment Holders Association committee when required. Our last two big events involved renovating the allotment border fence in October and distributing a truck load of quality manure to the plots in November. It was hard work, but we worked very well as a team. It only took us less than three hours to complete each of these tasks with a lot of laughter and camaraderie. In December we planned to have our Christmas lunch at Sutton Hall but it had to be postponed due to the Omicron variant outbreak.



The official meeting is only once a month, but we often meet other members on site especially over the summer growing season. There are always opportunities to exchange tips and advice, as well as seeds, plants, and produce. We really do have a very friendly and supportive atmosphere within the group.



Dwarf pinstripe aubergines  
Photo courtesy of Patti Chu





Climbing French beans  
Photo courtesy of Patti Chu



Home-grown blackcurrants!  
Photo courtesy of Patti Chu

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## **ART APPRECIATION**

**Leader and coordinator: Julia Marwood**

Meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 11 am–noon on Zoom for the time being.

We all love looking at and learning about art but vary widely in our knowledge of the subject and anyone is welcome to join us—you don't need to be an expert! We agree a topic, then each of us does a bit of research which we then share with the group. There is no pressure to contribute but most people are happy to do so, and we all learn a lot from each other.

We do plan to resume face-to-face meetings in due course, and also trips to art galleries and exhibitions. We had a very enjoyable tour of Paradise Mill in the autumn and look forward to lots more trips out in the future.

If you would like to know more, please don't hesitate to contact Julia.

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## **BIRD WATCHING**

**Leader: Tony Middleton**

Second Thursday of the month

We visit a variety of locations in our local area throughout the year.

We usually have a walk to explore habitats in the areas visited. Meetings usually continue until early afternoon with members bringing sandwiches and drinks, although we do try to ensure that it is practical for members to leave at lunchtime should they so wish.

This is a friendly group, embracing both those experienced in bird watching and those who are totally new to it. New members are always welcome. The following are our meetings planned for the remainder of the year:

10 <sup>th</sup> February	RSPB Old Moor
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Moore Nature Reserve
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Burton Mere
28 <sup>th</sup> April	Dawn chorus walk—location T.B.A.
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Dane Moss Nature Reserve
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Kinder Brook

Further details can be found on our web page -  
<https://u3asites.org.uk/macclesfield/page/26662>

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## **BOOKWORMS 1**

Leader: Vicky Darlington



Meets on the first Thursday of the month at 2.00 pm

We have remained in contact with all the members of our group during the various lockdowns and now, after having a number of Zoom Meetings, we regularly meet in each other's homes for our Book Club.

We continue to receive the books via the local library on a monthly basis and have certainly had a variety of books to read over the past few months.

These have included "Grandad's Letters" by Janice Madden, "Red Joan" by Jenny Rooney, "Britt Marie Was Here" by Frederick Backman and "The Wych Elm" by Tana French. Some quite challenging to read, but we have certainly managed some lively and informative discussions in our group when we have met.

Looking forward to reading our next book "Only Time Will Tell" by Jeffrey Archer!

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## **BOOKWORMS 2**

Leader: Linda Godfrey



Second Thursday 2.00 pm at each other's homes.

We start the meetings socially with tea or coffee then discuss the book chosen for the month, taking turn to give our thoughts and then a more general discussion about the book and any issues arising from it. We often finish by sharing thoughts about what we have been reading recently.

Each member chooses a book in the Autumn for the following year. We have diverse tastes and consequently there is a good variety of books, definitely something for everyone, I am really glad to have been introduced to some authors I had not encountered before. We do try to ensure the books are available from the library or second hand from charity shops or Abebooks and we try to pass them round!!

During the various lockdowns we continued to meet using Zoom but when allowed and certainly since last April we have been meeting in person, though initially wrapped up outside and with restricted numbers to conform with the rules current at the time, luckily some members preferred to join us on Zoom (even when on holiday!!) so we could all meet together one way or another! More recently we have tested before meeting.

We are a very sociable group and would be pleased to welcome one or two new members, if you would like to join our group, please contact me.

## OUR BOOKLIST FOR 2022

13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Step by Step - Simon Reeve
10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Where the Crawdad Sings - Deliah Owens
10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Under the Wig - William Clegg
14 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Slow Horses - Mick Herron
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Away with the Penguins - Hazel Prior
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Girl Woman Other - Bernardine Evaristo
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Notes from a Small Island - Bill Bryson
11 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Watching You - Lisa Jewell
8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Piranesi - Susanna Clarke
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Elon Musk - Ashlee Vance
10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Poems - Chosen by members!
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas lunch

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## BOOKWORMS 3

**Leader: Jutta Willis**

Second Thursday of the month at 10.00 am

We are a group of eight and we take it in turns to choose a book. We are presently meeting on Zoom, but last summer we managed to meet outside in members' gardens on four occasions.



We would welcome a couple more members. To give you some idea of our forthcoming books we will be reviewing, please see below:

March	"The Promise" by Damon Galgut
April	"Still Life" by Sarah Winman
May	"Rules of Civility" by Amor Towles

If you are interested in joining our group, please contact me.

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## **BOOKWORMS 4**

**Leader: Maggie Hayes**

Third Wednesday of month at 2.00 pm

We are a lively group of twelve with many different interests and opinions. Every month we meet in someone's house to discuss a book which is from a list which we compiled together at the end of the previous year. We have had some very interesting discussions about the books and issues raised in them. During lockdown we turned to meeting on zoom and even had our Christmas Party online.

Our books for the year are displayed on the u3a website under Bookworms 4. I am afraid we have no vacancies in our group.

