

# FLINTSHIRE U3A NEWSLETTER

Volume 4

Issue 2

April 2009

*Flintshire U3A – Friendship & Fun through Lifelong Learning*

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## 4 WAYS TO COLLECT YOUR NEWSLETTER

1. At the bi-monthly Open Meetings.
2. From your Group coordinator.
3. From The Bookshop, High Street, Mold.
4. Download from our website:

[www.flintshire-u3a.co.uk](http://www.flintshire-u3a.co.uk)

To aid distribution please could coordinators put any **surplus copies** of the Newsletter in The Bookshop, High Street, Mold.

Please ask your coordinator for a Welfare Questionnaire if you have not already completed one.

Contributions for the **June** Newsletter are welcomed by **8th May**. Please contact the Editor, Angela Parry.

## AWAY DAYS GROUP

### Visit to North Wales Mounted Police Stables at Erddig



Sixteen members of the U3A Away Day Group met at the Druid Inn, Pontblyddyn, for lunch before congregating at Erddig for their visit to the Mounted Police Stables. They were shown round the stables by Mandy, one of the grooms, who explained the care and training involved in looking after the four horses. Two police officers were also in attendance and demonstrated the training of the horses which included getting them used to all sorts of noises and objects. The visit was quite fascinating and gave a wonderful insight into the training of these magnificent animals and the care and devotion displayed by all the staff to the horses.

**More Away Days** (in addition to those already publicised). Contact Gill/Judith: 01352 713972

Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup> April	Bluebell Walk, Arley Hall Gardens
Wednesday	22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Royal Welsh Show (early booking essential)
Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup> August	Southport Flower Show
Wednesday	23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth
Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup> October	Snowdon Railway
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup> November	Quarry Bank Mill

### EXTRACT FROM OUTGOING CHAIR'S REPORT AT 2009 AGM

Primarily due to the success of our Open Day in 2008 we have welcomed 79 new members to our organisation over the past 6 months, bringing our total membership to 248 currently. They bring with them an untapped wealth of knowledge and experience. Already one new member has suggested that each of them should endeavour to put forward a 'fresh idea', perhaps:

- A topic for a Speaker
- A different style of Open Meeting
- A new Interest Group - the number of which last year grew from 29 to 40, and now we have many more potential coordinators.

I know that the Committee and, in particular, the Vice Chair as part of that role, will provide every support and encouragement to each proposal that is brought forward. Thereafter, over the next 12 to 18 months, as their understanding of FU3A grows, I hope that some new members will then aspire to join the Committee, for our future requires 'new blood', in order to build upon the solid foundation forged by so many people.

**Footnote: It is very pleasing to announce that on 13th February 2009 our 250<sup>th</sup> member joined us (this represents a 48% annual growth rate).**

## GROUPS' NEWS

### ART GROUP (2)



Some members will be contributing to the **Art Exhibition in St. Mary's Church, Mold** on 4th - 9th May 2009. This event is in aid of Church Funds. Come along and have a look and maybe even buy a painting to help Mold Parish Church. [Rita](#).

### BELLEPLATES GROUP- 200<sup>TH</sup> MEETING CELEBRATIONS

A reminder: on 27th April from 2 - 4pm at Glanrafon Centre, Mold, the Belleplates Group invite you and friends to celebrate with them on their 200th meeting. Please let Rita know if you intend to come so that we can be sure of having enough mugs to fill with tea! [Rita: 01352 757693](#) or [tonyandrita@msn.com](mailto:tonyandrita@msn.com).

**BOLIVIA** - This group is on hold due to lack of numbers.

### CHESS

This group meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month from 2 p.m. Come and try the chess computer! [Barrie: 01352 752418](#).



### CROWN GREEN BOWLS – NEW SEASON

The new season starts on Thursday 2nd April 2009 from 10-12pm at Rhydymwyn Institute and continues on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month, weather permitting. Maximum of 20 can play. £1.00 per head. Please wear trainers or flat-soled shoes. [Barry: 01352 741836](#).

### DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY – PROPOSAL FOR NEW GROUP

A group for interested photographers, or would be photographers, who would meet on a cooperative, non competitive basis to share their experience, enthusiasm and/or expertise in order to spread the enjoyment of their hobby. A topic or theme would be chosen each month and members invited to produce a photo, or photos, for consideration by the group, advice and tips being gratefully received. Trips to photogenic locations may be arranged and an annual display or exhibition might be organised. To help members get started and improve their photography a series of lectures/talks would be arranged, ranging from basic advice about simple cameras to more advanced topics, including the use of sophisticated photo editing software.



The ideal venue would be a suitably sized room with the use of a number of computers and good photographic opportunities on the doorstep available twice a month at a reasonable cost. However, the group could manage with the U3A laptop and projector in a less than perfect room.

