

FLINTSHIRE U3A NEWSLETTER

Volume 4

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Flintshire U3A – Friendship & Fun through Lifelong Learning

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DON'T FORGET

Gardeners' Question Time

An additional Open Meeting on Wednesday 14th October 2009, 10am for 10.30am, at New Brighton Community Centre.

Based on the radio programme, a panel of 3 'experts' will answer questions.

U3A diaries for 2010 will be on sale at the September Open Meeting @ £2, and will be available from Diane from then on.

Contributions for the **December** Newsletter are welcomed by **13th November**. Please contact the Editor, Angela Parry.

Our First Social Morning – 1st July 2009



Everybody agreed it was a marvellous spread!

What a wonderful noise over 100 Flintshire U3A members make when they get together!

I was delighted to see so many of our members enjoying a good chat at our very successful social morning. I think a number of groups signed up new members too. The exhibitions around the room added great interest.

I would like to give a huge vote of thanks to the Bridge Group who took on the unexpectedly mammoth task of providing tea, coffee and juice to everybody throughout the morning. You were marvellous. Thanks also to all those who contributed to the feast of food, delicious!

Finally, thanks to all who came. I am certain you enjoyed yourselves. If you did miss the morning there will be another opportunity to get together socially at the **Christmas Lunch on the 2nd December**. Details appear on page 4. All members are welcome. Put it in your diary now, it should be as good as the social morning.

Hilary Jones
Chairman



GROUPS' NEWS

AWAY DAYS



Over the last three months members have enjoyed an interesting and exhilarating walk to meet the Warden on Hilbre Island, a soggy day at the Royal Welsh Show and a glorious sunny day at Southport Flower Show.

Looking forward now to:

Wednesday	23rd September	Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth (Coach Trip).
Thursday	15th October	Snowdon Railway, departing from Llanberis Station at 12 noon.
Saturday	21st November	Christmas Decorations at Chatsworth House.

If you would like to join us please contact [Gill: 01352 713972](tel:01352713972) or [Judith: 01824 780221](tel:01824780221) as soon as possible. Also, a reminder to those members going on the Snowdon Railway trip that the balance of £6.50 is now due.

Please note the outing to Quarry Bank Mill has been postponed.

Hilbre Island

BALLROOM DANCING – organised by Chester U3A – part of the Deeside & Wirral Network

Sessions begin again on Monday September 14th 2009 at Mollington Village hall from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. The hour's instruction will be followed by a practice hour. To make the classes financially viable we need 16 members to sign up for 4 classes on alternate weeks in September and October. Cheques for £12 each to be made payable to Chester U3A Ballroom Dancing. You don't need a partner just come along and enjoy the dancing. [Maureen](mailto:Maureen.Tarvin@btinternet.com). Contact Maureen.Tarvin@btinternet.com



BEGINNERS FRENCH – new co-ordinator needed



A number of our members have enquired about Beginners French. At the moment we have no-one to co-ordinate such a group. Is there anyone who feels they could give it a try? You would get lots of support and ideas, and if you utilise the talents of the others who are interested, then the job gets done together!

If you would consider being co-ordinator, want to join the group, or just would like to discuss possibilities, please get in touch with [Hilary: 01352 780324](tel:01352780324) or email: hjones7491@homecall.co.uk.

CARD MAKING – new co-ordinator needed

There will be no meeting during September. Please note that I have thoroughly enjoyed co-ordinating this extremely successful and happy Group for approximately three years but, unfortunately, I now need some extra free time. Therefore, I should be most grateful to anyone who is willing to volunteer to be the new co-ordinator as soon as possible. The Group has up until now met on the second Monday of each month at my home, from 10.30am - 12.30pm. If a home venue is not available the new co-ordinator could share the facilities at Gwernaffield Church Hall on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 2pm - 4pm, with the agreement of Barry Ashton.



With very best wishes and thanks to all the FU3A members who have attended at my home and who have shared numerous skills, produced beautiful greeting cards, so contributing to making many happy mornings. Thank you also for making extra cards for sale at the Open Meetings, so enabling the Group's store of art materials to be replenished. I look forward to hearing from any members who would like further information. [Carole](#).

EASY SOCIAL WALKING



With great regret Barbara Lowens has decided to relinquish her role as co-ordinator of this group. Many thanks to her for all her efforts in the past, and thank you to Gordon Carlisle who will be "stepping into her walking boots" with effect from November. New members are welcome. Contact: [Gordon: 01244 812836](tel:01244812836).

