

Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A NEWSLETTER March 2017



The University of the Third Age
Reg. Charity No. 1104944

Chairman's Chatter

It was lovely to see so many of you at our AGM. Thank you for your support. I hope you find it as interesting as I do, looking back over the previous year reviewing all the events and activities of MB&M U3A. The main principle of the U3A movement is self-help; that members work alongside other members to develop an area of interest or study. Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A certainly are successful in this area. Our activities are numerous and vary from discussion and study, trips and meals, to games, crafts and fitness, just to mention a few. We can always find room for more groups. Anyone with any ideas please let us know and we can try to get them started. There were about half a dozen new groups last year. Let's hope we can start a similar amount this year. Get your thinking caps on and come up with some ideas.

Following the new venture last year with a coffee morning we have planned to repeat it on April 25th. All group convenors or group members are welcome to advertise, or just inform us about their activities. It is always interesting to find out more about how the different groups work and the sorts of involvements they have. For this coffee morning we would like to invite all our members, new and old, as well as any friends, neighbours etc. who are interested in finding out more about the U3A and our activities. Please publicise it and put it in your diary to remind you to support it yourselves. If this is successful we are looking to repeat it either annually or bi-annually.

Shirley Hammond

* * * Membership Cards - 2017 * * *

Please show your Membership Card when attending the Monthly Meetings and have the £1.00 entrance fee ready to pay

The Power of the U3A

Recently, I had occasion to search through other U3As of the country to find out about a specific topic.

While trawling through the various sites on the internet, I came across reference to Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A in Cheshire. Years ago I knew a chap from Marple and thought I'd look through their site for an address to write to asking them to locate my friend.

The contact name was Malcolm Moss, the same name as my friend. I emailed him asking if he was the young man I knew all those years ago when we were both doing National Service in the RAF. He replied that he was and later that evening we had a splendid chat about the times that have passed. It is 59 years since I last met and spoke to him, but we were friends again instantly.

Amazingly, as well as being the Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A Secretary, he too is responsible for his branch's newsletter, as am I in Bridlington.

Malcolm is planning to visit Bridlington some time in the future for a face-to-face meeting. I look forward to that.

Mike Wilson, Bridlington U3A

MARPLE BRIDGE AND MELLOR U3A OUTING



On 22nd February a number of the members visited the Royal Exchange Theatre not to see a production but to find out what happens behind the scenes. Of course you have to start your visit fortified and as usual the cafe was the first stop

We were given the interesting history of the building and that it was on Queen Victoria's visit that it became the Royal Exchange.

We had an opportunity to visit the make up and wig department. We were told about how the wigs are made usually with human hair (costing thousands) we realised how busy this department was. The

lady needed to be a jack of all trades. She also showed us the false ears, noses etc. and also told us how the false stabbings and bloody deaths were staged - this part was not for the faint hearted!

Our next call was the wardrobe department another busy and talented crew. Following receipt of the drawings from the producer the costumes had to be made. The costume department were proud of the fact they only used the best fabric and if you have ever sat on the front row you certainly appreciate this fact. Occasionally to save cost they do use off the peg, also if a very large visiting group are performing they may provide their own costumes. This was not the department for you if you could not stand pressure, sometimes they only had weeks to provide what was needed.



The back rooms were a warren of corridors they also didn't have posh 'Star' dressing rooms. We made a stop at one of the sparse rooms



Next time when attending a play not only will we appreciate and admire the building but appreciate all that has gone into getting the show on the road. Thought will be given as to why we pay so much for a ticket and what a bargain we are getting

After the visit the majority of the members enjoyed an excellent lunch at a nearby Italian restaurant.

An excellent morning and we give our thanks to Jenny and George Summers

Ann Bouchier

Dining Group



Thank you to everyone who joined us for,
Platform One in January, Reflections in February and All Things Nice in March.

Forthcoming Events

Thursday the 6th of April

Lunch at the New Mills Golf Club - 12.30 for 1pm.

£10.25 for a Buffet with a selection of Meats and Salmon *Full amount payable at time of booking*

Bookings will be taken at the March Meeting.

Wednesday the 17th May

Evening Meal at The Crown Hawk Green - 7pm.

£16 for a Three Course Meal

Bookings will be taken at the March & April Meetings

A £5 deposit to secure your reservation for all Dining experiences will be required at the time of booking; sorry but this is non-refundable.

Pat Walker

Sound System

Tony Addy who has been responsible for our Sound System at the monthly meetings is having to take a back seat due to other commitments. We thank Tony very much for fulfilling this role.

As a result we are looking for someone to share the job, which basically is setting up the already installed address system for our guest speakers and our own announcements, with Derek Hesketh.

