



Poynton News

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

poyntonu3a.org.uk

Issue 15

Winter 2014



What was everybody talking about? - See the back page

Chairman's Remarks

The Summer and early Autumn have included some of our most interesting meetings to date. I thought I would learn quite a lot about bread from the Ex Managing Director of Warburtons but few if any of us could have guessed at the range and scale which David Tomlinson covered in May, backed up by the various samples we were invited to take home.

While most of us might attempt an explanation of our own Union Flag, Barry Jackson took it a stage further in June by explaining the meanings of colour, design and symbols in national flags from countries all over the world. At that time our own flag was under threat from the referendum on devolution. But fortunately I will not have to replace with something new my hard earned knowledge from scouting days of which way up our flag should fly!

Poynton is renowned for its range of musical interests so it was no surprise that there was a great deal of interest in Brian Hallworth's talk on George Formby which included several clips of the maestro of the ukulele. This instrument is undergoing a resurgence of interest and there are quite a few U3As which have an Interest Group devoted to it.

August saw the start of the 100th Anniversary of the beginning of what I grew up to call The Great War and our thoughts were focused on this in the talk by Peter Braun in August on Dunham Massey which had taken on the role of a hospital. Those of us who had earlier attended our coach trip there had witnessed the personal details of some of its patients.

This summer the first of the meetings on what will become Poynton's Neighbourhood Plan took place. You will be hearing more about that and I am hoping that we might be able to provide short updates at some of our General Meetings as the shape of the plan becomes clearer.

David Sewart – Chairman

Diary Dates	
Monthly General Meetings	
3rd Tuesday in month at 2pm Poynton Civic Hall	
December 16 th	Christmas Meeting
January 20 th	Prof. Linge - From Man on the Moon to life in cyberspace
February 17 th	Roger Danby - RNLI
March 17 th	AGM

News from the Groups

Geology Group

If you see a bunch of Poynton U3A members in a circle of concentration, pouring water over stones in Lyme Park, it will be the Poynton Geology Group on a field trip. Lyme Park is an Aladdin's cave of geological finds.

I am pleased to tell you that our group has been asked to write an information leaflet so that others can enjoy the treasures. We had our first meeting, shivering, in the Orangery but bravely continued to discuss the format and audience for our leaflet. It promises to be a challenging but exciting project.

We are working towards having the leaflet ready for the Summer Season next year. In the mean time we need willing friends to try out our suggestions and discuss the findings. So be prepared to put on your boots and scarves to wander off into our geological history. There is much to see; evidence of the ice-flows, glacial erratic, slate with beautiful fossils and much more. We can promise you an exciting few hours.

Veronica O'Connor

Short Walks

Short walks are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. 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 10.30am, or at the start of the walk at 10.45am. The programme for the turn of the year is:

Date	Walk
November 25 th	Poynton Pool. Start at Civic Centre.
December 9 th	Hagg Farm Circuit followed by lunch (optional) at the Boar's Head. Start at Nelson Pit Visitor Centre.
	CHRISTMAS BREAK
January 13 th	Old Toll House. Start at Hazelbadge Road.
January 27 th	Poynton Coppice. Start at Coppice Car Park, Middlewood Way.
February 10 th	Adlington Basin. Start at Nelson Pit Visitor Centre.
February 24 th	Clarence Mill. Start at car park, near canal on Holehouse Lane.

Bob Stepto

Art Appreciation

4th December – We are having a talk and display by Poynton's mayor, Rebecca Horsman who makes her own sculptures.

8th January – To be advised

February – Platt Fields Costume Gallery "Something Blue", Wedding Fashions 1914-2014

March – Whitworth Art Gallery – which reopens on 14th February following a total refurbishment.

Kath Bell

Bird Watching - Burton Marsh - 19th September

Burton Marsh was the venue for the first outing of the season for 20 members of the bird watching group.

