



World War I Centenary

To mark the centenary of the end of the First World War we have collected together some appropriate images, text and poems submitted by our members. See Pages 1, 5 and 12



One Hundred Years On

What was Poynton like for the returning volunteers one hundred years ago? Still looking like a mining village, some mines still working, railway lines criss-crossing the countryside, bridges over or lines across the roads. Black slurry seeping out of the waste tips, running down the gutters, heavy clouds of smoke filled the sky but this was Poynton; this was home. So whether going underground or out into the fields this was home; so much better than enduring some foreign field, trench or tunnel.

They had not understood what the war was all about; all they knew was the noise, the fear and the mud, with a good chance of dying. It took weeks or months before all the troops returned, some not until nineteen-nineteen. With the Flu Pandemic sweeping the world, women getting the vote, and a world

depression about to start, this was so different from the Poynton they had left, but it was still home.

One hundred years on we may complain about many things, particularly the road works, the dust, traffic, the new houses squashed into gardens and various empty plots. Today by comparison our life is great; so many places to eat and drink in the village, although no longer many shops or banks. There are now probably more working chefs in Poynton than there were working horses a hundred years ago.



St George's Church – War Memorial

On arriving home, they had peace, hard work, coal dust and mud, but peace. There were many farms, green fields away from the waste heaps, quiet countryside, of which there was an abundance, home and peace. Time to think, remembering those mates who did not come back, and those who may be in some hospital and might never return.

Possibly it seemed worth it, but certainly not the losses. Things change, move on, although we must always remember.

Clive B Hill

Committee News

Data Protection

Your Committee has now completed an updating of our documentation in the light of the new General Data Protection Regulation 2018. The revisions of our *Privacy Policy* and *Data Protection Policy* as agreed by your Committee can be found on our website. Paper copies are also available. We have tried to make these as clear and easy to understand as possible. We have reduced the personal data which we hold on each member to the bare minimum of what is required for communication of our programme to members and operation of our Interest Groups.

If you have any questions on any aspects of any of these documents we will try to answer these for you.

The new legislation applies to all sorts of businesses and organisations and it is quite likely that some will have written to you explaining how they are applying the new legislation. We are doing the same. Our approach to the new legislation is that Poynton U3A might best be seen as a not-for-profit club – we are a group of members organised through a committee of fellow members who receive no remuneration and who have been appointed by its members at an AGM in accordance with its Constitution.

At the beginning of each calendar year you are reapplying for membership for another year and you are agreeing the conditions of membership through your payment of our annual subscription. Your personal data remains the same until/unless you notify Poynton U3A of a change.

Members renewing their annual contract are giving consent to the continuation of the process/contract. In Poynton U3A's Constitution there are a number of conditions for membership which are required of its members. Perhaps the most important, given the new data protection legislation is -

Constitution 5.v - It is the responsibility of members to notify The U3A of any changes in the personal details which they have provided.

When you receive your 2019 membership card, you will see that on the reverse of it we remind you of **your constitutional requirement and responsibility** as a member of Poynton U3A namely to keep your personal details up to date.

The law requires that we keep only personal data which is correct and our Constitution requires that you keep us up to date with any changes. If there are any changes to your personal data these can only be made by you contacting our Membership Secretary by

email or in writing - membership@poyntonu3a.org.uk or at 98, Vernon Road, Poynton, SK12 1YR. The law also requires that we will provide you with all the details which we are holding on you if you contact us and ask for these.

The legal position is that when a member joins our U3A they provide a set of personal details and also pay a membership fee for services which might be rendered. The fee represents what is known as a "consideration" which common law would define as a basis for a contract.

So, the members of our U3A have voluntarily paid to have membership of a club which provides services and in order to provide these services the members have given to the U3A a set of personal information. The basis of that personal information is their name and specific details of the way in which the U3A should provide them with initial and ongoing information as to what is available to them as members of Poynton U3A. This is a contract for services paid for by a member through their subscription and provided by the U3A. And this is an annual contract.

The new legislation also requires us to keep your data safely. In order to be sure that we are doing this we have adopted, since the beginning of this year *Beacon*, a membership system which has been designed through The U3A Trust specifically for the use of member U3As.

I apologise if this all sounds very complicated. You will find that things will continue much as they have done in recent years. However, we have now had to explain to you how what we do fits into the new legislation. And we hope we have done that. If you do want any further explanation, we will endeavour to supply that for you.

