

February 2018

Marple U3A Committee Members 2017-2018

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		427 7343
IT and newsletter - David Jones:		449 8168
Charity link - Cynthia Pitts:		465 0492

Speaker Secretary – Maria Henderson & Jacky Fantom:

A warm welcome to the February edition of the newsletter. Inside this edition is notice of the AGM, to be held on 12th March, in the usual meeting place. Attached to the end of the newsletter is a list of committee nominees received to date. If you wish to nominate someone or be nominated as a member of the committee, please contact the Secretary for a nomination form. We are looking for members who are willing to give a small amount of their time to what is a worthwhile and fulfilling part of U3A membership.

Please note: the committee nomination form can't be signed by either a committee member or a member who has already proposed/seconded someone else.

You might remember at the last speaker meeting that Marian Hankey gave a short talk about getting your group involved in the possibilities of research. As such, and for the benefit of those not present, I have included a few paragraphs on that subject.

Speaker Meeting - December: Keith Warrender – Hidden Gems of Manchester

Next time you find yourself walking down the high street of a large town or city, instead of looking where you are going try looking up at the buildings above street level. If you are lucky you may see something interesting – a Green Man perhaps or a fire insurance company Mark. These and many others are among the many architectural oddities that Keith Warrender talked about when he visited us for our December Speaker Meeting.

Keith is the author of three books about the unseen parts of Manchester and the hidden gems to be found – if you only take the time to look.

Thanks to Keith for an interesting and educational talk.

Speaker Meeting- January: Josephine Gosling – Amazing History Walks

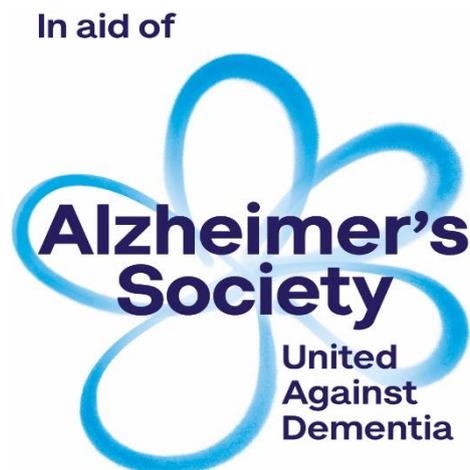
For over thirty years Josephine Gosling and her husband Simon have been walking. Not all the time of course! For the January speaker meeting Josephine, with the aid of her holiday slides, talked to us about some of her experiences as a walker, both in the UK and abroad.

From the Forest of Bowland along the Pilgrim's path from the Portuguese side to Santiago De Compostela, to unpredictable kangaroos in New South Wales and the natural grandeur of Bryce Canyon, Utah. Josephine had visited these places and had a story to tell about them. When asked about how she prepared for a walk, the answer was simple, just wear the right clothes.

Thanks to Josephine for sharing her memories of some memorable walks.

Our Members' Charity, 2017/2018:

The Alzheimer's Society



So far, we have managed to raise £450 in bank account. A cheque for the final amount will be presented to a representative of the Alzheimer's Society at the AGM on March 12th.

New Groups

We are always looking for people who are willing to create a new group. The suggestions for new groups that members would like to see formed are:

Yoga, Chess, Plumbing & DIY, Family History for beginners, **Italian Conversation** for beginners, **Ukulele** for beginners.

Phil Ridgway has been making enquiries around the formation of a Science group. Phil's efforts have led him to a group based in Wilmslow, who are extremely organised, offering members' evenings and discussion groups. It's early-days yet, but Phil is optimistic of the possibility that (if there was enough interest) our members could join with the Wilmslow group. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Phil on: tel. 427 6007

News from our interest groups.

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.

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.

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?

We are still looking for someone to lead the **Classical Music Group.**

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

The 2018 season will begin on 1st April next year at the Marple Memorial Park and new bowlers will be very welcome (there is no limit to numbers taking part).

Matinee Club

As some theatres have not yet arranged their programmes for 2018 we are not able to announce in the Newsletter any future visits after the ballet in March, but please come to the Matinee desk in February as we may have some visits arranged for you by then.

Sue and I wish all our matinee friends a very happy New Year and hope to see you on our visits in the coming year.

Update: Guys and Dolls and the Ballet in March are fully booked and we have no productions to offer until February.

The Ballet 'Cinderella' at The Lowry, a Sir Matthew Bourne production.
Thursday 15th March 2018 at 2pm.