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## **BOOKWORMS 5**

**Leader: Peter Caulkett**

**Leader: Chris Johnston**

Third Thursday of the month, 10.00 am–noon at a member's house.

We now do 'live' meetings during which each member presents a book of their choice they have read, giving some background information and a description of the book; this can lead to some "robust" (though friendly) discussion. The books span recent, classic, fiction and non-fiction, and occasionally poetry. We have sixteen members at the moment, so unfortunately no vacancies.

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## **BRIDGE**

**Leader: John Fisher**

Meeting first, third, and fifth Wednesday afternoons, starting 1:30 pm–4 pm  
Venue for meetings St. John's Church Hall, Earlsway (entrance on Wilwick Lane, then upstairs).

Group meetings were suspended for 18 months because of the pandemic. Members played Bridge online, informally. We resumed meetings in October 2021; about half of the then membership (22) came straight away. The other half did not and, at the time of writing, have still not. Some new members have joined, giving us an active total around 14.

## CARD MAKING

## COUNTRY DANCING

An illustration of an elderly couple dancing. The woman is on the left, wearing a brown vest over a white long-sleeved shirt and a large, light-colored, flared skirt. She has white hair and glasses. The man is on the right, wearing a dark blue sweater over a light blue collared shirt and tan trousers. He has white hair and glasses. They are both smiling and holding hands, with the man's other hand on the woman's waist. The background is a solid light blue.



The usual attendance is in the low 20s. Sadly, we feel that we shall have to start a waiting list if there is any more interest in joining. This is mostly for safety whilst we are still in the pandemic.

The Dancing\_News between January 2021 and today!

Jill and Jane continued to send out a weekly email full of Dancers' escapades and fun. This included up-dates from the previous caller and his partner about how they were coping with their move to the Isle of Man. Excellently, of course, and we received entertaining photos of them both covered in dust or wielding a drill.

In March we had a "day in the life" email where 2 dancers described in some detail how they were passing the time in Lockdown. Walkers sent in email information about where to walk that was different and pleasant. Different Dancers kept sending contributions to the email to keep us laughing. There were many amusing contributions from Dancers as they made the most of life in unusual times. You know who you are and thank you!

In May, Christine started a zoom group for Dancers which was enjoyed by a small group. Various people hosted the zooms – many thanks to them.

Jill and Jane continued to ring the Dancers every 2/3 weeks. It was amazing how well they put up with us!

By June, Jane and Jill were canvassing the views of the Dancers about how we could all get together in some way.

The consensus was to meet in Jane's garden to discuss our Dancing future. After a delay to this happening, (Jane's neighbour was having asbestos stripped from his roof on the originally chosen day), a number of us met in Jane's garden on a fine summer's day!

Twenty Dancers came to the meeting and regardless of the pleasure that seeing each other provoked, we did come up with some ideas about how to start Dancing.

We decided to start again on the first Monday of September. We decided to limit the time to dancing only and people would bring their own refreshments. It was agreed that all windows and doors would be kept open regardless of the weather!

And do you know, the Dancers are so lovely, this has been adhered to, come storm (and there was!) or chill!

Masks would be requested, and it would be expected that Dancers were doubly vaccinated.

Sadly, for all sorts of good reasons at about this time some Dear Dancers moved on to new things.

Other Dancers started going on holidays and we regularly got photos that went out as e-Postcards to all the Dancers.

Throughout August the Dancers were consulted about the Risk Assessment that Jill and Jane had put together. The finished article was sent out in time for the first Dancing session!

We Danced! And it was lovely for us all to be together.

We welcomed some new members which was grand.

Christine and Graham showed themselves to be brilliant at the calling and the music. Christine had given a lot of thought to how we could dance without changing partners and without touching – for those who preferred not.

We felt it was wiser to cancel our last session before Christmas – you'll remember the Omicron numbers! And we didn't dance on the first Monday of January as Christine and Graham recovered from illness. But we are back on track now and looking forward to continuing to Dance.

Let the fun begin! (And continue!)

Jill and Jane would like to say, the biggest thank you to all the lovely Dancers, both past and present, who have helped us all keep in touch and sustain the group during these plaguey times!

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## **CRAFTERS TOGETHER**

**Leader: Jackie Boulton**

First Thursday and third Monday 2.00–4.00 pm  
Gawsworth Methodist Church Community Hall

We are a friendly and enthusiastic group of crafters who give a warm welcome to new members.



As of 21<sup>st</sup> February we will be back in the hall, together again. So, if you like to knit, sew, quilt, or do any craft really, we would be happy for you to join us. If there's something you've always wanted to try, someone will almost certainly be able to help. Complete beginner – no problem!

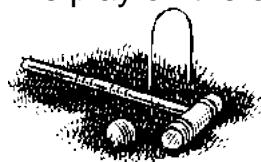
I look forward to getting together again with members both old and new.

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## **CROQUET**

**Leader: Dave Lee**

Re-starting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April. Contact Dave for meeting details.  
We play on the outfield of Macclesfield Cricket Ground.



Amid all the regulations during the pandemic, Croquet proved to be one of the activities that our u3a group could continue for most of the period and do so very safely. Last season, we were able to play two sessions a week: Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons, and the group has built up a regular playing membership of about two dozen.

The nature of the sport is that there is a closed season over the Winter. So, we are very much looking forward to starting up again this Spring, for our fifth season, and would be very pleased to see any new faces. There is absolutely no previous experience needed, and tuition will be available to introduce you to the delights of the game gradually!

Please get in touch if you would like any further information, or simply to tell me you'd like to join us.

