

**FROM THE CHAIR**

I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and that 2016 will prove to be happy and successful and that you will all have good health. Many thanks are due to our Committee for organising successful social events in 2015 and to our Group Coordinators for offering such a wide range of activities to our members.

Two of our committee members are standing down this year so we will need replacements, There is a nomination form at the end of the newsletter and on the website and they will be available at the January meeting. If you would like to join the committee please complete a form and give it to Sue or Margaret.

May I remind you that membership is due for renewal at the AGM on February 10th. Our Treasurer, Les, informs us that our finances are in a healthy state so that we can keep the membership fee at the very low level of £5 (£7.50 if you wish to order the Third Age Magazine which will be delivered to your home).

Margaret McDermott

**GROUP LEADERS/COORDINATORS - PLEASE NOTE**

Would all Group coordinators prepare a very short report for the AGM in February. Please send a copy to Sue Harlin.

**Message from the Treasurer**

As we are at our end of year a reminder that groups only need to report finances under certain circumstances. The committee has reduced the need for reporting for most groups; however group leaders will need to still report if their group has income greater than £2000 (ie £40 per week over a 50 week year), they hold balances greater than £300 or they have their own bank account.

If you are the leader of a group that is self balancing eg Travel, Theatre, Pubs and churches etc then there is no need to report. Otherwise it is essential group leaders keep members advised of the financial position of their group.

Les Birks

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

Christmas is over!

10 million turkeys  
 25 million Christmas puddings  
 9875 tonnes of sprouts  
 600 million units of alcohol  
 35 million bottles of wine  
 250 million pints of beer

How do you feel!



Santa spotted in Haughton Dale

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

Monthly meetings Programme for 2016 15 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch U3A Subject Advisors U3A magazine U3A Photography Competition Summer school News from Lyme Learn something new in 2016 Quiz corner Forthcoming events  Answers to quizzes High Lane nine knit for Nepal Nomination form for Committee members	<b>Group reports</b> Ballet Appreciation Card making Churches and Pubs Cinema Craft and Needlework Current Affairs Dining Gardening Marple and Mellor gardening German History Opera Appreciation Photography Shakespeare Strollers Walking Whist
---	--

**FROM THE EDITOR**

Items for the newsletter from members are always welcome so if you have any suggestions for content or articles of interest to U3A members please contact me at [newslettereditor@highlaneu3a.org.uk](mailto:newslettereditor@highlaneu3a.org.uk)

The next edition of the newsletter will be the March 2016 edition. Please can you get your contributions to me by 26 February?

**MONTHLY MEETINGS****NOVEMBER MEETING**

At this meeting, John Stirling was a late replacement for the planned speaker. John entitled his talk 'From Toytown to Buckingham Palace. He gave us a very entertaining talk supported by pictures about his life in acting. He was a successful child actor appearing in roles such as Noddy and will be a familiar name to many having played Lumley in Whacko, Cadet Penny in Dixon of Dock Green and for his work with the Morecambe and Wise and many other television shows. During his career he won a Bafta award and appeared in many pantos and musicals; some of which he also wrote. In 1989 John and his wife set up the Actor's Donkey sanctuary which now, under the auspices of the Michael Elliott Trust, is home to some two hundred donkeys.



John's autobiography 'Never work with children or animals: a story of life in the entertainment business' was published in 2010.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

This year's party saw 100 members entertained by the Clyde Raine Ukulele Group accompanied by festive nibbles and a fiendish quiz about Manchester places, facts and people set by Margaret.



The afternoon ended with carol singing led by Margaret Glyn on the piano and helped by members of the Singing group. This was much enjoyed by all and helped to enhance the Christmas spirit.

**2016 MEETINGS**

Meetings start on 13 January 2016 with a talk by Keith Vigurs entitled Canal Restoration. The February meeting is our AGM. The full programme is available on the web site and will be available in printed form after the AGM along with details of the new Committee and updated group contacts.

