

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE**

**DIGITAL  
EXCLUSIONAL**  
*An issue for the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
age.* Page 6

**QUIZ**  
*Talking about the  
weather.* Page 10

**SUMMER SCHOOL**  
*A review of the 2024  
event.* Page 12



Check out our website

Registered Charity  
Number 1168597

Web: [www.south-manchester.u3asite.uk](http://www.south-manchester.u3asite.uk)



[www.facebook.com/groups/807060236097165](https://www.facebook.com/groups/807060236097165)



Part of the South Manchester u3a Facebook “weekend photos” series called “Butterflies” by Copland Smith

An endangered species, the High Brown Fritillary (*Argynnis Adippe*) has decreased massively. They can still be seen on Arnside Knott, just over the border into Cumbria.

October 2024 Newsletter items to: [editor.smu3anews@gmail.com](mailto:editor.smu3anews@gmail.com)

**NO LATER than Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2024**

Printed by Peter Woolley, Offset & Digital Printers, 31 Barlow Moor Road, Didsbury, M20 6TW. Tel: 0161 445 9607

Email: [matt@didsburyprinters.co.uk](mailto:matt@didsburyprinters.co.uk).

Web: [www.didsburyprinters.co.uk](http://www.didsburyprinters.co.uk)

## OFFICERS and COMMITTEE

Chair and External Ambassador	Beryl Cowen	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Secretary	Andrew Bradbury	smu3a.secretary@gmail.com	[REDACTED]
Treasurer	Ian Burn	smu3a.treasurer@gmail.com	[REDACTED]
Membership Secretary	Joanie Yoffe	smu3amembership@gmail.com	[REDACTED]
Assistant Membership Secretary	Patricia Ford	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Groups Co-ordinator / Vice Chair	Diane Ward	smu3agroupscoord@gmail.com	[REDACTED]
Publicity	Wena Stevenson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Committee Member	Helen Chambers	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

## SUPPORT (non-committee)

Speaker Secretary	Jeff Wilner	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
“Meeters & Greeters” Co-ordinator	Barbara Aston	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Newsletter Team	Ian Burn	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Megan Bennett	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Trish Ramsden	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Webmaster	Ian Burn	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Facebook Editor	Rosemary Mallace	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Monthly Diary Sheet Production	Liz Thornhill	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Catering	Shirley Shaw	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Quiz Master	Tom Grimshaw	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Safeguarding Officer	Mary Heaney	smu3a.safeguarding@gmail.com	[REDACTED]

### GENERAL MEETING at DIDSBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 at 2.00pm

**“The Extraordinary Lives of Ordinary People” by Merryn Myatt**

See page 5 for details

**Parking at Didsbury Baptist Church** – Members please note that there is no parking at the church with the exception of temporary drop-off for the catering team. (Blue badge holders could use double yellow lines)



### Message from the Chair

Hello again dear friends and fellow u3a members,

I have just returned from the North West u3a summer school in Carlisle and I will write at greater length about it in another article in the newsletter. It was refreshing for me but tiring. I learnt a lot about the archaeology of Carlisle. It was just the break I needed after 6 rather distressing weeks.

Two weeks ago, I was in Southport on Street Pastor duty helping the community come to terms with all of the stabbings and murders. It was not easy but I learnt about community spirit and the power of community spirit. Tragedy brings communities together and always has done. World wars, the Manchester Arena bombing, etc. For the u3a, everyone caring for and looking out for each other is rather like that too. We are older (most of us) and in the same boat regarding ageing concerns, illness and in some cases, loneliness. The u3a can help its members with friendship, like-mindedness, common interests and bringing people together.

I love our general meetings after the speaker, over coffee, when people talk to each other and catch up on news. It is lovely to see delight on people's faces as they greet each other. We should look forward to our general meetings as fun when we meet as a community.

Community is also what our groups are about. We share interests and learn together, which is a vital part of our movement. So, if you have not yet done so, join a group and become part of that community.

Beryl



### Message from the Editor

If you have an article or interesting story that you can submit for the newsletter which our readers might find enjoyable, I would be very grateful. The story could be about something which you have done with the u3a or it could be totally non-u3a related. Perhaps something you did on holiday, some interesting place which you have visited or something to do with your hobby.

