

Patshull



Twenty four members of **Walking Group 2** recently attended Patshull Hall Park Golf Club & Spa, Shropshire for their Autumn break. This offered a modern hotel with an indoor swimming pool and exercise facilities. The itinerary included a walk around the perimeter of the very picturesque Golf course which contained a large lake and catered for fishing enthusiasts.

On day 2 we drove to nearby Ackleton and parked at the Red Cow and then walked to an unspoilt village named Badger which displayed thatched cottages and a small church. The walk route was flat through woods, fields, along streams and pools. On

our return to Ackleton, lunch had been reserved at the Red Cow. The afternoon was free time.

We travelled about seven miles to the Dudmaston Estate near Bridgenorth on the third day, a location familiar to former RAF National service personnel who undertook their

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*A Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year
to all our members from
your Committee*

recruit training nearby. The walk proceeded through the estate and ended at the Hall (National Trust) for lunch and a tour of the garden. During free time in the afternoon some members visited the David Austin Nursery renowned for roses and afternoon tea.

On day 4 we said our goodbyes to the friendly staff who provided excellent food in a dining room that overlooked the lake. Some of our group took the opportunity to visit RAF Cosford Museum which was well worth the diversion. We are extremely grateful to Brian Langton and Jeff Howard for undertaking all the arrangements.

Rob Blackwell

Salford Quays



The recent **Outings Group** visit to Salford Quays was a trip well organised as usual, by Ann Blackman.

Judging by the number of bags carried back to the coach, some of our party spent the day shopping in the Lowry Outlet Mall. The Imperial War Museum North is a fascinating place, currently marking the centenary of The First World War. The Big Picture Show, every hour, covers the entire museum. Every wall is a screen with film, photographs and commentary bringing people's war experiences to life. The Lowry Gallery is a commentary on L.S. Lowry's life, from simple drawings to multimillion pound paintings. Unfortunately during our visit the outdoor swimming pool and the water sport's centre were both closed!. It was noticed that nobody took advantage of the half term stalls offering such delights as face painting. Thanks to Ann for all the hard work she does in organising these trips.

Roy and Jean Allan

Bootle Town Hall

"Come into my parlour" said the Mayor of Sefton to **Local History Group 9** when we visited Bootle Town Hall and aren't we glad we did. Not only were we treated to a tour of the Parlour but also the Mayoress's room and the Council Chamber by the great man himself, Iain Brodie-Browne, who is the current Mayor of Sefton. Sadly we didn't get to see the ballroom which was the venue of many a good night out in the 50s and

60s.



The Town Hall was built very near the boundary of Bootle and Liverpool as a statement to show Bootle was separate from Liverpool and of Bootle's importance and local standing. It was designed by John Johnson ARIBA and opened in April 1882 and many a Mayor and Mayoress have hosted grand events in this fine Renaissance style building since that date. There are many "treasures" on display in these rooms including decorative and commemorative silver ware, ceremonial maces, and also one civic oar (one of only eight in the country). There were plaques and a beautiful Crown Derby china dinner service, all donated by the great and the good of Bootle, when Bootle was a thriving town and port and cargo brought into the nearby docks spelt wealth and prosperity for the town. A most impressive item was a silver clock, the largest piece of civic silver which represented the tower of the Town Hall. It had been presented to Sir Ernest Royden, when MP of Bootle in 1922. After his death it was said that the Lady Royden presented the clock to the Bootle Council for inclusion in their civic silverware collection.

The Council Chamber has a definite "wow" factor with its many flags and plaques displayed celebrating Bootle's close association with its maritime history and the magnificent stained glass windows representing the coats of arms of whole of the



North West area survived the Blitz. The Chamber itself is not set out in a semi-circle but based on Westminster parliament with benches on either side, separated by the distance of two sword lengths.

After having our



photograph taken in the council chamber with the Mayor, Iain Brodie-Browne, we joined him and his staff for tea and coffee and thanked them for a very interesting and enjoyable tour.

Rosemary & Alan Thomas

Group News

You should show your green 2016 membership cards when you attend group meetings. All groups are for current, paid up members, so please remember your 2016 subscription was due on January 1st, £9 per annum. Any members who did not renew their subscriptions by 28th February have been removed from membership lists and should not attend any U3A activities or groups.

Beginners' Guitar Group: We would like to start this new group. Please contact the Groups' Secretary if you are interested.

Creative Writing, Poetry and Prose: This new group has started. The group meets fortnightly on a Monday morning. Contact Patty Hearne on patty.hearne@outlook.com

Darts Group: The new group has started and meets at the Bay Horse every fortnight on Wednesdays at 2.30pm. Contact Sheena Eden on 876335 or sheena@oceanassociates.co.uk for more details.