**15<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY LUNCH**

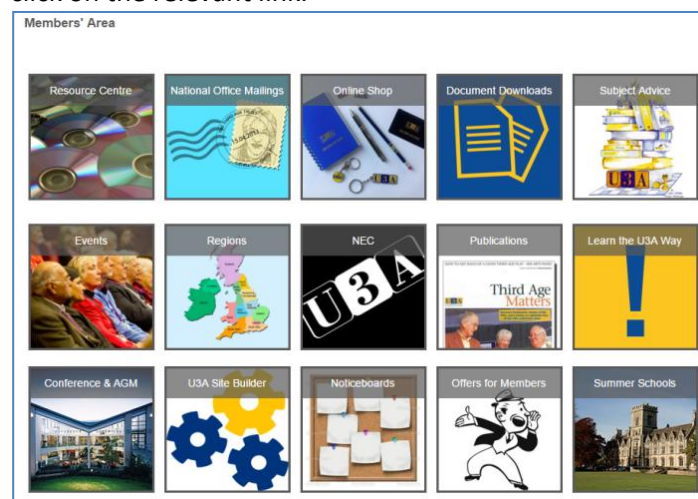
2016 is the fifteenth anniversary of High Lane U3A so our annual lunch on Monday 7 March will be a special celebration. The venue this year is Hazel Grove Golf Club and we have a mouthwatering choice of dishes on the menu. We have also invited the National U3A Chair to come and talk to us. Tickets will be on sale at the January and February meetings but numbers are limited so don't delay in booking your places.

The Committee is looking at further celebrations later in the year and would welcome suggestions.

**U3A SUBJECT ADVISORS**

Also for Group coordinators - there are now 50 subject advisors who can be consulted about running or starting a group. Subject advisors have a webpage on the National U3A site and many produce helpful newsletters.

Did you know there are also other resources available? There are the Sources magazines and you can borrow DVDs from the Resource centre. Go to [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk), log in to the Members' area and click on the relevant link.



### U3A MAGAZINE: THIRD AGE MATTERS

The U3A magazine is published five times each year and contains articles and features of interest to U3A members, plus news and information from U3A head office and U3As across the country. You can get the magazine delivered to your home for £2.50 (for all five editions) by subscribing to the magazine when you pay your annual fee.



### U3A PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2015 Britain's Wildlife



This year's competition attracted some 900 entries. The entries were judged by Richard Sibley, deputy editor of Amateur

Photographer. The winner was Ray Platt of Stone U3A for his photograph 'Jay in January'. You can see this and the runner-up photographs in the Winter edition of the U3A magazine.

### SUMMER SCHOOL 2016

The NW Regional Summer School will be held at Newton Rigg Agricultural College near Penrith from August 30th – Sept 2nd 2016.

Courses will include :

- The Life and Work of Elizabeth Gaskell,
- Medieval Archaeology
- Geology
- Art
- Architecture,
- Science (the Universe)
- Ukulele
- Recorders
- Japanese Encounters.

The cost is:

Residential £275 with early bird discount £240. Non residential £155 with early bird discount £120. To qualify for early bird discount pay by 31st May 2016.

Cost includes all meals, a gala dinner, entertainment and activities in the evenings.

Details and booking arrangements - The NW Regional website: [www.u3sites.org.uk/north-west](http://www.u3sites.org.uk/north-west). Booking forms will be available online in the New Year. Any queries contact David Joseph 07831473157

### NEWS FROM LYME

Lyme Park has had one of its busiest years ever with over 130,000 house and garden visits and 400,000 outdoor visits. Visitors have enjoyed the Gruffalo, Distant Drumbeat, Antiques Roadshow, Lymescapes and Park run among many other events. During the winter there is the Lymescapes exhibition in the House and there will be a night run in the Park, which was a very popular event in 2015.

There is much conservation work taking place with Paddock Cottage now restored and bridges repaired. The Nursery plot has work taking place to grow vegetables and cut flowers.

Lyme venison is now on sale in the café and work continues to bring to life the story of the Park and those who lived there.

Pam Wood

### LEARN SOMETHING NEW IN 2016

There are many opportunities for learning new skills available through U3A and local organizations. Here are just some of the courses starting over the next few weeks, many of which can be studied in your own home; just the job for when the bad weather arrives.

#### WEA COURSES

A number of courses start in January including Literary Paris at Disley; The Solar System and Art in Stockport; BSL and Lip Reading in Macclesfield and a range of courses at Cheadle Hulme including Literature, Family History, Creative writing, Psychology, Painting and Drawing.

