



VICE-CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

While Colin recovers from a strenuous holiday in Portugal, it has fallen to me to write this article and whilst pondering what to write about, a very difficult question since apparently nothing ever happens in the summer months, I started to think about where my U3A journey started. Rewind to almost exactly 6 years ago and I was sitting in the waiting room at a doctor's surgery wondering what on earth I was going to do with the rest of my life.

My husband and I moved to The Wirral from Staffordshire having lived in the same small town all our lives in fact having lived in the same house for the previous 30 odd years. We retired here to live nearer to our Grandchildren. Apart from our small family we knew no-one, no work colleagues, no friends, no extended family, no acquaintances.

So thank you Oxton, Prenton & District U3A for welcoming Chris and I, providing us with the new friends we needed, showing us the joys of living on this delightful peninsula, educating us about this place we now call home and most of all thank you for accepting us and giving me a purpose in my third age.

Sandra Lakin

RADIO MERSEYSIDE INTERVIEW

Very well done to our Creative Writing Group who last week played host to Sean Styles of Radio Merseyside, you were all amazing. The interview was due to be broadcast on Thursday 25th June at 11-30 am. For those of you who missed it you can catch up on your computer by copying and pasting the link below into your browser, then selecting the 25/06/2015 programme ;

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02tg7qq#auto>

TUESDAY LUNCH CIRCLE

The Tuesday Lunch Circle are organising something very different for their venue in July and guess what?? It's not even at lunchtime!! But it does sound so delicious I, for one, am very tempted.

DATE	Tuesday 14 th July at 2-30 pm	VENUE	Home Cafe Woodside Ferry Terminal
OCCASION	Afternoon Tea	PRICE	£18-00 per person



Wonderful views of The Mersey with terrace seats if the weather is fine



MENU ; Glass of Prosecco, Sandwiches, Jam & Cream Scones, and Homemade Cakes and unlimited tea and coffee.

!! PLEASE BOOK AND PAY IN FULL AT THE SOCIAL DESK AT THE NEXT MEETING!!

SOCIAL OUTINGS

REMINDERS

Friday 3rd July 2015

Annual boat trip going to Lake Windermere for cruise, followed by a meal at the Wild Boar Inn
Depart TWPG at 8-15 am PROMPT the coach will NOT wait.

Tuesday 14 July 2015

Lunch Circle SPECIAL SUMMER OUTING 2-30 pm
Afternoon tea with prosecco @ home Woodside Ferry Terminal

NOW BOOKING

Wednesday 19th August 2015

Jackson Pollock Exhibition with History of Art Group
Booking closes 23rd July 2015

Tuesday 6th October 2015

Guided Tour of Liverpool Everyman Theatre
Followed by optional lunch. Tour £5-00

THEATRE

Thursday 23rd July 2015

Curious Incident of the dog in the Night-time
Liverpool Empire at 2.30.pm Tickets will be available shortly

NOW BOOKING

Thursday 19th November 2015

Le Corsaire – English National Ballet at Liverpool Empire
Matinee 2-30 pm Tickets £21-00
Booking closes 27th August 2015

Full booking details available at meetings please see your social organisers at the back of the hall
OR e-mail barbara@oxtonu3a.co.uk

MEETINGS and SPEAKERS

Thursday 9th July Muck & Money – Mike Murphy

Thursday 23rd July Sue Donovan is talking about her time in Malawi – ‘Mary’s Meals’



WALKS



FRIDAY 17th JULY – COAST to COAST WALK

A walk of about 9 miles in total from Eastham Ferry to Parkgate. The route is on footpaths, some roads, and some areas may be muddy after heavy rainfall. There are 2 hilly sections, one up and one down; otherwise the walking is relatively flat. There is an option to join us for the Willaston to Parkgate section which is approximately 3 miles of easy walking on the Wirral Way.

We will have a 10 minute break after about the first 3 miles but there are no facilities so bring your own drinks/snack. We will have a lunch stop in Willaston (pubs/café/toilets) of about 45 minutes.

We should reach Parkgate at about 4pm for a meal in the Old Quay Pub.

Meet at Birkenhead Bus Station (stand 6) at 10am for the bus to Eastham Ferry.

Buses leave from outside the Old Quay pub in Parkgate at 8 minutes past the hour for Heswall where there are frequent services back to Birkenhead via Arrowe Park and Prenton. There is also a convenient hourly connection to West Kirby and Moreton from Heswall.

If you plan to join the walk in Willaston get the train to Hooton and get bus number 272 from outside the station. It leaves at 1.51pm and arrives in Willaston before 2pm.

There is no convenient public transport from Parkgate to Eastham Ferry to collect cars!!

Walk Leader – Colin Burkitt (0743 4284666)

FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST 2015

A walk just over the border in North Wales, it is about 6 miles in length through some beautiful countryside with good views if we get good weather. This walk is a bit more strenuous than some of our Wirral walks because it is hillier in parts and there are about 12 stiles some of which are quite demanding, particularly if you have short legs like me. Despite all that the walk is very rewarding and if you are going on the walking weekend to Ironbridge it will make a good introduction to the type of walking we will experience there. Also at the end of the walk is an excellent pub with good food and beer/wine. We will walk mainly on paths, some gravel, some un-surfaced, with a little bit of walking on quiet lanes.

Meet at the church at 10-00 am to sort out car share for the journey to the start/finish. The drive to the start of the walk will take about 45 minutes, I will arrange coffee and toilet facilities plus parking with the pub and lunch on our return from the walk around 2-00 pm.