Please email me: [editor.smu3anews@gmail.com](mailto:editor.smu3anews@gmail.com)

## NATIONAL AND NORTH WEST NEWS

**National:** [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk) for latest news of u3a around the country and courses/events on offer.

**National Newsletter:** August newsletter can be found here: [XXXXX National Newsletter](#)

**North West Region:** [www.u3asites.org.uk/north-west](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/north-west) for the latest information and newsletter

## SOUTH MANCHESTER u3a NEWS

### SMu3a welcomes the following new members

Sian Richards	Pravin Patel	Joan Goss	Catherine Stopes
Gillian Wood	Ann Walsh	Patrick Walsh	Mary Christie
Laura Vallance	David Vallance		

If you have any information about members' special birthdays, anniversaries, illness, bereavements, etc please notify Kath Thompson on [REDACTED]

### Tradesperson Book

Is available at general meetings. It will only be of value if members use it, so please do.

### South Manchester u3a General Meeting Speakers

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024 at 2pm	"The Extraordinary Lives of Ordinary People" by Merryn Myatt
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2024 at 2pm	Groups Fair
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2024 at 2.30pm	"Beekeeping in South Manchester" by Alan Towse
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 2pm	"The Heritage of Gilbert & Sullivan" by Bernard Lockett
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2024 at 2pm	"A Crooning Christmas" by Kevin and Joy Siddall



### GROUPS FAIR

At the start of our October general meeting on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 we are holding our annual Groups Fair.

Many of our group leaders will be available to introduce you to their groups and what they do. Do you fancy learning a new language? Do you want to learn to juggle? Do you want to improve your writing skills? Whatever you want to do, we will probably have a group to suit you. Come along to the Groups Fair and see what's on offer.

The Fair takes place at 2pm and will last for 30 minutes. It will be followed by our scheduled speaker, Alan Towse, who will tell us about beekeeping.

South Manchester u3a September General Meeting

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 at 2pm

At Didsbury Baptist Church, School Lane

## **“The Extraordinary Lives of Ordinary People” by Merryn Myatt**



As a journalist, Merryn spent 25 years working in all channels of the press, from local newspapers to national television. Now she shares her expertise with companies and organisations, teaching them how to communicate effectively.

Like most journalists, Merryn began her career at her local paper in Suffolk. As Britain experienced a broadcasting boom with local radio stations popping up all over the country, Merryn decided to transfer her skills to the airwaves, taking a job as broadcast journalist at Hereward FM, Peterborough. This was a lot different from newspaper journalism because you've got to tell the news in much fewer words. One of Merryn's biggest scoops was securing an exclusive interview with Baroness Thatcher.

Next, Merryn decided to try her hand at television, which led to her presenting Northwest Tonight for the BBC at their Oxford Road studios, Manchester.

After four years on Northwest Tonight, Merryn then devoted her professional time to the corporate sector, advising on internal and external communications and fostering positive relationships with the media.



**WEST DIDSBURY ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY**

EVERYONE WELCOME - FROM COMPLETE BEGINNER TO EXPERIENCED ASTRONOMER

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7pm**

“Jupiter the Bully and Saturn the Saviour” by David Temperley

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 7pm**

“Artificial Intelligence in Astronomy” by Professor Anna Scaife

As usual it will take place at Nazarene Theological College. Visitors welcome.

For more details visit [www.wdas2.com](http://www.wdas2.com).

## Digital Exclusion: An Issue for the Third Age

By Frances Kelly



Computer use has revolutionised our world and made many things much easier. Whilst acknowledging that we should not accept a world where there is no alternative, not all of us have computers. A lot of people do not have internet-connected mobiles. Yet, increasingly, facilities we want or need presume that we do, or penalise us if we don't. And on top of that, they blithely assume that we have online banking.

Perhaps you have a computer, but not a smartphone. If you want to buy a train ticket from Manchester to London, you can do so online. But you then either have to pay an extra pound for them to give you a ticket, or you have to go out and buy a printer. It's the same if you want to go to out for an evening.

The exceptions stand out. The Stoller Hall should be singled out for praise. You simply turn up with the reference number they send you! Similarly, HOME Theatre and Cinema, after complaints, has put in a (temporary?) fix. There may be others so let us praise them!

