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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone,

I hope you all enjoyed the summer break, as Elizabeth and I did. Unfortunately due to prior arrangements we were unable to attend, what was to become a very successful "Bring a Friend" meeting on the 31st. August 2023.

After all the hard work and time put in by the Groups Coordinator and Group Leaders, accompanied by an excellent poster by Kathy Binns, plus the recruitment campaign carried out by you, our U3A Members, we have been able to welcome many new Members.

What a most satisfactory outcome for all your efforts.
THANK YOU TO ONE AND ALL.

P.S. We still need someone who would be willing to take responsibility for organising social meetings.

Kindest Regards,
Alan Harding

Christmas Lunch

The meetings on September and October 12th will be your last chances to book a place. Barbara Winstanley will be at her table selling tickets for the event and taking orders for menu choices at the same time. Price of tickets is £36 payable by cheque and includes: three courses, the tip, coffee and mince pies, plus a raffle ticket.

Barbara has organised the event again including the raffle and prizes (one for each table) which she wraps beautifully! A big thank you from us all.

TEA AND COFFEE ROTA OCTOBER TO 7th December 2023

Please contact Joan Benton on 0151 608 6226 if you would like to change your duty date.

28th September: Hilary Robinson
Maureen Oldham

12th October: Ann Greenhalgh
Norma Finlayson



26th October: Barbara Baker
Kathy Sullivan

9th November: Poppy Lewis
Margaret Greenwood



23th November: Gwyn Thomas
Eileen Slater

Speakers September 2023 – March 2024



12th October - John Crane - **'All things Auctioneering'** - attendees are also invited to bring items for valuation/sale.

9th November - Anthony Annakin-Smith – **'History of Parkgate'**

7th December - Barry Humphries - **'The Great British Christmas'**

2024 after March will be posted later.

18th January 2024 - Mary Clinton - 'AI and the influence of Linguistic Research'

15th February - Ken Pye - 'Curious & Amazing Tales of Merseyside'

14th March - Su Thomson - 'Victorian Millinery & Prostitution'

2023 Social meetings

November 23rd - Tony has arranged for the Heswall U3A Ukulele Group too come to play for us on a Social Thursday, November 23rd. There is no charge but the Group does support a charity, "The Eye Fund" led by one of their members and Tony suggests that a small donation of £1 per person would be acceptable. See below their letter:



Lunch Group Dates

Colin Shredder



17th October 2023

The Queens Arms, Oxton.

21st November 2023.

Caernarfon Castle, Bidston Road, Oxton

That takes us up to Christmas. Please add you names to the list at the meeting or let Colin know if you are coming.

Group News

A Book and a Glass of Wine: Judith Whaley

Meet on last Thursday of month. The group is full at the moment.



Bridge: Tony Swarbrick

Meetings will be in "The Cabin" at Trinity and are held on 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays each month, 10.15am to 12.30. We meet to play friendly relaxed bridge and new members are always welcome. Next meetings are October 11th & 18th.



Book Club: Mary O'Neill



Meetings take place on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2pm. The next meeting is on October 10th. Mary has room for one or two more members; anyone interested should contact Tony Swarbrick our Group Co-ordinator.

Lunch Circle: Colin Stredder

The next meeting is on October 17th at the Queen's Arms, Oxtou; 12.45 for 1pm lunch. Please sign in at the meeting or contact Colin.



Music Appreciation: Paul Cullen

Meetings are now on the 1st Monday of the month 2-4pm. Next meeting: October 2nd. Bring a CD that you enjoy!



Walking Group: Ken Jackson

The next walk will start at 10.30 from the Cottage Loaf, Thurstason. It will be circa 5miles, taking two and a half hours approx. Returning for lunch at the pub.

Sign up at the September meeting on the 28th.

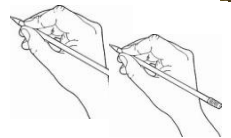


Art Group Bernadette Hamilton

The next meeting is on October 18th in the Session Room: Ancient Gods & Old Masters. Presented by Bernadette Hamilton.

Drawing Group: Pauline Horner

The next meeting on October 6th in the Cabin. New members welcome; please bring a sketch pad and pencils.



Play Reading Group: Eliane Davie

The Group meets at Eliane's house on the second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be on October 10th at 10am. We will be reading "The Unexpected Guest" by Agatha Christie. These plays, adapted from her stories, are always popular with audiences who like to guess who is the murderer!



Craft Group . Joan Benton

Meetings take place on the 4th Monday of each month at her home; next meeting is on October 23rd. Joan may be able to fit in another couple of members.



Nordic Walking, Corinne Whitham

Meets every week at 10am Tuesdays at the Visitor Centre in Birkenhead Park. If you can't come every week simply come when available, as often or as little as suits. Open to all, why not give it a try? A pair of poles is essential, standard walking ones will do to start. Lightweight walking shoes or trainers are best. Expect to walk for one hour at a smart pace.



New Book Group starting in October:

Host: Joyce Woosley

Location: Wallasey

When: Initially 3rd Thursday of each month starting October 19th

Time: 10.30am

When the group is established it may be possible to change the day of the meeting.