David Sewart

Diary Dates	
Monthly General Meetings	
3 rd Tuesday in month at 2.00pm - Poynton Civic Hall (Doors Open at 1.30pm)	
December 18 th	Christmas Meeting
January 15 th	Michael Leach – A Fish with Feathers
February 19 th	Estelle Weiner – History, mystery and more. The many faces of Abney Hall
March 19 th	AGM

Members' Corner

Bus Pass Explorer Group

Members made the most of beautiful weather this summer to go on some interesting day trips, which they told us about at our meetings. The 'Park and Ride' is very popular with people going to Buxton and beyond. The 199 bus which stops on the A6 is a reliable half hourly service.

At Buxton there are bus services radiating out into the surrounding area of the Peak District. David caught the 65 (Sheffield bus) and got off at Tideswell. He spent two hours exploring the village, which is dominated by its striking, large church known as the 'Cathedral of the Peak'. Tucked away behind the church is a productive community kitchen garden. He found it impossible not to be tempted into the bakers shop, or the old phone box next to the bus stop. It contains a display of photos of old Tideswell, as well as a 'surprise' telephone!

It was a very early start for another David, when he caught the 192 bus to Manchester Chorlton Street, then the X43 (Skipton bus). After an almost two and a half hour ride he got off at Grassington and enjoyed a walk.



Berwick-on-Tweed



Further afield Joyce and a friend extended their stay at Seahouses, in Northumberland, with the photo group. They spent a day at Berwick-on-Tweed, using their bus passes for the forty five minute journey on the X18 (Newcastle to Berwick).

So, remember to have your bus pass with you wherever you happen to be in England, but check timetables online, as they are changed frequently. On weekdays a bus pass is only valid after 9.30am, but this restriction does not apply at weekends.

Viv Arnold

Bridge Group

The bridge group meets every fortnight on Monday afternoon at Poynton Civic Centre, and consists of both relatively new players as well as the more experienced. Recently, a few members have had to leave the group, so we are very keen to recruit new members. Beginners, improvers and those who just wish to enjoy a game in a friendly environment are all welcome, and we would be happy to teach any beginners how to play. It can be addictive once you have started! If anyone is interested and would like further details please either send an email to groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk with Bridge as the subject.

Dorothy Rowland

In Case of Emergency – A Reminder

It is important that, if you have an accident, the Emergency Services know who to contact.

If you have a mobile phone, create an entry in the address book under ICE giving contact details. This is the first place the Emergency Services will look. Some phones have a pre-existing entry whilst with others you will have to create your own.

As an alternative you can carry an "In Case of Emergency" card. These will be available free of charge at General Meetings. Ask a Committee Member.

For Information on Christmas Meeting tickets see Page 9.

For Information on Membership Renewal turn to the next page.

Members' Corner

Short Walks

These are gentle walks of about 2 to 3 miles, each taking about one hour and a half. Meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at **10.45 a.m. at the start of a walk**, or at **10.30 a.m. outside the Civic Centre, Poynton**, if you need a lift or can provide a lift to the start.

Date	Walk and Starting Place
13 th Nov	Sugar Lane Round, start at public car park on Holehouse Lane near the canal and past the Windmill Pub
27 th Nov	Coppice, start at Coppice car park
11 th Dec	Hagg Farm Circuit, start at Nelson Pit followed by lunch at the Boar's Head
Christmas Break	
8 th Jan	Petre Bank, start at Civic Centre
22 nd Jan	Adlington Basin, start at Nelson Pit Visitor Centre
12 th Feb	Ladies Incline, start at Civic Centre
26 th Feb	Miners Arms and Poynton Coppice, start at Coppice car park
12 th Mar	Prince's Incline
26 th Mar	Four Wind and Lyme Park, with coffee stop in Lyme Park, start at Nelson Pit Visitor Centre
9 th Apr	Drinkwater Meadow Lyme Park, start at lay-by West Park Gate
23 rd Apr	Clarence Mill, start at car park Holehouse Lane
7 th May	Bluebell Walk & Styperson Pool, start at public car park Holehouse Lane past the Windmill Pub

