

Reg. Charity: No. 1104944

July 2008

Outings Group

DOVELEYS FOR LUNCH & KEDLESTON HALL WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2008

Today we travel to Doveleys Garden Centre which is situated in the picturesque Dove Valley on the Staffordshire/Derbyshire border. It is set within 150 acres of the beautiful Doveleys Manor Park countryside. It is alongside the Manor House, now unoccupied and due for restoration, which dates back to 1831, with several additions over the last 177 years. The most recent is the Garden Centre which was completed in 2001. It is here that we shall have lunch.

As well as the usual modern Garden Centre attractions, there is a lovely round walk in the park down to the River Dove where, hopefully, the trees will have some autumn colour. This path is not always even and can be a little slippery in places, so please take care if you choose to do this.

Our 2 Course lunch will be served at 12 noon. This will be pre-ordered from choices and will be followed by tea/coffee.

We shall then travel to the imposing and beautiful Kedleston Hall (N.T). Here you can experience the most complete and least altered sequence of Robert Adam interiors in England, with magnificent State Rooms. Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India from 1899 - 1905, made a unique collection of objects from that period. There are many walks where you can explore the beautiful parkland with a series of lakes and cascades, There is, of course, the usual Gift Shop and Tea Room. Kedleston is free to N.T. Members - £6.60 to non-members.



We shall leave:

Romiley Arms	8.45am
Northumberland Arms	8.50am
Marple Bridge	8.55am
Regent Cinema	9.05am
Rose Hill	9.10am

PLEASE NOTE: Pickups are reversed on this outing.

We should be back in Marple for 6.00pm

The cost of £23.00 includes coach, driver's gratuity and lunch.

BOOKING WILL COMMENCE AT THE JULY MEETING

Ann & Tony Matthews

Outing News – Visit to Renishaw – Wednesday 30th April.

After an early start Dave, our driver, wound his way through the lovely Derbyshire countryside arriving at Renishaw Hall and Gardens, home of the Sitwell family (originally CYTEWELLE). The family owned land in Derbyshire and then increased their fortune by becoming the world's largest supplier of iron nails, with a large iron works at nearby Eckington. (Mick Jagger's father was born here). The Sitwell family has lived at Renishaw since the early 17th Century, lovingly maintaining the house and gardens.

Our Guides, Doreen and Gillian, gave us a very comprehensive tour through the house, amazing us with their vast knowledge of Renishaw, each adding their own amusing tales. We learned the meaning of 'Cat's Cradle' and 'Getting Plastered'.

Throughout the season the estate hosts many events - Conferences, 'The Antiques Road Show', used by the BBC in 'Pride and Prejudice' in 1995. Weddings are solemnized in the Red Dining Room and celebrated in marquees on the Wedding Lawn. In the Red Dining Room there is a large portrait of Henry Chevrill who drowned aged 17. He is said to be the resident ghost. In the Smoking Room, over the entrance doorway, hangs a Robin Hood bow, bought at a Workstop auction for £29 and costing £19 to repair. When it was bought, many years ago, the Sitwells outbid Nottingham Corporation. We saw a spectacular collection of art, historical artefacts, paintings, tapestries and beautiful Italian furniture put together by generations of Sitwells.

After lunch we were free to roam the extensive gardens, we walked through the mature woodland with carpets of stunning bluebells, lovely borders and antique statues were everywhere. A walk through the laburnum tunnel, and down the holly and camellia avenues, brought us down to the lake. A National Collection of Yuccas is housed here. There is even a children's adventure garden with an art and literature trail, a tree trail, maze and, for little ones, a silhouette trail with characters from children's stories. Everywhere was evidence of Sir Reresby and Lady Sitwell's remarkable restoration programme.

There was time to visit the Sitwell Museum which tells of this extraordinary family and its history from the 1500's to the present day. In the John Piper Gallery there are many paintings of Renishaw by Piper. The Hall houses one of the most important collections of his work and a changing collection is shown each year in the Gallery.

The Performing Arts Gallery has a fascinating collection of artefacts from many musical and dramatic productions. The Gallery Exhibition shows the Best of Ballet in Britain in the 20th Century including pictures and costumes designed by Messell, Dockerty and Walker. Costumes worn by Nureyev and Fonteyn, sculptures of leading dancers by Brenda Naylor.

A wonderful day out. Many thanks to Dave, our driver, and to Ann and Tony Matthews for all the organisation.

Kath Bradley

Outing News – Visit to Kirkby Lonsdale, 'Whoop Hall' and Leighton Hall – Thursday 19th June.