Interested? Contact via groupcoordinator@oxtonu3a.co.uk

Bring a biography of someone you admire or want to discuss to inaugural meeting.

Thanks, Tony Swarbrick.



Congratulations 50th Wedding Anniversary!

Popular long-time members of our U3A, Judy and Terence, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Below are photos of some of their friends from U3A who enjoyed a garden lunch with them (on a beautiful day) as part of their celebrations! May we all extend our best wishes and congratulations to a lovely couple!



Art Appreciation Programme - Bernadette Hamilton

Bernadette organised an excellent visit to the recently reopened Renaissance Rooms at the Walker Gallery in Liverpool for our September gathering. Paintings and works of the period were beautifully presented and we were fortunate in having Emma, a very knowledgeable member of staff to talk us through a number of the pictures on show. Her talk was really interesting and she added many anecdotes explaining their background. The exhibition is to be recommended; thank you so much Bernadette for researching these events for us.



Far left: ivory carvings from the 1500s

Right: Amber cabinet with intricate carvings and ivory insets.



Lunch Group September 19th

The group enjoyed their lunch last week at The Refreshment Rooms. Thank you Colin for organising another great and sociable meal!





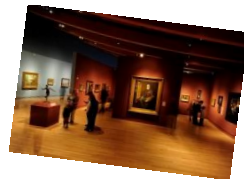
ART APPRECIATION GROUP SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER

October 18th

Trinity with Palm Grove- “Ancient Gods and Old Masters”. Presentation by Bernadette Hamilton.

November 15th
view:

Visit to the Victoria Gallery & Museum, Liverpool, to
The Vintage Cunard Posters’ Exhibition.



WALKING GROUP – SEPTEMBER 22ND WALK



Our September Circular Walk started from The Swan Pub in Prenton and crossed into Noctorum then Upton before reaching Bidston Common, where we enjoyed a welcome coffee at Tam O’Shanter’s Farm, before returning via Claughton and Noctorum to the Swan for lunch. It was an extremely wet day unfortunately which depleted our numbers a bit, however quite a few of us optimists sallied forth regardless, and although getting pretty wet, thoroughly enjoyed the day! Many thanks to Barbara Riley who led the walk.

Ed.



Late News!

Shakespeare North Playhouse, Prescot.

Guided Tour 1hour 15mins Group rate £9.50pp

There is plenty of parking space if you go by car, or use your Bus Pass and go by Public Transport. Buses stop at the door. Train is a 12-minute walk.



For More information Google: "Shakespeare North Playhouse". Put your name on the list. Date(s) will be arranged if sufficient interest.

The Athenaeum Club

Guided Tour 1½ hours Group rate £17pp

Price includes glass of their own label Club wine.

The Athenaeum is an iconic institution; a place to relax, and entertain friends, family, colleagues and clients in the most luxurious and historic surroundings the City of Liverpool has to offer.



For More information Google "<https://theathenaeum.org.uk>"

Put your name on the list.

Date(s) will be arranged if sufficient interest.



Speaker Meeting September 14th

David Hearn gave an excellent talk on: "Beautiful Buildings of Birkenhead" at the September 14th meeting. Many of his personal choices were known to us while others were quirky ones which had appealed to him for a variety of reasons.

All were interesting and his remarks and knowledge of their history kept us entertained and engaged.

Our thanks to David and to Pamela Southall for arranging the talk. Ed.

Photo by Corinne

Books and Jigsaws



Thank you everyone for thinning down the books and jigsaw collections; they are at a much more manageable number now and we can return to bringing in books and jigsaws for exchange again. In the interest of not getting stock in excess of storage space again, please keep to only bringing the number of books that you take – it seems to work really well!

Friendly Ear

If you know of any member who is sick, in hospital or in need of a friendly chat please let Mary Hamilton or Dot Matthews know. They will contact them to see whether they need help and send cards.



Committee Members

Chairman: Alan Harding

Secretary: Carole Lapping

Business Secretary: Treasurer: Margaret Cullen

Groups Co-ordinator: Tony Swarbrick

Speaker Secretary: Pamela Southall

Membership Secretary: Pauline Horner

Newsletter Editor: Eliane Davie: Leader of Play Reading Group

Ken Jackson; Leader of Walking Group

Brian Jones

And finally.....

What a lot of news we have this month! It has been great to welcome so many new members and I hope that they will find that their decision in joining U3A was a happy one! It is an opportunity to make many new friends and find new interests in a friendly environment.

For those who are interested in starting a new interest group, provided that someone is willing to organise it and can gather enough members who would be interested in joining it, just speak to someone on Committee who will discuss it and if viable, help start it.

We have our annual AGM in April each year, when anyone who can find a proposer and seconder may put up for a place on Committee where a vacancy exists. Information around the work of Committee members is available via current members.

At last it feels as though the shadow of Covid is behind us and things are getting back to what was 'normal' before the dreaded 'lurgy' hit us.

I hope to see you all on the 28th!

Eliane Davie - Editor



