# **HIGH LANE U3A NEWSLETTER**



#### www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

Editor:

e mail: newslettereditor@highlaneu3a.org.uk

November 2012

# **Fund Raising for the Village Hall**



A very successful fun bridge afternoon was held at the Village Hall on Saturday September 22. 40 bridge enthusiasts played Chicago Pairs and also enjoyed excellent refreshments served by U3A members.

Prizes were presented to the winners and runners-up who, I'm delighted to say, had all recently learned to play bridge with the Beginners bridge group. A total of £280 was raised and donated to the Village Hall funds.

Several members worked hard to make such a success of the day, but special mention must be made of June Gibbs who worked tirelessly beforehand and on the day and almost single-handedly prepared such a superb afternoon tea.

Steve Reynolds

-00000-

#### **VACANCY**

#### Newsletter Editor

An opportunity has arisen for a volunteer to improve the newsletter by becoming the editor. The current editor has been producing the newsletter since 2008 and her sight is getting dim. Please consider using your creative talents to enhance this publication. This is not an onerous task as publication is every two months and copy comes in regularly from group leaders. It only needs a little editing, typing and laying out – simple! Please contact the chairman or the current editor to apply.

#### THE GERMAN GROUP



In recent weeks we have gained two new members: Mary Berry and Peter Ramsey who are also new to the U3A in High Lane. We hope they will enjoy the group discussions to which they are already making a

valued contribution. In recent weeks we have discussed violent attacks on paramedics, Felix Baumgartner's record-breaking plunge to earth, and Roger Moore's memories of Grace Kelly and learned a great deal about Victorian burial practices in Highgate Cemetery,so nobody can accuse us of restricting our vocabulary. We are now planning our Christmas meal out which will probably be at the end of November.

Marlene Brookes

\*\*\*\*

### THE CRAFT AND NEEDLEWORK GROUP



In recent months we have been busy preparing items for our November sale. As usual there will be handmade cards and small gifts on our stall which we hope you will be tempted to buy. We will also be holding our annual raffle which we hope you will support. This year we have chosen a Parkinson's charity to benefit from your generosity. Prizes will include a cushion and a tablecloth.

Marlene Brookes

<><><>

# **History Group**



Liam Canavan presented a paper entitled 'The release of the slaves' The slaves were all those who had to toil on the farms and later in the 'dark satanic mills.' Liam outlined the progress of power from human muscle power to animal to water to wind to fossil fuel. As mechanisation became more efficient, and relatively, more cost effective then the need for slaves decreased. It was capitalisation that exterminated slavery. Manchester became the world's first industrialized city but, also had the first industrialised slum---Angel Meadows. A look at history reveals that people preferred to live and work in the city rather than on the land. The latest example of this is China. Recently, an interview with a Chinese couple, who a generation ago would have been living in rural poverty were now watching, in their city house, their 52 inch TV and owning a fancy car. They were living the American Dream

Pam Curley led the History Group meeting on the the 10<sup>th</sup> October when the subject was T.E. Lawerence.

'T.E Lawrence is a very well known figure in our more recent history, but he is known mostly for his fame as Lawrence of Arabia. The presentation, whilst covering his exploits in Arabia, also tried to explain what a complex character he was and what his other achievements were after the First World War.'

The next meeting of the History Group will be on Wednesday 21st November 2012, 7.30pm at Irene Bentley's, and the topic is the Battle of Cable Street.

Pam Curley

#### **GARDENING GROUP REPORT**



Seven members of the new gardening group met on 19th September at Carol Harrison's house, and made a provisional programme for the next twelve months, with a mixture of garden visits and house meetings. Choosing a good time to meet, not clashing with other activities, was a particular problem, and we might have to be flexible at times in future.

It was again a wet day, but the rain eased enough to admire Carol and John's garden, especially nice clumps of Evening Primrose and Verbena Boniensis, as well as varied colours of Hydrangeas.

