

# FLINTSHIRE U3A NEWSLETTER

Volume 4



Issue 6



December 2009

## Flintshire U3A – Friendship & Fun through Lifelong Learning

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Groups' News	page 2
Notice of AGM	page 3
Committee	page 3
Interest Group	
List	page 4
Open Meetings	page 4

### GENTLE REMINDER

Please remember to wear your **Membership Card** at Open Meetings and other large FU3A gatherings so that we can learn each others names.

### INFORMATION DESK AT OPEN MEETINGS

If there is anything you need to know about FU3A please visit our Information Desk at our Open Meetings where the Duty Information Officer will be happy to help you.

### Refreshments & Mileage

We recommend that members pay 50p for refreshments at group meetings, but at the coordinators' discretion. Also, if you have a lift with someone for a U3A trip we recommend 10p a mile.

Contributions for the **February** Newsletter are welcomed by **16 January**. Please contact the Editor, [Angela Parry](mailto:Angela.Parry@btinternet.com) on **01352 720501** or email: [ameparry@btinternet.com](mailto:ameparry@btinternet.com)



A photograph to cheer you up during the winter months - members of the Gardening Group enjoying a National Garden Scheme Open Day this summer.

### Christmas Message from the Chair

Looking back **Flintshire U3A** has had a great year! We have been delighted to welcome nearly 100 new members and there has been an escalation in the number of Interest Groups. **We now have over 50 groups**. Many existing members have joined different groups and increasing numbers of you have visited diverse places such as Chester Zoo and Snowdonia with our very popular Away Days Group. Our **Open Meetings** have introduced us to topics like the Cheshire Bowmen, Halkyn Mountain and Wales Air Ambulance. The **Social Morning in July** showed our social side, and our display in the **Community Window in Mold** showed our creative side, and generated 60 membership enquiries. New **languages** are being learned, new **skills** are being worked on and new **knowledge** is being acquired. We have started a **Member Support Group**. The IT world has also been embraced, and a record number of our members attended the North Wales Association of U3As **Study Day** in Bangor in October.

#### How can we build on this success?

We will continue to warmly welcome new members, to foster friendships and promote **lifelong learning**. New members bring new talents, new ideas and new enthusiasms. I would like to harness this new input to promote **Flintshire U3A** and broaden even further our appeal to current members and future ones!

So if you need inspiration for a New Year's Resolution – may I suggest **"Get more involved!"** We need a Vice Chair, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Publicity person, a Speaker Organiser and a Tea Rota person. We will need help in running the Open Day on Saturday 22 May 2010.

**Go on! Try it! When you give a little, you get a lot back.**

**A Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Active New Year to you all. Hilary**

### ADVANCE NOTICE

**2010 Subscriptions are due on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010.**

Subscriptions for renewed membership for March 2010 to 2011 are welcomed from January at £10 for existing members if paid before 31 March 2010, otherwise £12. Subscription for new members is £12 for this period. Please send monies **with stamp** for membership card return to: Membership Secretary, Woodedge, St John's Park, RHYDYMWYN. CH7 5HZ.

## GROUPS' NEWS

### ART APPRECIATION – PROGRAMME FOR 2010

Please join us if you are interested in Looking at Art – meetings are on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month 10am – 12 noon at Glanrafon Centre, Mold. [Rita: 01352 757693](tel:01352757693)

DATE		DATE		DATE		DATE	
19 Jan	Kyffin Williams	20 Apr	<i>Theatre Clwyd Gallery Visit</i>	20 Jul	Russell Flint	19 Oct	Angelica Kauffmann
16 Feb	Three American Artists: Warhol, Roscoe & Pollock	18 May	The Bauhaus	17 Aug	<i>Gallery Visit</i>	16 Nov	Aboriginal Art
16 Mar	Camden Town Group	15 Jun	Victorian Narrative Painters (2)	21 Sep	Pieter Bruegel the Elder	21 Dec	<i>To be decided</i>

### AWAY DAYS- PROGRAMME FOR FIRST HALF OF 2010

We hope you find this programme interesting and that you will be able to support some of the events. Places on certain days will be limited so if you are interested please book early. [Judith: 01824 780221](tel:01824780221)/[Gill: 01352 713972](tel:01352713972).

DATE		DATE		DATE	
6 Jan	Chester Military Museum & The Rows	27-29 Mar	Weekend in London with visit to Houses of Parliament	End of May	Hay On Wye Literary Festival
28 Jan	The Phil Experience – Liverpool Philharmonic Hall	15 Apr	Manchester - City of Culture Guided Walk	3 Jun	Wroxeter Vineyard Winetasting
24 Feb	Quarry Bank Mill	12 May	Martin Mere Wetlands Centre		

### CHESS GROUP



The Chess group has been rather dormant during the autumn due to various members' holidays, but we will be in full swing again at 2pm on the first and third Friday afternoons of the month from December. There is plenty of space for new players. Please contact [Barrie](tel:01352752418) on [01352 752418](tel:01352752418) if you would like to stretch your brains further or refresh old skills.

