



Poynton U3A News

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

poyntonu3a.org.uk

Issue 12

Dec 2013-Feb 2014

A Message from your Committee

Hello Everybody,

Jo Leach was elected as our first Chairman almost three years ago. She has now decided to step down after her extensive contribution to what has become a hugely successful organisation. Jo will continue her link with us by running the new Science & Technology Interest Group. On behalf of members of Poynton U3A, your committee offers her its thanks and appreciation for all her valuable work.

Arising from our Special General Meeting in September, we now have a new Constitution. **Your vote at our AGM on March 18th 2014 is crucial**, since all the positions on the Committee will need to be filled. These include the positions of Chairman, Secretary and Membership Secretary, all being vacated by members who have made major contributions. Some of our longest serving Committee members are taking a well earned retirement. We need to hand over some of the reins to others who can have a look with fresh eyes and take us forward for the coming years.

The “others with fresh eyes” are you! To borrow from President Kennedy’s inaugural address - **Ask not what your U3A can do for you, ask what you can do for your U3A.**

We are able to tailor particular roles to suit an individual’s availability and interests. One way of learning more would be to sit in on our next Meeting (Tuesday 7th January, 2.00pm at the Civic Hall). If you are interested, please contact any of our existing Committee at the Christmas Party or our Secretary at enquiries@poyntonu3a.org.uk.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Your Committee

A Message from Jo

As most of you probably know by now, I have resigned from the committee. I had intended to step down at the next AGM but after much heart searching and careful consideration I feel that the correct choice was for me to go now. I have not taken this decision lightly as I have loved being one of your committee members, helping to start the U3A, seeing it grow and now flourishing with over 400 members.

Thank you for all your enthusiasm during the last three years, it has been inspiring; Poynton U3A would not be here without you. Please continue to support the committee who, I know, will continue to work hard on your behalf. It is now a well established organisation but, of course, still needs you to volunteer to help run it.

I will still be involved in the U3A and look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

With best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year to you all.

Jo

Diary Dates	
Monthly General Meetings	
3 rd Tuesday in month at 2pm Poynton Civic Hall	
January 21st	Prof. Tony Ryan OBE Project Sunshine – Science using the sun to feed and fuel the world
February 18th	Rob MacGregor The Magic of Toys
March 18th	AGM
April 15th	Mike Clarke The True History of Real Chocolate

News from the Groups

Science and Technology Group

This group is now up and running and we will have had our first visit to the Avro Heritage Centre by the time this newsletter is published. Our next meeting is on 13th January, please contact Jo Leach for details.

Birdwatching Group

17 th January	Poynton Pool
28 th February	Pennington Flash
28 th March	Marbury, Northwich
25 th April	Sandbach Flashes
2 nd May	Lindow Common (Dawn Chorus-6.30)
May	Woolsten Eyes(full day)
May/early June	Conway (full day)

Peter Owen

The Creative Writing Group

A mere two years ago, we were a young group, struggling for numbers to the extent that we became an 'open' group, admitting members from other U3A groups in North East Cheshire. This must have been the shot in the arm we needed because, two years later, we are thriving, so much so, that recently we published 'Memories', a well-received anthology of our work. A few copies remain (£3 apiece) at the time of writing – an ideal stocking-filler.

What are we up to now? Christmas is coming and we have been busy writing stories and poems which we shall be reading to residents in two local care homes on the run-up to Christmas.

In a mutually encouraging environment writers gain confidence and produce increasingly good work. We

welcome new members, keen to discover their latent talent. Please come to speak to us at our table before or after general meetings. We meet at 1.30, on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at Davenport Golf Club.

Ann Walker and 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 January to July 2014 is:

Date	Walk
7 th January	Old Toll House, start on Hazelbadge Road (outside school)
21 st January	Poynton Coppice, start at the Coppice car park, near the Middlewood Way
11 th February	Adlington Basin, start at Nelson Pit Visitor Centre
25 th February	Clarence Mill, start at the public car park just past the Windmill Pub near the canal, on Holehouse Lane
11 th March	Petre Bank, start at Civic Centre

Bob Stepto

Line Dancing

Bramhall U3A have a Line-Dancing group that is now an Open Group. Please contact Chris Chapman for further information at groups@bramhallu3a.org.uk.

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

Poynton U3A Membership Renewal Form Subscription for 2014 is still £10.00

To continue to enjoy the activities run by Poynton U3A you need to renew your membership by January 31st 2014.

You can do this at our General Meeting on Tuesday January 21st 2014 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 to Poynton U3A Membership Secretary, Ransford, Wood Lane South, Adlington, Cheshire. SK10 4PJ.

