

Chairman's chit chat.

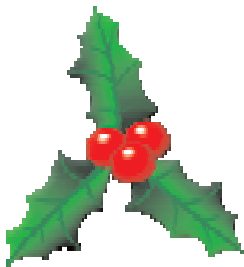
This is the last Newsletter before the New Year and I wish to remind you that February 2011 is our AGM. Your nomination papers are included and we welcome any nominations for the Committee. The Member must be proposed and seconded and the form sent to the Secretary (Anne Eade) no later than 17th January, '11. Members will be voted in at the AGM. So please, we need new blood and 2 specific vacancies are required to be filled. One is for the Treasurer and the other Membership Secretary but if you do not wish to "wear a hat" you don't have to. Many of you have skills and experience which would be valuable, so don't leave it to just a few – come and do your bit. If you don't like what we do – don't criticise – do something!!!

This is your last chance to purchase tickets for our Xmas Event. Tickets are £3.00 each (by prior purchase and NOT on the day) We have arranged a 2 course meal, Tombola, Wine & Fruit Juice for sale and have booked live entertainment for you. I hope you will join us and enjoy the Festivities. Remember – we start later than normal – doors open @ 11.15am for a 12 noon start. If anyone requires a vegetarian option – we need to know this in advance so that we can advise the caterers.

Chris Brooke has booked a variety of Speakers for 2011 and the list is posted on the Notice Board. A full list will also be printed in the January Newsletter as well as the bi-monthly one as usual.

A further reminder regarding the newsletter – it will not be posted without a stamped addressed envelope being sent to the Membership Secretary as from January 2011.

DIANE HOLKER, Chairman



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

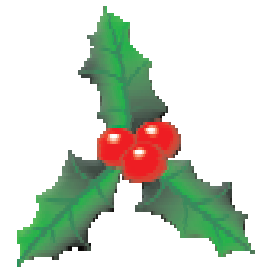
Hot Pot & Apple Pie (with a Vegetarian option)

at St Paul's Church Hall

on Tuesday 21st December 2010

Doors open at 11 am for Lunch at 12 noon

Tombola - Entertainment - Admission £3.00



Tickets on sale at the November Meeting

Entry by Ticket only

Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Renewal of Membership 2011

This is the last newsletter of 2010, and the membership renewal form is attached. It would be very much appreciated if you would renew your membership NOW and avoid the Christmas rush. Your cheque will not be banked until January. Please note in future we shall only post out the newsletter to members if they attach 6 stamped addressed A5 size envelopes. In order to give a better service at the Membership Desk, we are asking all members to pay by cheque (see the form for details of arrangements) and would welcome your co-operation. If you have any problems with this please contact me.

Nora Glennon, Membership Secretary

Azores Holiday September 2010

4am in the morning and we are at our first hotel, just 4 hours late. After leaving Marple at 3pm the previous day, we were glad to arrive at our destination at Ponta Delgada in the Azores. 18 of us joined a similar number who had boarded at Gatwick, courtesy of SAGA Holidays Ltd.

We toured 4 islands in this archipelago, visiting volcanoes (ancient and modern) going actually inside one on Terceira Island. We visited botanical gardens, tea and pineapple plantations, cheese sampling outlets, wineries, old whaling factories and also to Pico Island where the highest mountain in the whole country of Portugal stands proud at 7700 feet.

The islands, (9 in all) are part of Portugal, were first colonised in the 15th century by people from Portugal and Flanders retain many original traditions.

On the island of Terceira, we had a special lunch of 'Mother-in-Law' soup, followed by Alcatro stew- chunks of beef, braised white wine, uncured bacon, onions, butter, salt and black Jamaican pepper. Dessert was Queen Amelia cake, named after the Queen of Portugal in 1901, made from corn flour, spices, raisins, honey and eggs – what a delight.

The islands are extremely green with literally millions of hydrangeas on each of them, together with wild ginger plants, morning glory trailing everywhere and masses of Bella Donna lilies.