Once again we set off with a full coach for our day out - and we were able to celebrate, in the time honoured fashion, with a rousing 'Happy Birthday to You' for one of our members - Adrian Kirsten.

Our first stop was the quaint little town of Kirkby Lonsdale, set in the beautiful valley of the River Lune between the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District. The town consists mainly of 17th and 18th Century buildings, quaint cottages, narrow alleys and cobbled courtyards. Shops and hotels mingle side by side in the Main Street. The Monument in the Market Square was donated to the town by the Rev. Llewelyn Davis in memory of his wife. J.M. Barrie was a friend of the family and he wrote 'Peter Pan', with his 'Darling' family based on the children of the Davis family.

As Thursday is market day in Kirkby Lonsdale, the stalls were assembled around the monument, tempting us with a variety of foods. The range of shops in the town was very comprehensive, impressing us all. The

large red 'SALE' sign in 'Jumpers' drew members inside, many emerging clutching their 'bargains' ready to rejoin the coach.

'Whoop Hall', built in 1618 and nestling on the outskirts of Kirkby Lonsdale, was the venue for our lunch. This hotel offered a warm welcome and good food.

Our final stop was Leighton Hall with panoramic views over Grange Over Sands to the Lakeland Fells beyond. The Hall is the historic home of the world renowned Gillow furniture making family. It is a much lived in and restored home housing many unique pieces of Gillow furniture. The earliest records of Leighton Hall go back 750 years to 1246. Since then there have been 26 owners and, with the exception of just one, every one has been Roman Catholic.

In addition to our tour of the house, by our very enthusiastic guides, Pam and Ingrid, we were treated to a Birds of Prey demonstration. Tom the hawk, Angel the Barn Owl and Sunshine the Falcon kept us entertained. Visitors were invited to participate and several volunteers stepped forward.

The house is steeped in history and many famous people have visited and stayed there. Kathleen Ferrier sang here for the last time in a private house before her untimely death some 18 months later. We were reluctant to depart so extra time was allowed to stroll in the magnificent gardens. Chris, our driver, waited patiently till everyone was aboard. A superb sunny day. Many thanks Ann and Tony.

Kath Bradley



Open Gardening Group

This group is available to any member of Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A, High Lane U3A, Marple U3A and New Mills U3A, hence its name.

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month in Marple Methodist Church hall. Coffee and tea are served at 9,45 am and a speaker commences at 10 am. There is usually a stall selling plants which have been donated by members of the group. These are at bargain prices! We make a charge of £1.50 which covers the hire of the room, fees for the speaker and tea/coffee.

Our last speaker was Anne Picot who gave a talk on Garden Design, particularly the garden she and Pasquale Pascucci produced as a 'Show Garden' at the RHS show at Tatton last year. For this she won a Gold medal. The garden called

'Spaced Out' was on the theme of Space Exploration, last year being 50 years since Sputnik was launched. A most interesting talk enjoyed by all who attended.

Future Programme:

Wed. 9th July – 'Chemistry in the Garden' – Walter Mason

Wed. 13th August – Guided tour of Lyme Hall Gardens.

Wed. 10th September – Gardeners Question Time, when our own panel of experts will answer your questions.

Matinee Club

October 8th. 'The Merchant of Venice' at the Bolton Octagon cost - £8.50 ticket only or with Coach - £15

December 21st. Traditional Carol Concert at the Bridgewater Hall. For details visit the Matinee Club table at the next meeting.



Walking Group

The walking group is open to all members of Marple Bridge and Mellor, Marple and Romiley U 3 As. You are welcome to come regularly or just occasionally. The grading is for guidance only as it is very difficult to assess. We don't live in flat country! The walk leader can advise on the exact nature of the walk if you have any doubts about your ability.

Very easy – more or less flat, good surface, few stiles

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

Medium – typical of local terrain

For all walks meet in Brabyns Park car park (IN Brabyns Park NOT the car park on Brabyns Brow) for car sharing and prompt departure at 9.45 a.m. Some walks may use buses so, please carry your travel pass in case. Car passengers are asked to contribute about 7p per mile towards the cost of petrol. Please wear walking boots or strong shoes and carry waterproofs. You are advised to bring some refreshments for the walks, even short walks if they are at a distance. There may be a café or pub stop on some walks. The walk may differ from the one advertised if, for example, the weather is inclement or the leader has to be changed. Please don't bring dogs; they can cause problems! Again, if you have questions about any particular walk, please contact the walk leader or me

A (D) after the distance indicates that the walk is some distance away and will therefore take longer and food will be required

August and September Walks 2008

Wed 6 Aug 7 miles Easy local, flat, lunch halfway at Poynton

Sue Humphris

Tues 12 Aug 4 – 5 miles easy Local

Jean Howells

Weds 20 Aug 5 – 6 miles Med Kettleshulme

Margaret Hogg

Tues 26 Aug 4 miles Med Millhill (weather permitting)

Carole McConnell

Weds 3 Sept 4 – 5 miles easy New Mills

Liz Dyckhoff

Wed. 9th October – Sue Beesley – The winner of BBC Gardener of the Year 2007.

