



All good wishes for Christmas

Chairman's Chatter



November is certainly starting with plenty of 'mists and mellow fruitfulness' and as I walk with the dog through the nearby fields I see how loaded with fruits and berries the hedgerows are this year. I'm not sure whether it indicates anything but I'm sure there's an old wives tale about it. It certainly makes you want to cocoon yourself in your winter woollies and snuggle in the warmth. An ideal time for taking stock and planning future events, which is exactly what is happening at the moment.

The outings group, under Hazel Bhatt's guidance, already have a future programme of events in mind for next year and Alan Stanbridge is organising a very exciting trip to the Thursford Christmas Spectacular next year. There will be more details about this further on in this newsletter. So plenty to look out for and to get involved with.

I have just completed my Charity pledge, which was to take someone to Lyme Park for the day and treat them to a scone in the café. It all went very well and the weather was at least mainly dry, so we visited the garden first of all, and I was able to explain about the damage which had been caused by the flash floods on July 31st. We then went on a behind the scenes tour of the house, entering the areas which are not normally open to the public. Which was a bit spooky and exciting! We followed this with our tea and scones in the Servants' Hall café and then went on our tour of the house. Everyone was very friendly and welcoming and we had a very relaxed and interesting day! I know that other pledges are also being fulfilled at the moment and would like to thank everyone who has been involved, either by giving or receiving a pledge. Remember the charity fund does not close until December so there's still time left.

We laid a wreath on behalf of all members of MBMU3A at the war memorial at St. Paul's Church, Compstall on Sunday Nov 10th. The wreath was laid at 10.50 am and this was followed by a service at St. Paul's Church.

Clare Gwilym



Website

There are a couple of new features on the Website.

On the first Page there is an "NB" directing you to the Welcome Page and on there are two links.

Under the heading "Notes" News about important future events.

Under the heading "Links" The Membership Application Form and The List of all the Group Activities

We express our thanks to Mark Whittaker, our Webmaster, for the excellent way he does the Website and for the speed at which he updates it.

Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A - Renewal of Membership 2020

(The cost of Membership for 2020 is £10.00)

The membership renewal form is attached to this Newsletter. It would be very much appreciated if you could **renew your membership NOW and avoid the Christmas rush,**

We are asking all members to pay by cheque (see the renewal form for details of arrangements) and we would welcome your co-operation. If you have any problems with this please contact Malcolm Moss Membership Secretary.

Please note we only post out the Newsletter to members if they attach 6 stamped addressed envelopes, sized 230mm x 160mm (A5 size)

CHRISTMAS MEAL & SOCIAL

December 10th 2019
At Mellor Golf Club

Meeting at 12 noon for a two course meal
and coffee with entertainment £15 per person

Drinks extra from the bar

Tickets available at the November meeting

Outings Group

" On a sunny October day, the visit to The Saltaire visit went very well and everyone enjoyed the guided tour learning about the place as well as a glance on the workers' life as well as Mr Titus Salt's life. The rest of the day was spent in the Salt mill visiting various retailers and David Hockney Gallery."

One email feedback about the trip reads.....The visit was very interesting with a unique way of introducing the history of Saltair and its inhabitants. Really took us back in time.



A proposed trip to Isle of Wight.

The Isle of Wight is just 23 miles long and 13 miles wide yet full of interesting features (the most diverse country side in Britain). Sandown, where we will be based is a seaside resort town on the southeast coast and it is notable for its long stretch of easily accessible golden sandy beach.

The price, based on minimum numbers, and will include, door to door coach travel from Marple Bridge & Mellor to Isle of Wight, Dinner, Bed and Breakfast, transfers and excursions and passenger protection insurance

Entrances included will be Osborne House -Ventnor Botanic Gardens Isle of Wight Steam train.

A deposit of £50 pp & Insurance premium(if required £39.50 pp) is needed to secure a booking. Final balances are due 6 weeks before departure.

Bookings January and February general meetings.

