

AINTREE U3A

Newsletter November 2014

Ian Roxburgh welcomed 79 members including 5 new members before introducing the speaker, one of our own members, Mike Formby.

Mike gave us a most interesting and amusing talk about his experiences of being in the famous Mastermind black chair. He was a keen quiz team member before deciding to try for Mastermind. It took three years before he was interviewed as about 7,000 apply, and a full year from his first interview to the final quiz in November 1985. The commitment to prepare and learn so many facts showed true dedication. His scores for the first, the semi-final and the final were all most impressive. We all found the running, preparation and activity behind the scenes fascinating and we will be watching the present Mastermind with extra interest. He well deserved the beautiful glass goblet, which he showed us, engraved with `the chair`.

Art Active Leader Eddie Caldwell

The art group meet on the 11th and 25th November when we will paint poppies and try our hand at pen & wash.

Bridge for Beginners Leader Jane Jones

Our first lot of beginners have now got their wings and are moving onto improvers so it means we now have room for you. Our new beginners class began on the 3rd Nov but if you didn't know you haven't missed a thing. The beginners class start at 1.00pm with the improvers joining at 2.15pm. We won't be meeting on the 10th but look forward to seeing you on the 17th.

Craft Group Leaders Lesley Darley & Kim Davies

The Craft Group will have their regular meeting on Monday 17th and an extra meeting on the 10th November 1.00 – 3.00pm. Christmas decorations, snowflakes & icicles will be continued.

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 18th November between 2.00 and 4.00pm, to enjoy a social gathering and opportunity to chat with fellow members over a cup of tea or coffee. This week we hope to discuss the future of the U3A library. Please try to attend.

Out & About Group Leader Margaret Eastwood

A visit is planned to Lady Lever Art Gallery and Museum Port Sunlight on Thursday 6th November to see the Downton Abbey clothes exhibition. Meet at the Old Roan station 9.40am.

Spanish Group Leaders Bill & Edna Thomason The Spanish Group will meet Friday 7th and 21st November at 2.00pm at Bill and Edna's home. It is hoped to start a new course in January. If you are interested please contact Bill or Edna.

Walking Group Leader

The next walk will be on Thursday 13th November from Freshfields to Ainsdale, on Thursday 27th the walk will be around the walls of Chester, this will be led by Ken Riley, phone Ken for more information. Meet as usual at the Old Roan station at 9.50am.

Community Gardening Leaders Marion Elson & Margaret Wagner

The group hopefully meet on Fridays but as it is dependent on the weather, especially now with winter approaching, if you wish to join them please contact Marion or Margaret for information. If you have spare plants, bulbs or cuttings please contact Marion or Margaret they will be grateful for all donations.

Ballroom Dancing Leader Jean Jones

The next meeting will be on Thursday 20th November 2.30 – 4pm. If you originally put your name down for dancing and have not yet managed to attend, give it a go on the 20th. Anyone who wishes more information contact Jean or Pat Carroll

Local History group Leader Doreen Stock

This is proving to be very popular and everyone has plenty of memories to share. The next meetings are on Wednesdays the 12th and 26th November at 2.15pm. The discussion will continue with well known names of the area.

Money matters Some members have been inquiring about the £1 we pay for each group session. All interest groups must be self supporting and the £1 goes towards rent, heating, refreshments and light. We are very lucky that the Centre has the arrangement of only asking for £1 off each person rather than charge a set rent, which would be much higher. Anything that is needed for group activity must be paid for by the individual. We have also given a donation to the Centre towards the new, very comfortable chairs.

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

TAI CHI meet on Wednesdays and Fridays at 1.00pm with Mike. Hugh Baird is subsidising the Friday course and this is a Community Well-Being Course. The cost is still £2.

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

Liz, Marion and Margaret are taking part in the Santa Dash in Liverpool on Sunday 7th December to raise funds for Jospice. Sponsorship forms will be available at the December meeting.

* There will be a theatre outing to the Casa Theatre, Hope Street to see "All Quiet on the Western Front" on Wednesday 19th November, tickets £5. Please let Iona know if you are interested.

*There will be a theatre visit to see 'The Mikado' performed by Crosby Gilbert and Sullivan Society on Friday 6th March at the Epstein Theatre.

*The Methodist Church is holding a Christmas Fair on 15th November and St Giles' Fair will be on the 22nd November.

*If you have any relevant information for the newsletter please contact Iona James or Liz Wilson ; any ideas for new groups contact Pat Carroll on 07790 515 744; pastoral leader is Margaret Eastwood.

*Our web address is aintreeu3a where you will find all information.

Next meeting Tuesday 2nd December 2-4 pm

We will have a Christmas get-together with mulled wine, please bring a plate of food if possible. There will be a free raffle. Prizes would be appreciated.

Diary date January 7th

Bruce Hubbard will give a talk on "1915 The Forgotten Year". Next newsletter will be in January.