

February 2019

Marple U3A Committee Members 2017-2018

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|---|-----------------------------|----------|
| 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 | | |
| Vice-Chair & Beacon Admin – Graeme Mould | | 221 2805 |
| Speaker Secretary – Maria Henderson & Jacky Fantom: | | |

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2019. If you are reading this you will know that we have, for this issue at least, published it as an online only issue. I was at the general meeting on 14th January and judging by the gasps of disbelief when it was announced, I'm guessing it will be a short-lived experiment. Still, we try.

Thank you for your contributions to the book sale, a popular part of our monthly general meeting and a regular provider of income to our charity. However, we ask that you only donate paperback books as this is the format most people like (and buy) and the storage of unsold hardback books is problematic in both storage capacity and in the handling of the possibly weighty tomes.

A few weeks ago, in this newsletter, I asked on behalf of Mavis Lewis and her team, if rather than pay your entrance fee in loose change, you would pay with either (and preferably) with a £1 coin or failing that a note. Counting change is time consuming and potentially subject to error. Therefore, please do your best to pay with the preferred payment method.

Our Christmas Food Bank collection has now become an annual event and this year the response was absolutely brilliant. We needed two cars to transport the donations to Hazel Grove Food Bank and the organizers there were overwhelmed by the generosity of Marple U3A members. The project manager Nigel Tedford responded within hours and below is a copy of his letter. Thank you so much again to all who donated.

On 10 Dec 2018, at 12:26, Nigel Tedford <nigel@stockportfoodbank.org.uk> wrote:

Dear Members

Thank you all so much for the donation of food items that were received from you on Monday morning – your help at this particular time of the year is most welcomed when demand for the Foodbank is at a seasonal high.

In the last 12 months we haven't seen any decline in the use of the Foodbank and so after Christmas we'll have to re-double our efforts gain to make sure that we are helping as many in our community as possible – your donations will make that possible.

With our sincere thanks to all who donated to this collection

Nigel Tedford

Nigel Tedford
Project Manager
Stockport Foodbank
07483 115349 / 0161 487 3370

On November 28th 15 U3A members attended a first aid course kindly provided by Paul Lewis of Peak Mountaineering. The four-hour course covered resuscitation, choking, bleeding and the use of defibrillators. Apart from being extremely informative it was good fun and our thanks go to Paul for his time and expertise.





There will not be a speaker at the next monthly meeting as 11th March is the date of our AGM. Please see the notice and agenda at the end of this newsletter.

Speaker Meeting - December: David Morris – The Potential of the Human Whistle

When I was a boy our favourite whistler was Percy Edwards (1908-1996). Percy was popular on radio and television and used his talented embouchure to impersonate birdsong. David Morris on the other hand is a whistler of an entirely different kind.

As a cornet player in the Dobcross Brass Band, David would assiduously practise his cornet pieces, even when he was without his cornet. He did this of course by whistling the tunes. He became so adept at whistling that the cornet gave way to the whistle.

So proficient was he that he travelled to the USA where he trilled his way to winning the world whistling championship.

Now confirmed as world champion whistler and his status legitimised, high profile work followed in the form of radio appearances, and providing the whistled tune to one often broadcast TV advert.

As a whistler though, David would always be heard and not seen.

David Morris entertained us with jokes, anecdotes and of course a programme of music, all whistled live.

Speaker Meeting - January: Neil Sheldon – Alan Turing: The Man and His Legacy

Several years ago, when Neil Sheldon first gave this talk, he would start by saying ‘I’m going to talk to you about someone you’ve probably never heard of’, and the talk lasted about ten minutes. He was referring to Alan Turing the World War II code breaker, mathematician, computer scientist, and philosopher. Forward to the present day and almost everyone has heard of Alan Turing. Neil took us through Turing’s life from schoolboy at Sherborne School then on to Cambridge. His secret wartime work at Bletchley Park, where, working as a cryptanalyst he was credited with shortening the war by two years. Following the war and his research at Princeton, New Jersey, where he met Alonzo Church and developed the Church-Turing Thesis. Returning to the UK and his untimely death by suicide following a conviction for ‘gross indecency’ – he was homosexual. Turing has been depicted on television and cinema, played by Derek Jacobi and Benedict Cumberbatch, respectively. With his contribution to electronic computation It’s probably fair to say that Alan Turing was the man who launched the computer age. First with his Turing Machine and then the first foray into artificial intelligence with the Turing Test. Now Alan Turing is held as an icon and considered the father of AI. Thanks to Neil Sheldon for his telling of the fascinating story of a true genius.

