



Spring issue - April 2012

# Bramhall



June 7 - Keep it free

## *Notes from the chair...*

**Spring is here at last!!** When I was working at Macclesfield DGH, I loved travelling to work in April with the banks of daffodils, new lambs in the fields and the cows back in the fields after the long winter. Let's hope we can look forward to a good summer. May sees our holiday to Cornwall - thanks to Peter Rhodes for organising that for us.

By now, you should have renewed your membership for 2012. If you haven't, please let Kay Witham have your £10 asap or your name will be removed and you will not be able to attend the interest groups. Could all interest group leaders please ask to see the membership cards of their members during April/May. Members will not be covered by U3A insurance if their membership is not current.

Keith Wright is starting a Creative Writing group - 4 people have already shown an interest but there is room for more. Why not come along and learn a new skill.

Helen Webster and Bob Dumbarton have got a small team together organising a Jubilee Tea Party on 7 June. Tickets are available, please support this event as all proceeds are going to:

**St Ann's Hospice and the Well Spring.**

Joy and David Armstrong are in the process of moving house. If you need to contact them please do so by email or address your questions to Alistair or myself.

**Dorothy M Chesterman**  
Chairman

## Jubilee tea party

**You are invited to a Jubilee Tea Party on Thursday 7 June 2pm - 4pm @ St. Michael's Hall.** Come along, bring a friend, join U3A members at an event to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and also the excellent work undertaken by our lively range of interest groups.

**\*Refreshments\***

**\*Tombola\***

**\*Entertainments\***

**\*Cake Stall\***

**Tickets £2** (including refreshments) **from:**

Meetings, Bob Dumbarton,  
Helen Webster or  
or your group co-ordinator.

**ALL PROCEEDS IN AID OF OUR U3A CHARITIES: St. Anne's Hospice and The Wellspring.**

# 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**

**Mike Hollingsworth**

## Community news

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

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

- **Stockport College Summer School**, which is run particularly for U3A members. One day workshops are being held in the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> July on Forensic Science (from Crime scene to Court), Wonders of the Universe (Cosmology), Flash Fiction (writing very short stories), You can do it DIY (help with repairs around the home), Anglo-Saxon England and Norseman.

- **Attendance Allowance**

- **Credit and debit card scam**

Or contact Mike Hollingsworth, External Relations secretary, for further information.

## Group news

### **The Gardening Group ...**

Will have a charity 'Plant Sales' stall at the Tea Party. The group is asking all members of the U3A membership to donate their own surplus plants to add to those produced by the group. Please let the group coordinator (Ron Butler,

[ButlerRnld@aol.com](mailto:ButlerRnld@aol.com)) know if you will be contributing.

Plants should be in a pot or container, preferably labelled. Please take them along on the day, or if bulky, contact the coordinator for prior collection

### **Birdwatching**

The recent visit to Moore Nature Reserve was entertaining as birds are becoming more active, preparing for spring. Four greater spotted woodpeckers were seen (perhaps looking for nest sites) and later, eight herons together by the side of a pool. There were several species of wildfowl on the pools and excellent views of smaller birds in the woodland and at the feeding station. Buzzards were circling overhead.

Anyone interested in birds is welcome, no previous birding experience is necessary. Just bring a pair of binoculars.

**Diana Oldfield**

### **Science for All** - Future activities

24 April, 2-4pm - "Wind Turbines" by Dave Rothwell

22 May 2-4pm - "Electricity in the Home" by David Stansfield,  
(a repeat presentation)

29 May, 2-4pm - Visit to a Waste Recycling plant, Bredbury

26 June - Geology field trip in the Peak District led by Jane Asterley

See the website or contact Mike Hollingsworth for further information.