21 st May	Edge of Lyme Park, start at Nelson Pit Visitor Centre
11 th Jun	Whitely Green to Bollington, start at car park Holehouse Lane
25 th Jun	To be decided
9 th Jul	Wood Lane wild flowers walk, start at lay-by on Wood Lane West near Miners' Arms
23 rd Jul	Lyme Park picnic walk, start at lay-by West Park gate
Summer Break	

Joan Stepto

Membership Renewal

As last year we are using the Council Chamber in the Civic Hall for all membership registration in January, before members go into the Main Hall paying the £1 entrance fee in the usual manner. The Council Chamber will be open for membership renewal from 12.30pm stopping at 1.50pm to prepare for the start of the General Meeting. Don't worry if you haven't managed to renew by 2.00pm, you can still go into the meeting using your old membership card. It may then be possible to renew your membership after the speaker has finished.

You will be able to make your membership payment by debit/credit card (including contactless and even Apple Pay and Android Pay) as well as cash and cheque.

As in previous years, from December 1st you can renew your membership for 2019 by post using the form at the bottom of this page if you are unable to attend the January General Meeting. Don't forget the stamped self-addressed envelope so you can receive your membership card.

Kate Marsham

Poynton U3A Membership Renewal Form Subscription for 2019 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 2019. You can do this at our General Meeting on Tuesday January 15th 2019 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.

Remembrance

Gallipoli Survivor

On 4th August 1914 war was declared against Germany, and on Monday 21st August my father Arnold Stanley, together with a number of his friends from Cheetham Hill, went in a surge of patriotism to join up at Manchester Regiment's Headquarters, on Stretford Road. When asked his age he said 16, so the recruiting sergeant told him to walk round the block and come back when he was 18. Ten minutes later he returned, enlisted, becoming Private No 2330 in 1/6th Battn. Manchester Regiment, joining thousands in so-called Pals Territorial Divisions who answered the call to fight in what became known as the war to end all wars.

After basic training in a tented camp at Hollingworth Lake, near Rochdale the battalion went by train to Southampton, embarking on 10th September, they sailed through the Bay of Biscay, to Alexandria in Egypt where they were based in Mustapha Barracks.

In full 60lb pack he took part in intensive training marches, some over 20 miles long, through the desert, with a pebble to suck as only a small amount of water was carried, enduring sandstorms, dust, and seeing swarms of locusts, during days of relentless sun. He saw the pyramids and recently excavated catacombs, all of which must have been a remarkable experience for a football-playing Manchester lad, who had never left home before.



**Pte 2330
Arnold Stanley,
September 1914,
Aged 16
1/6th Battn
Manchester Regiment**

On 3 May 1915 the 6th Manchester's sailed from Alexandria for the Dardanelles aboard SS Derflinger, a captured German vessel which had to be hastily cleaned of the worst of the blood and mess after bringing 500 wounded to Egypt. They sailed through the Greek Islands, disembarking on 6th May on "V" and "W" beaches, a narrow strip of sand under steep cliffs at French Hill, Gallipoli, on the toe of the peninsula close to Cape Helles, and were taken ashore by tugs, under heavy Turkish shelling. The Battalion

comprised 937 men and 32 officers, each man carrying 200 rounds of ammunition, food for 2 days, and shovels and picks.

They fought their way inland, under heavy bombardment reaching the front line at Krithia Nullah on 11th May, but never having enough food or water, on a diet of biscuits, plum and apple jam, and bully beef, which once the large tins had been opened the contents had to be eaten within 20 minutes, as they became black with flies, the empty tins then used as part of their defences.

On the 24th May there was a huge cloudburst which flooded the trenches in minutes. Men trying to escape this were shot by Turkish snipers. Advancing each man, lying flat, dug a hole to stand in, 5 paces apart, and then they linked them together to form new trenches. In this way, working at night, the company advanced.

4th June, in what became known as the Third Battle of Krithia, orders came to attack, when thousands of shells were dropped, and hand to hand fighting ensued. By nightfall out of 770 from 6th Manchester's "C" company only 160 answered the roll call.

That night when bodies were being collected my father was discovered, at first thought to be dead and his water-bottle taken, but found to still be alive and horribly wounded. He was taken on board a ship and spent 4 days sailing in primitive conditions with other wounded, many on deck for that time without shade or any medical care, to St Andrew's hospital in Valetta, Malta.