The temperature was pleasantly warm with only one half day of showers during the two weeks.

I can honestly recommend the Azores for an interesting holiday.

The photograph shows the group with the headland of Capelinhos which was formed in 1957/1958 following volcanic eruptions.



Fred Ogden, Marple Bridge, Stockport.

Holidays 2011

I have two trips to offer.

Puglia, Italy 10-19 May 2011

£1185 twin/double £205 single supplement

Deposit £100

Fly Manchester-Rome-Bari and return.

Two centre holiday. 4 nights B&B in Conversano at the Hotel Corte Altavilla.

Daily excursions including lunch.

5 nights half board at Masseria Santa Lucia.. 3 days excursions with lunch and wine tasting.

This is in the 'undiscovered' heel of Italy.



Wimbledon weekend Friday 1st July - Sunday 3rd July 2011

Soak up the atmosphere of the world's most famous tennis championships. Wander the outside courts, watch the action on court and spot celebrities.

The break is on finals weekend and includes a seat on Number One Court where the stars of tomorrow and yesteryear compete in the Junior and Veterans events.

Two nights B&B and return coach travel.

£189 p.p. Single supplement £20 p.p.

For full details, contact - Hazel Jones

OUTINGS

GUIDED TOURS AROUND BBC MANCHESTER

Looking forward to next year, we have booked 3 BBC Tours for January. This is a chance to see inside a television studio and learn how programmes are made.

The visit is by guided tour and lasts approximately 2 hours. It includes a visit to the Interactive Studio where you could have a go at presenting the Weather Forecast. You will also see the home of the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, the 'North West Tonight' studio and much more.

In 2011 BBC Manchester will be moving to Media City U.K. At Salford Quays, so do take the opportunity to visit the Oxford Road building. The building is accessible for wheelchairs, but only one on each tour.

You will make your own way to the BBC on Oxford Road.. See the leaflet on Further Information for more details. Refreshments are not available here but there are plenty of restaurants and cafés nearby.

Maximum numbers for each tour is 15. We will be required to meet in the Foyer 15 minutes before the Tour begins. There is no on-site parking available at BBC Manchester, however there are several public car parks in the area.

Dates and times of the Tours are as follows:	Monday, 10th January	12.30pm
	Wednesday, 12th January	12.30pm
	Saturday, 15th January	1.00pm

Please make sure you choose the appropriate Booking Form.

Bookings will be taken at the November Meeting and then by phone if any tour is not fully booked. Payment will be required at the time of booking and tickets will be given to you when you arrive in the Foyer.

Cost: £ 5.75 per person.

We hope these visits will help brighten up your January.

ANN & TONY MATTHEWS

'MANCHESTER REINVENTED' WED, 16TH FEBRUARY 2011

Barbara Frost, a Blue Badge Guide, will take us on a tour of Manchester. The tour is called 'Manchester Re-invents Itself'!! She will give an interesting commentary as we go round by coach and we shall see some new places.

The coffee stop will be at the Aquatics Centre where Barbara hopes we will be able to see the 'plant'. Hot or cold Buffet Lunch will be in Trafford Park and is included in the price.

The Cost is £16.00 which includes coach, driver's gratuity, Barbara's services and lunch.

We shall leave :	Rose Hill	9.00am	Regent	9.05am
	Marple Bridge	9.10am	Northumberland Arms	9.15am
	Romiley Arms	9.20am		

WE SHALL BEGIN BOOKING IN NOVEMBER

NOTE: NO BOOKINGS AT THE DECEMBER MEETING

ANN & TONY MATTHEWS

'COUNTDOWN'

We are hoping to arrange a visit to watch the recording of 'Countdown' in February/March/April. We cannot be given an actual date until January so it will not be possible to take bookings until after that date.

However, we would like to know what the take up might be in advance - obviously it would depend on the date. We would go to the afternoon filming, at the Grenada studios in Manchester, when three shows would be recorded.