## **CROWN GREEN BOWLS**

**Leader: John Hayes**

**Leader: Sylvia Bostock**

Each Wednesday at 10.00 April to September, West Park, Macclesfield

After a year which was affected by lockdown restrictions, 2021 saw the Bowls Group back to some sort of normality. The weather was particularly kind, and we were able to play with an average attendance of between 20 and 25 every week on our very large green. With our numbers peaking at 39 by mid-June, we had to close our membership to new members for a time.

While we have had some competitions over the season, our main purpose is to find enjoyment, keep active and improve our skills at bowls in a friendly and relaxed manner, especially in the lovely environment of West Park. Deprived of our social time over coffee in 2020, we made good use of our facilities for drinks and biscuits mid-way through the morning during last summer.

As well as our own (optional) competition running throughout the season, we were again able to have our twice-yearly meeting with Wilmslow u3a, playing for our renamed trophy, the Terry Riley Cup. At present the score is 1-1 with the cup presently residing in Wilmslow. I am sure we will do something about that in 2022.

As we head towards our upcoming season starting in April, we may be able to offer some taster sessions later in the month. There are some spare sets of bowls available for beginners to try. Please contact one of the group leaders for details if you are interested.



Posing for a group shot at the green, West Park  
Photo courtesy of Susie Davies

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## DISCUSSION

**Leader: Chris Hewitt**

Meet on the first Thursday morning each month at 10.00 am–noon.  
Meetings are at Sandra Moss's house in Sutton, phone 01260 252543.

We enjoy a wide variety of lively, interesting, and thought-provoking topics and encourage members to 'lead' a meeting about once or possibly twice a year on whatever topic they find of interest. This gives us new slants on all sorts of subjects, we are able to explore ideas and I find I almost always learn something new. Participation is encouraged—it's not a lecture—it's an exchange of ideas and points of view; there are no wrong answers.

Recent topics have included 'Macclesfield, what kind of makeover do we need?', 'Does the NHS need a radical rethink?', and 'Charity shops'.

New group members are welcome. Why not come along and join in the fun?

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## FRENCH CONVERSATION 1

**Leader: Allan Traves**

Third Wednesday every month throughout the year.  
Meeting at members' houses.

**Important:** The group will be meeting live at the Methodist Church Hall, Westminster Street in centre of town to enable compliance with Covid Guidelines until further notice. Please check with Allan for current meeting location before attending.

The group has a maximum attendance limit of 12 to enable everyone to contribute, we currently have 10 active members and have room for two more people. If you can easily read and understand the paragraph below you may well enjoy coming along and joining in, you will be most welcome. The meeting is free form with no set agenda to enable free flow conversation.

*“Quoique la vraie raison d’être du groupe soit de manger du gâteau et de bavarder en anglais entre amis il faut (parce que les membres sont tous anglais) mériter le gâteau, et donc on essaie de parler français pendant une heure et demie avant de manger et de boire du café. Pas de sujet choisi au préalable, pas de planification, peut-être trop de français : c’est selon. Pour*



*nous rejoindre, veuillez consulter le site internet de l'u3a, ou donner un coup de fil au chef. Vous recevrez un accueil chaleureux. Qu'ils mangent de la brioche !*

*Alors, l'année dernière était très difficile à cause de Covid mais nous avons eu une petite fête de Noël en décembre. Nous avons partagé des papillotes de Noël, un Buch de Noël et naturellement du café mais, malheureusement, pas de champagne (L'église est méthodiste, ça n'est pas à cause des pénuries !)"*



La prochaine année on espère que tout va retourner aux normales et on peut continuer regarder La France, les élections présidentielles en avril et les bizarre choses Macron a fait.

Savez vous qu'il a changé le bleu dans le drapeau, pourquoi ?





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## FRENCH CONVERSATION 2

**Leader: Sally Lowden**

First Wednesday of the month at 2.00 pm at members' homes.



*Bienvenue à ce groupe de conversation française. Nous nous rencontrons le premier mercredi du mois aux maisons de nos confrères et consœurs. Si vous savez un peu de la langue et vous voulez pratiquer dans un milieu très sympa, veuillez venir nous rejoindre pour parler de la belle France. Cependant, ce groupe n'est pas convenable aux novices; il faut savoir comprendre et parler français—pas beaucoup, mais un peu.*

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## GEOLOGY

**Leader: Adrienne Noble**

Meet usually the second Friday of the month.



Barbara Kleiser is stepping down as group leader at the end of March but will continue to be part of the group as a member. We would like to take the opportunity to thank her for her inspirational leadership over the last 16 years. Adrienne Noble will be taking over as leader of the group with Beryl Beattie continuing in her vital role as group coordinator.

In the past 12 months the group has continued with monthly meetings that focus on short local trips which have included Bosley Cloud, Styal and Poise Brook. Several members have volunteered to take on the role of leader, in addition to Barbara, to facilitate the smaller groups at each event.

Barbara scheduled introductory Zoom sessions ahead of each trip which enabled members to understand the detailed geology of each site while reducing time given to explanations in the field. As a result, our meetings have extended beyond the traditional second Friday of the month.

Our 4-day field trip to Northumberland had to be cancelled due to Covid. However, a number of intrepid members still ventured up there and visited the sites which had been recced the previous year.

Planning for the coming year, including some longer day trips, is still underway and details will be sent out to geology group members in their monthly 'Update' email. Currently membership of the group is full.

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**GEOLOGY STUDIES (proposed new group)**  
**Leader: Peter Roberts** (for the time being)

Meetings—to be decided

Barbara Kleiser's brilliant geology group has been over-subscribed with a waiting list for some years, so it has been suggested that we could start a second geology study group.