Please note: We know that some of you are changing banks in Marple because of closures. Sometimes your cheques are with us for some time before they are cashed. This we cannot help, sorry. However, if you have signed a cheque with us and it is not accepted by your new bank we are charged £8.

WALKING GROUP

February 2018/March 2018 Walks

Wed Feb 7th	Hadfield	4m	Easy	Sue Ward
Tue Feb 13 th	TBA	5-6m	Moderate	Irene Riley
Wed Feb 21st	Mellor	4m	Moderate	Judith Lynch
Tue Feb 27th	Styal Woods	5m	Easy+	Val and Roy Bradshaw
Wed Mar 7th	Nether Alderley	5m	Moderate	Sheila Stafford
Tue Mar 13th	Bollington	5m	Moderate	Jean Mitchell
Wed Mar 21st	Longdendale	6m	Easy	John Bloor
Tue Mar 27th	Buxworth/Eccles Pike	4m	Moderate	Judy Rhodes

Walk Grading

Very Easy: More or less flat, good surface, few stiles **Moderate:** Typical of local terrain

Easy: Small sections of hill, not too rough, limited stiles **Moderate + :** More climbing and/or more stiles

All walks meet IN Brabyns Park for prompt departure at 9.45 am. 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.

Walking group co-ordinators are Jean Mitchell (0161 221 2304) and Judith Lynch (0161 449 7507).

Walking Group This is a joint group with Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A. If you need information about the various walks which usually take place weekly on Tuesdays or Wednesdays, please consult the **Marple Bridge and Mellor U3A** website. You will find the information in the "Groups" section or in their Newsletter, telling you the length and grade of each walk. Details are also posted on our Notice Board at the General Meetings.

N.B. This is a completely different group from "**Short Walks for Busy People**". Please refer back to Thursday, if you require a shorter walk.

The groups were correct at the time this Newsletter went to print and it will be in every Newsletter from now on, updated accordingly.

Schedule of speakers

Date	Speaker	Title of Talk
12.02.18	Brian Hallworth	Straight from the Old Wife's Mouth
09.04.18	Peter White	See it my way
14.05.18	David Hearn	175 years of Cunard
11.06.18	Penny Dean	A Penny's Worth
09.07.18	Philip Caine	Barrow to Baghdad & Back
13.08.18	tbc	
10.09.18	tbc	
08.10.18	Peter Turner	Through the Eyes of a Magician

Almoner

Please do remember that **Beryl Kent**, although no longer on the committee, is continuing to serve as 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 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**.

Getting Involved in Research

I attended the U3A meeting in Birmingham on November 10th 2017.

The meeting was to explore what is happening in U3A research and to plan the way forward.

A full day addressed subjects such as a Research Guide and Shared Learning Projects, access to the website and ethical issues regarding research.

The overall message was that research is an important part of learning and a core part of U3A's remit.

Research can stimulate and test understanding in ways that differ from passive learning, and helps U3A members to gain knowledge and skills and often breaks new ground.

Many projects undertaken can contribute to local communities and can develop working relationships with organisations.

Research funders often require community involvement as part of their research to gain funding.

In age related research, there is a recognition of the importance of involving older subjects.

The process involves; An idea - a plan - action analysis and publication.

Specific interest groups, such as local history, regional flora and fauna or geology, or local walks etc can be partners involved.

Market research can help U3A members understanding of their local community, plan public awareness and identify working relationships.

E.g. South Wales U3A and the University of South Wales undertook research to establish whether keeping brains and bodies active, place fewer demands on doctor's time and drug budgets.

Research Ambassadors support U3A research and facilitate relationships with universities and other bodies.

Information, help and support is available on the website;

www.u3a.org.uk.

News from National U3A

National summer schools

This year, two national summer schools will take place: Harper Adams on 23 to 26 July and at the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester on 11 to 14 September.

Bookings will open for the schools in mid-February.

Regional schools and study days

There are a number of summer schools and study events taking place across the regions this year – these include:

The North West summer school runs from 28 to 31 August at Newton Rigg Agricultural College, near Penrith. Details available on the North West Region website.

The Science Network summer school will take place at Nottingham University Jubilee Campus on 6 to 9 August.

Marple & District U3A Trips Group

Full details will be available when Trip dates are confirmed. Information will be available from our Web-site, Newsletter or at the monthly General Meeting.

