

FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the September issue of the newsletter. Once again, we have lots going on; many groups are busy planning events and activities after their summer break. I'm pleased to see that the Reading group has started meeting again; thanks to Marlene for getting this going. Ron has positive news about the Backgammon and Trivial Pursuit groups. Kate and Ian are running Sunday afternoon sequence dancing sessions. Members who attended the Bridge course run by Steve and John earlier this year are continuing their learning by playing in our various Bridge groups. The recent Group Leaders meeting was a chance for us to thank group leaders and their helpers for their hard work during the year.

Our social events continue to be popular. In late July, the presenters, the Committee and helpers led by Paul and Barbara produced another very enjoyable wine evening; you can read about this on page 2. Your Committee has also organised another social event for the Autumn. Next month we have a musical event which promises to be a great evening – see page 3 for details. You can get your tickets for this event at the September monthly meeting. Events such as these take a lot of planning and organising and we hope you will support us in these events.

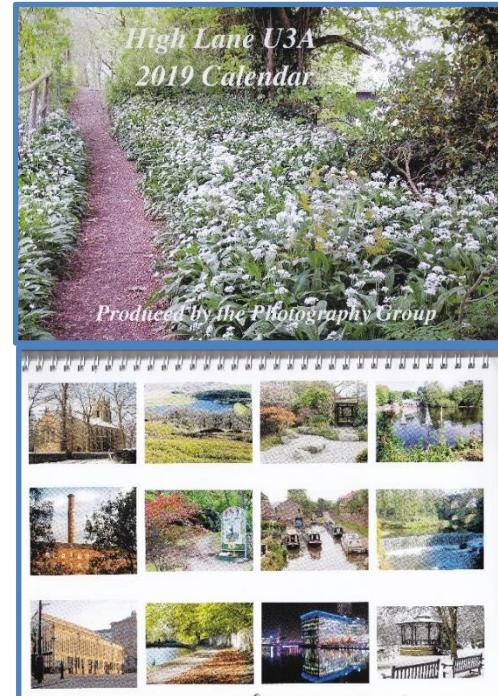
André will also be selling tickets for the September concert at Windlehurst Methodist church where the Choir are singing. See page 10 for details of the concert.

Following the success of last year's High Lane U3A calendar when we were unable to meet the demand, the Photography group has again produced a very attractive calendar for 2019 depicting a range of local scenes; the front cover is pictured on the right. As last year, this would make a great Christmas present for family and friends. Calendars will be available at the September meeting and are £5 each including a large envelope or £4.75 without an envelope.

Later in this issue I report on some very recent research carried out by our National organisation, the Third Age Trust. Entitled 'Learning not Lonely' it looks at the impact of U3A on its members.

Finally as I'm sure I've mentioned before! we rely on our group leaders and helpers for all that we do and always welcome offers of help with groups, events. The monthly meetings and of course the Committee. Please don't be afraid to offer to help!

Diane Saxon



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The next edition of the newsletter will be the November 2018 edition. The deadline for contributions will be 27 October.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

JULY MEETING

At this meeting, William Geldart spoke about his life as an illustrator. Born in Marple, William studied Art in Manchester and became Art Editor for Cheshire Life, a position he held for six years. Going it alone as a freelance artist and illustrator he worked with the Sunday Times, the Halle orchestra and Manchester airport among others. He has illustrated many books including the Wind in the Willows and his drawings of animal characters are much sought after by collectors.

William also draws pictures of local scenes around his Cheshire home. He was commissioned by Daresbury Church to create a painting to support the development of the Lewis Carroll Visitor Centre and to celebrate Daresbury's most famous son. The painting depicts many of the favourite characters from Alice in Wonderland in the grounds of the Church. Prints of this are available to purchase at

<https://daresburycote.org.uk/product/alice-limited-edition-print-2/>

After his talk William was kept busy signing copies of a children's book by Meryl Doney which contains some of his unique animal illustrations. Many members left clutching a copy of the book. You can see more of William's work at

<http://www.geldartstudio.co.uk/>

AUGUST MEETING

Francis King spoke about the charity "Mercy Ships". They run a floating hospital staffed by qualified volunteers who visit some of the poorest regions in the world providing free medical care for people who would otherwise have no access to safe treatment. They also provide follow up clinics and train local people to continue their work

Our speaker Frances King, a state registered nurse has done several trips with the charity and illustrated her talk with anecdotes and slides. Members listened with rapt attention and gave generous donations afterwards.

