# Marple Bridge & Mellor u3a

# Newsletter - November 2026

## Remembrance Day - Sunday 8th November 2026




***"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."***

Service of Remembrance, Mellor Cenotaph, 12-15

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership subscriptions for 2027 are due before the end of the year. The membership fee for 2027 remains at £12 per person despite the inflationary cost increases we are faced with.

You can renew your membership at the general meetings on either Thursday 19 November or Thursday 10 December. At the general meeting you can pay with cash or by cheque:-

CASH – Correct money please in a sealed envelope with the name/s and membership number/s of the person/s renewing.
CHEQUE – made payable to MB&Mu3a with the name/s and membership number/s of the person/s renewing on the back of the cheque.
Alternatively you can send your cheque to MB&Mu3a Membership Secretary, 18 Churchill Crescent, Marple, SK6 6HJ.
NO cash by post please. Please enclose a SAE if you want your 2027 membership card posted to you.

Your membership number can be found on the bottom of your 2026 membership card

## Marple Bridge & Mellor u3a Speakers

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|---|---|
| Nov 19th 2026 | Mike Barley - An illustrated talk about ' A Journey Through the Norwegian Fjords' |
| Dec 10th 2026 | A Christmas Concert, performed by the Siddalls.<br>Also includes festive food and drink, with a quiz and raffle. |
| Jan 21st 2027 | A talk by Gary Archer - Wills, Power of Attorney, Trusts, Inheritance Tax & Probate |
| Feb 18th 2027 | 'The Sacred and Secular in Music' by Roger Browne |
| March 18th 2027 | Marilyn and Allan Shalks -A life in Music |



# Christmas Greetings to all our readers

## *Some of our recent events*

### Outings Group - Victoria Baths

Our recent visit to the Victoria Baths took us back to our grandparents and great grandparents way of life. Especially their leisure opportunities, how they did their laundry communally and how class affordability dictated which pool they went in. Fascinating, visit if you can. Free to enter on Tuesdays between April and September this year. Check when it's free..



### Dining Group Dinner at The Pack Horse, Mellor



The dining group's latest dinner at the Pack Horse, Mellor on Wednesday 29th September.

Very good food and very good company.

A lovely evening out.

### Stroll Tuesday 8th October

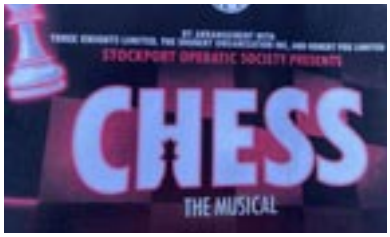
Despite the looming clouds, a group of us set off on our stroll around the edge of Romiley Golf Club. All armed with waterproof clothing, hats, gloves and scarves to protect us from the bad weather. Instead we were rewarded with beautiful sunshine and very quickly had to start taking layers of clothing off! Perfect tranquility, as one of the strollers commented, broken only by the birdsong, an occasional crack as a golf club hit a ball and of course our chatter. The Asda delivery man offered to leave us a picnic – but at the bottom of the hill, back in Romiley!



After the stroll we relaxed and refreshed ourselves with a snack and a drink in a café in the centre of Romiley - A lovely sociable morning.

Check in the newsletter or on our website for details of our next stroll and come and join us.

## Outings Group Plaza Theatre Stockport to see Chess




A group of our u3a members along with some from the Marple u3a enjoyed a trip to the The Plaza Theatre on Saturday 24th October to see what most people thought was an extremely excellent presentation of the musical Chess, performed by Stockport Amateur Operatic Society.



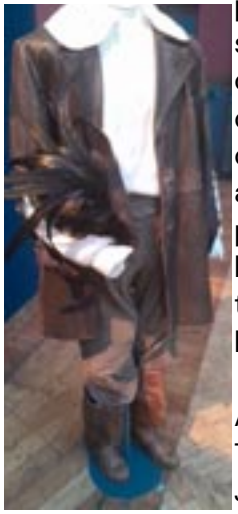
Having seen the original production of Chess in London, this turned out to be a much updated production although the story of the show, which was centred around the World Chess Championships, was identical.

For one of our members, who performed, as a member of the chorus, with Stockport Operatic Society between 1993 and 2005, it was quite a revealing presentation. The lead character, Anatoly Sergievsy, was played by Ben Sweeney and another of the main characters, Walter De Courcey, was played by Danny Sweeney., Ben and Danny had been chorus members at some point and to see them playing major roles many years later was incredible.

## Tuesday 27th October Mythic Reinvention - Royal Exchange Theatre.



This free exhibition tells us about the theatre's five decades of wonderful productions, people and costumes starting with their first play, The Rivals, in 1976. More than 25,000 pieces are archived while what is displayed in the Main Hall gives us a sense of how the theatre, and its approach to storytelling, has changed over time. In the Main Hall and Gallery the costumes displayed are even more interesting when you get up close. You appreciate the beautiful quality of materials and intricate designs. Together with detailed sketches, production photos and programmes. One could go on, but as the exhibition runs until November 15th, go to this fascinating building and see for yourself all it has had to offer over 50 glorious years of storytelling.







