

Cheadle Hulme



NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2009 – September

Editor: George Rogers

Chairman's Letter

By the time you read this newsletter, the summer will be drawing to a close and you will have had your summer holidays, and in fact are probably preparing for your autumn breaks. As far as our monthly meetings are concerned, the new coffee and tea arrangements seem to be working well and we have not been short of space or chairs over the summer period.

On the question of the starting of a new Bramhall U3A, your committee handed this matter over to the National U3A some months ago. At last we have some news (see below).

As to the matter of those extra chairs we sought, here we are in the hands of the church

council which I understand, meets only twice a year.

On a positive note, Cheadle Hume U3A is going from strength to strength. Three new groups have recently been formed, the choir group, the art appreciation group and play reading.

I would like, during my term of office, to visit most of the groups at least once, and I look forward to an interesting, active, educational and entertaining autumn term at Cheadle Hulme U3A.

Paddy MacDonnell
Chairman

CHU3A Monthly General Meetings at 2pm in the Methodist Church Hall on Station Road, Cheadle Hulme, on the first Thursday of each month.

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER
3 rd September	Walking to the top of Kilimanjaro	Arthur Cross
1 st October	Manchester-Down Below	Keith Warrander
5 th November	Guy Fawkes	Dr Jennifer Palmer
3 rd December	*** Christmas Meeting ***	

Membership remains closed to new members until further notice.

VISITORS are allowed one visit without joining, and need to pay **£2** on that occasion. ***Visitors from other U3As may come a maximum of three times a year and need to pay £2 each time towards Cheadle Hulme U3A's costs.***

This rule also applies to attendance at Groups of Cheadle Hulme U3A but the charge may vary with each group.

(CHU3A members pay £1 each month as from the March 2009 meeting)

Note: Committee and Group contact details, deleted from these pages, can be found in the printed paper edition of the Newsletter.

CHU3A EVENTS

Please make cheques payable to "Cheadle Hulme U3A Events" and send to Shirley Cawthra

Roy McCarthy Coaches

Sunday 27th September

**Hereford and Malvern Hills –
The Three Counties Autumn Show
£21 + £11.50 for Show**

Monday 23rd November

Christmas at Chatsworth House £23

Sunday 13th December

Christmas Fantasia at Belvoir Castle £28.50

Royal Exchange

Wednesdays at 2.30pm

30th September "The Miser" by Moliere £14.50, £12.50

28th October "Punk Rock" by Simon Stephens £14.50

2nd December "The Entertainer" by John Osborne £14.50

23rd December "Blithe Spirit" by Noel Coward £12.50

17th February 2010 "A Raisin in The Sun" by Lorraine Hansberry £14.50

Palace Theatre

Thursday 17th December 2009

**"Sound of Music" with Connie Fisher £28.50
(including coach & ticket)**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

- Membership renewals are due on the 1st January each year (currently £10 pa), regardless of the month of joining.
 - Membership will automatically lapse at the 31st March for unpaid renewals.
 - Because of a significant monthly increase in membership during 2008/2009, the trustees reluctantly introduced a waiting list. Rejoining of lapsed members will therefore be subject to new vacancies occurring.
 - A prospective member is allowed ONE 'taster' visit before joining if a vacancy in the membership is available. However, the U3A's public liability insurance does not cover a non-member attending more than once.
 - Membership is for older people no longer in full time employment in Cheadle Hulme and its surrounding locality.
 - Renewals and enquiries to join the waiting list must be made to the Membership Secretary at either the monthly meeting, by telephone or by post to Judith Durrant
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Proposed formation of the new Bramhall U3A group

A small steering committee has been established to assist in the formation of a new group in Bramhall. Posters have been distributed in and around the Bramhall area and a number of parties have already shown an interest. It is proposed that the new group will meet on the **third Thursday** of each month (to avoid clashes with CHU3A), and the **launch will take place on 19th November at St. Michael's Church, Bramhall**, which can accommodate 180 people. No one currently at the CHU3A would need to leave and it is possible to have membership of both groups. The U3A Development Officer stressed that experience has shown that opening a new group in the adjacent vicinity has not led to any loss to existing groups, but rather the reverse and Paddy, our own chairman, is anxious to forge strong links and co-operation with the new group once formed. If you are interested in helping with this new group, have useful suggestions or questions, please contact either Carol Millin, Education & Development Officer, U3A on 07507 852967 or Dorothy Chesterman 0161 439 7926.

Pownall Green Primary School, Bramhall would welcome U3A members who would be interested in hearing children reading on a one to one basis.

Contact Shirley Cawthra for more details.

