

# OXTON, PRENTON & DISTRICT U3A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2015



## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Once a month on a Thursday, after our social meeting, members of Trinity with Palm Grove Church led by Mary Ingestre provide us with a lunch of homemade soup, fresh baked roll and cheese which is followed by tea and coffee. All members are invited to join us for lunch. A collection is made with a recommended minimum donation of £3 per person. The money raised in the first three months of this year has gone to Cavendish Lunch Club, a charitable organisation providing free meals and a place to socialise for vulnerable older people living alone in the North End of Birkenhead. Sadly this charity is to close because its council funding support has been cut completely in the budget cuts. From April the money we raise, £80 to £100, per month will go the Wirral Food Bank.

Please join us for lunch, and dig deep into your pockets and purses to support a charity which is doing so much good work amongst the most vulnerable in our community. Mary and her team can feed up to 50 members, and it is a great opportunity to meet and make new friends at our U3A. I look forward to chatting with you at our next soup and a roll lunch on 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

Colin Burkitt - Chairman

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## MEMBERSHIP CARDS

It has been really lovely to see the increase in our membership numbers over the past few months, but in order to comply with our membership of The Third Age Trust it is imperative that every individual is a registered member of our Group. Therefore it has become necessary to ask everyone attending Groups, Thursday Meetings, Walks, and Social Events etc that they show their membership cards when asked to do so. We are sorry if this causes anyone any inconvenience but it is important and you are all given a current membership card when you renew your membership annually or when you become a member. Please comply with this request when asked to do so.

Visitors can still attend for two meetings but after that if they still wish to attend they must become a member of our Group.

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**!!!!!! LUNCHEON CIRCLE !!!!!**

Tuesday 21st April 2015 at 12.15 for 12.30  
Caernarvon Castle Pub in Bidston Road, Birkenhead

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**FORTHCOMING EVENTS** – Full booking details available at meetings - see your social organisers at the back of the hall, or e-mail [barbara@oxtonu3a.co.uk](mailto:barbara@oxtonu3a.co.uk)

**SOCIAL OUTINGS**

**REMINDERS !!!!!**

Thursday 23 April 2015      A guided walk around the Albert Dock to be led by Colin Stredder  
Meet at 10.30 am by Liverpool Museum

**THEATRE – NOW BOOKING**

Thursday 23 April 2015      Gigi (directed by Eliane Davie)  
The Little Theatre, Birkenhead at 7.30 pm

Wednesday 20 May 2015      Barnum at The Liverpool Empire at 2-30 pm

Thursday 23 July 2015      Curious Incident of the dog in the Night-time  
The Liverpool Empire at 2-30 pm

**SOCIAL EVENTS - NOW BOOKING**

Thursday 7 May 2015      Electric Mountain & Llanberis Lake Railway

Monday 11 May 2015      Leonora Carrington exhibition at Liverpool Tate

Thursday 4 June 2015      Visit to Tatton Park

Friday 3 July 2015 **! NEW !** A Windermere lake cruise and a meal in The Wild Boar Inn.  
This is our destination for our boat cruise 2015

**Full booking details available at meetings  
See your social organisers**

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**MEETINGS AND SPEAKERS**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015 - Ray Lerner will host his ever popular music quiz.

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2015 - Judith Wheat is our speaker 'Surprises for a volunteer in Pakistan'

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015 – This is our AGM, please come along and support your Committee,

I am sure you will all be pleased to hear that there was a very good attendance at Colin's meeting for the recruitment of possible Committee Members, and we are very relieved to report that things are looking good for the future of your U3A. Your present committee would very much like to see as many members as possible at the AGM when we will be appointing another vice-chairman and two new Committee Members, and we will be bidding farewell to three stalwarts who will be stepping down from the Committee after many years of sterling service between them. They will hopefully all continue to be active members of our U3A.

All the necessary documents for the AGM have now been sent out via e-mail to those members who have supplied an e-mail address and if you haven't received yours then please e-mail [newsletter@oxtonu3a.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@oxtonu3a.co.uk). There will be printed copies available on the day for those of you who don't have an e-mail address.

Please do try and come along, once the formalities of the AGM are over there will be entertainment provided.