You want to park your car? Increasingly, they want you to pay by smartphone. Sometimes there is a telephone alternative, albeit on occasion with no signal!

Banks – don't get me started!

Still more annoying are the liars. The systems that say you must pay online, yet hide the fact that you can pay at Payzone or by phone from home. Approach the Runcorn Toll Bridge and you are told that you must pay online by the following midnight. Not true – but if you can't do so, you feel that you have little choice but to divert off the bridge approach and go a very long way around to your destination. (You have a smartphone but no online banking and you are not heading for home? – tough!). The Dartford Road Bridge in London is even worse. It tells you to pay within 24 hours online with no chance of diversion. These are deliberate falsehoods, lies in common parlance, and complaints have not changed the practice.

In June, Age Concern published an excellent report giving the facts and figures on Digital Inclusion. Here is a link to it: [Internet Use Statistics June 2024](#). An issue important for all our society, the report clearly shows that it significantly hits the older age groups. For instance, a third of over-65s did not have a smartphone. A fifth have no internet access. Three in ten of regular internet users in that age-bracket did not have online banking.

A friend described it as juggernauts heading for us: -

The first is an allowed assumption by commercial, industrial, private and public service agencies, that we all have ready access to the internet and support in using Web based services. The degree to which alternatives are provided is diminishing rapidly and there is no indication of serious public support to maintain alternatives.

The second juggernaut is the assumption that we are all accessible throughout the day on a smartphone by voice and by messaging. This is an extension of the effect of the first juggernaut, but it is of even greater impact on older or slower people. Not only do agencies expect you to have your phone with you at all times, but they also expect that you can access their web services from that phone. The delivery service which you rely on, offers you a time slot by text with an embedded link and a time limited window for reply. This is the same for your care service.

The benefits available through computers, should be used to improve services. But there must always be an easily accessible back-up for those without digital access. Now, nothing should be done to make it impossible for small

social or voluntary groups for instance, to communicate by WhatsApp (for which you need an internet-connected mobile phone). But no large commercial organisation and no public service, (including 'contracted out' toll bridges!), should be allowed to get away with penalising people who do not have a smartphone, online banking, nor indeed any internet access. Neither should they be allowed to misrepresent the situation. Signage should indicate options, and timescales for paying should be real and not unrealistically short.

An easy thing, methinks, for a newly elected Government with a big majority to sort? Perhaps we should write to our MPs, whatever their political colour? We have a lot of votes.



"Okay your father managed to get a mouse. Now how do we use it?"



### Didsbury Probus Programme 2024

Didsbury and District Probus Group meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. Unlike many Probus clubs, we are a mixed group of men and women. Annual membership is £40.

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
**Probus Late Summer Buffet Lunch**  
Didsbury Golf Club

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
**"Made in Manchester" by Brian Groome**  
This is a people's history of 'the city that shaped the modern world'

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024**  
**"Bringing Law to Life with a Laugh" by Sue Holden**  
A retired solicitor strives to convey both her enthusiasm and learning in her entertaining insight into the law

All meetings are held in the Didsbury Baptist Church, School Lane, opposite the Scout Hut and Didsbury Metrolink station.

Tea/coffee and biscuits are served from 10.30am before the talk at 11am.

Visitors are very welcome. Any donations from visitors to help with running costs would be very helpful.



# Opera at Menorah

## Opera Appreciation with Diana Rosenthal

September – December 2024

All events are on Thursdays at 1.30pm

£10 per performance, paid at the door using card payment

Menorah Synagogue, 198 Altrincham Road, Wythenshawe, Manchester, M22 4RZ

Go to <https://menorah.org.uk/opera/> for more information

19<sup>th</sup> September 2024



### FIDELIO (BEETHOVEN)

Inspired by an actual incident from the French Revolution, this is Beethoven's only opera. The dramatic art of this magnificent work, which deals with liberty, faithfulness, idealism and justice, holds a universal value.

14<sup>th</sup> November 2024



### THE MAKROPULOS AFFAIR (JANÁČEK)

Immortality and centuries old feuds... At the crossroads between science-fiction and philosophical debate, Janáček's penultimate opera (1926) is an incredibly modern work.

