

**CHESTER U3A. VISIT TO MANCHESTER AND TOUR OF THE BBC.
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 24TH**

An early departure brought us to Manchester for the 10 am visit of the BBC, taking remaining members to a 10.30 tour of the Jewish Museum, a former Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue. Built in 1874, it is a fine example of Victorian architecture with exquisite stained glass windows and cast iron fittings. Our lady guide gave an extremely well informed talk and for the remaining hour we were free to wander, looking at photographs and illustrations of the Jewish people of Manchester during the 19th/20th centuries. After lunch in the city, we made our way to the BBC and were greeted by two BBC guides, who took us through many studios, past large glass windows behind which forthcoming broadcasts were being prepared, studios where radio plays are performed and into the huge concert and practice room. We visited the studio where Gordon Burn broadcasts the BBC Northern News and watched via a television screen how the weather is described on TV. A play had been read by the morning visitors and for us, a volunteer was asked to describe the weather, using the huge map and unscripted for two and a half minutes, whilst being televised - our volunteer really enjoyed 'living the dream'.

Muriel Teece