

CHAIRMAN'S chit chat

I hope you all had a very pleasant break over the holiday period. The weather here is never very kind but we should all be used to this by now.

What a meeting we had in July!! For those that did not attend, and/or were not aware, Ruth our Speaker Organiser has had to resign due to family commitments. We thanked her for all the excellent speakers she has organised in the past and the ones she has already booked for next year. We would welcome her back at any time onto the committee if circumstances permit. We trust our small token of appreciation will be spent wisely - or not. Good luck Ruth!

Eileen Crowder has also tendered her resignation as we are aware that she and Alf are planning to join their family in Australia. We are all aware of the many hours spent organising the Groups, Dining Club and the still troublesome computer class that Eileen is determined to have in place before she leaves in November. Our small token of appreciation presented to her at the meeting does not go far enough in expressing our gratitude for all her hard work and commitment to the group and not forgetting Alf who has been her staunch support in the background. We wish them both all the very best in their new life "down under".

A new format will be created for the Dining Club as a result. Instead of one person sourcing the venues, we would like members to organise just 1 or 2 in the year. I will be the contact and help with any paperwork (if required) and we already have a few members willing to do "a one off" but as always the more the merrier!!

As mentioned at the last meeting, we do have a volunteer to act as Newsletter Editor. Malcolm Moss is a retired printer by trade so should fit into this position without too much bother. At present we are experiencing a few technical problems, but the committee is determined to have these resolved as soon as possible. For now Terry Lomax continues as before.

Please contact me direct if you have any worries or suggestions etc. and thank you all those that volunteered to help with the refreshment stall.

That's all for now. Diane

Committee Vacancies

We have two vacancies on the committee for Speaker Organiser and also a Group Co-ordinator.

Job descriptions

Speaker Organiser:

The speakers for 2010 have already been booked and about six "pencilled" in for 2011 however the job requires confirmation that the speakers are still coming, re-arranging venues in case of emergency, welcoming the speaker/s, offering refreshments etc.

Group Co-ordinator:

This requires a good organiser to liaise with all the group leaders, occasionally arranging meetings etc and ensuring groups have the support that they require and more.

Anyone interested should contact me direct and in the case of Group Co-ordinator please speak to Eileen Crowder if you require further details of what the job entails. Diane – Chair

BENTS - FOR GARDEN, HOME AND MUCH

MORE near Warrington

MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2009

Short day today but one we hope you will enjoy. We visited Bents last November and thought it was a great day out. It is not just a Garden Centre but an experience!!

The Christmas decorations are wonderful. You could buy all your Christmas presents under one roof. The restaurant is a treat - as well as the usual food on offer, there will be a festive menu too.



Some of the Garden Centre awards already earned are as follows:

- Best Restaurant in the UK
- Best Coffee Shop in the UK
- Best Garden Centre in the UK
- Best Plant Area in the UK
- Best Christmas Display in the UK
- Best Outdoor Living Department
- Garden Centre of Excellence (One of only 10 in the Country)

All these awards are well deserved.

We do hope you will join us and have a super day. The cost of £8.50 includes coach and driver's gratuity.

We shall leave :

Rose Hill	9.30am
Regent Cinema	9.35am
Marple Bridge	9.40am
Northumberland Arms	9.45am
Romiley Arms	9.50am

BOOKING AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

Ann and Tony Matthews



Holidays Group

Holiday to Istanbul 5th - 15th May 2010

Six nights half board in Istanbul, two full trips with lunch and two half day tours followed by four days half board in a five star hotel at Sile on the Black Sea. All entrance fees to historic sites and museums included, plus professional English speaking tour guide throughout. Scheduled flights with Turkish airlines.

Cost: £1055.00

Deposit £50.00 payable to Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Holiday Fund as soon as possible please. For more information contact Hazel Jones

Bournemouth

Brighten up the winter months with an early break. Join me for a house party at 'The Belvedere Hotel', Bournemouth.

Monday 22 February 2010, 5 days, 4 nights, dinner bed and breakfast, £259-00.



Full entertainment programme and excursions. By coach from Marple/Romiley/High Lane.

If you are interested, please telephone Hazel Jones

High Lane U3A Travel Group

Cruise on P & O Arcadia to the Adriatic on October 16th 2010 for 17 nights.



From Southampton to Malaga, Zakynthos, Corfu, Dubrovnik, Venice, Malta and Cadiz.

Inside cabin from £1317 per person (sharing twin cabin)

Outside cabin from £1433 " " " " " " " " "

Balcony cabin from £1802 " " " " " " " " "

There is currently an offer from P&O of £50 on board credit.

We shall have a coach from High Lane to Southampton (fare depends on the number of passengers)

Contact Margaret McDermott
Matinee Group

Booking now..... for 'Blythe Spirit' by Noel Coward at the Royal Exchange on Saturday 2nd January, 2009. Coach available. For prices see Jean and Sue at the Matinee Desk.

Jean Howells 42



A HUNDRED YEARS OF GUIDING

Were you or your family ever a Rainbow, Brownie, Guide, Ranger, Leader or a parent supporter? Did you know that Girl Guiding is approaching its Centenary Year starting this September when many events will be happening nationwide?

The Trefoil Guild in Marple has started the ball rolling by sewing a large wall hanging telling the story of how guiding developed in the local area.

We will be unveiling this at the new Marple Guide HQ, Brickbridge Road (opposite All Saint's School) on **Saturday October 24th**. The Headquarters will be open from 11 – 4pm. Come and browse the old photographs, share your memories, meet with old friends and help us identify the people in these photographs. Refreshments available.

Jean Howells

The Dining Club

The next meeting of the Club will be for Lunch at The Lyme Breeze Restaurant, Adlington, on the 17th September. This will be a three course lunch and members should arrive at 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm.