### GARDENING GROUP

The Group enjoyed a talk by the Head Gardener of Erddig at their November meeting. We handled forty varieties of apples, the origin of some dating back to Roman times in Britain. We are now planning our 2010 outdoor activity season that runs from April to October. This will include trips to the Malvern Spring Show and the Harrogate Autumn Festival. We will probably be able to offer some places on trips to non-members of the Group, but to be on the safe side, why not join us? We have room for another 8 members. You are welcome also to attend any of our Speakers' meetings, a list of which can be found on the FU3A web site. Contacts: [Philip: 01352 741001](tel:01352741001), [Irene: 01352 740762](tel:01352740762), [Elisabeth: 01352 754519](tel:01352754519), [Joe: 01352 810318](tel:01352810318).



### LINE DANCING – PROPOSAL FOR NEW GROUP



Some members have expressed an interest in forming a Line Dancing Group. If anyone is interested and if anyone knows a teacher and venue we could use please contact [Jean](tel:01244544257) on [01244 544257](tel:01244544257).

### SINGING GROUP

We need a new coordinator for this friendly, lively group. Many thanks to Eirlys for all her work in the past. If you can help please contact [Hilary](tel:01352780324) on [01352 780324](tel:01352780324).

### OUTDOOR SKETCHING

We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month from 2pm to 4pm at Loggerheads Country Park. **For 17<sup>th</sup> December ONLY we will meet at 1pm to 3pm otherwise we will be sitting in the dark!** Bring your drawing materials and also it might be helpful to bring a camera and a seat. Starting off the 2010 New Year the dates will be 21<sup>st</sup> January & 18<sup>th</sup> February (weather permitting). Suggestions for alternative future venues welcome. Hope to see you soon. [Celia: 01244 550663](tel:01244550663).

### SOCIAL HISTORY – INVITATION TO GROUP MEETING ON MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2010 AT 10AM

Many of you may remember Bernard Dennis's interesting talk at one of our Open Meetings on the History of the Longbow. The Social History Group has managed to arrange for Bernard to talk to us again, this time about: **“Sir Thomas Egerton – Keeper of the Queen's Conscience.”** The illegitimate Egerton, was born in Cheshire and rose to become one of the most powerful men in the country during the reigns of Elizabeth I and James I.

Members from all groups are welcome, and if you are interested do come along to Gwernaffield Church Hall on **4<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 for 10.00am**. The Church Hall is situated at the rear of the church at the cross roads in Gwernaffield. The cost is £1, which includes tea/coffee and biscuits, and all money collected will be donated to Bernard's designated charity of Claire House Children's Hospice. [Anne: 01352 752881](tel:01352752881).

### TAI CHI GROUP

Many thanks to Chris for setting up and running this group since May 2008. Wendy has now taken over the coordination. Lessons take place on Thursdays from **10am – 11.30am**, at Gwernaffield Church Hall. **Please note the change of time - now morning sessions.** Just turn up or ring [Wendy](tel:01824780266) on [01824 780266](tel:01824780266).



## SPANISH CONVERSATION FOR BEGINNERS

I am a language teacher and had my own language school in Spain for many years where I taught Spanish and English. I would like to offer Spanish Conversation Classes. It would be relaxed and hopefully fun with no pressure at all. It does not matter one iota if people don't know their verbs from their nouns or were not good at languages at school because we will do it in a very simple and informal way so that everyone can go at their own pace. This will be for beginners so no prior knowledge of Spanish is needed. I guess we would need a minimum of 6 and maximum of 10 (because of space) and I think January would be a good time to start. If anyone is interested, please ring me, [Charmian](mailto:Charmian), on [01352 810607](tel:01352810607) or email me at [charmian7sunbeam@aol.com](mailto:charmian7sunbeam@aol.com). I look forward to meeting you.



## THE FOLLOWING GROUPS NEED NEW MEMBERS: READING 3, CREATIVE WRITING & NEEDLECRAFT

### EIGHTH ANNUAL STUDY DAY, BANGOR.



The North Wales Association of U3As held this on “**The Influence of Invasion and Settlement on North Wales**”. Five speakers from Bangor University covered it with well illustrated papers from 2000 BC to the present day. The talks began with the origins of farming, megalithic tombs and bronze age tools and went on to early Christianity and then the Middle Ages and then right up to migration since the 1970's and the impact of personnel from RAF Valley marrying into Welsh speaking communities.

The speakers from the University were very enthusiastic and succinct: the most senior of whom is a pony-tailed Austrian, Head of the School of History and an expert on Celtic societies from their origin on the Danube to Wales and Ireland.

An excellent buffet catered well for 190 attendees, which with refreshments made it good value and a very interesting day for the £10 fee.