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### WALKING GROUP

#### FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2015

Tony Swarbrick will lead this walk of about 6.5 miles starting and ending at The Yacht Pub on the Chester High Road near Capenhurst. We will walk on country lanes and mainly good paths across fields – but there may be some muddy patches. We will take in the picturesque villages of Puddington and Shotwick where we will stop for a short history lesson at the medieval church of St Michaels – ideal for a coffee stop, but bring a flask, there is no café!! Arrangements have been with The Yacht Pub that we can use their car park and also use their toilets before we set off as there are no facilities en route.

We will meet at the Yacht from 10 am with a view to leaving about 10.15 – aiming to get back for lunch about 2-00pm. Don't forget to put your name down on the list at the back of the hall at our next meeting.

#### FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2015

Colin will lead a walk of 7 miles from Formby to Freshfield, along the coast either side of Formby Point, into the Red Squirrel sanctuary, back inland via the old Fishermans path to lunch in the Freshfield Hotel. The route is on paths, good tracks which may be a bit muddy after rain, firm sand and short sections of dunes where a stick may be helpful. We will have a 30 minute break at the halfway point for toilets and to view the squirrels. You may wish to bring a snack and a drink as there are no catering facilities at the halfway point and we will not reach the Freshfield Hotel for a meal and a drink until around 3 pm.

Meet on the platform at Formby Station at 1045. The Wirral Line platform at Moorfields will be closed so travel to Central to change on to the Southport line for Formby.

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## LATEST GROUP NEWS

See a full list of all our special interest groups on our website [www.oxtonu3a.co.uk](http://www.oxtonu3a.co.uk)

### NEW ART GROUP

Art Group has now started and meets on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the month please see Corinne if you wish to attend.

### CROSS U3A PHILOSOPHY GROUP.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2 pm – 4 pm

### SINGING GROUP

We have someone who is prepared to run a Singing Group if a keyboard or piano player can be found to accompany them.

Please see Brenda if you are interested.

### MUSIC GROUP PROGRAMME

April 1<sup>st</sup> “ “ - Tchaikovsky Eugene Onegin (2)

6<sup>th</sup> May Members request, please ask for and complete a form from Paul.

3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE Paul Cullen - Nielson & Sibelius

JULY AND AUGUST NO MEETING

### GARDENING GROUP PROGRAMME

April - time and date to be arranged

May 27<sup>th</sup> - meet at member's garden

June 4<sup>th</sup> - Tatton Park

July - meeting at local allotment

### HISTORY OF ART

The next six monthly meetings for the above Group are to be held on Wednesday mornings at 10.30 am and are on the following dates;

April 15<sup>th</sup> Rembrandt (Bernadette)

May 11<sup>th</sup> Visit to Liverpool Tate Gallery Leonora Carrington ( Lancs/Mexico) meet 10-30am

May 20<sup>th</sup> Rembrandt's The Nightwatch (Bernadette)

June 17<sup>th</sup> Visit to Sudley House Liverpool

PLEASE CHECK ON THE NOTICE BOARD SHOULD THERE BE ANY CHANGES

### MEDITATION

The first Friday in April is Good Friday so the next meeting will be in May 1ST

### PSYCHOLOGY

The next meeting is Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April if you would like to visit please contact Brian Gill.

**LOCAL HISTORY**

If you would like to go as a visitor please contact Ann

**GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CAMERA**

This is not running as a formal group but Dave is willing to help anyone by arrangement.

**POETRY GROUP**

The next meeting is Tuesday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 2-00 pm

**NEW BOOK GROUP**

Moved from 7<sup>th</sup> April to 14<sup>th</sup> April for this month only then back to the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in May.

**COMPARATIVE BELIEFS**

The next meeting is on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2pm - 4pm 'SIKHISM' at Monica Price's home If you would like to go as a visitor please contact Val Noble.

**IMPORTANT**

Please contact your Group Leaders regarding possible changes to dates and times over the Easter period. Likewise please contact your Group Leader if you cannot attend your Group over the Easter period.