Sheila Harrop

After the meeting we received this message from Francis.

Dear Members of High Lane U3A

It was a pleasure to talk to you all about 'Mercy Ships' and an even greater pleasure to receive your most generous donation of £60 plus an amazing £264.96p in the collection bucket. It will be very much appreciated. So on behalf of Mercy Ships I would like to thank you all very much. Many people will benefit from your kindness. Best wishes to you all and remember Share the secret!! Frances King

WINE TASTING EVENING

July's wine tasting evening was a great success. Around 60 members gathered at the Village Hall to partake of the range of wines selected by the presenters. All the wines we sampled are available in the local area and can be found for £8 or less.



Barbara started the evening off with a French sparkler; Cremant du Jura from Aldi. She was followed by Doreen who presented a Luis Felipe Edwards Reserve Chardonnay from Chile. The white wines were completed by Paul's choice of an award winning Ned Sauvignon Blanc from the Marisco vineyards in Marlborough, New Zealand.

We then turned to the Reds. Diane presented a Brouilly from the well-known Georges Duboeuf négociant purchased in Sainsburys. Brouilly is the largest of the 10 named Beaujolais regions. Mark offered a Beyerskloof Reserve Pinotage from South Africa available from Majestic Wine. Trevor completed the evening's selections with a sweet red wine from California; the Apothic Red which is a blend of Zinfandel, Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon and is available at Tesco and Waitrose.

Our thanks to all the presenters, to Paul and Barbara who procured the cheese and an excellent selection of biscuits that helped us to stay relatively sober! And thanks also to all the helpers who helped set the room up, pour the wine, wash the glasses and clear everything up at the end of the evening.

Diane Saxon



GROUP LEADERS' MEETING

Late in July your Group Leaders, their helpers and Committee members got together for our annual meeting to thank the leaders and helpers for all that they do in running your groups. We enjoyed finding out about each other's activities along with good conversation, cake and strawberries.

MUSICAL EVENING

26 October 2018

High Lane U3A
Musical Evening
Music for all tastes
Featuring -
Copyrite
Friday 26th October 2018
7:30pm
Includes a meal prior to the music of
Lasagne or Salmon (please choose)
Tickets £15
Please bring your own drinks and glasses
Numbers are limited
High Lane U3A Members only please

Tickets are on sale at the September and October meetings. Tickets are just £15. Don't delay in getting yours; we expect demand to be high.

U3A DIARIES FOR 2019

U3A diaries for 2019 are available to order. This year the diary has a maroon cover and costs £3.00 which includes postage.

If you would like to order one give your name and payment to Pam Curley at the September meeting.

U3A IMPACT REPORT 2018

Third Age Trust

The report starts with some figures about U3A in the UK. There are over 420,000 members and typical membership fees range from £15 to £30; reading this, I'm sure you can appreciate the good value offered by our U3A. Those 420,000 include a surge in numbers of 20,000 new members in the last five years but this still represents less than 20% of the potential U3A population. Loneliness is a big issue for many older people and one in five are affected by depression.

Through questionnaires and focus groups, the research explored friendship, learning, health, community engagement, managing life changes and confidence. The highest positive response was in the category of making new friends and feeling supported (91%), followed by learning new skills (84%). Other categories were lower rated but, in all categories, over 50% of members agreed that U3A had a beneficial effect for them. After a discussion of the findings the report ends by raising a number of challenges for U3A as we move forward. These include engaging the younger, newly retired, people, widening participation to groups who don't tend to join organisations such as ours and of course helping to make sure that the U3A concept is more widely understood.

You can read the report at

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/images/misc/impactreport/impact-report-2018-06-1.2-final-web.pdf>

TOO MUCH STUFF?