### **Gardening Report 17th October 2012**

Seven of the group joined our first visit, to Hare Hill garden (NT), hidden away between Prestbury and Alderley Edge. Primarily a spring garden for azaleas and rhododendrons, and with many trees not yet in autumn colour, it was still very pleasant to wander and explore in the warm sunshine. Lace cap hydrangeas still flowered, and cyclamen were starting to show, and in the walled garden stately weeping pear trees contrasted with the bright orange-yellows of rudbeckias and helianthus "Lemon Queen".





Next Meetings:-

On November 21st, meet 2pm at Irene Chappell's house (possibly including visit to Secret Garden and/or slides of Bredbury dahlia garden).

A Christmas lunch on December 5th, with venue/time to be arranged by Carol Harrison. Nearer the dates, confirmation details of meeting times/place will be sent to group members by email and letter.

Walter Mason

# Visit to Cardiff 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September & the weather was dry - we should be in for a few fine days!

A great relief as we set off for Cardiff stopping en route at Tewkesbury for lunch. As a driver I tend to miss the scenery on a trip, so it was pleasant to settle back and watch the countryside slip by. Our driver Malcolm, who we had asked for after last year's Isle of Man holiday, dropped us in the Centre of Tewkesbury at the Abbey (originally consecrated in 1121 for Benedictine Monks).



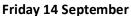


We spent a pleasant couple of hours wandering the town, the Abbey with its 'Touching Souls' Tea Rooms(this delightful sculpture is outside), and strolling by the river.

We arrived at Cardiff before 5pm and booked in to the centrally located Cardiff Parc Hotel with plenty of time to relax and freshen up for Dinner. Afterwards most strolled around the town centre to get our bearings and some a nightcap. PK



Two visiting serfs get into trouble



In the heart of the capital city is Cardiff Castle, a truly remarkable site with a history

that spans over 2000 years. Roman soldiers slept here, noble knights held court

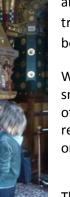
here and some of the richest families in Britain have passed through here.

All have left their mark on the site and most notable of these is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marguess of Bute who employed the eccentric

architect, William Burgess to

transform the mansion house into the spectacular fairy tale apartments that can

be seen today.



We were particularly impressed by the winter smoking room in the tower, decorated with the signs of the zodiac, the four seasons of the year and also representations of the time of the day, all in an ornate medieval style.

Those who accepted the challenge to climb up 50 spiral stairs were rewarded

with the amazing sight of a roof top garden designed in the style of a Roman bathhouse.

These are only two aspects of the development and transformation of the castle, showing a wonderful creative style and craftsmanship together with a strong Christian influence. Judith Ridgeway & Margaret Meekley

Cardiff has many attractions with a Millenium Walk that takes in most of them. We had the afternoon free to visit some of them,

a few took the sightseeing bus, others simply wandered around the town centre and sat and enjoyed a cup of tea or local Brains Beer.

Saturday 15th - We drove to Cardiff Bay with its waterfront cafes. After a short wander round we caught a boat for a trip round the bay which has a barrage built across it making it a freshwater lake. After our 3/4 hour trip we were free to wander taking in the sights.









Some visited the assembly building with its modern architecture and spectacular ceiling.



Many of us visited the millennium building where we sat and relaxed to the sound of a male voice choir. The rest of the afternoon was free to eat, sleep, or explore some more.



entertainment from the young waitresses and waiter who sang for us and the M.C. a very funny man who selected three of our group to join them on stage acting out a song, this had us all falling about with laughter. The evening ended with a short stroll back to the hotel.

