

## Newsletter

Issue No.5

March 2012

### Chairman's Remarks

Hello everybody,

I cannot believe spring is nearly upon us, especially as I am looking out on a cold, wet day, but my spirits are high because so many of you have renewed your membership or joined us for the first time. We must be doing something right! Thank you for your continued support. Please remember to have your membership card with you for all meetings, including your group meetings. As you know, you have to be a Poynton U3A member to be covered by our insurance so the group organisers will occasionally ask to see your card.

There are some exciting things going on in the region so please keep looking on our web site and the North West Region web site, as well as the notice boards at the main meetings. Some local activities are also mentioned in the U3A magazine. Also, keep your eyes open for information about Stockport Summer School. It looks as though there will be some very interesting courses on offer. Details will be posted as soon as they are finalised.

We have some great new groups and more in the pipeline but keep ideas coming and please read the piece on the NE Cheshire Network as it is a good way to get different and unusual groups started.

Lastly, our meeting in June is to be a special celebration for the Queen's Jubilee. Any ideas you may have to contribute towards this would be most welcomed.

As always, enjoy your U3A.

Jo Leach (Chairman)



### Editorial Comments:

Anybody wishing to contribute should email information to [newsletter@poyntonu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@poyntonu3a.org.uk)

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

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

In this issue, we are pleased to have the first contribution from the new Crosswords Group – see the last page.

Joyce

**Diary Dates**  
**Monthly General Meetings**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in month; 2pm Poynton Civic Hall**  
**Guest Speakers**

Tuesday 20th March	Our first AGM - please come and have your say!
Tuesday 17th April	Professor Ian Morrison of Jodrell Bank - Search for Life Beyond the Earth
Tuesday 15th May	Gay Rhodes - That Certain Age
Tuesday 19th June	Celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

# Meet the Groups

**\*NEC Network Open Group**

**STD Code 01625 unless otherwise stated**

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Antiques	Judith Davis	Monthly – next meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> March: Personal Pieces
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 – next meeting 16 <sup>th</sup> March
Bridge	Dorothy Rowland	2.00 alternate Mondays Civic Hall
Cake Decorating	Ann Tofield	To be advised
Card Making	Catherine Owen	2.00 last Wednesday in month
Church History* (Bramhall U3A)	Dorothy Chesterman	10.00 – 12.00 alternate Wednesdays
Computing	Joan Bridge	To be advised
Concert Visits	Wendy Vigurs	Information at General Meetings & on web site
Creative Writing* (Poynton U3A)	Veronica O'Connor Ann Walker	1.30-3.00 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mondays in month
Crosswords	Ed Milius	To be advised
Day Trips	Iris Neale	March, May & July - info. at General Meetings & on web site
Diners' Club	Maureen Riley Dorothy Hoadley	Information at General Meetings & on web site - next meal 22 <sup>nd</sup> March, Ciao Poynton
Discussion Group	Wendy Wood	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday in month
DIY	Sue Badger	To be advised
Embroidery* (Poynton U3A)	Barbara Davies	2.30 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in month
Exercise Class-Postural Stability	Irene Johnson	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in month, St Martin's Church Hall 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday in month, Community Centre
Family History	Moyna Barrott	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday in month
Geology	Peter Bennett	Monthly Thursdays – next meeting 2.00 22 <sup>nd</sup> March Civic Hall
German Beginners	Catherine Owen	2.30 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday in month
German Conversation	Peter Owen	Monthly – next meeting 14 <sup>th</sup> March
History	Wendy Fermor Dorothy Bayman	2.00 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday in month
Laptop & Internet Basics	Jack Taylor	To be advised
Photography	Jan Slinn	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday in month
Play Reading	Catherine Owen	2.30 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday in month
Reading	Iris Neale	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues in month
Scrabble	Dorothy Bayman	2.00 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday in month
Singing	Wendy Winsor	2.00 Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March, Civic Centre
Spanish	Wendy Vigurs	Alternate Mondays 10-11.30 and Fridays 11.30-1.00
Table Tennis	Janet Gill	2.00-4.00 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday in month, Poynton Sports Club
Theatre Trips	Elaine Roe	Information at General Meetings & on web site
Walking	Joy Bradburn	10.00 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday in month, Nelson Pit Visitor Centre
Short Walks	Bob Stepto	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday in month

**If you are interested in joining any of the groups, contact the group organiser**

**Groups with potential members, but needing organisers:**

Art Appreciation	Dancing	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](mailto:groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk)**

# Groups in Focus

## Theatre Trips



We have had some very enjoyable trips to excellent plays at the Royal Exchange Theatre, ranging from the intense, powerful drama of **Edward II** to the zany and wonderfully funny **You Can't Take It With You**.

Seats have been reserved for plays in the current season on the first Friday of the run at a cost of £22 per person including transport. A Midsummer Night's Dream, however, is more expensive as it is being performed by a visiting company. To keep the cost down I have booked for a Thursday as this is a cheaper night.

**MISS JULIE -Friday 13th April** Price: £22 (Book and pay by 24th February)

**LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN -Friday 18th May** Price: £22 (Book and pay by 30<sup>th</sup> March)

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM -Thursday 12th July** Price: £29.50 (Book and pay by 25th May)

Seats have also been reserved for **Wonderful Town, Phantom of the Opera, Starlight Express, Hansel and Gretel at the Clonter Opera Theatre, White Christmas and The Lion King.**

If you would like to book for any of the plays or shows, contact me at General Meetings or email [groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk) Payment should then be made at the meeting 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**

## Creative Writing

This group is developing and growing. It is a mixed group of experienced and new writers from several areas. We enjoy experimenting and have tried Haiku, Sonnets and Flash Fiction amongst other activities. The future looks very exciting with talks from published authors, and we hope to produce an anthology of our work later this year.

