

February 2012

This month

- ▶ Community News – P2
- ▶ Group News - P2
- ▶ Outings - P3
- ▶ Group Insight - P3
- ▶ Interest Group Information - P 4

Bramhall

The logo for U3A, consisting of the letters 'U', '3', and 'A' in a stylized font. The 'U' and 'A' are blue with yellow outlines, and the '3' is yellow with a blue outline. They are set against a white background with a blue border.

Notes from the chair

Have you ever thought how many people are involved in running our U3A? This month is our AGM and we are electing the 15 people who will act as trustees for the next year and take responsibility for ensuring the organisation runs according to our constitution. But when we look at all the group organisers, the people who run the website, the ladies who organise the charity stall and the team who ensure we have our cuppa then we are talking about 80 people who give their time so willingly. Thank you to everyone.

The committee recently held a lunch for the group organisers to say thank you and to give them an opportunity to discuss with each other how groups are functioning and complete a questionnaire to help plan further developments. It was also an opportunity for them to say Thank You to Sue Bosworth who stands down as groups co-ordinator at the AGM. When we first launched our branch Sue did a magnificent job sifting through the application forms to sort out who was willing to lead a group, twisting people's

arms to start groups and researching suitable venues for those needing to hire rooms. Sue was given a bouquet on behalf of all of us.

Most people have now renewed their membership - if you haven't, please let Kay have it as soon as possible (Please ensure you include a SAE.)

Bob Dumbarton and Helen Webster have suggested that we celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by holding an event which would also be a fund raiser for our two charities. The committee have agreed to this and we are hoping to have the event in early June. Please look out for further details and if you have any ideas for the day please contact Bob and Helen. It is hoped each interest group will contribute in some way.

Dorothy M Chesterman
Chairman

Dates for your diary ...

March 15

Michael Clarke

The True History of Real Chocolate

April 19

David Piercy

Confessions of a Coach Driver

May 17

Peter Rhodes

A Birdwatcher's Tales

Charities

Total raised for St Anne's in 2011: £399.42.
£133.30 was raised at the Christmas party.

Also raised at the Christmas party, £80.72 in aid of The Wellspring.

We have also collected very considerable amounts of food in cans and packets, together with a great many toiletry items. All have been taken to The Wellspring each month and received with much gratitude by the staff there.

Your Committee

Chairman

Vice-chairman/secretary

Treasurer

Groups co-ordinator

Membership secretary

Speakers secretary

External Relations secretary

Dorothy Chesterman

Joy Armstrong

Alistair Gardner

Sue Bosworth

Kay Witham

Jane Hind

Michael Hollingsworth

WALKING GROUP

Please contact walk leader to register.

All walks meet at St. Michaels at 9.30

Community news

Two new articles have been added to the Community Information page of the Bramhall U3A website

<http://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/other/community.html>

- Leisure Key from Stockport Council. Your key to obtaining discounts on leisure and cultural activities in Stockport
- 101 – the new non-emergency number for the Police. Dialling 101 anywhere in the country will put you in touch with the local police.

Mike Hollingsworth, External Relations secretary

Group news

Places available

The Friday Discussion Group have 2 places available. contact Pat Wright

Day change

The Tuesday Family History group run by Diane Bright will now meet on Wednesdays.

Book Group No2

IF enough people are interested a second group could be formed. Interested? Call Dudley Newell

Science for All

Activities organised are a talk on "Electricity in the home or What's in the Box and Beyond" (February 28), Visit to 2 Silk Museums in Macclesfield (March 27) and a discussion on "Wind Turbines" (April 24). See the website or contact Mike Hollingsworth for further information.

Classical music group

Interest has been shown in forming a Classical music group.

Crown Green Bowling

After our taster session I can now confirm that I have arranged 10 lessons (which include coaching by qualified coaches and use of woods) at Queensgate Bowling Club in Bramhall. The first lesson is on Monday April 16 at 9.45am. There will be a charge and this is to be agreed with the coaches. Contact Ann Smith

ann.smith307@ntlworld.com

If you are interested in any of these groups contact:
David Armstrong - Bramhall U3A Groups Coordinator

Wednesday

February 22

Ann Green

Tatton Park

(sandwiches/café lunch)

5.5 miles

Easy

Thursday

March 8

Rodney Inglesfield

Wincle

(lunch can be arranged)

4.5 miles

Moderate

Wednesday

March 28

Derek Draper

High Lane

(bus passes needed)

7miles

Easy

Thursday

April 12

Peter Jaques

Bollington

5 miles

Easy

Wednesday

April 25

Mike Hayward

Whaley Bridge

6miles

Moderate

Theatre - Visits - Outings

Bramhall

U3A

Insight

Congratulations to the Pub Quiz group!
Bramhall U3A had 2 teams at The Ladybrook Quiz night on Sunday Jan 29. They came 1st & 4th. Congratulations to all involved.