Afterwards some members went to Chinatown, to the Teppanaki restaurant where we enjoyed excellent Japanese food cooked before us on a redhot griddle. The chef, a Filipino called Julius Caesar, made it a real fun experience for us.

*We promised to go back!*

## Dining Group visit to The Spread Eagle



The dining group visited The Spread Eagle on 28th October and it never lets us down. Super carvery and deliclous desserts.

Topped off of course with lots of chat and laughter.

## Moya Cole Hospice (St Ann's Hospice)

In the July Newsletter we wrote about our u3a being invited to a presentation at Moya Cole Hospice.

The Wall of Remembrance which was planned for all the named bricks for people who had raised over £1000 had not been completed so we were unable to see it.

My daughter was visiting a sick friend there and when she walked into the building the very first thing she saw was the Marple Bridge & Mellor u3a brick




## A Christmas Entertainment



On Thursday 10 December, from 10am to a little after 12 noon, we will be holding our Christmas Concert at St Paul's Church in Compstall. Come along and join us for mulled wine, mince pies and stollen. Members will be delighted to know that we have been successful in booking the wonderfully talented singing duo: The Siddalls, and, of course, we will also have our ever-popular quiz and raffle. Perhaps it's time to dig out those Christmas jumpers we all know how cold it can be at the December meeting

As with all our monthly meetings, the charge is just £2. If you plan to attend, but have not yet let us know, please contact Shirley Hammond or Caroline Ley (caroline.ley@btinternet.com) by 30 November, so that we can have a good idea of how many we need to cater for.

## *Dining Group*

Please remember all members of the mb&mu3a 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, if you cannot get to the meeting,



Wednesday November 25th
The Oaklands, Beech View, off Mottram Road, Hyde SK14 3DE
Three Course Christmas Meal for £35. 7.00 for 7.30pm

Wednesday January 20th
Lymefield Garden Centre Broadbottom SK14 6AG
Afternoon Tea (Sweet or Savoury your choice). £22 1.00pm

## *Strolling Group*

Tuesday December 1st Shirley Hammond
Meet at Compstall Lake car park at Etherow Country Park to leave at 10.30am
We will stroll around the lake. Anyone wishing to extend the stroll can continue up towards Ernocroft Wood. We can have some refreshments at the café at the edge of the car park.



Tuesday January 6th Shirley Hammond
Join me to blow those Christmas indulgencies away.
Meet in Dobbies car park to leave at 10.30am.
We can either walk along the Alan Newton Way or walk to Chadkirk Chapel. Returning to Dobbies for some refreshments.

## *Open Gardening Group*

Meetings on 2nd Wednesday of each month at Marple Methodist Hall, 9:45 for coffee then 10:00 for the meeting. All u3a members welcome. £3 per meeting. Do come along

**November 11** **Emily Chandler Head Gardener at Dunham Massey**
Emily will give us a presentation on the Winter Garden at Dunham Massey and how it is looked after today.

**December 9** **Christmas meeting** – to include fun quizzes and mince pies.
Do come along.

*An exciting programme for 2027 will be published in the next newsletter, so watch this space.*



*Dunham Massey Garden Decorated for Christmas*

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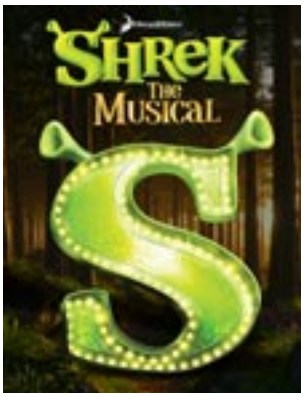
## *Outings Group*

Saturday 16th January 2027
A little Night Music at the Royal Exchange Theatre matinee show at 2:30pm. Fully booked.
Collect your ticket from the outings deck at the November general meeting.



Tuesday 16th Feb 2027
Snowdrops & the Durham Massey Amazing Winter garden

Thursday the 11th March 2027
Bayeux Tapestry Exhibition in London.
Those who are joining the trip need to pay £50pp towards train fares
(make payable to "MB&M U3a outings")to Jenny Summers at November meeting.
Please confirm your senior rail card will be in date at the time of travel.




Saturday the 13th March 2027
Shrek the Musical at Stockport Plaza Theatre Matinee show 2:15 pm
Booking from November general meeting. Cost £20pp.

Thursday the 6th May
Ordsall Hall, Salford. Travelling on Metro.

21st June 2027
Guernsey, Herm & Sark by air 7 days
£1499 for twin single available
Booking at the outings desk during November general meeting.

23rd July 2027

The city of Durham & the Kynren show - an epic tale of England
3 days £435 pp double or twin rooms. Waiting list for single rooms.
Booking from November general meeting onwards but need to pay deposit directly to McCarthy Coaches.