Thursday March 22nd, Terracotta Warriors Exhibition, Liverpool, now wait list only.

Friday April 27th, The Piece Hall, Halifax.

Thursday May 24th, Nostell Priory, Wakefield.

Thursday June 21st Llandudno.

Thursday July 19th, Trentham Gardens. Stoke-on-Trent.

Thursday September 6th, Blists Hill Victorian Town, Shropshire.

Monday October 1st, Dewlay Cheesemakers, Garstang & Barton Grange.

November Tba

Monday December 3rd, Arley Hall and Knutsford.

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”

Bridgewater Hall – Lunchtime Concerts

Thurs. Feb.22nd Leon McCawley, piano

Wed. March 28th Jonathan Scott, organ (very popular so pay in advance)

Tues. April 24th Manchester Chamber Choir.

10.23 train from Rose Hill then lunch or meet at the hall for 1.10 performance.

£8 on the day, except March. Names in advance for insurance.

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

Short Walks for Busy People

We met at the SPAR on Stockport Road to start the final Short Walk of 2017. There were fourteen humans and Teg, a Smooth Collie visiting from Wales.

The route took us up Dale Road and then across the railway footbridge on to Bowden Lane, and Seven Stiles. We were heading for the Peak Forest Canal. At the Canal we turned left towards Romiley, walking along the tow path and over the aqueduct. Once over, we stopped for a group photo and a festive chocolate from Pam. A little way along now, and we had the choice of carrying on or taking the path through the woods. The woods it was – a good choice. Emerging into the light we could see Chadkirk Chapel to our right. We crossed the bridge over the weir on the River Goyt and were headed home. Up the hill now and past Marple Hall School. We were back in suburbia where we said farewell to Pam and Ian who were conveniently, almost at their doorstep.



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	Dorothy Grace	427 7974
Canasta	2.00-4.00pm 2nd & 4th Monday	Linda Turton	427 0016
Geology	10.00-Noon 3rd Monday	Mary Howie	427 2965
Photography	2.00-4.00pm 3rd Monday	Ken Orson	07880 851833
Play Reading 2	2.00-4.00pm 1st Monday	Felicity Hancox	449 8859
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
Ballet Appreciation	1.45-4.00pm 3rd or 4th Tues	Wendy Carleton	456 1948
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
Poetry and Discussion	10.00-12.00 4th Tuesday	Ruth Wilbey	494 6847
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

Summer Bowling	10.00-Noon	Every Weds from April	Brian Bircher	427 5472
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
Ballet Appreciation 2	1.45-4.00pm	3rd Wednesday	Wendy Carleton	456 1948
Practical Gardening 4	2.00 -4.00pm	4th Wednesday	Jacqui Bassett	427 4463

Thursday

English Literature	2.00-4.00pm	Thurs after GM	Joan Charman	427 2609
Embroidery	2.00-4.00pm	10-week course	Dorothy Jones	449 8168
Reading Group	10.30-noon	2nd Thursday	Rhona Hunt	449 7470
Short Walks for Busy People	10.15	4 th /5th 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

Other

Day Trips	Various	Mavis Alsop	427 3818
Dining Out	Various	Beryl Kent	427 5591
		Jeanette Webb	427 2433
Matinee Club	Various	Sue Humphreys	427 2474
		Jean Howells	427 5691
Music Concerts	Various	Sandy Maclean	483 3743

Please send items for inclusion in the next Newsletter to David Jones:
davidanddorothy@btinternet.com. As usual, many thanks to Mavis Alsop for producing the printed newsletter.

NOMINEES FOR MARPLE U3A COMMITTEE 2018-2019

Name of Nominee	Name of Proposer	Name of Seconder
Jacqueline Airey	John Pollock	Sandy Maclean
Phil Ridgway	B Dale	J Poole
Sally Dulieu	Jeanette Webb	Mary Howie
Cynthia Pitts	Susan Pollock	Dorothy Eaton
Hazel Meakin	Dorothy Jones	J Wilson
Carol Culley	Beryl Kent	John Kent
David Jones	Katherine Fraser	Malcolm Melia
Graeme Mould	Beryl Kent	Joan Charman
Olga Henner	Jeanette Webb	Val Clapp

MARPLE & DISTRICT U3A 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MONDAY 12th MARCH 2018

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 12th March 2018 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 2018/19.*