12<sup>th</sup> December 2024



### OTELLO (VERDI)

Verdi's tragic opera masterpiece, based on Shakespeare's play, marked a turning point in the evolution of Italian opera. Drama, intrigue, heroes and acolytes - and fabulous music!

**A Knight at the Opera** by Eric Perlin



SATURDAY 12 OCTOBER 2024, 1030–1700

REGISTRATION AND COFFEE FROM 09:45

ALTRINCHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
CECIL ROAD, HALE WA15 9NT

# ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

# Singing Day

## HEAVENLY CHORUSES

Haydn *The Heavens are Telling*  
Handel *Zadok the Priest*  
Bruckner *Locus Iste*

Faure *Cantique de Jean Racine*  
Mozart *Ave Verum*  
Parry *I Was Glad*

Free informal performance at 4.30pm - All welcome!

CONDUCTOR – STEVEN ROBERTS    ACCOMPANIST – LYDIA BRYAN

TICKETS £22 | STUDENTS £5 INC MUSIC HIRE  
VIA WEBSITE OR FOR QUERIES 07801 970 771

[WWW.ALTRINCHAMCHORAL.CO.UK](http://WWW.ALTRINCHAMCHORAL.CO.UK)

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 500729



# Talking about the weather

1. **The UK is famous for being a pretty wet place, but which is the only one of these world cities that has less rain on average each year than London?**  
 a) Berlin                      b) Sydney                      c) Rio de Janeiro                      d) Rome
2. **Meanwhile, which is the rainiest city in the UK (by average annual rainfall)?**  
 a) Cardiff                      b) Manchester                      c) Glasgow                      d) Gloucester
3. **When was the last time the UK had a White Christmas? (Meaning at least one snowflake fell somewhere on Christmas Day.)**  
 a) 2008                      b) 2009                      c) 2010                      d) 2011
4. **The maximum number of hours of sunshine possible in one year is approximately 4480. What is the average number of hours of sunshine in the UK?**  
 a) 2,840                      b) 40                      c) 1,340                      d) 2,040
5. **In which year did the M.E. News print “The University of Manchester recorded temperatures of more than 36C at its Whitworth Observatory near the city centre this afternoon July 19th.” and “On December 14<sup>th</sup>, drivers were forced to get the de-icer out again for their commute to work today as parts of the city woke up to conditions as low as -7 °C.”**  
 a) 2016                      b) 2018                      c) 2020                      d) 2022
6. **Which of the following parts of the UK has the wettest climate?**  
 a) North                      b) South                      c) East                      d) West
7. **From which direction do the UK's prevailing winds blow?**  
 a) North West                      b) South West                      c) North east                      d) South east
8. **During the 20th century, the average temperatures in the UK have risen. Which of the following statements is NOT true?**  
 a) The growing season for UK farmers has increased  
 b) The UK will experience severe weather more frequently  
 c) In general winters are getting drier and summers are getting wetter  
 d) More flooding is likely to occur because of an increase in precipitation



Walking for Health Group 1 – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Haughton Dale Nature Reserve



We walked on the hottest day of the year so far. Thank goodness that there was a lot of shade during the walk.

Having met up at Stockport Interchange, we took the bus to Hyde, opposite the Joshua Bradley pub. From here, we walked past the old Unity Mill, once a cotton mill in the 1860's and later a rubber works in the 1890's. It finally closed for business in 2003 following a fire. We walked down on to the Peak Forest canal and after a while, a steep climb down some steps towards the river Tame and the Haughton Dale Nature Reserve. A lovely walk through the reserve was rewarded by a view of a heron standing in a field of geese – very bizarre! A short stop was taken by Ivy Cottages for a group photo. These are a group of cottages from the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century which are all painted in different bright colours. On then to some very steep steps up to the canal. Thank goodness for a low wall at the top to sit on. Back along the canal and past Unity Mill to our lunch stop at the Joshua Bradley where the service was excellent and our food arrived very quickly.