Our Members’ Charity - 2018/2019:



General Meeting Speaker

| Date | Speaker | Title |
|------------|----------------------|--|
| 11 Feb 19 | Steve & Carol Robson | Bang up to the Elephant (Victorian Theme: Songs, Images & Tales) |
| 11 Mar 19 | AGM | |
| 8 April 19 | Peter Braun | Monarchy and Dunham, The Grey area |
| 13 May 19 | John Taylor | Medical Herbalism |
| 10 June 19 | Kathy Lewis | High ‘C’ on the High Seas |
| 8 July 19 | Maureen Sawyer | Perfect Pots |
| 12 Aug 19 | Janice O’Neill | Volunteering in Guyana and Ghana |
| 9 Sept 19 | David Seddon | Romanticism |
| 14 Oct 19 | Angie Clark | Gertrude Powicke |
| 11 Nov 19 | Lucy Simister | Charles Babbage |
| 9 Dec 19 | TBC | |

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.

New yoga class starting on 11/01/19 at Hawk Green reading rooms and alternate Fridays after. Class starts at 10.00 prompt please be there 9.45 to set up mats, pay etc. I will be there at 9.30. If you have a yoga mat please bring it but I will have a few spares. Payment depends on how many people attend to cover the room costs of £17.

I trained with the British Wheel of Yoga, which is the governing body for yoga in the UK and teach Hatha Yoga. The first class may be quite gentle but please let me know of any health problems that might affect you. If you have any queries please ring me on 01613550965

I look forward to seeing you then.

Jacky Fantom

News from our interest groups.

The 'New' play reading group, which was held on the first Monday afternoon of each month had its final session on 7th January 2019. Felicity Hancox has decided to step down from running this group, after five and a half years.

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. 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

Summer bowling will commence on Wednesday April 3rd (at 10am).

All U3A members are welcome to participate and we shall be holding taster sessions on the 3rd and 10th April.

Those intending to bowl thereafter for the season are expected to purchase bowling green passes at a special price of £24.45 from the bowling secretary (which allow the holder to bowl on any SMBC bowling green for 1 year - less than 50p per week!).

Any persons wishing to bowl this summer or seeking more information should contact the bowling secretary, Brian Bircher on 0161 427 5472.

WALKING GROUP

February 2019/March 2019 Walks

| Date | Location | Distance | Grading | Leader |
|---------------|--------------|----------|----------|------------------|
| February 5th | Lyme Park | 5.5m | Easy | Sue Ward |
| February 13th | Reddish Vale | 5m | Easy | Judith Lynch |
| February 20th | Chadkirk | 5m | Easy | Val Bradshaw |
| February 26th | TBA | | | Maxine |
| March 6th | Mill Brow | 4m | Moderate | Judy Rhodes |
| March 12th | Lantern Pike | 5m | Moderate | Roy Bradshaw |
| March 20th | High Lane | 5m | Easy | Sheila Stafford |
| March 26th | TBA | | | Gillian Cheesman |

Walk Grading

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 +: More climbing and/or more stiles

All walks meet IN Brabyns Park for prompt departure at 10am. 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.

All are welcome. Suitable walking clothing is essential, as is food for lunch. Full details on the Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A Web Site.

Marple & District U3A Trips Group

Outing details will, when confirmed be available on our Web site www.marpleu3a.org.uk 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"

Proposed Trips & Provisional Dates for 2019

| | |
|----------|---|
| February | Guided tour of Bridgewater Hall, Manchester. |
| March | Guided Tour of Gorton Monastery and Light Lunch. |
| May | Port Sunlight. |
| June | British Ironwork Centre, Museum & Sculpture Park. |

Arley Hall & Knutsford Monday December 3rd 2018

Members of the Trips Group enjoyed a visit to Arley Hall and Knutsford. Thanks to Colin Hughes for these lovely photographs.



Bridgewater Hall – Mid-day Concerts

All concerts begin at 1.10 and last about 1 hour.

You may join us there or take the train and have lunch in 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 one 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

Regional News

The North West Region of U3As is pleased to announce that the 2019 Summer School will be held at Newton Rigg College, Penrith from Tuesday 27th August 2019 to Friday 30th August 2019.

