

Cheadle Hulme



NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2008 – September Issue

Editor: George Rogers

Chairman's Letter

Summer has come and almost gone but I doubt whether many of us noticed it. Rain has been plentiful, the sun scarce and the economy, so we are told, is in free fall. However I meet many of our U3A members and in spite of all the woes they are always so cheerful. There is something special about the "mature" generation!

Many of you have been away; I hope you enjoyed yourselves and found some good weather. I did! Seven days in Dartmouth with six days of hot sun! I have been to Devon before but not Dartmouth. What a delightful place surrounded by beautiful countryside. We had some very enjoyable boat trips on the River Dart and one day went out to sea then anchored in a very pretty bay for lunch. However, as the song says "it's nice to go travelling but so much nicer to come home"! I had a great time but at the end of it all it was good to be home.

Back at base CH U3A is prospering. Attendance at our meetings and membership continue their upward trends and our outside events have been well supported with visits to the Royal Exchange Theatre, the Anderton Boat Lift, The Anson Machinery Museum, Rylands Library and the Tall Ships in Liverpool, etc. Much to my regret I missed the last two. Well, you can't be in two places at once and I was in Dartmouth!

Now, a very early notice. Normally as you know our monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month. However our meeting in January 2009 will be held on the 2nd Thursday, the 8th January. It has been recognised that following New Year's Eve some of our members may not feel quite like going out on Thursday, 1st January. (I can't imagine why!)

As many of you know we were unable to use our normal venue at Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church Hall for our August meeting. On instructions from the Health and Safety Executive urgent remedial work had to be undertaken to replace the flooring. At the time of writing this is almost complete. We expect to be back in our usual habitat for our meeting on 4th September. Meanwhile we are most grateful to the authorities at St. Andrew's Church, Cheadle Hulme for kindly providing us with temporary accommodation in August.

So now we enter the last quarter of 2008. As always we look forward to seeing you at our meetings and please bring your friends. We would like to end the year with record membership.

Best wishes,

Paul Leigh

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
4 th September	Historical mysteries	Dr. Jennifer Palmer
2 nd October	Men of the Bramhall War Memorial	Jeff Tuck
6 th November	An Artist's Life	John Mawbey
6 th December	*** Christmas meeting ***	

PLEASE NOTE – the January meeting will be on the 8th January 2009 because of the 1st Thursday falling on New Years Day.

VISITORS are allowed one visit without joining, and need to pay £1 on that occasion. Visitors from other U3As can come a maximum of three times a year and need to pay £1 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.

CHU3A Events - Please make cheques payable to "Cheadle Hulme U3A Events" and send to: -
Shirley Cawthra

Victoria Baths £4

2.00 pm Tuesday 9th September

Royal Exchange Theatre

All on Wednesdays at 2.30 pm

1st October	Three Sisters	£13.50
5th November	Antigone	£13.50
26th November	A Taste of Honey	£13.50
7th January	See How They Run	£11.50
11th February	True Love Lies	£13.50

Bess's Rags to Riches Anniversary at Hardwick Hall

Thursday 23rd October £15.50

First we call for coffee at the Peak Village en-route to Hardwick Hall, a magnificent statement of wealth and authority, built by 'Bess of Hardwick'. Throughout 2008 Hardwick Hall will be celebrating the life of 'Bess of Hardwick' 400 years after her death, with a series of exhibitions. NT members free, Non-members approx. £9.

Christmas at Chatsworth

Monday 24th November £22.50

Due to its popularity last year, we take a visit to the Peak Village at Rowsley for morning coffee. Time for shopping before heading on to Chatsworth House, where we have ample time for lunch before taking our timed tour through the House which will be bedecked in all its finery (entrance to House included)

Gorton Monastery Tour £5

2.00 pm Tuesday 11th November

***Deck the Halls at Christmas time
Capesthorpe Hall and Arley Hall***

Tuesday 2nd December 2008 £24

First we visit Arley Hall for coffee and lunch and visit the amazing Christmas displays of fresh flowers and the array of wonderful decorations displayed at this time of year. After lunch we visit Capesthorpe Hall especially decorated for the festive season. Capesthorpe is set in 100 acres of picturesque Cheshire parkland. At this time of year it will be decked in all its Christmas finery (entrance to both halls is included)

Alma Lodge Annual Festive Lunch Friday 23rd January 2009

NEW computer group *caféunity* - We are proposing starting a U3A 'Computer Club'. This initially would be monthly on the second Tuesday from 10am to 12 noon.

The cost will be £2.50 per head payable directly to the café on arrival. The specialised facilities at '*caféunity*'* on Finney Lane, Heald Green can accommodate up to 20 people with comfort.

There are 8 machines available to connect to the Internet and a teaching machine connected to a video projector for demonstration to the whole group. Individual laptops can access the café's wifi system by arrangement.

We are not repeating the previous 'taught' courses for practical reasons. This proposed 'Computer Club' is intended to provide a forum to discuss common problems and interests in computing, and although a certain basic understanding of computing is expected, the level and type of discussion will have to find its own level. No one is excluded and the group isn't solely for experienced Computer Users.

There has already been a very healthy response to this new initiative.

The first session is planned for Tuesday 9th September 2008 at 10am.

Please contact George Rogers if you have not already done so. *email: chu3a@talktalk.net*

caféunity - The Internet Cafe Proposal was initiated in August 2004. There are five churches in Heald Green: Brown Lane Methodist, St. Catherine's Church of England, Heald Green United Reformed, Christchurch Roman Catholic and King's Way. The churches co-operate together under the umbrella of "Churches Together in Heald Green", which is itself part of "Greater Manchester Churches Together". This is a registered charity. It has a purpose built room on the second floor for meetings/discussions.

