



The University of the Third Age

Reg. Charity No. 1104944

Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A NEWSLETTER March 2019

Chairman's Chatter

Welcome to the March issue of our newsletter and the beginning of a new period for our U3A - we have lost three of our long serving committee members and welcome some new faces to our appointed group of trustees. Jenny Summers, Derek Hesketh and Mike Paxton all stepped down from their posts on the committee at our AGM on Feb 19th. We thanked them for all their work and they were presented with gift vouchers at the end of the meeting. We are very sad to lose them as they have all been stalwarts on the committee and have completed their respective jobs with integrity and commitment.

We welcome Wendy Atkinson as our newly appointed Treasurer, Malcolm Moss as our interim Vice Chairman and David Davies as our new committee member. Wendy was the Treasurer for the Outings group for a number of years and many of you will have been served coffee by Wendy at our monthly meetings. Malcolm still continues to produce the newsletter and also has the demanding job of Membership Secretary. David has had experience of working on other committees in the past. Mike Paxton has kindly offered to audit the accounts for us at the end of each year.

We are still on the lookout for someone to take on the role of Vice Chairman and it has been quite difficult encouraging people to come forward to serve on the committee this time. I'm of the firm belief that if you want something to change or improve then you need to get involved. It's no good moaning from the side line - to affect the situation you need to make a contribution.

Some people, who can't make a full time commitment to standing for the committee at the moment, have said that they will be happy to be on a list of people that we can call when we urgently need help. This is extremely helpful. It is also possible to co-opt people onto the committee so that they can gain an insight into what happens. This might be worth thinking about!

As Atticus Finch says in 'To kill a Mockingbird' - you never really understand someone until you have stood in their shoes.

Clare Gwilym

The Producers at the Royal Exchange

Before Jenny Summers resigned as Outings Organiser, she managed to secure a block of seats to see the highly acclaimed production of 'The Producers'. Not surprisingly all the tickets sold very quickly! I managed to secure two tickets and went on Thursday Jan 24th. to see the performance. I had seen the film many years ago, with Mel Brooks and Gene Wilder but wasn't quite sure how it would be adapted as a stage production, but it surpassed all expectations.

We were fortunate to have seats in the stalls, with an excellent view of the stage, which was certainly utilised to good advantage throughout. A cast of seventeen performers took multiple roles and were all accomplished singers and dancers, as well as actors. From the outset it was a fast-paced, high energy performance, with slick costume and scenery changes. The leading characters gave dynamic energy to their roles and the supporting cast added to that energy. It was very much a 'tongue in cheek' performance and once we started laughing we couldn't stop. Possibly the most amusing moment was when the majority of the cast were performing a dance on Zimmer Frames; something I'd not seen before! Many thanks to Jenny for organising that outing for us and, indeed, for all the many similarly successful events that she has organised over many years.

Clare Gwilym

IMPORTANT You **MUST** show your membership card at all U3A events
This is necessary because of U3A regulations regarding insurance
When attending the Monthly meetings please have both your U3A
Membership Card and the entrance fee ready (preferably as a £1 coin)
when you book in, please put your emergency number on the back of the card

Outings Group

Future Outings

April 2019 Join us on the walking tour of the landmarks of Manchester that Elizabeth Gaskell would have been familiar with. The walk will be lead by the Manchester Blue Badge guide, start at the Cenotaph at 10:30 am and it will be for one hour duration. There will be a break for an hour for lunch between 11:30 am till 12:30pm. At 12:30pm we meet again with the guide outside The Manchester Art Gallery to catch a bus to the Gaskell house which is on Plymouth grove. 12:45pm arrived at The Gaskell house for a tour of the home of Elizabeth Gaskell. At 1:30pm till 3:00pm we will be gathered in the servants hall for riotous tales of feisty regional women. There will be a break half way for a cup of tea/ coffee and cakes. The cost of this trip will be £23 provided there are 25 members in attendance. Otherwise the cost will be slightly higher.

