

FLINTSHIRE U3A NEWSLETTER

Volume 3

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March 2008



U3A Members visit the wardrobe department as part of their tour of Theatre Clwyd

U3A Theatre Clwyd Visit

On Valentine's Day a group of 30 Flintshire U3A members had a tour round Theatre Clwyd. Pat Nelder, the Theatre's Technical Manager, took them backstage into many parts of the theatre that most people never see. They went into rehearsal rooms, the workshop where sets are made and painted, and the wardrobe department where they heard of the work needed to make the huge range of costumes seen on stage. He took them behind the set of *Midsummer's Night's Dream* that was then running in the Anthony Hopkins Theatre. The props were ready for the evening's performance and the members were able to get a detailed look at some of the fairy costumes that were a stunning part of the production.

They were encouraged to ask as many questions as they liked to do with all aspects of the theatre and learned much about the running and marketing involved in Theatre Clwyd. They all appreciated the generous time Pat Nelder gave them and most stayed and enjoyed a pleasant lunch afterwards in the Theatre's Bistro.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

It is my pleasure once again, this time in print, to pay tribute to Anne Smith's stewardship of FU3A over the past 3 years.

- We have seen a major growth in Interest Groups.
- We have enjoyed the benefits of grant funding obtained through Anne's initiatives.
- There has been an increasing involvement in local forums for the promotion of life-long learning, and the improvement in well-being for the older community, both of which are providing a platform to make our voice heard.

These achievements are a fitting testament to Anne's commitment to our organization.

Although my tenure is only for 12 months, I intend to put in place a series of building blocks to ensure a seamless change in 2009 with my vice chair, Hilary Jones, so that through her vision and boundless energy FU3A will move rapidly ahead on the next stage of its evolution.

As a first step we will be holding an **Open Day on Saturday 24 May in the Daniel Owen Centre in Mold**, where all our Interest Groups will be represented. The objective is the presentation to a wider audience of the benefits, pleasure and advantages of becoming a member of Flintshire U3A.

Following the understandable 'moving on' of Doreen, our Newsletter editor, who did such a splendid and professional job for 3 years, it is regrettable that with 170 members no one has come forward to offer their services. The outcomes are that not only is this edition delayed in publication but also reduced to 2 pages. Given the limitations of our current resources and level of expertise, it is the best we can do. If anyone can help us do better then please contact a member of the Committee.

Philip

OPEN DAY SATURDAY 24 MAY 2008 - 10am to 2.30pm

As mentioned in my Chair's note, we are holding an Open Day at the Daniel Owen Centre in Mold on Saturday 24 May from 10am to 2.30pm. All our Interest Groups will be represented, and your Group coordinators will be speaking with you about your ideas for your Group's stand design. We also hope that as many members as possible will help to man the stands for some time during the day.

It is our intention to spread the word more widely about the joy of belonging to Flintshire U3A, encouraging more people to join us and thereby bringing fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the Organisation. Our strength is exploiting to the full the potential of all our members for our members.

We would also acknowledge the financial support we are receiving from NIACE, The European Social Fund, and The Gwanwyn Festival.

♠ ♣ ♥ ♦ **BOLIVIA** ♠ ♣ ♥ ♦

If anyone would like to play a card game called Bolivia we meet the first Monday evening of each month at 7.30pm, alternating between Mold and Buckley. Beginners would be particularly welcome.

Contact Jill on 01244 544646

PROPOSED NEW GROUP

"Health and Happiness"

1st Thursday of month beginning 3rd April
at 1.30pm. Location: Connah's Quay

Please contact Julia on 01244 813844 for
more details, or email
alternativefirst@hotmail.com

**You can now collect
your Newsletter from
The Bookshop, 33 High
Street, Mold.**

Contributions for the
June Newsletter are
welcomed by **28 May**
Contact Angela Parry
(see below)

GROUPS' MEETINGS

2 April 2008: Patricia Burton from Mold speaking about her book 'Captive'.

11 June 2008: 'Arrive Alive' presented by the Driving Standards Agency, on keeping older drivers on the road, safely.

3 Sept 2008: Due to an unexpected change in circumstances the planned speaker for our Groups' meeting on 3 September is unavailable, but we have been fortunate to secure Mr Philip Lloyd from Mold, a noted historian, who will give a talk entitled 'A prospect of old Rhyl by magic lantern' using a unique collection of original late Victorian and early 20th century slides and, yes, a magic lantern!

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair	Philip Johnson	01352 741001
Vice Chair	Hilary Jones	01352 780324
Treasurer	David Williams	01978 761824
Secretary	Diane Sauvage	01244 544284
Membership Secretary	Anne Kay	01244 819897
Editor	Angela Parry	01352 720501
Other Committee Members	Sue Brown, Charles Harrison, Barry Ashton	
Guest Speakers Organiser	Philip Johnson	01352 741001

*** STOP PRESS ITEM ***

I am so very pleased to report that Angela Parry is prepared to take on the role of Newsletter editor. Not only will she receive help and guidance from Doreen initially, but also the support of everyone on the Committee. Furthermore, I know that Co-ordinators and members will be equally helpful and understanding as she settles into the position. Angela can be contacted on 01352 720501 or email ameparry@btinternet.com.