

June 2018

Marple U3A Committee Members 2017-2018

Chair - Jacqui Airey:	chairmanmarple@gmail.com	637 5098
Secretary - Sally D:	secretarymarple@gmail.com	456 7359
Treasurer - Phil Ridgway:	treasurermarple@gmail.com	427 6007
Membership Secretary - Carol Culley:	membershipmarple@gmail.com	221 1237
Group Coordinator - Hazel Meakin	coordinatormarple@gmail.com	427 7343
IT and newsletter - David Jones:	webmastermarple@gmail.com	449 8168
Charity link - Cynthia Pitts:		465 0492
Newsletter – Olga Henner	alexahenner@gmail.com	

Beacon Admin – Graeme Mould 221 2805

Speaker Secretary – Maria Henderson & Jacky Fantom:

The new Marple U3A website is now available for browsing. I hope visitors to the site approve of the new look; I think you will agree that the pages still contain the essential information we need. In producing the home page, I invited the Digital Photography Group to provide the banner photographs. Happily, the invitation was accepted and for the photographs you see, I would like to thank Ken Orson. There will be more for you to enjoy in the coming months.

It seems that now's a good time to remind you that from time to time we need to practise the fire drill. With this in mind please see the back of this newsletter for the emergency evacuation procedure and a map indicating the exits and the assembly point. Be prepared!

You've probably had a leaflet through your letter box in which the sender (anyone who holds information about you) gives assurance that your privacy is of their utmost concern. The reason for this of course is the introduction of The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which came into effect on 25th May. This new EU law is there to regulate the way information about you is retained and used. We in Marple U3A also hold your privacy with the utmost regard and so you can be assured that we are doing our best to ensure the information we hold about you is held securely and is not used for any other purpose than U3A business.

Speaker Meeting - April: Peter White – ‘See it My Way’

There was love in the room the day the radio broadcaster, Peter White came to talk to us about his life and career with the BBC. Born totally blind in the late 1940s to parents whose first child was similarly affected by this seemingly genetic condition; what are the chances of that happening – apparently a million to one. The fact that Peter couldn't see was no bar to him or his brother from enjoying everything that childhood had to offer, including roller skating and riding bikes. Peter told the story of his life through a series of anecdotes that recalled his time at boarding school to his application to join the BBC, and all with immense humour and self-deprecation. Peter eschewed the guide dog for the white stick, informing his audience that blind people are not born with a dog strapped to their chest. The talk was concluded with the usual question and answer session. The final question being: “are you looking forward to driverless cars” – Peter's reply: “yes... but I bet you're not”. The reason why Peter was talking to us at all, and hence the love, was that Jacky Phantom, during a visit to Media City had met Peter on the tram and through assiduous coaxing, had persuaded Peter to talk to Marple U3A. A friendship formed, then love. Almost a year after meeting, Peter and Jacky married. Thanks to Peter for an amusing talk. We wish you both every happiness.

Speaker Meeting - May: David Hearn – ‘175 Years of Cunard’

On May 25th 2015, the three Queens (Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth and Queen Victoria) – ships of the Cunard Line, came together on the river Mersey to celebrate 175 years of Cunard. On 14th May 2018, David Hearn took us from Cunard's beginnings to that day in 2015.

It was Samuel Cunard who in 1840 started the whole enterprise. Crossing the Atlantic from Liverpool to Halifax, Nova Scotia. In those days the purpose of the crossing was not for pleasure but as a means of transporting mail from Europe to America. All the ships bearing the prefix RMS – Royal Mail Ship.

When Cunard was awarded the contract by Admiral Parry ship mail to America he didn't even have a ship. Not to worry, the contract was so valuable that Cunard soon acquired ships. Not only ships, Cunard also secured the services of The Maciver brothers who managed the business from offices in Liverpool.

War came and with it the requisition of all merchant ships. War is a dreadful business but not for fleet owners who made a healthy profit from the compensation paid by the government. From the Crimea to the First and Second World Wars Cunard continued, but not without tragedy. In 1915 RMS Lusitania was torpedoed and sunk by a German U-boat. During the Second World War both Lancastria and Laconia were sunk with great loss of life.

