

September

www.bramhallu3a.org.uk

# Bramhall

U3A  
Established 2010

## *Monthly meetings - A new venue for 2017*

St Michael's Church will be increasing their charges for our monthly Meeting yet again in 2017. This will mean that there has been an increase of 125% in two years.

Consequently, the Committee have decided that as from January 2017, the Monthly Meetings will be held at Bramhall URC, which is across the road from St Michael's, on the corner of Bramhall Lane, at a saving of almost 50% of the new charges proposed by St Michael's. The facilities will be much the same but also enable us to accommodate up to 200 people, if required. The existing Car Parking facilities will remain as they are at the moment. *All meetings will continue to be held on the third Thursday of each month.*

## ***Notes from the chair ...***

Here we are in September already, Summer gone (did I miss it?), Autumn virtually here and Winter on its way!

All our groups restart this month so we look forward to another year of making new friends, enjoying existing groups and maybe joining some new ones. Next year will be particularly exciting and interesting, as we are to have a new venue from January and we trust we will be as happy there as we have been here.

Peter and Helen Webster had a bit of unexpected excitement on their recent holiday in Italy. They were very close to the village which was more or less completely obliterated by an earthquake. A very frightening experience as well as a sad one as many of the people living around them lost friends and relatives. Fortunately Peter and Helen came out of it and arrived back home safely, shaken but not deterred.

I have one sad notice to pass on to you: Christine and John Baynton are both well known to us all and have **been members since the beginning. Sadly John passed away quite suddenly two weeks ago. John's funeral will take place at Macclesfield Crematorium, Friday 16th September at 2.40pm.** John was a lovely, kind man who always helped in any way he could. He will be greatly missed.

As most of our committee have been in place since the start of our U3A almost six years ago, we will be looking for five new committee members in February.

**Please read the piece in this Newsletter "We'd be Nothing Without Them", borrowed from Helen Green, Vice Chairman of Cardigan U3A. Don't just read the article and brush it to one side; think about it and consider it.** We do not want to be in the position of putting arms up backs, but want to see people come forward willingly, just as we did at the beginning, when none of us knew anyone else or what we would be doing.

Everyone on the committee has a specific role but we all muck in and help whenever needed. The committee meet only once a month and along with the business, there is a lot of chat, many laughs and a cup of tea and a biscuit. You find out what happens and how everything works. As it says in the article, think of what you would have missed without us and the friendships which would have remained unformed. We are all volunteers, from **all walks of life, with many different experiences and we all have a great deal to offer, even if we don't think we have.** You get to know many new people and find that being involved can be good fun.

I have to stand down this next time as Chairman, but, had it not been for a change in my home circumstances, I would have stayed on the Committee in a different role, although I do have to admit that new faces and new ideas would be a great move forward. Over the years we have been in existence, we have had 500-600 new members join Bramhall U3A and feel certain there are at least five among you all who would enjoy a new role. If you have a U3A friend you feel sure would be good on the committee, please give them a nudge of **encouragement so they don't slip through the net.**

Joy Armstrong, Chair

**Storage -** Having failed to find storage space for our gradually increasing range of equipment via the Newsletter and Website, the Committee have secured a small unit at the Apex Self-Storage complex based on the Stanley Green Industrial Estate. This unit will also accommodate space for storage of the books that we hold for sale on behalf of St Ann's Hospice and all old U3A's financial records, which must be kept for 6/7 years. It provides secure, dry and fairly easily accessible storage and meets the majority of our storage needs.

