

**VISIT OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE  
PRESENTATION TEAM**



We had an extremely enjoyable and informative Groups' Meeting on the 12th September when the Royal Air Force presentation team travelled from High Wycombe. Wing Commander Simon Firth and Flight Lieutenant Jane Hawthornthwaite provided a fascinating insight into all aspects of the Royal Air Force whilst Senior Aircraftsman Andy Cole operated an extensive array of equipment to provide instant on-screen backup to all our questions. Unfortunately none of our members felt able to sign up!



## GROUP NEWS

**THE WRITERS' GROUP** has changed their meeting days to the second and fourth Monday of the month. Still 9.30 am until noon. Please also note that Connie has changed her telephone number. She can now be contacted on 01352 754838.

Hello, I am *Barbara Lowens*, a new member of the U3A who has taken over Sue's **FLAT WALKING GROUP**. She is now out of hospital and making good progress towards getting mobile. The Group's programme is undergoing a change from flat to **reasonably** flat. As you can imagine total flatness is very hard to achieve so some undulations and perhaps a stile or two will be included on some walks to make them more interesting. Walks will still be easy and no longer than two hours, followed by a convivial lunch. We would love to have more people join us. We meet at Somerfield's car park (long stay section) at 10 a.m. on the second Thursday of the month. If you would like to join us please contact me on 01352 759855.

On July 26th seven members of the **FRENCH FOR BEGINNERS GROUP** visited "Francs" French Restaurant in Chester for lunch. A French student was waiting on tables during the holidays and was happy to converse with us. We enjoyed a good meal and wine (for non-drivers). This was a very pleasant end to our French programme for the year. *Sheila*.

The new **SOCIAL HISTORY GROUP** is up and running and going well. In September we had a most interesting talk from Joan and David Williams on the beginning of the canal system. This was followed in October when Ken Archer talked about the owners and servants of Erddig Hall and then guided us round the house and gardens on the following Monday.

I would like to extend a welcome to everyone to come along to any of our future meetings. We have a nice big room and it is not necessary to commit to coming on a regular basis. *Anne*

Diane is always happy to welcome new members to the bi-monthly **LUNCH CLUB**. We meet at Theatre Clwyd and you are assured of good food and fine company. Diane's telephone number is 01244 544284.

Carole Speller is starting the new **CARD MAKING GROUP** in her home on the second Monday of each month 10.30 until 12.30. Please contact her if you are interested. Carole's number is 01352 758035.

**ART APPRECIATION** - Tim Pugh has most generously offered to give us another presentation on "Environmental Art". This time with different pictures but with, I am confident, an equally entertaining talk. This is an open meeting—all U3A members and friends invited. You may want to book the date in your diary now - Tuesday January 15th 2008. 10.30 until noon at T'yr Binwydden. *Rita*

**NEW ART GROUP** Ever felt you'd like to draw/paint and not known how to get started ? We are here to encourage you to get going! We welcome all would-be and experienced artists. This is the day we all actually sit down and do something! Why not join us? Alternate Fridays 9 until noon at T'yr Binwydden. My phone number is 01352 757693. *Rita*

## SECRETARY'S SNIPPETS

*Sources*, the educational journal of the Third Age Trust, is published 3 times a year and can be downloaded from the national website ([www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk) - under U3A publications in the members' area). Anyone without computer access can order a hard copy to be mailed to them: I have an order form for this. U3A **groups** are eligible for free educational visits to English Heritage properties, if booked in advance. I have details and application forms. A similar scheme is operated by CADW.

If you send an e-mail to the National Office and do not get a reply within 48 hours you are advised to resend it - the problem is due to their spam filter being on a very high setting and sometimes discarding bona fide e-mails. It is also advisable to copy each e-mail to [julie@u3a.org.uk](mailto:julie@u3a.org.uk) or [fran@u3a.org.uk](mailto:fran@u3a.org.uk).

I have **2008 Diaries** on sale at £2.50. They are extremely good value. *Diane*

## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Next year our first meeting will be our **AGM** on 6th February 2008. My three years as your Chairman will then be ended and I would ask you to give some consideration in the meantime as to whom you would like to elect as your new Chairman. Nomination forms are included with this Newsletter. **The success of your U3A depends upon you—so please consider becoming a member of the committee. Don't leave it all to someone else—that way nothing gets done!**

**Silver Surfer Free Computer Classes** for those aged 50 and over are to be run w/c 5th November by Flintshire Library and Information Service in partnership with Deeside College and will be held at local libraries. Courses last six weeks. They offer an introduction to word processing, internet and Email. You can contact your local library for details. *Anne*

## GROUPS' MEETINGS

The Christmas lunch will be combined with the December Groups' meeting on **Wednesday, 12th December** at the Rainbow Inn, Gwernymynydd. We will start at 10.30 am with coffee, prior to a talk by Geoff Critchley who will speak on honey and candles. Following this we will have a two-course lunch. The cost will be £10 per person and 40 places have been booked, to be allocated on a first come first served basis. This is open to Flintshire U3A members only. Booking, with payment in advance please, will be taken from 1st November by Diane Sauvage, 4 Pine Grove, Mynydd Isa, Mold.

The following meetings will be held at New Brighton Community Centre at 10.30 am., please make a note in your diaries. We would be happy to see you there.

**Wednesday 6th February 2008** is our **AGM** and will be preceded by a talk by June Hargreaves from the Chester U3A who will speak about Antarctica. This was number 3 in the survey of members' choices.

**2 April 2008:** Patricia Burton from Mold on her book 'Captive', which describes the slave trade and Liverpool in the late 18th century. She will also describe the difficulties of getting a book published.

**11 June 2008:** 'Arrive Alive' presented by The Driving Standards Agency, on keeping older drivers on the road - safely - for as long as possible. This was number 7 in the Member survey.

## NEWSLETTERS

I hope that everyone is able to receive their Newsletter. However, if you have access to the Internet, you will find that the latest Newsletter is on our Website—possibly before you get your copy from your co-ordinator. So, log on to **www.Flintshire-u3a.co.uk** for the latest update. I have been editing the Newsletter for three years now and my last edition will be in January 2008. Is there anyone who would like to take it on? I have enjoyed the experience and have learned how to use Microsoft Publisher in order to edit the Newsletter. If necessary, I would be willing to pass on my expertise which is very basic and just enough to produce this sort of work!! *Doreen*