



Maghull and Lydiate U3A



Reg. Charity: No. 1116576

ISSUE 123 November/December 2019

BIENVENIDO A ESPAÑOL



Every Thursday at 11.00 am in Lydiate Village Centre on Lambshear Lane, we meet up to learn or improve our conversational Spanish and learn more of the culture of Spain in a 'friendly and relaxed atmosphere' as quoted by George. When asked our group made the following comments:

Margaret says she is really proud of how both she and her classmates have improved their Spanish knowledge and gained confidence in such a friendly environment.

Margo looks forward to Thursdays as she has made a lot of new friends and learnt a lot about the country. Although not yet fluent she says that it comes in handy on holidays.

Carlos says that attending the class helps get him prepared for his Spanish holidays and Lynn found that as well as learning a new language, she has discovered a lot about their culture and their exciting food and drink. She goes on to say "that it is a friendly, welcoming group and everybody helps each other".

Pat and Adrian find the class stimulating and fun and enjoy, with everyone else, being part of this friendly social group, thanks to Blair's infinite patience no matter how many times "we get it wrong!".

For myself, I struggle with pronunciation (although I have been told that 'Scousers' because of their accent find speaking Spanish easier, in my case yet to be proven) but Blair is patient and helpful, as are all my classmates, and we all rally round to help each other.

A final word from Blair, our teacher, who says he always looks forward to each class because of its friendly and sociable atmosphere and he tries to take into account everyone's different skills and learning abilities and hopefully make each lesson different and interesting. A testament to the above is that because of this, at the present time, our numbers are at capacity; but please put your name down if you fancy joining us at some point.

Linda Clark

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

Deadline for items for our January Newsletter is the 18th of December. Available on 7th or 14th of January

NEWS IN BRIEF

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Join us for our Christmas Carol Service on Tuesday the 10th of December in the Sanctuary at Maghull Baptist Church at 10:00. For full details please see the notice board.

This will be our last meeting in 2019. We restart on the 7th of January 2020.

BRIDGE FOR BEGINNERS

The next course for absolute beginners will start on the 4th Nov. at Maghull Parish Hall at 13:00. Ring 0151 526 2530 for details.

HOLIDAYS

A room has become available on our Derby trip on the 24th of April next year. This three day trip includes a Murder Mystery event and trips to Eyam Hall, Kedleston Hall - NT, Castleton and Chesterfield.

Battlefields trip to Northern France next year. Departing on the 6th of Sept we spend five days exploring the Somme and Passchendaele areas of France and Belgium with the services of a professional guide at our disposal.

Full details of both these breaks can be found online, on the U3A notice board and at our Holiday desk each Tuesday.

ARCHITECTURE FOR FUN

Leader: George Birchall 287 0308

14th & 20th November - A trip to Aintree with guided tour taken by the Racecourse Historian. Bookings will be taken on the AFF desk.

19th December - A combined Architecture for Fun and Wine Tasting Group lunch has been arranged. Full details available at the coffee morning. January meetings will be in our next newsletter and on the website. See George/John on our desk.

ART APPRECIATION

Leader: Maureen Birchall 287 0308

Asst: Marje Rusling 531 7179

16th November - Chester arts Fair

Held at the Chester Racecourse this festival is well worth a visit. We depart on the 10:30 train from Maghull Station.

Please book at the Art Appreciation table.

13th December - 'Taki Kate'

Held at the World Museum we have an 11:00 tour organised. Cost is £9.00. A waiting list is in progress.

CALLIGRAPHY GROUP

Leader: Rosney Leith 526 3623

Venue: St Peter's Church Hall Moorhey Rd. Maghull L31 5LW

We meet on 3rd Wednesday of each month 13:00 - 14:30

Please note our new extended timing.

20th November - 'Italics'

There will be no meeting during December

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. We tackle a wide range of issues and really relish a challenge.

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

DAY TRIPS **Leader:** Marj Atlay 526

4665 **Asst:** Sylvia Adams 531 9001

Thurs. 14th Nov. Manchester Christmas Markets set in the City Centre. Over 300 chalets plus main shops. Then we move onto the Stockport Plaza for their Christmas Spectacular. Sit back in your comfortable good. stalls seat and enjoy. A perfect treat to start the Christmas period.