Offer of help will be most welcome and if you think you may be able to help then please speak to Derek or Shirley, our chairman, and they will give you more information about the position.

Local Theatre Group

Here are the next plays the Local Theatre Group will go to see.

Please contact Carol Rice email i.rice@virgin.net to book in for the play by the given "book in" date. This will allow for the purchase of tickets in advance.

Ticket costs will usually be between £8 - £9

The MB&M U3A Local Theatre Group will see selected plays from a wider programme of plays produced by local amateur dramatic theatres. If you would like to see another locally produced play, not on the list, then please contact Carol to see if it's possible to go to see this play?

The emphasis is on car share or taxi share or meet up point.

"Book In" by date	Date of Play	Play	Venue
24 March	Monday 24 April 2017	Neighbourhood Watch by Alan Ayckbourn	Poynton Players
13 April	Saturday Matinee 2.30pm 13 May 2017	Straight and Narrow by Jimmy Chinn	Carver, Marple
25 May	Monday 26 June 2017	The 39 Steps adapted from the novel by John Buchan	Poynton Players

Outings Group

Tuesday 28th March - Lion Salt Museum, Northwich, leaving Rose Hill with the usual pickups at 9.15 am - fully booked. Please ring 427 2861 for any cancellations.

Thursday 27th April - Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Water Gardens, Ripon. Early start: 8.15am from Rose Hill with the usual pickups - fully booked.
Please ring 427 2861 for waiting list and/or cancellations.

New outings planned as follows:-

Wednesday 31st May **TISSINGTON HALL TOUR & WELL DRESSINGS**

Full details are in the December newsletter. Leave Rosehill at 9.15 am with the usual 5 minute interval pickups at Regent cinema, Marple Bridge bus stop, Northumberland Arms and Romiley Arms bus stops.

Price: £21 p.p. cheques only please made payable to MB&MU3A Outings. This includes coach and gratuities, entrance to Hall and 90 minute guided tour. Members are then free to explore the village.

First booking: General meeting, 21st March, and thereafter please ring 427 2861.

Organiser: Jenny Summers

Thursday 13th July - **A DAY OUT IN YORK**

York has so many things to see, whether it's historic and religious sites, museums or architectural buildings, that a day out in York is planned where you choose what you want to do. You can treat yourself to lunch in Betty's Tea Rooms or shop until you drop along the Shambles.

Visit the York Tourist Information website for ideas on where to go and what to see on the day's outing to York.
<http://www.visit-york.org/information/york-visitor-guides.aspx>

The 1st Pick up is at 8.15am Rose Hill Station, Marple and then usual pickups through Marple to Romiley.

We aim to arrive in York by 10.45am and will leave promptly at 4pm.

Please note, the coach will park in a central car park near the river, so there will be a short walk into the centre of York.

Cost £14.50 (includes driver's gratuity).

Booking at the May and June meetings

Organiser Carol Rice.



These two outings will be very popular so your patience at the booking table is much appreciated.

Zumba Gold and now - Table Tennis

We are pleased to report the Zumba Gold sessions on Friday mornings (10-10.45 am) in St Paul's church hall are well attended and members are enjoying the exercises to music with Emma, our lively trainer. Members are also invited to try Table Tennis at the Fairway Leisure Centre, Offerton SK2 5DS, under the same SMBC Life Leisure scheme. The three sessions offered are Tuesday morning (10-11 am), Thursday evening (6-7pm) or Friday afternoon (1-2pm). All equipment is provided.
Price: £2 per session. If you are interested please contact either

J. Summers (427 2861) or G. Fogg (430 3517) for further details.

Matinee Group

Theatre Visits Planned

Tuesday 25th April 2017 to the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester
Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare

Tickets £26.50 no coach Last booking date March 21st



Jean Howells & Sue Humphris

Strolling Group

Our "Strolling Group" is for members who would like a gentle stroll rather than a longer walk for which we have a "Walking Group". We arrange strolls of about 2 miles followed by a cuppa. These take place on the first Tuesday mornings in the month at 10.30am.

If you would like to be put on our contact list pass your details to Geoff Fogg joanfogg@btinternet.com 0161 430 3517 or Shirley Hammond chairman@mbmu3a.org.uk
Don't forget your bus pass in case we need to ride back!

Tuesday March 7th 10.30am Maggie Preston 0161 427 6704

A stroll around Haughton Green Country Park (near Denton).

Park at the bottom of Meadow Lane, Haughton Dale Local Nature Reserve, Denton.

Meet 10.30 at Haughton Dale.

Tuesday April 4th 10.30am Jenny Summers 0161 427 2861

Peak Forest Canal - Meet: Regent Cinema, Marple at 10.30 a.m.