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



With our Christmas concert in sight, don't forget to buy your tickets sooner rather than later so we can make sure of catering numbers.

The Siddalls (always very popular) will regale us with Christmas songs whilst we will be filling in the Xmas quiz (as per Colin's usual "easy" questions). Refreshments, raffle, mulled wine and pleasant company.
The date is 10th December 2026 - please note; 1 week earlier than our normal meeting.

Although we seem be to enjoying a few sunny days, it is bitterly cold and I remind you to keep warm. If you are worried about using your heating, make use of public facilities ie: library, Senior Citizens Club, cafe's even pubs where you can enjoy company and warmth.

Come to our Games Group on the 1st Wednesday of the month (where it will be warm) at the Methodist Church, Marple for various card and board games. you will receive a warm welcome.

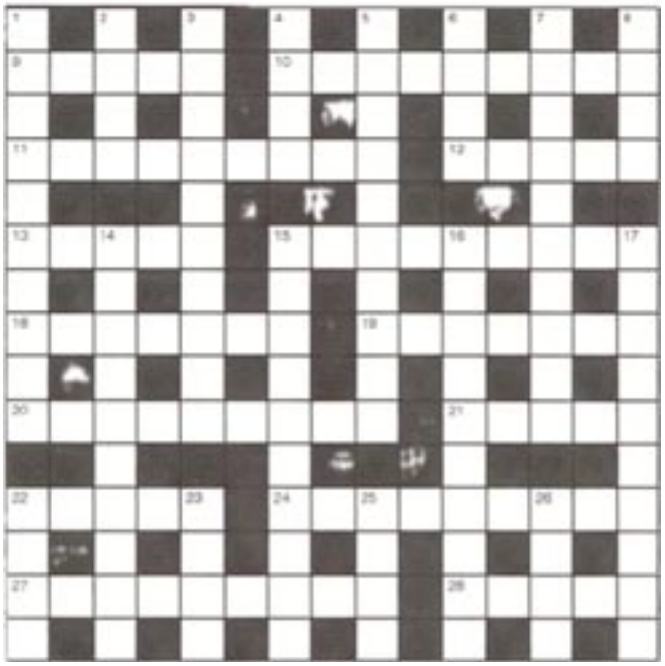
As this is my last opportunity of posting in the Newsletter this year, I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year and thank you all for your support this year and looking forward to same for next year.

*Merry Christmas everyone.*
*Diane - Chairman*

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## Crossword Compiled by Marple Bridge and Mellor u3a Crossword Group

compiled jointly by u3a Crossword Group



Across.
9. Hang about. Having others started before vicar's back. (5)
10. Niece do be corrected and show respect. (9)
11. Another dice, mine's thrown around to cure me. (9)
12. First daughter will turn over to be amusing. (5)
13. Saint loves to start dancing, so tried to get elected. (5)
15. Head's sound moral rule. (9)
18. Round house has not under apparently. (7)
19. One hundred grebe I disturbed on floating mass. (7)
20. After Easter Europe will lose energy for surrender. (5,4)
21. Unable to move I rent by arrangement. (5)
22. Floor covering originally traditional in large en suite. (5)
24. In final month option to hesitate is bad manners. (9)
27. Somehow never stop being in the red. (9)
28. Scary experience leaving France. OK. (5)

Clues Down
1. Torture digits on ship's Staff. (10)
2. Dive perhaps is very keen. (4)
3. Give priority to rewriting copper's creed. (10)
4. My French has nothing in it, just a satellite. (4)
5. Spine grip rigid at first and breaking into a sweat. (10)
6. Affectionate type. (4)
7. Unfinished poem client composed. (10)
8. Live dangerously, cover up. (4)
14. He could be your last line of defence before boundaries are crossed. (10)

Clues down cont.
15. Evil draper excited oyster catcher. (5,5)
16. Believe funny man with plastic (6,4)
17. Kosher member at one time mixed up. (10)
22. Put foot down firmly when starting to ramble over Derbyshire. (4)
23. Window frame produced from pieces as hard as teak.(4)
25. Tax obligation. (4)
26. Change gear in anger. (4)

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This Newsletter appears bi-monthly.

The next edition will be published in January 2027
Please send items for publication by email to

newslettereditor@mbmu3a.org.uk

You can read all issues of the newsletter on our website www.mbmu3asite.uk

All contributions for the next edition of the Newsletter **MUST** be received by **Monday 4th January AT THE LATEST**

## 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.

**Crossword Solution**

Across: 9. Hover 10. Obedience 11. Medicines 12. Droll 13. Stood 15. Principal 18. Rotunde 19. Iceberg 20. white flag 21. Inert 22. Tiles 24. Indecorum 27. Overspent 28. Right
Down: 1. Thumb screw 2. Avid 3. Priority 4. Moon 5. Perspiring 6. Kind 7. Incomplete 8. Veil 14. Outfielder 15. Pearl diver 16. Credit card 17. Legitimate 22. Trod 23. Sash 25. Duty 26. Rage