Burton Marsh straggles the border between England and Wales along the Dee Estuary. It consists of lagoons, restored reed beds, fenland and farmland. It is a haven for birds and an ideal location for visitors, with its relaxed modern facilities making it an absolutely ideal place for a day's bird watching. It certainly didn't disappoint.

On arrival the wardens told us that there was a juvenile Red Necked Phalarope, Little Stints and Ruff as well as a Cattle Egret to be seen. By the end of the visit all had been recorded. There were thousands of migratory ducks just arrived from the Arctic, Pintail, Wigeon and Teal, along with Shovelers, Gadwall and Mallard.

There was no shortage of Greylag and Canada Geese either. The bird feeders played host to Goldfinches and various tits. In all 39 species of birds were recorded, plus a water vole, a mole and a few rats.

Peter Kirk

YOUR U3A NEEDS YOU

This is your U3A not ours. We are a self-help group run by the members for the members. The committee needs your input to maintain the continued success of Poynton U3A. We would like help at meetings to set up, and clear up, also greeters. If you have any special talents that you think may be of use to your U3A please put yourself forward. This will not take much of your time but could be a great help to your U3A.

Clive Hill – Vice-Chairman

Message to all Group Organisers : When you email your group members about arrangements, please send a copy to webmaster@poyntonu3a.org.uk so that we can keep the website up to date. Thank you.

General News

PHS-PTA Minibreaks

The trip to Highgrove and Oxford was a great success with the bonus of good weather. We were a little perturbed to hear that our original hotel had closed down but this worked in our favour as the replacement, a Marriot Hotel, was excellent. After travelling down to Oxford we had the afternoon there to wander around and visit some of the many attractions including the Ashmolean museum, Bodleian Library and the beautiful University buildings. The highlight of our trip had to be the visit to the Highgrove garden the following day. We had an excellent tour of the lovely garden, not formal and manicured but delightfully natural. This was followed by a delicious lunch in the Orchard restaurant.

The next mini break is in April next year and we will be visiting Cambridge, Sandringham and Lincoln. This trip sold out within a few days but more are being planned for later in the year.

If you would be interested in future trips contact me by email at groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk or at General Meetings.

Elaine Roe

Wilmslow Guild - Life Planning for the Over Fifties

This free course has been recommended by one of our members.

The one day course aims to help you consider current and future choices, and stimulate ideas about how to get more out of how you live, work, earn and learn.

The next course dates are
Saturday 31st January 2015
Saturday 7th March 2015
Saturday 16th May 2015

For further details contact the Wilmslow Guild.

The Great British Bake-Off

Local man Luis Troyano has put Poynton firmly on the map by becoming one of the finalists in the recent Great British Bake Off on BBC. His show-stopping creation in sponge, biscuit and choux pastry balls in the final was an edible depiction of the winding wheel monument which stands in the centre of London Road North to represent Poynton's coal mining heritage. We use a photo of this monument on the front of our Newsletters!

In a previous round Luis created a copy of the Lyme Park 'cage' in cake decorated with caramel strands.

He spoke proudly about his home town of Poynton and the judges were duly impressed by his creation.

Kate Marsham

Medical Screening Study Day

The North West Region is supporting a Medical Screening Study Day on Thursday 27th November at Lancaster Friends' Meeting House from 10.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Gill Baynes, Chair of Lancaster & Morecambe U3A, is presenting a Study Day concentrating on the uses and benefits of Medical Screening, including an overview, the roles of Pathology and Radiology with a guest speaker from Cancer Care who will speak about national cancer awareness and early detection.

Coffee is provided on arrival and at lunchtime but lunch is not included – take your own or buy locally.

This event is funded by the North West Region and is free to all North West U3A members

Early application is essential and all forms are now available on the website.

Poynton U3A Membership Renewal Form Subscription for 2015 is still £10.00

Memberships expire at the end of December and you cannot attend the AGM in March if you are not a current member. To continue to enjoy the activities run by Poynton U3A you need to renew your membership by January 31st 2015. You can do this at our General Meeting on Tuesday January 20th 2015 or by post using the following form.

