



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Newsletter

NESTON U3A**September 2018**

“Message from the Chair”



What a glorious summer we had! I realise many found it too hot and the gardens certainly suffered but there was no need to journey overseas for some sunshine this year and what a difference a bit of sunshine makes to our lives.

Your committee is currently being trained on the new Beacon system for the operation and management of Neston U3A, which gives every sign of being a big improvement on the old system and will help to ensure we comply with the new Data Protection Regulations. For successfully making this change-over we are indebted to Sheila John who has acted both as our System Administrator and our Membership Secretary since she was elected to committee in April 2014. Sheila has indicated that she is retiring from committee next April

and we will miss her input tremendously. We have a new Membership Secretary in place (Anne Farrall) and we hope to have a new Administrator before April is upon us. In the meantime Sheila is working on transferring our website to a new host and expects to complete that before she retires. There is a saying about the willing horse carrying the heaviest load and I feel very guilty about the amount of work I have put on her shoulders, so I am giving a personal but very public “Thank you” to her.

Apart from Sheila, two other members of committee come to the end of their permitted term of office next April, so we are looking to recruit three new committee members. I particularly appeal to new members of the U3A to put themselves forward, especially if you have some computer skills or general management experience or report writing and interpersonal communication ability. Generally speaking the duties are not onerous or very time-consuming, if we have enough members amongst whom we can distribute the workload evenly. Please bear this in mind and remember that organizations such as ours do not run themselves; we do need willing members to help and it is an excellent way of meeting new friends, both on the committee and amongst the membership.

Our monthly speakers continue to be interesting and of a high standard; Maureen is doing a grand job and the upcoming programme means that I have to arrange my timetable about these meetings because I don't want to miss any of them. The arrangement whereby the interest groups in turn are providing two volunteers for refreshment duties has generally got off to a good start. My thanks to you all and I look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

Geoff Gibson

Gardening Group



July 17th saw a few members of Gardening Group 2 visit Arley Hall's Gardens. Arriving in time for lunch we had a delightful meal in their Tudor Barn Restaurant, sampling produce from their kitchen garden. This was good timing as we missed a light shower and were blessed with sunshine for the rest of our visit. Particularly impressive was The Herbaceous Border, a highlight at Arley. Our group photo was taken by another U3A member, not from Neston, who was visiting with her photographic group. An extra guest seen in the photo was my 98 year old mother in law who was staying with me at the time. She, like us, enjoyed the visit immensely.

Gill Miles

The Singing Group



The Singing Group started its autumn programme in good voice on Friday 31st August with several new members joining the group following a recruiting campaign at the monthly meetings. We would still welcome new members especially men! We are a friendly group of mixed ability, singing mostly familiar songs from a range of genres from folk to musicals and from gospel to traditional under the baton of our leader Celia. No auditions are needed and no previous musical knowledge is required. We meet every other Friday at the



United Reform Church Hall on Parkgate Road from 2-4pm. The next session will be on Friday 14th September. **For more details, please contact Marion on 0780 277 5209**



Senility Prayer

*Grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway,
The good fortune to run into the ones I do,
And the eyesight to tell the difference*



Barn Dancing Group

The BARN DANCING season has started on Sept 7th. We meet every other Friday in the URC hall on the Parkgate Road from 2.0-4.0. New members are always welcome. You do not need a partner or any dancing experience, just come and enjoy yourself. **For more information, contact Ann Taylor - 0158 327 4667**



Events you may not want to miss that are part of the Wirral Arts Festival

Come and enjoy an afternoon with 'Jane Austen'. See the houses she visited, watch the dances she did, listen to the Pemberley Players performing the music she heard and listen to the words she wrote.

DATE - OCTOBER 6TH TIME 2.0 - 4.30 pm

VENUE - HESWALL HALL

TICKETS £8 include a cream tea.

Get tickets from Gould's, Lingams' and on line from Heswall Hall.