In the evening we went to Cardiff Castle for a Welsh banquet where we were greeted by ladies in national dress who offered us a glass of mead before ushering us to our tables for the banquet. The four course meal was served interspersed with

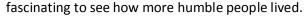


## Mary Smith

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> saw us heading to St. Fagan's National History Museum (formerly Folk Museum), the most visited Heritage attraction in Wales, which is a collection of old buildings ranging



from Iron Age round houses to a an aluminium prefab of the forties, spacious Kennixton Farmhouse to tiny one up- one down terraced houses from Merthyr Tydfil. After the tacky, wacky grandeur of Cardiff Castle it was









All of the buildings had been removed from their original locations in various parts of Wales and rebuilt brick by brick, stone by stone and wattle by daub. Most of the houses had roaring fires, essential for both heating and lighting the dark interiors. Standing out amongst the public buildings were the Victorian schoolroom (just like mine in 1945), St Teilo's Church with its restored pre-Reformation wall paintings and the Tollhouse with its lists of charges which I know my ancestors had to pay. The grounds were

so extensive that it was not possible to view everything, so it was with some relief that we were able to rest our weary bones in the coach on a trip to Swansea, stopping for tea in Bracelet Bay Mumbles, quite a long way to go for a cup of tea.

Perhaps we should have been forewarned to bring along our wellies, buckets and fishing nets to appreciate fully the delights of the bay when the tide was out. Still, two Swansea girls were very happy to see again their "ugly, lovely town" (Dylan Thomas). It was great to see that, where there were once slagheaps, there are now country parks. It might yet again become the "Brighton of South Wales" which is how it was described in the 18th century before the copper industry destroyed its charms.

#### Marlene Brookes

**Monday 17**<sup>th</sup> - After a satisfying breakfast we had our cases taken to the bus at a civilised 10am and settled to a pleasant trip home. We stopped at Llandrindod Wells for lunch....I think it was closed. It was memorable only for the group photo that was taken.

After lunch most dozed or watched the miles drift by.

I believe everyone would want me to thank Ruth & David Smith for the hours of research work they put in & using their organisational skills to bring together a fine holiday for us. *PK* 



More pictures on the Web site!

**Belfast Next Year Ruth?** 

# **Ballet Appreciation Groups 1 & 2**



The August and September meetings were a mixed bag consisting of ballet and documentaries featuring outstanding individual performances by both male and female dancers.

# Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> August

1. "Born to be Wild" - Performed by the American Ballet Theatre, Choreography by Mark Morris, Music by Robert Schumann

This documentary is about four male Ballet dancers from the "American Ballet Theatre" and includes interviews with each of these superb dancers. It is interesting to see their contrasting styles as they are all from different backgrounds which are reflected in their individual techniques.

Their families and earlier teachers are also featured in the interview sections which include details of how they each end up performing with the "American Ballet Theatre.

2. "Baryshnikov at the Wolf Trap" - Performed by Mikhail Baryshnikov and a variety of ballerinas including Gelsey Kirland.

This 1976 live performance showcases the incredible Mikhail Baryshnikov, at the peak of his talent, shortly after arriving in the west. The programme consists of solos and pas de deux from "Coppelia", "Le Spectre la Rose", "Vestris", and "Don Quixote".

**3.** "Beauty and the Beast" - Performed by the Northern Ballet Company, Choreography by Kevin Nixon, Music by Saint-Saens, Bizet, Debussy, Poulenc and Glazunov.

This short documentary shows the ballet company in the process of making this unusual ballet. A handsome Prince is transformed into a beast as punishment for his ugly arrogance. Only true love can break the spell. As this classic story unfolds in an enchanting world inhabited by fairies, sprites and goblins, we discover that beauty is more than skin deep.

# Meetings 7<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> September

1. "Le Corsaire" - Performed by the American Ballet Theatre.

The ballet is loosely based on a poem by Lord Byron and is set in Greece during the Turkish occupation. The plot is centred on three pirates and their attempt to rescue two slave girls from the Turkish Pasha. The ballet is light hearted and full of fun and although the plot is hard to follow, the dancers themselves explain each of the three acts.

2. "Symphony in C" - Performed by the Royal Ballet Company, Choreography by George Ballanchine, Music by Bizet.

