

Newsletter – November 2024



Remembrance Day. – Sunday 10th November 2024

***“They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.”***

Our Chairman, Diane, will be laying a wreath at the Mellor Cenotaph representing our u3a at the service there at 12–15pm.
All are welcome to attend.

***Christmas Greetings
to all our members***



Notices & News Items

HALF PRICE OFFER –MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2025

Your membership renewal for 2025 is due by 31st December. The committee have agreed to keep the annual membership fee at £12, but you can reduce this to £6 if you introduce a new member to our u3a in November or December.

Renewals, and payments for new members, can be made at the Membership desk at the general meeting on 21st November. Payment by cheque to ‘MB&M u3a’ or cash.

Payment can be made by post (cheque only) to MB&Mu3a membership secretary, 18 Churchill Crescent, Marple, SK6 6HJ. Remember to enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you want your new card posted to you.

The half price offer is for November and December only and the new member and the renewing member must pay at the same time.

Colin Burkitt Membership Secretary

PLAY READING GROUP

You DO NOT have to be an actor to join and enjoy this group although it was started by 2 local thespians. This group meets in our homes on the second Monday of the month at 10am. We start with refreshments and then we have a clear ‘run’ at the play. We take parts so we need to concentrate in order to know when to come in! The skills developed are concentration and reading aloud. WE don’t overlap in skills with the Book clubs. It’s quite good fun and/but we say some words that WE don’t use in OUR everyday conversation. Plays frequently exceed the normal 2 hour meeting time. We do also read one act plays which gives more time for discussion. If interested in joining us contact your group co-ordinator who will put me in contact with you.

For reasons completely out of our control we are very short of members and would gladly welcome new ‘readers. If we cannot attract new members we may have to disband the group; so come on folks and enjoy a new experience.

Carole McConnell Group Leader

Contact Sue Norcross at groupcoordinator@mbmu3a.org.uk

Current Affairs Group ?

We are always open to ideas for new groups and Alan Watt has a suggestion for a group that would broaden our horizons, stimulate our brains and get us thinking. He writesI ask if there is any interest in being part of a small group of members studying whatever topics the group fancies in whatever detail it decides. I envisage subjects such as relate to current affairs, energy, climate change, history, noteworthy people etc.



I am prepared to host such a group at my house in Townscliffe Lane, although the lane is not easy to access without a car.

We are the University for our age group so studying and learning is a main part of our remit.

Alan Watt (kittyandalan3@gmail.com)

If you are interested in joining such a group, either contact Alan direct or through myself,
Sue Norcross at groupcoordinator@mbmu3a.org.uk

Marple Bridge & Mellor u3a Meetings Speakers - 2024/5

Nov 21st	John Wallace	A history of the Regal Ballroom Alderley Edge with musical excerpts
Dec 12th	Christmas Meal	Daisy Daquiri will perform well known Christmas music of the 30's, 40s and 50's. There will be lots of singalong numbers for us all to enjoy
Jan 18th	Craig Wright.	Edith Nesbitt and the Railway Children and the filming at Strines.

Chairman's Chit Chat...

Ho! Ho! Ho!

Christmas is fast approaching and we are probably looking forward to celebrating with our loved ones and friends who we may not have seen on a regular basis since last year. It's also a time to spare a thought for those less fortunate than ourselves and those we have sadly lost. For those of you who bake your own Xmas cakes, puddings and mince pies it will be a busy time. The rest of us (meaning me) will just go and buy what we need to make life easier. It doesn't make it any less festive.



On a more cheerful note, we are having our Christmas Lunch on Thursday, 12th December – doors open at 10.30am for refreshments and the opportunity to catch up with friends for a bit a gossip!! There will be the usual raffle and quiz (which is always very popular) and entertainment. The Hot Pot provided by Reflections. Tickets available at the November meeting. Alternatively please contact Pat Walker patnewby19@btinternet.com

In the meantime I take this opportunity of thanking you all for your continued support and to wish you all a Very Happy and Healthy Christmas and prosperous New Year. My special thanks to the committee members who work tirelessly all year round and will again be acting as your waiters at the lunch.

