

Newsletter

Issue No.8

December 2012

Chairman's Remarks

Season's Greetings Everyone.

Wow, it seems impossible to believe that a year has gone by and another Christmas is upon us. What a year it has been. We now have over 400 members and hopefully all of you will rejoin in January when the subscription will still only be £10.

We have had some really interesting speakers at our monthly meetings and, there was of course, our Jubilee Special which was so well attended. It still brings a smile to my face when I think about all the wonderful outfits you wore. Thank you for being so supportive and joining in our activities.

The U3A is not just about the monthly meeting but also about interest groups. These are flourishing - many being over-subscribed. We must not get complacent though and we always need group organisers to come forward as well as new interest groups to be formed. All suggestions considered! The NEC Network held a successful study day which was attended by a number of our members. Look out for future Summer School events.

This is the last newsletter of the year and the last one before our AGM in March. May I encourage you all to attend and to socialise after the official part of the meeting with tea and cakes. Please consider standing for our committee. New blood is always welcome. We really do need your input and ideas to enable your Poynton U3A to develop and grow.

I trust it has been a good U3A year for you and look forward to seeing you in 2013.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from everyone on the committee.

Jo Leach (chairman)

**Hello and welcome to
our Winter
Newsletter**

Hi!

The festive season is approaching rapidly so don't miss our U3A Christmas Special and do make time to read our U3A news.

We have another crossword and a festive puzzle so please check them out.

To help membership renewal there is a postal option using the form on the last page.

Anybody wishing to contribute to the next Newsletter should email information to newsletter@poyntonu3a.org.uk by 15th February, 2013.

All items should be original and submitted with author's name and contact details.

Our grateful thanks go to all who have contributed so far.

The Editorial Team

Diary Dates
Monthly General Meetings
3rd Tuesday in month; 2pm Poynton Civic Hall
Guest Speakers

January 15th	Brian Greene - I Got Gershwin
February 19th	Wendy Bray - Communications for Life A talk on the work of the Sea Shell Trust
March 19th	Our AGM – Come and have your say!
April 16 th	David Frith – Going with the Flow – following the Goyt.

Meet the Groups

Poynton U3A Groups

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Antiques	Judith Davis	To be advised
Art	David Williams Tony Worthington	Mondays 1.30-3.30 Civic Hall
Art Appreciation	Kath Bell Carol Gatenby	To be advised
Ballet Appreciation	Meg Humphries	1 st or 4 th Wednesday each month
Bird Watching	Peter Owen	Monthly (next meeting 18 th January)
Bridge	Dorothy Rowland	2.00 alternate Mondays Civic Hall (next meeting 10 th Dec.)
Cake Decorating	Ann Tofield	To be advised
Card Making	Catherine Owen	2.00 4 th Wednesday in month
Creative Writing	Veronica O'Connor Ann Walker	1.30 2 nd & 4 th Mondays in month
Crosswords	Ed Milius	To be advised
Day Trips	Iris & Gerry Neale	Sept. – Dec. Information at General Meetings & on web site
Diners' Club	Jackie Smith Christine Wild	6.00 at Ciao on 24 th January
DIY	Sue Badger	To be advised
Embroidery	Barbara Davies	2.30 4 th Thursday in month
Exercise Class-Postural Stability	Irene Johnson	St Martin's Church Hall 11.00-12.00 1 st Wednesday in month. (Additional classes see below.)
Family History	Moyna Barrott	Twice monthly
Geology	Peter Bennett	4 th Thursday in month
German Beginners	Catherine Owen	By arrangement with the organiser
German Conversation	Peter Owen	Monthly
History	Wendy Fermor Dorothy Bayman	2.00 4 th Tuesday in month
Laptop & Internet Basics	Jack Taylor	Information at General Meetings & on web site
Photography	Jan Slinn	1 st Friday in month
Play Reading	Catherine Owen	2.30 1 st Tuesday in month
Reading	Iris Neale	2 nd Tuesday in month
Scrabble	Dorothy Bayman	2.00 2 nd Monday in month
Spanish	Wendy Vigurs	Mondays 10-11.30
Table Tennis	Janet Gill	2.00-4.00 1 st & 3 rd Thursdays in month, Poynton Sports Club
Walking	Joy Bradburn	1 st Thurs in month
Short Walks	Bob Stepto	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays in month

Other Poynton Groups open to our U3A Members

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Exercise Class-Postural Stability	Irene Johnson	St Martin's Church Hall 11.00am-12 noon 3 rd Wednesday in month, St George's Church Hall 2 nd and 4 th Thursdays in month 1.00-2.00pm
Hallé Concert Visits	Wendy Vigurs	Information at General Meetings & on web site
PHS-PTA Theatre Trips	Elaine Roe	Information at General Meetings & on web site
PHS-PTA Minibreaks	Elaine Roe	23rd-24th March 2013 Bath & Cotswolds 24th-25th May Chelsea Flower Show & Kew Gardens