In October an evening event has been arranged for Thursday the 22nd at The Oddfellows Restaurant, Mellor, meeting at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm. The signing up lists will be at the September General Meeting.

The last meeting for 2009 will be at The Bridge Hotel, Prestbury on November the 19th, 7.00pm for 7.30 pm. Signing up will be at the October U3A meeting.

Please contact me by email alfeil@hotmail.co.uk if you have any queries.

Eileen and Alf Crowder Computer Skills Improvement Classes

We have been unable to get sufficient helpers who are available on a regular weekly basis to assist members improve their computer skills. As an alternative, a number of members have agreed to work on a one to two or one to three bases at mutually convenient times and venues. Any members who are interested should contact **Eileen Crowder**

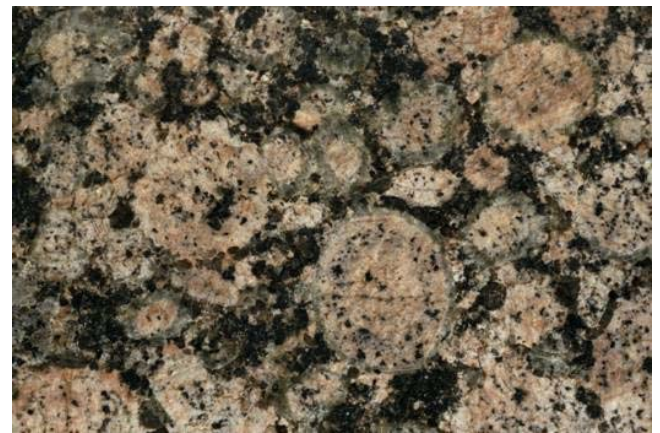
Geology Group

The Geology group has been "out in the field" several times this summer.

Our last outing was to look at the **Building Stones of Stockport**.

We were ably led by Marjorie Moseley from the Manchester Geological Association and spent a very interesting two hours looking at the amazing variety and beauty of rocks from all over the world, that are used to clad the buildings, and pave the streets of Stockport.

We saw beautiful Rapakivi Granite from Finland, "Emerald Pearl" Lavikite from Sweden, Shap Granite from Cumbria to name but a few.



Rapakivi granite from Finland



Mam Tor (The Shivering Mountain, near Castleton)



Shap granite underfoot in the Stockport Market

Some of the buildings are built from local sandstones from the Peak District and Alderley Edge, others of Portland Stone from Dorset. Marjorie showed us 26 different locations, and she's still adding to her list. We were lucky with the weather, warm sunshine and



Walking Group



The walking group is open to all members of Marple Bridge and Mellor, Marple and Romiley U3As. 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 fuel. 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.

Please keep this list in a visible place.

October- November Walks 2009

Weds 7 October 4/5miles med Place t.b.a. fairly local
Irene Riley

Tues 13 October 5 miles med Ollersett Moor
Doreen Scotte

Weds 21 October Oct 4 miles easy
Local (bring bus pass)

This may be re-arranged. Phone After 17/10/09 to check if you need to know. Carole McConnell

Tues 27 October 4-5 miles easy Local
Pam Bluhm

with the company. When we got up to the Market we were ready for a cup of coffee and a toasted teacake! The present Geology Group is continuing its studies on the 2nd Friday morning of each month: a new group is starting this month, please see the following item.

Mary Howie Geology Group leader

A new Beginner's Geology Group will be starting in September.

The first session will be at 10 am on Monday September 21st, (Mary Howie's house.) Further meetings will be on the 3rd Monday of each month

Please ring or email Mary if you would like to join this group.

If you have already contacted Mary please confirm by phone, as her computer has been misbehaving!

Digital Photography Camera Group

There are a couple of free places in the group this September. If you are interested in taking part, snap up the opportunity and contact Joy.

Joy Close

Weds 4 November 5 miles med Buxworth
Agnes Barlow

Tues 10 November 5-6 miles easy Greenfield(D)
Carole McConnell

Weds 18 November 4 miles easy Local
Margaret Hogg

Tues 24 November 4-5 med Kerridge (one short steep climb)
Judy Rhodes

Carole McConnell, Walking Group

Outing News

A great time was had by all on our trip to Skipton and Towneley Hall on August 17th.

The rain cleared in time for a relaxing sail down the canal after which we spent an interesting time in Skipton.

After a scenic trip by Chris, our driver, we arrived at Towneley Hall for tea, coffee and an informative tour of the hall.

Our thanks as always to Ann, Tony and Chris

Marjorie Darbyshire



Meetings

Future Speakers

20th October
17th November
15th December

Hugh Beggs
Judith Higgins
Christmas Celebrations

“A Journey Down the River Dee”
“The History of Stockport Sunday School”

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.

CONTACTS

Chairman: Diane Holker

Vice Chairman: To be elected

Secretary: Anne Eade

Treasurer: Eddie Howells

Group Co-ordinator: To be elected

Assistant Co-ordinator: Nora Glennon

Committee members: Eva Wilkie
tuscany75@aol.co.uk

Mrs Marion Evers

Membership secretary: Nora Glennon

Speaker Organiser: Christine Brooke

speakerorganiser@mbmu3a.org.uk

This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be 17th November 2009. Please send items for publication by email or disc in Microsoft Word, but hand written will do, to Terry Lomax.

Email: newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk Any stories, articles or photographs of interest to members are welcomed.

Newsletter printed by Don Farthing.

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The Third Age Trust

The Old Municipal Buildings

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You can read back issues of the newsletter on our website www.mbmu3a.org.uk which is organised by Peter Kress.

Note: closing date for next edition: No later than 7th November October

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.