Throughout its history Cunard managed to overcome its competition, first from the American Collins Line and then by accepting from the government, ownership of the White Star Line. So, despite losses in profit during the 1990s Cunard is still afloat.

Thank you to David Hearn for a very interesting talk.

Our Members' Charity - 2018/2019:

The Christie
Charitable Fund



Teenage and Young Adult Unit

General Meeting Speaker

Date	Speaker	Title
11 June 18	Penny Dean	A Penny's Worth
9 July 18	Philip Caine	Barrow to Baghdad & Back
13 Aug 18	Robert Wood	Crystal Power (Fact or Fiction)
10 Sept 18	Claire Moores	"Physick, Pothecary or Chirurgeon?" Uncovering Cheshire's Medical Men and their work
8 Oct 18	Peter Turner	Through the Eyes of a Magician
12 Nov 18	David Templeman	Lady Arabella Stuart – The Queen That Never Was
10 Dec 18	David Morris	The Potential of the Human Whistle

New Groups

We are always looking for members to start new groups, as this is a large part of what the U3A is all about. If you are interested in setting up a group – maybe you have a new idea- please contact **Hazel Meakin**, our Group Coordinator.

News from our interest groups.

Following the sad news of the death of Jackie Bassett who led the Gardening 4 group It is likely that the group will continue but they will need some time to sort out another leader, so for this group new contact details to be confirmed.

Intermediate French, Groups 1 and 2

These are now taking place only once a month. Please see the group timetable, if you are interested in joining.

Please note, you do not have to have been a U3A member for years before running a group; new members have often started new groups.

If you are worried about committing yourself on a long-term basis, would you consider running an interest group for ten weeks only? Some hobbies lend themselves to this idea; cake decorating or flower arranging are prime examples. One or two members have expressed an interest in Italian *language*. A course in any of these skills would certainly suit some of our members! Could anyone teach the ukulele?

Discussion

A friendly group where you can put, listen to, points of view on topics chosen by the group: ranging from current affairs, arts, media to any questions you want to explore or have your say on.

Summer Bowling

The 2018 season started on 4th April at the Marple Memorial Park and new bowlers will be very welcome (there is no limit to numbers taking part).

Bowling is subject to members having a SMBC green pass, available from the group coordinator. The cost is less than £1 per week for the summer bowling season but is useable throughout Stockport for the whole year.



Interested new bowlers should contact the group coordinator – Brian Bircher. Tel: 0161 427 5472.

Closure of the U3A Matinee Club

Unfortunately, the U3A Matinee Club is disbanding because the layers of administration, imposed by various regulatory bodies, cause difficulties and make it impossible for the volunteers to continue.

We have not taken this decision lightly. We apologise to our regular theatre goers and thank them for their support.

It has been a pleasure to organise so many enjoyable trips.

Short Walks for Busy People

Since the last newsletter the group have taken walks in Etherow Country Park and along the canal to Roman Lakes. Nineteen people joined the Etherow walk which has been the largest group so far. So, come rain or shine take a short walk and be part of a growing number of people who enjoy Marple and its beautiful surroundings.



WALKING GROUP

June 2018/July 2018 Walks

Wed June 6 th	Rainow/Teggs Nose	5m	Moderate	Jean Mitchell
Tues June 12 th	Glossop	5-6m	Moderate	Irene Riley
Wed June 20 th	Buxton	5m	Moderate	Sheila Stafford
Tues June 26 th	Styal Woods	5m	Easy+	Val and Roy Bradshaw
Wed July 4 th	Tittesworth Reservoir (D)	5m	Moderate	Judith Lynch
Tues July 10 th	Whitehough/Eccles Pike	4m	Moderate	Judy Rhodes
Wed July 18 th	Park Bridge/Daisy Nook	5m	Moderate	John Bloor
Tues July 24 th	Bollington	5.5m	Moderate	Sue Ward

Walk Grading

Very Easy: More or less flat, good surface, few stiles

Moderate: Typical of local terrain

Easy: Small sections of hill, not too rough, limited stiles

Moderate +: More climbing and/or more stiles

All walks meet IN Brabyns Park for prompt departure at 9.45 am. Car passengers are asked to contribute 10p per mile to petrol cost.