This is a beautiful ballet danced to Bizets music and featuring Darcy Bussell. The ballet was written by George Ballanchine, there is no story but the four parts of the ballet were originally associated with and designed using the colours of four gemstones, three of which Balanchine subsequently retained for the three movements of his 1967 ballet Jewels: Emeralds, Rubies and Diamonds before the ballet was renamed Symphony in C, he had eliminated the colour scheme and changed to the white costumes still used to date.

Sheila Hall

# **Ballet Appreciation Groups 3&4**

These groups meet in Poynton once a month, either on the first or fourth Wednesday afternoon. We will look at a mixture of extracts, short pieces, documentaries and full length ballets.

The first meeting was held on **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September** and was called:

Contrasting Styles: Classical Russian vs Modern Western.

We saw short extracts by stars of the Kirov Ballet from 1958 – 1974 and followed this with more recent recordings of Paquita and the Pas de Deux from Don Quixote.

For examples of Western style, we watched The A-Z of Ballet (1984) with Mikhail Baryshnikov and the American Ballet Theatre.

# Meetings 24<sup>th</sup> October & 7<sup>th</sup> November

## From East to West: The Story of the Defectors.

In this session we look at documentaries on how Nureyev and Baryshnikov defected from Russia. We also see examples of their dancing and that of Natalia Makarova. These three stars greatly influenced dancing in the West.

Everyone said they were coming back for more.

I still have a few places left if anyone would like to join us.

Meg Humphries

DISCUSSION GROUP.

\*\*\*



On the 26th September June Gibbs introduced the topic of "What is meant by 'reasonable force' if one is confronted by a burglar or intruder on one's property?" Does it mean that a householder is entitled to use the maximum force available including measures which would seriously injure the intruder? The number of variables which could apply is considerable. Is the intruder actually stealing something? Is the intruder threatening/menacing? Is he/she armed with any sort of weapon? How did they gain access to the property, did they force an entry or did they simply take advantage of the owner's carelessness in leaving a door or window open? It used to be the law that if an intruder was caught on enclosed premises after the hours of darkness they would be committing a more serious crime than at any other part of the day. Unfortunately that was no longer the case after the "Theft Act" was passed into law in the 1960s. But in the final analysis if the intruder is arrested by the Police and taken to court the ultimate arbitrator is the person on the bench and if he/she decides that too much force was used that decides the question and can lead to consequences for the householder. A recent well publicised case was quoted by a member of the group in which the Judge commended the burglar for his courage! What amount of force

would that judge consider to be "reasonable"? A slap on the wrist? Other cases were quoted which demonstrated that the application and interpretation of the law is very variable and depends entirely on the opinion of the Bench. The case of farmer Martin was quoted in which Mr. Martin shot and killed a person who had robbed him on previous occasions. He was arrested, charged, tried and found guilty. Mr. Martin was sent to Jail for a substantial period. And yet just recently a householder in Bramhall was involved in a struggle with an intruder who was killed. The householder was charged with causing the death of the burglar but was acquitted. So as somebody once said "Circumstances alters cases". The only conclusion one can come to is defend yourself and your property but make absolutely sure that your story is watertight and will convince M'lud that you are the aggrieved victim.

On the 24th Oct 2012 the subject for discussion was "Can any steps be taken by Society to prevent, detect or punish another Jimmy Savile sexual predator?" Very topical but we reminded ourselves that the story of Savile's sexual predation probably started more than 45 years ago. He seems to have targeted children of both sexes who were vulnerable and most of them, because of their position in Society, i.e. inmates or ex-inmates of institutions, unlikely to be believed. (Remember the Rockdale case?) We had no knowledge of how many children complained about Savile at the time of the offences but we agreed that it was highly unlikely that they would be believed. After all, wasn't Savile a respected icon and it is not unknown for malicious complaints to be made against a person in the pubic eye. But surely the number and type of complaints should have raised suspicions especially as all the complaints came from children within a particular age range. The very unusual circumstances which led to Savile being allowed offices and living accommodation in Broadmoor and N.H.S. property is surely worth investigating. Also it has not escaped notice that he cultivated the friendship of some very influential politicians including Mrs. Thatcher. Was this some kind of insurance policy, a protective screen with which he could intimidate others? Something was working in his favour which made others hesitate to question his behaviour. Whatever it was it was certainly very effective; he seems to have erected a substantial screen around his activities. Of course, conspiracy theories will proliferate and Rumour Control will be working overtime. We will have to wait until the various investigations have been completed to get the official and perhaps truthful version of what happened.