He remained there for several weeks, enduring what, by today's medical skills, must have been fairly primitive treatment. He was a stoical person and never spoke about this so it can only be imagined. On returning to England he was classed as walking wounded and sent to work on a farm near Peover.

In March 1916 after becoming sufficiently recovered to serve again he was offered a commission in the 3/5 Cheshire Regiment, a post for which he was recommended by 6th Manchester's Commanding Officer Lt. Colonel Pilkington. This was all going through, however at his final medical he was thought to have a heart condition and therefore found not fit to serve. His army career suddenly ended, sparing him the ordeal of being shipped to France to face further nightmares during the rest of the war.

By this time he really was 18 years old, and ready to start the rest of his civilian life.

Helen J Stanley

Photography/Bird Watching

Northumberland & The Farne Islands - June 2018

In early June this year a small group of U3A members visited Northumberland to spend a few days exploring the Farne Islands and other interesting places on the Northumberland coast. We stayed in Seahouses from where the boats to the Farnes departed.



Seahouses Harbour



Seahouses

Our first day after arrival was spent firstly walking along the beach by Bamburgh Castle where one of our party spotted a Ringed Plover noisily distracting possible predators from its nearby nest. From there we continued by car to Lindisfarne (Holy Island) where we crossed via the tidal causeway. After morning coffee and homemade scones we went in different directions exploring various features including the castle, ruined priory and seashore.



Lindisfarne Priory

The Farnes are now a bird watchers paradise but back in the 7th century it was the home of St Cuthbert and had strong links with Celtic Christianity. The other famous resident was Grace Darling the Victorian heroine who, with her father, lived in the Longstone Lighthouse. These days the islands are home to around 150,000 breeding pairs of seabirds, including Razorbills, Guillemots, Eiders, Gulls, Terns and Puffins. Grey, or Atlantic seals are to be found in large numbers on small rocky outcrops scattered amongst larger islands. Around 1000 pups are born each year. They seem unfazed by the frequent boatloads of sightseers sailing by.



Tern Colony



Puffin with Sand Eels



Guillemots

Photography/Bird Watching

The boat took us close to the cliffs where we could observe thousands of seabirds nesting and perching on the cliffs which were liberally coated with guano, the smell was overpowering! Birds were also flying and swimming all around us.

Our first visit was to Staple Island where we listened to a National Trust ranger giving a talk on the Farne Islands and the work carried out there. There are no buildings here and no facilities so it's recommended to limit one's liquid refreshments at breakfast! The island is mostly barren and rocky with very little vegetation, even so it is teeming with birdlife which seems undeterred by the hoards of visitors! However, due to the extremely cold, windy spring, some species, including puffins, were nesting later than usual and therefore not visible in such large numbers. But as somebody who has never even seen one puffin, the sight of just a few was magical! So comical, appealing and photogenic.



Terns Attacking!

The second island on our itinerary was Inner Farne. Making our way up the jetty we were soon aware of the thousands of nesting Terns who wasted no time trying to protect their nests by dive bombing whoever passed by! The attack is preceded by loud 'clacking' noises and if you are unfortunate you then receive a sharp jab with a pointy beak to the head! Or worse, a foul smelling deposit! We had been warned to wear a well-padded hat prior to the visit. They nest anywhere, even along the path where hundreds of visitors pass by day after day. The rangers mark the nests with red painted pebbles each with a number on it. Some nests were protected by wire netting to prevent visitors from treading on them. After making use of the much needed facilities we met up with the rest of our group who had opted to do the afternoon trip to Inner Farne.

It was a relief to leave the terns behind and explore the other birds nesting along the cliff tops. It was an amazing spectacle with so little space on overhanging ledges the competition for nesting sites was intense. I was lucky enough to see a shag on its nest with chicks peeping out from under the female bird! Many other nests had eggs being incubated.



Tern, Tern, Tern – The Byrds (Ed)



As we waited to board our boat back to Seahouses a group of volunteers set off in a dinghy, their occupation made obvious by their bespattered hats and coats!

We also visited other Nature Reserves in the area such as High Hauxley which is a few miles south of Seahouses.



Curlew – High Hauxley

Many thanks to Joyce for organising the trip.