If you are interested in joining any of the groups, contact the group organiser, or if you are interested in forming a new group, speak to Bob or Joan at General Meetings or <mailto:groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk>

Meet the Groups Continued

NEC Network Open Groups

Bramhall, Cheadle & Gatley, Cheadle Hulme, Poynton and Wilmslow U3As have formed an association known as the **North East Cheshire (NEC) Network**. Importantly, the **NEC Network** recognises **Open Groups**. These are Interest Groups organised, as usual, within a particular U3A but open to all members of all the U3As in the **NEC Network**. It is hoped that the membership of an Interest Group will increase once it has become an Open Group. Some Poynton Groups – namely Cake Decorating, Creative Writing, Exercise Class, Hallé Concert Visits – are open to others in the NEC Network. Open Groups from other U3As are listed here:

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Art (Bramhall U3A)	Peter Richardson	1.00-3.00 alternate Mondays
Church History (Bramhall U3A)	Dorothy Chesterman	10.00 alternate Wednesdays
Embroidery (Bramhall U3A)	Dorothy Chesterman	10.00 2nd Thursday in month
Poetry (Cheadle Hulme U3A)	Pat Wright	To be advised
T'ai Chi (Cheadle Hulme U3A)	Pat Wright	To be advised

Groups in Focus

SHORT WALKS

Short walks are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The new timetable for 2013 is now available. All the walks are gentle, about two miles in length and take one hour to one hour and a half: Meet at the Civic Centre at 10.30, or at the start of the walk at 10.45.

- 08/1/13** Old Toll House, start at Bulls Head, London Road.
- 22/1/13** Poynton Coppice, start at the Coppice car park, near the Middlewood Way.
- 12/2/13** Adlington Basin, start at Nelson Pit Visitor Centre.
- 26/2/13** Clarence Mill, start at the public car park just past the Windmill Pub near the canal, on Holehouse Lane.
- 12/3/13** Petre Bank, start at Civic Centre.
- 26/3/13** Four Winds and Lyme Park, to include a 45mins stop in Lyme Park. Start at Nelson Pit Visitor Centre.
- 09/4/13** Happy Valley, start at the lay-by opposite the Brookdale Theatre on Jackson's Lane, Bramhall.
- 23/4/13** Lyme Park, start at lay-by near West Park Gate.

Bob Stepto

BALLET APPRECIATION

This is a new group which will meet once a month, either on the first or fourth Wednesday afternoon. We will look at a mixture of extracts, short pieces, documentaries and full length ballets.

The first meeting was held on Wednesday 26th September and was called **Contrasting Styles: Classical Russian vs Modern Western**.

We saw short extracts by stars of the Kirov Ballet from 1958 – 1974 and followed this with more recent recordings of Paquita and the Pas de Deux from Don Quixote. For examples of Western style, we watched The A-Z of Ballet (1984) with Mikhail Baryshnikov and the American Ballet Theatre. Everyone said they were coming back for more.

Why not try it?

Meg Humphries

ART APPRECIATION

We have visited two art galleries in Manchester during the past two months.

In October we caught the bus from Parrs Wood to the Whitworth Art Gallery. There we looked at their exhibition of David Hockney's work and were introduced to the gallery by Lawrence. This was interesting, if a little short.

November found us re-visiting Manchester Art Gallery for their 'drop in' session. Isabelle gave us a very interesting, hour long, tour of part of this huge gallery. Prior to the tour we visited their First Cut Exhibition. This is a display of paper art and is highly recommended.

In January we plan to meet informally to discuss the future of this successful group and to decide where we would like to visit in the future.

Carol Gatenby

Groups in Focus Continued

DINERS' CLUB

Volunteers are urgently needed to organise a meal in February or March 2013. Please contact Joan Stepto on 872581 or email groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk.