If you might be interested, could you please add your name to the list displayed near our Outings Notice Board as soon as possible. We need this information to help decide how many tickets to apply for when we are given a firm date in January.

There is no charge for this visit.

Ann & Tony Matthews

OUTINGS - FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - SO FAR.

As this is the last Newsletter before Christmas, we should like to thank everyone for their support. In particular, a special thank you to all who have organised outings this year and to those who are organising outings for 2011. Still some spaces left if anyone has a good idea and would like to organise an outing - do contact us.

Already in the diary -

January -	-	BBC Studio Tours
February	-	'Manchester Re-invented'
April	-	'Countdown'
May	-	'Chester and a Unique Dining Experience' (We need to book this in January. Full details in the January Newsletter).
June	-	Ascot
August	-	Shrewsbury Flower Show
September	-	Castle Howard

ANN & TONY MATTHEWS

NORTH WEST REGION EVENTS

The following events are advertised on the NW Region website – nwu3a.web.officelive.com. Their Newsletters are also on our website.

Regional Meeting 13th January 2011. This will be held at the Friends Meeting House in Lancaster, it is next door to Lancaster Station. The main speakers will be Terry Hardie the Treasurer of the Third Age Trust and Mike Long, the National Education Officer.

The meeting is free for two members of our U3A (excluding transport). Other members can attend at a cost of four pounds fifty pence.

Residential School at Myerscough – 26th to 28th April 2011.

Following the success of last year's residential school the above has been organized and full details are on the NW website and in their Newsletter.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from Eva who will be at the November meeting or contact her email :- tuscanyemw75@yahoo.co.uk if you require further information on these events or any issue connected with the North West Region and its website.

U3A Marple Bridge and Mellor Open Gardening Group.

Programme – November 2010 – April 2011.

November 10th.	An illustrated presentation by John Rowlands – The Development of Chadkirk Estate Gardens and Nature Reserve. Donations to The Friends of Chadkirk.
December 8th.	Christmas meeting. Quiz, followed by mince pies, coffee and a demonstration showing what can be used from the garden for Christmas.
January 12th.	An illustrated presentation by Mary Hoults – Mellor Open Gardens. Donations to Cancer Research.
February 9th.	Visit to Dunham Massey Winter Gardens, conducted tour.
March 9th.	An illustrated presentation by Jane Allison on The Herbaceous Border: Variations on a Theme.
April 13th.	Growing vegetables in a small space. Speaker Ken Else.

All members of the U3A are welcome to attend. We meet at 9.45am. on the 2nd Wednesday of the Month in Marple Methodist Church.

Margaret Hogg

Architecture and Interior Design of the Georgian Period

I am planning to start a new course in 2011 entitled 'The Architecture and Interior Design of the Georgian Period' a fascinating era that profoundly altered Western architecture.

If anyone who has already done the Interior Design Course is interested, please contact me.

Chris Brooke

Walking Group

The group is open to all; 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
Moderate -- Typical of local terrain
Moderate/hard -- more climbing and/or more stiles

For all walks meet in Brabyn's Park car park (IN Brabyn's Park NOT the car park on Brabyn's Brow) for car sharing and prompt departure at 9.45a.m. Some

walks may use buses so, please, carry your travel pass in case! Car passengers are asked to contribute about 10p per mile towards the cost of petrol. (Sorry, but I've put this up at the request of NON drivers) 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.

