

## Newsletter – May 2025

### *Chairman's Chit Chat...*

The Country has recently celebrated VE Day and I hope you were able to take part in some of the local events as well as enjoying the televised ones in celebrating the 80th Anniversary of the end of WW1.

We have been enjoying some lovely weather just recently and hopefully this continues. On the other hand the gardens are suffering through lack of rain. Well, that's the nature of our climate, but enjoy it while it lasts.

It is also the start of the holiday season, so this is a reminder when booking yours through Riviera Travel – don't forget to mention our u3a so that we benefit from the commission which in turn helps us with our funds!

*Happy holidays – Diane*

### Marple Bridge & Mellor u3a Meetings Speakers

May 15th	Haroon Akram	The work of ROCU and how to protect against scams and fraud
June 19th	Colin Marl	Science & Superstition (Lyme & Leechers)
July 17th	Graham Eagland	My Life in Music

### Notices & other News Items

#### *Open Gardening Group*

##### *Visit to Bodnant Gardens*

With not a cloud in the sky, our gardening group day trip to Bodnant Gardens was a wonderful day, enjoyed by all. The magnificent magnolias were at their best, as were the azaleas. The majestic trees on site are always a pleasure to see. Many of us walked down through the beautiful gardens to the river, and along to the far end of the site. There was plenty to see and do for everyone. It was lovely to welcome some new faces on our trip, and we hope that they will join us in the future.



In addition to our day trips, of which we hold three or four a year, our gardening group is made up of a variety of interesting talks. We hold our very own horticultural show each year, where we show off our home grown produce. All U3A members are welcome to come along to our monthly talks, and at just a cost of £3 per talk, which includes tea or coffee, they represent excellent value.

June 11 Trip – Powis Castle

July 9 Andrew Wetters – Chickens and eggs for all  
Andrew will be talking about keeping poultry for egg production and food, and much more.

August 13 Annual Show

## Cream Tea Anyone!

In the last newsletter we read about a cup of tea and my sweet tooth made me think of a cream tea! That delicious scone, jam and clotted cream. But it's surrounded by controversy. Should we spread the cream on first followed by the jam as they do in Devon or the jam on first followed by the cream as they do in Cornwall? Which of these is your preference?



Being a lover of clotted cream, I find that if I put it on first and then have to balance jam on top, it all becomes very messy. Whereas, if I spread a thick layer of tasty jam on first, I can then balance oodles of clotted cream on the top! What 's not to love about that! Delicious.

I am definitely in the Cornish camp. Which are you?

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## Strolling Group

Tuesday June 3rd Stroll with Ursula Southon

Take the 384 bus to Stockport at 9.59 from the Navigation bus stop. From there approximately 5 minutes walk to the start of the stroll. The stroll is part of the Trans Pennine Way. We'll stroll along the banks of the River Mersey. It's approximately 50 minutes to a seating area. Then we can stroll back along the same route. In it's favour, it's flat! Taking the bus back to Marple and enjoying a drink or some lunch with friends.

Tuesday July 1st Jenny Summers/Shirley Hammond

Meet at High Lane Park Car Park at the end of Windlehurst Road at 10.30am.

We'll stroll along Middlewood Way until we reach Nelson's Pit. Cut across to The Macclesfield Canal. We can then take a leisurely stroll back towards High Lane. This is possibly just over 2 miles in total but really flat good going. So not a challenging stroll. We can take our time with plenty of rests. Please remember to bring a drink with you. There is a small café in High Lane or alternatively we can head back to Marple to enjoy a beverage in a café there.

Tuesday August 5th Shirley Hammond

Meet in Romiley outside the Romiley Forum.