Details at [www.wea.org.uk](http://www.wea.org.uk) or from Rosemary Broadhurst 01625 877255

## ONLINE MOOCs FOR 2016

The choice of subjects we can study for free online is amazing. FutureLearn has over 100 courses starting in January and February including:

- Managing your investments
  - The night sky
  - WW1 Heroism : through Art and film
  - Animation
  - Cyber security
  - Heart health
  - Shakespeare
  - Global food crisis
  - Museums
  - Start writing fiction
  - Climate change
  - Robert Burns
  - Mindfulness
  - The internet of things
- And many many more!

You will need to register for the course(s) by clicking the Join link on the relevant web page.

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses>

## QUIZ CORNER

## BRIDGE

Try your hand at our Bidding Quiz courtesy of MSB School of Bridge. Answers are on page?

1. Partner opens 1D and the next hand passes.  
What is your bid?

- ♠ 8
- ♥ 875
- ♦ Q32
- ♣ AJ10543

2. You are dealer. What is your call?

- ♠ AK74
- ♥ Q432
- ♦ Q1086
- ♣ 7

3. The hand on your right opens 1H. What do you bid?

- ♠ J3
- ♥ 5
- ♦ AJ983
- ♣ KQ873

If you would like to improve your bridge or start to learn, MSB bridge teaching school run by Michael Byrne and Kevin Comrie offers classes throughout South Manchester and Stockport areas. They teach bridge players of all levels, from total beginner right up to duplicate and tournament players.

Classes start at all venues in the first week of January. You can find more information about the classes, programme and venues at [www.playbridgemsb.co.uk](http://www.playbridgemsb.co.uk)

## REMEMBERING 2015

How much do you remember about 2015?  
Answers are on page 13.

**January:** What was the name of the magazine whose journalists were killed by a terrorist attack in Paris?

**February:** Which film won Best Picture in this year's Oscars?

**March:** Which alternative world creator died this month?

**April:** What changed for the over 55s on 6 April?

**May:** What was the name of Sweden's winning song in the Eurovision song contest?

**June:** What is the name of the professor who resigned following his comments about women scientists?

**July:** Actor, racehorse owner and bridge player died this month. Who was he?

**August:** Where in China did explosions at a container storage depot cause over 100 deaths?

**September:** Where did the second general election in nine months re-elect the Syriza party?

**October:** Which country won the 2015 Rugby World cup? Which stadium hosted the final?

**November:** Who did Britain beat to win the Davis Cup?

**December:** What was the name given to the storm that hit the UK early this month?

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Science is showing that gratitude is important for how good we feel. It increases positive feelings and decreases negative feelings. It raises our satisfaction with life and helps us have an positive outlook. It has also been shown to reduce health complaints and help us cope with difficulties.



**FORTHCOMING EVENTS****OUR U3A ACTIVITIES**

13 Jan 2016	Monthly meeting. Talk by Keith Vigurs. Subject "Canal Restoration"
10 Feb	AGM. Election of Officers
7 March	High Lane U3A 15 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch

**FORTHCOMING HOLIDAYS AND VISITS**

Contact: Margaret McDermott or Ruth Smith

15 March	St. Asaph and Tweedmill. £15 approx. Full payment at February meeting
5 April	Elizabeth Gaskell House. £4 Payment at February meeting.
12-17 May	Suffolk. Holiday Inn Ipswich Balance at February meeting.
12-17 June	Edinburgh. Best Western Kings Manor Hotel £540 sharing Single Supplement £125 Includes visits to Holyrood, Scottish Parliament, Rosslyn Chapel, Edinburgh Castle etc. £50 Deposit at January meeting.
Mid July	Baltic Cruise. Details to follow
Early September	Ireland. Flight from Manchester Own coach for visits. Details at future meetings

Further possible day visits include

June Great Central Railway

August Ordsall Hall and Imperial War Museum

**NATIONAL U3A EVENTS**

2 Feb	Participative Learning - National Workshop Series. Full day. Open to all but mainly aimed at Group coordinators or prospective Group coordinators. Book via <a href="http://www.u3a.org.uk">www.u3a.org.uk</a>
-------	--

