

Andy Jackson – *Thoughts on a friend.....*

Each of us touches the lives of others in some way as we go on our journey through Life. I just wanted to add a few words about the way that Andy touched my life and has influenced me to some degree. Andy and June came to live in Cheadle some 18 years ago and settled in Ash Tree Hill where I had only recently moved. Many of the houses were new so we were a new small community together. I knew of the setting up of the U3A through the local press but I was still working and felt it wasn't for me at that time. Two years later and I was myself retired and was 'volunteered' as leader of the French group. My association with Cheadle U3A was firmly established. I knew that Andy (along with Vaughan and Gerry) were the senior men of the U3A but not much more than that. I also knew that Andy, in addition to working for our U3A was busy helping to set up other U3As in the local area. One Christmas Andy and June invited several neighbours around for a drink. I got chatting to Andy who, while leaning back in his chair and carefully balancing his glass of red wine on his stomach, suggested I stood for the Committee where there was a vacancy. I think the remark was something like, "You've got plenty to say for yourself, you should be on the Committee!" More red wine and a happy Goodnight left me wondering perhaps he was right. The rest is history. I've had nearly nine years on Committee as a result of that chance conversation. But throughout those years Andy continually took an interest in me as a member of Committee and, as you all know, he was always interested and involved in Cheadle U3A and its doings. I have been conscious that in everything that we do we have had the support and interest of a dear friend and founder of our organisation. Even when very poorly, I talked with Andy around the time of the AGM and he was interested in what was happening and offering me advice and encouragement. He has given of his time in retirement unstintingly to our organisation and to others of his pet projects which I have not shared but of which I am aware. What a wonderful generosity of time and energies and an object lesson for us all. So, sadly, it's a fond but extremely grateful 'Goodbye' to one of our founders and a devoted supporter of the wonderful organisation we have to-day. I was lucky to have known him and to have responded to his call some years ago.

Chairman Barry Barnett.

Make it a habit to visit our **WEBSITE** www.cheadleu3a.org. It contains a calendar of events, information on activities, how to contact committee members, group leaders and much, **much** more.....

Help to keep our "hard copy" members up to date - be a "buddy". **SHARE** this information with a friend or neighbour if you know they are not on the internet. Why not drop them off a copy next time you pass so that as many members as possible receive this information update.

We encourage you to use the **online PDF** file to print out a copy as this ensures the format remains accurate. You can click on the link at the top of this page to obtain a PDF copy of this e-News from our website!

LINKS Look out for the (**Doclink**)click spots. Please send me **photos** of group activities with a short description of the event to insert in our (**Photolink**) click spots and (with your permission) to submit to the **LOCAL NEWSPAPERS**. We need to keep potential members aware that we exist and inform them of what we have on offer.

COFFEE MORNING – (Webpage)

The next coffee morning is on Wednesday September 11th 10am - 12pm at the Guild Hall. Committee members and Group Leaders will be available, for consultation. Meet your friends, book and jigsaw exchange, book holidays and trips, "Foodbank" donations, buy home-made cards for charity plus Cheadle's Fair Trade Society's Stall.

S.O.S. WANTED -FIT AND WILLING MEN - as you are the stronger sex! - Dawn Maley

You are needed to support your fellow volunteers! Please read on.....

On June 11th 2008 I started a "Coffee Morning" **ONCE** a month on the second **Wednesday**. All profits from this go into our U3A funds to help with equipment and rents. This is an appeal really to you **gentlemen**. We need a little help putting tables and chairs out as well as fetching Books and Jigsaws from the cellar. This needs to be done around 8:45am, and clearing away about 11:40am so we are clear for 12 noon. If you would like to volunteer, this could be done on a rota so you would not be needed every month. **Your decision to help** will make the many monthly supporters of this popular social event forever grateful. The dates for the rest of 2013 are Sept 11th, Oct 9th, Nov 13th and Dec 11th. Thank you.

My contact number: 01538 753578 (answer phone is switched on)

CYCLING – (PhotoLink WESTPORT LAKE, KIDSGROVE AND BATHPOOL-ON-SEA!) (Webpage)

An eventful day with lots of laughter and silly behaviour. Joan has now ordered some inner tubes of the correct size! *Thanks for the photos (Ed)*

CINEMA – Linda Keighley – (Webpage)

A special showing of "**Diana**" has been arranged for U3A members at Uttoxeter Cinebowl for Tuesday 24th. September 2013 at 10.30pm. The cost will continue to be £3.60. Members of neighbouring U3As are also invited to attend. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time. Tickets can presently only be purchased immediately beforehand as advanced ticket sales for U3A shows are currently not available.

Telephone and internet bookings are also not permitted. PLEASE TAKE YOUR U3A MEMBERSHIP CARD WITH YOU WHEN PURCHASING YOUR TICKET TO BE ABLE TO PROVE ELIGIBILITY TO ATTEND. More details on see Webpage.

BIRDWATCHING – (Webpage)

(PhotoLink)– *Bird Watchers' Group planning meeting with lunch on a glorious day in July at Hilltop Farm, Draycott.*

After setting up this group four years ago Sue Fraser is stepping down from the leadership role, although she is still going to join in with their activities. The group will carry on with a shared leadership. Our thanks go to Sue for her enthusiasm and for all her hard work organising the very successful visits.

Highlights of our field trips this year – Sue Fraser

As dusk fell on a warm, still, June evening in Cannock Chase, a woodcock flew past 'roding' among the trees, followed by the moth-like flight of a nightjar and the magical sound of its unique 'churring' song. With a Ranger as our guide we had good views of these rare birds and also learnt a lot about the impressive conservation work being carried out on the Chase.