Walking safety: Footwear (walking boots), clothing and equipment needs to be suitable for the conditions likely to be encountered. This area is famous for changeable weather so come prepared for all eventualities. Bring your mobile phone and inform the leader of your phone number and that of an emergency contact. Provide your own first aid kit.

Refreshments: Bring more than adequate food and drink for the length of walk and weather conditions. Remember delays sometimes occur.

(D) Indicates that the walk is some distance away and will therefore take longer. All walks are subject to change.

Please stay with the group unless you have arranged with the leader to do otherwise.

Walking group co-ordinators are Jean Mitchell (0161 221 2304) and Judith Lynch (0161 449 7507).

Marple & District U3A Trips Group

Thursday June 21st Llandudno.

Thursday July 19th, Trentham Gardens. Stoke-on-Trent.

Thursday September 6th, Blists Hill Victorian Town, Shropshire.

Monday October 1st, Dewlay Cheesemakers, Garstang & Barton Grange.

November Tba

Monday December 3rd, Arley Hall and Knutsford.

Outing details will, when confirmed be available on our Web site www.marpleu3a.org.uk and at our General Meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month and in future Newsletters.

Contacts: Jane Rainford 427 3059, Val Clapp 427 4252, Mavis Alsop 427 3818.

Cheques payable to "Marple U3A Social Account"

Trip to Piece Hall, Halifax

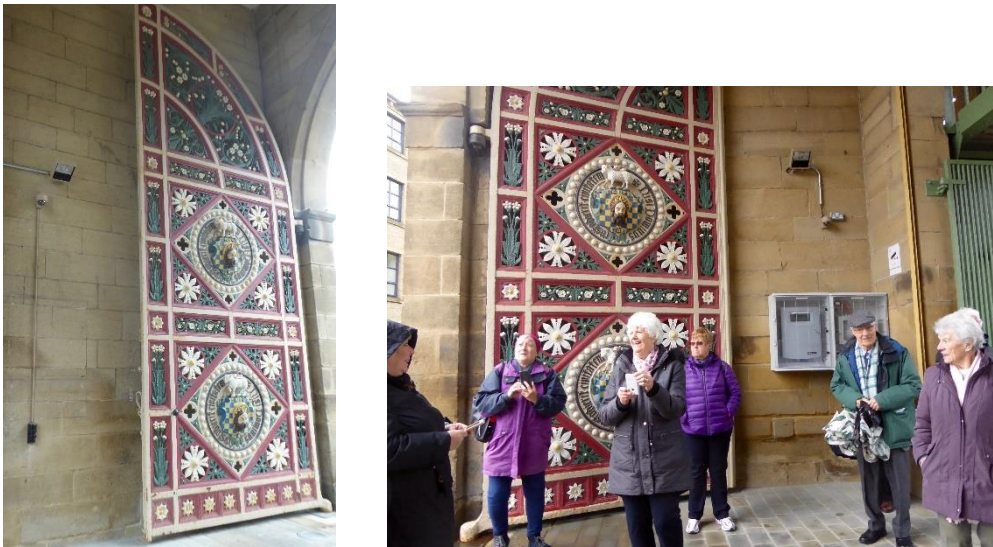
Friday 27th April a number of members went to Piece Hall Halifax.

The first thing we learnt; it was not a Hall but four buildings around an open central court yard. Originally these had been built for the local cottage workers to bring their woolen cloth pieces to sell. It dated from 1779 and consisted of over 300 rooms but the Industrial Revolution saw its decline as everyone was expected to go into the mills to purchase the goods.

It was converted into a wholesale market. Other uses for the square were tried however these all failed and demolition was considered, eventually Halifax Corporation received a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and The Georgian hall was restored to create a high quality public space to be used for commercial purposes including cafes and restaurants along with artisan shops. When Halifax Corporation took it over they erected two beautiful gates, which also provided shelter.