**Walking for Health Group 2 Walk - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Stockport to Reddish**

A 3-mile walk. From Stockport through Heaton Norris Park and Reddish Vale Country Park and into Reddish. No stiles, quite hilly, some steps, can be muddy when wet. Wear suitable shoes or boots, bring a wet coat and a bus pass if you have one. Meet outside Merseyway shopping centre entrance in Stockport at 10.45am. Lunch at the Carousel pub in Reddish. If you want to come, phone Anne Clarke on **7582 526440 or 0161 312 3002**



**Walking for Health Group 1 Walk - Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Walkden to Worsley**

A 3-mile walk following the Roe Green Loophole. Mostly level with good paved paths with a few steps up and down. No stiles. May be muddy. Wear suitable shoes or boots, bring a wet coat and a bus pass if you have one. Meet at Victoria station by the information board at 10.15. Lunch available at the Barton Arms in Worsley. If you want to come, phone Ian Burn on **7582 526440 or 0161 442 8525**

## The Egyptology Group

The Egyptology group are not meeting again until October. However, we enjoyed an informal trip with friends to Manchester Museum in August. Time for coffee, cake, chat, and exploration, which was lots of fun. The vivarium had some fascinating frogs which caught my eye, and the Archaeology and Egyptian collection raised some interesting questions for us to research next year.

If you want to join us, please come along on the Third Thursday each month from October. 10.30-12.30 at The Parsonage on Stenner Lane, Didsbury. All welcome.



## North West Region of u3a's Summer School - 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> August 2024

### A Review by Beryl Cowen



The North West Summer School was held this year at the University of Cumbria campus in Carlisle. There were several different subjects studied including, Japanese Studies, Drawing and Painting, British Painters, Ukulele Improvement and Archaeology.

I took part in the archaeology course and was out most of the time looking at Roman and Neolithic stones. We visited the Vindolanda Roman fort and Corbridge Roman town. It was fascinating to see how they lived. We also studied the Roman remains in Carlisle.



The drawing group studied Rembrandt and made drawings in his style. Some with their eyes closed!

The British artists group studied many artists and went to Coniston to see Ruskin's home.



The ukulele group played different styles of music and learned to pluck. They also entertained us on the last night. Each evening, we had talks and the best one was all about the new telescope being built to study nebula. We also had a quiz.

It was all very enjoyable and I would recommend that more people from South Manchester go to the Summer School next year.



## SMu3a Groups A-Z List

Check Group News and this month's diary. Contact Group Leader before attending.

<b>ANGLO SAXON AND MEDIEVAL HISTORY</b>	Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 10.30 via Zoom. This group covers all aspects of Anglo Saxon and Viking life in depth through language and social history readings and discussions. <b>Beryl Cowen</b>
<b>ART APPRECIATION</b>	Monthly meetings held at Didsbury Parsonage on the afternoon of the third Wednesday of the month cover a wide variety of artistic topics. Talks are either by the leader Diane Ward or guest speakers, followed by tea and discussion. <b>Diane Ward</b>
<b>BIRDWATCHING AND NATURE</b>	Meeting on the first Wednesday of every month from 11-12 noon. Exploring birds in their natural habitats interacting with plants and trees. <b>Rita Berriman</b>
<b>BOARD GAMES</b>	Lots of different games are played by this group which meets at the Parrs Wood pub from 2-4 pm on the second Friday of the month. <b>Christine Salamone</b>
<b>BOOK GROUP 1</b>	Meeting at 10.30 am at Meg's home in Didsbury, on the first Wednesday of the month. A small friendly group who enjoys reading and discussing a wide variety of books. <b>Meg Davis</b>
<b>BOOK GROUP 2</b>	Held at Didsbury Library 1.30 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month, meetings are led by members in turn to discuss titles suggested and agreed by the group members <b>Tom Grimshaw</b>
<b>BOOK GROUP 3</b>	This group meets on the second Thursday of the month at 1.30 pm. There's no fixed venue but we meet in our homes on a rota. <b>Johanna Keane</b>
<b>BRIDGE</b>	Held at the Nazarene College, Didsbury. This group meets fortnightly on Fridays from 10 to 12 noon. This group is for experienced players only. <b>Liz Thornhill</b>
<b>BRIDGE for BEGINNERS</b>	This group meets fortnightly on Mondays from 1.30-3.30, at Emmanuel Parish Centre on Barlow Moor Rd. This group is for beginners and improvers although more experienced players are also welcome to join. You don't need a partner. <b>Hilary</b>
<b>CHESS</b>	The Chess group meets at 10.30 am on the last Thursday of the month at Didsbury Parsonage. <b>Rosemary Mallace</b>
<b>CINEMA</b>	Meeting on the last Friday of the month at 12.15 in the downstairs bar of HOME, 2 Tony Wilson Place. This group watches a variety film then meets afterwards to discuss them. Group Leader emails what's on the Tuesday before the meeting. <b>Russell Ramsden</b>
<b>CIRCUS SKILLS</b>	This group meets at St Christopher's Church in Withington on the first Thursday of the month from 2.00-3.00 pm and at Circus House in Longsight on the third Thursday from 2.00— 3.30 pm. We are having a lot of fun learning how to juggle, spin plates and hoola-hoop. Some weeks we practice by ourselves and some weeks we have a juggling teacher from Circus House. Equipment provided and no skill needed apart from being able to pick a ball up from the floor. All welcome. <b>Joanie Yoffe</b>
<b>COMMUNITY SING-ALONG</b>	This group sings well known songs in unison (no rehearsal time needed) in residential homes. Dates and times vary. <b>Mike Evans</b>
<b>CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY</b>	The group meets at Didsbury Parsonage at 10.30 on the second Monday of every month. The emphasis is on creativity rather than technical skill. <b>Ann Howarth</b>