New members will find a supportive and friendly atmosphere in which to develop their skills. Whether you have written or not, you are most welcome to join us. We meet on the second and fourth Mondays of the month.

**Veronica O'Connor & Ann Walker**

## Walking

The Walking Group was set up with the simple idea of enjoying a medium distance exercise in fresh air and the company of fellow members. A total of 52 have taken part during our first year. We have been very lucky with the weather, only getting very wet one time. We meet the first Thursday each month with a different person leading. We have had an average of 15 walking each time. February was one the most interesting with 22 people enjoying a brisk winter walk from Disley to Strines and back over Disley golf course.

The next few months are already arranged with visits to Mellor, Bollington, Marple. More volunteers are needed to complete the programme.

**Joy Bradburn**

## Day Trips

The following trips are planned:

**TUESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM and THE LOWRY**

**THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MAY - NATIONAL TRUST ERDDIG HOUSE and GARDENS**

**TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> JULY PORT SUNLIGHT and LADY LEVER ART GALLERY**

These day trips are for Poynton U3A members so, even if you come along on your own, you are sure to find a warm welcome. Please book your places at the next General Meeting.

**Iris Neale**

# News in brief

## AGM NEWS

The AGM is on 20<sup>th</sup> March. Details are on our website and all members should have received the relevant documents in February. Only members will be eligible to attend. Your vote is important for shaping the future of Poynton U3A as you will be voting on the constitution, financial accounts, proposals, officers and committee members.

Once the formalities are completed, we will be having tea and cake as a “thank you” to all the members who have attended, and to give an opportunity for everyone to socialise. There will be no charge for attending the AGM.

## NORTH EAST CHESHIRE NETWORK – OPEN GROUPS

Poynton U3A has joined with four other local U3As, Bramhall, Wilmslow, Cheadle Hulme and Cheadle and Gatley, to form the North East Cheshire Network of U3As. Importantly, the network recognises **OPEN GROUPS**. This means that any group, that cannot manage to attract enough people from their own U3A to make it viable, has the option of opening up its activities to members of the other U3As in the network. Any member of the five participating U3As can join an Open Group by showing their current U3A membership card. Of course, if you want to join a group that is not on the open list you will have to become a member of the U3A that runs that particular group.

Currently, four Open Groups have been formed: **ART** (Bramhall U3A), **CHURCH HISTORY** (Bramhall U3A), **CREATIVE WRITING** (Poynton U3A), **EMBROIDERY** (Poynton U3A). Information is available from the Groups Notice Board, the Poynton U3A Website or this Newsletter.

## STOCKPORT SUMMER SCHOOL – 9TH TO 13TH JULY

This is held each year for U3A members and their friends, and is highly recommended. The courses each last a day and cost £25.

Details are yet to be finalised for this year but the following courses are expected to be included:

- Forensic Science – From Crime Scene to Court
- Wonders of the Universe
- You can do it - DIY
- Flash Fiction
- Anglo-Saxon England and Norsemen
- Dining Solo (possibly)

## NW U3A NEWS

The North West Region of the U3A issues a regular Newsletter. Further details are available on the notice board at meetings or at <http://nwu3a.web.officelive.com>. The latest Newsletter is Issue 17 and includes items on the following:

- Residential school in April at Myerscough.
- Literature workshop on 11<sup>th</sup> April in Crosby
- Holiday in April in the far NW of Scotland.
- Course in March /April on **From ERIK to IKEA - Scandinavian Waves** from Penrith and North Lakes U3A.
- Distinguished Lecturer and AGM on 18th May in Preston.
- Waterways Event on 25th May at Ellesmere Port.

Website: <http://www.poyntonu3a.org.uk>

# Members' Corner

## POYNTON U3A CROSSWORD No 1

### Across

- 1** U3As stir learner into country (9)  
**9** Give your word (6)  
**10** Rapid sage can speak contemptuously (9)  
**11** Show a very soft listener (6)  
**12** Cot drapes around top cover (9)  
**13** A saint in a mine can no longer perform (4,2)  
**17** Sit up (3)  
**19** Italian artist to draw game (7)  
**20** Rock formation (6)  
**21** Leading democrat leaves silly behind (3)  
**23** Flowed forth (6)  
**27** Formal flowers breed more flowers (9)  
**28** Impressive entrance where Capone finished a drink (6)  
**29** Russia and the Don harbour these long extinct reptiles (9)  
**30** Close (6)  
**31** Given gift to a journalist (9)

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28														
						29								
30														
						31								

### Down

- 2** I tuned into any number as one (6)  
**3** Key worker (6)  
**4** Roman goddess otherwise in characteristic quality (6)  
**5** Ungrateful tearing out (7)  
**6** Eagles initially help ants find this animal (9)  
**7** Religious event on a Yorkshire river could be a risky undertaking (9)  
**8** Photographic process from iron form (9)  
**14** Undressing maybe while touring from the south (9)  
**15** Exhaust gases caused by street jam (3,6)  
**16** Lancashire located comedian (9)  
**17** Snake in a cupboard (3)  
**18** To possess nothing in a gin and tonic (3)  
**22** Horse cobbler (7)  
**24** Raise in relief (6)  
**25** Act with many in a mixed estate (6)  
**26** The arsenal carries one away within (6)

Compiled by Ed Milius, Poynton U3A Crossword Group. *If you can solve this crossword, you could join the Crossword Group. If you can't solve it, you should join the Group!*

For the solution see Ed at a General Meeting. The solution will also be published in the next Newsletter and will be put on the web site.

I can't wait to hear from you all for the next publication. Entries will need to be received by 16<sup>th</sup> of May  
<mailto:newsletter@poyntonu3a.org.uk> or see me at meetings.

Joyce.