

# AINTREE U3A

## Newsletter January 2015

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Happy and Healthy New Year to all our Members

It is two years since Aintree U3A started and we have had two happy, interesting years, our membership increasing every month. I think that all of us have benefitted from the U3A, some enjoying the monthly talks, others the groups, the companionship, and most enjoying all three. Thanks to Sylvia for providing a `birthday cake` to have with our cuppa.

Liz, our secretary, welcomed 73 members including 4 visitors as well as our speaker Bruce Hubbard who gave us an interesting and enlightening talk on "1915 the Forgotten Year". We were inundated with facts last year about the start of the WW1 in 1914 but Bruce went on to talk about the battles, the introduction of gas warfare, sinking of the Lusitania and much more that took place in 1915. He showed the huge number of cemeteries there are and also had brought shell cases and bullets which can be picked up anywhere in Northern France and Belgium. Bruce donates all of his fee to the "Stop Polio" charity.

*\*Because of national U3A policy we must have new officers next year as officers only take office for three years. Please think about taking on a role now, if interested you could shadow for a year. We must have: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary. Anyone interested could also take on the newsletter.*

**Art Active**      Leader Eddie Caldwell

The Art group meet on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. It is hoped to introduce acrylics later on.

**Bridge for Beginners**      Leader Jane Jones

Bridge players meet every Monday, the Beginners group at 1-3 pm and the Improvers 2.15-4.15pm

**Craft Group**      Leaders Lesley Darley & Kim Davies

Craft Corner meet Mon 26<sup>th</sup> January 1-3 pm. New Year and new projects, or continue with your favourite craft.

**Golf Group**      Leaders Ian Roxburgh & Alf Whittle

The Golf Group meet at Mossock Hall every Friday. If you fancy trying your hand at golf please ring Ian to check time and venue. Golf clubs and balls are supplied as well as professional tuition. Please contact Ian for details.

**Tea & Talk**

This is a mid-month meeting without a speaker, on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January for a social gathering and opportunity to chat with fellow members over a cup of tea or coffee.

**Out & About Group**      Leader Margaret Eastwood

Margaret hopes to start `Out & About` when the weather improves. If you have ideas or suggestions please let Margaret know.

## Spanish Group      Leaders Bill & Edna Thomason

The Spanish Group will meet Friday 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 2.00pm at Bill and Edna`s home for conversation. If you are interested please contact Bill or Edna.

## Walking Group

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> the walk will be from Brunswick to the Albert Dock then if interested to the Maritime Museum.

On Thursday January 29<sup>th</sup> the walk will be at West Kirkby. Meet as usual 9.50am at the Old Roan station.

## 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. Speak to Marion. None of us are experts but it can be very satisfying improving our area with good company. Daffodils planted in the spring are now showing!

## Ballroom Dancing      Leader Jean Jones

Although over 20 people originally put their names forward for this group the last few meetings had no one turn up. It is hoped to re-ignite this group. A new list is up on the notice board. Please put your name on if interested or speak to Jean to discuss times and days. For more information contact Jean or Pat Carroll on 07790 515 744.

## Local History Group      Leader Doreen Stock

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 2.15. Fred Forrest will give a talk on the Leeds Liverpool canal which of course runs nearby. This I`m sure will lead to a lively discussion.

**Tea Rota - We all enjoy our tea or coffee at the meetings, could someone please volunteer to look after the tea rota. It is a bit unfair to expect those who have taken on other jobs to do the tea as well. We are a community group and should support each other**

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

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

## Bits & Pieces

\*Thank you from Liz, Marion and Margaret to all who sponsored them for the Santa Dash. They raised £310 for Jospice. Well done!

\*TAI CHI meet on Wednesdays and Fridays at 1.00pm with Mike. The cost is still £2.

\*HATHA YOGA meet on Wednesdays 9.15 – 10.45 am. All are welcome to attend. The cost is £5 and all monies go to Woodlands.

\*There will be a theatre visit to see `The Mikado` performed by Crosby Gilbert and Sullivan Society on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at the Epstein Theatre. Ticket money, £16 to be paid to Sylvia ASAP as she needs to be able to make final booking within the next week.

\* Those going to the Unity Theatre on the 16<sup>th</sup> make your own way down, the play starts at 8.00pm.

\* The Burjesta Theatre is performing Medea at the Casa Theatre Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. The list is on the notice board or contact Iona for details.

The library has re-opened in the Centre on Tuesdays 10.30 – 12.30. It is hoped to open more often eventually. Pauline Chase, Librarian, says that we have enough books at the moment as there is not enough storage space for any more. Thanks to all members who have in the past donated books.

\*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 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2-4 pm.

The speaker will be Jane Higgins from Age Concern.

## Diary Date

General Meeting March 3<sup>rd</sup> and the AGM will be 5<sup>th</sup> May.