Floral Art Group 1: The group, which meets in the afternoon of the 2nd Wednesday of the month has 3 vacancies. Please contact Pauline Hall on 879820 for more details.

Fun on your Computer: This new group will teach you to enjoy playing games etc. on your tablets, PCs and Playstations and learn more of the fun side of your Computer. Contact the Groups Secretary.

French, Italian and Spanish at basic level: We would like to start a Basic Spanish language group in the New Year. If interested, contact the Groups Secretary. We would also like to start groups to learn basic French & Italian but need teachers to lead these groups. Are there any members out there who are willing to come forward and help?

Painting Group: This group, run by Dot Owen, has changed premises to St Peters Hall. The Group meets on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Dot would welcome new members, tel. 879332, or e-mail: davidowen@sky.com

Thursday Afternoon Bridge Group: has vacancies for players who have a reasonable knowledge of the game. They are a sociable and friendly group who meet in members' houses every Thursday, from 2:15 till 5:00pm. They play duplicate

Chicago. Please contact Mike Belshaw on 874940 or mikebelshaw1@gmail.com

Whist Group 2: Would like some new members to join their friendly group. They meet on alternate Friday's 10.30 to 12.30 in the Bay Horse. Please contact Barbara Dodd on 832774 or bmdoddformby@aol.com for more details.

The full list of group vacancies is on the website. Contact group leaders if you are interested.

To all Group Leaders

Please remember to let the Group's Secretary know if you have any vacancies in your group.

Linda McAuley, Groups Secretary

Tel: 871890 or e-mail: groups@formbyu3a.org.uk

Missing



Not much in this month's Newsletter? See what a difference your group could make! Write an article. Tell members what you've been doing; what you're planning to do. Take a photo of everyone enjoying themselves (of course they do).

Share the U3A experience.

Go on; you know you ought to; you know you want to!

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Formby U3A will be held on Wednesday, 8th March 2017 in Holy Trinity Parish Hall at 2:00pm.

All members of the Committee (Trustees) are required to stand for re-election. The posts are:-

Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Groups Secretary plus six Committee Members.

There is a vacancy for a Vice Chairman and possibly some Committee Members, but all other Officers and Members are seeking re-election.

A Nomination Form for any of these positions is printed on page 7 of this Newsletter, or can be obtained from the Secretary at the Wednesday and Thursday meetings. Completed forms should be returned to the Secretary by 31st January 2017.

It would be appreciated if any Motions, proposed and seconded, for consideration by the AGM could also be returned to the Secretary by 31st January 2017.

Jack Ashworth, Secretary

Welcome To November's New Members

David Berry	Pauline Birchall	Bill Douglas
Elisabeth Douglas	Ann Forster	Claire Kepple
Rosemary Nunes	Margaret Paton	Doris Price
Lorraine Sanderson	Ruth Sanderson	Vivienne Shimmin
Audrey Stocks	Pauline Stoten	Patricia Yourston

Outings Group

Outings are only open to all paid up members of the U3A. All we ask is that you have the ability to get on and off the coach independently. We cannot be responsible for providing assistance. The coach can accommodate mobility aids which are kept in the luggage compartment on the bus.

Owing to increased demand, we cannot reserve tickets: **Tickets will be allocated on a first come and paid for – first served basis.** A separate cheque is required for each outing and **it is essential that members include their telephone number with each booking.** Several cheques have been received with no information and I have struggled to identify what they are for. If no contact details are provided, I am unable to contact people when outings are fully booked.

Bookings and information are available at U3A monthly meetings, or coffee mornings. Alternatively please send a stamp addressed envelope to: Ann Blackman, 9 River Close, Formby, Liverpool L37 6DJ, enclosing a separate cheque for each outing made out to **Formby U3A Outings Group**, having your name, address and telephone number **on the back.**



Sunday, December 11th, Palm House, Christmas Military Band Concert. Tickets £10.00 each includes return coach journey, and reserved seats for the concert. Refreshments of tea, coffee, or mulled wine (**not included**) will be on sale. Depart Cross Green 12:30.

Wednesday, December 14th, Palm House, Carols by Candlelight, Liverpool Hospital Choirs. Tickets £14.00 each includes return coach journey and reserved seats for concert, before returning late evening. Refreshments of tea, coffee, or mulled wine (**not included**) will be on sale.

Wednesday, February 22nd, Cabaret, Briar's Hall. Tickets £22.00 each includes return coach, 3 course meal with coffee or tea and an afternoon of entertainment. Depart Cross Green 11:00am.

Ann Blackman, Tel: 871127

FORMBY U3A
Nomination Form for the
2017/18 Formby U3A Committee

Nominee:

For the office of:

Proposed by:

Signature of proposer:

Seconded by:

Signature of seconder:

I agree to be nominated for the above office.