Highly recommended by two members of the Current Affairs group, Marie Kondo's book, 'The Life Changing Magic of Tidying' can help you declutter. They felt that it had given them the incentive to do some de-cluttering as well as tidying and they had found it cathartic. Marie Kondo, Japan's expert declutterer and professional cleaner, will help you 'tidy your rooms once and for all with her inspirational step-by-step method'. She says that the key to successful tidying is to tackle your home in the correct order, to keep only the things you really love and to do it all at once – and quickly.

FORTHCOMING TRAVEL EVENTS

Contact: Margaret McDermott or Ruth Smith

17- 21 Sept	IRELAND All participants please meet after tea break at September meeting for info. on flights, tickets etc.
18 Sept	STEPPING HILL HOSPITAL Tour of the Radiology Department. 7pm. Meet at Oakwood House
21-25 October	BUDAPEST Payment for entrance fees (£55) and minibus to Airport (£7) at September meeting. Information after October meeting.
21 Nov – 7 Dec	CRUISE P&O ARCADIA from Southampton to Lisbon. Canaries, Madeira (2 days) Azores
14 Dec	HADDON HALL. Tour of the Hall and lunch in the restaurant. Coach from the Village Hall
23-27 May 2019	GLOUCESTER 4 nights Half board at Hallmark Hotel. £349 plus entrance fees. Single Supplement £70. Possible visits to Tall Ships, Gloucester Cathedral, National Waterways Museum, Warwick Railway. DEPOSIT OCTOBER
15-21 July 2019	SOMERSET 5 nights Half board at Swan Hotel Wells. £539 plus entrance fees. Single supplement £96. Possible visits to Roman Baths, Wells Cathedral, West Somerset Railway, Longleat, Cheddar Cheese Factory. DEPOSIT NOVEMBER
3-10 Oct 2019	MEDIEVAL GERMANY River Cruise Mainz, Miltenberg, Wurzburg, Rothenburg, Bamberg, Nuremberg. Cost depends on choice of cabin. Flight from Manchester to Munich.

ADVANCE NOTICE - ST ANN'S HOSPICE 'Christmas is Coming' concert.

St Ann's Hospice Festival Choir will be performing at the Bridgewater Hall on Friday December 14th at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from the Bridgewater Hall Booking Office, price £22.50 including £2.50 booking fee. A coach will again be going from Hazel Grove Park and Ride (£7 per person). Contact Carol Straffon for further details.

OUR U3A ACTIVITIES

12 Sept	Monthly meeting. The Jewish Way of Life presented by Barbara Fraser
15 Sept	Theatre Group Carver Theatre to see Wife After Death
26 Oct	Music evening. Music for all tastes by saxophone and guitar duo Copyrite plus a two-course meal. Tickets cost £15 and will be on sale at the September meeting.
14 Nov	Monthly meeting. Amazing women pilots presented by Victor Crawford
12 Dec	Christmas party

NATIONAL U3A EVENTS

12 Sept	THE BIG SING. Friends Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester. Details at https://u3asites.org.uk/files/n/north-west/docs/bigsingregistration.pdf
4 Oct	Unravelling the Whitworth. Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester. A day of hands on discovery to unravel the secrets of the gallery's textile and wallpaper collection. Talks from curators, a tour and a hands-on session facilitated by an artist with welcome refreshments. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm £27.50
15 Oct	U3A at the RI. Royal Institution, London. Cost £21.50

Online Booking is available for these events at www.u3a.org.uk/events or call the National Office 0208 466 6139

STOCKPORT BEER WEEK



Beer-drinking members might be interested to know that Stockport CAMRA is running Stockport Beer Week for the fourth year between 20 September and 30 September. 11 days of events including tours, walks, visits and a beer quiz. More details at <http://www.ssmcamra.co.uk/beerweek.htm>

GROUP REPORTS

ART

The Art group starts again on Thursday 6th September, 1.30pm until 4pm. If you fancy having go at painting or drawing come and join us or come and have a look at what we do.



We are very friendly; come and have a cup of tea or coffee, and a natter. We have posh biscuits as well.

Brian Chadwick

BACKGAMMON



The backgammon group is at long last taking shape. For the August meetings we had two boards in constant use on both game days. Players interchanged as games were lost/won.