This is an opportunity for those who have been unable to join so far. We would learn all facets of geology in a systematic way both through time and across the surface of the Earth. I am hoping to find a group leader for the day-to-day running of the group, so that I, as a retired professional geologist and professor, can concentrate on organising talks which I and others can give, so that I can guide the studies of the group to suit their requirements. It would be a democratic group run by the members of the group at an appropriate level for amateurs of all capabilities, covering subjects that the group wants.

It is hard for beginners and amateurs to learn about geology without it becoming confusing by being learned in 'bits and pieces', here and there. What we will do in this group, is study geology as a fascinating subject in a systematic way.



For example, we can study each period of the geological times scale one at a time starting with the oldest and working up to the newest, studying simple maps of how the British Isles looked during each period and how the world existed at the time. And we can study the development of all life on the planet from the very start 3.5 billion years ago up to the present day. We shall, similarly, learn about minerals, crystals and the rocks themselves from the very first rocks up to today's soft sediments.

All this learning can be done by a mixture of teaching and member input and presentations if individuals wish to do 'show and tell'.

We shall learn what it would have been like if we could have stood on ancient shores, deserts, mountains, and volcanoes hundreds of millions of years ago, but sequentially, so that we learn our geology on a solid and easily understood basis.

Of course, the group could arrange field visits for itself as it wishes. Our systematic learning method will make your field discoveries so much more exciting and meaningful. I have been a geologist for over sixty years and still find it incredibly exciting.

If anyone is interested in joining such a group, please contact me.

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## **GERMAN 1**

**Leader: Kate Bonson**



Meets in different members' homes on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 2.00–4.00 pm.

Please phone Kate to know the venue. This group is not a teaching group, but is suitable for anyone with some conversational German.

We currently have 9 members and for practical reasons there is a limit of 12 members, so we are on the look-out for new members.

Our members have a range of language abilities, we are very informal, and the content and format of each meeting varies. The only certainty is that we (attempt to) carry out our proceedings in German.

At each meeting a different member is Leiter/Leiterin (leader) for the day; this person decides what we do for that meeting. This could be reading a piece taken from a book or magazine, or from the internet, or listening to a broadcast (via iPod) of an item of interest, or simply talking about a selected topic.

As a way to get our brains 'plugged in', we often start with "Was gibt es Neues?" ("What's new?"), where each person reports on something that has occurred recently in his or her own life. This is usually followed by a coffee/tea break.

During the period of 'lockdown' we met via Zoom and were not obliged to cancel any meeting. The numbers attending ranged from 4 to 11, while in subsequent 'physical' meetings we have usually had 6 to 8 attendees.

Over the last couple of years, we have read, for example, an article about Thomas Mann, stories by Brothers Grimm, and a piece by Horst Evers. We were treated to an item aimed at senior school children (taken from a schoolbook belonging to my neighbour), which was all in Gothic script. This generally floored us, as nowadays one of the few places where Gothic script is used is on street names in Berlin. Our most recent bit of fun was a German version of "The Hound of the Baskervilles".

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## ITALIAN - BEGINNERS

Leader: Doug Hughes

Every Monday at 10:00, mostly via Zoom but occasionally in person.



Throughout 2021, we have not had any true beginners in Italian. Instead, we are a group of half a dozen who mutually support each other in improving our mostly not-very-good Italian skills. Zoom was forced upon us during lockdown, but we have found it useful to continue that way as it enables us to share material on the screen, do exercises together on screen, etc. A typical meeting would involve each of us sharing a prepared paragraph in Italian, usually about what we've been up to in the week, followed by reading and translating part of an easy Italian reading book. Sometimes, if it crops up, we will study a point of grammar.

We are always open to new members, and if there are some who are real beginners, the group will revert to being a proper beginners' group, meeting in person and working through the BBC 'Talk Italian' books and CDs. This is, after all, the original purpose of the group.

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## MAH JONG

Leader: Peter Caulkett

First and third Mondays of the month (and fifth if there is one).  
2.00–4.00 pm. St. James Church Hall, Sutton (ample car parking)

We have now resumed face-to-face meetings.

Pre-Covid, our usual attendance was 18–24. We didn't meet at all during the pandemic, but we are now building up numbers again.

We are actively seeking new members, so come along and try this fascinating game among friends. No experience is needed, and we welcome beginners.

## **MID WEEK WALKERS**

### **Leader: Ciaran Fleming**

First and third Wednesdays of the month.  
Meeting outdoors at the point described in advance each time.



We are a very friendly group of like-minded people who enjoy walking and socialising together. We have a great variety of backgrounds and enjoy the company of others. Our walks are usually about 6 or 7 miles with moderate climbs on good paths. Our favourite areas for walks are local and in the Peak District. We encourage anyone who is willing to lead us on their favourite walks and that way get to places that we do not necessarily know intimately. This is not a requirement for membership!

We usually rendezvous at Arighi Bianchi's East car park for departure to the start of the walk at 9.30 am on walk days.

We often have packed lunches in the warmer months and go to cafes or Pubs in the Autumn and Winter - the decision is communicated in the description of the walk which is emailed in advance.

Waterproof outer clothes and footwear is necessary for each walk for personal safety reasons. In Winter we recommend hats, gloves, and scarves. 2020/21 has been difficult for everyone but we have managed to have the majority of walks we would have wanted, with covid restrictions in place and varied during the time according to government guidelines.

We are small in number (about 7 to 8) and are happy for other walkers—new or experienced—to come and give us a try.

We look forward to 2022 with great optimism.  
Ciaran.