Kate Marsham

Groups List

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Acoustic Folk/Rock Band	Geoff Brindle	Contact Organiser
Art	David Williams	2.00-4.00pm Mondays at the Community Centre
Art Appreciation		Organiser Required
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	2.00pm alternate Mondays at the Civic Hall
Bus Pass Explorer	Vivienne Arnold	Restarted in March. Contact Organiser
Creative Writing	Ann Walker Veronica O'Connor	2.00pm 2 nd & 4 th Mondays in month Davenport Golf Club
Crosswords	Ed Milius	By arrangement with the organiser
Day Trips	Iris & Gerry Neale	Information at General Meetings & on website
Diners' Club	Norma Shreeve	Next Lunch - Thursday 29th November at The Three Bears – 12.00 for 12.30.
Discussion	Les Simpson	
D.I.Y.	Sue Badger	4 th Thursday in month
Family History	Moyna Barrott	2.00pm 1 st Wednesday in month at the Civic Hall
Film Discussion Group	Maggie Eagland	2.00pm 3 rd Wednesday in month at Wetherspoons
French Conversation	Sandra & Keith Batchelor	Monthly. Usually Friday afternoon. Contact Organisers
Geology	Peter Bennett	Usually 4 th Thursday in month. Contact Organiser
German Conversation	Peter Owen	Monthly
History	Wendy Fermor	2.00pm 4 th Tuesday in month
Music Appreciation	Liz Markham	2.00pm 1 st Thursday in month
Needlecrafts	Beryl Simpson	2.00-4.00pm 4 th Thursday in month at the Civic Hall
Newsletter	Clive Hill	Contact Organiser
Photography	Peter Bennett & Hilary Tivey John Jurics	Usually 1 st Friday in month 2.00pm at the Community Centre. Contact Organisers
Play Reading	Catherine Owen	2.15pm 1 st Tuesday in month
Reading Group 1	Iris Neale	2 nd Tuesday in month
Reading Group 2	Glenys Parry-Jones	Last Monday of the month 10.30am at Wetherspoons
Science & Technology	Carol & Derek Gatenby	Usually 4 th Tuesday in month. Contact Organisers
Scrabble	Kay Henshaw	2.00pm 2 nd Monday in month
Short Walks	Joan Stepto	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays in month
Spanish	Paul Freeborn	Mondays 10.15-11.45 Poynton British Legion
Table Tennis	Janet Gill	Every Tuesday 10.00-12.00, every Wednesday 2.00- 4.30pm and every Thursday 1.30-4.30pm at Poynton Sports Club
Walking	Marilyn Westbrook	1 st Thursday in month

Groups List

Other Poynton Groups open to our U3A Members

Group	Organiser	Meeting
Hallé Concert Visits	Yvonne Sharma	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
Walking Netball	Liz Arrowsmith	Every Monday 11.20am-12.20 at Poynton Leisure Centre

NEC Network U3A Open Groups

Group	Organiser	Telephone	Meeting
Art Appreciation (Cheadle Hulme)		Contact Cheadle Hulme U3A	2.00-3.00 3 rd Tuesday
Bridge (Wilmslow)	Mavis Merryman	Contact Wilmslow U3A	7.30-10.00pm Monday
Computers (Cheadle Hulme)	Kelvin Vann	Contact Cheadle Hulme U3A	10am 4th Tuesday of month
Creative Writing (Bramhall)	Pat George	Contact Bramhall U3A	2.00pm 2 nd Wednesday in month
Cycling (Wilmslow)	Kate Bryant	Contact Wilmslow U3A	Weekly
Embroidery (Bramhall)	Dorothy Chesterman	Contact Bramhall U3A	10.00-12.00 2 nd Thursday in month
English Country Dancing (Wilmslow)	Shan Bristow	Contact Wilmslow U3A	1.30-3.30pm 2 nd and 4 th Mondays in month
Line Dancing (Bramhall)	Chris Chapman	Contact Bramhall U3A	1.30 -3.30 Wednesdays New starters 1.00-1.30
Photography (Cheadle Hulme)	Neil Rackham	Contact Cheadle Hulme U3A	10am 2nd Tuesday of month
Scottish Country Dancing (Bramhall)	Sheila Bruce-Smith	Contact Bramhall U3A	1.45-3.45pm Every Friday
Tai Chi (Cheadle Hulme)	Gaynor Johnson	Contact Cheadle Hulme U3A	10.30am every Thursday

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 Sandra at General Meetings or email groups@poyntonu3a.org.uk.