Details of prices and dates will be published in the January Newsletter

Organiser.....Hazel Bhatt (07808809795)

December - Wednesday 11/12/19 at Stockport Plaza at midday " Free Entry"

EDUCATE stands for Early Dementia Users Co-operative Arriving to Educate. This is an award winning group of people with dementia, who raise awareness about dementia. They are celebrating their 10th anniversary Christmas concert at Stockport Plaza. The intergenerational choir will be leading the singing of Christmas songs and carols. Why not combine your day out in Stockport with visiting Stockport Christmas market and ice sculptures trail.

Meet at the Plaza at 11:45am for the midday concert at 12 o'clock.

January -Thursday 16/01/20.....Royal Exchange Theatre Matinee musical "Gypsy".

This trip is fully booked.

February - Wednesday. 12/02/20.....People's History Museum, "Free Entry"

Left bank, Spinningfields, Manchester M3 3ER 0161 8389190

People's History Museum in Manchester is the national museum of democracy, telling the story of its development in Britain: past, present and future.

Bookings at November and January general meeting. Organiser... Hazel Bhatt.

Meet at the Manchester Piccadilly station near platform 2 at 10:30am on Wednesday 12/02/20

March - Monday 9/03/20The Bridgewater Hall tour

plus an optional midday concert (£4pp + concert ticket price).

Join us on this Manchester's iconic international concert hall guided tour. The entertaining guides will tell you about the history and architecture of the hall including the opportunity to visit parts of the building not usually open to the public, including the atmospheric undercroft where you can see how the hall is built on giant springs (please note the undercroft is accessed by a flight of metal steps). The tour will last approximately one and half hour. The midday concert is by Jess Gilliam saxophone & Zeynep Ozsucu piano. Jess is a finalist in the 2016 BBC Young Musician of the Year.

Price.....£ 4pp for the tour. (minimum number of 20 required)

Bookings from November and January general meeting.

Organiser...Hazel Bhatt. Meet at the concert hall at 11am on 9/03/20.

April 2020 - Wednesday. 22/04/20.....Rufford Old Hall"

A trip to the " Hesketh" Family home since 16th century (a Grade 1 listed building) run by the National Trust has been organised. A Tudor Gothic style mansion filled with collection of Gothic Revival furnishings, tapestries, stained glass, and arms and armour. Then enjoy a stroll in the formal gardens and woodlands.

Price.....£15 (for coach hire and driver's gratuity) + entry fee

National Trust members free entry. None members...£9.50 (for group of more than 10 further reduction to £7.70).

Bookings.... November, January and February general meetings. Organiser.Hazel Bhatt 07808809795

Thursford Christmas Spectacular 2020

We are planning a three day trip to north Norfolk, starting on 26th November 2020, to see this show and, as it is rapidly acquiring a national reputation, early booking is essential. Full details are in the appendix to this newsletter and several videos are available on You Tube.

Application forms will be available at our November meeting. The deposit is £50 per person, plus £23.50 per person for insurance if required, and cheques should be made payable to "Roy McCarthy Coaches Co Ltd". We are looking far ahead here but we do have a limited number of spaces and it is possible that delay might result in disappointment

Organiser Alan Stanbridg

For further informations regarding any of the above trips please contact
The outings Leader "Hazel Bhatt" on tel.....07808809795.

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, unless otherwise stated.

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!

Please wear appropriate footwear in case it is wet underfoot.

We have quite a large group of members who join us for a variety of strolls exploring different areas around our area and the surrounding countryside. We benefit from outside exercise as well as joining in enjoyable social occasions. We do need some of you to help to plan future strolls.

Tuesday December 3rd Sue Norcross

Meet at the Hare and Hounds Carpark, Werneth Low, at 10.30am.

The Stroll - We will head across the Low towards the Cenotaph. Before reaching it take a right turn and head back to the road. Cross over and stroll down to the stile leading onto the golf course. Then we will make our way back to the Hare and Hounds. There are some short inclines and a few steps to negotiate on this stroll.

The stroll is approximately 2 miles and should take about 1 1/2 hours.

We will be able to enjoy some refreshments at the Hare and Hounds later.

Tuesday January 7th Shirley Hammond

Meet in the car park at Dobbies Garden Centre, at 10-30am

The Stroll - As the ground could be wet in January I've chosen a stroll over paved pathways to make progress easier.