May 2019 We are booked to attend the **West Side Story** at the Manchester Royal Exchange Theatre on Thursday the 16th of May. We are fully booked and some members haven't collected their tickets! Please collect your tickets at the March general meeting.

June 2019 We plan to visit Ednaston near Ashbourne (within the Chatsworth estate) open gardens day on Saturday the 23rd of June from 1pm till 5pm. We hope to car share and would be grateful for a few volunteer drivers. Please put your name forward at the next three monthly meeting

Hazel Bhatt

Thoughts & Comments from former members of MB&M U3A

Sadly members have to leave us from time to time, some because of ill health and some because they decide to move to be nearer to their families. They often go on to join other U3As around the country and sometimes we get to hear about their experiences elsewhere. Two people who left recently have sent comments and thoughts about U3A and have kindly allowed some of their thoughts to be published

Margaret Stevens was a founder member of MB&M U3A and was its first Chairman; she moved away some time ago but still continued to attend our meetings whenever she could. She said the following, ' One of the most important benefits of joining MB&M U3A was that lifelong friendships are formed and support offered when needed. Especially for those who have lost the company of loved ones. This to me is one of the most important benefits of joining Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A. Also the value of lifelong learning for its own sake and not dependent on qualifications or university degrees. I am very proud to have been a founder member and first Chairman of this very successful group.'

Some other thoughts were expressed by Chris Sims who moved to Milton Keynes and joined the U3A there. She said, ' The difference here with the U3A is the way it's run. They have a talk or lecture once a month for everyone, the chairs are all in rows so when people arrive they just find a seat. Coffee is always served afterwards by which time most people have gone home and haven't bothered to stay. They never have tables for the groups at monthly meetings. You never sit next to the person you chatted to last time and sometimes never see them again. I was lucky that I knew a lot of people in Marple Bridge. My advice is - Don't move - despite children telling you they'd like you to be nearer!! To have them popping in and out more is nice but doesn't entirely compensate! '

We also received an interesting letter this month from Edwina Currie, who came to talk to us last month. She said how much she had enjoyed it and complimented our membership for asking such intelligent questions. It certainly created the right atmosphere for a lively forum and she said that she would be happy to visit us again, if invited.

It is nice to have such positive and thoughtful comments being expressed.

Book Sales at the Monthly Meetings

Due to the limited amount of storage space and the fact that hard back books and non fiction books are not popular, it is requested that Paper Back Fiction books are mainly brought for the Stall. Please do not bring any magazines as these also do not sell.

Important Message for Group Leaders

Thank you to all group leaders who have returned their Audit Forms, and can we remind any others who haven't done so, to complete them as a matter of urgency.

National U3A requirements are that we have up to date information about all our groups.

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 david.hammond60@btinternet.com or 0161 366 8223

Don't forget your bus pass in case we need to ride back! Bring a drink over the summer months! Wear appropriate footwear in case the ground is wet.

Tuesday April 2nd Pam and David Taylor

Meet outside the Regent Cinema Marple at 10.30am

The Stroll - We cross the road via the pedestrian tunnel to Top Lock. We take the canal tow path towards New Mills, passing the marina, until we reach a stone bridge. Then over the stile onto the path to All Saints church. The first few yards of the path are a bit steep and rough under foot, but it then levels out and there are good views on a clear day. We proceed on the footpath, over another stile, through the church yard leading onto Church Lane. We continue our stroll up Church lane for about a quarter mile until we reach the footpath at the riding school (again there are lovely views here looking towards New Mills), then down the footpath, up the steps, over the bridge to the canal tow path on the other side which takes us back into Marple.

We recommend strong shoes

There are 2 lych-gate stiles to cross on the walk, which is approximately 2 miles.

Afterwards join us for a drink and a natter in one of the cafes in Marple.