The group meets at the Royal Oak pub in High Lane, on the first and third Wednesdays of every month starting at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

If you would like a game (which could be accompanied by some convivial repartee), let me know. Masters or beginners are welcome, and if you haven't played before, we will teach you.

Ron Barrow

BALLET APPRECIATION GROUPS 1 AND 2

July meeting

Our July meeting featured the ballet "Manon".

The ballet which is in three acts is a love story set in the pleasure-seeking world of Paris in the early 18th century. The story follows the hero le chevalier des Grieux and his lover Manon Lescaut.

The performance featured the Royal Ballet company, with music by Jules Massenet and choreography by Kenneth Macmillan. The principal dancers were Tamara Rojo as Manon and Carlos Acosta as des Grieux.

August meeting

Our August meeting was in three parts. The first part featured the ballet Le Corsaire, followed by two short light-hearted ballets, "Stars and Stripes" and "Hornpipe selection".

Le Corsaire (the pirate)

The ballet which is in three acts is based on a poem by Lord Byron. This is a swashbuckling, romantic tale of pirates, slaves and oriental intrigue. The story follows the adventures of Medora a young Greek girl and Conrad a pirate.

The performance featured the Kirov Ballet Company with music by a number of different composers and choreography by Marius Petipa. The principal dancers were Altnai Asymurakova as Medora and Yevgeny Neff as Conrad.

Stars and Stripes

As the name suggests Stars and Stripes is a light hearted patriotic American ballet. The performance featured the American Ballet Company, with dance routines set to the music of Sousa.

Horn Pipe selection

Horn Pipe selection by contrast is very British and featured the Royal Ballet Company, with music comprising a selection of well known sea shanties.

Sheila Hall

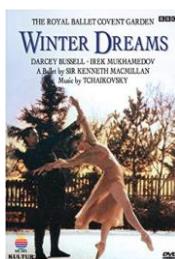
BALLET APPRECIATION GROUPS 3 AND 4

25th July / 2nd August:

We saw the Royal Ballet's production of The Prince of the Pagodas. This was choreographed by Kenneth Macmillan to music by Benjamin Britten. Recorded in 1990, it showed the nineteen-year-old Darcey Bussell in the role which made her a star.

22nd August / 6th September:

Our season on British choreographers continued with a new ballet by Liam Scarlett. Premiered and recorded in 2016, Frankenstein gave a very dark and detailed portrayal of Mary Shelley's story.



Next on the agenda is another Macmillan ballet: Winter Dreams, starring Darcey Bussell (among others).

Meg Humphries.

BALLROOM DANCING

In the evening after our July dance afternoon, 19 of the group enjoyed a pleasant summer meal at Ciao in Poynton. In September we recommence fortnightly dance afternoons.

Walter Mason

BRIDGE

Members continue to enjoy their regular weekly bridge session. All three groups have been well attended over the summer and we are pleased to see that members who learned the game with Steve and John earlier this year are now attending various sessions. The High Lane U3A bridge website is well used and shows the rankings each week as well as enabling players to analyse their results.

<http://www.bridgewebs.com/hightlaneu3a/>

The Wednesday group run by Joan Waters still has room for a few extra players. Please contact Joan if you are interested. For this group, Joan's advice is that If your regular partner is away, you can still attend as it is likely that a partner can be found for you.

CHURCHES AND PUBS

July - St. Michaels Shotwick.

At last, at the third time of trying this year, we managed to do a churches and pubs outing. On a lovely day we set off for St. Michaels Parish church in the village of Shotwick. Shotwick is a very small village and former civil parish, now in the parish of Puddington on the southern end of the Wirral Peninsula.



We were greeted with tea and coffee and a selection of cakes and biscuits. The church was in existence at the time of the Domesday Book and was largely rebuilt in the 14th century.

Restorations were carried out in 1851 and in the 1970's. The church is built of Red Sandstone. The chancel and porch are roofed with Welsh slate and the rest of the roof is covered in purple tiles. The south doorway is Norman decorated with chevrons, but they are obscured by a porch of a later date. The porch contains stone benches and on its walls are knife sharpening slots.