Wed. 12th November – Dahlia Growing – how to be successful by Frank Taylor.

Wed. 10th December – Friends of Marple Memorial Park by Rob Wilson.

We look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Margaret Hogg

Tues 9 Sept 4 miles Med Alderley Edge
Pam Bluhm

Weds 17 Sept 4 – 5 miles Med
Charlesworth, Cown Edge Rocks

Irene Riley

Tues 23 Sept 4 – 5 miles Easy Poynton

Agnes Barlow

Tues 30 Sept 6 miles Med Strines to Disley

Doreen Scotte

Please keep this list in a visible place.

Carole McConnell, Walking Group Leader



Dining Club

The owner of the Vá Bene, which the Dining Club visited on the 2nd July, commented that judging by the noise level we must have been enjoying ourselves. We took that as a compliment rather than a complaint.

Thursday 31st July. A lunch has been arranged at The Sycamore, Birch Vale by Jenny and George.

There will be no venues arranged for August and September as so many members are on holiday.

Thursday 9th October. A lunch has been arranged at The Windmill, Whiteley Green Adlington by Jean and Eddie. Many thanks to them for arranging these two venues.

If you would like to join us please sign the form at the Dining Group desk at the July and September meetings. Menu is available for you to see.

Thursday 20th November. Dinner at the Bridge Hotel, Prestbury.

Friday 5th December, is the date for our Christmas Lunch at Hazel Grove Golf Club.

Diners will be entertained by a Barbershop Quartet.

Computer Literacy Class

This class will commence on Monday September 15th at Ludworth School. Further details will be given at the July Meeting.

Keep Fit Class

New members will be very welcome on Tuesday mornings at 9.45 at the Scouts Hall, Marple.

Eileen Crowder

Future Speakers



19 August

16 September

21 October

Meeting cancelled

Howard Green, 'Staircase House Past and Present'

Barbara McNab, 'Behind the Desk'

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise notified, the ordinary monthly meetings are held in St Paul's Church Hall, Compstall on the third Tuesday of each month at 10.00 am (for coffee and socialising). To enable members to use the bus service, the business of the meeting will start at 10.20am and will finish at 11.50am

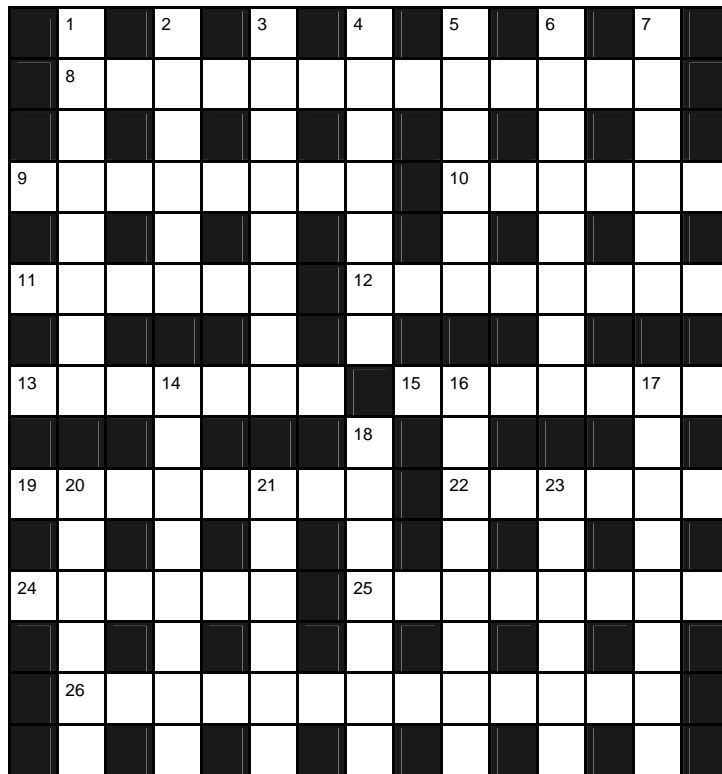
Helpers are always needed as welcomers, refreshment rota, committee members, screen erection etc. Please let the person on the information desk know if you are able to help.

