

# AINTREE U3A

## Newsletter May 2015

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Ian Roxburgh welcomed nearly 80 members including new members for our AGM on 5<sup>th</sup> May, we now have 130 members. In his report he commented that Aintree U3A had a vibrant and growing group, that it was not only just meetings and groups but also a supportive, caring association. He also pointed out that the future was up to us to continue to shine in this way or to fizzle out due to complacency.

Sylvia McCormack, treasurer gave out a balance sheet showing that we were in a healthy position financially and that it was more beneficial to have under £5000 in the bank so some events can be subsidised.

The present committee was re-elected and are as follows:-

Chairperson – Ian Roxburgh

Vice Chairperson – Tony Byrne

Secretary – Liz Wilson

Treasurer – Sylvia McCormack

Group Co-ordinator – Pat Carroll

Publicity Organiser – Carol Whiteley

Newsletter Editor – Iona James

The meeting finished at 3.00pm and continued with a music quiz by Eddie Caldwell.

Art Active      Leader Eddie Caldwell

Art Active group will meet on the 12<sup>th</sup> when they will make shields & banners with the Magna Carta in mind. On the 26<sup>th</sup> the group will visit **Walker Art Gallery** meeting at the station 12.50pm. A trip to the **Lowry Centre** has been organised by Eddie for 19<sup>th</sup> May, meet by the ex-library 9.20am. All members may attend these trips. If you wish to go please give your name to Eddie asap.

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 18<sup>th</sup> May at 1.00 pm. They are all enjoying the joys of `crafting`.

Out & About Group      Leader Margaret Eastwood

The Out & About group had a very enjoyable visit to the Maritime and Slavery museum, meeting up with the guides that had explained the old docks. If you have ideas for local visits please contact Margaret. If members put their names down for outings and cannot attend could they please let the organiser know as soon as possible.

Spanish Group      Leaders Bill & Edna Thomason

The Spanish Group will meet Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2.00pm at Bill and Edna`s home for conversation. Please contact Bill for more information.

Walking Group      Leader

Meet as usual at the Old Roan station at 9.50am. On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May the walk will be along the canal from Ellesmere Port to Chester and on 21<sup>st</sup> May around Clieves Hill, Ormskirk.

Community Gardening      Leaders Marion Elson & Margaret Wagner

All are welcome to join this group. We are looking to recruit new members to help us brighten up our area. We meet on Wednesdays, 13<sup>th</sup> May meeting at the station at 12 noon, and 20<sup>th</sup> May 12.00 – 1.00pm. Please check with Marion for venue. The spring flowers planted by the group are certainly brightening up our area.

Ballroom Dancing      Leader Jean Jones

Thursdays May 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> May from 1.00 – 2.15pm. Please note the time change as 1.00 – 2.00pm will be dancing

and the last 15 minutes will be for refreshments. All are welcome to join this popular group, you do not need a partner. There will only be one meeting in June which will be on the 25th.

Local History group    Leader Doreen Stock and Fred Forrest

Local history group will meet on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 2.45pm. Only one meeting this month.

Around The World Group.

Everyone enjoyed their visit to Italy, i.e. Trattoria, Old Hall Street. The next country will be Greece; the Greek Taverna, Red Lion Bridge, Maghull on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 5.00pm, this will be 2 courses at £12.95 pp. Please add your name to the list if you wish to attend. For more information check with Lesley.

Cinema Group    Leader Carol Whiteley

The group hope to go to see "Far From the Madding Crowd" on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 5.00pm with the option of having a meal afterwards at the Baker's Dozen. 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

**Tea Rota** – Jan Coombe has a list on the board for all willing members to put their name forward. Could we have more volunteers as it seems to be left to the same few to help. Group sessions organise their own tea breaks.

It is hoped to start IT classes in September and it would be helpful to Collette Forrest, if you are interested, to let her know at the next meeting what aspect (eg absolute beginners, ipad, camera work etc.) you are interested in learning.

\*Lists for activities, visits etc. will be found on a table in the committee room.

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.

\* Four members enjoyed the Adelphi "Swinging 60's" with lunch on 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Fantastic 60's group & great atmosphere.

\* St. John's Ambulance are running a First Aid course, Liz has the details.

*\*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 *aintreeu3a* where you will find all information.

Next meeting Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2-4 pm

The speaker will be Angela Danby; "My life as a journalist"

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

### Diary Dates

Strawberry Tea is Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2.00 – 4.00pm cost will be £1 and names to be given at the June meeting. Chatsworth House visit on the 4<sup>th</sup> June is fully booked, for those going the coach will leave outside the station 8.45am. For Lowry Centre and Walker Art Gallery visits see Art Active Group.