**LOCAL HAPPENINGS**

Now - 15 Jan	Into the Woods. Royal Exchange Theatre
Weekends in Jan and Feb starting 2 Jan	Landscapes exhibition. Lyme hall. View the original paintings from Sky Arts Landscape of the Year programme plus never before seen artwork from the Legh family collection. Take part in the arty garden trail and craft activities for all ages.
3 Jan	Viennese Celebration. The Halle. Bridgewater Hall
5-16 Jan	Rocky Horror Show. Manchester Opera House.
8 Jan	Viennese Gala. Buxton Opera House
9 Jan	The Snow Girl. Buxton Opera House
10 Jan	The ELO Experience. Buxton Opera House
12-15 Jan	Dial M for Murder. Buxton Opera House
14 Jan	NTLive Jane Eyre. Stockport Plaza
14-16 Jan	The Nutcracker. Moscow State Ballet. Manchester Palace.
16 Jan	ENO Encore. The Mikado. Stockport Plaza
17/18 Jan	Swan Lake. Bridgewater Hall
20 Jan - 5 March	Mary Poppins. Manchester Palace.
25 Jan	Lunchtime Organ concert with Nigel Ogden. Stockport Town hall
26 Jan	Nigel Kennedy. The new Four Seasons. Bridgewater Hall
28 Jan	NTLive. Les Liaisons Dangereuses. Various venues.
29 Jan	BBC Philharmonic. Mahler's Fourth Symphony. Bridgewater Hall.
30 Jan - 13 Feb	Cats. Manchester Opera House.
6 Feb	Organ Coffee morning. Stockport Plaza
25 Feb	NTLive. As You Like It. Various venues.

## GROUP REPORTS

### BALLET APPRECIATION GROUPS 3 AND 4

25th November / 3rd December: We saw the Royal Ballet dancing Coppelia. This is a very colourful production, with designs by Osbert Lancaster.

21st December / 7th January: For our Christmas meeting we watched the Birmingham Royal Ballet performing David Bintley's Cinderella. This is a very witty production of the traditional story – I particularly liked the reference to pole dancing!

Future plans include The Winter's Tale and The Merry Widow.

Meg Humphries

---

### CARDMAKING

Our December meeting was the last of our Christmas themed meetings. In response to a request from one of our members, a couple of other members shared their expertise in box making - just in time for Christmas presents and special boxed Christmas cards. We then went on to make and decorate a Christmas cracker - again an ideal wrap for a small, but special, Christmas gift.

We then returned to the main purpose of the group and made a gorgeous Christmas card, for "that special person" in our lives.

Our next meetings are Thursday 7 January and Thursday 4 February. New members, whether experienced card makers or absolute beginners, are always welcome. Contact us if you'd like to know more.

Christine Fox  
Dot Green



---

### CHURCHES AND PUBS

Our Church visits start again in April.

#### Programme for 2016

April 6 <sup>th</sup>	All Saints, Daresbury Cheshire.
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	St. Helens, Darley Dale Derbyshire.
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	John the Baptist, Chelmorton Derbyshire.
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	St. John, Dronfield, Sheffield
August	None.
Sept. 7 <sup>th</sup>	St. Peter's, Plemstall, Cheshire.
Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup>	St. Bartolines, Barthomley, Cheshire.
Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	TBA.
Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup>	St. Peter's Fairfield, Buxton, Derbyshire.

Paul Kenneth

## CINEMA

In December Cinema Club had an outing to see the much anticipated "Lady In The Van" It was worth the (frustrating) wait. A fascinating film, full of humour and pathos, superbly acted and directed.

I am on the lookout for future films and anticipate more outings in 2016.

We have always intended to support the Plaza in Stockport. They are screening some quality films, vintage and recent releases at 11.00 a.m. If you would be interested please let me know.

Sheila Harrop

---

## CRAFT AND NEEDLEWORK

We had a very successful sale of cards and gifts, handmade by members of the group, at the November meeting of the U3A. Our raffle raised £125 which was sent to the Tree House Children's Unit at Stepping Hill. I would like to thank everyone who supported us so generously. Our latest project is making knitted and crocheted muffs for dementia patients at Stepping Hill Hospital.