Technology Group

The 2009 - 2010 session starts on Tuesday 6th October 2009

All meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at the Heald Green village hall on Outwood Road commencing at 2pm – 4 pm. (£1 per member is charged at each meeting to cover the cost of hall hire and refreshments)

Autumn programme

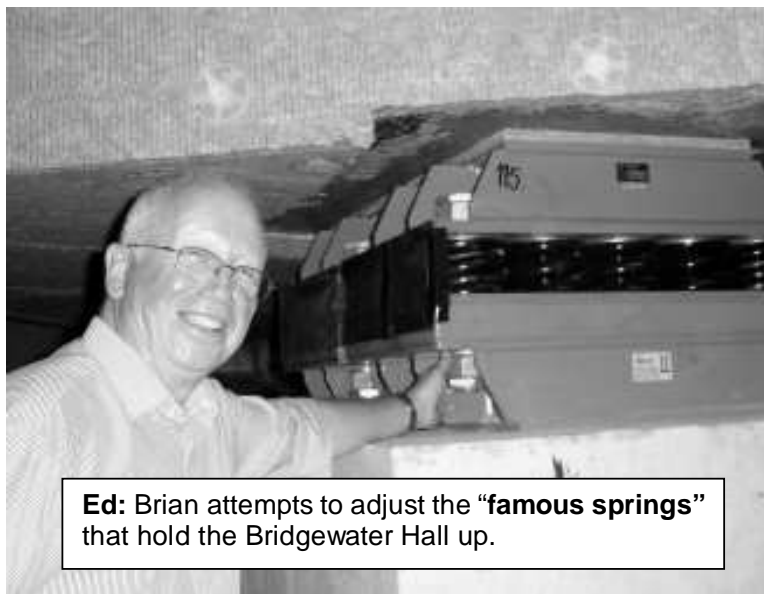
October 6 th	“Electricity Supply - film and talk”	Ian Reid
November 3 rd	“Architecture”	Malcolm Magee
December 1 st	“PowerPoint - caravan technology”	Paddy MacDonnell and Errol Formilli

New U3A members may like to know that this Group, now in its third year, is for those who wish to increase their awareness and knowledge across a wide spectrum of scientific and technological subjects, some of which affect our daily lives. Illustrated talks are given by members and visiting speakers

Subject topics have included: water, gas and electricity supplies, drug development and approval process, climate change, food additives, hospital infection and control, and history of glass making, just to name a few. Following each talk there is time for questions and discussion.

In addition, guided visits have included: The Museum of Science and Industry, a virtual image design consultancy service, the Anderton Boat Lift, Avro Heritage Centre at Woodford and the Anson Engine Museum at Poynton. Other field visits to follow.

This years technology group’s trip was to the Bridgewater Hall



Ed: Brian attempts to adjust the “famous springs” that hold the Bridgewater Hall up.

30th of June. Twenty-nine members attended the event.

Our tour of the building started in the foyer where we were met by our guide. Most of us climbed the stairs to the top of the building with the guide pointing out and explaining the history of the various landmarks that can be seen from the staircase. We then entered the highest level of the auditorium where the guide gave a short talk about the facilities, the organ, the acoustics and the ceiling and roof structure. He explained that when built the roof was put on first and the auditorium was then suspended from the roof. We descended to the foyer again and were taken round the back of the auditorium through small concert rooms and the conductor’s dressing room. We were

also shown the Green Room and it was explained that the name comes from the old theatres when the room for the actors was painted green to be restful to the eyes after the bright lights of the stage. The tour then proceeded past the offices and into the basement. Unlike most basements this was very clean and there was no clutter at all. It was here that we were introduced to the famous springs upon which the auditorium is supported to isolate it from vibration from passing trams. The proof that the auditorium is suspended from the roof was also found in the basement as the walls do not quite reach the ground, there being a small gap all round, again to isolate the auditorium from vibration.

Brian Pullan

A VISIT TO THE WORKING CLASS MOVEMENT LIBRARY

Did you know there is a Working Class Movement Library in Salford?

Well, yes there is. It is housed in a large three-storey mansion located on Salford Crescent, opposite the Peel Park Campus of the University of Salford.

Well, what is it? It is a unique treasure house of thousands of publications which reflect the rich history of the working people of this country. It relates the important part played by Trade Unions and the Labour Movement in shaping modern society and exists to preserve these facts.

How did it start? In the 1950s, as the personal collection of Edmund and Ruth Frow. By the

1980s their house was at bursting point and the City of Salford Council agreed to house it as a library in Jubilee House. As someone who very much appreciates my State Pension, it was most interesting to find out how it came about (thank goodness) – just one of the many interesting topics available at this library.

We visited the library on Thursday, 18th June. After a short introduction (nice cup of tea/coffee and biscuits) we toured the building. What a fascinating collection it is.

It was a most enjoyable morning. Thank you to Shirley Cawthra and her daughter for making it so.

Anne Webster

It is easily accessible from Salford Crescent Railway Station. Please check opening times before planning a visit. Phone No. 0161 736 3601. For more information search the web for Working Class Movement Library or email Enquiries@WCML.ORG.UK

Any support for a Gardening Group?

A few of our members have spoken about the possibility of forming a gardening group as part of Cheadle Hulme U3A. The aim would be to make surplus plants and/or seeds available to other members who could use them in their own gardens.