SCRAPBOOKING – PROPOSAL FOR NEW GROUP

In September we intend to start a Scrapbooking Group. Scrapbooking is very big in America and is becoming increasingly popular over here. Meetings will take place on a Friday morning, once a month from 9.30am to 11.30am in Mold. Places may be limited as the group will meet in the co-ordinator's home.

What is Scrapbooking? It is recording the memories of different occasions in a creative way. The occasion may be a wedding, christening, anniversary, birthday or even a history. Barbara, who will be running the group, has ten years experience of scrapbooking, and will be able to provide all materials at a very reasonable cost, and all her craft equipment will be available for use by the group.



Barbara has agreed to speak briefly at the 9th September's Open Meeting and she will be bringing some of her albums along for members to look at. In the meantime if anyone is interested in joining the group please contact [Anne](tel:01352752881) on [01352 752881](tel:01352752881).

GARDENING GROUP The Gardening Group currently has the opportunity for a further 3 to 4 members to join.

We are giving serious thought to:



embarking on topiary.

At our meeting at 2pm on Friday 6th November, at the New Brighton Community Centre, Glyn Smith, Head Gardener at Erddig, will be talking on "Apples", and will have samples to try. We can accommodate a further 12 people, and if you would like to join us, please notify myself. Should we be over subscribed, it will be on a 'first come' basis. The cost for the ninety-minute session will be £2, which includes refreshments.

We have recently secured an area of land at the new Extra Care Home, Llys Eleanor, in Higher Shotton. With the aid of funding from Groundwork (Wrexham and Flintshire), together with community labour, raised beds and pathways will be added. Thereafter, our Allotment sub-group will take over the planting and maintenance. We will be working in conjunction with the residents at the facility, with the aim of providing vegetables and cut flowers throughout the gardening year. [Philip: 01352 741001](tel:01352741001) or email: philip@johnson5184.freeserve.co.uk

OUTDOOR SKETCHING - PROPOSAL FOR NEW GROUP

Please contact [Celia](tel:01244550663) on [01244 550663](tel:01244550663) if you would like to join an informal Outdoor Sketching Group. All abilities welcome – the only criterion is that you enjoy the great outdoors!



WOOD TURNING GROUP



A successful first meeting of the Group was held on 17th August, and three members attended. Some basic but important skills were learned and a simple introductory job made. There was also interest in the wood carving, and a very nice house nameplate was started. We have decided to meet on the 3rd Monday of the month from 10am – 12noon, at my house. Our next meeting will be on 21st September at 10 am. All are welcome, and if interested please ring me: [Wyn](tel:01352780324) on [01352 780324](tel:01352780324). Space, however, is at a premium, and with only one lathe in operation there is a lot of 'standing and watching'.

TAI CHI GROUP

A new course of lessons starts on Thursday, 10th September, from **10am – 11.30am**, at Gwernaffield Church Hall. **Please note the change of time - now morning sessions.** Gaynor is the teacher. Just turn up or ring [Chris](tel:01352741836) on [01352 741836](tel:01352741836).



WINE APPRECIATION



The 15th meeting of the Wine Appreciation Group was hosted at Ken's home in July. The evening started with a most enjoyable glass of Fontabelle Pinot Grigio Brut, an Hungarian sparkling wine, courtesy of Jeff whose birthday it was. Attending were the joint co-ordinators, Joan and Dave, together with all of the current 13 members of the Group. An informative and interesting presentation was given by Arwel Owen, proprietor of Gwinology in Mold. The seven wines appreciated were from Italy & Spain together with seven flavoured cheeses from Snowdonia. This was all complemented with freshly home made breads and other items from Pat's kitchen.

The usual Raffle prizes, the remaining wines, were enhanced with a number of varied items. These included some "in house" floral arrangements, following tutorials by Carole at her current Flower Arranging Group, together with two of the tables and four of the tablecloths being borrowed from the Bridge Group.

A **FU3A** joint **Wine Appreciation**, **Flower Arranging** and **Bridge** Group **production: 3 for the price of 1?** [Ken](#)

TEACH YOURSELF ITALIAN – PROPOSAL FOR NEW GROUP

Teach yourself Italian in the company of your friends using the BBC course "Italianissimo". Meeting fortnightly, starting in October, the emphasis will be on listening and speaking. Please contact [Freda](tel:01352810557) on [01352 810557](tel:01352810557).