<b>CREATIVE WRITING</b>	New members are always welcome at this group which is held at Withington Library on the last Friday of the month at 10.30 am. Members read and discuss their writings. . . . Diana Bradley [REDACTED]
<b>CURRENT AFFAIRS</b>	This group meets to share and discuss items in the news on the 4th Thursday of the month at 1.30pm in Ye Olde Cock pub, Didsbury. Adrienne Simpson [REDACTED]
<b>DRAMATIC READERS</b>	Held on the 3rd Friday of the month, both face to face and by Zoom at 23 Bristol Ave. . . . Beryl Cowen [REDACTED]
<b>EGYPTOLOGY</b>	This group meets at 10.30-12.30 on the third Thursday of the month at Didsbury Parsonage, to discuss all aspects of early Egyptian art and culture. Kathryn Fyfe [REDACTED]
<b>FRENCH CONVERSATION</b>	Meeting on the third Tuesday of the month 2 - 3pm at Pizza Express in West Didsbury. Speakers of all levels of conversational French are welcome. Jean Thompson [REDACTED]
<b>GERMAN CONVERSATION</b>	This group is for those who would like to practice their spoken German. . . . Marie O'Sullivan [REDACTED]
<b>GETTING BY IN WELSH</b>	At 10.30 on the first Friday of every month, this group meets at East Didsbury Methodist Church on Parris Wood Road, to discuss the language, history and culture of Wales. . . . Beryl Cowen [REDACTED] or Wena Stevenson [REDACTED]
<b>HOLIDAY GROUP</b>	Keep an eye on the monthly newsletter for information about forthcoming holidays.
<b>ITALIAN CONVERSATION</b>	We are a small group looking to improve our Italian through listening and conversation. Please note that there is a separate group for learners – see Parliamo Italiano below. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Friday mornings of the month from 10.30 – 12.00. Annie Dodd [REDACTED]
<b>KEEP FIT</b>	This group caters for a variety of fitness levels – there is no competition! It meets on Friday mornings at 11.30 at St Nicholas Church Hall in Burnage. Anne Clarke [REDACTED]
<b>LOCAL INTEREST VISITS</b>	These will be advertised in the newsletter from time to time. Jill Evans [REDACTED]
<b>LUNCH CLUB</b>	The club meets monthly at a variety of local restaurants and pubs, chosen with a view to ease of parking or public transport as well as price. John Olbrich [REDACTED]
<b>OPERATIC AND VOCAL APPRECIATION SOCIETY (OVAS)</b>	Lovers of opera and music meets from 3.30 – 5.45 on the last Wednesday of every month. . . . Len Evans [REDACTED]
<b>PARLIAMO ITALIANO Let's speak Italian!</b>	A friendly and fun group for people who have little or no Italian but would like to learn. We aim to be able to understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases which would be of value on an Italian holiday. We aim to be able to interact in a simple way and to improve with time so that in due course, members could move on to the Italian Conversation group or attend both. We meet at St Christopher's Church, Moorgate Avenue, from 10.30 – 12.00 on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. Andrew Bradbury [REDACTED]
<b>PHILOSOPHY</b>	This group meets at 1.30 pm at Withington Library on the third Tuesday of the month. . . . Sandra Grant [REDACTED]
<b>PLAYREADING</b>	Meetings are at Withington Library at 1.30 on the third Tuesday afternoon of the month. Numbers are limited for this group, but please contact the group leader to register your interest. . . . Helen Nicolson [REDACTED] (text or leave a voice message as I do not answer unknown numbers)