BBC TV's Springwatch this year came from Ynis-hir RSPB reserve in Wales, and we were there in May, just as photographers and technicians were unobtrusively preparing for the programme. The highlight of the trip was discovering the ospreys nesting at the Cors Dyfi Nature Reserve nearby. We watched the very ospreys that featured in Springwatch and found out, to our delight, that the ringed female had been a chick in a nest at Rutland Water when we visited in July 2010. Since we last saw her she had survived three gruelling journeys to Africa and back.

A foray into Shropshire in April took us to Wood Lane Reserve and Venus Pool. The sight of dozens of sand martins flying to and from their nest burrows in the quarry at Wood Lane was only topped by close views of a great crested grebe bravely sitting on three eggs next to the path.

Our next adventure will be an 'away days' trip to North Norfolk in September, with overnight stays in a hotel; in October we shall be at Leighton Moss RSPB reserve near Morecambe; November takes us to Brandon Marsh reserve and we plan to finish the year in fine style with Christmas Lunch at Carsington Water.

FOLK BAND:new venue – (Webpage)

The Folk Band is moving to the Community Room at Cheadle Fire Station, Ashbourne Road. Next session will be on Tuesday September 10th, 2.30 to 4pm. New players welcome on fiddle, concertina, accordion, melodian, banjo or tin whistle (in D or G) – piccolo would do, but not flute or recorder. Exotic instruments like Uilleann/Northumbrian pipes also welcome.

Contact: Chris Washington 01538 751848

NEW "BEGINNERS" LINE DANCING GROUP (Webpage)

Line Dancing has been going now for about 4 years. They have progressed so much Jean has decided to start a new class for **ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS**. This will take place on Friday's before the other group beginning on September 6th from 1pm.

Contact: Jean Fallows for more details and to sign up:01538 750560; dancer.jean@hotmail.co.uk

FRENCH GROUPS

Starting on **Wednesday 2nd October** the French groups led by Margaret Vaughan will meet again. **However**, the Intermediate group will join with the Uttoxeter U3A French group, meeting from 2 - 4 pm at the Heath House Community Centre, Holly Road, Uttoxeter. The Talking French group will meet on **Thursday, 3rd October again from 2-4 pm** at the Heath House Community Centre. If you are interested in joining either group please call Margaret on 01889 568328 for further details.

Reminder: Cheadle U3A members can attend classes run by Uttoxeter U3A without needing a second membership only the normal £1 per session fee is applicable.

FAMILY HISTORY – Andrew Bull – (Webpage)

Following last month's appeal, the course starting in October is now full (barring any last minute withdrawals).

LONG WALKS – (Webpage) (Gallery)

Chrome Hill 12/08/13 (PhotoLink)	Rushton Spencer 19/08/13 (PhotoLink)		
Alsager's Bank 26/08/13 (PhotoLink)	Gradbach 02/09/13 (PhotoLink)		
<i>Thanks to Mike and Gordon for extra photos. (Ed)</i>			
Date:	Details:	Leader:	Contact:
Sept 16th	Wildboardclough	Brian	01538 722763
Sept 23rd	Tissington	Bill	01538 75246
Sept 30th	Cannock Chase	Angela	01538 722626

NEW LEADER NEEDED for FRENCH BEGINNER'S GROUP – (Webpage)

Alan Lewis has decided not to continue as group leader for the French Beginners class this year. Is there someone out there who would like to take up the cudgels and step in? Alan adds, "That the use of the word "cudgels" in no way suggests that these were required to drum anything into the delightful group who I am now abandoning. The group has been an excellent learning/social experience for me and, I hope also, for them."

More details from Alan 01538 754208. *Thank you Alan for doing an excellent job over the years.*

ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS COMPUTING IS CHANGING! – Heather & Geoff Howard – (Webpage)

We are finding that a lot of people have some knowledge of their computer, and while they can just about do emails, and get onto the Internet, they find themselves at a loss to go any further, or understand what they have done. So, while we will welcome anyone who is an Absolute Beginner, and needs to start from the very

beginning, we will be quite happy to split the class on Monday mornings, 10am – 12pm, and gear the lessons to each person's needs as best we can. The new name will be **CARRY ON COMPUTING FOR BEGINNERS** and we will be starting the new regime in the New Year, 2014. Give us a ring 01538 750139 and have a chat, or find us at one of the Coffee Mornings. The Top-up Group on Tuesday afternoons will stay the same.

TRAVEL & LANDSCAPE (*Webpage*)

Owing to programming problems resulting from members away on holiday the October meeting is cancelled and the first group meeting will be: Thursday 14th November at 1.30pm in Tean church hall. The new season will start with a visit to South East Asia. Elaine Beardmore went to VIETNAM, a rapidly expanding tour destination. Don't miss this exotic destination! This will be followed by a shorter tour of the DORDOGNE landscape in southern FRANCE from Phil. There will be further exciting presentations full of variety, including Touring in Germany and Austria, a Round the World trip in 2 parts, Normandy-Versailles and Rome and Coastal Landscapes of Britain. For more details and photos check our Activity page at: www.theadleu3a.org

U3A NEIGHBOURHOOD LINKS

Members of Cheadle U3A can take part in our neighbouring U3A activities (Stone, Stafford, Stoke on Trent South, Burton on Trent, Cannock Chase (Rugeley), Uttoxeter) without having to pay an additional annual subscription (subject to availability of spaces). More details from: www.theadleu3a.org click [here](#) and follow the *Mid Staffordshire Neighbourhood Link*.

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Contact: Joan Barrow 01889 567083