EMBROIDERY

Please note the group now meets at 2.30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Barbara Davies

PHS-PTA THEATRE TRIPS

Spaces on the following trips in 2013 are still available. They are organised on behalf of the Poynton High School PTA but open to Poynton U3A members. All prices include transport:

Royal Exchange Theatre Visits

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD - a stage adaptation of Harper Lee's novel - Friday 22nd February 2013

Price: £23 (Book and pay by 12th January)

CANNIBALS by Rory Mullarkey - Friday 5th April 2013

Price: £23 (Book and pay by 15th February)

A DOLL'S HOUSE by Henrik Ibsen - Friday 3rd May 2013

Price: £23 (Book and pay by 15th March)

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY by Harold Pinter - Friday 7th June 2013

Price: £23 (Book and pay by 15th April)

TOO CLEVER BY HALF - Friday 12th July 2013

Price: £23 (Book and pay by 15th May)

Lowry Theatre Visits

THE LADYKILLERS - Lowry Theatre - Thursday 28th March 2013. Price: £30 Centre Circle/Stalls, £35 Front Circle

WARHORSE - The Lowry - Monday 25th November 2013. Price: £49.50 Front Circle/Stalls

Elaine Roe

PHS-PTA MINIBREAKS

This is a new venture for the U3A. The trips are organised on behalf of the Poynton High School PTA but are open to Poynton U3A members. Two trips are planned so far:

SATURDAY 23rd TO SUNDAY to 24th MARCH 2013 - BATH AND THE COTSWOLDS

We would leave Poynton at 8.30am on Saturday and travel to the lovely Georgian city of Bath arriving at lunch time. There would be time to visit the Roman Baths or the Assembly Rooms or browse around the excellent shops and then have a meal before travelling to the overnight hotel. On the Sunday we would travel to the Cotswolds and visit two of the most famous towns, Stow on the Wold and Bourton on the Water. We would then return home by mid evening. Cost including coach travel, one night's bed and English breakfast: £79.95 (Single room supplement £19)

FRIDAY 24th MAY to SATURDAY 25th MAY 2013 - CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW AND KEW

We would leave Poynton at 8.30am on Friday and travel to Chelsea arriving around lunch time. We would remain there until 8pm before heading off to our overnight hotel so there would be plenty of time to wander the show gardens. On Saturday we will head to the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. One of the world's leading botanic research institutions, Kew has a magical mix of landscaped lawns, formal gardens, glasshouses and over 30,000 plants. After a fascinating day out, we'll reboard the coach and head home, returning to the local area by mid to late evening. Cost including coach travel, one night's bed and continental breakfast and entry to Chelsea and Kew: £139.95 (Single room supplement £22).

Elaine Roe

Members' Corner

Here's a brain-teasing Yuletide puzzle – replace each different letter with a different digit (0-9) to make the sum add-up: The answer will be published in the next Newsletter. (Contributed by a member.)

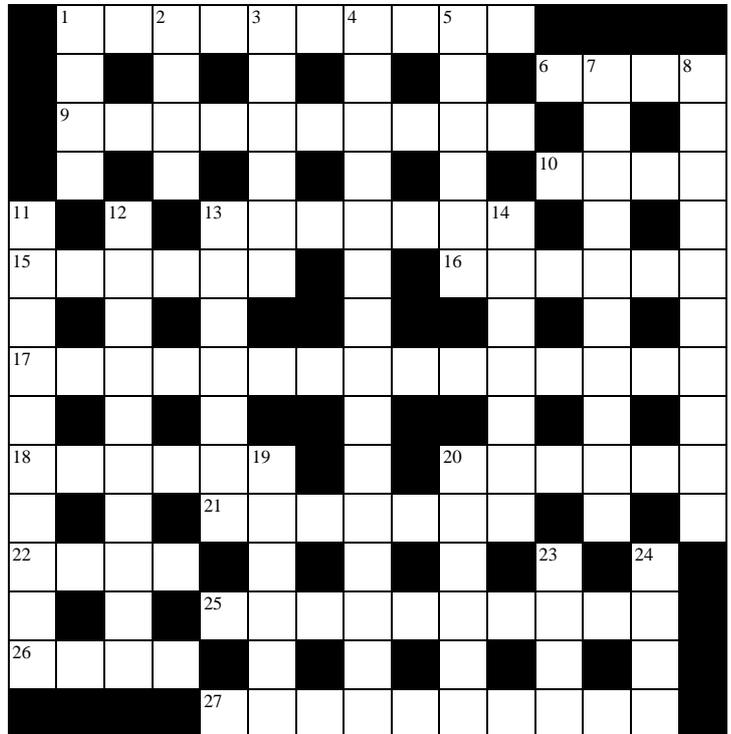
A
MERRY
<u> XMAS</u>
TURKEY

Members' Corner continued

U3A CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 4 (with Christmas in mind)