Chairman:	Joy Armstrong
Vice-chair:	Peter Webster
Business Secretary:	Dorothy Chesterman
Treasurer:	Alistair Gardner
Groups organisers:	Ann Smith Pat George Helen Webster
Membership:	Kay Witham
Speakers:	Doreen Neil
External Relations:	Mike Hollingsworth

Website: www.bramhallu3a.org.uk
Groups Information: groups@bramhallu3a.org.uk
Bramhall U3A meetings: St Michaels and All Angels Church Hall. Third Thursday each month, at 2pm.
Entrance: £1 with membership card

## Talks ...

October 20 Finding mother <i>Gareth Griffith</i>
November 17 Flog it <i>Peter Ashburner</i>

## & Walks

Wednesday September 28 Styal 4.5m MOD Tricia Canning
Thursday October 13 Mobberley 6m EASY Bob Dumbarton
Wednesday October 26 Disley 5.5m MOD Ray Atkinson
Thursday November 10 Lyme Park 4m MOD (Drivers - NT cards please) Marjorie Davies
Wednesday November 23 Lymm 4.5m EASY Anne Lee
<i>December - No walks.</i>

A number of committee members, who have been involved since our formation in 2010, are now at the end of their tenure. We need you to join our active committee. Interested in being involved? Please give you details to either Joy Armstrong, Peter Webster, Alistair Gardner or Dorothy Chesterman.

### What would happen if Bramhall U3A did not have a committee?

There would be no monthly meeting as you would not be able to enter the Church Hall. Nobody would have booked it or paid for it.

If you could get in, no-one would be there, no-one would welcome you, there would be no information boards and no-one would have booked or paid for a speaker.

There would be no PA system, projector or laptop to enhance the presentation and no-one would have organised any refreshments.

There would be no-one to support and advise the leaders of study groups and help form new ones; in fact there would be no groups, no website, no newsletter, no much-enjoyed trips, no theatre trips, no Christmas Party, in fact no social occasions at all.

No-one would manage finances so no insurance at the meetings, no forward planning, no links to other U3As, no membership records.

In short, you would never have heard of Bramhall U3A in the first place as no-one would have publicised our activities in local magazines, distributed leaflets, updated social media or put up displays in local venues.

That means you would not be here now, reading this newsletter.

Just think of the friendships you have made, places of interest you have been to, speakers you have listened to, meals you have eaten, groups you have enjoyed and new things you have learnt - none of these things would have happened without your committee. Be part of it.



5 intrepid walkers who scaled Shutlingsloe (506m) and beyond.

*EASY: A flat walk with no hills or ascents/descents*

*EASY+: Flat with a few very short ascents and descents.*

*MOD: Generally a flat walk with the occasional ascent or descent which will not be severe.*

*MOD+: A walk with a number of ascents and descents, some of which may be long (15 mins+)*

*HARD: A walk with one or more ascents and descents which will be severe and long in duration (30mins +)*

*Italian Improvers* - We have space for one, or possibly two, new members. We are a relaxed, friendly group, moving forward at a gentle pace, covering aspects of Italian culture as well as language. If you have some knowledge of Italian and would like to join us, contact Helen Webster.

Newsletter feedback - Should you have any concerns or constructive feedback you wish to make concerning the newsletter or any of its contents, please contact Peter Webster via [communications@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:communications@bramhallu3a.org.uk). detailing any issues or corrections.

## Community

Find more details about all of the following on the Community Information page of our website [www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/other/community.html](http://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/other/community.html) or contact Mike Hollingsworth

Health matters – For information on Health & Social Care in Stockport; Medical care out of hours; recognizing a stroke; screening for aortic aneurysms and patient education courses and much more.

Library – Correction to the item in last month's newsletter; the website to obtain free digital magazines is [www.stockport.gov.uk/newsroom/zinio](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/newsroom/zinio)

Making the most of retirement - The Planned Retirement Association of Greater Manchester (PRAGMA) and Age UK are giving a series of talks on topics of interest to retired people: New Pension Freedoms (16 Sept.), Housing options for Older People (11 Nov); Paying for Care (13 Jan), Tracing your Family Tree (10 Mar), Allotments (12 May) and the Joys of Caravanning (14 July). They start at 2pm, are an hour long plus questions, will occur at Church House, 90 Deansgate, Manchester with free with refreshments. You need to let the organiser John Cotcher know if you wish to attend (for catering purposes) on 0161-817-2351.