Following the talk there is a **Jane Austen Regency Ball** at Heswall Hall - tickets selling fast! **£20 including a light buffet**

Ann Taylor will be teaching Regency dances for the ball at three Wednesday evening **workshops** 8-10pm at United Reform Church on the 19th and 26th Sept and the 3rd October - cost £6.

For more information, contact Ann Taylor on 0158 327 4667



Walking Group

The WALKING GROUP meet on the first Tuesday in the month for a morning walk of about 4 miles. Boots and raingear are necessary, poles are useful. You will find that the group is very friendly. In the summer months there are longer day walks on the second Wednesday of the month. Details of walks are given out at each monthly meeting.

For more information, contact Ann Taylor on 0158 327 4667

Best of luck with this Sudoku



					7		4	
3	1							
						6	3	5
	2			3	4			1
1		3		5		8		4
8			1	2			6	
4	8	1						
							9	6
	5		2					





Trips and Outings

Since March 2014 we have had quite a few outings, some close to home, some further afield. If you were not able to join us on any of these trips, I should be happy to arrange a repeat visit in the future for anyone who would like to go.

Here are some of the places we have visited: -

Media City, Salford/ New library, Liverpool/ Gladstone Library, Hawarden/ National Arboretum and Litchfield Cathedral (twice)/ Maritime Museum, Slavery Museum and Titanic exhibition/ Joderal Bank Holmes Chapel Cheshire/ Air Raid Shelters, Stockport and the Hat Museum/ Synagogue Princes Road Liverpool (twice)/ Bodelwydden Church and Tweed Mill St Asaph/ Electric Mountain Snowdonia (my favourite)/ Concord at Manchester Airport/ Lunch on The Barge at Chester Mill Hotel (twice)/ St Helens Glassworks (another favourite)/ Plas Newydd and Llanfair PG (another favorite, this was lovely)/ St Georges Hall Liverpool and Speke Hall/ Middleport Pottery Burslem/ Afternoon Tea at The Atheneum, Liverpool/ Airbus Factory Broughton nr Chester/ Arley Hall Christmas Floral Show/ Terracotta Army and Western Approaches Liverpool/ Southport Flower Show

Future trips planned

Quarry Bank Mill in Styal, Cheshire (full at present)/ Airbus factory (full at present) and Tatton Hall at Christmas (yet to be arranged)

If anyone has a suggestion for a particular place, please let me know and perhaps I could include it in our future programme - **Doreen Higgins - 0151 336 5108**

Table Tennis



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We tried an experiment this summer and played table tennis for 10 consecutive weeks (mid-May until mid-July). To get the numbers required (20) we asked Heswall U3A, who were just as keen, to join us. It was good to play with different people and make new friends. Great fun was had by all. **Ann Williams, Gill Miles and Sue Fletcher (336 2594)**

Neston U3A Armchair Travel

After seven pleasant and informative years Maureen and I have decided it is time to retire. Perhaps some other members would like to carry on where we left off. For our last two meetings, one of our regular contributors, Liz Young, gave us a very interesting presentation on South Africa and Gerald Owen, a non member, gave us a



second presentation, which was absolutely fascinating, about Thailand. To conclude I should like to thank those many members who have supported us in the past with presentations or by attending the meetings. I mustn't forget to mention that we were agreeably surprised to be given a plant and a book token at the end of what was to be our last meeting.