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## **PAINTING and ART**

### **Leader: Jackie Gibbs**

Meets every Friday during the school terms at 10.00 am–noon and Independent Artists 1.30 pm–3.30 pm at Langley Church, Langley.

We resumed face-to-face meetings last September. We adhered to government guidelines as they repeatedly changed, and we added our own additional tweaks depending upon what our members felt comfortable with.

The current size of our group is less than pre-covid but is still a healthy viable number. Our membership reduction was not entirely due to covid, and despite one or two ups and downs, membership numbers are still increasing well as the country gets back to normality.

The objectives of the group are to share a knowledge of painting, drawing and other practices relating to art, led by myself or other members in a relaxed and fun atmosphere.

Members learn aspects of art in a non-classroom environment at a pace that suits them.

The annual subscription of £28 to Macclesfield u3a covers your membership of our group, however an additional fee will be made to cover the room hire costs from 1st April

We would love to welcome more members to our friendly group. We have abilities ranging from absolute beginners to more accomplished artists in our group, so all art lovers are welcome.

During the lockdowns I kept in touch with members via email with weekly newsletters. I set various themes/topics from perspective, sketching parts of their garden, colour mixing, to name a few. Members sent me photos of their work and I posted their images into our next group newsletter for the rest of the group to see. Members then sent me comments and I relayed them back. It was a way of keeping in touch with each other even if they couldn't see each other.

When lockdowns were lifted, we met up in various parks and places in Macclesfield to do some 'en plein air' work, which went really well. Since returning to Langley Church, we've covered how to paint skies, drawing/painting trees and a piece from an art therapy book which was successful with members. We are moving on to painting water next and, in the future, more on colour mixing, types of papers and paint brushes and their uses, water control and many other topics and themes.

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## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

**Leader: Ray Jordan**

Meets third Thursday of every month.

Most meetings consist of day visits, but during the winter months meetings have been held indoors, usually between 10.00 am and noon. Some indoor



meetings, owing to the Covid lock-down, have taken place via ZOOM but, hopefully, this is behind us, and we shall be meeting face-to-face from now on.

I am pleased to have taken over the reins of the Photography Group again from the start of 2022. John Howarth has led the group very capably during my absence, for which many thanks go to John.

The group consists of 18 members, and In 2021, we visited Jackson's Brick Works, Tegg's Nose, Leek, Calke Abbey (see photograph) and Speke Hall.



A great shot of a grazing deer at Calke Abbey—a beautiful antler spread!  
Photo courtesy of Ray Jordan.

The 2022 programme is still in the melting pot, but ideas for day visits, put forward at our members' meeting in January, include Avro Aircraft Museum, Macclesfield town centre, St Helens glass, Port Sunlight, Sandbach, Trentham Gardens and others.

We are also planning to have a few days away in Harrogate and Knaresborough, later in the year.

The Photography Group welcomes new members, of any skill level, and with any type of camera (don't be put off because "all" you have is a mobile, as these are generally capable of taking excellent photographs). And remember the photographer's maxim - "The best camera is the one you have with you"!

## **SPANISH IMPROVERS**

**Leader: Pam Herring**

First and third Tuesdays 2.00–4.00 pm

We are a small, friendly group who meet up in members' homes on a rotational basis with the aim of keeping our Spanish alive in a relaxed and enjoyable way!

We would warmly welcome any new members.

Although our group is not for complete beginners, if you've ever learnt any Spanish previously, and would like to resurrect it, do come and join us—no pressure.

We try to speak in Spanish most of the time as well as writing, translating, and listening to Spanish items via the internet and other resources.

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## **TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE**

**Leader: David Burnham**

The Technology and Science Group meets at 2.00 pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month. We do not meet in December (too near Christmas), July or August. Since the start of the pandemic, we have met on Zoom and will continue that way through until after the April meeting. I hope we will then be able to return to face to face meetings, but this complicated by the fact that we have lost our booking at Calvary Church, and we shall have to find another venue.



Pre-pandemic, we used to organise a visit of scientific or engineering nature to a local company or university each year. These have included Waters (scientific instrument manufacturer, leading supplier of mass spectrometers), the High Voltage Laboratory at Manchester University and a technical tour of Concorde and Nimrod at Manchester Airport. The pandemic resulted in us having to cancel a planned trip to Airbus in 2020.

I am hoping that we will be able to return to face-to-face meetings in May but, at the moment, we have no speakers and no hall. So, a bit to do before then. Keep an eye on the website.

In the meantime, the group continues to meet on Zoom with an attendance of around 40 members.

Since the last newsletter we have had a range of speakers on diverse topics from around the country.

Back in June, we learnt, from Professor Jim Wilde of the University of Lancaster, about how space weather impacts on our lives and our technology.

After the summer break, Professor Jane Clarke FRS of the University of Cambridge talked about how proteins fold. Her unusual career path is an inspiration to all young women. Some of the experimental techniques she described were astounding—for example, putting a single protein molecule onto a gold plate and then locating one of the termini and attaching it to a lever so that the forces required to unfold a protein could be measured!

In October, we learned about how microbes (cyanoplankton) in the sea sequester carbon from the atmosphere and about the diurnal movements of the small animals (plankton) that feed on them.

Professor Jonathan Sharples from Liverpool University obviously must have very good sea-legs to undertake his ocean research trips, judging by his opening video sequence.

Professor Andy Abbott from the University of Leicester talked about processes to recycle electric cars. Given the push towards electric vehicles, he expects that this will become a big problem a few years from now and he said that we should also be worried about China having a monopoly on several of the key rare-earth elements needed in the field of electric vehicle technology.