## Outings

Co-ordinators: Chris Hollingsworth & Val Graham

There are still a few places left for our trip to Harrogate and/or Harrogate Flower Show tomorrow (16 September). Places are also available for the Christmas Show/Party and lunch which is in Chester. The **Swinging 60's themed Christmas Show-Party** is where the entertainers will turn the clock back to the 1960s performing some of our favourite tunes.

There will be a sing-along, games and a Christmas 3-course lunch. **You are invited to dress in 60's fashion if you wish.**



Members enjoying the delights of Howarth in August

Date	Outings - open for booking	Price
Fri 16 Sept	Harrogate/Harrogate Flower Show	£11 or £26 (incl. Flower Show ticket)
Thu 24 Nov	Christmas lunch & entertainment, Chester	£34

### Dates for your Diary (Booking from October meeting)

12 January 2017 – National Centre for Citizenship and Law at Manchester Crown Court and Civil Justice Centre. **Public legal education session. Followed by visit to People's History Museum. Limited to 25 places.**

27 February 2017 – Visit to Manchester Cathedral followed by afternoon tea.

I am now starting to plan for 2017. If you have any thoughts on suitable places to visit, please let me know.

*All outings and theatre trips can be booked, at monthly meetings or via the U3A website: [bramhallu3a.org.uk](http://bramhallu3a.org.uk)*

## Theatre

Co-ordinator: Wendy Burton

Theatre trip mailing list - If you would like to be on the theatre email list, please send an email to [theatre@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:theatre@bramhallu3a.org.uk) with your

details. The aim is to give you prior notice before a theatre trip is opened for booking. You do not need to be on this list to make a theatre booking; theatre trips continue to be open to all.

Date	Theatre - open for booking	Price
Wed 8 Feb	Gaslight, Oldham Coliseum (matinee)	£25
Wed 12 Apr	Jane Eyre, Lowry theatre (matinee)	£35

Date	Theatre - Full but with a waiting list	Price
Thurs 13 Oct	Pride and Prejudice, Lowry theatre (matinee)	£35
Wed 16 Nov	Blood Brothers, Lowry theatre (matinee)	£40
Thurs 1 Dec	Red Shoes Ballet, Lowry theatre (matinee)	£35

### Cancellation, refund and guest policies

A full refund will only be made if a booking is cancelled by telephone within 2 days of the booking being made.

A refund of transport costs will be made if there is a sufficient number of members on the trip to cover transport costs.

A refund of ticket can only be made where either the ticket has not yet been purchased, e.g. National Trust properties, or the ticket is re sold.

Most events that are full will have waiting list. Please ask for details.

The costs for all outings include transport, driver's tip and entry tickets.

Events can be booked at monthly meetings and via our website: [www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/](http://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/).

The dates of several future outings, for which bookings are not being yet taken, are posted on the website under

Disclaimer - All details were correct at the time of publication. Bramhall U3A cannot be held responsible for any changes that may have taken place after this time.

# Bramhall

## Group

Art  
 Badminton  
 Bird Watching  
  
 Books  
 Bridge Beginners  
     Improvers 1  
     Improvers 2  
 Canasta  
 Card making  
 Church history  
 Computers  
 Creative writing  
 Cribbage  
 Crown green bowling  
 Cycling  
 Dining  
  
 Discussion  
  
 Embroidery  
 Family History  
  
 Film & discussion  
 Fitness & flexibility  
 French  
 Gardening  
 German - Intermediate  
 History  
  
 History Visits  
 Italian Improvers  
 Knitting A  
 Knitting B  
 Line Dancing  
 Mapping Bramhall  
 Music for leisure  
 Norwegian  
 Photography  
 Pilates  
 Play reading  
 Poetry  
 Pub Quiz  
 Real Railway Group  
 Science for All  
 Scottish country dance  
 Scrabble  
 Singing for fun  
 Spanish - Intermediate  
 Spanish - Upper Inter.  
 Table Tennis: Fun for All  
                     Competitive Singles  
 Ukulele  
  