<b>POETRY APPRECIATION</b>	Poems on a chosen theme are discussed on the 1st Monday of the month from 11.00-12.30 at Victoria Grange, Barlow Moor Road. The group is currently full. Contact group leader to go on waiting list. <b>Lynne Taylor</b> [REDACTED]
<b>POETRY WRITING</b>	This group meets on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month from 2pm – 4pm at Withington Library <b>Paul Grace</b> [REDACTED]
<b>PSYCHOLOGY</b>	This group meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 2 pm via Zoom and the 4th Monday of the month face to face at East Didsbury Methodist Church, Parrs Wood Road at 1pm. <b>Beryl Cowen</b> [REDACTED]
<b>SINGING FOR FUN</b>	This group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 2 pm. <b>Judith Newton</b> [REDACTED]
<b>SPANISH CONVERSATION</b>	This group meets on the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month at 2 pm at the Slug and Lettuce in Didsbury. <b>Debbie Delange</b> [REDACTED]
<b>TABLE TENNIS AND BADMINTON</b>	Every Tuesday from 10-12, this group meets at the Armitage Centre, Moseley Road, Fallowfield. Equipment can be provided and the cost per session is £3.50. <b>June Slatter</b> [REDACTED]
<b>TAI CHI</b>	Gentle exercise which benefits balance and calmness at the Lower Hall, Emmanuel Offices, behind the church from 1-2 pm every Tuesday. <b>Peggy Foster</b> [REDACTED]
<b>UKULELE</b>	Would you like to strum and sing along with the ukelele group? Beginners are welcome. We meet from 10 – 11.15 at the Upper Hall of Emmanuel Parish Centre, behind the church, every Thursday. <b>Gerard Allcock</b> [REDACTED]
<b>WALKING FOR HEALTH 1</b>	Walks of around 3 miles are enjoyed by this group on the last Tuesday of every month. Details are given in the newsletter. <b>Ian Burn</b> [REDACTED]
<b>WALKING FOR HEALTH 2</b>	This group meets on the second Wednesday of every month to follow the same route as Walking for Health Group 1. <b>Anne Clarke</b> [REDACTED]

### Answers to Weather Quiz

1. Berlin
2. Cardiff
3. 2010
4. 1,340
5. 2022
6. West
7. South West
8. Winters drier, summers wetter

My gardener friend suggested that I put horse manure on my strawberries. I tried it, but I'm going back to whipped cream.