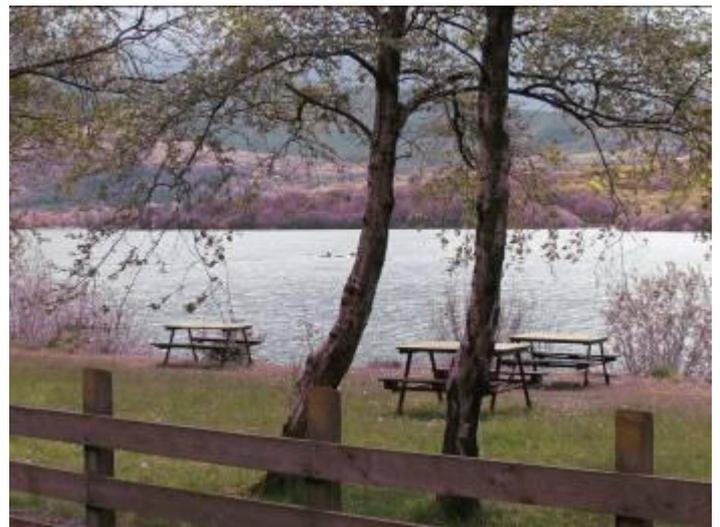
LLANBERIS ELECTRIC MOUNTAIN & LAKE RAILWAY

On our arrival at Llanberis we split into two groups, half went into the mountain and half went on the railway. We were with the group that went into the mountain. Our guide was very interesting, enthusiastic and informative and what a marvellous feat of civil engineering the Dinorwig Power Station is, you really cannot comprehend how they constructed it and the thought of a power station inside a mountain is amazing.



Morning over both the Groups got back together for lunch at a local hotel.

Lunch finished we went back into our groups and exchanged venues with our group going on the lake railway. This was fun and it was great to see so many adults and children enjoying themselves on the lake in canoes. The views from the train were beautiful and we had our own David Bailey on hand to take many photos, (try and guess who we mean, there may be a prize for the first correct answer.



Time for ice creams or tea and coffee before setting off back home. Once underway on the coach we were treated to bags of sweeties being passed around yummy!

Yet another lovely trip organised by Barbara & Co, well done girls !!!!!

Kathy & Barbara aka The Greasby Girls

A huge thank you to everyone who sent me their beautiful photographs from Tatton Park, they were so beautiful I have included a few of them here and on the first page of this Newsletter. They also appear on our website www.oxtonu3a.co.uk why not take a look? Please keep your photographs coming and if you have anything to say please get in touch newsletter@oxtonu3a.co.uk

TATTON PARK

U3A members visited Tatton Gardens in June with the Gardening Group and a very enjoyable time was had by everyone.



Not only did Barbara manage to seamlessly arrange the day but drawing on her, obviously vast knowledge of global warming, managed to order the weather and we had the sunniest day making the visit a resounding success.

The rhododendrons were spectacular and the giant rhubarb lived up to its name. The Japanese Garden was so peaceful and beautiful. There was so much to see we needed at least two days.

Even the gardening group dragged themselves from the tea tables and were seen wandering around. Well done ladies.

Jean Mawdsley





A Sight To Remember in Tatton Park



I have organised many and varied outings for our U3A but at Tatton I experienced a moment which will happily stay with me forever.

Joan Parfect & Lilian Evans astride mobility scooters, having the time of their lives.

I was confronted, when approaching them, by a slightly outraged Lilian “Joan,” Lilian informed me, “has a display showing m.p.h “whilst I (Lilian) have pictures”! The pictures in question were of a tortoise and a hare. Self-explanatory you would think. Lilian then proudly informed me with her usual giggle “I pressed the Hare button and nearly took off!”

Barbara



ATG THEATRE CARD OFFER

U3A members can purchase an ATG theatre card for £25-00, a saving of £10-00 off the standard price. This gives you a series of benefits including priority booking and savings off tickets in their 38 theatres across the UK. If you are interested got to ‘Offers for U3A Members’ in the members’ area of their website www.atgtickets.com

ITV DOCUMENTARY

Blakeway North a television production company based in Manchester is making a documentary about people’s stories and memories of the 1966 World Cup Final, and would love to hear from any U3A members who have a funny or interesting story connected to that day. If you have a story you would like to share please contact Jasmine MacNabb, the assistant producer on 0161 817 6650 or email her at jasmine.macnabb@blakeway.tv by July.

WILLIAMSON ART GALLERY

Just to remind you all that The Williamson is hosting a series of FREE Summer Serenades. These are 1 hour long and start at 2-00 pm each Sunday, just go along and enjoy.....

5th July..... William Bracken, solo piano recital

12TH July..... Winners from the 2015 Charles Scarratt Music Award

Wirral Young Musicians

19th July.....Elgar's String Quartet, performed by ensemble of St. Lukes

26th July.....Claude Pietersen's Zwolfton – young contemporary music ensemble

9th August 2015.....TBC

16th August.....Perri & Neil, voice & guitar

23rd August.....Tom Verity, clarinet recital

30th August.....Heather Heighway, soprano recital

ANNUAL BREAK

Following our normal practice there will be NO speaker meetings or social meetings during most of August. We will finish on 23rd July 2015 and resume on 27th August at 10-00 am at TWPG when Colin will host one of his renowned quizzes. We look forward to seeing you then, refreshed and rejuvenated.

Group Leaders will make individual decisions regarding their Group, please see your Group Leader if you are unsure of holiday arrangements.

New Group Starting in September

We all have stories to tell. Sad ones, funny ones, exciting ones, romantic ones

and, of course excruciatingly embarrassing ones! So how about writing some of them down for posterity – or even for yourself?

Mo Kermode is starting a Life Writing Course in September

The Group will meet in The Cabin on the Second Tuesday of the month

Time :1:30 to 3:30

There is a signup sheet on the Groups table at the back of the hall