Scientists have learned a lot in recent years about how we can transfer electricity production from fossil fuels to renewable resources, and, in terms of nominal electricity capacity, that might, at first sight, look to be eminently achievable on the UK's 'road to net zero by 2050'. However. Dr Jonathan Radcliffe, of the University of Birmingham, pointed out in January that the biggest challenge is not production, but how we *store* electricity to satisfy the population's widely varying demand for energy.

The UK'S demand for gas is particularly variable, with a six-fold variation during any given day and an overriding mean-demand variation of six-fold between summer and winter. This gas demand must be satisfied by new electricity capacity with flexibility and storage ranging from seconds to months. The

options reviewed varied from capacitors and flywheels to pumped hydro-electric schemes, chemical devices, and compressed and liquid air storage. I suspect net zero will not be achieved by 2050 without combining the use of gas with carbon capture and storage.

One of the options discussed briefly during Dr Radcliffe's talk was the use of hydrogen, and our next talk, in February, to be given by Lloyd Mitchell (the Hydrogen Engineering Lead for the National Grid), will look at experiments presently being undertaken to put hydrogen into the gas network to heat our homes.

We have an interesting speaker in March (continuing our recent theme of power supply) talking about hydrogen in the National grid and, in April, we have a completely different subject. We are going to look at gene-editing and the genetic modification of plants, in a talk to be given by Dr Penny Hundlebury of the John Innes Centre in Norwich. It will be interesting to see what has changed since Bryan Burton led a discussion on this topic 15 or so years ago. (Spoiler alert: CRISPR).

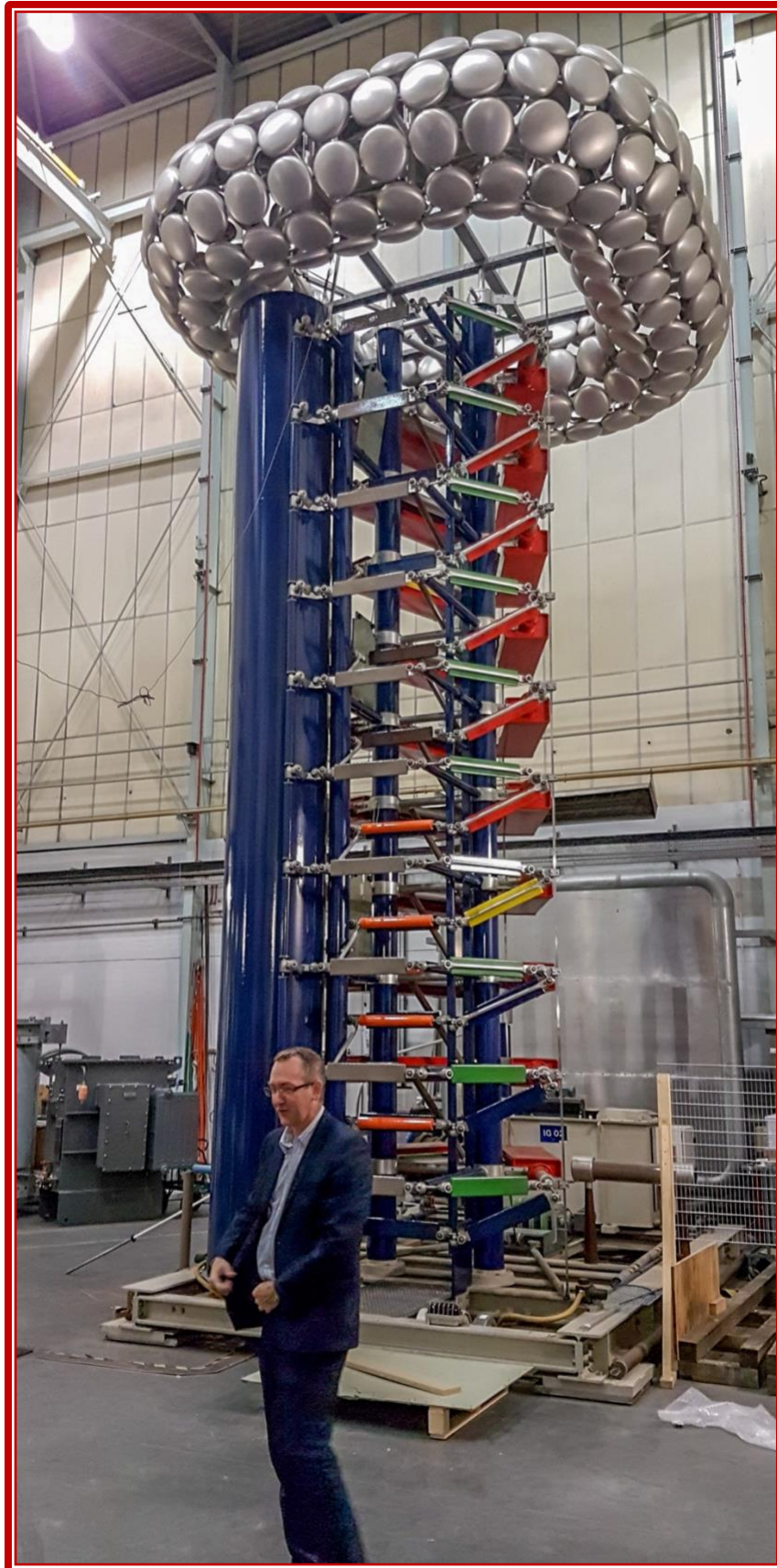
Our short-term future meetings are:

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2.00 pm on Zoom:  
Speaker TBA "A talk that is not yet specified."