Across

- 1 Truck and crane offer a utensil, particularly useful at Christmas. (10)
 6 Bats could have a go at. (4)
 9 Pet with spirit found in front of bank – list it. (10)
 10 May your Christmas party (or cracker) go off with one. (4)
 13 Group ninety nine is excellent. (7)
 15 Hep! Three zeros form foreign flyer. (6)
 16 No returning it on an idea. (6)
 17 Chinaman and old Danish leader produce mother and son. (7,3,5)
 18 Salesman in coach returns – that's brilliant! (6)
 20 Fashionable finish in rugby score. (6)
 21 Skill in taking the sleigh to town. (7)
 22 Christ found in shroud of Turin? Right. (4)
 25 Tenor practising with saint? That will produce something very loud. (10)
 26 That shop is hiding its headwear. (4)
 27 Snakes surround road with wild animals – that's entertainment for Christmas afternoon! (5,5)



Down

- 1 North Korea embraces London district to form an isthmus. (4)
 2 Much of 12 Down will be taken in this. (4)
 3 Entertain Elgar lavishly till start of evening. (6)
 4 Sit down to turkey maybe – and stirs rich men into action. (9,6)
 5 Make noises about not appearing in court. (6)
 7 Trees, cards and mistletoe are all Christmas ones. (10)
 8 O yes! Bandy, gravity recalls past times. (6,4)
 11 World football star found in ploughed-up heath? He's an absolute God! (3,7)
 12 Much will prevail or be drunk over Christmas. (4,6)
 13 Her Majesty is overcome with foot problems, which may result in the bends. (7)
 14 Musical composition loses nothing in live performance. (7)
 19 Playing bingo with the Bishop in a drunken stupor. (6)
 20 A crowd gets right inside Roman underwear. (6)
 23 Type of entertainment will fulfil many insiders. (4)
 24 Famous 60s rock group loses leader; renamed black liquids. (4)

POYNTON U3A CROSSWORD No. 3

Solution

Across: 1 railway station (7,7); 9 uptrain (7); 10 ammeter (7); 11 avec (4); 12 department (10); 14 beacon (6); 15 leathery (8); 17 nitrogen (8); 18 mowers (6); 21 phenomenon (10); 22 into (4); 24 egotist (7); 25 scarves (7); 26 standard bearer (8,6)

Down: 1 rhubarb (7); 2 in the last resort (2,3,4,6); 3 wear (4); 4 yonder (6); 5 teacakes (8); 6 temptation (10); 7 on the never never (2,3,5,5); 8 frothy (6); 13 locomotion (10); 16 dementia (8); 17 nephew (6); 19 sponsor (7); 20 roused (6); 23 bare (4)

Compiled by the Poynton U3A Crossword Group. If you would like to see the standard improved, then come and join us! Simply contact Ed Milius on 01625 875225.

News in brief

INTEREST GROUPS

Please be sure to let us have any news items and photographs from your group's activities for our Website and Notice Board. Pass to Bob via your Group Organiser.

STOCKPORT SUMMER SCHOOL

This will be held on the week 15th to 19th July, 2013 so put it in your diary!
More details of courses will be available in the next Newsletter.

NORTH WEST REGION RESIDENTIAL SUMMER SCHOOL 2013

Details of the North West Region's Summer School at Newton Rigg College, near Penrith, on 27-30 August 2013, are available in their latest newsletter with full details and the application form available on the NW Region website in the Events Section. A copy of this will also be available on our Notice Board.

NATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOLS 2013

Each summer there are two national summer schools organised by members of the Standing Committee for Education. U3A members are able to follow a course of study from a choice of approximately 10 wide-ranging subjects, led by volunteer U3A tutors. In most cases previous experience is not required.

1. Harper Adams - Monday 15th July to Thursday 18th July 2013
2. Royal Agricultural College - Monday 19th August to Thursday 22nd August 2013

Further information is available at General Meetings or on the U3A Website <http://www.u3a.org.uk/events/summer-schools>.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL & AGM NEWS

January is the month for renewing membership. Good news – the subscription for 2013 remains at £10. **You can renew your membership at the General Meeting on 15th January.** All you will need is your 2012 membership card with you and your subscription. Alternatively, you can renew by post using the form below.

The AGM is on 19th March, 2013. Please put the date in your diary. If you are interested in standing for the committee or would like to propose a resolution, **get the details from the notice board at the January General Meeting or from our website poyntonu3a.org.uk.** Your vote is important for shaping the future of Poynton U3A as you will be voting on the financial accounts, proposed resolutions and committee members.

Membership Renewal

We hope you want to continue to enjoy the various activities and meetings run by Poynton U3A. To do this you will need to renew your membership by January 31st 2013. You can do this at our General Meeting on Tuesday January 15th 2013 or by post using the following form.

Title ____ First name _____ Family name _____ Membership number _____

Please list any changes to your contact details including your email address :-

Please post this form with your old membership card, a stamped self-addressed envelope and a cheque for £10.00 to Poynton U3A Membership Secretary, Ransford, Wood Lane South, Adlington, Cheshire. SK10 4PJ.