Dep. 9.30am Ret. 5pm Price £25 inc.

DAY TRIPS continued

Mon. 16th Dec. Visiting the lovely village of Port Sunlight with plenty of points of interest including a Garden Centre. Visit the Lady Lever Art Gallery with its treasures, and lovely cafe. Then onto Llyndir Hall Hotel Rossett, for a delicious 3 course lunch followed by coffee/mince pie. Dep. 9.30am Ret. 6pm Price £25 inc. lunch (a deposit of £10 is requested on this trip please)

NB As there will be no Day Trips table on the 3rd Dec. and it is the Carol Service on the 10th, can you please arrange to pay your final balance for this trip by Tues. 26th Nov. Many thanks.

Turkey n Tinsel 2.12.19 to 6.12.19

NB. Final briefing for this break is on Tues 26th Nov. in the Coffee Room at 11:15. If you are unable to attend please arrange for your information to be collected.

DIGITAL CAMERA GROUP

Leaders: Peter Martin 526 9406

Terry Horrobin 526 1249

Venue: St Andrews Church Room. Mondays 14:00 - 16:00 fortnightly

11th November - Music

25th November - Walls & Brickwork

9th December - Open subject Group re-opens on the 6th of January

FAMILY HISTORY

Leaders: David Russell 526 6527 & Rosney Leith 526 3623

Venue: Lydiat Village Centre 1st Friday of the month 13.30 - 15.30

1st November - Evacuation of Children WW" with Pam Russell.

6th December - Where did Santa leave your presents? All members.

3rd January 2020 - Historical content 1951 - 1956 with Tom White

GLASS WORKSHOP

Leader: John Jackson 526 2900

Asst: Bob Jones 931 4638

Venue: Lydiat Village Centre
November dates: 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th.

No meetings in December

The Danube—Magical and Moving

Maybe it wasn't quite as blue as Strauss would have us believe but the Danube was a paradise of peace as we sailed its still waters on our recent cruise. Our floating home – the Esmeralda, was comfortable and reminiscent of a bygone age with its wooden panelling and deep armchairs. The staff were friendly and obliging and the food excellent, indeed so much so, that it caused problems for the waistline!

The river proved to be a delight; slow moving and steady. The Esmeralda's engines were quiet, causing only the slightest swell as the ship made its way along the river. The birds and the fisherman along the banks hardly noticed us as we sailed by.



The iconic sights we passed were majestic & impressive; against the bright blue sky the turrets of hidden castles peeked out at us amid the trees that lined the river. Budapest's Parliament building looked just amazing as it had in every photo I'd seen but at night it took on a quality all of its own. A 'Blue Danube' cocktail drunk whilst passing the building bathed in light against the evening sky made for a perfect farewell to the city that, in just one day, had become a favourite for all of us. The fortress that was Bratislava Castle towered above the river, framed by the dark sky it looked almost magical, just like the castles we read about as children.



We bumped along on a small land train through the Wallach Valley with its abundance of vineyards bursting with grapes that were simply a hand's reach away from us. Our destination was Durnstein; possibly the prettiest village in Austria, which with its charming cobbled streets, crumbling arches and Wedgwood Blue Abbey was reminiscent of a street in Portmeirion on an August day. We walked in awe through the splendour that was Melk Abbey; its library and chapel breathtaking in its baroque glory. The Abbey looked down on our river, it dominated the skyline, its bright yellow colour reflecting back the sunlight that drenched it. The weather could not have been more glorious and our photos could not have been more picture perfect.



The river swept us on from one delight to the next; taking us through many of the sixteen locks on the river. We rose like a Phoenix some seventy eight feet from the depth of the deepest lock, moving from the darkness to the bright welcoming sunshine. We marvelled at the engineering that meant our journey was unbroken, smooth, and, with nature's help - breathtaking.

Vienna with its State Opera House and Palaces, Bonn with Beethoven looking down on us, Regensburg with David and Goliath, Neumarkt and Aalst, all could do with a mention. So much to tell you but sadly there's no more room. Next time maybe!