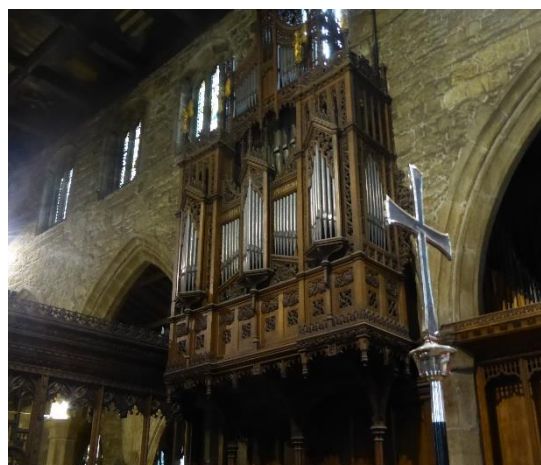
Some photos of the Piece Hall visit



Unfortunately, the weather was poor however the rain did make the flags look nice with the reflections.



Some then paid a visit to Halifax Minster (not to just shelter). It is the Church of St. John the Baptist built by Monks in the 12th Century. The present building dates from 1438. It was worth the visit with its interesting history and many windows and organ rebuilt in 1928.



Bridgewater Hall – Lunchtime Concerts

Thursday June 21st 1.10-1.50. Free concert. (Collection for the homeless.)

Manchester Cathedral. Students from Chetham's School of Music.

Meet there or catch 10.45 train from Rose Hill and have lunch jn Manchester.

Monday July 2nd. 1.10-2 Bridgewater Hall. £8

Jonathan Scott, organ. Includes Bach and Widor's Toccata

Meet there or 10.45 train from Rose Hill and have lunch jn Manchester.

Contact **Sandy Maclean** 0161 483 3743

Dining Group

The Dining Group is open to any member and usually meets at a local restaurant for a luncheon once a month and an evening meal the following month. Restaurants chosen can be hotels, pub restaurants or training establishments at local universities or colleges. Recommendations for venues are always welcomed. Enquiries to Beryl Kent, 0161 427 5591

The next luncheon will be Wednesday 20th June 2018 – 12 noon for 12.30pm. The Oddfellows Arms, 73 Moor End Road, Mellor, Stockport SK6 5PT. Cost: £20 for 3 courses, tea or coffee plus tip.

North West Events

Summer School – August 2018

Residential Summer School 28th August – 31st August 2018 at Newton Rigg College, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 0AH

For further information please visit the web site of U3A North West and select Events.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/north-west>

National Summer Schools

This year, two national summer schools will take place: Harper Adams on 23 to 26 July and at the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester on 11 to 14 September.

Bookings will open for the schools in mid-February.

Regional schools and study days

There are several summer schools and study events taking place across the regions this year these include:

The North West summer school runs from 28 to 31 August at Newton Rigg Agricultural College, near Penrith. Details available on the North West Region website.

The Science Network summer school will take place at Nottingham University Jubilee Campus on 6 to 9 August.

Almoner

Please do remember that **Beryl Kent**, is our U3A Almoner. So, if you know of any member who is ill, has been bereaved, or if you think Beryl could help in any way, please let her know and she will contact them, send a card, a plant or flowers, as appropriate, funded by your kind, voluntary donation from those of you who chose to contribute when you renewed your membership. It is important that members know we care about them and miss them, but Beryl does need your help by keeping her informed.

Telephone number: **427 5591**.

Marple and District U3A Group Activities

Monday

Bridge Beginners	2.00-4.00pm Every Monday	Eric Magee	221 2091
Bridge Intermediate	1.30-4.00pm Every Monday	Dorothy Grace	427 7974
Canasta	2.00-4.00pm 2 nd & 4 th Monday	Linda Turton	427 0016
Classical Music	2.00-4.00pm Last Monday	Mike Connolly	430 5576
Geology	10.00-Noon 3 rd Monday	Mary Howie	427 2965
Photography	2.00-4.00pm 3 rd Monday	Ken Orson	07880 851833
Play Reading 2	2.00-4.00pm 1 st Monday	Felicity Hancox	449 8859
Intermediate French	10.00-12.00 3 rd Monday	Pam Wakefield	427 5794
French Conversation and Discussion	10.00-12.00 1 st Monday	Jacqui Airey	637 5098
Tai Chi	2.00-3.00pm Every Monday	Joyce Garside	430 6503