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2.00 pm on Zoom:  
Lloyd Mitchell, Hydrogen Engineering Lead, Future Grid Innovation, National Grid. "Exploring hydrogen in the National Grid"

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2.00 pm on Zoom:  
Dr Penny Hundleby, John Innes Centre, Norwich. "The science, technology, regulation, benefits, and disadvantages of GM plants".





The high voltage laboratory at the University of Manchester  
Photo courtesy of David Burnham with our thanks to the university



Our group at the high voltage laboratory, Manchester University  
Photo courtesy of David Burnham with our thanks to the university.



Concorde, close-up at Manchester Airport.  
Photo courtesy of David Burnham with our thanks to the airport.



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## **WALKING MONDAYS**

**Leader: Valerie Herbert**

**Leader: Frank Nicholson**

Walks organised on the second and fourth Mondays of each month  
Start point—various locations; normally at 10.00 am



The group has 41 members currently and unfortunately, we are unable to accept any more members as our walks are attracting approx. 30 members. We are happy to add your name to a waiting list should you wish.

In 2021, the group initially held walks with only 6 attendees as allowed by Covid restrictions and we resumed to normal walks in June when the group was delighted to be able to get together again. We even managed to have our usual 4-day break in the Lake District at Skelwith Bridge. So, doubly vaccinated and having done lateral flow tests just before, we were even able to mingle almost as normal. We were not able to be in the bar, but the glorious weather meant outside aperitifs were no problem and at dinner we were able to have tables of 6 which we mixed and matched. After dinner we had a lounge reserved for us. All absolutely marvellous thanks to Frank's hard work in organising. All the walks were ably led and enjoyed by everyone.

Future walks are all advertised to members of the group as soon as they become available - normally 2 weeks before the walk. At the same time details are put on the u3a website.

Valerie is attempting to have leaders for a rolling 2 months and, therefore, if you would like to lead a walk please get in touch.

Again, a group of us will be going to Skelwith Bridge in June, expertly organised by Frank.

We have had an approach by Southport u3a to lead a few walks in our wonderful area for them with a possible reciprocal arrangement; a few of us will be seeing if we can progress this and we will advise you of any developments.

Look forward to seeing you on lots more walks.



Macclesfield Forest walk 22/11/2021  
Photo courtesy of Malcom Griffiths



Macclesfield Forest walk 22/11/2021  
Photo courtesy of Malcom Griffiths





Macclesfield Forest walk 22/11/2021  
Photo courtesy of Malcom Griffiths

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### **WALKING 5-MILERS**

**Leader: Phil Davies**

First and third Thursdays 10.00 am start from various locations



During the past year the group has managed to continue our twice monthly walks whilst keeping to the covid advice at the time. The group size has averaged about 12 members per walk.

We are a friendly group of walkers. Our walks are put forward and led by our members although it is not a requirement that you should put forward and lead a walk. If existing and new members feel that they would like to put forward and lead a walk, but they are unsure what to do or need help to carry out a recce then let me know and we can help. New members are always made welcome all you need is suitable footwear and clothing and a cheerful attitude to walking in the Great British Weather.

Our walks are varied and interesting and about 5 miles. The terrain is usually easy to moderate with some stiles, hills, steps and mud. They sometimes include a cafe stop. If there are no cafe stops then members bring their own drink and snacks.



We have taken on board the Health and Safety advice from the Monday walking group, and we have two first aid kits and two thermal blankets for the group. We have also issued and encouraged members to carry a form with medical information and emergency contacts.

We used to have a three-month programme of walks on the website, but this was disrupted during covid. I hope to reinstate the programme as soon as I can.



A well-earned rest  
Photo courtesy of Phil Davies





You can't get away from stiles  
Photo courtesy of Phil Davies

## **WILD FLOWER**

**Leader: Alec Johnston**

Meeting dates planned are the Mondays of the 28<sup>th</sup> March, 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 27<sup>th</sup> June, and 25<sup>th</sup> July.

We plan to visit some of the areas we visited last year and some new haunts as well. Hartington Station, Cressbrook Dale and Upper Lathkill Dale are firm favorites in late May and June.



Photo courtesy of Alec Johnston

A new field trip will be a visit to Arnside Knot, as well as some half day visits locally in the Macclesfield area. If any member can offer to lead the Arnside Knot day, please let Alec know.

New members will be welcome. Again, please contact Alec.



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### **TENNIS (proposed new group)**

**Leader: Chris Dahlstrom**

or text or What's App

Meeting every Tuesday morning at South Park tennis courts 10.00 am–noon.

All-year-round, weather permitting.

The group will be aimed at people who can play or have played previously and as such not really suitable for beginners as there are no coaching facilities. You should provide your own racquet and balls. The courts would have to be booked weekly, as yet the court can't be block-booked. At present there are no costs, however this could change.

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### **PSYCHOLOGY FORUM (proposed new group)**

**Leader: Angela Raval**

Meeting second and fourth Thursdays of the month

Location- Macclesfield and Congleton scout district HQ

32 West Bond St, Macclesfield SK11 8EQ

Parking on the street or in the rear car park to the HQ  
(both free)



No previous experience of Psychology is needed but curiosity about life and a willingness to discuss are essential skills

Anyone interested please contact Angela at the email address above.