The High Peak Review article about our knitting for Nepal is on page 13

Marlene Brookes

---

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

Six of us attended the meeting in November and we discussed a number of questions. Our first question was "Should all the roads in High Lane with the exception of the A6, Windlehurst Road and Andrew Lane have a maximum speed limit of 20mph imposed?" We felt that in the interest of road safety this would be a good move; also in certain places more traffic lights to again slow down speeding traffic.

We also discussed student loans where we thought that the state should pay; whether we liked winter with only one person agreeing with this. We also discussed the bombing in Syria, whether police should be armed at all times, whether Prince Charles should make his personal views known on the subject of climate change, whether local councils should be allowed to increase council tax by 2% to pay for care in the community and if the answer to the rising cost of housing is to build more houses.

Trevor Kinvig

---

## DINING GROUP

In December the Dining Group went to the Legh Arms in Prestbury. We had been there in April and enjoyed it so much it was requested we go there for our Christmas celebration. We were not disappointed.

When we arrived the dining room was magical. The decorations, which had been installed over two days by a member of staff, were very natural in keeping with the building. The menu included all the old favourites plus the usual Christmas fare, the lamb shank being the favourite choice once again with turkey a close second. After three very enjoyable and large courses we



finished with tea and coffee which the manager very kindly included in the price. We had a free raffle which was won by Eileen Fielding. All forty one of us agreed we had an excellent time and left feeling very happy.

Our next lunch will be in February and we will be going to Platform One in Romiley; names please at the January meeting.

BEST WISHES FOR 2016 TO ALL OUR DINERS

Jeanette Bell  
Dorothy Neillands

---

## **GARDENING**

The programme for 2016 is:

1st Wednesday

MAY – Monica's; JUL – Lynda's; SEP – Irene's.

3rd Wednesday

JAN – Meal ; MAR – Beryl's; APR – Dunham Massey; MAY – Ness Gardens; JUN

– Grappenhall Heys; JUL - Bluebell Cottage; AUG - Biddulph Grange ; SEP – Quarry Bank; OCT – Walter's.



## **MARPLE BRIDGE AND MELLOR U3A OPEN GARDENING GROUP**

The unseasonal warm weather means that some plants are racing to send up their shoots, but the leaves have been blown off the trees and mostly the gardens have gone to sleep for the winter so it is time once again for the Gardening Group to offer ideas for the programme for 2016, which they did in a lively AGM and Planning meeting in November. Take a look at what is on offer - there is sure to be much to interest you.

The December meeting was our Christmas get-together over coffee and mince pies. Lots of laughter intermingled with discussions on what answers to put for the quizzes - Which leaf came off which tree produced a lot of both! A lively meeting to draw our gardening year to a close.

The programme for 2016 opens on 13 January with an Illustrated talk by David Tipper talks about the Restoration of Tatton Park Kitchen Garden. The full programme for 2016 can be found on the web site.

---

## **GERMAN GROUP**

The German Group concluded another successful year with a Christmas meal at the Wycliffe Hotel in Edgeley. We were 17 in all including partners and friends.

We will next meet up in early January and hope that 2016 will be as interesting and informative as 2015. We are fortunate in having enthusiastic and committed members who all get on so well together.

Marlene Brookes

---





## HISTORY GROUP

Sheila Harrop's talk on the Pendle witches set the scene at the time and gave an explanation as to why it may have happened. The persecution of witches was most prevalent between the dissolution of the monasteries and the English Civil War. In 1612 a total of twenty people were tried at Lancaster for witchcraft, two of them being men, all of whom were hanged.

King James 1 stood out as a deeply superstitious man, obsessed with the occult and personally oversaw the trials by torture.

The most well known woman of the Pendle Witches was Alice Nutter and it would seem, with hindsight, that she was accused of witchcraft by a local man who wanted her property.

The December meeting was an informal Christmas party with quizzes and games with an historical theme.

Pam Curley

---

## OPERA APPRECIATION

24th November: We saw a performance of L'Elisir D'Amore (The Love Potion), by the Opera National de Lyon. This is one of Donizetti's most popular comic operas.

26th January: After a Christmas break, we will see the Royal Opera performing The Magic Flute. Set to music by Mozart, and full of Masonic symbolism, it is sung in German in the singspiel (song-play) form. It consists of musical pieces connected by spoken dialogue.

At our next meeting I intend to introduce work by Handel – including two counter-tenors, with a performance of Rodelinda by the New York Metropolitan Opera.