We will head to Chadkirk Estate. Strolling towards the church, then across the river and strolling up the paved path, eventually joining the main road just above Dobbies.

The stroll is approximately 1 1/2 miles.

We can then enjoy some refreshments in the café at Dobbies.

The next stroll will be February 4th 2020

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 you assistance to plan a stroll.

Remember we only stroll 2-3 kilometers.

Walking Group

Dec/Jan Walks

Group co-ordinators are Roy Bradshaw 0161 427 7324
and Judith Lynch 0161 449 7507

	Leader	Location	Distance & Grade	
3 Dec	Kathryn Godfrey	Mossley	5.5m	Moderate
10th	Sheila Stafford	New Mills	5 m	Easy+
18th	Judith Lynch	Mellor	3 or 4m	Easy+ Xmas Lunch
<i>Contact Judith if you will be attending the Lunch. 0161 449 7507 or Judith149@sky.com</i>				
31st	Impromptu	Meet at Brabyns		
7 Jan	Jean Mitchell	Fernilee	4.5m	Easy
15th	Sue Ward	Chapel en le Frith	5m	Moderate
21st	Judy Rhodes	Roman Lakes	6.5m	Moderate
29th	Kath Dack	TBA		



"The photo of the group at Robin Hood's Picking Rods was taken on a lovely sunny day in early October. We had a splendid walk from Charlesworth which included Coombs Edge and wonderful views of Manchester as well as beautiful countryside. There was a good turn out and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the trip."



Crossword Compiled by Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Crossword Group

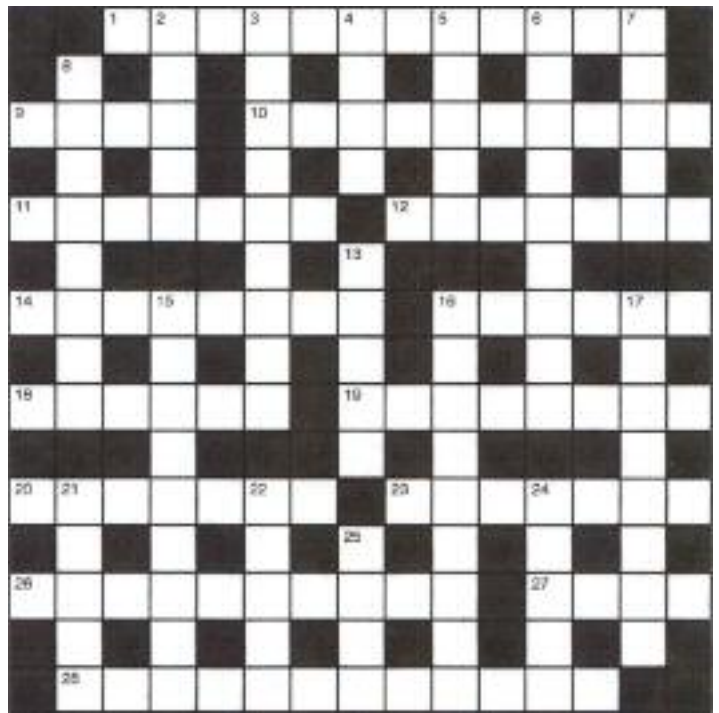
compiled jointly by U3A Crossword Group

Clues across

1. He has stacks of work to do for Santa. (7,5)
9. Worry where to put your fingers. (4)
10. They sit on a bridge for excellent views. (10)
11. Perform better (but not in funny cape). (7)
12. Tied up trimming in the finish. (7)
14. Butcher argued at qualified student. (8)
16. Terrorist from Lancaster for example. (6) b
18. In omnibus he'll discover a measure of antiquity. (6)
19. Time wasting poor dear having dropped round for a bit of
a weep. (8)
20. Unfortunately, day came to go to school. (7)
23. Smelly... even mood for riot? Nuts! odorous
26. Texas city worker tucked in as onion dished up. (3,7)
27. Introducing very interesting new European plant. (4)
28. Spare bedroom dreadful, but charges me! (5,7)

