



Maghull and Lydiate U3A



Reg. Charity: No. 1116576

ISSUE 116 March 2019

THE LIFE OF A DAY TRIP

Where do we begin when thinking about booking our next day trip? It starts with an idea, often a thought that crosses the mind whilst watching TV or reading a review in a Sunday paper. The idea grows leading to researching on the computer, telephoning venues, checking availability, and of course costing!

The questions come thick and fast now - can they accommodate our large group? Do we include coffee, meals? Is it near enough to a second venue if needed? How long will the visit take? Is there enough to keep us interested? Is it within our price range? Is it too near or too far even?

Once all these decisions have been made, we then have to build in the cost of and booking a coach. More phone calls and comparisons come until, when all the information is to hand, the next step is to find out if you, our members are interested. A flyer is prepared and advertised on the board at our table, on the website and in the Newsletter.

Then at last the decision making is down to you - our members. Is it where you want to go, what you want to do? Thankfully, the answer is usually yes and you book a place and pay your deposit to secure a seat. The day dawns - sunny we hope; and you board the coach and travel to our chosen place.

After enjoying our day out we bid our driver and each other farewell and our day trip's life draws to a close. It's a short life really and it's time to think about giving life to our next trip.

Marj Atlay

QUICK NEWS

PERFECT POETRY

Admire Roberta Horsfall's poem on page four and join us in sending her our best wishes following her recent illness. Penned after a perfect English afternoon it brings back memories for all of us.

NEW GROUP

Find out all about our brand new group on page three. Read John Dilworth's introduction and see how it whets your appetite.

MEMBERSHIP

Renewals will start being collected in March. At first this will be for members of groups only. Group Leaders have been given relevant forms and will collect subscriptions in the next few weeks.

Members who prefer to pay on a Tuesday morning should wait until April before paying their subscription.

SAY HI TO OUR NEW YEAR BOOK

New and existing members who join or renew this year will be recipients of our new Year Book. The book contains a list of the current available groups, giving details of their group leader/co-ordinator, contact numbers, meeting dates, venues and times. Keep your book in a safe place as not all groups will now be listed in the monthly newsletter.

Groups who keep to the same timeslots, do not have differing topics or speakers will no longer be included. This will release space for new groups (see page three) and for articles which will reflect the interests of our members and promote our U3A. Please remember that our newsletter articles are not solely the domain of the group leaders.

Sometimes demands on their time (as Marj's article points out) means they don't get around to writing a review themselves so here's your chance to lighten their load and keep your group in the members' eye. Send in a review to the newsletter and see your view/opinion in print.

Jane Jones

Items for the newsletter should be sent to: maghullandlydiateu3anewsletter@gmail.com

Deadline for items for our April Magazine is the 18th of March. Available on the 26th of March.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Convenor: Colin Hignett 531 9763

Asst.: Eric Purvis

Venue: Kensington House 14:30 - 16:30 Every 2nd Friday of the month. At our next meeting on the 8th of March we will be re-living the great day we spent at Atkinson's Egyptian Gallery. The success of our last trip means we are looking forward to planning our next. All are welcome.

BOOK CLUB

Leader: Anne Carr

Venue: 23 Buckingham Rd. 526 2734

Fourth Thursday in the month 10:30 Picking up a book is one of the best ways we have of switching off life's problems. Exercise the mind with a thriller, relax with a romance or save the country from spies. A book club brings new authors, new genres and a chance to discuss and debate plots and themes. Our friendly book club has room for new members; why not turn over a new page and join us?

DIGITAL CAMERA GROUP

Leaders: Peter Martin 526 9406
Terry Horrobin 526 1249

Venue: St Andrews Church Room.
Mondays 14:00 - 16:00 fortnightly
Our subjects in March are:

4th March Pens and Pencils

18th March Old (*no 'selfies'*)

ART APPRECIATION

Leader: Maureen Birchall 287 0308 **Asst:** Marje Rusling 531 7179

Buy one get one free! - That is what we got on our first visit of 2019 to Tate Gallery Liverpool on January 15th.

Fernand Leger, French Pop Artist. (1881 1955) The father of Pop art some might say. Peter Blake (he of Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band L.P. cover) found inspiration in the work of Leger, as did we. A guided tour is so worth paying for even if we do get a few free-riders on the day. The guide, John brought the artist to life, explaining many aspects that could be overlooked or misunderstood thus enhancing our appreciation of the subject matter.

Following on from Leger we were invited to join a free talk on Op.Art (that's Optical Art to you and me) with works by Bridgett Riley and Victor Vasarely. Once again John who, we suspect had lessons from Doddie on timing gave another enjoyable insight into art. Jim Lambie's Zobop floor literally took your breath away. I dare anyone to walk on it and not feel dizzy, then walk a straight line.

The Tate is well worth a visit to see the Zobop floor alone. It will be available to view for a few months yet, so why not try it? But take your sunglasses you will need them.

Our next outing will be a free guided tour at the Victoria Gallery/Museum on Thursday March 14th 13:30 Please book at our table on Tuesdays.