If you would like to be in at the start of this new group, please contact: [Frank: 01352 741 416](#) or e-mail: [digi.frank@btinternet.com](mailto:digi.frank@btinternet.com)

**FLAT WALKING GROUP** has changed its name to the **EASY SOCIAL WALKING GROUP**.

### FLOWER ARRANGING – NEW GROUP

This group will commence on Wednesday, 6th May at Gwernaffield Church Hall, 2pm - 4pm. There is no need to bring any flowers, foliage or containers on this first occasion. A demonstration will be given showing basic mechanics and designs enabling members to bring along suitable flowers and foliage for the following meeting on Wednesday 20th May. If successful, this group will continue throughout the summer on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month until September/October. [Carole](#).



### FRIDAY DINING CLUB – NEW GROUP

Details of the start of a Third Dining Group will be announced at the Open Meeting on Wednesday, 8th April 2009. The first Dining is to be on Friday 12th June 2009.

### PILATES for BEGINNERS



Weekly Pilates classes began at Gwernaffield Church Hall on Friday, 27th February 2009 from 10 - 11 am. The exercises are mainly taken lying down. Mats and other equipment are provided. Clothing needs to be loose fitting (track suit or similar). Socks can be worn but no shoes or trainers. The fee is £4 per class. [Mary: 01244 547238](#).

## **QUILTING GROUPS' TRIP**

A coach is going to the Quilts Exhibition at the 3 Counties Show Ground at Malvern on 14th May 2009. There are some seats still available; cost will be approximately £20 which includes entrance to the exhibition. Also, there will be a wide variety of traders and experts. If interested please contact [Hilary 01352 780324](mailto:Hilary01352780324) or email: [hjones7491@homecall.co.uk](mailto:hjones7491@homecall.co.uk) by April 28th.

## **TAI CHI**



The new term starts on Thursday, 23rd April 2009 from 4.30 - 6.30pm in Gwernaffield Church Hall. The cost for 12 weekly (1½ hour) sessions is £48. [Chris: 01352 741836](mailto:Chris01352741836).

## **THEATRE GROUP**

If you would like to join in the discussions for future programmes the next coffee morning is at 11am on Friday, 22nd May 2009 in the Bistro. [Sue: 01352 713252](mailto:Sue01352713252).

### **SOCIAL MORNING – WEDNESDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2009, 10AM-12 NOON AT NEW BRIGHTON COMMUNITY CENTRE**

For all Flintshire U3A members.

A chance to chat/twitter(!) with other members while enjoying coffee & snacks.

Each group to bring along a plate of snacks.

Any group that would like to promote themselves to increase numbers are welcome to put out a small display in the hall.



### **PROJECT ENIGMA – FOLLOW-UP**

Funding has been secured and will shortly be available to enable the follow-up to Project Enigma to commence in mid/late April. I would like to invite 2-3 people to join me in the programme. If you are interested, please contact me - [Philip: 01352 714001](mailto:Philip01352714001) or email: [philip@johnson5184.freemove.co.uk](mailto:philip@johnson5184.freemove.co.uk)

### **ARCHIVE OF THE VALLEY WORKS IN RHYDYMWYN – CAN YOU HELP?**

We have been contacted by Mr Anthony Burke who saw the article in U3A News about Project Enigma.

He is writing a history of The Valley Works in Rhydymwyn and is seeking input from local people, particularly those who had relatives working there during the war. He himself spent the war years (1940-1946) living in Rhydymwyn as his father worked at The Valley Works during those years.

If you had any connections with the village Mr Burke would be pleased to hear from you. He can be contacted by telephone: 01778 426617 or email: [Angytone@hotmail.com](mailto:Angytone@hotmail.com)

### **BADGE HOLDERS**

Badge holders have been purchased to hold membership cards and names, to help us all with the problem of remembering names!  
Available for collection at the next Open Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> April.

### **WALES AIR AMBULANCE**

We raised £176 for the Wales Air Ambulance following their talk at our Open Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

### **BEGINNERS' STORYTELLING WORKSHOP**

By Chester U3A.  
Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2009,  
9.30am – 4.30pm. (£5).  
Please contact Howard  
Sherman: Tel: 01244  
344117 or email:  
[hshermans@chester-uk.co.uk](mailto:hshermans@chester-uk.co.uk)  
Deadline: 27<sup>th</sup> May 2009

### **POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

Hilary has made a Powerpoint Presentation about Flintshire U3A which any member may use to promote our organisation.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chair	Hilary Jones	01352 780324
Vice Chair	Ken Archer	01352 740916
Treasurer	David Williams	01978 761824
Secretary	Diane Sauvage	01244 544284
Membership Secretary	Anne Kay	01244 819897
Editor	Angela Parry	01352 720501
Publicity Officer	Carole Speller	
Other Committee Members	Sue Brown, Barry Ashton	