When I sow seeds often more germinate than I need. The extra are discarded. When I divide some of my perennials in the early spring I would be happy to pass some on - if I only knew who might be interested. I also enjoy producing new plants from cuttings.

I hope that a gardening group would communicate using email and then individuals could make their own arrangements as the need arises.

If you think there is any potential in this idea please contact me by email and I will report back ready for next year's growing season.

Peter Rhodes

ITEMS ALWAYS WELCOME FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER !

If you would like items published in the Newsletter, please hand them to the Newsletter Editor at one of the Members' Meetings, or (preferably) email to chu3a@talktalk.net
or post to George Rogers

**Closing date for contributions to the December Newsletter
is the Members' Meeting on the 1st Thursday in November 2009**

Website www.chu3a.org.uk

Sprechen Sie Deutsch?

There are now one or two vacancies in the German Group which meets regularly on the fourth Wednesday of the month, with numbers varying between six and ten.

The meetings are very varied, some being serious and some more light-hearted. The main aim is to use our German, and become more confident, and we usually have difficulty in stopping talking!

This not a beginners group, but if you would like to use or brush up the German you do know, give Evelyn Ingram a ring.

CHU3A Computer Club

After taking a break for the summer we meet again on the 8th September at caféunity (bi-monthly on Tuesdays from 10am to 12 noon).

The cost of £2.50 each remains the same and is payable directly to the café on arrival. We discuss common problems and interests in computing, and although a certain basic understanding of computing is expected, an occasional topic will be presented by a more experienced computer user from within the group.

New members are welcome and no one is excluded. The group is **not** solely for experienced computer users.

Please contact George Rogers if you would like to come. Email: chu3a@talktalk.net

The Importance of Walking

My grandpa started walking
five miles a day when he was 60.
Now he's 97 years old
and we don't know where the hell he is.

I have to walk early in the morning,
before my brain figures out what I'm doing..

Every time I hear the dirty word 'exercise',
I wash my mouth out with chocolate.

We all get heavier as we get older,
because there's a lot more information in our
heads.
That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

AND

Every time I start thinking too much
about how I look,
I just find a Happy Hour
and by the time I leave,
I look just fine.

Dear God

(or other politically correct omniscient being!)

So far today I've done alright.
I haven't gossiped;
or lost my temper.
I haven't been greedy,
or grumpy,
or nasty,
or selfish;
or over indulgent,
And I'm very thankful for that.

But God,
In a few minutes
I'm going to get out of bed;
And from then on,
I'm probably going to need a lot more help.

Amen

from **Ann Allison**

ART APPRECIATION

VISIT TO THE YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK

About 40 people visited the Park on 16 July in glorious weather. This was the first gallery visit of the new Art Appreciation group.



The Park was one of the first open air galleries dedicated to the display of modern and contemporary sculptures. Although Rodin (not represented in the Park) may be thought of as being the first of the modern sculptors, both Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore, who were both born nearby and are represented in the Park, used the same idea of abstracting a particular form, such as the human body, which is then identifiable in the abstract sculpture. The solid mass of the sculptures, which are in fact hollow, are very well displayed in the wonderful setting of the Sculpture Park. Many other artists have works displayed either in the open or in the indoor galleries.

Everyone will no doubt have their favourite sculptures but one of my favourites was 'Molecular Man', a huge and imposing work situated amongst the trees. This is a very good example of the same genre used by both Moore and Hepworth, which may be thought of as abstract based on a motif, but totally different both in its form and setting.

There is surprisingly a bunker in the Park. This is entered by one of two tunnels to emerge into a world of minimalism. This is a square

room made from stark white concrete with a perfectly square opening in the roof open to the sky. There are concrete benches with sloping backs around the room which encourages you

to look up at the sky. If you are lucky, as we were, you will see little patches of fleecy clouds passing, always moving but always gently as fleecy clouds do. And if you sit on the left hand side of the room as I did, you will see something else, something unexpected. You will see a square of sunlight on the far wall. But this is not all. If you keep very still and don't talk you will see that this square of light is moving all the time. But there is something else. The square isn't a square at all. It keeps changing shape as the sun moves overhead. And then the square fades and perhaps vanishes for a time. A fluffy little cloud drifts overhead and then gradually the square

reappears, but in a slightly different place. And all the time the picture in the square above is changing. This bunker is the work of an American artist, James Turrell, where he used the old deer shelter of the estate. It is a superb example of a form of modern kinetic abstract art but in a very unusual way.

Whilst in the Henry Moore area of the Park it was a delight to see Ruth, our very own sculptor. Ruth will be giving the March 2010 presentation entitled 'Journey into Sculpture'.

I am greatly indebted to Bernadette for arranging this very successful visit.

The 2009 – 2010 season starts on Thursday 13 October. Professor AC Rose-Innes will be giving this presentation entitled 'Art and Science, Science and Art'.

All meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month from October to March at the Heald Green village hall on Outwood Road commencing at 2pm. There will be a charge of £1.50 at each meeting to cover the costs of all the expenses.

Derek Moffitt