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 member of the Newsletter Group. The next copy date for the Poynton U3A Newsletter is February 8th 2019.

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.

Christmas Meeting

Because of restrictions on numbers, entrance to the Christmas Meeting is by ticket only. Tickets cost £2 which includes a raffle ticket. You will be able to buy tickets at the November General Meeting.

Science & Technology – Crich Tramway

Lead Mining and Limestone Quarrying

Derbyshire had the largest and most productive lead field in Britain. The Romans mined Derbyshire lead extensively and exported it throughout their Empire. Several lead mines were recorded in Derbyshire in the Domesday book, including one at Crich.

There was an increase in demand for lead during the English Civil War, as musket shot and other ammunition was made of lead.

By the late 19th century lead was becoming harder to find. Many workers moved to work in the limestone quarrying. George Stephenson had many business interests in Derbyshire including the quarry and the railway at Crich. (*Rocket is currently on display at the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester – Ed*)

The Tramway Village terminus is named after a lead mine shaft, Glory Mine, and there are two mine workings still visible close to the terminus.

Why is the Tramway Museum at Crich?

Volunteers from the Talylyn Railway in Wales came to Crich to take away the track from the quarry and alerted the Tramway Museum Society to the possible use of the site as a tramway museum.

In 1959, the Tramway Museum Society leased and later bought part of the disused Cliff Quarry at Crich.

The quarry was bought just as the final tramways in Britain were closing. Leeds tramway closed in 1959, Sheffield in 1960 and Glasgow in 1962. The first depot was erected in 1960 and housed just four trams. By 1964 there were thirty-two trams at Crich.



What is a Tram?

The word tram dates back to around the 1500s and exists in old Scandinavian; 'truum' and German; 'traam', to describe a length of wood or the shaft of a cart.

The lengths of wood, or 'trams', were laid on soft earth to prevent loaded wagons getting bogged down. These wooden ways became known as 'tramways' and the wagons as 'trams'. Stone blocks were also used and were still known as 'trams'.

After the invention of smooth road surfacing and iron rails the word 'tram' was no longer used for the trackway, but was adopted for the vehicle.



Do you remember this one from Blackpool?