We are blessed with stunning scenery particularly in autumn and winter when the trees are bare and this stroll of about 2.5 miles gives us glorious views across Marple Bridge and beyond and up beyond Mellor and New Mills. Mostly flat along the canal path but with gentle ascents and descents, members are recommended to wear strong walking shoes, waterproof jacket etc. (just in case) and don't forget your bus pass for the return journey. Sorry no toilets.

Tuesday May 2nd 10.30am Jenny Summers 0161 427 2861

This will be a linear stroll along the bridleway which crosses the Mellor Golf course and drops down to the hamlet of Brookbottom, New Mills and then return to the Golf Club for coffee and/or a light lunch. The views are lovely across to the Peak Forest canal and down to the village of Strines. The path may be muddy and uneven; good walking shoes are advised.

We meet at the top car park at 10.30am and suggest members make their own arrangements to car share up to Mellor

Walking Group

Group Organisers/Co-ordinators

Sue Ward - 0161 312 162
Judith Lynch 0161 449 7507

Apr/May Walks

Wednesday 5th April	Waterside to Furness Vale	5 miles	Easy+	Wendy Greenwood
Tuesday 11th April	Hayfield to Lantern Pike	6 miles	Moderate	Val & Roy Bradshaw
Wednesday 19th April	PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO WALK THIS WEEK			
Tuesday 25th April	Broadbottom circular	6 miles	Moderate	Judy Rhodes
Wednesday 3rd May	Macclesfield Forest	6 miles	Moderate	Sue Ward
Tuesday 9th May	Hope Valley	6 miles	Moderate	Irene Riley
Wednesday 17th May	Rudyard Reservoir, nr Leek	4.5 miles	Easy	Judith Lynch
Tuesday 23rd May	Rainow to Lamaload Reservoir	5 miles	Mod.	Jean Mitchell
Wednesday 31st May	Litton/5 dales	5/6 miles	Moderate	Sheila Stafford

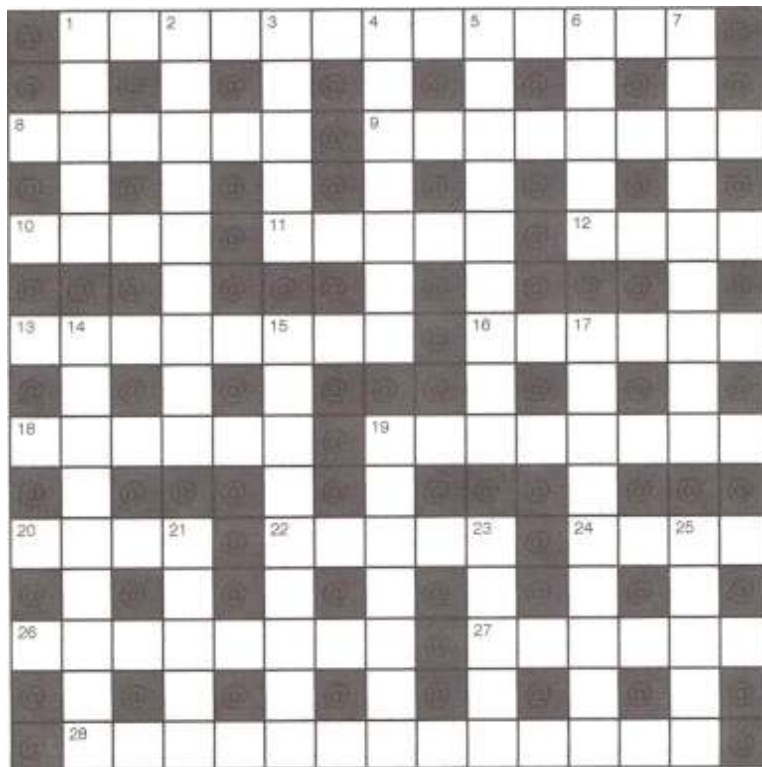
New walkers please contact Sue or Judith before attending a walk.