Tuesday May 7th

Meeting at Romiley Forum (post codeSK64EA) in the centre of Romiley, at 10.30am

The Stroll - We will wander down to High Peak canal then through the woods to Chadkirk Chapel (this could be muddy) and back along the canal into Romiley. This will be about 2miles with one short steep climb, obviously we will take this very slowly. If this is too much (can decide on the day) we can miss Chadkirk out altogether and stay on the canal towpath, distance about 1 and half miles.

Strong shoes recommended - could be muddy!

Tuesday June 4th Suggestions or offers for future walks please.

Please be aware that our strolls are arranged by members of the group. This tends to fall on the same few people! We desperately need some other strollers to arrange future strolls. Please speak to Shirley Hammond or Geoff Fogg. If you have a basic idea they will give assistance to plan a stroll. Remember we only stroll 2-3 kilometers.

Shirley Hammond

Dining Group

Thank you to the people who joined us at Platform One and Reflections both evenings were very successful.

April - An Evening meal at IL PEPE NERO Romiley on Thursday 4th April 6.30 for 7.00
A three course meal plus Tea or Regular Coffee £19.00

May - Lunch at The Fisherman's Table Marple on Wednesday 8th May
A Two course meal for £20 11.30 for 12.00



Bookings will be taken at the March meeting

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

Crossword Compiled by Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Crossword Group

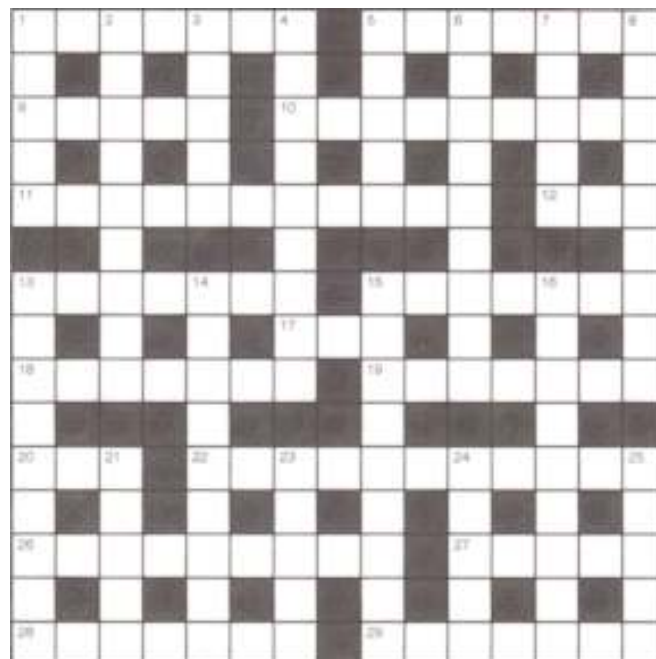
compiled jointly by U3A Crossword Group

Clues across

1. A left of centre nobleman makes a statement. (7)
5. Live and be obliged to be well mannered. (6)
9. A piece on the side. (5)
10. Inability to move raspy sail. (9)
11. Exhibition, for example, of bluestocking's joint. (11) 12. Regret first risky unethical experiment. (3)
13. Sailor has chewed up wad, and gets the bird! (7)
15. Mixed prison for Communist. (7)
17. Swift runner hides among the chrysanthemums. (3)
18. Decoration held in cleaner room. (7)
19. Controlled movement as Edward followed beast. (7)
20. Last week? At home with the family. (3)
22. Personality with ill-humour having last word before end of shift. (11)
26. Excited, I tend a little bear inside being kept warm. (9) 27. Wading bird removed from mother only when ready to fly. (5)
28. Foolishly meet Len in hail, rain or shine. (7)
29. Stockman hurried to church with the Queen. (7)

Clues down

1. Collect for a service. (5)
2. Three short men dance. (3-3-3)
3. Some count I looked up to. (5)
4. Best road! and twerp has accident. (3,6)
5. Cabin bed picked up for confinement. (5)
6. Cheap little frill might be a good reduction. (4-5)
7. Take it from guest to get protection from sun. (5)