## WALKING GROUP NEWS

Upcoming walks

**Wed. April 25**  
**Whaley Bridge**  
**6 miles; mod**  
**Mike Hayward**

**Thurs. May 10**  
**Lyme park**  
**4 miles: easy/mod**  
**Marjorie Davies**

**Wed. May 23**  
**Hassall Green**  
**4 miles: easy**  
**Ray Lee**

**Thurs. June 14**  
**Poynton**  
**5 miles: easy**  
**Liz Cresswell**

**Wed. June 27**  
**Rainow**  
**5miles: moderate**  
**Liz Pennington**

**Thurs. July 12**  
**Disley**  
**6 miles: easy/mod**  
**Peter Rhodes**

**Wed. July 25**  
**Redesmere**  
**5 miles: easy**  
**Bob Dumbarton**

**Thurs. Sept. 13**  
**Lyme Park**  
**Jane Asterley**

## Pilates

Booking is underway for all 4 Pilates Stretch & Relax courses following a short break over Easter. There are a handful of places available this time round for new people on Thursdays at 11.15. If you have not tried it before then this would be a great time to start!

## Table Tennis

From April 2012, meetings are increased to three times per month

# Theatre, Visits and Outings

## New Outings Booking System

The bookings page on the website has been updated so that if you want to make a booking it is now only necessary to fill in an online form. Hopefully, this will be easier but if you have any comments please email: [communications@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:communications@bramhallu3a.org.uk)

## Upcoming events

Cancellation of the March trip to Cadbury World was because we had only 19 bookings, which meant that it was not financially viable. This seldom happens as we try very hard to arrange trips that have a broad appeal.

There have been two recent theatre visits to Taking Steps and Wonderful Town, both very enjoyable. Bookings are now being taken for 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and the smash hit play One Man, Two Guvnors. This very funny play is currently in the West End and on Broadway – one not to be missed.

Event date	Event	Price
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Liverpool with Blue Badge guide*	£19.50
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Shrewsbury and Attingham Hall*	£11 (N.T.member) £19.40 (non member)
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	RHS Gardens, Harlow Carr, Nr. Harrogate	£12 (R.H.S.members) £18.50 (nonmembers)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Llandudno	£13
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> /Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	2 days sightseeing in London*	From £170
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	42 <sup>nd</sup> Street Palace Theatre (matinee)	£39
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2013	One Man, Two Guvnors Lowry Theatre (matinee)	£33

## Dates for Your Dairy

### May 17

Peter Rhodes  
A Birdwatcher's Tales

### 21st June

Kevin Fitzpatrick  
Life and Laughter

### 19th July

Fr. Michael Burgess  
Faith, Fun and Fellowship

### 16th August

Barbara Brooks  
Snapshots of History

### 20th September

Sean Swallow  
Garden Design

### 18th October

Eric Newton  
Life and Times of a Busker

### 15th November

Keith Warrender  
Underground Manchester

Events marked with a \* are full but you can apply to go on the waiting list. The cost of each event includes transport, driver's tip and tickets. These events can be booked at the monthly meetings and via the U3A website: [www.bramhallu3a.org.uk](http://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk)

## Brief Charity focus ... The Wellspring, Stockport.

The Wellspring is a resource centre for homeless and disadvantaged people. The project is on Harvey St, behind Robinsons brewery in the town centre. The Wellspring is dependent on donations from the general public, businesses, schools and churches. Donations of food, clothing, bedding, toiletries & financial donations are always needed. The Wellspring provides numerous services and everything is completely free of charge. The project is open 365 days a year from 11.30am - 2pm and Monday to Thursday evenings from 6.30pm - 8pm. The centre costs £365 a day to run.



# Bramhall U3A Interest groups

<b>Interest</b>	<b>Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Meeting dates</b>
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
Choir	Chris Hollingsworth	2nd and 4th Tues 10am-noon
Church history	Dorothy Chesterman	Alt Weds 10am-noon
Computers	Charlie Barker	Tuesdays Jan 10-31 4-5.45pm
Creative writing	Keith Wright	Details to follow
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	Tuesdays 2pm
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. April 27.
Science for All	Mike Hollingsworth	4th Tuesday 2-4
Scrabble	Val Barker	2nd Monday
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	1st + 2nd Wed and 4th Friday 10.30-11.30am
Walking	Bob Dumbarton	See newsletters and website
Theatre/outings	Judith Fell	See newsletters
	Chris Hollingsworth	and
	Val Graham	website
Holidays	Peter Rhodes	See newsletters and website