Moe Birchall

COMPUTER GROUP

Leaders: Rhoda Myers 531 0921

Colin 526 0752 Phil 526 6805

Tony 924 0040 Doug 07729077278

Venue: Maghull Baptist Church Hall

Help Desk: Tuesday a.m. 'drop in'.

Bring your laptop or tablet in and we will see if we can help.

Tuesdays & Fridays 14:00 - 16:00 One to one help available (appt only.)

FAMILY HISTORY

Leaders: David Russell 526 6527

Rosney Leith 526 3623

Venue: Lydiate Village Centre 13:30

3rd. of March - Using Computers to help research. Computers hold a wealth of knowledge once you know how to manipulate the world of the web.

5th April - Irish and Scottish records.

DAY TRIPS **Leader:** Marj Atlay 526 4665 **Asst:** Sylvia Adams 531 9001

Wed.27th March. Today we visit a Chocolate House – sheer bliss! On our arrival we will be greeted with drinks before enjoying the demonstrations and savouring the tastings. You will have a chance to buy some Easter gifts here. We then move onto The Haworth Art Gallery which houses the largest Tiffany Glass collection outside the US. There will be lots to see before we finish with a well earned cream tea. Dep.09:15 Ret. 18:0 Price £22 inc. demos/drinks at Chocolate House and short talk and cream tea at the Gallery.

Mon.29th April Join us on an educational visit to the People's History Museum in Spinningfields, the cosmopolitan district of Manchester. Hear about the Reformers and Revolutionaries, who, over the years have helped change our lives. The effect they had is still continuing today. We travel on to Gorton Monastery, the Pugin masterpiece which has recently been fully restored. Following a talk about the monastery and time to look around we finish with tea/cake. Dep. 09:15 Ret.18:00 Price: £19 inc. the talk/tea/cake.

Spring Break - 3 days/2nights D/B/B 29.5.19 to 31.5.19 at Rendezvous Hotel, just outside Skipton. The break includes dinner cruising one evening on their canal boat. All usual facilities + Indoor Swimming Pool/Gym. Excursions. Price £199pp. No Sing. Supp. Dep. £60 Free Insurance.

Coming Soon - Turkey n Tinsel in Scotland - 2nd Dec. to 6th Dec.2019. 5 days/4 nights D/B/B staying at the Rob Roy Hotel which is only a short stroll from the pretty village of Aberfoyle. The hotel has a good reputation for comfort, food etc. and all the rooms have the usual mod-cons. Entertainment is provided and excursions / entrances are included. PRICE: £299pp. No Single Supp. Deposit £60pp Free Insurance

GARDEN VISITS

Leaders: Ann Raw 526 6086

Barbara Short 526 1119

Asst. Doreen Bird

Monday 18th March. Our first stop this morning is Knutsford, after which we travel to the lovely Capesthorpe Hall, Siddington. There was a building on this site mentioned in Doomsday times. The trip costs: £22.00 which includes entrance to the Hall/Gardens, and a cream tea. We leave Maghull Square 09.15

"THE GARDENS OF CORNWALL"

Mon 6th -10th May 2019 staying at the Pentire Hotel. The hotel is located on the Pentire head overlooking Fistril beach. The hotel has a large indoor pool and spa. All rooms have tea/coffee making facilities,TV. and radio channels This well-appointed hotel has a good reputation and is well located for our excursions we will stay here for 4 nights on a half board basis.

We will visit Cotehele (NT) medieval Tudor house and gardens, Saltram (NT) , Trelishick Gardens (NT) and Popey Garden cottage. Will also visit Truro for some free time and then join the group for a boat cruise along the river Fal. For more information visit the Garden Visit Table on Tuesday mornings. **Cost of holiday £450pp**

GLASS WORKSHOP

Leader: John Jackson 526 2900

Venue: Lydiate Village Centre

Fridays - 14:00 - 16:00

Workshops will be held on the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 23rd of March

LAW FOR FUN - NEW GROUP

Leader: John Dilworth **Venue:** Lydiate Village Hall

Third Thursday of the month 14:00 - 16:00 Entrance £1.50 inc. refreshments.

As a recently retired Barrister the first session of "Law for Fun" I will share with you details of my unconventional journey into the law; including the different roles I have had during 40 years within our Criminal Justice System. "Law for Fun" is probably something of a misnomer because law is a serious business. During my career I have dealt cases that have impacted tragically on those involved. Law also involves conflict which is rarely a good thing. Law can often be complex and at times mystifying. My aim will be to unravel some of the complexity by talking to you about some legal topics that may be of interest to you. I hope that the talks will be interactive and that you ask lots of questions so we can enjoy "Law for Fun"! In the first session, after my initial introduction, I will touch briefly on the history of the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act. I will also go through some of the main provisions of the Convention and how they impact on cases that progress through the courts. This will not be a deep dive into legal technicality (that would be no fun at all) but rather a relaxed look at the law and how it affects people's day to day lives. I will make suggestions for topics for future discussion, but others may crop up during our discussions.