Crossword Compiled by Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Crossword Group

Geoff Heath

Clues across

- 1 Reproduced edges surrounding swan in strangely peculiar architectural style (13)
- 8 Help from Martha's sister Mary (6)
- 9 If desire involved, get warm place (8)
- 10 Determination? King George had it (4)
- 11 Every other road clear for sports bike (5)
- 12 Infrequent occurrence in our area (4)
- 13 Holy man with cunning editor made things stiff (8)
- 16 Rebuttal (and lie, perhaps) (6)
- 18 Flyer takes cover in Germany (6)
- 19 Notice to correspond and be suitable (8)
- 20 Discover a bit of a rash (4)
- 22 Idiot and French are an advantage (5)
- 24 Important part of bridge (4)
- 26 Telephone about kiln and get cooking (8)
- 27 Father returning a hound to eastern temple (6)
- 28 Killing device has a circle thrice around (8,5)



Clues down

- 1 Problem with tangled ropes (5)
- 2 I erred so badly accepting Trump at first, and painted the town red (9)
- 3 Firstly, every new tenant exercises rights to go in (5)
- 4 Knocking back decaf, Ed? You'll get disfigured! (7)
- 5 Case for short track back to Hog's Back, for example (9)
- 6 Earl's worried about strong light source (5)
- 7 Breed rats ordered for sociable bird (9)

Clues down (cont)

- 14 Elope, then arrange to get in touch (9)
- 15 He sells medicinal plants to heal Brits when upset (9)
- 17 Rule again failing, leading to severe pain (9)
- 19 I get older reversing after donkey with spear (7)
- 21 Experience the flavour (5)
- 23 Starting to offer people individual care is an item for discussion (5)
- 25 Cared about tree (5)

Meetings - FUTURE SPEAKERS

21 March	Roy Frost	"The History of Market Street and Piccadilly in Manchester."
18 April	Nick Bianchi	"The History of Arighi Bianchi store".
16 May	Lucy Marsh	"The Work of The Dogs Trust Manchester."

Unless otherwise notified, the ordinary monthly meetings are held in St Paul's Church Hall, Compstall on the third Tuesday of each month at 9-30am (for coffee and socializing). To enable members to use the bus service, the business of the meeting will start at 10-15 and will finish at 11.45 am approx.

- * *When attending a meeting please have your Membership Card and the entrance fee ready (preferably as a £1 coin)*
- * *You must show your membership card at all U3A events, including groups.*
- * *Please do not park near the War Memorial, use the Etherow Country Car Park*
- * *Please remember to bring and buy books and C.D's at the monthly meetings.*

CONTACTS

Chairman: Shirley Hammond
chairman@mbmu3a.org.uk
Vice Chairman: Clare Gwilym
vicechairman@mbmu3a.org.uk
Secretary: Malcolm Moss
secretary@mbmu3a.org.uk
Minute Secretary: Joan Fogg
minuteseecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk
Treasurer: Michael Paxton
treasurer@mbmu3a.org.uk
Group Co-ordinators: Alan & Kitty Watt
GroupCoordinator@mbmu3a.org.uk
Membership Secretary: Carol Rice
membershipsecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk
Speaker Organiser: Ulla Mehta
speakersecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk
Almoner: Pat Walker
almoner@mbmu3a.org.uk
Newsletter Editor: Malcolm Moss
newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk
Outings: Jenny Summers
Wendy Atkinson
Outings@mbmu3a.org.uk
Other Committee Members
Hazel Bhatt, Geoff Fogg, Derek Hesketh,
& Olwyn Wych
Webmaster:
Tony Wolfendale
e.mail: webmaster@mbmu3a.org.uk
Website: www.mbmu3a.org.uk
National Website: www.u3a.org.uk
National Office: The Third Age Trust
The Old Municipal Buildings
19, East Street, Bromley Kent, BR1 1QE
020 8466 6139

Stop Press

Group Leaders

A reminder that all group leaders should keep a simple record of income and expenditure within their group.

These should be made available for the treasurer if and when required.

Announcements

It is with regret that we record the death of one of our members, Helga Taylor.

We send our sincere condolences to her husband Gordon and her family

Newsletter

If you would like to see the Newsletter early go to our Website, www.mbmu3a.org.uk and click on the relevant Newsletter heading. You can also view past Newsletters on the website

Crossword Solution
Across 1 Perpendicular; 8 Assist; 9 Fireside; 10 Grit;
11 Racer; 12 Rare; 13 Starched; 16 Dental; 18 Gilder;
19 Adequate; 20 Spot; 22 Asset; 24 Arch; 26 Roasting;
27 Pagoda; 28 Electric chair
Down: 1 Poser; 2 Roistered; 3 Enter; 4 Defaced; 5 Laser;
7 Redbreast; 14 Telephone; 15 Herbalist; 17 Neutralgia;
19 Assegai; 21 Taste; 23 Topic; 25 Cedar

This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be published May 2017

Please send items for publication by email

to Malcolm Moss 24 Beechwood Drive Marple, SK67DG 0161 917 8902

Email: newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk

Any stories, articles or photographs of interest to members are welcomed.

You can read all issues of the newsletter on our website www.mbmu3a.org.uk

All contributions for the next edition of the Newsletter should be received no later than Friday 5th May 2017