The tower dates from about 1500 and has a ring of six bells. The box pews are said to be the oldest in Wirral and at one time the doors on the pews had locks and keys. A canopied churchwarden's pew dated 1709 and a three-decker pulpit are situated in the north aisle. The rails at the altar date from late 17th or early 18th century and the lectern from the 18th century. The organ was purchased in Chester, second hand in 1909 and we had the pleasure of the organist playing and us singing before our talk by the Rev. Cathy Helm.

The churchyard wall along the north side of Shotwick Lane, the church gates and gate piers are Grade II listed structures along with the red sandstone sundial. There are a few war graves with American soldiers buried here.

After a very enjoyable visit we called at the White Lion at Childer Thornton and had an excellent two course lunch.

Paul Kenneth

CINEMA CLUB

The Summer months have been dominated by the Mamma Mia film which has been playing to packed houses at cinemas up and down the country. Prior to that we visited the Regent to see the film "Swimming with Men"; a feel-good comedy with popular British stars playing men with mid-life crises. Members gave it the thumbs up

It's good to have new members showing interest. There's plenty of room. Come and join us

Sheila Harrop

CURRENT AFFAIRS

JULY MEETING

Another lively discussion covered subjects from all aspects of life, starting with medicine. The group discussed whether doctors should be penalised if mistakes led to loss of life. The majority felt that we are all fallible and sometimes mistakes occur. Of course, some mistakes can lead to fatalities but generally, doctors are doing their best, often under very difficult circumstances.

There was also a general consensus on the subject of grammar schools. Although, in our time, the grammar school provided a wonderful, and often the only, opportunity of progressing in society for working class children, now a fairer and often better education is offered by the comprehensives, but we all deplored the emphasis on the academic side and felt that more should be done for those who require a more technical education.

We all felt that England's progress in the World Cup had done much to give the country a feel-good factor and united the nation at a time when we are more divided than ever. Theresa May received the sympathy of the majority. At least her plan for Brexit, however flawed, was a plan, produced when her expert ministers had failed to come up with any concrete proposals. Both she and the Queen had suffered enough after the disastrous visit of Donald Trump. Enough said!

Other topics discussed included the hosepipe ban, transgender use of toilets, the sale of Wembley Stadium, Piers Morgan and Cliff Richard.

The one thing we could all be happy about was the amazing rescue of the Thai boys' football team and we felt that those who took part in the rescue should all be honoured.

Marlene Brookes

August meeting

1. What did we think about Boris Johnson's comments and Jeremy Corbyn and his anti-Semitism. Mostly, we thought that Boris was entitled to say what he did because of free speech, but then the difficulty arises as to where you draw the line. As for Jeremy, we were sick of hearing about it and they should let it drop.
2. Vienna has been voted as the most liveable city in the world. Each member of the group was asked where they would like to live and these were the answers: Vancouver, Perth, New Zealand, High Lane, High Lane, Channel Islands and the Czech Republic.
3. Is it time to make large international companies, like Amazon, pay their taxes. The whole group agreed that it was but thought that it is never going to happen.
4. Why can't Britain provide a good railway service. There was a general feeling that it should be re-nationalised, although it wasn't when it was a nationalised service. The underlying problem is that it needs to be properly funded so it probably will not happen unless the Government is forced into it as they have been in the South Eastern region.
5. Should more women be awarded Oscars? No, any award should be earned on merit, not just because someone is a woman or black.
6. CRISPR Genetic Manipulation. Should genetic manipulation be allowed. After much discussion it was decided that it is impossible to stop any sort of interference with nature, otherwise we would never have had any of the present-day medications if medical research had never been allowed, so how can we stop now.
7. Should cyclists be licensed, pass a cycling test and pay road tax? One member of the group had had damage done to her car by a cyclist but was unable to claim any costs because they are not insured so we all agreed that cyclists should have insurance. We also thought that it would be a good idea if each bicycle had a small number plate so that they could be identified.

8. Brexit. Are our troubles getting out of the EU making the EU stronger? Nobody had a strong opinion on this, I think we are all finding it much too confusing, however, one member said yes, five said no and one didn't have a clue.