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

Carole McConnell, Walking Group Co-ordinator

December - January Walks 2010/11

Weds 1 Dec 4/5 m. easy+
Broadbottom
Carole McConnell

Tues. 7 Dec 4/5 m. mod+
Rowarth
Margaret Hogg

Weds 15 Dec 4 m mod
Buxworth
Pam Bluhm

Tues 28 Dec 5 m. mod
Disley - Whaley
Bring BUS pass
Sheila Stafford



Members of the Walking group on the way up to Combes Edge

Irene, Hazel, Agnes, Margaret & Betty

Weds. 5 Jan 4 m. easy
Higher Poynton
Judy Rhodes

Tues 11 Jan 5 m mod
Local
Shirley Molloy
Doreen Scotte

Weds 19 Jan t.b.a.
Irene Riley

Tues 25 Jan 4/5m easy/mod
(some steps)
Styal
Agnes Barlow

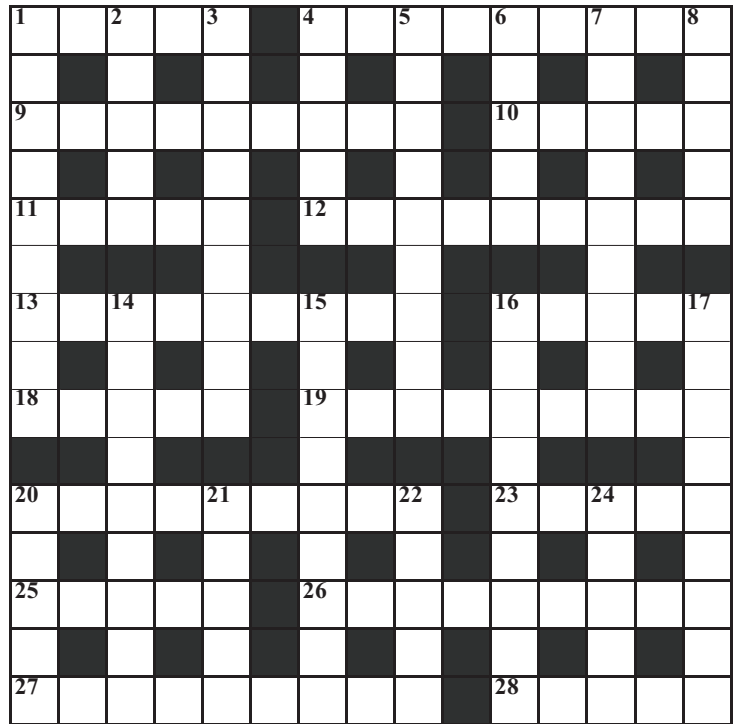
Please keep this list in a visible place !

Thank you

Getting organised for this year's Christmas party has jogged my memory and reminded me that I forgot to say a big thank you on behalf of the Wellspring for the party food leftovers last year. Terry and I delivered sandwiches, crisps, pies, quiches etc to them following our U3A Christmas celebration and they were delighted. So - if any of you belong to any other organisations who may have donations such as this, I'm sure Wellspring would welcome you with open arms.

Crossword Compiled by Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Crossword Group

Geoff Heath



Clues across

- 1 Nominated me and went off (5)
 4 Ivan rules terribly, without exception (9)
 9 Leave heartless lad the comb for a bird (9)
 10 Mind out, Brian! (5)
 11 Belonging to some of the Irish population (5)
 12 Wandered from the main group, initially, saying that Ruth – a Girl Guide – let everyo one down (9)
 13 Huge distance for Buzz to travel (5-4)
 16 Stone exchanged for paper money (5)
 18 Construct soundly; sent invoice (5)
 19 I get in and try exercising uprightness (9)
 20 Sing the praises of battered Beetle car (9)
 23 I care about Heather (5)
 25 Enemy bulldozed Queen of Sheba’s home, reputedly (5)
 26 Bill becoming law about TNT menace? (9)
 27 Awfully uncouth newspaperman wasn’t impressed (9)
 28 Died back – very depressing! (5)

Clues down

- 1 Reportedly titled bloke with offensive weapon in low dive (9)
 2 Confusion results when eel slips after me (5)
 3 Honoured turbulent Croat, indeed! (9)
 4 Employers make united stand, exposing Russian spy, initially (5)
 5 Translate part of ‘Printer’, pretending (9)
 6 Yours truly went back to sink in the mud (5)

Clues down (cont)

