

## Chairman's Chatter

Since the AGM, which was held in St. Paul's Church Hall last month, we have had some changes to our committee for the coming year. Three serving members stepped down from various roles; the first of which was our current Chairman, Shirley Hammond.

She has worked for a period of nearly ten years, both on the committee in various roles and most recently as Chairman, and she has done an excellent job.

I would like to thank her for her conscientious leadership, objectivity and impartiality in committee meetings throughout her time as Chairman, so that our U3A has continued to develop and thrive under her guidance. She will continue her involvement as she runs the French conversation group and also attends many other activities.

Our thanks also go to Pat Walker who has been our Almoner and was also Vice Chairman for a time as well. She will still be involved in the running of the Dining Group. Olwyn Wych is taking on the role of Almoner.

Joan Fogg served as Minutes Secretary for a number of years and we thank her for her thoroughness. She will also continue with her involvement in Zumba and the Strolling Group.

We will be welcoming Barbara Scholes as Secretary and Stuart Gaw joins us as a new committee member. Malcolm Moss has already taken over the role as Membership Secretary, while Carol Rice Systems Manager. Mike has also been persuaded to stay on as Treasurer, for another year.

I will be taking over as Chairman and some of you may already know me as I have served on the committee for nearly three years and helped at meetings, giving out newsletters and membership cards. I also run the Badminton group and attend regularly at the Zumba session on Fridays.

As Shirley indicated in her summary at the AGM, we are going through a period of change as we adapt to a new system to help us with membership renewals and the development of a new and more accessible website. There is always something new on the horizon to try out and we are always keen to promote more new interest groups and widen our experiences. I look forward to my work as Chairman throughout the coming year.

*Clare Gwilym*

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### Coffee Morning - Tuesday 24th April

St Paul's Church Hall - 10 am to 12 noon

Come along and bring your friends

**Admission is Free - Donations to this year's charity would be appreciated**

Many of our Group Leaders will be there to show what their groups do and when the groups meet

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE - PARKING

From the beginning of May until the end of August St Paul's Church is going under a major re-construction project. This means that no one will be able to park in the car park at the hall as it will be being used by the contractors for all the major equipment which they will need to have there to enable them to carry out the necessary work to the foundations of the east end of the church. Therefore it will be necessary for everyone to park in the public car park at the Etherow Country Park.

We realise that this will be very inconvenient and we apologise for this but is something completely out of our control

## Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A Newsletters

I have been checking the archive of the Newsletters and have found it to be incomplete. Does anyone have a copy of the MBM U3A newsletter published on any of the following dates.

**March, May, Sept, or Nov 2007 - March 2009 - July 2013 - July 2015**

If you have a copy of any of these dates could you please get in touch with me by email  
newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk,

*Malcolm Moss - Newsletter Editor*

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### **Outings Group**

In January we visited Manchester Art Gallery and our thanks go to our U3A member and guide, Richard McClean (and Naomi) for an excellent outing much enjoyed by all.

### **Wed, 28th March LUNCH - THE RIVERSIDE RESTAURANT and a guided Tour of the CO-OP PIONEERS MUSEUM ROCHDALE.**

There are places left on this outing. 'The trip is suitable for those with mobility or hearing issues'  
Price: £28p.p. including 3 course lunch, coach, driver's gratuity and guided tour of museum with refreshments afterwards. We will be leaving at 10.15 am with the four usual pickups.

Please contact the organiser : J Summers (427 2861)

### **Thursday 26th April TERRACOTTA WARRIORS EXHIBITION**

This popular outing is fully booked and we will have two coaches leaving from Rose Hill. Coach A. with half Rose Hill members will pick up at the Regent Cinema and Marple Bridge, followed by Coach B. with 2nd half of Rose Hill members, picking up at Northumberland Arms and Romiley Arms. As usual we ask that you be at your pickup point in good time to avoid unnecessary congestion of traffic. We shall then proceed to Liverpool in convoy.

We will leave around 4.00 p.m. Please ensure that you return on the same coach.

Organiser : J Summers (427 2861) There is a waiting list

### **Future Outings**

### **Tuesday, 22nd May BODNANT GARDENS AND LLANDUDNO**

£14. includes coach, driver's gratuity and entrance fee to Bodnant  
(for National Trust members or Royal Horticultural Society RHS members)  
£26:50..for non NT nor RHS members.