- There are no proposed amendments to the constitution & no other resolutions (14v)
- The Trustees' Reports will be presented along with the Annual Accounts for 2017/18 (14iii)
- Approval will be sought from the membership for the appointment of an independent examiner for the 2018/2019 accounts (14iv)

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

Paragraph 7viii states: *'Prior written nomination of any candidate for appointment as a member of the Executive Committee at the 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, if there are no Standing Orders, as determined by the Executive Committee.'*

Final details of nominations will be available on the website 19th February, or from any member of the current Executive Committee. Page 2 of 2

MARPLE AND DISTRICT U3A ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10:15 Monday 12th March 2018

AGENDA

Before the AGM: -

Refreshments from 09:45

A representative from Stockport Alzheimer's Society will receive the balance of the members' donation.

AGM

1. Chairman's welcome and opening remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of AGM 13th March 2017
4. Chairman'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 2018/19 Members' Charity

Close of Meeting

Marple & District U3A
AGM
13th March 2017.

Fire regulations and AGM Agenda were displayed on the screen during member's arrival into the hall. The AGM began at 10.00 am at the Senior Citizens Hall, Memorial Park Marple.

112 members were present.

The retiring Chairman Ted Willet welcomed members and thanked them for attending.

Apologies were received from Jenny Austen, Geoff and Ann Hilling, Beryl and John Kent, Sandy Maclean, Roger Dunnington and Jackie Fantom

Ted introduced Christine Blease Secretary, taking minutes.

The Minutes of the 2016 AGM (14th March 2016) were read and a copy is filed with this report.

There were no questions and the minutes were approved as a true record.

Chairman's Report

As retiring Chairman Ted commented on Marple U3A being in its 17th year and is still seeing a gradual increase in membership with subs still being kept at the low level of £6.00. 100 of the members regularly attending the monthly General Meeting, 130 being the maximum the hall can accommodate. He thanked the Group leaders and participants for sharing skills and asked that any members willing to lead a group or anyone with ideas for a new group to contact the Group Coordinator. There had been 7 trips during the year ranging from the Tudors to Chocolate. There was another successful Christmas Party and a group leaders and new members meeting which were well received. Ted thanked Brian Marshall for his ongoing work on the website and monthly presentation. The group also attended 2 external events to help raise the profile of the U3A. Finally, he thanked all the volunteers who helped set up the hall every month and also those that supplied the drinks, with special thanks to those people leaving the committee, Janet Lear (Membership Secretary), Pam Wakefield (Newsletter) and Pam Davis who has been booking the speakers for the General Meetings.

Treasurer's Report.

The report was summarised by Treasurer Phil Ridgeway,

The complete report was displayed on our noticeboard and was available on an individual basis if required.

Phil outlined each of the 4 accounts and usage.

Business Acc, the committee had agreed in 2015/16 to reduce the balance of this account by £2300, in the event the reduction achieved was £871. There had been capital expenditure of £693 with the majority being spent on new computers and software for the officers. It is expected there will be a similar loss in 2017/18, the committee having decided it was appropriate to gradually reduce funds, and monitor year by year, to ensure that the balance remains healthy but not excessive for a U3A of our size and annual turnover.

Reserve Acc There had been no transfer from this account and a very small amount of interest had been paid.

Social Acc, this year, most events broke even, 3 made a profit and 5 made a loss
 Welfare Acc, showed an increase in the balance as expenditure had been unusually low
 this year.

This concluded the report. A member asked why there were no printed reports for each member if the money was available, it was explained that the committee had made the decision based on the waste of resources not just the cost, the majority of the hall agreed with the decision when asked. The report was approved.

Members were asked to approve John Cavanagh as accounts Examiner for 207/18
 There were no objections, approval was received.

Election of new Executive Committee.

There were 9 nominations.

Name of Nominee	Name of Proposer	Name of Secunder
Jacqueline Airey	Brian Platt	Maria Henderson
Christine Blease	Maria Henderson	Rose Deegan
Phil Ridgeway	Katherine Fraser	J. Burrige
Sally Dulieu	Peter Royal	Margaret Royal
Cynthia Pitts	Gordon Mutch	Martin Airey
Hazel Meakin	Sue Pollock	John Pollock
Carol Culley	Mary Howie	Jean Mitchell
Jacqueline Fantom	C. Strickland	Barbara Aldred
David Jones	June Poole	Bernie Dale

All nominations were approved.

The Chairman thanked the retiring committee members and wished the new executive good luck for the future.

This concluded the AGM at 10.30 am.