Title _____ First name _____ Family name _____ Membership no. _____

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

Please post this form with your old membership card, a stamped self-addressed envelope and a cheque for £10.00 (made payable to Poynton U3A) to Poynton U3A Membership Secretary, 98 Vernon Road, Poynton, Cheshire SK12 1YR.

Groups List

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Antiques	Judith Davis	Contact Organiser
Art	David Williams Tony Worthington	Mondays 1.45-3.45 Civic Hall
Art Appreciation	Kath Bell Carol Gatenby	Monthly. Contact Organiser.(Next meeting 4 th December)
Ballet Appreciation	Meg Humphries	1 st Thursday or 4 th Wednesday each month
Bird Watching	Peter Owen	Monthly. Contact Organiser. (Programme on web site)
Bridge	Dorothy Rowland	2.00 alternate Mondays Civic Hall
Cake Decorating	Ann Tofield	Contact Organiser
Creative Writing	Veronica O'Connor Ann Walker	2.00 2 nd & 4 th Mondays in month
Crosswords	Ed Milius	By arrangement with the organiser
Day Trips	Iris & Gerry Neale	Information at General Meetings & on website
Diners' Club (Overall Organiser: Gerard Miller)	Anne Horrocks Dot Grossmith	Lunch, 12 noon, Wednesday, 26 th November at Oliver's, Woodford
D.I.Y.	Sue Badger	Contact Organiser.
Embroidery	Barbara Davies	2.30 4 th Thursday in month
Exercise Class	Irene Johnson	St Martin's Church Hall 10.45 - 11.45 1 st Wednesday in month (Additional classes see next page.)
Family History	Moyna Barrott	Twice monthly. Contact Organiser.
Film Discussion Group	Maggie Eagland	Approximately every 6 weeks. Contact Organiser.
French Conversation	David Wallis	Monthly. Contact Organiser.
Geology	Peter Bennett	Monthly. Contact Organiser.
German Beginners	Catherine Owen	Monthly. Contact 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 John Jurics	Monthly
Piano for Beginners	Wendy Vigurs	Contact Organiser.
Play Reading	Catherine Owen	2.15 1 st Tuesday in month
Reading	Iris Neale	2 nd Tuesday in month
Science & Technology	Jo Leach	Contact Organiser.
Scrabble	Dorothy Bayman	2.00 2 nd Monday in month
Short Walks	Bob Stepto	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays in month
Spanish	Wendy Vigurs	Mondays 10-11.30
Table Tennis	Janet Gill	2.00-4.00 1 st four Thursdays in month, Poynton Sports Club
Walking	Marilyn Westbrook	1 st Thurs in month

Groups List

Other Poynton Groups open to our U3A Members

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Exercise Class	Irene Johnson	St Martin's Church Hall 10.45am-11.45am 2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th Wednesdays in month
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	Information at General Meetings & on web site

NEC Network U3A Open Groups

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Art (Bramhall)	Peter Richardson	1.00-3.00 alternate Mondays
Church History (Bramhall)	Dorothy Chesterman	10.00 alternate Wednesdays
Country Dancing (Wilmslow)	-	Contact Organiser.
Cycling (Wilmslow)	-	Contact Organiser.
Embroidery (Bramhall)	Dorothy Chesterman	10.00 alternate Wednesdays
Line Dancing (Bramhall)	Chris Chapman	1.30 -3.30 Wednesdays
Poetry (Cheadle Hulme)	Pat Wright	Contact Organiser.
Scrabble (Cheadle & Gatley)	-	Contact Organiser.
T'ai Chi (Cheadle Hulme)	Pat Wright	Contact Organiser.

