

MAY 2006 – NEWSLETTER EXTRACTS

GROUP NEWS

Freda is interested in knowing if anyone would like to explore some **Practical Music Making**, if so she would be very pleased to hear from you. Freda's number is 01352 810557.

A **Creative Writing Group** which has been running for some time in Mold, has now come under the umbrella of U3A. If you are interested in joining them please contact Connie on 01352 700410. They meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 9.30 until noon.

Our **Art Group** is so well subscribed that we have decided to start another on the same Friday but in the afternoon. This will also be in the Daniel Owen Centre and will run from 1.00 pm until 5.00 pm.

Rita is hoping to get a **new Reading Group** (our third) started, and anyone interested is asked to go along to Ty'r Binwydden, Clayton Road, Mold on **Thursday, 15th June commencing at 10.30 a.m.** Those interested are asked to contact Rita on 01352 757693. If you are unsure whether you will be able to get to the meeting, please don't let this put you off turning up at whatever time you can manage: the meeting will be very informal.

Our very popular **French Conversation Group** has now reached capacity, and we are desperately looking for someone who would be willing to lead a second group, preferably for beginners. It is appreciated that languages are a special case, and that unlike most other groups needs to be led by someone with specialist knowledge. Is there anyone out there willing to share their expertise? If so we would be very grateful to hear from you. Please contact Anne on 01352 752881.

Please note that the co-ordinator for the **Quilting Group** is now Margaret O'Hara. The group meet on the 1st Thursday in the month at Barbara's house in Mold from 10.00 until 12.00 noon.

Philip and Ken are hoping to arrange four **Away Days** each year and after the first four, attendees will be invited to volunteer to choose and organise future visits. The first visit is being organised by Ken and will be in May/June. This will be a guided tour of Castle Cement Quarry at Cadole and immediately followed by a visit to the Cement Works at Padeswood. On this visit there will be a nominal charge of £2 per person, which will go to a charity of the Company's choice. Group leaders have already been asked to pass details on to members. Details of the next three visits will be advised in due course and are expected to have a charge to cover costs of entrance fee, meal etc. and, if applicable, the cost of coach hire. The number of participants will be set by the Organiser and be dependent on the host and/or capacity of any hired transport. To participate an e-mail should be sent to the Organiser 21 days prior to the event, with the advised payment forwarded also to the Organiser at the same time. This will be non-refundable unless their place on the trip can be filled. Philip's e-mail address is - ----- and Ken is ----- If you are unable to e-mail Philip or Ken, I am sure they would be happy to receive a phone call – 01352 741001 and 01352 740916 respectively.

The next meeting of the **Lunch Club** will be on May 17th at 12.30 in the Theatr Clwyd Bistro.

Philip hopes that his **Fly Fishing Group** will be casting off very soon.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PAST CHAIRMAN, IAN

"May I use the pages of our Newsletter, which must always be positive and uplifting, to thank the membership and committee for their love and comfort during this time of my loss. To receive so many cards and e-messages from our membership was staggering enough but then, the representation at the crematorium was truly overwhelming. I include in those thanks those who would have wished to attend but could not because of other commitments: I carried your sentiment. Special thanks to those who gave me a cuddle when it was most needed. This is when membership of FU3A really counts. God bless you all.

FU3A gave a donation in Ian's daughter's memory to the Flintshire Ambulance Service who worked so hard to help her.

MAY 2006 – NEWSLETTER EXTRACTS (Cont'd)

APRIL GROUPS' MEETING

Alys Lewis from BBC Wales came to our Groups' Meeting in April to show us how far she had progressed with her project on the history of North East Wales. Many local people had contributed old photographs and memories of their lives in the area, and several video diaries had been made by the BBC. The BBC project is not just interested in local events, however, they would also welcome poems, recipes, favorite walks or other topics of interest for the continuation of this fascinating website. You can find it on bbc.co.uk/wales/northeast and Alys would welcome any contributions our members would like to forward via the webteam at wales.northeast@bbc.co.uk Those without their own computer can always access this information at their local library: staff are always willing to help.

FORTHCOMING GROUPS' MEETINGS

For our next meeting, which will take place on **Wednesday, 7th June**, we are returning to **New Brighton Community Centre**. Our speaker will be **Dr. Ted Brabin**, who will talk about his **plant collecting in China**. Dr. Brabin is the husband of the lady who gave us such a fascinating talk on the Black Widows of Liverpool.

Our following meeting will be on **September 6th**, and will also take place at New Brighton. The speaker will be **Bernard Wright** and he will be **talking on the topic of Barn Owls**.

Our December meeting will be our **Christmas Lunch** and will be held on **Wednesday, 6th December**. Further details in due course.

We also have an interesting programme of speakers arranged for next year – Watch This Space!

SECRETARY'S SNIPPETS

U3A National Travel - Janet has received an up-to-date list of holidays being provided for both Europe and Worldwide in 2006 and 2007. You can register for U3A National Travel information yourself, either on-line or by post. If you are interested, please let Janet know and she will supply details.

There is a **summer school** being arranged in **Northern Ireland from 24th to 26th July** at the New University of Coleraine. Any U3A member is welcome to attend. Topics to be covered include, Walking, Industrial Past, Archaeology, Trees, Painting, Reading etc. Please phone Janet for details.

2006 Photography competition entitled 'What Retirement Means to Me'. Open to all members. Print and digital pictures accepted. Closing date for entries is 31st October 2006. For competition rules and entry form please contact U3A national Office on 020 8466 6139 or e-mail national.office@u3a.org.uk

Website information which Janet often passes on is forwarded from Tom Holloway's **SIGNPOST**, which is edited in the UK. If you would like to receive a regular list from him you can contact him at Tom@worldu3a.org.uk

Did you know that U3A was founded in France in 1973, where it is linked more closely to the universities, but Britain uses the word 'university' in its ancient meaning of 'a community of scholars'.

Make your friends your teachers and mingle the pleasure of conversation with the advantage of instruction.
Baltasar Gracian 1647