**INTEREST GROUPS**

<b>GROUP</b>	<b>MEETING VENUE</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>CONTACT NAME</b>	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>
Art (1)	Mold, Daniel Owen Centre	Alternate Fridays	09.00-13.00	Anne	01352 752881
Art (2)	Mold, Glanrafon Centre	Alternate Fridays	09.00-11.30	Rita	01352 757693
Art Appreciation	Mold, Glanrafon Centre	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month	10.00-11.30	Rita	01352 757693
Away Days		Variable		Judith/ Gill	01824 780221/ 01352 713972
Belleplates (Handbells)	Mold, Glanrafon Centre	Mondays	14.00-16.00	Rita	01352 757693
Bolivia	Mold/Buckley	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of month	19.30 start	Jill	01244 544646
Bridge	Pantymwyn	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month	19.30-22.30	Ken	01352 740916
Card Making	Mold	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of month	10.30-12.30	Carole	
Chess		1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of month	14.00 start	Barrie	01352 752418
Crown Green Bowls	Rhydymwyn	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month	10.00-12.00	Barry	01352 741836
Digital Photography		TBA		Frank	01352 741416
Easy Social Walking		2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month	10.00 start	Barbara	01352 759855
Flower Arranging	Gwernaffield	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month	14.00-16.00	Carole	
Flora and Fauna		2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of month	10.00 start	Joe	01352 810318
French Conversation (advanced)		Bi-weekly on Mondays	15.00-17.00	John	01352 752508
French Conversation (intermediate)	Gwernaffield	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month	14.00-16.00	Sheila	01352 740607
Friday Dining Club		1 <sup>st</sup> Dining - 12 <sup>th</sup> June		TBA	
Health and Happiness	Connah's Quay	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of month	13.30-15.30	Julia	01244 813844
Lunch Club	Theatre Clwyd	Bi-monthly, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	12.30 for 13.00	Diane	01244 544284
Music Appreciation	Mold	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday of month	14.00-16.00	Bea	01352 752737
Needlecraft Group	Ewloe	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of month	14.00-16.00	Catherine	01244 538698
Philosophy Group	Mold	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of month	14.00-16.00	Charles	01352 754765
Pilates	Gwernaffield	Fridays	10.00-11.00	Mary	01244 547238
Play Reading	Mold	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month	14.00-16.00	Charles	01352 754765
Poetry	Mold	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of month	14.30-16.00	Tina	01352 753860
Quilting (1)	Mold	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of month	10.00-12.00	Margaret	01352 753076
Quilting (2)	Pentre Halkyn	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of month	10.00-12.00	Hilary	01352 780324
Reading Group (1)	Mold	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month	10.30-12.00	Contact	07708435105
Reading Group (2)	Buckley	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month	10.30-12.30	Norma	
Reading Group (3)	Mold	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of month	10.30-12.00	Margaret	01352 753548
Reading Group (4)	Mold	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of month	10.30-12.00	Tina	01352 753860
Scrabble Group	Mold	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month	19.30 start	Carole	
Singing		2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month	15.40 start	Eirlys	01352 756746
Social History	Gwernaffield	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of month	10.00-11.30	Anne	01352 752881
Sunday Lunch Club		1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of month		Sue	01352 713252
Table Tennis	Gwernaffield	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month	14.00-16.00	Barry	01352 741836
Tai Chi	Gwernaffield	Thursdays (10 session courses)	16.30-18.00	Chris	01352 741836
Theatre Clwyd	Meet every 3 months	To arrange theatre trips		Sue	01352 713252
Thursday Dining Club		Bi-monthly, 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	19.00 for 19.30	Ken	01352 740916
Walking Group (1)		3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of month	09.45 for 10.00	Philip	01352 741001
Walking Group (2)		1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of month	10.00 start	Sue	01352 752508
Wednesday Dining Club		Bi-monthly, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	19.00 for 19.30	Peter	
Welsh Conversation	Mold	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of month	14.30-16.00	Diane	01244 544284
Wine Appreciation		4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of month	19.30 start	David	01978 761824
Writers Group	Mold	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday of month	09.30-12.00	Connie	01352 754838
Yoga	Gwernaffield	Tuesdays (6 session courses)	11.30-13.00	Karen	01352 759333

**OPEN MEETINGS – All members welcome! Don't forget the Book/CD/DVD Exchange!**

All meetings except the December one are at 10.30am at New Brighton Community Centre.

8 April 2009

**Journeys through Lebanon** by June Hargreaves.

3 June 2009

**The History of Halkyn Mountain** by Mr Elvet Pierce.

9 September 2009

**Cheshire Bowmen and the History of the English Longbow** by Alan Benyon. His talk is illustrated with a range of bows, arrows and arrowheads, together with explanations of many well known phrases used in everyday language, such as 'rule of thumb', 'brace yourself', 'the butt of the joke', 'fast and loose' etc.