Meg Humphries

---

## PHOTOGRAPHY

The competition subject for our November meeting was Scarecrows. The winner was this image taken by Diane at the Hazel Grove Allotment open day.

We then devised our programme of subjects for 2016.

January: Markets;  
February: Frost and ice  
March: Art;  
April: Waterfalls  
May: Signs. Photoshoot in Bramhall;  
June: Stiles  
July: Shop windows;  
August: Construction  
September: Follies;  
October: Faces. Photoshoot in Stockport Centre  
November: Gardening;  
December: Stockport



The last meeting of the year produced, unusually, a clear winner on this month's subject of farming. The results were 1st Walter – Approaching sheep on Cown Edge. 2nd Brian - Paddy fields in Guilin, Southern China 3rd Pam – Slaterbank Farm, Start Lane, Whaley Bridge/Kettleshulme.



Walter Mason

---

#### SHAKESPEARE GROUP

The next meeting dates are Monday January 11 and Monday February 8; 9.30 to 12.

We will be reading Twelfth Night.

New readers are welcome but please contact Steve Reynolds beforehand if you have not been before.

Steve Reynolds

---

#### SINGING

The singing group was invited to the Christmas Tree festival at St. George's church on 27th November. The church was decorated with numerous illuminated trees dedicated to different groups and charities.

We sang a mixed programme of popular and Christmas music. This included an excerpt from 'Les Miserables', 'Hallelujah' from the film Shrek, and 'The Lord's my Shepherd' from the Vicar of Dibley. Our Christmas carols included 'The Little Road to Bethlehem', 'Gabriel's Message' and 'Bethlehem Down'.



One of our favourite pieces is Elgar's 'Ave Maria' & we performed this together with 'The Seal', a modern setting of Kipling's poem by Californian, Eric Whitaker. This piece had needed much practice to add to our repertoire.

We concluded appropriately with 'O Christmas Tree' and we were told the music was enjoyed by the visitors and the vicar was impressed with the choice of music.

Thanks are due to Tony and Margaret for all their hard work, Margaret for the photographs and Sheila and St. George's for inviting us.

Pam Wood

---

## STROLLERS

Strollers group will be meeting as usual, at 9.45am at High Lane Village hall on the last Monday of the month. Jean Goldsmith will be leading the walks in January and February 2016.

June Gibbs

---

## WALKING

### NOVEMBER WALK REPORT



14 joined Walter for his five mile walk from Higher Poynton into Lyme Park. After a gentle start along the canal, there was a climb up a newly resurfaced fieldpath, already softening with recent rains. Then we contoured round to West Gate and started up the main track, nowadays with many fewer rhododendrons. A steepish zig-zag took us to the Paddock Cottage, and a coffee stop.

Afterwards we followed the edge path beyond Cluse Heys, already with native trees maturing below, then over the ladder stile and a loop round the Knightslow, with glimpses down the Lime Avenue towards the Hall. Now it was relatively easy downhill and onwards, past wall-rebuilders and Four Winds back to Higher Poynton, where a few of us dined well at the Boars Head. The air had been damp but the rain held off, and the presence of a very quiet and well-behaved dog (courtesy of Kate) had given added interest to our group!



## DECEMBER WALK REPORT



Sam and Irene had a bumper turnout for their pre-Christmas walk and meal - 27 walkers and 32 diners - almost a record! From Pole Bank near Woodley, the 3½ mile route went along Poleacre Lane, past the roof-protected but semi-derelict Unity Mills, to an easy canal stroll westwards. Then a path wound through woodland, gradually descending to the River Tame, not without occasional hazards from badger holes, fallen trees, and a slippery slope (made safer by Sam's "abseiling" rope!).

Soon we crossed the Tame by Arden Bridge and headed along and up to Ivy Cottages, a picturesque hamlet on Meadow Lane, Haughton Dale, whose cottages were formerly workers' houses for a large wire mill. After viewing interesting Christmas decorations, and enjoying a coffee break, we next followed part of the Trans Pennine Trail continuing by the river, observing that recent rains had overtopped the banks in places.