World's Easiest Quiz

(Passing requires 4 correct answers shown on page 5)

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years' War last?
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?
- 3) From which animal do we get Catgut?
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- 5) What is a Camel hair brush made of?
- 6) The Canary Islands are named after what animals?
- 7) What was King George VI's first name?
- 8) What colour is a purple finch?
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
- 10) What is the colour of the black box in a commercial aeroplane?

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 (at the address contained in your copy of the printed Newsletter)

**Closing date for contributions to the December Newsletter
is the Members' Meeting on Thursday 6th November 2008**

Technology Group

Sessions will start again in October and continue on the 1st Tuesday of each of the months October, November, December 2008 and February, March and April 2009. There are no meetings in January, May, June, July, August and September.

Autumn Programme 2008 – 09

Tuesday 7 th October 2008	<i>“Science and the Built Environment”</i>	Prof. K Letharman
Tuesday 4 th November 2008	<i>“Parys Mountain”</i>	Dr. G. Beaumont
Tuesday 2 nd December 2008	<i>“Reconstructing Faces from the Past”</i> (Ticket only)	Prof. R Neave

Technology Group meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at the Heald Green village hall on Outwood Road commencing at 2.00 pm – 4 pm. (£1 per member is charged at each meeting to cover the cost of hall hire and refreshments)

(Spring Programme to follow)

Visit to the Anson Engine museum Tuesday 5th August 2008

The twenty-one members who met at the museum were pleased to be greeted by a poster on the door welcoming the Cheadle Hulme U3A. We were ushered into a small cinema area with red plush seats and welcomed by the curator Geoff Challinor. Geoff gave a short talk on the origins of the museum starting with a brief history of mining in the area and the origins of the name Anson Museum; the museum being created on the site of the old Anson pit. It was explained that the site was initially purchased by a tree feller, Les Cawley, for the storage of his machines and equipment and at the time was an open site with none of the current buildings. The museum was developed on this site as the result of Les Cawley's and Geoff Challinor's years of hard work collecting and restoring engines and constructing buildings to house the collection. A visitor cannot fail to be impressed with the magnitude of their achievement and that of the volunteers who helped them in putting together and housing an impressive collection of engines which trace the history of the development of the internal combustion engine.

After the introduction we were taken into the main building and Geoff introduced us to the earliest internal combustion engine which was invented in France and which used an ignition system to carry a flame from a pilot light into the combustion chamber. We were then introduced to the “rattling monsters”. These were manufactured by Crossley Brothers in Manchester under licence from an Otto and Langdens patent. Many of us were surprised by the ingenuity of the engines and

the fact that the explosive stroke of the engine cycle simply served to shoot the piston up out of the cylinder and did no work. It was the partial vacuum left in the cylinder combined with atmospheric pressure pushing down on the piston that created the motive force. These early engines were atmospheric engines as were the early steam engines.

Geoff went on to demonstrate and run a number of engines including a large “not quite” diesel engine which did not have sufficient compression to be a true diesel but required the cylinder heads to be heated with large blowlamps for four minutes before the engine would start. Of particular interest to one member was a working Stirling engine. All the engines up to this point in the tour had relied on mechanisms for introducing burning or hot gas into the cylinders to cause ignition. Geoff gave an interesting explanation of the word ‘Chauffeur’ in this context. In early motorcars the hot metal tube, which caused the explosion of the gas in the engine cylinder, had to be heated before the car would start. The French word to heat is chauffe, hence the guy who started up the car was the chauffeur ! After a brief explanation of the development of electrical ignition systems we broke for tea.

After tea we explored the museum independently visiting the Les and Ena Cawley memorial building which contained an exhibition of diesel engines ranging from the third diesel engine ever made to the ultra modern engine from the car

which holds the world speed record for diesel engine powered cars.

The museum provided us with a fascinating insight into the development of the internal combustion engine and also local history as

many of the engines were built in the Manchester area. It may be of interest to members that the museum is putting on a series of lectures on local history.

Brian Pullan

Second Wednesday Walks

Capesthorpe

8th October 2008

This 3-mile walk is graded as easy, but can be muddy and has many stiles. It starts from a large lay-by on a minor road (signed Henbury) off the A34 at Redes Mere. With Errol and Carole Formilli leading, we will walk beneath the sweet chestnuts beside Redes Mere, past the Sailing Club, then cross the A34 to continue beside the Capesthorpe lakes. Passing the second of the lakes we can enjoy the impressive vista of the Hall before passing the ornamental five-arched bridge and the old saw mill to join a track out to Mill Lane. We continue southward, along field paths and farm tracks, to the main road and Siddington to return to the start via Fanshawe Lane.

Unless otherwise stated the walking group meets, on the day of a walk, at 9.30a.m., for departure at 9.45a.m., in the car park of Cheadle Hulme United Reformed Church, in Swann Lane.

*Third Wednesday Walks Leader: John Anderton.

This programme is subject to change at short notice. A walk may be cancelled, at the discretion of the walk leader, in severe weather conditions.

Walk leaders can be contacted by phone for information about a walk. Details are also regularly circulated by email. If you wish to be added to the e-circulation list, please email john.t.anderton@sky.com stating your preference for –

Second Wednesday walks – easy strolls of up to 5 miles;

Third Wednesday walks – easy strolls of up to 7 miles – or all walks.

Answers to Quiz

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1) 116 years | 6) Dogs |
| 2) Ecuador | 7) Albert |
| 3) Sheep & horses | 8) Crimson |
| 4) November | 9) New Zealand |
| 5) Squirrel hairs | 10) Orange, of course! |