Signature of nominee:

Nomination Forms should be returned to:

Jack Ashworth, Secretary Formby U3A, 6 Trap Hill, Formby L37 2LU, e-mail:
 secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk

by 31st January 2017, at the latest.

Name That Christmas Tune

Answers on page 10

- 1 Bleached yule
- 2 Castaneous-coloured seed blistered in a conflagration
- 3 Singular yearning for the twin interior incisors
- 4 Amazon parcel arrives 24:00 hrs in cloudless conditions
- 5 Decorate the corridor
- 6 Bantam male percussionist
- 7 Jehovah deactivate carousing knights
- 8 Crystalline precipitation commence
- 9 Proceed and enlighten on the pinnacle
- 10 The quadruped with the vermilion proboscis
- 11 Query regarding identity of descendant
- 12 Delight for this planet
- 13 Give attention to the melodious celestial beings
- 14 The dozen festive 24 hour intervals

It's Nearly Time To Renew Your U3A Membership ***(Yes; just £9)!***

Annual subscriptions are due on 1st January. In order to ensure that the insurance cover provided by our affiliation to the Third Age Trust is not compromised, all membership subscriptions should be paid by 28th February.

How to renew your membership:

Standing Orders

If you have already set up a Standing Order to be paid during February, there is no need to alter it to January. If your current Standing Order is payable after the end of February, please arrange for it to be paid in January. If you wish to set up a new Standing Order, please complete the Form printed in this Newsletter and send it to your own bank for processing **or** use the details to set up a Standing Order using on-line banking. Membership Cards will be posted to those paying by Standing Order.

Cheques:

We ask that all other renewals should be by cheque only, as there is too much potential for error in handling cash. Please make your cheque payable to **Formby U3A** and write your membership number (as on your current membership card) on the back. (If you do not know your membership number, please write your name and address instead).

Where? When? Payment can be made at the Wednesday afternoon meetings in Holy Trinity Parish Hall (11th January and 8th February); or at the Thursday coffee mornings in Holy Trinity Workshop (12th January and 9th February).

By Post Cheques may be sent direct to the Hon. Treasurer: David Manning-Fox, 53d Paradise Lane, Formby, L37 7DU. Please remember to enclose a stamped addressed envelope to receive your Membership Card.

Collecting your 2017 U3A card

If you have a Standing Order in place, your new 2017 Membership Card will be posted out once your subscription has been received from your bank.

If you pay by cheque at the Monthly Meeting or Coffee Morning, you can collect your Card at the same time.

If you pay by post, your 2017 card will be available for collection at the Monthly Meeting or Coffee Morning following receipt of your payment, unless you included a stamped addressed envelope with your payment.

Please remember that from January onwards, you will need your 2017 Membership Card at all events, including group activities.

Standing Order Mandate

Your Bank details:

Name of your bank:

Address:

..... Postcode:

Sort Code: -- Account Number:

Instructions to your bank

Please make payments as follows to: **Formby U3A**

Sort Code: **40 - 21 - 20** Account Number: **41365878**

Reference: (Your U3A number and your surname, e.g. 9999 JONES; or if for 2 people 9998; 9999 JONES)

Amount: £..... Date of Payment: **1st January 2017**
£9 per person

Frequency: **Annually on 2nd January until further notice**

Signed: Date:

Please sign and date this mandate before sending it to your Bank.

A Very Merry Christmas

Knock Knock
 Who's there?
 Wayne
 Wayne who?
 Wayne in a manger...!

As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, Santa asked the usual, "And what would you like for Christmas?" The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped, "Didn't you get my E-mail?"

Knock Knock
 Who's there?
 Avery
 Avery who?
 Avery merry Christmas

Theatre and Music Group

(Events are open to all members of Formby U3A)

Tickets for forthcoming events are selling fast, with both Nutcracker and Andre Rieu sold out, although we are keeping a reserve list.

Please pay for tickets when the initial booking is made. This enables us to ensure that you get the best possible deal, including transport to and from the event. If you are unable to attend the event, could you notify us as soon as possible. Dave Irving's phone number is always included at the bottom of this article.

Thurs. 1st Dec. "Nutcracker" (English National Ballet), Liverpool Empire, 7:30pm. The coach will leave The Cross House bus stop at 6:15pm.

Thurs. 15th Dec, Andre Rieu, Echo Arena, 8:00pm. The coach will leave the Cross House bus stop at 5:45pm. This is an earlier time than usual.

Thurs. 19th Jan, "The Commitments," Liverpool Empire, 7:30pm. The Commitments show did not prove to be as popular as our other events so we have decided to cancel it. Apologies to anyone who is disappointed.