Clues down

2. Worried about the lump every second. (3,2)
3. Is much dancing done by everyone at this venue? (5,4)
4. Never rise right away from flat. (4)
5. Nasty stain on fabric. (5) s
6. Divorcee took charge and called out. (9)
7. A little bit of the sound of calm. (5)
8. Four by four disturbed by ornamentation. (4-4)
13. Hope store stocks sauce. (5)



Clues down (cont)

15. Somehow heated dry to remove all the water. (9)
16. Poet with nothing adds space to meeting place. (9)
17. Quote Len – amazingly articulate. (8)
21. Scottish family finally going to bang the bell. (5)
22. Vocal composition – primarily music of the
Elizabethan times. (5)
24. Audibly have second look at show. (5)
25. Move slowly in Switzerland. (4)

Dining Group

The dining group arranged a tour backstage at the Plaza, Stockport, followed by an afternoon tea.

A super tour gave us a wealth of information about the development of the Plaza. However many members were extremely impressed by the 'antique' projectors, rather than their modern equivalent.

The sumptuous afternoon tea was an excellent culmination of the visit.



A special thank you to Pat and Nazir for organising the meal at The Duke of York

The Dining Group is open to all members of Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A

Please check us out if any meal appeals to you, see us at the desk or after the meeting contact Pat or Shirley. Please be aware some venues have limited space

Forthcoming Events

NOVEMBER An Evening Meal at the Oaklands Hall Hyde on Wednesday 13th fully booked

DECEMBER An Evening Meal at PERUGA on December the 4th 7.00 for 7.30

A Three course Meal plus Tea or Regular Coffee £21.

Sorry but we are full but if you wish to go on a waiting list please let us know

JANUARY An Evening at the Maple Tree in Marple Bridge on Wednesday 29th January 6.45 for 7.00 (this venue is due to popular demand) £20 for three courses

Bookings will be taken at the November 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.

News of the Pledges from our August Meeting

A Charity Pledge Experience What a fantastic evening!

We bought a pledge at the Charity Event in August for an Indian Gujarati meal. Our dining room was festooned with candles and the table was set in a typical Gujarati style. We were provided with beautiful Indian Sari dresses, forehead jewellery and friendship garlands.

In Gujarati tradition the starter was served casually from coffee tables and we then moved to the dining room for a sumptuous Gujarati thali meal with several types of meat, vegetables and pulses cooked in a variety of ways resulting in many different very tasty flavours.

Altogether a superb evening and a brilliant experience.
Thank you Ulla.

David and Shirley Hammond



We would love to hear from other members about their experiences from the pledges that were offered

IMPORTANT You **MUST** show your membership card at all U3A events

This is necessary because of U3A regulations regarding insurance

Please have both your U3A Membership Card ready to show at the desk when you book in at monthly meetings, along with the £1 entrance fee

Please put your emergency number on the back of your membership card

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.

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National Office: The Third Age Trust
52 Lant Street, London,
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020 8466 6139

Speakers

- 19 Nov Keith Warrender
"Hidden Gems of Manchester"
Unusal people and places
around Manchester
- 10 Dec Christmas Meal
Mellor Golf Club - 12 noon
- 21 Jan James Ellson
"Eating Sprout Stalks -
15 Steps to Self-sufficiency"
(smallholder)

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. The December meeting is on the second Tuesday of the month

Stop Press

Please note that there will not be a General Meeting at St Pauls in December, just the Christmas Meal at Mellor Golf Club, on the 10th December

Crossword Solution
Across 1. chimney sweep 9. Fret 10. Spectacles 11. outpace
12. enlaced 14. graduate 16. bomber 18. bushel 19. teardrop
20. academy 23. odorous 26. san Antonio 27. vin 28. guest
chamber
Dow 2. het up 3. music hall 4. even 5. satin
6. exclaimed 7. Piece 8. fou-frou 13. pesto
15. dehydrate 16. Boardroom 17. eloquent
21. clang 22. Motet 24. Revue 25. inch

This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be published January 2020

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 Jan 2020

Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Membership Application / Renewal 2020

Membership renewal is due on 1st January each year. **The fee is £10.00 per person.**

If you are a new member and apply for membership from October, your membership will include the following year.