Stroll up the main road to Tangshutt Lane. Follow this through the park to the canal. Stroll along the canal to the far end of Romiley where we can make our way back up to the main road and back to the centre of Romiley. The going should be good along flat paths. No strenuous challenges. Join us for a cuppa and possibly some lunch at one of the cafes in Romiley

Tuesday September 2nd Colin Burkitt

Bramhall Park and Happy Valley. Meet in Rose Hill station car park (free) at 1030 to arrange car share to the walk, or if you wish drive direct we will be parking on the road by St Michael & All Angels church (SK7 2PG) starting the walk at 11am. Please do not park in the church car park, there is plenty of roadside parking by the church. The walk takes us through Happy Valley, into Bramhall Park and on to Carr Wood and back via Bramhall (chance for coffee and cake) to our parking spot. The walk about 2 miles in total, relatively flat, on predominantly paths with good surfaces but a couple of areas may be a bit muddy after rain.

Tuesday October 7th Sue Norcross

Tuesday November 4th Jenny Summers



*We certainly were not April fools this April 1st. What a perfect day for a stroll. We couldn't have asked for better weather. We strolled along the canal from New Mills towards Swizzles. A little challenging towards the end but everyone really enjoyed it. Some of us continued the social event with a delicious lunch back in Marple.*

## Dining Group

Please remember all members of the MB&M u3a can come on any of our meals. Just check the venues we have booked and the menu choice, if you like the look of it just email or phone Pat to check there's a place and book. You can now also do a bank transfer once you have booked.

May Tuesday 20th Alma Lodge  
149 Buxton Road Heaviley SK2 6EL  
Afternoon Tea £20

June Tuesday 24th The Little Mill @ Rowarth  
Hillinsmoor Road High Peak SK22 1EB  
Three Course Evening Meal £28

July Tuesday 22nd The Aviator @ Woodford  
6 Lancastrian Way Woodford SK7 7SA  
Three Course Evening Meal for £20



*You can now pay for your meals by Bank Transfer, details below.*

*Please make sure you have booked before you pay*

*Make payable to MB&M Dining Account number 16583188 Sort code 16 00 30*

*Pat Walker*

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## Outings Group

Sunday, 15th June – the EATON ESTATE of the DUKE OF WESTMINSTER, nr Chester. Fully Booked. Coach is leaving Rose Hill at 9.30 am, with the usual pickups – Regent, Marple Bridge, Northumberland Arms, finally Romiley Arms @ 9.50 am. Please be in good time. Return: proposed leaving approx. at 4.00p.m. (depending on the weather!) Golden Green coaches.

Saturday, 16th August – LYTHAM 1940s WEEKEND  
Further to the above outing, a feel good day out by the seaside celebrating the atmosphere of the period with so much to see and join in.  
Cost £21 p.p. Usual pickups after leaving Rose Hill at 8.30 am, Regent, Marple Bridge, Northumberland Arms and finally Romiley Arms at 8.50 am.

Saturday matinee October 26TH ANYTHING GOES  
by Cole Porter performed by Stockport Operatic Society.  
Cost £21 p.p.  
Please pay by cheque at April General meeting (MB&MU3A Outings),  
Must confirm number to Plaza by May 23rd.

*Any queries: Please contact J Summers (07388236537)*



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

Please send items for publication by email to [newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk](mailto: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.mbm.u3asite.uk](http://www.mbm.u3asite.uk)

**All contributions for the next edition of the Newsletter should be received by Friday 27th June AT THE LATEST**

## Newsletter items .....

Thank you to the people who have submitted articles for inclusion in past Newsletters,  
*can we have some more please !!!*

Things that have happened to you in the past, funny or serious, items that you think could be of interest to our members.

You don't need to have your name published with the article, if you do not wish to, but I do need to know who has sent the article.

Put your thinking caps on and let's try to make the Newsletter more interesting for all our readers.

*Malcolm, Newsletter Editor*

## 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*

## Members who are Unwell or in Hospital

So often we hear about members who have been ill, who have been in hospital or need a bit of cheering up, weeks after it has happened so if you know someone like this please let Olwyn Wych (almoner@mbmu3a.org.uk or 0161 285 6766) know, or any member of the committee, so that we can send a little card to let them know we are thinking of them.