- Please remember to bring and buy books at the monthly meetings.
- Please don't park near the war memorial.
- When attending a meeting please have your entrance fee ready (£1) preferably in the exact money.
- You are advised to carry your membership card with you, as you may be asked to show them at U3A group meetings and other events.

Please note: The August meeting has been cancelled due to renovation work at St Pauls Church

Crossword Devised by Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Crossword Group

Geoff Heath



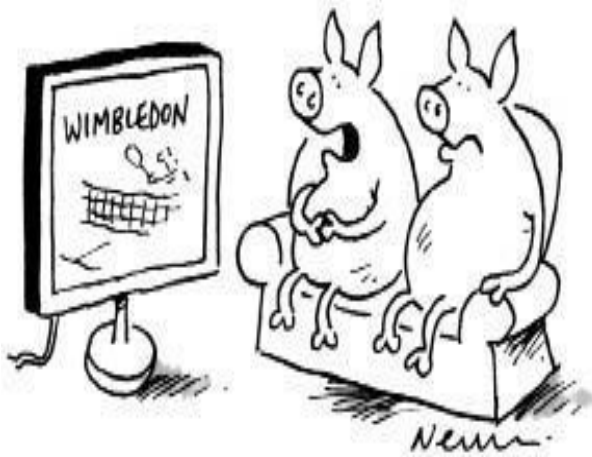
Clues across

- 8 Keeping forever young, Peter's always seen at jam-sessions (10,3)
- 9 Flower causes birds to sound like a cat, we're told (8)
- 10 A meeting place in a tree-lined road (6)
- 11 Strengthen girl with a bit of alcohol (6)
- 12 Assembled and pulled some material together (8)
- 13 Early man and worker won't budge (7)
- 15 Juggling B the last underhand procedure? (7)
- 19 Relaxed and certain to be found in newly-designed deli (8)
- 22 Copper in concocted dose makes old currency (6)
- 24 Originally Sam's collar rose up, finally fraying at the back of his neck (6)
- 25 Rally round small girl like the spokes of a wheel (8)
- 26 Master pleaded to play with old-fashioned boat (6-7)

Clues down

Solution on page 6

- 1 Hurried round falling water and wrenched joint (8)
- 2 Oh heck! Len's got a hidden agenda to jeer at speaker during meeting (6)
- 3 Peel zip off before starting new airship (8)
- 4 Mean to declare how old I am (7)
- 5 In one piece, cat turns up inside battered tin (6)
- 6 Ampere - he got involved with something transitory (8)
- 7 Put up with extreme nausea digging up rotten eggs at the onset (6)
- 14 Give false information involving American soldier and dim Sue (8)
- 16 Started to read with Light-Emitting Diode, and operated sewing-machine (8)
- 17 Oldest doctor suffered little children (8)
- 18 Dread SS turning out where one lives (7)
- 20 Run away, taking erratic paces after Ecstasy (6)
- 21 Ref (Alf) was confused - result a draw (6)
- 23 Sticky chowder ingredient - my! (6)



'I enjoy the grunting but I find the tennis rather annoying.'



The Outings Group giving directions to Chris, the driver.

(Photograph by Eileen Crowder)

CONTACTS

Chairman: Robert Hughes

Vice Chairman: Diane Holker

Secretary: Diana Williams

Treasurer: Eddie Howells

Group Co-ordinator: Eileen Crowder

Assistant Co-ordinator: Nora Glennon

Membership secretary: Nora Glennon
membershipsecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk

Speaker Organiser: Ruth Farmery

Almoner: Ann Prophet

Committee members: Eva Wilkie

Anne Eade

Co-opted members: Ann & Tony Matthews

Terry Lomax

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This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be 16th September. Please send or e-mail to:
newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk

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

Note: closing date for next edition: 1st September.

If you would like to get the newsletter early by e-mail on a PDF file for faster downloading and save printing and postage costs, please let Terry know at the above email address.

Solution to Crossword

Across: 8 Preserving pan; 9 Larkspur; 10 Avenue; 11 Anneal; 12 Gathered; 13 Adamant; 15 Stealth; 19 Leisured; 22 Escudo; 24 Scruff; 25 Radially; 26 Paddle-steamer.

Down: 1 Sprained; 2 Heckle; 3 Zeppelin; 4 Average; 5 Intact; 6 Ephemera; 7 Endure; 14 Misguide; 16 Treadled; 17 Toddlers; 18 Address; 20 Escape; 21 Raffle; 23 Clammy.