

# AINTREE U3A

## Newsletter April 2015

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Despite being a lovely sunny spring day we once again had a lively meeting with 70 members attending.

Our speaker for the April meeting was Gordon Medicott who gave a most interesting talk on being the last lighthouse keeper for Trinity House, stationed at Broadstairs, Kent, retiring when all lighthouses finally became automated in 1998. We are an island nation and 90% of our commerce comes by sea and therefore require a safe navigation system. He explained how all the lighthouses are different architecturally and the flashing of the beam varies with each one so that ships can pinpoint their position at sea. Conditions were not easy, especially for those far out at sea, when three men were isolated for two months in cramped quarters.

Art Active      Leader Eddie Caldwell

The artt group will be painting a Venice canal scene on 14<sup>th</sup> April and a still life on the 28<sup>th</sup> April. We are looking forward to attending Bury Art Gallery and market on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, meet at the ex-library 9.15 to leave 9.30am. The trip to the Lowry Centre, will take place on May19<sup>th</sup>, please let Eddie know if you are interested, money to be paid at the May meeting. All members are invited to join this trip, you do not have to visit the Gallery.

Bridge for Beginners      Leader Jane Jones

Bridge players are making excellent progress, the improvers having mastered red and black transfers, (if you want to know about red & black transfers – join the group). They meet Mondays 1-3 pm and the improvers 2.15-4.15pm

Craft Group      Leaders Lesley Darley & Kim Davies

Craft corner meet Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 1.00 pm. They are all enjoying making their own jewellery and have given many pieces away as gifts to grateful family and friends.

Out & About Group      Leader Margaret Eastwood

There will be an Out & About Group visit to the Slavery Museum on 17<sup>th</sup> April, meeting at the Old Roan station 9.50am to start the tour at 11.00am, there is no admission charge. Not enough names were put forward for the National Trust photographic museum Hardman`s House, Rodney Street to make it viable. Out & about are local visits.

Spanish Group      Leaders Bill & Edna Thomason

The Spanish Group will meet Friday 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00pm at Bill and Edna`s home for conversation. The group have now progressed beyond the beginners stage. If anyone is interested in starting a new beginners class Bill has DVD`s and course material available. Please contact Bill for more information.

Walking Group      Leader

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April there will be a walk from Meols to Hoylake; and on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> will be around West Kirkby.

Community Gardening      Leaders Marion Elson & Margaret Wagner

All are welcome to join this group. We would like to recruit new members to help us look after our area gardens which are looking good this spring The group will meet on Wednesday15<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April between 12.00 and 1.00pm Speak to Marion to find out venues, none of us are experts but it can be very satisfying improving our area with good company.

Ballroom Dancing      Leader Jean Jones

The group meet on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April 1.00 – 2.30pm. All members are welcome to join. You do not need a partner, photos on the board and website show all having a fantastic time.

Local History group Leader Doreen Stock and Fred Forrest

There will be a meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> April **at 2.45** there will not be a meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> due to the trip to Bury market

Around The World Group.

Lunch at La Tasca (Spain) was enjoyed by everyone. The next country is Italy, Trattoria, Old Hall Street, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April for 12.30. For more information please contact Nora Finlinson If you do put your name forward and cannot attend please let the organiser know in good time or you may lose your deposit if one needs to be paid. Thank you Nora and Mary Sweeney who are this month's organisers. If members would like to go in a group, meet at the station 11.50am.

Cinema Group Leader Carol Whiteley

The group have had two successful outings and thoroughly enjoyed "The Second Best Marigold Hotel" and "Suite Francaise". As the cinema only releases titles a fortnight in advance please contact Carol for information, all those on the list will be told of the next viewing. It is hoped to visit every 2/3 weeks

**Card making** It is hoped to have a card making group, in May. For more information please contact Pat Williams on 792 4806. Further details and starting date will be given at the May meeting.

**Tea Rota** – Jan Coombe has a list on the board for all willing members to put their name forward. Please help Jan by putting yourself forward even for one meeting. Group sessions organise their own tea breaks.

Tea & Talk will not continue due to low numbers but members could get together at a venue of their choosing.

All activities taken with the U3A are at your own risk. You are responsible for taking enough care.

*\*All meetings to be held at Oriel Drive Centre unless otherwise stated.*

Bits & pieces

\*The Golf Group is no longer a U3A group as most participants are not members but if you wish to join them at Mossock Hall on Fridays please contact Ian Roxburgh 474 6665

\*Tai Chi meets on Wednesdays at 1.30 – 2.30pm the cost is £2.50.

\*The library at the Centre is open on Tuesdays 10.30 – 12.30 and on Thursdays 2.00 - 4.00pm.

\*It is hoped to start a reading group at the Centre, contact Peter Gill for more information.

\*Community events:- There will be a `hustings` meeting for the forthcoming General elections with the 4 main candidates at 7.30pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April at the Methodist Church. Questions to be submitted to Ian Roxburgh, 58, Aintree Lane beforehand.

*\*National U3A rules are, that visitors can attend two meetings before deciding whether to join. If people are not members they are not able to join interest groups or go on excursions, outings etc.*

\*If you have any relevant information for the newsletter please contact Iona James, or Liz Wilson; any ideas for new groups contact Pat Carroll; pastoral leader is Margaret Eastwood.

\*Our web address is <https://sites.google.com/site/aintreeu3a> where you will find all information.

**Next meeting Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2-4 pm**

This meeting will be our annual AGM followed by a quiz. Any resolutions to be handed to Liz Wilson, secretary, by 18<sup>th</sup> April. This will be the last year for the present committee.

Please ensure that you have paid your annual subs, which remain at £15

Diary Dates

"Tramps Supper" on Sat 18<sup>th</sup> April tickets £3 contact Sylvia tel: 526 6194 asap if you have not put your name forward. Strawberry Tea is Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2.00 – 4.00pm further information to be given at the May meeting. It is hoped to organise a visit to Chatsworth House on the 4<sup>th</sup> June. Names and monies to be given to Marion Elson or Margaret Wagner at the May meeting.