

Welcome to the first Aintree U3A Newsletter.

We hope this newsletter will keep you up to date with information of forthcoming events, cost of room hire and venues, and let you know the benefits of being a paid up member of our U3A.

- It is important for insurance purposes that all people joining any interest group need to be fully paid up members. We would like everyone to consider paying their fees of £15 as soon as possible after trying an interest group.
- Interest groups will be self funding. Those who need to hire the Community Centre Hall need to see Ian regarding the cost. It would be an idea if a few interest groups could meet at the same time to reduce the cost.
- 7 interest groups are now active. These are Art, Spanish, Badminton, Craft, Family History, and Walking. Ian has secured a 6 week Floristry course thanks to Hugh Baird College. The walking group have held their first walk and it was a great success and enjoyed by all. Thank you to Tony Byrne for his help. They plan to walk every other Thursday. Please see Tony for dates, planned walks and give him your contact number.
- Beryl Ogley is our Speaker Secretary and is busy arranging speakers and dates. If you have any suggestions or would like a particular topic please see Beryl. The cost of the speakers refreshments etc we hope will be covered by the £1 we all pay at the door at each meeting.
- We were hoping that all paid up members would receive the magazine in April, but we have been told that as we only have temporary membership until the end of May we will have to wait for the June edition. The steering group have contacted National Office to request full membership before the end of May.
- Neil Foley, our web editor has been busy working on our website. Several pages have been completed and we will let you know when it "goes live". It will have a quick link to the National website. Thank you to Neil for all his work.

- Forthcoming events - North West AGM and Festival at Chester Cathedral. Thursday 23rd May 10am-4pm. £5 per head. Take your own lunch. Day will include workshops, presentations, tours of the Cathedral and organ recitals. AGM will be attended by 2 committee members and we have one vote. Why not go and enjoy the day and see Chester as well.
- There are four online tutored courses available on line if you are interested. These are Short Story Writing, Three Viking Women, Just before Victoria and WWI, and The Home Front. See National Website.
- Gill Russell is willing to organise another Singing Day in Heswall if people are interested. She held one on March 19th which was booked up quickly. If someone could get names and numbers of interested parties and then get Gill's details from one of the committee members.
- We urgently need a interest group coordinator just to oversee the groups and a single person/ or a few friends in each interest group that has not yet got off the ground to liaise with our main group coordinator. Remember we are relying on your support for our U3A to succeed. Please get involved. It is so much fun and very rewarding!
- We hope to produce a Newsletter 4 times a year but would love someone to offer to collate the information and provide the Newsletter. Please offer your help if you can. Any items for the Newsletter to Ian please. Next planned Newsletter – July 2013. Please share this information with your friends.