We crossed back over the river by Gibraltar Bridge, followed the wooded path back to the canal, with a short walk back to a footbridge, whence we retraced our steps back to our very pleasant eating place The Joshua Bradley. This was formerly Bamford Hall, then Ferndale as the staff house of ICI Hyde, and is now remodelled and renamed after an outstanding past local politician.

The atmosphere was festive, and the meals very pleasant, and Sam and Irene got many plaudits for their choice of walk and eating venue.

The programme for 2016 walks is

## 2nd Tuesday

JAN – David Burke; APR – Walter Mason; MAY – Sam/Irene Chappell; JUN – Steve Reynolds; AUG – offers; OCT – Jeff Mortimer.

## Last Wednesday

JAN – Steve Reynolds; FEB – Jeff Mortimer; MAR – Ruth/Dave Smith; APR – Brian/Alison Allerton; MAY – David Burke; JUN – Merlyn/Joyce Young; JUL – Ron/Marjorie Rennell; AUG – Louanne/Peter Collins; SEP – Sam/Irene Chappell; OCT – Merlyn/Joyce Young; NOV – Ruth/Dave Smith; DEC – Walter Mason.

Late June – Keswick 2 night break. Full, but contact Walter for waiting list/stand-bys.

Walter Mason



## WHIST

There is no Whist group meeting in January or February 2016. The next meeting will be on March 16th 2016.

June Gibbs



## ANSWERS TO QUIZZES

## BRIDGE BIDDING QUIZ

1. Both 2D (5-9) and 1NT (5-9) are fine. The key thing is to avoid 2C (9+), which grossly overstates on values
2. 4441s are difficult to deal with and one of the best ways to bid them is to pass and then make a take out double later. This one is a clear cut Pass but you will sometimes have to open them.
3. 2NT. The Unusual no trump showing at least 5-5 in the two lowest unbid suits.

## REMEMBERING 2015 ANSWERS

January: Charlie Hebdo;  
 February: Birdman  
 March: Terry Pratchett  
 April: New flexible pension options  
 May: Heroes;  
 June: Professor Tim Hunt  
 July: Omar Sharif;  
 August: Tianjin  
 September: Greece;  
 October: New Zealand. Twickenham.  
 November: Belgium;  
 December: Desmond

# High Lane nine knit for Nepal

By Diane Inglis

MEMBERS of High Lane U3A's craft and needlework group have put their thinking hats on to help children in Nepal.

The group, which meets monthly at each other's homes, knitted beanie hats and wrist warmers for a project run by Cheshire Fire Cadets and the Diocese of Chester Mothers' Union.

The knitted clothing has already been delivered to a collection point ready for dispatch.

It will be taken to Nepal by fire service cadets who are travelling there shortly to help build a school in one of the country's mountainous areas.

High Lane U3A chairperson Margaret McDermott, who is also a member of the needlework group, said: "We first heard about this

project through a friend who was a member of the Mothers' Union. It seemed like a good thing to get involved with and we decided to start knitting."

"We made around 32 hats between us and they have now been taken to the collection point ready for sending abroad."

The group of nine ladies enjoyed the project so much that they have already started on their next joint venture, which is knitting hats for smoothie bottles to raise funds for Age Concern.

Although they meet regularly for a chat and to compare their craft work, they each have their own skills from crochet and knitting to cross stitch and tapestry.

She added: "We all have our own crafts which we do at home but



A group of the ladies with their handicrafts.

it is still really nice to meet up every month to have a chat and discuss ideas for projects we can all work on together."

High Lane U3A is open to retired and semi-retired people and has over 400 members. It currently offers around

30 different interest groups, from bridge and ballet appreciation to table tennis and theatre trips.

Membership costs £5 per year and members can choose to get involved in as many or as few interest groups as

they like.

There is also a monthly general meeting held at High Lane Village Hall on the second Wednesday of each month, from 2pm to 4pm.

For more information visit the website [www.highlaneu3a.org.uk](http://www.highlaneu3a.org.uk)

**HIGH LANE U3A COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS FOR 2016**

The Committee for 2016 is to be elected at the AGM on 10 February 2016.

If you wish to nominate any member for the Committee please complete the form and return it to either Margaret McDermott or Sue Harlin by the date of the monthly meeting on 13 January 2016.

Please cut:

.....

NOMINEE	SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	NOMINATED BY	SECONDED BY