Clues down (cont)

8. Dropped description and finished. (9)
13. Sailor will fight if Ken produces a weapon. (9)
14. It is criminal to bleed a bat. That's a matter of opinion. (9)
15. Violently press nude in hold-up. (9)
16. Uncommon home for metallic element. (4,5)
21. Alternate neat career for mother of Pearl. (5)
23. Met to arrange vocal composition. (5)
24. Grey faced starters at spinning, having experienced nausea. (5)
25. Dial on the radio found melody before recital started. (5)

Walking Group

Apr/May Walks

Date	Location	Distance	Difficulty	Organiser
Wed April 3rd	Longdendale	6m	Easy	John Bloor
Tues April 9th	Lyme Park	5m	Moderate	Sheila Stafford
Wed April 17th	Castleton	5m	Moderate	Sue Ward
Tues April 23rd	Styal Woods	5m	Easy+	Roy Bradshaw
Wed May 1st	Werneth Low	6m	Moderate	Judith Lynch
Tues May 7th	Alderley Edge	6m	Moderate	Gillian Cheesman
Wed May 15th	Mellor Cross	5m	Moderate	Val Bradshaw
Wed May 22nd	Pilsbury Castle	6m	Moderate	Irene Riley
Tues May 28th	Ollersett Moor	5m	Moderate	Maxine Wild

Group Organisers/Co-ordinators

Roy Bradshaw 427 7324
Judith Lynch 0161 449 7507



Very Easy – More or less flat, good surface, few stiles

Easy – Small sections of hill, not too rough, limited stiles

Moderate – Typical of local terrain

Moderate plus – more climbing and/or more stiles

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

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.

Remember delays sometimes occur.

CONTACTS

Chairman: Clare Gwilym

chairman@mbmu3a.org.uk

Vice Chairman: Malcolm Moss

vicechairman@mbmu3a.org.uk

Secretary: Barbara Scholes

secretary@mbmu3a.org.uk

Treasurer: Wendy Atkinson

treasurer@mbmu3a.org.uk

Group Co-ordinator: Olwyn Wych

groupCoordinator@mbmu3a.org.uk

Mem. Secretary: Malcolm Moss

membershipsecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk

Speaker Organiser: Ulla Mehta

speakersecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk

Almoner: Olwyn Wych

almoner@mbmu3a.org.uk

Newsletter Editor: Malcolm Moss

newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk

Outings: Hazel Bhatt

Joan Fogg

outings@mbmu3a.org.uk

Systems Manager: Carol Rice

systemsmanager@mbmu3a.org.uk

Other Committee Members

David Davies & Geoff Fogg

Website: www.mbmu3a.org.uk

National Website: www.u3a.org.uk

National Office: The Third Age Trust

52 Lant Street, London,

SE1 1RB

020 8466 6139

Speakers

19 March

Geoff Scargill

"Miracle in Manchester"

Barbirolli and the

Manchester Halle Orchestra

16 April

Annette & John Christopher

'A talk with a Difference

Fun with Clay

21 May

Paul Blakey MBE

"Street Angels"

Volunteer to help the
vulnerable.

Unless otherwise notified the ordinary monthly meetings are held at St Paul's Church Hall, Compstall on the third Tuesday of each month at 9-30 (for coffee and socializing) and the business part of the meeting begins at 10-15am and will finish at 11-45am approx.

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 account 5 behave 9 apart 10 paralysis
11 scholarship 12 rue 13 jackdaw 15 stirred 17 emu
18 chamber 19 steered 20 kin 22 temperament
26 incubated 27 heron 28 element 29 rancher
Down 1 amass 2 cha-cha-cha 3 until 4 top drawer 5 berth
6 half-price 7 visor 8 descended 13 jackknife 14 debatable
15 suspender 16 rare earth 21 naere 23 motel 24 ashen
25 tuner

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

Please send items for publication by email

to Malcolm Moss

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 Wed 8th May**