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

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

Your Committee

David Sewart	Chairman
Clive Hill	Vice-Chairman
Gerry Neale	Treasurer
Kay Dacey	Secretary
Kate Marsham	Membership Secretary
Carol Gatenby	Speaker Organiser
Iris Neale	Assistant Treasurer
Joan Stepto	Group Co-ordinator
Bob Stepto	Group Co-ordinator
Lynda Green	Events Co-ordinator
Anne Wynn	Welcome Co-ordinator
Dorothy Scale	Refreshment Organiser
Joyce Tapper	Asst Refreshment Organiser

Members' Corner

100 YEARS ON

Setting off for France and Belgium, five friends from Poynton U3A travelled to view some of the memorials to the dead of the First World War. Our experiences were very moving as we went from one site to another commemorating the sacrifices made by so many young men during that war.

From Lille we went to the Somme, in the rain, which lent some realism to our visit. Then we travelled to many cemeteries including Thiepval and the breathtaking Canadian Memorial at Vimy. All the cemeteries are wonderfully cared for, which enhances a very thought-provoking experience. Among the places we visited on our second day was a German Cemetery where all the headstones were black and laid on the ground.

We went to the Passchendaele Experience at Zonnebeke where we saw reconstructed dugouts with underground passages, communication and dressing stations, together with dormitories; an excellent museum.

Our next day took us to Ypres to see the museum and cathedral, the interior of which was destroyed in the war. It has now been rebuilt, and one of the stained glass windows was made in England. We looked around some of the shops, buying Belgian chocolate.

One evening we went to the Menin Gate at Ypres. Each night at 8.00pm the last post is played by the local fire brigade. We were advised to arrive one and a half hours beforehand in order to be able to see events. Unfortunately fifteen minutes before 8.00pm a German man in a wheelchair pushed his way to the front, poking those in his way with his walking stick, thus preventing some of the ladies from being able to see, which didn't go down very well!

We had all enjoyed our trip, not a holiday, but something we will never forget. Two of our ladies even managed to find the names of their relatives on memorial walls and one to find a relative's grave.

Dorothy Scale

Day Trip to Chatsworth – 8th October 2014

It was nearly a full coach that left Poynton in fine weather but, on reaching our refreshment stop at Hassop, a converted station building on the Monsal Trail, the rain had set in. After a delightful snack of cream scones and coffee followed by a wander round the book and gift shop we set off for Chatsworth. By the time we arrived the rain had stopped.

After a brief chat by a member of the staff, Iris issued us with our tickets. We had a choice of a visit to the house, gardens or to head straight for lunch at the restaurant.

Taking advantage of the slight improvement in the weather we chose to go directly to the gardens where we were pleasantly surprised to find the Sotherby's 'Beyond the Limits' international exhibition of twenty two contemporary sculptures. It was fascinating, varied and thought-provoking.

Our agreed favourite 'A Lost Village of Utopia' by Xu Bing consisted of eight miniature Chinese landscapes decorated with handmade porcelain animals, people in erotic poses not leaving much to the imagination, birds and buildings interspersed with branches of pine and cherry blossom. Mist was being generated from tiny jets close to the ground adding to the atmosphere.

Some others that impressed us were 'Allies', a life size sculpture in bronze of Churchill and Roosevelt chatting on a bench, 'Bermuda Triangle', a giant bronze conch shell, 'Exotic Tree' a design in steel with hidden human forms amongst the branches and 'Hoop-la' a huge, swirling ribbon-effect, white, aluminium sculpture.

This was one of several visits we've made to Chatsworth over the years. Whatever the season, there is always something of interest, apart from the obvious attraction of the house.

Thanks to Iris and Gerry for another enjoyable day out.