Jane Jones

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, in need or could do with a friendly contact please inform Lill Boyle on 526 4303
'Knowing someone cares can make such a difference.'*

GARDEN VISITS

Leaders: Ann Raw 526 6086

Barbara Short 526 1119

Asst. Doreen Bird

Friday 15th - Sunday 17th November

A pre-Christmas break has been arranged to visit Harrogate, Skipton, Knaresborough, visiting the Christmas Markets and Harewood House.

We will be staying at the Mercure Hotel, located close to the ancient market town of Wetherby on a D/B&B basis. Total cost is £199.00 We leave Maghull at 09.30

NB - Final briefing for this break will take place on the 5th of November in the Coffee Room at 11:15

Wednesday 11th December

Christmas lunch - Our first visit will be to Barton Grange garden centre for a bit of festive inspiration. This is a lovely garden centre with plenty of ideas to put you in the Christmas spirit. Later we will journey to our "Mystery" Christmas lunch venue, as most of us like a surprise!! The venue is set in beautiful surroundings and countryside. It is a three course meal with a choice of starters, mains and an assiette of Christmas desserts, tea/coffee and mince pie.

Cost £30.00 (inc. coach travel)

Depart Maghull Square – 09:30

Return Maghull Square. – 17:30 app.

LAW FOR FUN

Leader: John Dilworth 07950950787

Venue: Lydiate Village Hall

Third Thursday each month 14:00 - 16:00 Entry £1.50 inc. refreshments.

21st November - "Most of us enter into contracts every day of our lives (perhaps without even realising it)! We will discuss the basic components of the law of contract.

Amongst other things you will learn how Carbollic Smokeballs and Boots the Chemist helped shape the law as it is today"! (Talk postponed form October)

The group will restart (all being well) on the 16th of January.

LOCAL HISTORY

Leader: Denis 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

Cost: £2.00

Tuesday 5th November - 'The Royal

Court Theatre' - by Mr David Brown.

Tuesday 3rd December - 'Mr

Sunlight' - by Mrs Elaine Allen

We will be having a break during January.

MATHS FOR FUN

Leader: Wanda Leach 284 8454

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

Admission - £1.00 inc refreshments.

6th November - More mathematical artwork. Please remember to bring your pencil and ruler.

4th December - Christmas Maths - curious, entertaining and fun!

NEW GROUP - UKULELE FOR BEGINNERS

Mike Newton is willing to start a Ukulele for Beginners group. If you are interested contact Mike on 07786381961.

SPANISH CONVERSATION

Leader : Ron Higham 526 3562

Venue: Lydiate Village Hall

Friday 09:30 - 11:30 Group One

Friday 11:30 - 13:00 Group Two

Our last meeting this year will be on the **13th of December** and we will restart on the **10th of January**.

SUNDAY STROLLERS

Leader: John McKenzie 531 0207 or 0790052522

Our next walk will be on the 17th of November. For full details see the website.

TABLE GAMES

Leader: Phil Davidson 526 6805

Asst: Cath Pearson 526 1872

Venue: The Function Room, Maghull Town Hall

Mondays 10:00 - 12:00

Our last meeting for 2019 will be on the 16th December. We restart on the 6th of January

TABLE TENNIS

Leaders: Carolyn Comaish 526 4478

George Dobie 285 0119

Tuesdays 14:00 & Fridays 14:00

Venue: Maghull Baptist Church Hall

TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE

Leader: Phil Davidson 526 6805

Asst: Colin Bennett 526 0752

Venue: Kensington House 14:30

9th October - 'Ten plants that changed the world'

23rd October - GPS Systems

13th November - Volcanoes

27th November - Lighthouses

TUESDAY COFFEE MORNINGS 10:00 - 11:15

Maghull Baptist Church Hall
Tea/coffee served until 10:50
Time for a cuppa, a chat and a chance to make new friends.

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



THEATRE	SHOW	DATE	PRICE
Empire Theatre	The Nutcracker ballet	29th November	£ 35.00
Playhouse	Miracle on 34th Street	7th December	TBA
Philharmonic	New Year '007'	31st December	£ 35.00 plus transport
Royal Exchange	Gypsy	17th January 2020	£ 49.00 inc transport