With very best wishes

Diane Holker – Chair

NB: Entrance for the Xmas Lunch is by TICKET ONLY. None will be sold on the day.

A note from the Speaker Organiser

When Diane, our Chair, approached me last year to take on the role of Speaker Organiser on a temporary basis, I did not imagine that I would still be doing so, nearly a full year on. As yet, rather disappointingly, no-one has come forward to take on the role, so I am still involved.

I wanted to say a special thank you to all those members who have contacted me by email or directly at meetings to pass on recommendations about speakers they've heard at other venues. I always follow up on ideas that are passed to me and even if I can't use the information straightaway I add it to the list for future reference. Most of the speakers who have visited us this year have come directly from your recommendations. Any future ideas are very welcome.

I have tried hard to vary the subject matter of our recent talks and hope that there has been something to interest everyone at some point in the year. Our finances have to be taken into account, as some speakers, particularly those who come highly recommended can charge quite high prices.



In September, Graham Eagland, a volunteer at Lyme Park, came to speak about his experience of volunteering there and all the things that are involved in becoming a volunteer at the property. His talk, which was very wide ranging and detailed was illustrated with slides and lots of anecdotes.

In October, we were told all about the art of flamenco dancing by Sarah Chambers who teaches flamenco at Espiritu Flamenco in Stockport.

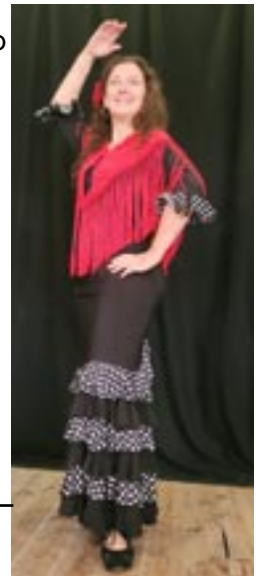
Her explanations of the technique and the regional differences that influence it, were very thorough and she did a performance of the various styles.

The audience all tried the clapping technique which is used to accompany the dance.

Our next talk will be about the Regal Ballroom in Alderley Edge, which was the place to go in the 50s and 60s, Some people apparently met their future partners there!

I already have a pretty full programme organised for next year, so I look forward to seeing you at meetings and hearing your comments.

Clare Gwilym



Outings Group

Good day to you all. I hope you are keeping well. Just to remind you that we need a volunteer to be our "Outings Coordinator/ Leader from next year.

Jenny Summers has kindly organised three outings next year.

1. A trip to Royal Exchange Theatre show " Spend spend spend" on 11th January.
2. The Romiley Operatic Society presents "EVITA" at the Plaza cinema on Saturday 29th March.
3. A trip to "Grosvenor's Eaton Estate charity garden open day on Sunday 15th June.

I am organising an overseas trip to Italy.

It is an 8 days tour of Puglia, Lecce & Vieste flying from Manchester airport on 3th of May 2025 costing £1549 pp.

So we only need someone to organise two or three outings for the rest of the year. Hope you can step forward to help us.

Outings Group trip to Glasgow

The autumn adventure this year was to Glasgow, Scotland's largest city which is most famous for its rich culture, its beautiful Victorian and art nouveau architecture, its steep streets, green parks and wide open spaces.



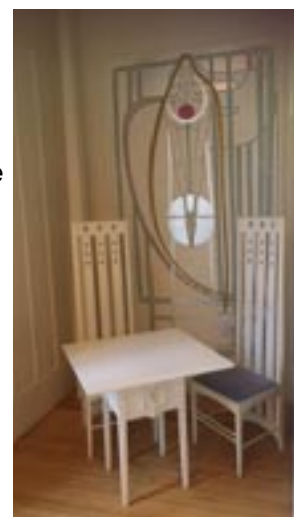
Our guided four day holiday was to discover more of one of the city's famous sons, Charles Rennie Mackintosh, designer and architect, plus the award winning Burrell Collection museum in Pollock park. There was also a 'day of leisure' to rest and/or choose another venue. Most of us chose the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum with an excellent guided tour highlighting the most important artefacts they have on display from the 22 themed galleries, including Salvador Dalí's famously controversial Christ of St John of the Cross painting.