Jim McDermott

# **U3A Crown Bowling Competition (Olympic Theme)**



The Crown Green Bowling Group held its very own 'Olympics' with a well supported Round Robin Competition held at the Conservative Club on the 20<sup>th</sup> August, and again we were blessed with a good weather. We gave it an Olympic theme with Union flags displayed and the winner getting a 'gold medal' with the compliments of Cadbury's chocolate. Dave Smith won the trophy. It is rumoured that Dave might have to get another sideboard! Len Wilson took the silver with an extremely close second, creating a 'nail biting' final.

The day was a very full one as 37 members took part and, together with guest, all enjoying a light lunch during the day. Also many thanks to everyone who helped on the day and especially to Eric Smith who 'volunteered' to be our official photographer, everyone helped to make it a successful day.

What a lovely surprise I had too when presented with those beautiful exotic flowers. Many thanks to all of you who took part in this; I'm sorry that the photo taken by Sam Chappell in the last news letter wasn't supported by this report, as it was a total surprise for me and I missed getting into the last news letter due to a holiday.

The group photograph is for the most part complete, but Derek Jones, Barbara Farmer, Derek Marshall, and Paul and Deidrie Nichols had to dash off at the end of the day due to other commitments ... but they did take part.

Margaret Evans - Group Leader

<u>Churches & Pubs Group - September 5<sup>th</sup>. St. Giles Hartington, Derbyshire.</u>



We set off for Hartington [41 of us] on a glorious sunny day. On arrival at the church we were met by our guide for the morning, Chris Duledge, probably one of the best guides we have had on Churches & Pubs. Everyone sat down in the church where Chris spent 15-20 minutes telling us about the history of Hartington Village and the surrounding area. Then a short break for tea and coffee. We then went outside and were told about the church porch and the outside of the church. Chris then gave the group a tour round the inside pointing out all the many interesting parts. The foundations of the present structure of the church were laid in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century. The north wall on the chancel is the only part remaining of this date, but the north transept and the detached shafts at the east and west ends of the nave suggest that there was, later that century, a cruciform "Early English Church" here. The pitch of its steep roof can be seen by the groove in the east wall tower. In the early 14<sup>th</sup> century the south transept was remade and enlarged, while later the same century, the south wall of the chancel was rebuilt. The tower also dates from that period. In the15th century the walls of the church were made higher, using the large semi-dressed blocks of sandstone which can be seen where the plaster has been removed in the nave. Later still a flat roof replaced the steep one and the unmatching clerestory windows were made. This change brought the ceiling down to the very top of the window arch in the south transept, where the original carved bosses can be seen in the cross beams. The porch, with its room above, dates from about 1450 and a little later the square windows in the north aisle and in the chancel were added, while finally in the Tudor period the north doorway, [now bricked up] and only discernible from the churchyard, ended the long years of building here in Hartington. The north aisle pews are still known as the free seats recalling the days when only the rich had pews and the church provided benches for the poor

who could not hire anything more comfortable. The old pews and benches were removed by the Victorians because most of them were rotten.

After an excellent morning at the church we wandered down the hill into the square of the village and descended on the Devonshire Arms for lunch where the food was excellent. An excellent day for weather, church and pub. Thanks again to Chris from the church and Dale and her team from the pub.