A visit to the world famous Bodnant gardens at its most beautiful and colourful time followed by a short hop to Llandudno. We should have about 3 hours in Bodnant and about 2 hours in Llandudno depending on the traffic.

Bookings: March General Meeting and there after contact

Organiser: Hazel Bhatt



### **Monday 11th - 17th June LAKE MAGGIORE** with Greatdays Holidays Ltd

A gentle reminder that the balance is due by Tuesday 3rd April.

### **Thurs 19th July BUXTON & AFTERNOON TEA AT ARIGHI BIANCHI**

A trip to Buxton followed by afternoon tea at the fabulous furniture emporium of Arighi Bianchi, Macclesfield, has been arranged.

Cost: £28 p.p. including coach, driver's gratuity and afternoon tea.

First booking: Tues. 15th April General Meeting and thereafter contact

Organiser: Joan Fogg

### **Friday 10th August - SHREWSBURY FLOWER SHOW**

We have provisionally booked 45 tickets for the Show with payment by beginning of July. Therefore

First Booking: Tuesday, 15th April General meeting and thereafter contact

Organiser: Jenny Summers (427 2861)

## 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](mailto:joanfogg@btinternet.com) or Shirley Hammond [david.hammond60@btinternet.com](mailto:david.hammond60@btinternet.com)

Don't forget your bus pass in case we need to ride back! Bring a drink over the summer months!

**Tuesday 3rd April.** Shirley Hammond [david.hammond60@btinternet.com](mailto:david.hammond60@btinternet.com)

Meet in Romiley Car Park behind the Forum near the exit to Sainsburys at 10.30am.

We will stroll down Oakwood Road to the Peak Forest Canal and continue along the banks of the canal towards Woodley. Along the way there are views across to Otterspool Road and Chadkirk Church. The pathway is flat and good underfoot. Sturdy footwear advised.

The stroll will take approximately 1 ½ hours.

Afterwards enjoy drinks and nibbles

**Tuesday 1st May.** Pam Taylor [pamelamt@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pamelamt@tiscali.co.uk)

Meet outside the Regent Theatre in Marple at 10.30am.

We will stroll across the Memorial Park to the Peak Forest Canal and continue along the canal to Brabyns Park. Then we will follow the River Goyt, past the Iron Bridge to Marple Bridge. At this point strollers can decide whether they stroll back into Marple or take the bus back. The stroll leader must be informed which of these 2 options each member chooses.

The stroll will take approximately 1 ½ hours.

Afterwards enjoy drinks and nibbles

We need some of you to arrange strolls. Please speak to Geoff Fogg. If you have a basic idea he will give you assistance to plan a stroll. Remember we only stroll 2-3 kilometers.

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## Local Theatre Group

Here are the plays for May 2018 which the local theatre group will go to see.

The next plays will be later in the year when the new theatre season begins.

If you want to see any of the plays, please book a seat with Carol Rice, by 3rd April at the latest, email [i.rice@virgin.net](mailto:i.rice@virgin.net). This will allow for the purchase of tickets in advance.

The emphasis is on car share. We tend to meet in the foyer about 15 minutes before curtain up. Most tickets (concession rate) are between £8 - £9.50

**Carver Theatre, Marple**      **Saturday 12th May 2018**      **Matinee 2.30pm**  
**The Vicar of Dibley by Gower and Carpenter**

A new vicar arrives in Dibley. Is Dibley and its inhabitants ready for the wind of change ?  
A stage adaptation from the original TV series

**Poynton Players**      **Monday 21st May 2018**      **7.45pm**  
**Confusions by Alan Ayckbourn**

A comedy, in a series of short, interlinked one-act plays. Some characters appear in more than one play. Each play is different and deals with the common themes of loneliness & relationships.