Next year's Study Day is planned for September in Wrexham, probably on environmental subjects, although suggestions are welcome, and all of us who attended this year would recommend it at this nearer venue. [Malcolm](mailto:Malcolm).

### TEA ROTA FOR OPEN MEETINGS



Here is the new list for the next few Open Meetings:

9 Dec 2009 Away Days  
10 Feb 2010 Bolivia  
7 Apr 2010 Bridge

As there are now about 50 groups and only 5 or so meetings a year - you will appreciate that this 'burden' will not fall on you very often!

What happens: the Group Leader catering for the next Open Meeting takes away 'The Blue Box' from the kitchen and makes sure that there is enough tea, coffee, sugar, biscuits and milk on the day. Arrange a few helpers and get to the New Brighton Community Centre a little before 10am to prepare. Reimburse yourself from 50p donations for drink and biscuit. Make sure 'The Blue Box' goes to next group on the list - of which there is a copy in the box.

Any problems or queries contact me: [Sue](mailto:Sue) on [01352 713252](tel:01352713252).

**If anyone would like to take over the management of the rota please contact Sue.**

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 10 FEBRUARY 2010 NEW BRIGHTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

The AGM will follow the “Islands & Lifelines” talk by John Plummer at the February bi-monthly Open Meeting.

We have three vacancies on the committee with effect from February 2010:

1. Vice Chairman with a view to taking over Chair in February 2012.
2. Treasurer
3. Secretary

Nominations to fill these vacancies are requested, to be sent to Diane by 15th January 2010 please.

### CAN YOU HELP?

**Flintshire Talking Newspaper** is looking for someone to take on the job of editor (which involves selecting items of local news from the local papers) and also someone able to operate the recording equipment. Further details from [Mary](mailto:Mary) on [01352 733805](tel:01352733805) or [marytynnycae@virgin.net](mailto:marytynnycae@virgin.net)

### COMMITTEE

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	

Other Committee Members Sue Brown, Gill Causer,  
Jeff Green & John Yates

### Over 60 Cadw Entry Passes.

If you are resident in Wales and aged 60 and over you can apply for a pass that will entitle you to visit Cadw sites free of charge. To obtain an application form telephone 01443 33 6000 or download one from the Cadw website: [www.cadw.wales.gov.uk](http://www.cadw.wales.gov.uk)



**INTEREST GROUPS**

<b><u>GROUP</u></b>	<b><u>MEETING VENUE</u></b>	<b><u>DAY</u></b>	<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>CONTACT NAME</u></b>	<b><u>TELEPHONE</u></b>
Art (1)	Mold, Daniel Owen	Alternate Fridays	09.00-13.00	Anne	01352 752881
Art (2)	Mold Glanrafon Centre	Alternate Fridays	09.00-12.00	Rita	01352 757693
Art Appreciation	Mold, Glanrafon Centre	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month	10.00-12.00	Rita	01352 757693
Away Days		Variable		Judith Gill	01824 780221 01352 713972
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		2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of month	10.30-12.30	Barbara	01352 751388
Chess		1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of month	14.00 start	Barrie	01352 752418
Computers – Bah Humbug!				Sandra	01244 818384
Crown Green Bowls	Rhydymwyn	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month	10.00-12.00	Barry	01352 741836
Digital Photography	Gwernaffield	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of month	14.00-16.00	Frank	01352 741416
Easy Social Walking		2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month	10.00 start	Gordon	01244 812836
Flower Arranging	Gwernaffield	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month	14.00-16.00	Jenny	01244 818739
Flora and Fauna		2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of month	10.00 start	Joe	01352 810318
French for Beginners	Mold	Alternate Tuesdays	14.00-16.00	John	01352 715873
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		Bi-monthly, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday	19.00 for 19.30	John	01352 751881
Gardening Club	New Brighton Community Centre	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday of month from September to April	14.00-15.30	Philip Irene Elisabeth Joe	01352 741001 01352 740762 01352 754519 01352 810318
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
Member Support				Sue	01352 713252
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
Outdoor Sketching	Loggerheads	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month	14.00-16.00	Celia	01244 550663
Philosophy Group	Mold	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of month	14.00-16.00	Charles	01352 754765
Pilates	Buckley	Mondays	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	
Scrapbooking		Alternate Fridays		Barbara	01352 751388
Singing	Looking for new coordinator				
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
Spanish for Beginners	New group starting in January			Charmian	01352 810607
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 (12 session courses)	10.00-11.30	Wendy	01824 780266
Teach Yourself Italian		2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday of month	14.00-15.30	Freda	01352 810557
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
Wood Turning & Carving	Pentre Halkyn	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of month	10.00-12.00	Wyn	01352 780324
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 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 December 2009**  
**10 February 2010**  
**7 April 2010**

**Dylan Thomas & Christmas** by Alan Benyon, with sherry and mince pies.  
**Islands & Lifelines** by John Plummer.  
**Shropshire Union Canal & Taylor's Boatyard** by Geoff Taylor.