Manchester Town Hall tour



Afternoon tea at the Midland Hotel

Despite atrocious weather, our January outing to Manchester Town Hall, followed by afternoon tea in the French restaurant in the Midland Hotel was enjoyed by everyone. Our Guide at the Town Hall was both interesting and informative. We shall now all look more closely at TV dramas which purport to feature the Houses of Parliament.

Upcoming events

Event date	Event	Price
Thursday 29 th March	Cadbury World, Birmingham (includes tour of Bournville & afternoon tea)	£25
Friday 27 th April	Liverpool with Blue Badge guide	£19.50
Wednesday 23 rd May	Shrewsbury and Attingham Hall	£11 (N.T. member) or £19.40 (non-N.T. member)
Saturday 29 th /Sunday 30 th September	2 days sightseeing in London*	From £170 Waiting list only
Wednesday 24 th October	42 nd Street Palace Theatre (matinee)	£39

The London trip includes Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace, a guided tour of the Olympic site and accommodation.

The Liverpool trip is proving very popular with few places left.

The cost of each event includes transport, driver's tip and tickets. These events can be booked at monthly meetings and booking forms are online

<http://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/>.

Birdwatching Group

On a cold but bright morning we had our first trip to Pennington Flash Country Park. We saw a good variety of birds, including goldeneye and goosander amongst wildfowl on the lake. The last hide gave us views of the bird feeders with close-ups of smaller birds. 32 species on the list altogether.

The next trip is planned for Wednesday, February 29 meeting at St Michaels church car park at 9.15am for carsharing. We will visit Moore Nature Reserve and may have time to walk over to Upper Moss as well. This is a varied area of pools and woodland adjacent to the Mersey/Manchester Ship Canal .

There are numerous hides including a birdfeeder station. Expect to walk approx 2-3 miles. We should be back for lunchtime, approx 1.30pm so I suggest bringing a warm drink and snack. The web site and map give no mention of toilets!

For more information:
Contact Diana Oldfield



Bramhall U3A Interest groups

Interest	Co-ordinator	Meeting dates
Archaeology	Peter Levy	Outings usually on Fridays
Art	Peter Richardson	Alt Mondays 1-3pm
Beginners Bridge	Rodney Inglesfield	Wednesdays 10am-noon
Bird Watching	Diana Oldfield	Monthly; to be arranged
Book group	Dudley Newell	4th Thursday
Card making	Dorothy Chesterman	Alt Mondays (restarts Jan 16)
Choir	Chris Hollingsworth	and and 4th Tues 10am-noon
Church history	Dorothy Chesterman	Alt Weds 10am-noon
Computers	Charlie Barker	Tuesdays Jan 10-31 4-5.45pm
Cycling	Ann Green	Tuesdays
Digital Photography	Harry Bosworth	Mondays 2-4pm
Dining	Janet McMurray	Monthly - Tuesday or
Dining	+Joy Armstrong	Wednesday evenings
Discussion group A	Dina Levy	4th Monday 2pm
Discussion group B	Pat Wright	3rd Friday 2pm
Embroidery	Dorothy Chesterman	2nd Thursday 10am-12noon
Family History A	Diane Bright	Wednesday 2pm *New day*
Family History B	Mary Hambleton	Wednesdays 2-4pm
Family History C	Brian Turner	First Thursday 1-3pm
Film & discussion	Pamela Roth	4th Wednesday 10.30am
French	Kay Witham	2nd Monday 2pm
Gardening	Ron Butler	Thursdays 2pm
German beginners	Alison Davids	2nd and 4th Tuesdays
German advanced	Evelyn Ingram	
History	Tom Fanning	Alt Thurs 10am-12noon
Italian	Helen Webster	Alt Tuesdays 10am
Knitting	Mary Flynn	1st Tuesday 2pm
Mapping Bramhall	Val Murray	3rd Monday 2pm
Music (for leisure)	Joanne Haigh	3rd Friday 10.30am
Norwegian	Joan Mobbs	Tuesdays 10.30am
Personal Image	Catherine Jones	Thursdays 10am-noon
Pilates	Sue Bosworth	Mon 11.30-12.30 + Thurs 10-11
Poetry	Jean Budd	2nd Monday 2pm
Pub Quiz	Sheila Porter	Sunday evenings
Scottish country dance	Sheila Bruce-Smith	Alt Fridays 1.30-3. Jan 13,27; Feb 10, 24: Mar 9, 23: Apr 6
Science for All	Michael Hollingsworth	4th Tuesday 2-4
Scrabble	Val Barker	2nd Monday 2pm
Spanish	Gaye Huddart	Tuesdays 10-11.30am
Spanish (beginners)	Diana Blaney	Thursdays 2-4pm
Swimming	Jo Critchley	Mon 7pm; Thur 9.30am at Hazel Grove pool
Table Tennis	Liz Pennington	2nd Wed and 4th Friday 10.30-11.30am
Walking	Bob Dumbarton	See newsletters and website
Theatre/outings	Judith Fell	See newsletters and website
	Chris Hollingsworth	
	Val Graham	
Holidays	Peter Rhodes	See newsletters and website