- 7 Strange cats trail composer (9)
 8 Wrinkled? I lend potion (5)
 14 Tug Mollie destroyed by seabird (9)
 15 The blaze I put out for the queen
 16 Didn’t care for legend, etc, when re-written (9)
 17 CIA boss created party mess (9)
 20 Otter-like animal is shy. Back up! (5)
 21 Rewind turban – not right for some South African people (5)
 22 Animal captured by Hansel and Gretel (5)
 24 Generic backwardness conceals girl (5)

MEETINGS - FUTURE SPEAKERS

- 16th Nov Val & David Bryant “Spinning Through Time”
Recording our heritage of spinning and spinning wheels
- 21st Dec Christmas Celebrations
- 18th January Dr George Beaumont “Thomas Telford and the Road to Holyhead”

Unless otherwise notified, the ordinary monthly meetings are held in St Paul’s Church Hall, Compstall on the third Tuesday of each month at 10am (for coffee and socialising). To enable members to use the bus service, the business of the meeting will start at 10.20 and will finish at 11.50am approx. 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) perferably in exact money*
- * *You are advised to carry your membership card with you, as you may be asked to show it at U3A group and other events.*

Co-operative Society Donation.

The Co-operative Society has donated £474.00 to Marple Bridge & Mellor U3A to enable the U3A to purchase new equipment.

A letter of thanks has been sent, by Nora Glennon, to the Society

NWREC Questionnaire at the October meeting

50 to 55 copies were handed out; 4 were left completely blank on chairs

14 with full or partial answers were handed in, and posted on next day to Mrs Shaw, NWREC Secretary

37 are unaccounted for - sent separately ? or binned ?

LETTER FROM ANDREW STUNELL M P ON RED TAPE

The M.P. has forwarded a letter from the Cabinet Office inviting us to air any frustrations we may have about bureaucracy and red tape that make life harder for people trying to run a charity, social or voluntary organisation. Input goes to the chairman Lord Hodgson of Astley Abbots, and to Andrew Stunell, who may be able to help with a local problem. Both letters can be seen on the noticeboards.

U3A in Australia

Members may be interested to browse in the Newsletter from Mt Dandenona & District U3A and the "Over 80" magazine. Feedback of your views would be appreciated, especially if we can pick up any tips

Anne Eade - Secretary

French Conversation Group

Bonjour mes amis

The French group has got some places for you to come along and chat with us. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings at The Windsor Castle to develop our French conversation. You only need a basic knowledge of French to enjoy our social and educational meetings. Even if it's 40 or 50 years since you have used French you will soon find you can join in with us!

For more information e mail vicechairman@mbmu3a.org.uk or speak to me at the meeting.

a bientot

Shirley Hammond

Spanish for Beginners

Romiley U3A is to start a Spanish beginners' group in November

The group will meet fortnightly and a tutor is available

The cost will be £4.00 per 2 hour session

Venue and day to be arranged

If you are interested ring *Kath Bradley*

Computer Courses

Two new computer courses are to start in the New Year by Marple and Romiley U3A Groups and members of Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A are welcome to join.

The Marple group will run weekly from Wednesday, January 12th, 2011 to Wednesday, March 23rd inclusive with one week off for half-term – February 23rd. The group will be held in the IT department of Rosehill School, Marple and will run from 4pm to 5.30pm.

The cost will be £1 per week payable in advance i.e. £10 for the 10 week course. This money will be used to cover such expenses as printing etc.

The course caters for all levels from absolute beginners to improvers as students work from books with helpers on hand to assist where necessary.

If you wish to attend the course please contact:

Mavis or Cyril Lewis .

The Romiley U3A course will be held at Romiley Primary School on Sandy Lane, Romiley

For details please contact Kath Bradley

CONTACTS

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National Office:

The Third Age Trust

The Old Municipal Buildings

19, East Street, Bromley Kent, BR1 1QE

020 8466 6139

“When contacting any of the officials by e-mail, could you please include in the “Subject” – U3A - otherwise recipients may not always spot it.