## Sept 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>2</b> Anglo Saxon and Medieval History Via Zoom <b>10:30</b></p> <p>Poetry Appreciation <b>11:00-12:30 Victoria Grange</b></p> <p>Psychology <b>14:00</b> Zoom</p> <p>Improvers and Beginners Bridge <b>13:30 - 15:30.</b> <i>New players see info for 9<sup>th</sup> Sept.</i></p>	<p><b>3</b> Table Tennis / Badminton <b>10:00</b></p> <p>TaiChi <b>13:00-14:00</b></p> <p><b>General Meeting 14:00- 16:00 Didsbury Baptist Church</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> Book Group 1. Meg's house <b>10:30.</b></p> <p>Bird Watching &amp; Nature. <b>11:00 – 12:00</b> If interested, contact Rita: [REDACTED]</p>	<p><b>5</b> Ukulele <b>10:00 - 11:15</b></p> <p>Circus Skills (note new venue &amp; session time) <b>14:00 -15:00.</b> St Christophers Church M20 1HE</p> <p>Spanish Conversation <b>14:30</b> (Nazarene)</p>	<p><b>6</b> Bridge <b>10:00 - 12:00</b> (Every Friday)</p> <p>Italian Conversation <b>10:30 – 12:00</b></p> <p>Getting by in Welsh <b>10:30</b> Didsbury Methodist Church</p> <p>Keep Fit <b>No meeting this week</b></p>
<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Note: Improvers and Beginners Bridge is now <u>every week</u> at Emmanuel Lower Hall for a trial period. <b>13:30-15:30.</b> <i>New players must email Hilary before the session date.</i> [REDACTED]</p>	<p><b>10</b> Table Tennis / Badminton <b>10:00</b></p> <p>TaiChi <b>No meeting this week.</b></p> <p>Singing for fun. <b>No meeting this week.</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> Walking for Health 2. See Newsletter</p>	<p><b>12</b> Ukulele <b>10:00 - 11:15</b></p> <p>Book Group <b>3. 13:30</b> (Closed group)</p>	<p><b>13</b> Parliamo Italiano (Andrew) <b>10:30-12:00</b> St. Christopher's Church Moorgate Ave. M20 1HE</p> <p>Keep Fit <b>11:30</b></p> <p>Board Games <b>14:00-16:00</b> Parrswood Pub</p> <p>Poetry Writing <b>14:00-16:00</b> (Withington Library)</p>
<p><b>16</b> Anglo Saxon and Medieval History Via Zoom <b>10:30</b></p> <p>Creative Photography <b>10:30</b> The Parsonage Stenner Lane.</p> <p>Improvers and Beginners Bridge <b>13:30 - 15:30</b> <i>New players see info for 9<sup>th</sup> Sept.</i></p>	<p><b>17</b> Table Tennis/ Badminton <b>10:00</b></p> <p>TaiChi <b>13:00-14:00</b></p> <p>Playreading <b>13:30</b></p> <p>Philosophy <b>13:30</b> Withington Library</p> <p>French Group <b>14:00</b> Pizza Express.</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Note: Lunch Club is <b>Not meeting during September &amp; October.</b></p> <p>Art Appreciation <b>14:00</b> The Parsonage.</p>	<p><b>19</b> Ukelele <b>10:00- 11:15</b></p> <p>Egyptology. <b>No meeting this month</b></p> <p>Community Sing-Along <b>14:00</b> BELONG M20 2UW</p> <p>Circus Skills (note new venue &amp; session time) <b>14:00 -15:00</b> Circus House Hamilton Road Longsight M13 0PD</p> <p>New: Spanish Conversation <b>14:30</b></p>	<p><b>20</b> Bridge <b>10:00 - 12:00</b> (Every Friday)</p> <p>Italian Conversation <b>10:30 – 12:00</b></p> <p>Keep Fit <b>11:30</b></p>
<p><b>23</b> Improvers and Beginners Bridge <b>13:30 - 15:30</b> <i>New players see info for 9<sup>th</sup> Sept.</i></p> <p><b>30</b> Improvers and Beginners Bridge <b>13:30 - 15:30</b> <i>New players see info for 9<sup>th</sup> Sept.</i></p> <p>Psychology <b>13:30</b> E. Didsbury Methodist Church</p>	<p><b>24</b> Table Tennis / Badminton <b>10:00</b></p> <p>TaiChi <b>13:00-14:00</b></p> <p>Singing for Fun <b>14:00 – 16:00</b> Didsbury Baptist Church</p> <p>Walking for Health 1. See Newsletter</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>OVAS 15:30 – 17:45</b> [REDACTED]</p>	<p><b>26</b> Ukulele <b>10:00 - 11:15</b></p> <p>Chess <b>10:30</b> The Parsonage</p> <p>Book Group <b>2. 13:30</b> Didsbury Library (Closed group)</p> <p>Current Affairs <b>13:30</b> The Olde Cock Pub</p>	<p><b>27</b> Bridge <b>10:00 - 12:00</b> (Every Friday)</p> <p>Creative Writing <b>10:30</b></p> <p>German Conversation <b>10:30</b> (Nazarene)</p> <p>Parliamo Italiano (Andrew) <b>10:30-12:00</b> St. Christopher's Church Moorgate Ave. M20 1HE</p> <p>Keep Fit <b>11:30</b></p> <p>Cinema <b>12:15</b></p>