

Newsletter – September 2025

Chairman's Chit Chat...

Once again our members have made last month's Charity Event a resounding success. HEADWAYS will benefit from the amount of £581.70 raised on the day. We will of course continue to collect the money from the books and jigsaws till our year end next February which will be added to the above total, when we will be able to present them with our cheque at the AGM.



All stalls were manned by committee members as well as many volunteers who provided prizes, cakes, plants, bric-a-brac and refreshments. The quiz was again a popular item and I take this opportunity of thanking all of the above for their efforts, as well as the rest of the members for their generous support.

Well done everyone and many thanks.

Diane Holker-Chair

Marple Bridge & Mellor u3a Meetings Speakers

- Sept 18th Frank Vigon will present a very funny and illuminating talk about 'The Birth of Television' with some amusing clips of early TV.
- Oct 16th Mike Barley will give a talk entitled 'Painted Monasteries and Wooden Churches' with slides of his experiences of Romania
- Nov 20th Caroline England will give a talk entitled 'From Divorce Lawyer to Duchess of Dark Domestic Noir'.
- Dec 11th Capriccio Choir will present a Christmas concert.

IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

We are planning a meeting particularly targeted at members who have joined our u3a in the last couple of years. The meeting will be held on the morning of Thursday 2nd October, put this date in your diary now!

This meeting will also be open to any other members, who are encouraged to bring along a friend or neighbour who may be interested in learning more about our u3a.

The meeting will be an opportunity for members to meet the committee and some group leaders one to one in an informal setting to discuss what we have on offer. At the same time we would love to hear from you about the things that we do well, the things that we are not so good at, and any new activities that you would like to see available. Our committee will also be offering advice about the opportunities within the wider u3a organisation, whether those be at Pennine Link level, regional level or nationally.

We are still in the process of planning the details of the meeting and when they are finalised we will be sending out invitations to all members

Diane Holker Chairman

Invitation from Roger Browne

Roger Browne who has spoken at our u3a meetings has sent the following invitation.

"We are delighted that on Monday 22nd September, Thomas "Spats" Langham, one of the UK's leading exponents of ukulele, banjo, guitar and vintage vocals, will be appearing as special guest of Manchester Jazz at their monthly "bring your lunch food" sessions at The Club, 23 Buxton Road, High Lane.

Admission is £10 but members of the u3a may take advantage of a special concessionary offer and two will be admitted for £15. Just tell them on the door which u3a you are from or call 07590 641 386 to book tickets.

The session starts at 12.00 with a thirty minute break for lunch at 1.00pm followed by a blistering jam session and finale from 1.30 to 2.30pm. We advise arriving early as this will be a very popular concert."

North West Region Summer School 2025

This year the North West Region of u3a's held their Summer School at Manchester Metropolitan University. This was a 4 day event in August where u3a members from around the country could attend on either a daily basis or residential, staying in student accommodation. A wide variety of areas of study were available, ranging from archaeology to art appreciation and from ukulele to Uzbekistan.

All in all, it was a very enjoyable, entertaining and educational few days. Certainly, fulfilling the 'Learn, Laugh and Live' philosophy of the u3a.

We are hopeful that next year it will once again be housed in Manchester. We will be advertising it and I would highly recommend it to our members.

Shirley Hammond



Games Group – 1st Wednesday of the month – 10am to 12 noon

The new Games Group is now up and running with a variety of board games for members to choose from. The meetings are held on 1st Wednesday of each month at Marple Methodist Church at 10am till 12, and we would like as many of you to come and enjoy playing games, meeting new people to socialise with and bring your friends and even learn new games if you so wish.

I look forward to seeing lots of you there.

Diane Holker Tel: 07778458593 chairman@mbmu3a.org.uk

Strolling Group

Tuesday October 7th Sue Norcross Stroll on Werneth Low

Meet at Quarry car park, Werneth Low, Hyde, at the junction of Werneth Low Road and Joel Lane (SK14 3AA). To leave at 10.30

Explore Werneth Low with Sue. After the stroll we could meet at the Hare and Hounds for drinks and possibly lunch.