Paul Kenneth

# **Walking Group Reports**



# WALK REPORT - WEDNESDAY 29TH AUGUST 2012

"Gusty winds and heavy rain"! That was the forecast for the August day, when nine of us decided, despite the forecast, to go on the planned 5.5 mile walk led by Jan & Gerry Chartres. This walk was around reservoirs in the Longdendale valley near Tintwistle, just north of Glossop.

We were all prepared for the worst in full waterproof gear, but in the event we only had rain for a short time at the start, and a little more after lunch, so all said they were pleased they decided to go.

The reservoirs are a linked chain of 5, which stretch for 6 miles along the valley, and we walked around the 3 at the south-western end.

When they were built around 1850 to 1880, to supply Manchester and local towns, they formed the largest expanse of man-made water in the world!

We started at the Valehouse dam and walked along a paved access road, which had originally been a tramway used to transport stone from local quarries to build the reservoirs. The "Coffee stop" overlooked the Rhodeswood reservoir, then we crossed the next (Torside) dam, on the "Pennine Way", and climbed up to the Longdendale Trail, which also forms part of the "Trans Pennine Trail".

This is a disused railway line, now adapted for walking, cycling, and horse riding, rather like our own Middlewood Way.

Packed lunch was around a bench with extensive views across the water to the hills and moors on the far side, with expanses of bright coloured heather, and even a waterfall visible. Some of our members were able to tell us interesting facts about the area from their previous walks.

The final part was on paths close to the shore of the first in the chain, "Bottoms Reservoir", named after the Sidebottom family, whose mill was demolished to build the dam.

There are a series of interesting information boards around the reservoirs, which are owned by United Utilities.

It's a fascinating area to visit, and very popular with local people with dogs or young children on good weather days, and well worth a visit.

**Gerry Chartres** 

WALK REPORT – WEDNESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2012



Led by Ruth and Dave Smith, eleven waterproofed clad folk set off for a walk "Close to the Edge", starting from Kettleshulme ("Katil's Island" – dating back to Viking times, and standing on the Salt Way which led from Cheshire salt towns to Sheffield).

Leaving Kettleshulme, after road and track walking, crossing of a swollen stream, and some steady climbing, we reached the edge – Taxal Edge. Although cloudy, there were 360 degree views across to Ladder, Coombs Moss, Eccles Pike, and Kinder; and opposite there was a view of Bowstones, with Whaley Bridge and Toddbrook reservoir below.

Our descent took us past Gap House, dating back to 1662 and rebuilt in 1778 by Mr Brocklehurst, a Macclesfield silk merchant. Soon we arrived back at the cars after an enjoyable walk – tired, content – but not wet!

**Ruth Smith** 

#### WALK REPORT – TUESDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2012



Louanne and Peter Collins took an "elite" group of 4 to Healey Dell, a nature reserve at the former Broadley Station, north of Rochdale, where the former railway line now makes an attractive route. We went past a trio of wood sculptures, and over an impressive viaduct, then made a steep descent to the River Spodden below.

A narrow path led between a mill leat and the river gorge, with signs of past industry everywhere. Overnight rain had left the ground soggy in the dell, as we ascended on the far bank – surprising a wild deer – and reached picturesque Smallshaw Farm – and Catley Lane Head, where gardens of terraced cottages overlooked a reservoir.

From Bottom of Pooley Moor, the track passed Forsyth Brow, as wide views opened up of distant Rochdale and Manchester. One way a sparrowhawk hovered, then was diving for prey; the other way clusters of wind machines turned fitfully over Scout Moor. A moorland path led past Reddyshore to Windy Hillock, which became rainy hillock, as rain disturbed our packed lunch.

The route turned sharply onto the Rooley Moor Road, formerly a footpath called Catley Lane, but transformed in the 1860's by a massive job creation project for workers hit by the cotton famine. Long wide sections of neatly stone setted road remain, all at 1500 feet over a deserted open moorland – but, ironically, now threatened with overuse and possible destruction by frequent lorries carrying 28 million tons of rock aggregate – progress?