# Crossword Compiled by Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Crossword Group

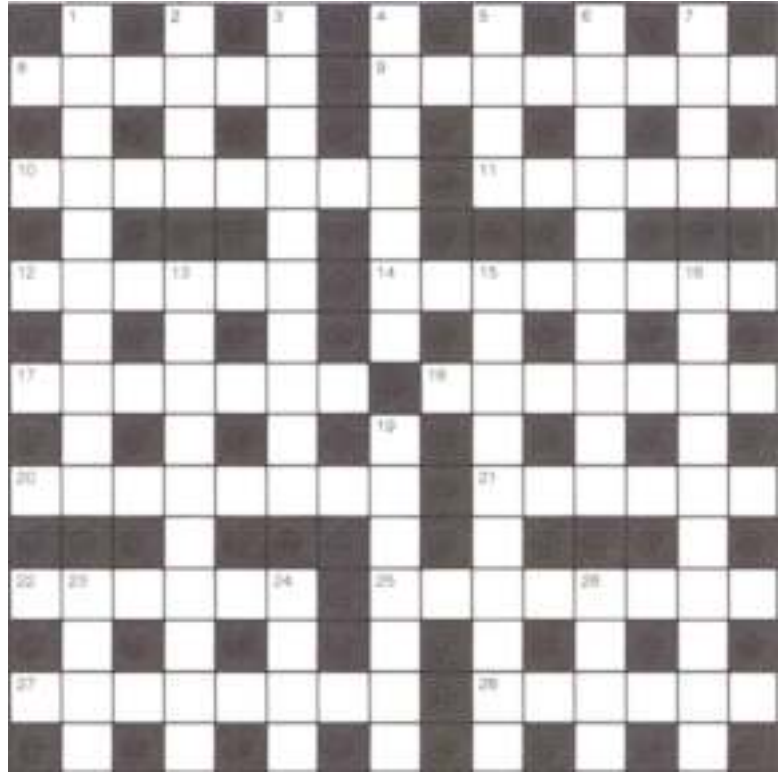
Sheila Stafford

## Clues across

8. Informal restaurant poured gravy browning over  
redhead. (6)
9. Ken could be reformed if released. (8)
10. Whose strange colour got wet? (8)
11. Itchy scurf falls from scratch at back of neck. (6)
12. Girl hops about starting in anger. (6)
14. Bit of chicken – ordered his on web. (8)
17. For example, love holiday was taken for  
self - gratification. (7)
18. Blow up General! (7)
20. Missing link disfigured near hump. (8)
21. Examined dihybrid's back to reveal what is obscure. (6)
22. Artist brought girl with us on the Circle Line. (6)
25. Determined to lose? True weirdo. (8)
27. Discourtesy is upsetting end users. (8)
28. Abbreviating fashion – American has the needle. (6)

## Clues down

1. Angle with royal gnome somehow and sell the catch. (10)
2. Worry about stitch in time? No, just the opposite. (4)
3. Mourn jail's replacement; the papers are full of it. (10)
4. Roundabout on outskirts of Warrington has seen better days.  
(8)
5. A short girl expresses sadness. (4)
6. Broad replaced after twenty runs showing here. (10)
7. Football official takes ecstasy and ends up tied in a knot. (4)



## Clues down (cont)

13. Temporary difficulty with walker –  
one seeking transport (10)
15. Combine a bad deed heard with long essay  
on energy. (10)
16. Gentle cold turns into flu outbreak if one  
doesn't take care. (10)
19. Take clothes off – nudes run south for a change. (7)
23. A condition to touch something else. (4)
24. Tread on dangerous pest. (4)
26. Devises a sly disguise. (4)

## Meetings -FUTURE SPEAKERS

20 March	Eric Newton	"Life and times of a Busker"
17 April	Peter Ashburner	"Flog it"
15 May	Veronica Bird	"From Prison to Palace"

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 show your Membership Card and have 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.*

# U3A National/ North West Region Summer Schools

The National Summer Schools will be held at Harper Adams University, Newport Shropshire from Monday 23rd July to Thursday 26th July and at the Royal Agricultural University Cirencester from Tuesday 11th September to Friday 14th September.

The North West Region Summer Schools will be held at Newton Rigg Agricultural College, Nr Penrith from 28th to the 31st August.

All the information about the courses can be got from the Notice Board at the Monthly Meeting or by visiting the Website - [summer-schools.u3a.org.uk](http://summer-schools.u3a.org.uk)

## Dining Group

Thank you to everybody who has joined us for our recent meal experiences  
The Crown at Hawk Green was excellent and Reflections Catering College was its usual high standard. The students work really hard in both the restaurant and kitchens.



