

Newsletter

Issue No.6

June 2012

Chairman's Remarks

Hello Everybody!

What an amazing turn-out we had for the A.G.M. Thank you so much for supporting us and electing the steering committee into office en masse. We are delighted that you feel the first year has gone well, and you want us to continue to be at the helm of Poynton U3A. We now have another team member, David Sewart, co-opted onto the committee, who I'm sure will be a very big asset to us all.

Our groups are flourishing although more are always welcomed. An Art Appreciation group is being formed and seems to have attracted a lot of interest. Also, some groups are now up to capacity. This means second ones need to be started in those subjects; so why not volunteer to set up a group? No experience is necessary. It's a really good way to get involved, meet people and make new friends.

As you know, you need to be a member to belong to an interest group, so try and remember to have your membership card with you whenever you attend any U3A activity.

There are some interesting things happening regionally: Stockport Summer School, North East Cheshire Network Study Day, and numerous activities within the North West Region. As always, more information is on the notice boards and on the website, as well as in this newsletter. Our website has been improved so that current items can be accessed more easily.

I hope you are enjoying all the activities around Poynton to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and especially our very own, U3A, celebrations. Thank you to everyone involved.

Jo Leach (Chairman)

**Hello and
welcome to our
Summer
Newsletter!**

Felt a bit confused about entitling this "summer edition" whilst watching the hailstones through my window but, WOW!.... as I'm putting the Newsletter to bed, summer seems to have arrived.

We have a report on the NW U3A Easter School and another crossword to keep us occupied if the sunshine decides to disappear again. Also, check out last quarter's answers.

Please keep your contributions coming. Whether it's a personal comment, a group report, or a poem or story, we'll try to include it. Anybody wishing to contribute should e-mail information to newsletter@poyntonu3a.org.uk. All items should be original and submitted with the author's name and contact details.

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

Joyce

Diary Dates

Monthly General Meetings

3rd Tuesday in month; 2pm Poynton Civic Hall

Guest Speakers

19 th June	Jubilee Special - in-house entertainment and fun for all
17 th July	Christine Mellor - "History of Lyme Hall"
21 st August	Donald Lodge - "The Life of an Ex-Butler"
18 th September	Carol Ward - "My life as a Tiller Girl"

Meet the Groups

***NEC Network Open Group**

STD Code 01625 unless otherwise stated

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Antiques	Judith Davis	To be advised
Art	David Williams Tony Worthington	Mondays 1.30-3.30 Civic Hall
Art* (Bramhall U3A)	Peter Richardson	1.00-3.00 alternate Mondays
Bird Watching	Peter Owen	Monthly – restarting 28 th September
Bridge	Dorothy Rowland	2.00 alternate Mondays Civic Hall
Cake Decorating* (Poynton U3A)	Ann Tofield	To be advised
Card Making	Catherine Owen	2pm 4 th Wednesday in month
Church History* (Bramhall U3A)	Dorothy Chesterman	10.00 alternate Wednesdays
Computing	Joan Bridge	No course at present
Concert Visits* (Poynton U3A)	Wendy Vigurs	Information at General Meetings & on website
Creative Writing* (Poynton U3A)	Veronica O'Connor Ann Walker	1.30-3.30 2 nd & 4 th Mondays in month
Crosswords	Ed Milius	To be advised
Day Trips	Iris Neale	Information at General Meeting & on website
Diners' Club	Maureen Ridley Dorothy Hoadley	Information at General Meetings & on website- next meal 26 th July, Springwood Park, Tytherington
DIY	Sue Badger	To be advised
Embroidery* (Bramhall U3A)	Dorothy Chesterman	10.00 2 nd Thursday in month
Embroidery* (Poynton U3A)	Barbara Davies	2.30 2 nd Wednesday in month
Exercise Class- Postural Stability	Irene Johnson	1 st & 3 rd Wednesday in month, St Martin's Church Hall 2 nd & 4 th Thursday in month, Community Centre
Family History	Moyna Barrott	Twice monthly
Geology	Peter Bennett	Monthly Thursdays
German Beginners	Catherine Owen	2.30 3 rd Monday in month
German Conversation	Peter Owen	Monthly – next meetings 15 th June, 13 th July
History	Wendy Fermor Dorothy Bayman	2.00 4 th Tuesday in month
Laptop & Internet Basics	Jack Taylor	Monthly – last Tuesday or last Thursday
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
Singing	Wendy Winsor	Fortnightly 2.00 Tuesdays, Civic Centre
Spanish	Wendy Vigurs	Mondays 10-11.30
Table Tennis	Janet Gill	2.00-4.00 1 st & 3 rd Thursday in month Poynton Sports Club
Theatre Trips	Elaine Roe	Information at General Meetings or on website
Walking	Joy Bradburn	Monthly – details on website
Short Walks	Bob Stepto	2 nd & 4 th Tues in month

Interested in joining a group? Then contact the group organiser.