Find full details [here](#)

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 have 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 | Audrey Grimsey | 427 4309 |
| Canasta | 2.00-4.00pm 2nd & 4th Monday | Linda Turton | 427 0016 |
| Classical Music | 2.00-4.00pm Last Monday | Mike Connolly | 430 5576 |
| Geology | 10.00-Noon 3rd Monday | Mary Howie | 427 2965 |
| Photography | 2.00-4.00pm 3rd Monday | Ken Orson | 07880 851833 |
| Intermediate French | 10.00-12.00 3rd Monday | Pam Wakefield | 427 5794 |
| French Conversation and Discussion | 10.00-12.00 1st Monday | Jacqui Airey | 637 5098 |
| Tai Chi | 2.00-3.00pm Every Monday | Joyce Garside | 430 6503 |

Tuesday

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Creative Writing | 10.00-12.00 1st Tuesday | Jacky Fantom | 355 0965 |
| Gardening 1 | 10.00-Noon 1st Tuesday | Donald Farthing | 427 3250 |
| Gardening 2 | 2.00-4.00pm 1st Tuesday | Brian Marshall | 427 4522 |
| Play Reading | 2.00-4.00pm 3rd Tuesday | Pauline Henshaw | 494 7780 |
| French Intermediate 2 | 1.00-2.30pm 4th Tuesday | Pam Wakefield | 427 5794 |
| Scrabble | 2.00-4.00pm 2nd Tuesday | Jean Day | 427 4149 |
| Guitar | 10.00-12.00 Every Tuesday | Malcolm Melia | 494 1619 |

Wednesday

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|------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------|
| Summer Bowling | 10.00-Noon | Every Weds from April | Brian Bircher | 427 5472 |
| Poetry and Discussion | 10.00-12.00 | 4th Tuesday | Ruth Wilbey | 449 0534 |
| Folk Appreciation | 2.00-4.00pm | 4th Wednesday | Peter Royle | 285 0651 |
| German | 2.30-4.00pm | 1st Wednesday | Janet Burridge | 427 2380 |
| Jazz Appreciation | 2.00-4.00pm | 2nd Wednesday | Brian Strickland | 427 3943 |
| Open Garden Group | 9.45-12.00 | 2nd Wednesday | Margaret Hogg | 449 8571 |
| Poetry | 2.00-4.00pm | 2nd Wednesday | Chris Farnsworth | 427 6080 |
| Table Tennis | 1.15-3.15pm | Every Wednesday | David Wilkinson | 427 6487 |
| Practical Gardening 4 | 2.00 -4.00pm | 4th 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 | 2.00-4.00pm | 2nd 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 | 4th Friday | Christine Birchall | 430 2943 |
| Geology | 10.00-Noon | 3rd Friday | Mary Howie | 427 2965 |
| History of Culture | 10.00-Noon | 3rd 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 |
| Yoga | 9.45-11am | Alt Fridays | Jacky Fantom | 355 0965 |
| 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.



Marple

MARPLE & DISTRICT U3A 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MONDAY 11th MARCH 2019

Dear Members

The constitution (paragraph 14ii) requires that we give at least 21 days' notice of the Annual General Meeting, which will be held on Monday 11th March 2019 in Marple Senior Citizens' Hall at 10:15.

A further requirement is that this notice *'shall set out the business of the meeting, including resolutions to be proposed, and shall provide information about proposals of the election of Officers and non-Officer members of the Executive Committee to be made at that meeting. All members of The U3A shall be entitled to attend and vote at the meeting. However, they must be paid members for 2019/20.'*

- There are no proposed amendments to the constitution & no other resolutions (14v)
- The Trustees' Reports will be presented along with the Annual Accounts for 2018/19 (14iii)
- Approval will be sought from the membership for the appointment of an independent examiner for the 2019/20 accounts (14iv)

In line with the constitution (paragraph 7v), all the current Trustees/Members of the Executive Committee will retire at the AGM.

Paragraph 7vii states: *'Prior written nomination of any candidate for appointment as a member of the Executive Committee at an Annual General Meeting shall normally be required, made by a proposer and seconder from amongst the membership of the U3A (not being themselves Officers or non-Officer members of the Executive Committee), to be in the hands of the Secretary of the U3A at least 28 days before the meeting. Should nominations exceed vacancies, the decision about appointments shall be taken by ballot. Otherwise, nominations of candidates and the conduct of voting for appointments shall be dealt with in accordance with the Standing Orders of the U3A or as determined by the Executive Committee.'*

Final details of nominations will be available on the website from 18th February, or from any member of the current Executive Committee.



Marple

**MARPLE AND DISTRICT U3A
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
10:15 Monday 11th March 2019.**

AGENDA

Before the AGM: -

Refreshments from 09:45

A representative from Signpost Stockport for Carers will receive the balance of the members' donation.

AGM

1. Chairman's welcome and opening remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of AGM 12th March 2018
4. Chairperson's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Approval of Independent Accounts Examiner
7. Election of new Executive Committee
8. Introduction of Committee
9. Close AGM

After the AGM: -

Vote for 2019/20 Members' Charity

Close of Meeting