Mackintosh's very distinctive and meticulous Art Nouveau style of designs in architecture are famed throughout the world now but at the turn of 20th century he was more popular in Europe than in his native city. However he did have his wealthy Glaswegian sponsors and luckily for us there is much to admire still in his preserved buildings.

His wife, Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh, was a gifted and talented artist in her own right and was responsible for most of the decorative all panels, decor and symbolic paintings in his buildings. He lovingly acknowledged their collaboration saying "I have the talent but Margaret has the genius".

It is true then – behind every great man there's a great woman!

Many thanks to Hazel for organising an excellent trip through Roy McCarthy Coaches.



Jenny Summers

Crossword Compiled by Marple Bridge and Mellor u3a Crossword Group

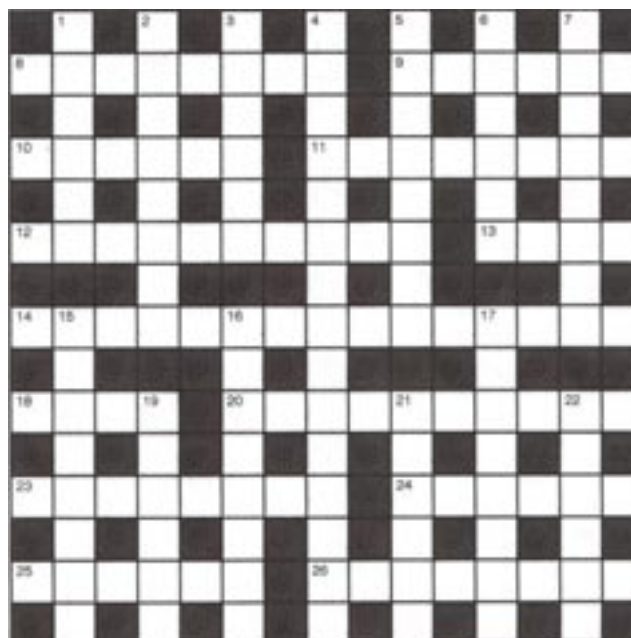
compiled jointly by u3a Crossword Group

Clues across

8. Heather, with head of union insists number is combined for Italian dish. (8)
9. Peace force to back island – can't do it. (6)
10. Made known – tasted awful. (6)
11. Hate film displayed in the break. (4-4)
12. Gambler, intended I hear, to make improvements. (10)
13. Chant leading some of new girls. (4)
14. Canteen renovated here for most men after end of September. (11,4)
18. Take picture hiding legend. (4)
20. Pin notices around about examination. (10)
23. Aim to axe awful infection. (8)
24. Included by Poirot, tentatively declared no good. (6)
25. Demonstrate once more then step down. (6)
26. Sailing ship has system of no chores. (8)

Clues Down

1. Short, tell it anyway. (6)
2. A soldier and volunteer on rocky outcrop meet troublemaker. (8)
3. Idle Monarch sorted out songs. (6)
4. Mr Oldfield and deranged May said, "It's a flower". (10,5)
5. Announcement warns of loaded firearm. (7)
6. First clue, do something with American plant. (6)
7. On fire with love for long legged bird. (8)
15. Mere ploy changed the boss. (8)
16. Looking over dieting without student and accepting last snack instead. (8)
17. Books within limited supply are in order. (8)
19. Arnica treatment is for brain boxes. (6)
21. Unrefined broken heart at end of day. (6)
22. Editor under operation space – ready for business. (6)



Clues down cont.

Dining Group

November Wednesday 27th
Oaklands Lodge Beech View Hyde SK14 3DE
A Three course meal plus coffee or tea with mints £29

January Wednesday 29th
Bukharaa Indian Restaurant
51 Stockport Road Romiley SK6 3AA
A Two course meal for £20

You can now pay for your meals By Bank Transfer
Details from patnewby19btinternet.com.