9. China has a virtual monopoly on the minerals required for mobile phones. Could they hold the rest of the world hostage because of this? We all agreed that they could.

10. President Trump has re-imposed sanctions on Iran and wants the UK to do the same; should we? We agreed that we should stay with Europe in not doing so.

11. MOT tests cost the Government millions of pounds every year: should it continue. If car owners could be trusted to have an annual service, then the MOT would probably not be needed. However, many cars do not have regular services and they could become a danger on the road. It is possible that the MOT could be made compulsory every two years rather than annually.

Pam Curley

DINING GROUP

Did you know that Florence Nightingale once lived in Coombs?

No. Neither did we, it's quite amazing what you discover when you accompany the Dining Group for lunch.

In August, 29 members met at The Beehive in Coombs, a popular choice located in the heart of this picturesque village. The food is all homemade, well presented and sourced from local suppliers. We enjoyed a generous three course lunch at a very reasonable price.

Our next lunch is in October when we will be going Italian in Poynton at Ciao. Why not come and join us?

Dorothy Neillands

Dorothy Gerrard

FAMILY HISTORY

We continue to meet at Sue's house and after a summer break are resuming on 24th September.

Our meetings always involve lively discussions on a variety of topics. Recently we have looked at surname distribution maps, emigration and immigration. Inspired by a recent television series we also researched houses our ancestors had lived in. We ended the summer term with a genealogy quiz – most enjoyable!!

In September a number of our group will be attending the annual Family History Conference in Buxton where there will be four guest speakers including Debbie Kennet on 'Genetic Genealogy'. There will also be a variety of trade stands providing useful information.

Work is progressing on our WW1 display which we will be showing at the November meeting. We have a number of new members who have added their contributions, as have several other High Lane U3A members who are not in our group.

We will always welcome new members so please contact us if you are interested.

Pat Christopher and Sue Harlin

GARDENING

Holidays and grandchildren minding caused reduced numbers and forced some programme rearranging. In July there was an agreeable afternoon at



Jackie's cosy garden, and in early August at short notice, a lovely visit to Lyn's one third-acre garden. This was fascinating, with lush shrub borders disguising his and hers hideaways, sheltered sitting areas, a well-tended and vegetable plot, a greenhouse, and some hidden patios. In spite of the open views to Kinderscout, tender plants were thriving, sheltered on several sides. It was obvious that much work went into keeping the garden so attractive and our group was well impressed, especially with the colourful hanging baskets.



In mid-August we visited Stoneyford Cottage Garden, near Delamere. This is cleverly designed with pools and slow moving streams. Paths and bridges go in all directions, with plenty of unusual flowers, shrubs and trees.



It was reminiscent of Monet's Giverny Garden, in spite of the slightly jungly appearance.

Perhaps a late Spring visit would give a better perspective. But there was colour from late herbaceous plants, hostas, and gigantic-leaved Rodgersia Tabularis to wow us!



The plants for sale were nice varieties and good value – and of course there was a pleasant tea room!

Walter Mason

RHS Gardening tip for September

Any brown patches caused by drought will quickly green up by themselves when the rain comes and the temperatures fall - usually towards the end of the month.

We hope they are right!

GERMAN

We haven't met since the end of July but are starting up again on Friday 7th September. During August, they will have been doing their homework, attempting my 1956 O level exam, recently unearthed whilst clearing out the loft. Today's A level students would find it quite demanding with its emphasis on very accurate written translation.

Marlene Brookes

MUSIC APPRECIATION

I'm sorry to have to discontinue the music appreciation group till further notice due to circumstances. If anyone wishes to take over, please contact me. A new venue will need to be found.

Sue Dintinger

OPERA APPRECIATION

10th / 24th July.

We watched a performance of *Thais* from the New York Metropolitan opera. This very colourful production featured costumes by Christian Lacroix and exquisite music by Massenet. The singing was absolutely outstanding.

14th / 28th August.

By way of a contrast, we saw an operetta by Offenbach: *La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein*. This is a very lively comic opera, and Felicity Lott excelled as La Duchesse.

At our next meeting, we will return to violence and tragedy with Donizetti's *Maria Stuarda*.