Members' Corner

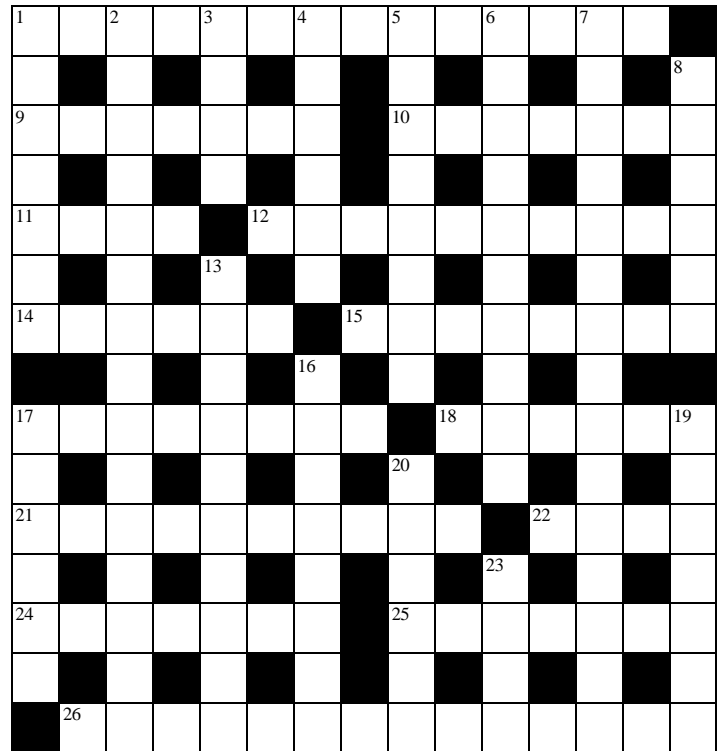
POYNTON U3A CROSSWORD PUZZLE No.8 WITH CHRISTMAS IN MIND

Across

- 1 From Santa a toy! I whirl without hope at the end of the line. (7,7)
- 9 Titled liar abstaining at University. (7)
- 10 Here is something nice to open. (7)
- 11 Chunk of Yule Log requested for a giant. (4)
- 12 Dole maniac influenced by evil spirits. (10)
- 14 'Tis the – to be jolly.' (Deck the Halls) (6)
- 15 Flag flown by line, right on board. (8)
- 17 Sounds like bad weather darling, we might need to pull our sledge. (8)
- 18 Encounters a European of some regard coming back. (6)
- 21 Spanish Saint with talons we're told, let's hope he visits us at Christmas. (5,5)
- 22 Minced rats for eastern ruler. (4)
- 24 United Nations holding mixed deal with Norway, finishing empty handed. (7)
- 25 New Hampshire and endless apathy shake into a solvent found in petrol. (7)
- 26 Hotel trips round a raging loch seeking chemical solutions. (14)

Down

- 1 Shares, preceded by an art form could be hung for Christmas. (7)
- 2 Bury a friend outside a country knowing no bounds. (15)
- 3 'Through the rude wind's – lament.' (Good King Wenceslas) (4)
- 4 A new one comes from America. (6)
- 5 To put on men or maybe on wooden doors. (3,5)
- 6 Endless bad eyesight conceals popular nickname for New Orleans. (3,3,4)
- 7 Is redundant from Eva Peron Domestic, but reimbursed more than necessary. (15)
- 8 Alters characters to make it older. (6)
- 13 We drool and roam around to turn up midst shrubs and trees. (10)
- 16 Ms Mirren has learner in charge from Greece. (8)
- 17 Salvage and secure clumsily. (6)
- 19 Loads get manuscripts muddled with diary. (7)
- 20 Stollen, nuts and mince pies partly return to a place for moles. (6)
- 23 Football team lose right winger but retain a sharp edge. (4)



Crossword Puzzle No. 7 Solution

Across: 1 decahedral; 6 waif; 10 banal; 11 bandolier; 12 Kentucky; 13 eagle; 15 obscure; 17 despair; 19 gastric; 21 gateman; 22 eases; 24 manifest; 27 adventure; 28 idiot; 29 sink; 30 negligence
Down: 1 dubs; 2 consensus; 3 helot; 4 debacle; 5 annoyed; 7 aging; 8 forbearing; 9 Somerset; 14 doggie bags; 16 uprising; 18 admission; 20 commute; 21 genteel; 23 seven; 25 fling; 26 stye

Compiled by the Poynton U3A Crossword group. If you would like to join us, please contact Ed Milius on groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk.

Anybody wishing to contribute to our next newsletter should email information to newsletter@poyntonu3a.org.uk or speak to a committee member at the General Meetings. All items should be original and submitted with the Author's name. Entries will need to be received by 19th February 2014.

Meet the Groups

Poynton U3A Groups

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Antiques	Judith Davis	To be advised
Art	David Williams Tony Worthington	Mondays 1.45-3.45 Civic Hall
Art Appreciation	Kath Bell Carol Gatenby	Monthly. Contact Organiser.
Ballet Appreciation	Meg Humphries	1 st Thursday or 4 th Wednesday each month
Bird Watching	Peter Owen	Monthly (next meeting 17 th January Poynton Pool)
Bridge	Dorothy Rowland	2.00 alternate Mondays Civic Hall
Cake Decorating	Ann Tofield	To be advised
Creative Writing	Veronica O'Connor Ann Walker	1.30 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	Margaret Myers Jessie Monaghan	Lunch 23 rd January. Venue to be decided
DIY	Sue Badger	To be advised
Embroidery	Barbara Davies	2.30 4 th Thursday in month
Exercise Class	Irene Johnson	St Martin's Church Hall 10.45 - 11.45 2 nd Wednesday in month (Additional classes see below.)
Family History	Moyna Barrott	Twice monthly
Film Group	Maggie Eagland	To be advised
French Conversation	David Wallis	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
Piano for Beginners	Wendy Vigurs	To be advised
Play Reading	Catherine Owen	2.30 1 st Tuesday in month
Reading	Iris Neale	2 nd Tuesday in month
Science & Technology	Jo Leach	Next meeting 13 th January 2014
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
Strolling	Julia Shuttleworth Bob Stepto	Starts again in the spring
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

Other Poynton Groups open to our U3A Members

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Exercise Class	Irene Johnson	St Martin's Church Hall 10.45am-11.45am 1 st , 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

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.