Tuesday

Creative Writing	10.00-12.00 1 st Tuesday	Jacky Fantom	355 0965
Ballet Appreciation	1.45-4.00pm 3 rd or 4 th Tues	Wendy Carleton	456 1948
Gardening 1	10.00-Noon 1 st Tuesday	Donald Farthing	427 3250
Gardening 2	2.00-4.00pm 1 st Tuesday	Brian Marshall	427 4522
Play Reading	2.00-4.00pm 3 rd Tuesday	Pauline Henshaw	494 7780
Poetry and Discussion	10.00-12.00 4 th Tuesday	Ruth Wilbey	449 0534
French Intermediate 2	1.00-2.30pm 4 th Tuesday	Pam Wakefield	427 5794
Scrabble	2.00-4.00pm 2 nd Tuesday	Jean Day	427 4149
Guitar	10.00-12.00 Every Tuesday	Malcolm Melia	494 1619

Wednesday

Summer Bowling	10.00-Noon	Every Weds from April	Brian Bircher	427 5472
Folk Appreciation	2.00-4.00pm	4 th Wednesday	Peter Royle	285 0651
German	2.30-4.00pm	1 st Wednesday	Janet Burridge	427 2380
Jazz Appreciation	2.00-4.00pm	2 nd Wednesday	Brian Strickland	427 3943
Open Garden Group	9.45-12.00	2 nd Wednesday	Margaret Hogg	449 8571
Poetry	2.00-4.00pm	2 nd Wednesday	Chris Farnsworth	427 6080
Table Tennis	1.15-3.15pm	Every Wednesday	David Wilkinson	427 6487
Ballet Appreciation 2	1.45-4.00pm	3 rd Wednesday	Wendy Carleton	456 1948
Practical Gardening 4	2.00-4.00pm	4 th Wednesday	TBC	

Thursday

English Literature	2.00-4.00pm	Thurs after GM	Joan Charman	427 2609
Embroidery	2.00-4.00pm	Alt Thursdays	Dorothy Jones	449 8168
Reading Group	10.30-noon	2 nd Thursday	Rhona Hunt	449 7470
Short Walks for Busy People	10.15	4 th /5 th Thursday	Pam Wakefield	427 5794

Friday

Art	9.45-12.45	Alt Fridays	Kath Fraser Maureen Paton	427 7658 427 5430
Ballroom Dancing	2.00-4.00pm	Alt Fridays	Ann Reynolds	427 3209
Modern Sequence Dance	2.00-4.00pm	Alt. Fridays	Kate Hellar	449 8830
Gardening 3	10.00-Noon	4 th Friday	Christine Birchall	430 2943
Geology	10.00-Noon	3 rd Friday	Mary Howie	427 2965
History of Culture	10.00-Noon	3 rd Friday	David Matthews	427 0372
Rummikubs	2.00-4.00pm	Friday after GM	Mavis Alsop Beryl Kent	427 3818 427 5591
Singing	10.00-Noon	Every Friday	T and M Glynn	01663 762386
Discussion	10.00-Noon	1 st Friday of the Month	A Tognarelli V Noble	317 8313

Other

Day Trips	Various	Mavis Alsop	427 3818
Dining Out	Various	Beryl Kent Jeanette Webb	427 5591 427 2433
Music Concerts	Various	Sandy Maclean	483 3743

Please send items for inclusion in the next Newsletter to David Jones:

webmastermarple@gmail.com

As usual, many thanks to Mavis Alsop for producing the printed newsletter.

Emergency Evacuation Procedure

In case we have to leave the hall in an emergency, people situated from the middle to the front of the hall should leave from the fire exit at the front of the hall, just right of the stage. Everyone else should exit through the front, main entrance.



Once outside, you should walk across the grass and assemble at the footpath – see the map above.

Volunteers will be holding plaques displaying letters of the alphabet. Please line up behind the volunteer holding the plaque that contains the initial letter of your surname.