Meg Humphries

PHOTOGRAPHY

The July meeting competition was "Seaside"; winning pictures were 1st Diane - Statue, Opatje Croatia; 2nd Derek - Lulworth Cove; 3rd Bob - Sunset India; equal 4th Walter - Cala San Vicenta and - Puerto Pollensa; Bob – Devon beach.

Also at this meeting we agreed the final selections and layout for the 2019 calendar for Diane to order. The calendar was displayed at the U3A August meeting for advance orders and will be on sale at the September meeting. If you can't get to the meeting and would like to order or buy a calendar, please contact me.

Our next meeting is in September and the competition subject is Cottages. New members are welcome.

Walter Mason



QUIZ GROUP

July meeting

Margaret taxed our brains with a variety of questions including a section where we tried, without much success, to say who certain airports were named after and a very difficult section on the origins of nursery rhymes. Our coffee break activities included dingbats and a series of questions where all answers contained at least two letter As separated by a single other letter. For example

Capital of Madagascar – ANTANARIVO

And some for you to do

White rum

One of the six Irish National Parks

Long running BBC documentary series

80s rock band founded by Kurt Cobain

August meeting

Diane's questions were a mixed bag of a range of topics including science, sport, geography, TV, films, history, books, and general knowledge and ended with 10 questions on the news that week. Coffee break activities were identifying the painters of 20+ famous art works (of which three are below) and a series of questions where all the answers were numbers.



Please contact me if you are interested in this group.

Diane Saxon

READING

Our first meeting is on Monday 3rd September when we will discuss our plans for the year.

As the first book, I suggested The Mayor of Casterbridge by Thomas Hardy, as even if members hadn't read it recently, they would be familiar with the plot from dramatised television productions. It is also readily available as a cheap paperback or as an e book.

I hope we can draw up a list of books for the year including bestsellers, factual and biographical works, and even, occasionally, poetry.

Marlene Brookes

SEQUENCE DANCING

The sequence dancing section is holding four social dances at High Lane Village Hall on Sunday afternoons at 2.30 pm on Sept 9th, Oct 14th, Nov 11th, and Dec 9th. There will be a mixture of ballroom dancing, Latin, sequence, fun dances and requests (hopefully to suit all comers).

Everyone is welcome, but please ring Ian or Kate if you want more information, or if you want to come without a partner.

Kate Heller

SINGING

Our U3A Choir will be singing at High Lane Methodist Church, Windlehurst Road on Saturday 29th September at 2.30pm.

We have a very good programme planned and afternoon tea will be served. Tickets are £5 and will be available at the September meeting (see Trevor Kinzig or Andre Lister.)

Margaret Glynn

TRIVIAL PURSUIT

The Trivial Pursuit group is doing well, and at the last meeting (in August), 11 group members attended. We meet at six weekly intervals with the next meeting being held in late September.



As we meet in peoples' houses and are therefore restricted in the numbers we can accommodate, we have closed membership of this first group, but have started a list for a second group.

So, if anybody fancies Trivial Pursuit on a Saturday evening (or some other evening at the group members' discretion) then let me know and I will add your names to the list.

Ron Barrow

WALKING

WEDNESDAY 27th JUNE

Ten of us turned up for a re-run of the walk that Jeff took us on in April when the visibility was almost zero and the rain persisted throughout most of the day. On this occasion, however, there was wall to wall sunshine and excellent visibility.

Setting off from Grin Low car park, to the south of Buxton, we ascended towards Grin Low Tower, otherwise known as Solomon's Temple, passing the remains of some lime kilns from times past. Arriving at the folly, we all ascended the tower, this time to admire the view and point out as many landmarks as we could identify. Jeff Robinson took photos of us on the tower and photos of us from the tower.

We then took a stroll through Buxton Country Park, down to Poole's Cavern where we took advantage of the covered picnic area to have a break for coffee.

Passing by Buxton School playing fields, we followed a track through Fern House Equestrian Centre, and then descended to Grin Low Road. After a short walk along this road, we ascended a path until we reached the old track bed of the Cromford and High Peak Railway. Here we rested and ate our packed lunch whilst admiring the excellent views.

