

January 2022 Newsletter

Wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year

STOP PRESS – NORMAL SERVICE WILL BE RESUMED !!!

As from 18th January our monthly meetings will be resumed. Doors open 9–30am
Please wear a face mask, if you are able to, and if possible do a Lateral Flow Test before you attend.
Look forward to seeing you then.

THE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU !!!

Marple Bridge and Mellor u3a is a thriving organisation but it needs new members to join the committee. You don't need any special qualifications, only a willingness to help and to have a sense of humour! You can sit in on a couple of committee meetings, under no obligation, to see what it's like.

If we all sit around expecting somebody else to do it, then you know what will happen !!!

For more information speak to any member of the existing committee

SO COME ON, GIVE IT A GO THE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU !

Chairman's Chit Chat...

I would like to wish all of you a Happy New Year 2022 and hope that things continue to develop in a positive direction. We still all have to be careful in what we are doing but as I am writing this the news seems to be getting better.

Membership renewal is now due. Last year we all had a free year. We still had some outings but were able to fund those from our savings. This year we have reverted to the usual £10 membership fee. Many of our groups have restarted in various ways and our General Meetings are all planned for this year. I'm hoping that things are looking positive and all of you will see the value in re-joining and helping to revitalise our society.

The fact that you are reading this Newsletter will remind you that you are part of a local group, Marple Bridge and Mellor u3a, with lots of activities and meetings in which you can get involved. We are all here to support each other especially through difficult times. Have another look at the group list on our website and see what new groups you would like to join. Think of taking up a new challenge for 2022. You may even have another idea for a group. Our Group Coordinator, Olwyn Wych, is always willing to help members set up a new group. Members of the committee are there to support you as well.

Our February meeting will be the AGM. Information about this is in the Newsletter. We are always looking for new members for our committee. It really surprises me that we have a few hundred members and yet we still struggle to get volunteers. I'm sure some of you out there could contact Barbara Scholes, our secretary, for a nomination form and come and join us. I stepped in as acting chairman during the year but made it clear it was only up until the AGM. We are still looking for someone to take over from me. Again, it's not an onerous task. It just needs someone who can run the committee meetings and help to organise our u3a. There is always lots of support. Speak to me if you want to know more about the role.

Please someone – Take on the Challenge

Shirley Hammond

Notices & News Items

Notice of Annual General Meeting 15th February 2022 St Paul's Church Hall, Compstall

This meeting will start with the speaker at 10.00am and the AGM business meeting will follow at 11.00am

Nomination forms for committee roles are available from our secretary Barbara Scholes on secretary@mbmu3a.org.uk

Any questions that you wish to raise in 'Any Other Business' must be submitted, at the latest two weeks prior to the AGM, i.e. February 1st, to allow for any necessary research for information.

Agenda for AGM

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of minutes of the 2021 AGM
3. Chairman's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Appointment of Independent Examiner of Accounts.
6. Election of Chairman
7. Election of Vice Chairman
8. Election of Treasurer
9. Election of Committee Members
10. Members Annual Subscription for 2023
11. Any Other Business
12. Vote of Thanks
13. Formal conclusion of the AGM

Reminder - Membership Renewal 2022

Members who have not yet renewed may do so at the monthly meeting on January 18th or alternatively send the completed renewal form, cheque and stamped addressed envelope for the return of the membership card to:- Assistant Membership Secretary, 24, Beechwood Drive, Marple, SK6 7DG.

A copy of the renewal form can be downloaded from our website or from the November Newsletter.



This year is the **40th anniversary of the u3a movement.**

A variety of national events are being planned for members to join in and celebrate. They already have a programme started with the intention of adding more events as the year progresses and these can be found on their website. www.u3a.org.uk

They are also hoping that local groups will arrange their own celebrations so we'll have to get our thinking caps on! September is when they are planning their main u3a day and I'm sure we'll be able to celebrate with them.

Any ideas from individual members or groups can be passed to the committee and I'm sure we can get them organised

Shirley Hammond

Marple Bridge & Mellor u3a Meetings

18 January	Maureen Hawsworth	"Our School in Nepal"
15 February	AGM and Josephine Gosling.	"Amazing History Walks"
15 March	Kath Reynolds.	"Food Glorious Food"

Subject to confirmation

Strolling Group

Our "Strolling Group" is for members who would like a gentle stroll rather than a longer walk. We arrange strolls of about 2 miles followed by a cuppa. These take place on the first Tuesday mornings in the month commencing 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 or Shirley Hammond david.hammond60@btinternet.com

Don't forget your bus pass in case we need to ride back! Bring a drink over the summer months! 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 February 1st Colin and Carol Burkitt Meet at Pear Mill, Stockport leave at 10.30am

There is plenty of parking space, we will meet in the big car park. Drive into Pear Mill and follow the one way system around 3 sides of the mill and the big car park is straight ahead of you. Buses from Hyde and Woodley (330), and buses from Marple and Romiley (383) both stop on the main road about 100 yards beyond the entrance to Pear Mill.