Groups with potential members, but needing organisers:

Art Appreciation	Discussion	French Conversation	Local History	Wildlife Study
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Why not play your part and become a Group Organiser? E-mail groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk.

Groups in Focus

BIRDWATCHING

The outings for Autumn 2012 – Spring 2013 have now been arranged:

28 th September 2012	Sandbach Flashes
19 th October 2012	Moore Nature Reserve, near Warrington
16 th November 2012	Tittesworth Reservoir, near Rushton Spencer
18 th January 2013	Poynton Pool
15 th February 2013	Chelford Sand Quarries/Redesmere
15 th March 2013	Etherow Country Park, Compstall
26 th April 2013	Marshside Reserve, Southport
10 th May 2013	Burton Marsh RSPB Wetlands Reserve/Parkgate, Wirral
17 th May 2013	Jackson's Brickworks, Middlewood – Dawn Chorus – 6.30 am
31 st May 2013	Leighton Moss Reserve, Lancashire

Meet at the Poynton Civic Centre at **9.45 am**, except for the Marshside and Leighton Moss trips, when we shall meet at **9.15 am**, and, of course, at **6.30 am** for the Dawn Chorus! For further details please e-mail groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk

DAY TRIPS

All previously reported trips are now fully subscribed, but three further ones are planned. The coach departs for all trips from the Civic Hall car park.

On **Thursday 20th September**, we will be going to **Bakewell & Hardwick Hall**, departing at 9.30 am, and returning around 3.30 pm. **We are taking bookings now** and the cost will be £20 (£10 for NT members).

On **Thursday 18th October**, we will be travelling to **Liverpool** for the day. This trip includes a 3-course carvery lunch, with tea and coffee at the Adelphi Hotel. Again, departure is at 9.30 am and the cost (including lunch) is £17.

On **Sunday 2nd December**, we will be visiting **Arley Hall & Craft Fair**, leaving around 12.00 noon. The cost, including a drink of tea & piece of cake, will be £20.

Further information is on the website.

We will start taking bookings for the last two trips at the **17th July General Meeting**. Bookings can be made at General Meetings or by contacting via e-mail daytrips@poyntonu3a.org.uk. Cheques should be made payable to **Poynton U3A Social**.

DINERS' CLUB

The next meal is at Springwood Park Restaurant, Tytherington on 26th July at 6.00 pm. Lifts can be arranged to and from the Civic Hall car park if required. Book at General Meetings or e-mail groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk.

FAMILY HISTORY

We just had the one meeting in April, the first Wednesday being rather too close to the Easter holiday. We met on Wednesday 11th April when a group of seven of us paid a visit to Staircase House in Stockport preceded by lunch at the Plaza Cafe. Lunch was delicious and provided an opportunity for a good chat. We then moved on to Staircase House in the Market Place, managing to dodge the worst of the showers. Those who hadn't been before were pleasantly surprised by the extent of the property and its interesting history. The afternoon was very enjoyable and sparked suggestions for other visits. If you have any ideas please let me know.

In May, we had one meeting, as usual, on the first Wednesday, which was 2nd May, in the I.T. Suite at the Community Centre on Park Lane. Our second meeting in May was on Wednesday, 16th May, again at the Community Centre, when Ruth Percival from the Church of Latter Days Saints spoke about their website, which I am sure we have all used at some time or other.

Moyna Barrott

THEATRE TRIPS We have had more trips to excellent plays at the Royal Exchange Theatre ranging from the gritty 50s drama Saturday Night and Sunday Morning to Oscar Wilde's wonderfully witty Lady Windermere's Fan. There is one play remaining in the current season; A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM - Thursday 12th July, Price: £29.50.



Stage level seats have now been reserved for plays in the next Royal Exchange Theatre Autumn/Winter season on the first Friday of each run at a cost of £23 per person, including transport. The price is £1 more than plays in the current season as both ticket and coach prices have increased. (Ticket prices on Fridays are usually £30.) A minimum number of 12 people is needed to make any trip viable. The plays in the new season are:

THE COUNTRY WIFE – 14th September 2012 (Book and pay by 17th July);

ORPHEUS DESCENDING - 26th October 2012 (Book and pay by 10th September);

RAT'S TALES - 30th November 2012 (Book and pay by 12th October);

THE ACCRINGTON PALS - 18th January 2013 (Book and pay by 30th November)

More information may be found on the Royal Exchange Theatre website or on the leaflets available at General Meetings.