“Would members please observe the rules by not attempting to gain entrance to the hall until 9.45am – to comply with safety regulations”

Crossword Solution
Across: 1 Named; 4 Universal; 9 Goldcrest; 10 Brain; 11 They; 12 Straggled; 13 Light-year; 16 Notes;
18 Build; 19 Integrity; 20 Celebrate; 23 Erica; 25 Yemen; 26 Enactment; 27 Untouched; 28 Dream.
Down: 1 Nightclub; 2 Melee; 3 Decorated; 4 Users; 5 Interpret; 6 Embog; 7 Scarlatti; 8 Lind; 14 Guillemot; 15 Elizabeth; 16 Neglected; 17 Spymaster; 20 Coypu; 21 Bantu; 22 Eland; 24 Irene

NEWSLETTER

I am coming to the end of my first year as Editor of the Newsletter and I would like to thank Terry Lomax, the previous editor and Don Farthing, who prints the Newsletter for all the help they gave me when I began, also Peter Kress, our Webmaster, who helped to sort out the problems with regard to sending the Newsletter out by email. I apologise to those members who had a problem receiving the emails at one point; this was due to changes with my Internet Server. Thanks to all the groups who have submitted articles and photographs. It would be good if other groups were also able to send me information about their activities which could be included in future Newsletters - this would be useful to new members and also remind existing members of the activities in which they can participate.

Any articles or photographs for publication can be sent to me at the email address below or to my home address.

Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year, Malcolm Moss

newslettereditor2010@mbmu3a.org.uk

This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be published January 2011

Please send items for publication by email or disc in Microsoft Word, but hand written will do, to Malcolm Moss, Email: newslettereditor2010@mbmu3a.org.uk

Closing date for the January edition of the Newsletter will be no later than 7th January 2011

If you would like to get the newsletter early by e-mail on a PDF file which is designed for reading on a monitor, faster downloading and saving on printing and postage costs, please let Nora Glennon, the membership secretary know.

MARPLE BRIDGE AND MELLOR U3A

Members are invited to renew their membership for 2011; the fee is £9.00. You can renew your membership in one of two ways:

EITHER: By post and cheque, any time before 31 December, and enclosing a small stamped addressed envelope for return of your membership card. Send to Nora Glennon, Membership Secretary, OR: You may leave your cheque and a small SAE in a sealed envelope with your name on it in a box on the Membership Desk at the Tuesday meetings in November or December.

Whichever method you use, please make your cheque for £9.00 payable to Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A, and include with your payment the completed tear-off slip below. Please note that cheques dated 2010 will not be presented to the bank until early 2011.

If you are unable to attend the monthly meetings and want the bi-monthly newsletter posting to you then please attach a year's supply of 6 A5 size envelopes to your application.

please fold this page, detach and send the form below

MARPLE BRIDGE AND MELLOR U3A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM 2011

Please complete in CAPITALS.

SURNAME FORENAME

ADDRESS

POST CODE..... TEL:

Email address:

In order to save printing and posting costs, the newsletter will be sent to you by e-mail unless otherwise requested.)

Please list the Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A groups you belong to at present

.....
.....
.....

Please list your interests

.....
.....
.....

Are you able to offer to host a group? If so, in what subject?

Under the Data Protection Act, you need to be aware that information given on this form will be stored on a computer in the Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Membership Database.

Signed:

Date:

MARPLE BRIDGE AND MELLOR U3A

NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE

There are vacancies on the Committee for the following positions:
Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Four new Committee members.

Nominations proposed must have a seconder and be signed by the person nominated for a position.

Nominations must be with the Secretary - Anne Eade by **17th January 2011**

POSITION	NOMINEE	NAME & SIGNATURE OF PROPOSER	NAME & SIGNATURE OF SECONDER	SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE
TREASURER				
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY				
COMMITTEE MEMBER				
COMMITTEE MEMBER				
COMMITTEE MEMBER				
COMMITTEE MEMBER				