Tuesday November 4th Jenny Summers

Stroll from Mellor Golf Club to Fox Inn at Brookbottom – linear walk.

Directions to car park. From Marple Bridge travel up Longhurst Lane and turn right into Gibb Lane opposite the Devonshire Arms which is on the left. Follow signs for the Club (SK6 5NA).

Meet at the Golf Club top car park at 10.30am to stroll across the course and down to the Fox Inn, Brookbottom. Flat until the road slopes down to the Inn. Return a similar way. Good views across to Strines and Marple.

The Golf Club will be open for refreshments after the stroll (or Devonshire Arms).

Tuesday December 2nd Shirley Hammond or Colin Burkitt

Meet in the carpark at Dobbies Garden Centre at 10.30am.

Take a stroll in the area depending on weather and underfoot conditions.

Join us for a drink and/or some refreshments after the stroll.

Open Gardening Group

Meetings on 2nd Wednesday of each month at Marple Methodist Hall, 09:45 for coffee then 10:00 for the meeting. All u3a members welcome. £3 per meeting. Do come along.

October 8	Alan Towse – Stockport Branch of Cheshire Beekeepers Association
November 12	Brian Doherty – From the British Cactus and Succulent Society will be talking to us about Cactus
December 10	Christmas meeting

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, see below

September Tuesday 23rd The Lamb Inn @ Chinley
Hayfield Road Chinley SK23 6AL
Two Course Evening Meal for £28

October Wednesday 22nd The Hare and Hounds
Mill Brow Marple Bridge SK6 5LW
Grazing Menu Three Courses for £25

November Wednesday 26th
The Crown @ Hawk Green SK6 7HU
Two Course Evening Meal for £29

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

Outings Group

Calling all members! Do you have any suggestions/wishes for next year's Outings programme?

Come and tell us in person at the general meetings during the next 3 months or email us at "outings@mbmu3a.org.uk"

Look forward to receiving your suggestions.

Hazel Bhatt & Jenny Summers.

Saturday Matinee October 26th ANYTHING GOES.

There is one returned ticket. Look forward to another great show by Stockport Operatic Society once again at the Plaza Cinema, Stockport. Note 2.15 p.m. start

Thursday, 27th November 2025 – TATTON PARK PACKAGE

Lovely day out to visit Mansion decorated for Christmas, the Fayre, light lunch, gardens, coach, usual shops and cafes, price £30 p.p. More details from organizer, J Summers 0161 427 2861.

Saturday matinee, 17th January 2026 – SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

Fully booked for the Royal Exchange Christmas production at 2.30pm Tickets available for collection at the October meeting.

Taking deposits for:

Wednesday 6th May 2026 – 7 days JERSEY by air from Liverpool.

Roy McCarthy Coaches have provisionally reserved 20 places on their trip. Prices :£1,325 p.p. sharing; £190 p.p. (single) extra for sea view over St Brelades Bay. Dinner, bed and breakfast.

Details from organizer J. Summers 0161 427 2861/mobile:07388236537.

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.



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
Membership Secretary: Colin
membershipsecretary@mbmu3a.org.uk
Speaker Organiser: Clare
speakerorganiser@mbmu3a.org.uk
Almoner: Olwyn
almoner@mbmu3a.org.uk
Newsletter Editor: Malcolm
newsettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk
Outings: Lesley
outings@mbmu3a.org.uk
Systems Manager: Colin
systemsmanager@mbmu3a.org.uk
Website:
www.mbm.u3asite.uk

Newsletter items

Thank you to the people who have submitted articles for inclusion in past Newsletters,
can I 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



This Newsletter appears bi-monthly. The next edition will be published in November 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.mbm3a.org.uk

All contributions for the next edition of the Newsletter should be received by Friday 31st October AT THE LATEST