Lower down we turned into Knacks Lane, past a monument missing its memorial plates, and on narrow lanes past Higher Dunnishbooth and back to Broadley. The dull weather had not done the route full justice, but it had all been packed with interest, and we were very pleased that Louanne and Peter had taken us out of our comfort zone, to show us a new and fascinating territory in historic Lancashire.

Walter Mason

"Now shall I walk or shall I ride?

'Ride,' Pleasure said;

'Walk,' Joy replied."

— W.H. Davies

## WALK REPORT 31st October 2012



Despite the doubtful weather 13 members joined Merlyn and Joyce on this 6 mile Autumnal walk along fields, country paths, woods and streams around little known paths in Bollington / Rainowlow. Despite the forecast the weather held fine throughout the walk and we all enjoyed having dry coffee and lunch breaks.

The walk started in Bollington on minor roads heading uphill towards Pott Shrigley passing the former Wizard & Cheshire Hunt pubs. Views of Bollington, White Nancy, and The Nab unfolded as we turned through fields into Harrop Valley heading for Berristall Hall Farm. Tales and facts of 100 year war, the Black Prince, Percheron shire horses and 200 coal mines in Bollington/Rainow were told by Merlyn.

We passed the Gritstone trail path before descending slightly to enter the beautiful Harrop Wood. This wood untouched for 74 years is mostly a mixture of Birch & Holly, self-seeded following the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. Prior to the war it contained 200 year old Scots Pine trees which were felled for ammunition boxes and war needs. The narrow path beneath the autumn leaf trees gave glimpses of Harrop Brook below as we made our way for coffee stop adjacent to a capped coal mine. It's told the mine dates back to 1930 run by two brothers who lived at a nearby farm, who kept and milked a herd of cows delivering the milk on a midnight round. "When did they sleep?"

On leaving the wood we crossed Harrop Brook and followed the brook along an ancient tree lined pathway containing old Hornbeam coppiced hedges, bracken fungi, another capped coal mine, wooded musical instruments and a wooden carved woodpecker.

Another stile and across fields we made our way uphill to Billinge Head farm meeting 4 very friendly inquisitive (*Vicugna pacos / Alpaca*) in a nearby field.

Uphill sections now completed we headed for lunch in the shelter of adjacent walls to a view point above Rainowlow. Above us was "Big low" a Bronze Age burial mound and in front misty views of the Cheshire plain.

Refreshed we passed the pretty hamlet of Rainowlow, descended Lima Clough into Oakenbank and Ingersley Vale.

In the grounds of Savio House formerly Ingersley Hall built for John Gaskell in 1775 we viewed White Nancy with its present Royal Diamond Jubilee crown and Olympic adornments. More history lessons from Merlyn for Savio House, White Nancy and Ingersley Mill below with a 55 foot iron suspension water wheel.

We returned to car park passing old mill lodges where members thanked Merlyn & Joyce for an enjoyable interesting walk.

Merlyn Young

<><><><>

# 10 Laws of Computing



- 1. If you have reached the point where you really understand your computer, it's probably obsolete.
- 2. When you are computing, if someone is watching, whatever happens, behave as though you meant it to happen.
- 3. When the going gets tough, upgrade your computer.
- 4. The first place to look for information is in the section of the manual where you'd least expect to find it.
- 5. For every action, there is an equal and opposite malfunction.
- 6. To err is human ... to blame your computer for your mistakes is even more human, its downright natural.
- 7. He who laughs last, probably has a back-up.
- 8. The number one cause of computer problems is computer solutions.
- 9. A complex system that doesn't work is invariably found to have evolved from a simpler system that worked just fine.
- 10. A computer program will always do what you tell it to do, but rarely what you want it to do.

\*\*\*\*\*

Christmas Party at High Lane Village Hall to be held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00 p.m. Entrance by ticket only – available at November meeting – price £2.00

Enjoy Christmas but don't forget to have reports to the Editor for the January newsletter by the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012