SCHEDULE FOR THEATRE GROUP - SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2009

Further details from [Sue: 01352 713252](tel:01352713252)

DATE	PERFORMANCE	COST	DATE	PERFORMANCE	COST	DATE	PERFORMANCE	COST
11 Sept	Is Anybody There?	£4.50	25 Oct	Nikolai Demidenko	£13.50	20 Nov	Bankrupt Bride	£9
18 Sept	Browning Version	£14	27 Oct	Frozen River	£4.50	23 Nov	Dorian Gray	£4.50
2 Oct	Last Chance Harvey	£4.50	30 Oct	Pygmalion	£14	29 Nov	Sharp Stories	£12
6 Oct	Glass Menagerie	£13	1 Nov	Savoy Gems		1 Dec	The Soloist	£4.50
16 Oct	Woody Mann	£9.50	6 Nov	Private Lives Pippa Lee	£4.50	30 Dec	Christmas Carol	£8
16 Oct	Sunshine Cleaning	£4.50	10 Nov	Coco Before Chanel	£4.50	2010 8 Jan	Robin Hood	£8

North Wales Association of U3As
Study Day

Wednesday October 7th 10am – 4pm.

At Capel Berea Newydd, St David's Avenue, Bangor.

Fee £10 per head, includes coffee & buffet lunch.

“The Effects of Invasion & Settlement on N Wales”.

With speakers on: Pre-history, Roman & Celtic settlement, Viking & Anglo-Saxon invasion, Recent migration.

Names & fees to Diane Sauvage, 4 Pine Grove, Mynydd Isa, Mold, CH7 6XU by September 21st. Cheques payable to D. Sauvage please.

Disabled parking places can be reserved at the chapel: please indicate if you require one. Other attendees are asked to park in the car park adjoining PC World and walk up the steps to the chapel.

Also please indicate if you have special dietary needs.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Wednesday 2nd December 2009, 12 for 12.30
at Chequers Restaurant, Northop Hall.

All members welcome

£15 for 2 courses or £17 for addition of tea/coffee & mince pie.

Diane will accept payments of the full amount from 1st November. Menu will be circulated in advance. Cheques made out to Chequers Restaurant, please.

Similarly to the Social Morning in July there will be no speaker.

HISTORY OF FLINTSHIRE
U3A

Julia is going to compile a History of FU3A and would be pleased to receive any contributions or ideas. Please contact Julia on **01244 813844**.

GENTLE REMINDER

If anyone writes to a member of the committee and wants a reply, could they please enclose a stamp/sae to keep our running costs and membership fees down. This also applies to people requesting the Membership Application Form.

For your convenience this form can also be downloaded from our website: www.flintshire-u3a.co.uk. Please ensure when you submit your form that you provide a stamp/sae for your membership card, which also acts as your receipt.

Many thanks to Anne Kay who has been our Membership Secretary for the past two and a half years. During her tenure our membership grew rapidly and Anne's diligence ensured we always had up-to-date membership statistics and the corresponding subscriptions fees. Anne has now decided to stand down from the committee and we wish to thank Barry Ashton for volunteering to become the new Membership Secretary.

We are also delighted to announce that Jeff Green, John Yates and Gill Causer have volunteered their services on the committee. We welcome them and know they will be a great asset.

Next year we will need a new Treasurer and a new Secretary. Are you, or do you know anyone who might be interested? Please contact Hilary who can let you know what is involved. Hilary: **01352 780324**

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	Barry Ashton	01352 741836
Editor	Angela Parry	01352 720501
Publicity Officer	Carole Speller	01352 758035
Other Committee Members	Sue Brown, Gill Causer, Jeff Green & John Yates	

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

All meetings are at 10am for 10.30am at New Brighton Community Centre.

Please note that a charge of 50p is levied which includes tea/coffee and biscuits and a contribution to the hire of the hall.

9 September 2009	Cheshire Bowmen and the History of the English Longbow by Bernard Dennis.
14 October 2009	Gardeners' Question Time – this is an additional meeting.
9 December 2009	Dylan Thomas & Christmas by Alan Benyon, with sherry and mince pies.
10 February 2010	By John Plummer, topic to be announced later.
7 April 2010	Shropshire Union Canal & Taylor's Boatyard by Geoff Taylor.