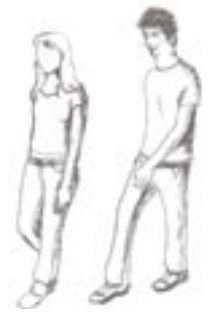


Pat Walker

Strolling Group

Our "Strolling Group" is for members who would like a gentle stroll rather than a longer walk. We arrange strolls of about 2 miles followed by a cuppa or lunch. These take place on the first Tuesday mornings in the month commencing at 10.30am, unless otherwise stated.

If you would like to be put on our contact list pass your details to Geoff Fogg joanfogg@btinternet.com or Shirley Hammond david.hammond60@btinternet.com



Members of the Group on the Canal towpath who went on the stroll on 1st October

Tuesday December 3rd Colin Burkitt

Meet outside the Italian restaurant, La Dolce Vita, in the centre of Marple. To leave at 10.30am.

We will stroll along footpaths and lanes around Marple for approximately 2 miles. In December some paths may be muddy but I will select those that are not too bad. Please choose appropriate footwear. It's Marple so it will not be a flat stroll but there will be no big hills!

Join everyone for a cuppa afterwards.

Tuesday January 7th 2025 Shirley Hammond 10.30 start.

Meet in the carpark at Dobbies for a short stroll around the area. Very much dependent on the weather! Alternatively a drink in Dobbies.

Open Gardening Group

November 13 Elizabeth Maddock – A member of the British Succulent Society will give a talk on Succulents.

Elizabeth will bring plants to sell at the end of the meeting

December 11 Christmas Meeting

January 8 2025 – Biobloom Soil Enricher – Hannah from Thomasson Farms, will tell us about this peat free, natural fertiliser, that is 100% sustainable

CONTACTS

Chairman: Diane
chairman@mbmu3a.org.uk
Vice Chairman: Clare
vicechairman@mbmu3a.org.uk
Secretary: Barbara
secretary@mbmu3a.org.uk
Treasurer: Mike
treasurer@mbmu3a.org.uk
Group Co-ordinator: Sue
groupcoordinator@mbmu3a.org.uk
Ast. Group Co-ordinator: Ulla
Membership Secretary: Colin
membershipsecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk
Speaker Organiser: Clare
speakerorganiser@mbmu3a.org.uk
Almoner: Olwyn
almoner@mbmu3a.org.uk
Assistant Almoner: Pat
assistantalmoner@mbmu3a.org.uk
Newsletter Editor: Malcolm
newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk
Outings: Hazel
Lesley
outings@mbmu3a.org.uk
Systems Manager: Kath
systemsmanager@mbmu3a.org.uk

Website:
www.mbm.u3asite.uk
National Website:
www.u3a.org.uk
National Office:
The Third Age Trust
52 Lant Street,
London, SE1 1RB



Jigsaw Sales at Monthly Meetings.

Please don't bring Jigsaws with pieces missing
We have a table selling 2nd HAND Jigsaw Puzzles at our monthly meetings. Please bring some along and buy another one.

Book Sales at the Meetings

Due to the limited amount of storage space and the fact that hardback books and non fiction books are not popular, it is requested that paperback fiction books only are brought for the stall.

Please do not bring any magazines as these also do not sell.

Announcements

We send our sincere condolences to Lynn Shuttleworth and Pam Turner, and their families on the deaths, of their husbands

Crossword Solution
Across: 8. Linguini 9. Unable 10. Stated 11. Half-time
12. Betterment 13. Song 14. Refreshment room 18. Epic 20.
Inspection 23. Toxaemia 24. Rotten 25. Resign 26. Schooner
Down 1. Little 2. Agitator 3. Lieder 4. Michaelmas Daisy
5. Bulletin 6. Cactus 7. Flamingo 15. Employer 16. Skimming
17. Rotation 19. Crania 21. Earthy 22. opened

This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be published in January 2025

Please send items for publication by email

to newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk

Any stories, articles or photographs of interest to members are welcomed.

You can read all issues of the newsletter on our website www.mbm3asite.uk

All contributions for the next edition of the Newsletter should be received by Friday 3rd January AT THE LATEST