We then followed the old track bed, passing through the rather unsightly Harpur Hill Industrial estate and then the Health and Safety Executive Research Laboratories.

After that we took a path parallel to the track bed, passing the now drained Stanley Moor Reservoir until we found ourselves back again at the car park. Here it was decided that our journey home should include a stop at The Shady Oak pub on Long Hill Road where we partook of some welcome refreshment.

Jeff Mortimer

WEDNESDAY 25TH JULY 2018

Only nine came on Walter's walk to Combe Moss. Grandchildren minding, holidays, injuries, (surely none put off by the walk description?), took their toll on numbers. Whatever the reasons, they missed a cracking walk on a perfect day. Arriving late from Belgium the previous night, Walter's daughter and 13 year old grandson nevertheless joined the group, with personal interest in the walk starting from Chapel-en-le-Frith Station, where Walter's grandfather was station master and lived with his family in the Station House for 20 years.

The six mile walk started gently on a wooded lane past the Bank Hall Lodge and Farm, before rising steeply to Castle Naze and its ancient Fort, there to have a coffee stop. The next three miles we followed the narrow path along the winding western edge of Combs Moss, with varying wide-ranging views to our right, and the heathery, sometimes boggy grouse moor over the wall to our left. Occasionally we had to tread carefully, mindful of the hillside falling away, and later when two stream valleys made the path tricky but mostly after the dry weather the path was quite comfortable. We disturbed 14 grouse, and an errant sheep and lamb – the main flock was way below, being herded by the farmer!

Two shooting cabins were a natural place to lunch, augmented by some collected wimberries/bilberries, before we ascended slightly to the high point overlooking Long Hill, where a steep descent needed caution (see photo).



Then we went down a natural line of footpaths past Combshead and Allstone Lea Farms, until at Rye Flatt the lane took us to Combs. The sunshine had been mellowed by a light breeze for much of the way, but later it had become hotter, and the Beehive at Combs was very welcome for refreshing drinks. Then it was on to the Hanging Gate and return buses, after a super walk with no other walkers in sight the whole day.

Walter Mason

Tuesday 7th July 2018 Whaley Bridge, Kettleshulme and Goyt Valley Area

David Burke stood in for Alison and Brian Allerton and led a group of eight on a seven-mile walk. The walk started from the lay-by on the A5005 near Horwich End. We crossed the river Goyt and followed the path passing Taxal Church, where two donkeys were making a very good job of cutting the grass in the churchyard!

It was then a steady, hot, picturesque climb westward. Coffee was taken at the top of the climb before we proceeded towards Windgather Rocks and then on to Dunge Valley Gardens, which are now closed, we used the public footpath along the valley and made a strenuous climb up to Pym's Chair, where we all had a welcome rest and lunch was taken (see photo).



From here it was downhill all the way into the Goyt valley towards Errwood Reservoir, before following the high-level path parallel to Fernilee Reservoir which eventually led us to the river Goyt and a path back to our starting point. Four of our group adjourned to the Shady Oak for an impromptu "wetting of the baby's head celebration" instigated by the newly acquired grandfather status of our U3A Treasurer!

David Burke

Wednesday 29th August 2018

Dovedale, Derbyshire led by David Burke

Nineteen people attended this walk and twelve walking group members wished they were there and sent apologies!



The walk started from The Peveril of the Peak Hotel at Thorpe. Our route through the hotel grounds soon had us at the foot of Thorpe Cloud, an impressive pyramid profile when approached from the East. Some of the group were so drawn by the challenge and made for the summit (see photo), whilst others headed for Dovedale stepping stones via Lin Dale, where the group was reunited. We all proceeded upstream to Lovers Leap and the Twelve Apostles (impressive limestone columns on the other side of the river) for a welcome coffee stop.

We then made our way downstream, passing the busy car park area, following a lovely quiet path by the river which eventually led to our lunch stop on an old stone bridge (see photo).

We then left the river area, climbing a steady incline which led to Thorpe village and its picturesque 14th century church. Further ancient wooded paths and a little bit of tarmac got us back to our starting point after fascinating and enjoyable five miles.



David Burke