Vivienne Arnold and Kate Marsham

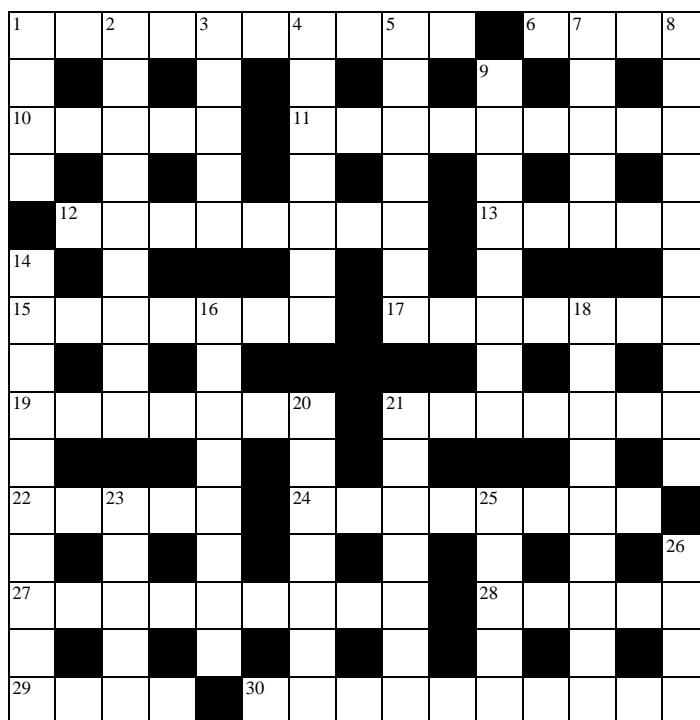
Thanks to everybody who has contributed to the current newsletter. If you would like to submit articles or photographs for a future newsletter, please email your contribution to newsletter@poyntonu3a.org.uk or give it to a committee member. The next copy date for the Poynton U3A Newsletter is February 9th 2015.

Members' Corner

POYNTON U3A CROSSWORD PUZZLE No.11

ACROSS

- 1 A medical science developed by Glyn Hooper. (10)
- 6 Box at supermarket. (4)
- 10 Lady in heartless toil affected by the moon. (6)
- 11 Pee in meandering stream – it mixes in! (9)
- 12 Small transport for a man with desire. (8)
- 13 Animal comes up from the north, having left the ground. (5)
- 15 Drunken earls with ordinary seaman are up the creek without a paddle! (7)
- 17 Expressing scorn about an endless massacre. (7)
- 19 Slopes crumble after good beginning to produce four books. (7)
- 21 Share the drink with first inch of nectar. (7)
- 22 Was a model artist in a small role. (5)
- 24 Top dog is a Companion of Honour prior to a pilot. (8)
- 27 Such a penny could be worth pounds! (3,6)
- 28 There's nothing in sin, let it be heard. (5)
- 29 Oils processed in grain store. (4)
- 30 Sorting set out for use in grinding maybe. (10)



DOWN

- 1 Helmet tissue. (4)
- 2 Songbirds with dangerous take-offs. (9)
- 3 Material stored in any long roll. (5)
- 4 After a circuit pets need doormats. (7)
- 5 Hidden dangers - where the flowers grow. (7)
- 7 She takes ten - where the flowers bloom. (5)
- 8 Bitterness created as ten men are trapped by the others. (10)
- 9 Mostly free, and out of order areas, found on board. (8)
- 14 National Trust log trees, to recycle for use at the opera. (10)
- 16 Excitedly leave Ted exalted. (8)
- 18 A main upheaval sorted into a form of cartoon making. (9)
- 20 After short time confused animal becomes a drop out. (8)
- 21 Dial put on awkwardly, but still receives thanks. (7)
- 23 Goblin has time to have a baguette. (5)
- 25 Pin together in a manner I've tried to conceal. (5)
- 26 A big story can come from any quarter. (4)

Crossword Puzzle No.10

Solution



Compiled by the Poynton U3A Crossword Group.
If you would like to join us, contact Ed Milius

Open Day



Congratulations to all our group organisers for their huge efforts organising such splendid displays for the Open Day meeting in September. The meeting was a great success resulting in new members joining us. In addition, the photography-group display was then exhibited in the library.

Most of the groups meet in each others' homes, so they can quite easily overflow. This has happened to the history, play-reading and reading groups. As still more members would like to join them, new organisers are now needed. Support from the original group would be given, so we just need some enthusiasm.

Don't forget, if your particular interest is not being covered, just let me know and a new group could be formed. Your interests and talents are needed to keep our U3A alive.

Many thanks to you all.

Joan Stepto (Group Co-ordinator)