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**CALLING ALL BUDDING TV FAMILIES**

ITV Keep it in the Family

The casting team for the above family game show is looking for confident, chatty, fun and outgoing families to take part in the next series. Each team must feature 4 family members consisting of 3 or more generations. For more information email [tvfamily@itv.com](mailto:tvfamily@itv.com)

For an application form which has to be submitted by 27th April go to [www.itv.com/beontv](http://www.itv.com/beontv)

This sounds like great fun but you must have three generations of the same family to compete.

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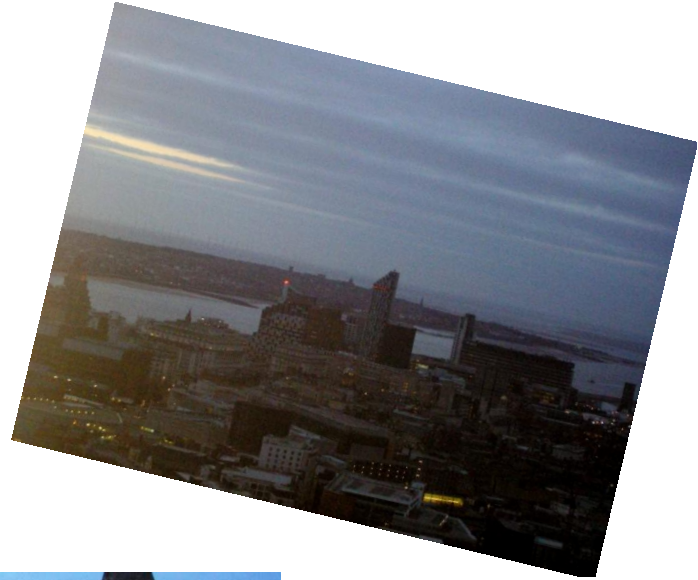
If you know of any of our members who are ill or unable to come to our meetings, please let Carol Burkitt or Pauline Pennington know.

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## LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL

On a very blustery March evening a number of our members met up at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral to take a twilight tour of the tower. This is the second time our intrepid U3A have taken two lifts and climbed 108 steps up to the top of this magnificent building which rises to 331 feet. The idea is to see the sunset over our wonderful city of Liverpool, however on this occasion the sun refused to shine and as a result the pictures taken are not very clear. We were rewarded by the wonderful magical spectacle of the lights coming on instead.



I can honestly say we all enjoyed our visit with some members taking time to look at the Elizabeth Hoare Embroidery Gallery on their way down.

We all felt we had really earned the delicious bowl of scouse followed by apple pie which was waiting for us.

Thank you Barbara, for this very interesting visit. I can highly recommend this adventure which is available to anyone who visits the cathedral.

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## NETWORK NEWS

### Annual Conference Day

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2015 **11:00am** – 3:45pm (coffee from 10:30am)  
Crewe Arms Hotel, (directly opposite to the station) Crewe, Post Code CW2 6DN

### AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN IN THE INSPIRING SETTING OF THE LAKE DISTRICT 1<sup>ST</sup> – 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015

The North West Regional U3A committee have organised another summer school for 2015. These are always very popular, great fun and in a beautiful part of the country. Newton Rigg College is located close to J40 off the M6 and less than five minutes drive from Penrith Railway Station. The campus, which is just ten minutes from Ullswater, has modern facilities, student en-suite rooms with Wi-Fi access. Food is locally sourced and prepared on the premises. A large room is available for meeting and socialising. There will be entertainment on the second evening and a “Gala Dinner” on the third and final evening.



The classes are as follows:

Architecture Explored; Egyptology (An introduction into Ancient Egypt); Creative Writing; Geology (Lakeland Ice and Fire); Introduction to Digital Photography; Introduction to Medieval Archaeology; Introduction to Philosophy; Japanese Encounters

Costs:

Full Board Residential Delegates: £300 but bookings confirmed with £50 deposit by 31 March 2015 will qualify for an Early Bird Discount of £40; the balance of £210 due by 31 May 2015

Non-Residential Day Delegate £150; £130 with Early Bird Discount; as above, £50 deposit by 31 March 2015 with the balance of £80 due by 31 May 2015

Anyone who misses the Early Bird discount should send full payment by 31 May 2015

Additional information can be found on the NW website: [www.u3asites.org.uk/north-west](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/north-west)

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## **A VERY HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OUR MEMBERS**