Thank you very much, all best wishes, **Peter Roca**



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Autumn Speakers for our Open U3A Meetings



This autumn we can look forward to some interesting and enjoyable talks at our monthly open meetings. On **September 27th** Brian Anderson will present his illustrated talk - "TRIPPING YARNS". Brian is a photographer, adventurer and lecturer based on the Wirral. He has captured nature, travel and landscape images from his trips to over fifty nations and territories in Europe, Africa, Asia and South America and further afield to the geographic North Pole and the remote Antarctic continent. The talk "TRIPPING YARNS" is inspired by Michael Palin's BBC classic comedy series "RIPPING YARNS" and Brian will recall a few anecdotes of pluck and "daring-do" from his expeditions to the Arctic, Antarctic, Galapagos and a few other destinations, which are quite

hilarious, as well as showing images from these amazing, remote and colourful places. Be gripped by the stunning photography and enjoy a good laugh. On **October 25th** Glynn Parry presents "AS WE WERE- Series 1" - Glynn is a local speaker with a long and varied career (he had over twenty-five different jobs because, as he says, he got bored easily). This was before he retired from the Wirral Borough Municipal Museum. A lifetime passion for photography and local history has provided him with a wealth of local knowledge. This results in him being a popular and much in demand speaker at many Merseyside venues. His talk includes rare photography- photographs from many private sources and therefore not publicly shown elsewhere, of Wirral and Central Liverpool from the 1870s to the 1960s, as well as humorous anecdotes.



On **November 29th** is the return of Pete Turner with "SLEIGHT OF MIND 2". He is an award winning speaker presenting a follow up talk to one given previously in March 2017. This fascinating lecture is all about tricking the mind, with amazing demonstrations and experiments. The beauty of this lecture is that everyone can participate without getting out of their seats, although a few volunteers may be required for one or two demonstrations. Pete Turner is a professional close-up magician and his light-hearted talk has lots of magical twists that will make you think how our minds work.



Maureen Roberts - Speaker Secretary and Vice Chair

Christmas Social Thursday 6th December

The Christmas social is **Thursday 6th December** at the Civic Hall from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Seek out your Christmas jumpers and make your Christmas hats!



Christmas Lunch Thursday 13th December

Thursday 13th December at the Neston Cricket Club from 12.15 pm

A three course meal with choice of menus costing £26

Pat Dix will be taking names and deposits at the next meeting on September 27th



Doreen Higgins' Bridge Group

Doreen teaches a beginners group on Monday mornings. There is a waiting list



Shirley Prior's Bridge Group

Shirley runs two improvers groups on Mondays and Wednesdays. For more information contact her on 3361574.



Other local events our members may find interesting:



- Saturday 29th September Neston Fresher's Fair advertising local groups at Neston Town Hall 10.00am -12.30pm
- Love Later Life - part of Chester Storyhouse's celebration of age festival - various activities Monday October 1st until Sunday October 7th
- Fun Palace all day at Neston Library Saturday 6th October

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WITH INTERNET, EMAILS AND MICROSOFT OFFICE *****

OPENING HOURS AND SPECIALIST HELP AVAILABLE

	09.30 to 12.00	14.30 to 17.00	17.00 to 19.00	19.00 to 21.00
Mon	P.C.'s & Laptops Online Shopping			
Tue	P.C.'s & Laptops Online Shopping	P.C.'s & Laptops Family Tree C.V.s Photos		
Wed	P.C.'s & Laptops	P.C.'s & Laptops Tablets Mobile Phones Online Shopping	P.C.'s & Laptops Tablets Mobile Phones	
Thu	P.C.'s & Laptops Linux Photos	P.C.'s & Laptops Family Tree C.V.s Photos		P.C.'s & Laptops Tablets Mobile Phones
Fri	P.C.'s & Laptops Tablets Mobile Phones			

Lunch at 'The Manor', Greasby



Lunch club members at The White Lion, Childer Thornton

This popular group meets once a month for lunch at local restaurants or pubs which are modestly priced. September visit is planned to the Cheshire Yeoman, Little Sutton and in October to The Country Mouse at Brimstage **Brenda Blythe 336 1727**



In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase 'Goodnight, sleep tight'

The next Newsletter is due to be published the end of January 2019

Closing date for contributions is Friday 4th January 2019.

Feedback welcomed but even more important is 'CONTENT'

so please let me have articles for inclusion -

Ann Roochove Email - annchovie@hotmail.com