The stroll follows the path near the river and over the bridge into Woodbank Park, then through to Vernon Park and back to the start. It's about 2 miles, all on tarmac or gravel paths, no mud!! There is a steady slope up to Woodbank Park and a steady slope down to Pear Mill through Vernon Park. There is a good cafe in Vernon Park, which is run by a charity providing opportunities for people with disability or health related issues.

Tuesday March 1st Geoff and Joan Fogg 0161 430 3517

Meet outside the Maple Tree Chinese in the centre of Marple Bridge to leave at 10.30am.

Stroll through Marple Bridge and along Low Lea Road to the Roman Lakes returning along the same route. Approximately 2 miles.

Tuesday April 5th Gail Dixon

Tuesday May 3rd Colin and Carol Burkitt

Tuesday June 7th Jane Hallam

Tuesday July 5th Jane Mc Conniffe

Meet outside Romiley Forum to leave at 10.30am

Stroll along Tangshutt Lane and continue for a circular stroll returning back to Romiley.

Tuesday August 2nd Colin and Carol Burkitt

Tuesday September 6th Sue Norcross

Both Shirley and Geoff are coping with medical problems that affect their walking but they are both trying to continue to arrange strolls for our group. Please, please offer to arrange a stroll in 2022 if you want this group to continue. Just book in for one of the months and we can help you arrange a stroll later in the year.

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 trying to keep any hills to a minimum. Living on the edge of the Pennines this can be difficult!

Shirley Hammond/Geoff Fogg

Rummikub Group

Rummikub is a game based on the card game Rummy, where players need to make runs of the same colour tiles or sets of the same number. Players can then add to other people's sets. Our group is very sociable and we pass an enjoyable afternoon playing the game and chatting with each other.

We meet at Marple Methodist Church Hall on the third Tuesday of the month at 1.30pm.

For more information contact Trixie Ballard or Shirley Hammond.



Dining Group

Pat Walker and Shirley Hammond have arranged meals for the Dining Group for the next few months. We would like to invite members of MB&M U3A to now book for these meals. As usual bookings will be taken on a first come basis



Thank you to everyone who joined us for our December meal at Oaklands.

January 26 th The Plaza Mersey Square Stockport SK1 1SP
Afternoon Tea 2.30pm £12.50.

February 22nd Qurashi Indian Restaurant
148 Stockport Road Romiley SK6 3AN
Evening meal 6.30 for 7.00 £16.

We require a non-refundable £5 per person deposit to confirm your booking. This can either be in person in cash or by cheque payable to A S Hammond. You will also need to let Pat have your choice from the menu.

Pat Walker/Shirley Hammond

Outings Group

Happy New Year to everyone and hope you had a Christmas that you've planned

On Friday the 11th of February we have a plan to visit the Manchester Art Gallery (meet at the Gallery at 11am) to see Derek Jarman Protest (major retrospective exhibition) among others artworks. There is no cost involved but I would like to know the level of interest. So will be taking names/ bookings during January general meeting.

On Friday the 11th of March a visit to the John Rylands Library is planned (meet at the library at 10:30 am) to see the collections of Chinese art that are held at the library. Although the exhibition is free we need to book tickets beforehand as a group of 6 for social distancing reason. We will book more than one group of 6. For this trip we will take bookings during January and February general meeting.

We are also planning to visit Isle of Wight on the 10th of July for 6 days with McCarthy coaches (£566 pp no single supplements only limited availability of 9 single rooms). They are requesting £100 deposit per person made payable, by cheque, to "Roy McCarthy coaches Ltd" to send to them by the end of this month to secure your booking. You can pick up the booking forms from the outings desk at this month's general meeting. We need minimum of 25 and so far 15 members expressed their interest when we met last time last November.

Hope you can join us.

Hazel Bhatt

Lifts to General Meetings

It has been suggested that some of our members may need a lift to the General Meetings at Saint Paul's Church Hall. It may be a temporary need, for example due to an operation etc. or a regular need due to some difficulty in getting to the Hall.

Margery Mount has agreed to coordinate this new initiative where some of our members have volunteered to give a lift to others who are finding it difficult to get to our monthly meetings.

If you would like to take advantage of this initiative and have a lift to the meeting or to offer anyone a lift, please contact Margery using her details below.

Margery will then be able to contact you and discuss arrangements.