Derek Gatenby

Members' Corner

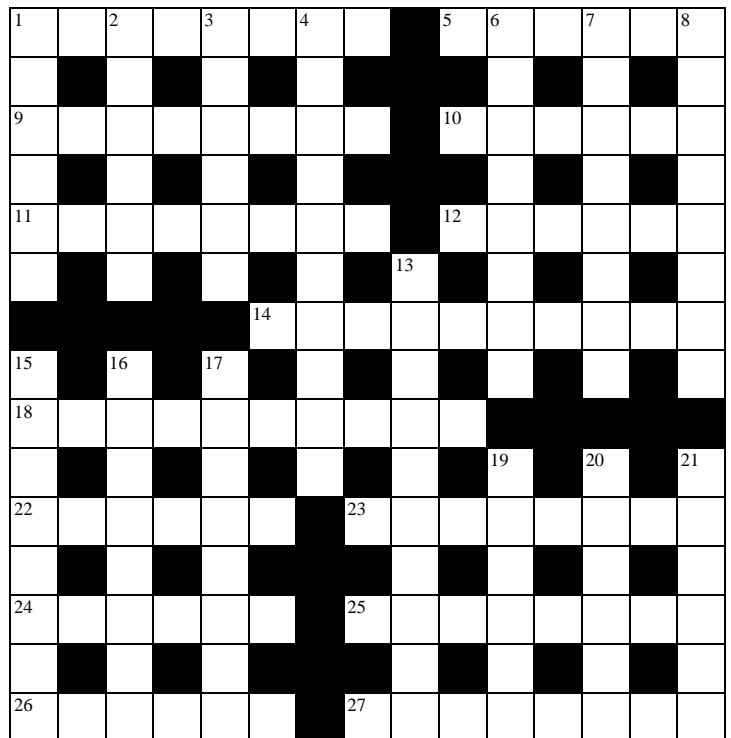
POYNTON U3A CROSSWORD PUZZLE No.24

ACROSS

- 1 Foreign money stirred in a pudding - coming from the head (8)
- 5 Starting price for shrub is a measuring tool (6)
- 9 Most of you log into endless idea for a visual speculation (8)
- 10 Infinitesimally small part of potato microscope will show up (6)
- 11 A safe place for funds by a river estuary (8)
- 12 Agitated leader engaged in the stock market (6)
- 14 It's a cattle round-up hanging around in a cave (10)
- 18 Keeping a prisoner doing his time? (10)
- 22 Sounds like Scandinavian will break the tape (6)
- 23 Ernie the German reincarnated as a wild animal (8)
- 24 Hawaiian dish blended with tea used to deaden pain (6)
- 25 Finish first - but may not be the winner! (8)
- 26 Search for Amy for a second marriage (6)
- 27 Trouble-maker has strange gait approaching a hill (8)

DOWN

- 1 Cake made by foreign lawyer in West Tyrol (6)
- 2 Wanted, a learner to become angered (6)
- 3 Barrel is heavy - it must contain something nice! (6)
- 4 Italian and French composer almost give it together in a metaphorical way of speaking (10)
- 6 Virtue that is heard by sick people? (8)
- 7 Mickey leaves a mice mall - tidied up in the garden! (8)
- 8 Thin string found in papyrus should be filed (8)
- 13 Spilt drink beneath British Legion caused by carelessness (10)
- 15 Would the lad scoff? - heading to suspension! (8)
- 16 Interminable - like Schubert's 9th symphony? (8)
- 17 Part of a new site made it as a press release (4,4)
- 19 Youngster making an appearance in a Chopin fantasia (6)
- 20 Sit uncomfortably after endless rest - but don't succumb (6)
- 21 React in another way, right? That'll only result in a big hole (6)



Crossword Puzzle No.23 Solution



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

Remembrance

Soldier of the Somme

The muddy young soldier slipping and slid
Everything muddy, so many men dying.
As his life slips away, the baby blue eyes
Smile at his mother as his breath slowly dies.
Child of yesterday "dreaming" of home,
Thinking of family, not wanting to roam,
Soon his agony will slowly fade
As he looks at his mother, no longer afraid,
Her arms are wide open beckoning on,
"Rest now dear son, your journey is done"

He's fought for his country, he's fought for his king,
He's given his life without faltering.
Yet beneath the uniform he's his mother's dear son,
She's loved him so dearly but now death has won.
She'll love him with pride till she breaths her last breath,
And then she will meet him after her death,
With arms wide open he'll beckon her near,
"Hello beloved Mother, there's nothing to fear.
For now we're together, I'll leave you no more,
We'll never be parted by sickness or war.

I laid my life down on the Somme's muddy field.
I was scared and afraid, but wore a shield
The shield of your love it comforted me so,
But a bullet killed me and I had to go.
Mud and screams surrounded me that day,
And as I lay dying I heard myself say,
Forgive them Lord, we're all fighting this war,
The reason being, I'm not really sure.
But one day I pray peace will prevail,
Then the one's that survive will tell this sad tale.

The tale of us soldiers, who fought this Great War,
Of things that we witnessed, of things that we saw.
And though I am dying and yearn for my Mum,
I know I will meet her, that day will come.
With our arms open wide, both drawing near
Together at last with nothing to fear!"

Vivienne Tyler



It's Cold Today

It's cold today; the dawn came yellow
With threat of snow; and we must soon go
Over the top; I in mittens knitted by my gran.
And young Lord Stephen, protected from the weather
His hands warm-clad in gloves of leather
Public school kid; not old enough to shave;
Pretending to be eighteen, tough and brave,
To serve his King and Country, as they taught;
Kill the Hun, home by Christmas, so they thought.
"Hot drink, Sarge!" he hands up a tin mug of tea.
I said "Nay, lad, nay, tha shouldn'a wait on me."
In a Passchendaele battlefield hellhole
He lies in the filth and the mud in a shell hole.
In a welter of blood, tangled in barbed wire;
A young lad caught in the cross-fire.
"Wait with me Sir? Til the Medics come?"
And I saw then that his legs had gone.
I said "Yes, I'll wait with thee, my son."
"Sarge, is my wound a Blighty?" He asked.
Christ Almighty. Just then I smelled gas.
"Will we get leave, Sarge?" "Aye, lad, aye."
Leave to be shot; and leave to die.

Ruth Howard



The three pictures were taken by the Photography Group on a recent visit to Manchester