**Website:**

**[www.maccu3a.uk](http://www.maccu3a.uk)**

**for the latest information, activities and events**

## Group Leaders

***Please ensure that the details of contact names are not publicised outside Macclesfield u3a.***

<b>Allotment and Gardening</b>	Steve Fallows Patti Chu
<b>Art Appreciation</b>	Julia Marwood
<b>Bird Watching</b>	Tony Middleton
<b>Bookworms 1</b>	Vicky Darlington
<b>Bookworms 2</b>	Linda Godfrey
<b>Bookworms 3</b>	Jutta Willis
<b>Bookworms 4</b>	Maggie Hayes
<b>Bookworms 5</b>	Pete Caulkett
<b>Bridge</b>	John Fisher
<b>Card Making</b>	Joy Kewney
<b>Country Dancing</b>	Jill Smart Jane Turner
<b>Crafters Together</b>	Jackie Boulton
<b>Croquet</b>	David Lee
<b>Crown Green Bowls</b>	John Hayes Sylvia Bostock
<b>Discussion</b>	Chris Hewitt
<b>French Conversation 1</b>	Allan Traves
<b>French Conversation 2</b>	Sally Lowden
<b>Geology</b>	Adrienne Noble
<b>Geology Studies</b>	Peter Roberts
<b>German 1</b>	Kate Bonson
<b>Italian - Beginners</b>	Douglas Hughes
<b>Mah Jong</b>	Pete Caulkett
<b>Members' Mornings</b>	Alec Johnston
<b>Mid Week Walkers</b>	Ciaran Fleming
<b>Painting and Art</b>	Jackie Gibbs
<b>Photography</b>	Ray Jordan
<b>Psychology Forum</b>	Angela Raval
<b>Spanish Improvers</b>	Pam Herring
<b>Tennis</b>	Chris Dahlstrom
<b>Technology and Science</b>	David Burnham
<b>Walking Mondays</b>	Valerie Herbert Frank Nicholson
<b>Walking 5-Milers</b>	Phil Davies
<b>Wild Flower</b>	Alec Johnston

## **U3a GENERAL COMMITTEE**

**Chairman** Alec Johnston

**Vice Chairman** Vacant

**Secretary** Peter Salt

**Secretary elect** Marion Grant

**Treasurer** Steve Fallows

**Deputy Treasurer** Keith Boulton

**Web Master  
& Beacon Management** Tony Middleton

**Membership Secretary** Linda Clegg

**Groups Co-ordinator** Vacant

**Publicity** Pete Caulket

**Speaker Sec (Temporary)** Alec Johnston

**Members' Morning Co-ordinator** Vacant

**Non-Committee Post**  
Newsletter editor Peter Roberts

## **Macclesfield U3a Groups - location and timings of meetings**

A number of the groups are still meeting via ZOOM, but this is likely to change. There will be no Yearbook this year, 2022, so all the details of activities are either in the newsletter or on the web site at [www.maccu3a.uk](http://www.maccu3a.uk). There will be a paper version of the newsletter for new members and non-internet users.

<b>Allotment and Gardening</b>	4th Thursday 2.00 pm
<b>Art Appreciation</b>	2nd and 4th Tuesdays 11.00 –noon Zoom
<b>Bird watching</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday
<b>Bookworms 1</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday 2.00 pm
<b>Bookworms 2</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday 2.00pm
<b>Bookworms 3</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday 10.00 am
<b>Bookworms 4</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 2.00 pm
<b>Bookworms 5</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 10.00–noon
<b>Bridge</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesdays 1.30–4.00 pm
<b>Card Making</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 10.00 am–noon.
<b>Country Dancing</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday 2.00–3.30 pm
<b>Crafters Together</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday 2.00–4.00 pm
<b>Croquet</b>	Re-starting on Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> April.
<b>Crown Green Bowls</b>	Wednesdays 10.00 am
<b>Discussion</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday 10.00 am
<b>French Conversation 1</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday every month throughout the year.
<b>French Conversation 2</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday 2.00 pm
<b>Geology</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday
<b>Geology Studies (proposed)</b>	Contact the leader
<b>German 1</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesdays 2.00–4.00 pm
<b>Italian - Beginners</b>	Every Monday 10.00–noon
<b>Mah Jong</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Mondays 2.00–4.00 pm
<b>Members' Mornings</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month
<b>Mid-Week Walkers</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month
<b>Painting and Art</b>	Fridays (term time) 10.15 am–12.15 pm and Independent Artists 1.30– 3.30pm
<b>Photography</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday every month. Time varies
<b>Psychology Forum (proposed)</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month
<b>Spanish Improvers</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 2.00–4.00 pm
<b>Tennis (proposed)</b>	Tuesdays 10.00–noon, all year round
<b>Technology and Science</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday 2.00–4.00 pm Venue to be advised. All ZOOM for now
<b>Walking Mondays</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mondays normally 10.00 am
<b>Walking 5-milers</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays 10.00 am
<b>Wild Flower</b>	Various Mondays. Contact the leader

## **Members' Morning programme**

Put these into your paper or electronic diary now, before you forget!

**Our February meeting is on ZOOM starting at 10.00 for 10.15 a.m.**

24<sup>th</sup> Feb                      Jenny Mallin talks on 'The Early Days Ancestors'  
in 1798 Benjamin Hardy sails from Yorkshire to Madras with  
his British Army Unit.

**March 2022 and until further notice - All meetings (Live face-to-face)  
Calvary Church - 9.30 a.m. coffee, for 10.15 a.m. start**

24<sup>th</sup> March                      Bob Bracegirdle on Campanology, 'A study of Bells'  
A hands-on bell ringing session!!

28<sup>th</sup> April **AGM**                      Speaker, Trevor Higgins. 'Memoirs of a Magistrate'

26<sup>th</sup> May                      Speaker, Dorothy Bentley Smith.  
'Charles Roe, a Macclesfield Industrialist'.

22<sup>nd</sup> Sept                      Next Members' Morning after the summer break.