Margery's details:

Margery Mount

Email margery.mount@icloud.com

Telephone 0161 427 4260

Crossword Compiled by Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Crossword Group

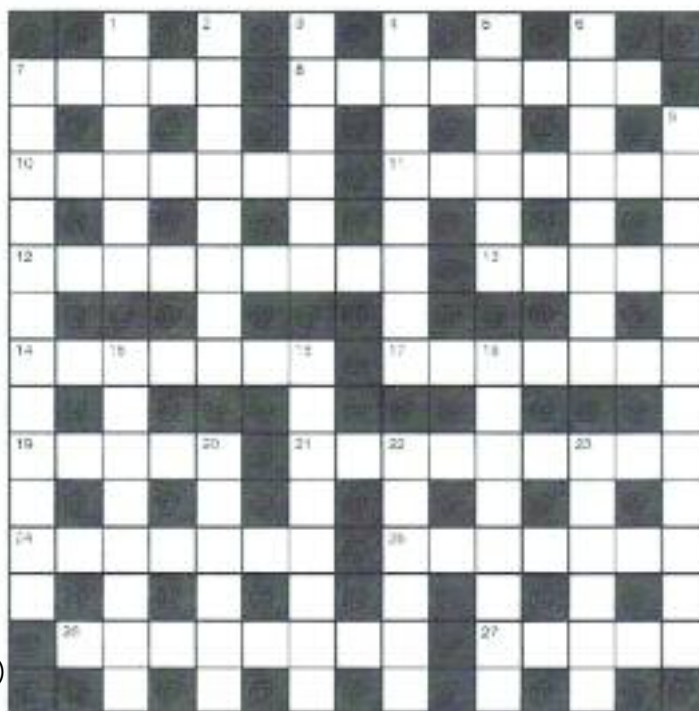
compiled jointly by U3A Crossword Group

Clues across

7. Shade needed in heat in Germany. (5)
8. I hear coffee's at home for loafers. (8)
10. Music maker starts bringing everything round like it's on zoom. (7)
11. It's a wrench to cross North Eastern river. (7)
12. No repeats broadcast in this language. (9)
13. I lost drunken battles. (5)
14. Stuffy bald cockney. (7)
17. Greek poetess without love in charge – it's about her poetry. (7)
19. Fixes Poles that suffer inside. (5)
21. All points to a posh male in the paper shop. (9)
24. Hermit recording toilets allegedly. (7)
25. Brother on vital energy derived from breathing apparatus. (7)
26. A lunatic went off sailing. (8)
27. In charge of gin cocktail for decorating the cake. (5)

Clues down

1. Open up new winter raincoat at party. (5)
2. Search inside for every Broadband Provider history. (8)
3. River flows through drama zone. (6)
4. Sis got cross using cutting instrument. (8)
5. Empty can hidden in tank. (6)
6. I find he's strangely wicked. (8)
7. Stablemen ran away from conventional behaviour. (5,6)
9. Squeeze train hollow to get bit of paper. (5,7)
15. Croatian designed a water proof garment. (8)
16. Many words, or few, it's a legal punishment. (8)
18. Merely friendly in Hoopla Tonics. (8)
20. Inception of streams pouring under railway tunnel suddenly gushes. (6)
22. Raise elbow and be in it, they say, to cause a tremor. (6)
23. Dulcie's all over the place for a mathematician. (6)



Clues down cont.

Sheila Stafford Group Co-ordinator

Subscribe to the National U3A Magazine "Third Age Matters"

The national U3A magazine, "Third Age Matters" is only available by taking out a personal subscription to receive the magazine by direct mail to your home address.

The subscription must be renewed each year so if you signed up last year, you will need to renew your subscription for 2022/3

To subscribe to the national U3A magazine, please complete the form below and send it, along with a cheque for £3.50 made out to Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A.

Send your cheque & form to:

u3a Secretary, 15 Lower Strines Road, Marple, SK6 7DL

Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A

2022/3 Subscription Form for the National Magazine "Third Age Matters"

I would like to receive the Third Age Matters magazine for 2022/3

Title (Mr/Mrs, etc)Name:

.

Address:

.

POST CODE.....Telephone No.....

I enclose payment of £3.50 (cheque, made out to Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A).

This will cover all issues published in April, June, September, November 2022 and February 2023

Send your cheque & form to:-

u3a Secretary, 15 Lower Strines Road, Marple SK6 7DL

If you should change your address, you must notify the Membership Secretary otherwise the magazine will continue to be sent to your old address.

Signed:..... Date:

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Idea's needed for how
Marple Bridge & Mellor u3a
can celebrate this event
Please pass your idea's on to
anyone on the Committee

Crossword Solution
Across 7. Tinge 8. Moccasin 10. Bertoz 11. Spanne
12. Esperanto 13. Toils 14. Airliss 17. Saphic 19. Nails
21. Newsgent 24. Recluse 25. Bronchi 26. Nautical 27. Icing
Down 1. Unwrap 2. Pedigree 3. Amazon 4. Scissors 5. Vacant
6. Fiendish 7. Table manners 9. Press cutting 15. Raincoat
16. Sentence 18. Platonic 20. Spurts 22. Wobble 23. euclid

This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be published March 2022

Please send items for publication by email

to 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

***All contributions for the next edition of the Newsletter
should be received by 25th February at the Latest***