## Forthcoming Events.

An Evening Meal at IL PEPE NERO Three courses plus Tea or Coffee £18 Wednesday 18th April

An Evening at Meal Mellor & Townscliffe Golf Club Three Courses plus Tea or Coffee £20  
on Thursday 17th May, 7 for 730pm

A Lunch Time Cruisne on a Narrow Boat is planned for Wednesday 27th June leaving from Whaley Bridge. Hot pot and Apple pie for £18. (This is a fund raising event for the CHRISTIE HOSPITAL.)

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

## Walking Group Apr/May Walks

Group Organisers/Co-ordinators

Jean Mitchell 0161 221 2304  
Judith Lynch 0161 449 7507

Wed Apr 4th	Poynton	5m	Easy	Carole McConnell
Tue Apr 10th	Haughton Dale	5m	Moderate	Val and Roy Bradshaw
Wed Apr 18th	Fernilee/Coombs	6m	Moderate+	Jean Mitchell
Tue Apr 24th	Hayfield	5m	Moderate	Sheila Stafford
Wed May 2nd	Ladder Hill	5/6m	Moderate	Irene Riley
Tue May 8th	Three Shires Head	5m	Moderate	Sue Ward
Wed May 16th	TBA			John Bloor
Tue May 22nd	Lantern Pike	6m	Moderate+	Val and Roy Bradshaw
Wed May 30th	Mottram Hill Trail	4m	Moderate	Judith Lynch



**Walk Grading** Very Easy: More or less flat, good surface, few stiles      Moderate: Typical of local terrain  
Easy: Small sections of hill, not too rough, limited stiles      Moderate + : More climbing and/or more stiles

All walks meet IN Brabyns Park for prompt departure at 9.45 am. Car passengers are asked to contribute 10p per mile to petrol cost.

Walking safety: Footwear (walking boots), clothing and equipment needs to be suitable for the conditions likely to be encountered. This area is famous for changeable weather so come prepared for all eventualities. Bring your mobile phone and inform the leader of your phone number and that of an emergency contact. Provide your own first aid kit.

Refreshments: Bring more than adequate food and drink for the length of walk and weather conditions.

**New walkers please contact Jean or Judith before attending a walk.**

## CONTACTS

**Chairman:** Clare Gwilym  
chairman@mbmu3a.org.uk

**Vice Chairman:**  
vicechairman@mbmu3a.org.uk

**Secretary:** Barbara Scholes  
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**Treasurer:** Michael Paxton  
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**Speaker Organiser:** Ulla Mehta  
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Wendy Atkinson

Outings@mbmu3a.org.uk

**Systems Manager:** Carol Rice  
systemsmanager@mbmu3a.org.uk

**Other Committee Members**  
Geoff Fogg, Stuart Gaw, Derek Hesketh

**Website:** [www.mbm3a.org.uk](http://www.mbm3a.org.uk)

**National Website:** [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)

**National Office:** The Third Age Trust  
52 Lant Street, London, SE1 1RB  
020 8466 6139

## Announcements

It is with regret that we record the death of two of our members Brenda Skyes and Jackie Bassett, we send our condolences to thier family and friends

## Newsletter

If you would like to see the Newsletter early go to our Website, [www.mbm3a.org.uk](http://www.mbm3a.org.uk) and click on the relevant Newsletter heading.

You can also view past Newsletters on the website

## Parking at General Meetings

Please do not park blocking the road up to the church or the vicarage as access is required to these buildings at all times

**Crossword Solution**  
Across 8. bistro 9. unlocked 10. showered 11. scruff  
12. Sophia 14. wishbone 17. egotip 18. enlarge  
20. prehmen 21. hidden 22. radius 25. resolute  
27. rudeness 28. stylus  
Down 1. Fishmonger 2. Stew 3. Journalism  
4. Rundown 5. Alas 6. Scoreboard 7. Reef  
13. Hitchhiker 15. Synthesis 16. Neglectful 19. Undress  
23. About 24. Step 26. lays

This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be published May 2018

Please send items for publication by email

to Malcolm Moss

**Email: [newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk](mailto: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.mbm3a.org.uk](http://www.mbm3a.org.uk)

***All contributions for the next edition of the Newsletter should be received no later than Friday 4th May 2018***