Seats have also been reserved for Starlight Express, Hansel and Gretel at the Clonter Opera Theatre, 9 to 5 The Musical, Matthew Bourne's Sleeping Beauty, White Christmas and One Man Two Guvnors.

Bookings can be made at General Meetings or by e-mail to groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk Payments should be made at the General Meetings or sent to me by post before the cut-off date. I regret that I am not able to reserve places without payment.

Elaine Roe

News in brief

Committee

Following the A.G.M. the committee is as follows:-

Name	Role
Jo Leach	Chairman
Stan Shaw	Vice Chairman
Gerry Neale	Treasurer
Lindsay Kay	Secretary
Carol Gatenby	Speaker Organiser
Joyce Horan	Newsletter Editor
Helen Long	Membership Secretary
Jeanne Maxwell	Committee Member
Iris Neale	Assistant Treasurer
David Sewart	Committee Member
Joan Stepto	Interest Groups Co-ordinator
Robert Stepto	Assistant Interest Groups Co-ordinator
Joyce Tapper	Refreshment Organiser

There have been a few minor changes to the committee from last year. Carol Gatenby is now Speaker Organiser, instead of Minutes Secretary, Lindsay Kay now carries out the full secretarial role, and Jeanne Maxwell is no longer Speaker Organiser but remains on the committee.

Jessie Monaghan has left the committee and we would like to thank her for her valuable input during our inaugural year. We wish her well and hope she will remain an active member of our U3A.

We would also like to welcome our new member David Sewart who is already making a valuable contribution to the work of the committee.

Website

The committee, on behalf of Poynton U3A, would like to thank Derek Gatenby and Lindsay Kay, who designed and maintain our website www.poyntonu3a.org.uk.

Assistant Refreshment Organiser

We are in urgent need of a volunteer to support Joyce Tapper with organising the refreshments and deputise in her absence. This is a great way to meet people and make friends. If you feel you could help, please contact Joyce or any committee member.

Diamond Jubilee Meeting

Don't forget your red, white and blue or 50s costumes. We're sure it will be a great afternoon.

Stockport Summer School

Places are still available for: - **10th July "Wonders of the Universe"**; **11th July "Flash Fiction"**; **12th July "You Can Do it DIY!"** and **13th July "Anglo-Saxon England"**. As **"From Crime Scene to Court"** was fully subscribed an additional date has been added on **Wednesday 11th July**. Further details and application forms are on our website.

NE Cheshire Network

Another great opportunity for our members! A history study day on **5th October**, at **Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church** from **9.30 am to 3.30 pm**. Subjects will be **"The End of Roman Britain"** by **Dr Birgitta Hoffman** and **"Arthur – Myth or Fact"** by **Mr. Alan Stevenson**. The cost is £15 including lunch and coffee. The closing date for bookings is 22nd June 2012. To book your place, contact **Wendy Fermor, History Group Organiser**.

Members' Corner

NW U3A EASTER SCHOOL 2012

When I read about the U3A Easter School on the web site, it sounded irresistible. They had an interesting selection of courses (Archaeology, Creative Writing, Geology, An Introduction to Ancient Egypt, Novelists and Philosophers and Sixty Years of Science). I registered for Creative Writing, as did Veronica O'Connor, co-organiser of our creative writing group, and together we drove to Myerscough College, near Preston, the regular venue for these courses. We had an excellent and very experienced tutor, Maggie Smith, whose first words were that we were there to work. And work we did – up to six hours a day in class for two and a half days. Maggie gave us many useful tips on how to get started as well as enhanced confidence in our writing. Some fine pieces were produced and every one of us went away with the feeling that we had made progress as well as a renewed belief in our potential as writers.

The college campus is impressive, but, sadly, the weather turned cold and windy that week. I would have enjoyed a visit to the gardens. The first evening, we had a lively Gardeners' Question Time with a member of the horticulture department and, the following evening, a quiz which our team won. The College bar is in the appropriately named Stumble Inn. Accommodation is in single en suite rooms and the food is, for institutional catering, surprisingly good! The price – £185 – was all-inclusive for the two nights we spent there and we considered it extremely good value.

We hope that, next year, more Poynton members will consider attending the Easter school. Apart from the stimulating courses, it's a great opportunity to relax and get to know members from all over the region and learn about their experiences in U3A. I'm sure I'll be back!