 Video  
 Walking  
 Wine Tasting  
 Outings  
  
 Theatre  
 Holidays

## Co-ordinator

Peter Richardson  
 Carolyn Johnson  
 Diana Oldfield  
 Paul Carter  
 Dudley Newell  
 Peter Levy  
 Ray Lee  
 Judith Fletcher  
 Sue Young  
 Dorothy Chesterman  
 Dorothy Chesterman  
 Michael Lacey  
 Pat George  
 Val Barker  
 Ann Smith  
 TBA  
 Janet McMurray  
 Joy Armstrong  
 Dina Levy  
 Pat Wright  
 Dorothy Chesterman  
 Diane Bright  
 Mary Hambleton  
 Brian Turner  
 Pamela Roth  
 Vikki Radford  
 Kay Witham  
 Marilyn Hughes  
 Alison Davids  
 Angela Devaney  
 Margaret France  
 Glenys Steedman  
 Helen Webster  
 Sheila Porter  
 Shelagh Lord  
 Chris Chapman  
 Val Murray  
 Jackie Harmer  
 Joan Mobbs  
 Janice Shaw  
 Wendy Litchfield  
 Olga Hampson  
 Lynn Whyte  
 Frances Bell  
 Peter Webster  
 Mike Hollingsworth  
 Sheila Bruce-Smith  
 Val Barker  
 Gillian Rowe  
 Diana Blaney  
 Gaye Huddart  
 Liz Pennington  
 Liz Pennington  
 Joyce Kilgour  
 Ann Gray  
 Mike Waterhouse  
 Bob Dumbarton  
 Jenny Richmond  
 Chris Hollingsworth  
 Val Graham  
 Wendy Burton  
 Gill Moorhouse

# Interest groups

## Days/times

Alt Mondays 1-3pm  
 Tuesday 1-3pm  
 Usually 4th Wednesday  
 @ 9.15am  
 4th Thursday  
 Tuesdays 2 - 4pm  
 Wednesdays 10am - noon  
 Thursday 7 - 9pm  
 1st Thu @ 7pm + 3rd Mon @ 2pm  
 Alt. Mondays 2 - 4pm  
 Wednesday 10 -12  
 Phone for information  
 2nd Wednesday 2pm  
 4th Thursday 7.30pm  
 April to October - Mondays 11am  
 TBA  
 Tuesday or Wednesday evenings -  
 4th week of each month  
 4th Monday 2pm  
 3rd Friday 2pm  
 2nd Thursday 10am -12noon  
 Monthly - Wednesday 2pm  
 Monthly - Wednesday 2pm  
 First Thursday 1-3pm  
 4th Wednesday 10.30am  
 Friday 9.45  
 Alternate Mondays @ 2pm  
 4th Thursday  
 2nd and 4th Tuesdays @ 10.30am  
 Alt Thurs 10 - noon  
 Alt Thurs 10 - noon  
 Contact for details  
 Thursdays 10am  
 1st Tuesday 2pm  
 1st Thursday 2pm  
 Wednesday 1.30 - 3.30pm  
 3rd Monday 2pm  
 3rd Friday 10.30am  
 Tuesdays 10.30am  
 3rd Monday @ 2pm  
 See website for details  
 1st Thursday 10am  
 2nd Monday 2pm  
 Monthly first Thursday 8.30 for 9.00pm  
 Contact for details  
 4th Tuesday 2.15 - 4pm  
 Alt Fridays 1.30 - 3pm  
 2nd Monday 2 - 4.30  
 1st & 3rd Mondays 10.00 to 12.00  
 Thursdays 2 - 4pm  
 Tuesdays 10 -11.30am  
 1st, 2nd + 3rd Wed 10.30-12.00  
 4th Wednesday 10.30-11.30am  
 1st + 3rd Tuesday  
 2pm  
 Alternate Fridays at 10.30  
 See schedule on website  
 Bi-monthly - contact for details  
 See newsletter and/or website  
  
 See newsletter and/or website  
 See newsletter and/or website