Thurs. 2nd March, "Rhapsody", Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, 7:30pm. Returning Hungarian guest conductor Gilbert Varga conducts Bartok's The Miraculous Mandarin live and uncensored. Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody sets things fizzing and Leeds international Piano Competition winner Louis Schwizgebel brings all his poetry and panache to Ravel's dreamy Piano Concerto. Finally take a trip to Mother Goose's enchanted garden: musical fairy tales for all ages. Tickets including transport £30, rear side stalls seats. **The coach will leave The Cross House bus stop at 6:15pm.**

We will soon have details of forthcoming events for you.

Dave Irving can be contacted directly, if necessary tel: 630192.

Eileen Jones

Name That Christmas Tune

Answers from page 7

1 White Christmas; 2 Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire; 3 All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth; 4 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear; 5 Deck the Hall; 6 Little Drummer Boy; 7 God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen; 8 Let it Snow; 9 Go Tell It on the Mountain; 10 Rudolph, the Red-nosed Reindeer; 11 What Child is This?; 12 Joy to the World; 13 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing; 14 The Twelve Days of Christmas

Monthly Speakers For 2017

January 11th	On the Record	Angela Danby returns by popular demand to give part 2 of her earlier talk (<i>You can enjoy part 2 without having heard part 1</i>).
February 8th	Sing Me Merseyside;	Liverpool Community Choir, involves some audience participation and has proved very popular
March 8th	AGM	
April 12th	Voice of Anfield;	footy tales which are popular with the men, but not if you're a blue nose!
		George Sephton
May 10th	Growing Up with the Beatles	Shelagh Johnston
June 14th	Fundraiser of the Year	Ron Hutchinson has rubbed shoulders with the great and the good.
July 12th	Life with Steepjack Fred	Sheila Dibnah
AUGUST - NO TALK		
September 13th	Sledding in Antarctica	Pat Ashcroft
October 11th	That Certain Age	Gay Rhodes
November 8th	Fire Service	
December 13th	Christmas Show	



Rotary Club of Formby Trust Fund
Charity Number 1032670



CAROL CONCERT

With Aughton Male Voice Choir

7pm for 7:30pm

Friday, 16th December,

Luke's Church,

St Luke's Church Road, Formby

Proceeds for Parkinson's UK

Southport & District Branch

Every hour, someone in the UK is told they have Parkinson's. Because we're here, no one has to face Parkinson's alone.

Admission £5 is by ticket only, Mince Pie & Mulled Wine included.

Tickets available from Oliver Whitaker

Tel 877209 or e-mail:

ojw.rotary@talktalk.net

Monthly Meetings

Are at 2:00 pm in Holy Trinity Parish Hall, the second Wednesday of each month

December 14th **Christmas Show Special: *N.B. this is being held at the United Reformed Church, Church Rd***

2017

January 11th **On the Record** Angela Danby returns by popular demand to give part 2 of her earlier talk. (*You can enjoy part 2 without having heard part 1*)

Please remember to bring your current (green) membership card to all events, including group activities.

COFFEE MORNINGS are from 10:30 to 12:00 on Thursday, December 15th and each Thursday, the day after the monthly meeting, except August. These are held in the Workshop, Holy Trinity Church, with free coffee and the chance to pick up information about other groups and meet some of your Committee.

Formby U3A Committee, 2016/17

Chairman	Glyn Pike	0151 929 2996	chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk
Vice-Chairman	David Bosworth	0151 345 1347	vicechair@formbyu3a.org.uk
Secretary	Jack Ashworth	874847	secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk
Treasurer	David Manning-Fox	833124	treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk
Membership Sec.	Ann Gunstone	872879	membership@formbyu3a.org.uk
Group Secretary	Linda McAuley	871890	groups@formbyu3a.org.uk
Officers	Susan Birchall	201240	1stofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Sara Beaumont	872733	2ndofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Ann Blackman	871127	3rdofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Linda Howard	570141	4thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Rosemary Thomas	871376	5thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Valerie Tibbitts	577985	6thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk

To Help You

If you need to tell us that **you have changed your address, telephone number, or e-mail address** please contact ***datamanager@formbyu3a.org.uk*** or tel: 873597, remembering to include your full name and address, or membership number.

If you need **information about your membership card, or subscriptions** please contact ***treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk***

The next edition of the Newsletter is due to be sent by e-mail and be on the website early January. Paper copies can be collected at the monthly meeting & coffee morning.

Contributions are always welcomed. As a result of Christmas closures, **the deadline for receiving articles is the next issue is midday Thursday, 8^h December at the latest to:**

The Editor, Email: ***newseditor@formbyu3a.org.uk***

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