Ann Walker

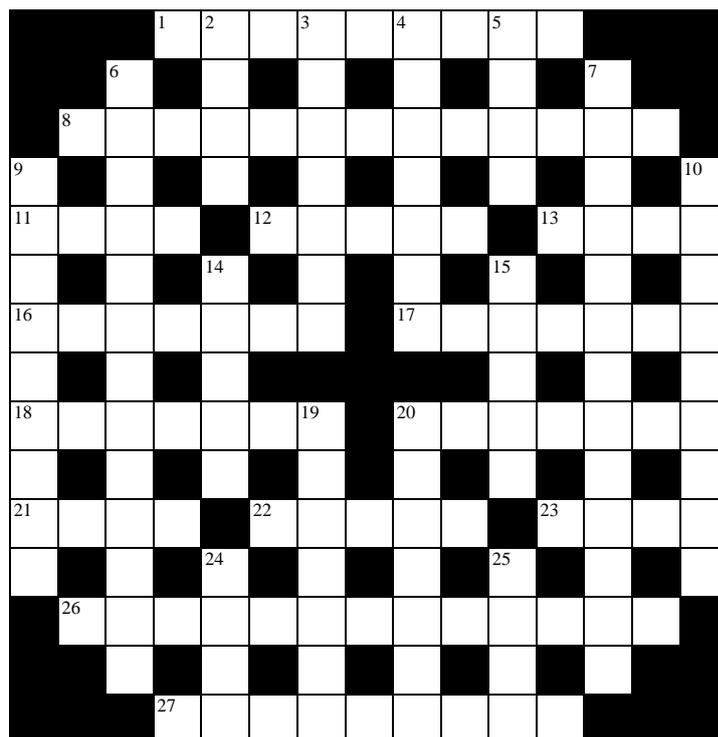
POYNTON U3A CROSSWORD No. 2

Across

- 1** New Oliver version? That'll be a howler! (9)
8 Maybe music in a casket. (5,8)
11 Young horse left in tiny bed? (4)
12 These may be ripped off in a tornado or storm. (5)
13 Killer whale found in Cairo? I'm leaving before the panic! (4)
16 Terribly well-fed in a funny sort of way. (7)
17 Now's the time for a drink—even a mixed gin! (7)
18 Unfaithful partner shows lack of affection round about Britain. (7)
20 This diver can also unblock your sink. (7)
21 Devours part of meat sandwich. (4)
22 Touch nothing inside roughly. (5)
23 Pretty little singer in a new rendition. (4)
26 Climbing some flats? Use these steps. (8,5)
27 Roughly two females riding east? That's not agreed. (9)

Down

- 2** American State surprises ten. (4)
3 Triumph, winner unknown. (7)
4 Stand in, jam, but no parking. (7)
5 Want to rake Eden. (4)
6 Quaint Official gets his grade after losing a folio. (13)
7 On course a racing tipster provides this. (8,5)
9 Catch reds, but dropped out. (9)
10 Sailor holds back jazz music to provide sandwich spread. (9)
14 Hear the Spanish lover on the arm. (5)
15 I leave talented person for a family group (5)
19 Be fired for collected information (7)
20 Could he help to promote you? (7)
24 Mainly involved in savings (1,1,1,1.)
25 Dash round the lane. (4)



Compiled by Ed Milius & Ian Berrisford, Poynton U3A Crossword Group. *Come and join the group!*

For the solution, telephone Ed (01625 875225) or see him at a General Meeting. The solution will also be published in the next Newsletter and will be put on the website.

POYNTON U3A CROSSWORD No. 1 Solution

Across: **1** Australia (9); **9** pledge (6); **10** disparage (9); **11** appear (6); **12** bedspread (9); **13** past it (4,2); **17** beg (3); **19** tiepolo (7); **20** outcrop (7); **21** aft (3); **23** issued (6); **27** primroses (9); **28** portal (6); **29** dinosaurs (9); **30** nearby (6); **31** presented (9).

Down: **2** united (6); **3** typist (6); **4** aurora (6); **5** ingrate (7); **6** elephants (9); **7** adventure (9); **8** ferrotype (9); **14** stripping (9); **15** jet stream (3,6); **16** Morecombe (9); **17** boa (3); **18** got (3); **22** farrier (7); **24** emboss (6); **25** domain (6); **26** hearse (6)

I can't wait to hear from you all for the next publication. Entries will need to be received by 16th August.

Send an e-mail to newsletter@poyntonu3a.org.uk or see me at General Meetings,

Joyce.

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