You can apply or renew your membership in one of two ways:

(1) By post: send your form, cheque (made payable to MBM U3A) and small SAE (for the return of your card) to , Membership Secretary, 24 Beechwood Drive, Marple, SK6 7DG. Telephone 0161 285 0881.

OR:

(2) Leave your form and cheque in the "post box" on the Membership Desk at December/January meeting.

If you do not attend U3A monthly meetings, please enclose an SAE with your form or ask a friend to collect your card.

Please tick ONE box: Renewal of Membership or New Member Application

PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR DETAILS IN CAPITAL LETTERS (except email address)

1st Member TITLE.....1st NAME SURNAME.....

EMAIL:PHONE \ mobile.....

ADDRESS POST CODE

ADD RELATIVE/FRIEND PHONE NUMBER/S here

(This is in case of incident whilst on U3A activity).

2nd Member TITLE..... 1st NAMESURNAME

EMAIL:PHONE \ mobile

ADDRESS POST CODE

ADD RELATIVE/FRIEND PHONE NUMBER/S here

(This is in case of incident whilst on U3A activity).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

All members must tick the boxes below to indicate their agreement of membership terms:

- Abide by the Principles of the U3A movement and the Terms and Conditions of the Constitution.
- Always act in the best interests of the U3A, treating other members with respect and courtesy at all times.
- Advise the committee of any change in your personal details.

I/We will abide by the terms of membership as stated above

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Please tick the box below to give us permission to use the information you have supplied in the following ways:

- To store it securely for membership purposes
- To communicate with you as a U3A member either in email or newsletters
- To share with group leaders of those groups for which you are a member
- To use your photograph in newsletters participating in a U3A group activity
- To send you information about the Third Age Trust (the national organisation to which U3As are affiliated)

I/We consent to personal data being used for purposes as described above

I/We apply for membership of Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A Date.....

Signed: 1st MemberSigned: 2nd Member.....

Please be advised that you can request for your data not to be used for any purposes at any time by contacting us:
membershipsecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk

You will be notified by email when the newsletter is on the website. If you wish to receive the newsletter by post, please enclose 6 stamped addressed envelopes with your membership form, size 230mm x 160mm (size A5)

3 Days 26th November 2020
Thursford Christmas Spectacular



The Thursford Christmas Spectacular is a truly wonderful experience. Be enthralled by the sight and sounds of gigantic mechanical organs, wonder at the display of colossal traction engines and be astounded with the live entertainment at the 'Mighty Wurlitzer Show'. An extravaganza of non-stop entertainment from singing and dancing to comedy and variety.

The Barnham Broom Golf and Spa is set in 250 acres of beautiful Norfolk countryside, this idyllic country hotel has an award-winning restaurant and superb relaxation facilities, including two golf courses and a heated indoor swimming pool. The hotel also offers the Sports bar café and the Valley bar and lounge. All 46 stylish en-suite guest rooms offer modern luxury combined with traditional charm. This hotel has ground floor bedrooms.

THURSDAY

We depart Stockport area calling for coffee en-route to Spalding and the Springfields Shopping Outlet, where we have time for a wander and lunch. We then continue across country to Barnham Broom and our hotel. Dinner and evening will be spent at your leisure.

FRIDAY

This morning we head into the city of Norwich; why not take the opportunity to do a little Christmas shopping or one of the many places of interest this fascinating city has to offer. For the afternoon we head for Thursford and the fabulous spectacular. (Tickets will be for either the afternoon or evening performance).

SATURDAY

We depart after a leisurely breakfast calling for coffee at one of the Farm Shops. We then continue onto our lunch stop the historic market town of Southwell, one of the prettiest towns in Nottinghamshire, with its stunning Minster a splendid cathedral and only a stone's throw from the narrow high street with its shops, pubs and cafes. We have time to visit the minster and take a stroll around the town before we continue across country, heading for home. We make a quick comfort stop en-route and aim to arrive in the Stockport area early evening.

Tour includes:

Luxury coach travel throughout, 2 nights dinner bed and breakfast and ticket for the Thursford Spectacular.

Prices:

**£325.00 per person sharing twin/double
£30.00 single room supplement
£23.50 insurance per person, inc. IPT**

Roy McCarthy Coaches, Snape Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire. SK10 2NZ 01625 425606