John Dilworth

MATHS FOR FUN

Leader: Wanda Leach 284 8454

Venue: Kensington House, Station Rd
14:30 - 16:30

Admission - £1.50 inc refreshments.

In February we had great fun with the maths of kitchen units, wallpaper, curtains and carpets in both metric and imperial units.

If you hated maths at school but want a bit of stress busting laughter come and try our group.

No long multiplication or division necessary, calculators are welcome in this friendly group.

Wednesday 6th March - We will be going round in circles exploring *Latitude and Longitude*.

POETRY READING GROUP

Leader: Gwen Parry 526 4798

Venue: 27 East Meade, Maghull

Second Wednesday of the month

10:30-12:30 **March 'Spring poems'.**

Joins us for a wealth of poetry on our favourite subject; the banishment of Winter.

We all enjoy the coming of Spring with its promise of light nights and new life and no doubt, many of us have a favourite poem that reflects the joy that Spring brings.

SUNDAY LUNCH GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sylvia Adams 531 9001

Sunday 3rd. March - The Royal Hotel

The Esplanade Waterloo

13:30 for 14:00

LOCAL HISTORY

Leader: Dennis Stevens 531 9188 **Asst. Leader:** Wyn Taylor 526 5467

Convenor: Bidni O'Donnell 476 2115 **Venue:** Lydiate Village Hall **First Tuesday** monthly 14:00 - 16:00

On the 5th of February Mr Cledwyn Thomas came to our U3A to give us a talk entitled - 'A Wander through Liverpool - past and present'. It can safely be said that all our members really enjoyed the talk which awoke many a memory. The graphics used to accompany the talk were extremely good; opening our eyes to many things around the city that we have simply failed to spot. How many of you have noticed the American eagle on the M&S building? It looks out over the Mersey, maybe yearning for its homeland?

Our next talk will take place on the **5th of March** when Mr Jim Flynn will give us a talk on 'A Global Trip on a Merchant Ship with Liverpool connections.' Mr Flynn will give us an insight into his life in the Merchant Navy.

Our meetings take place at 13:30 and refreshments are provided. Details of our April Speaker will be announced in the newsletter next month so keep an eye out so you don't miss a thing.

Denis Stevens

STORM IN A TEACUP – Roberta Horsfall

When we came out of the lake and pulled the boat ashore,
We spotted a wayside café where people were at the door

We entered in the back way, it was a peaceful scene,
With chairs set out and tables, upon the grass so green

The lake was in the distance the pine trees overhead
It seemed that folk had left the room to eat outside instead

The café, it was busy for we had timed it well for tea
Most tables were filled up with great expectancy

The waitresses, they bustled with crockery so light
The table cloths they fluttered in gingham, blue and white

The tea and scones, with cream and jam were served upon the dot
And in the trees, the wasps were almost rooted to the spot

At three o'clock exactly upon the last full stroke,
A cloud of wasps descended in among all the folk

Swift as an arrow deadly true they dropped upon the spot,
For the appearance of the cream and jam excited them a lot!!

The people dodged and weaved about and chairs were overturned
The gallant men with papers raised began to swat in turn

Some wasps they went, but others gathered for a fresh attack
While customers began to go not fearing to come back

The end it came quite quickly for wasps had had their fill,
And people's money safely paid, was rattled in the till

It seemed just like a miracle that peace had been restored
Until next day the tea was served once more.

TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE

Leader: Phil Davidson 526 6805

Assts: Colin Bennett 526 0752

Venue: Kensington House 14:30

Our topics the coming month are:

13th March - Hurricanes & Tornadoes.

Find about the causes and the effects these powerful forces have on our planet.

27th March - Sleep.

You may not know much about hurricanes and tornadoes but we all know a bit about sleep!

Come along and see what new knowledge you can pick up.

WELSH GROUP

Leader: Jane Jones 526 2530

First & third Thursday of the month
09:45 - 11:45

Our monthly lunch will be on the 28th of February at the Hare and Hounds at 12:30. Our March lunch will be on the 28th as well; the venue is yet to be decided.

TUESDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

10:00 - 11:15



Maghull Baptist Church Hall
Tea/coffee served until 11:00

Time for a cuppa, a chat and a chance to make new friends.

U3A Welfare

Our U3A cares deeply about all its members but especially those who are poorly or going through a hard time.

If you know of any member who is ill or in need, please inform Lill Boyle (Welfare)

on 526 4303

'Knowing someone cares can make such a difference.'

THEATRE GROUP

Leaders: Pat Kelly 476 1726, Ann Unsworth & Sue Quinn



THEATRE	SHOW	DATE	PRICE
Liverpool Playhouse	The Girl on a Train	15th March	TBD
Liverpool Empire	Kinky Boots	4th April	£34.00
Liverpool Philharmonic	Star Wars Saga + transport	27th April	TBD
Royal Exchange	West Side Story + transport	24th May	£50.00 app
Liverpool Empire	Les Misérables	17th October	£56.00