

## Echo Arena



Members of **Local History Group 7** had a guided tour around the BT Conference Centre, Echo Arena and Exhibition Centre in Liverpool, organised by Terry Simmons. We were met in the reception area by our Tour Guides, Sarah and Amy, who gave us a visitors bracelet each and led us to one of the small meeting rooms within the BT Convention Centre. Here we were given a coffee and a delicious cake, followed by an overview of the history of the complex and a summary of the facilities provided. It was interesting to note that the design concept was to make the whole complex look like a pair of butterfly wings. Another point made was that within the first year, the complex made a profit of £15.5 Million, which was reinvested to help fund the Exhibition Centre. We were shown a very professional short video of the attractions that Liverpool provides. The video is used to

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attract new business customers to use the complex. For example the BBC held their Sportsview Personality of the Year event, Labour held their Party Conference, there have been Show Jumping Events, ice shows including Disney on Ice, many concerts including The Eagles, John Bishop, and numerous exhibition events, conferences and business meetings both large and small. Each area of the Complex has its own catering facilities, and also has its own technical staff and equipment for videoing and providing television displays. The Centre has been voted the best UK Conference Centre in the UK for the last 2 years and now includes the Pullman Liverpool Hotel. Following the introduction we

were given a tour of the whole facility which demonstrated how versatile and flexible each area was, so that every type of function could be accommodated. In the sunshine the view of the river from the Conference Centre was glorious, but could be a distraction for delegates in a meeting especially after lunch.

The tour lasted about 2 hours. It was very interesting, enjoyable and provided an insight into the multifunctional capability of the Complex, which is not obvious from the outside. Afterwards we made our separate ways for lunch and shopping in Liverpool.

*John Adamson*

## Lion Salt Works

Members of **Local History Group 9** visited the Lion Salt Works at Marston near Northwich. This was the last remaining salt works until its closure in 1986. It is now, after restoration, a museum which traces the history of open pan salt production in this area.



We had two excellent guides who described how the Thompson family started the Lion Works in 1857. They sank a brine shaft into the liquid salt bed some 25m down below the brown marlstone, then extracted this, by means of a nodding donkey pump, into pans which were heated up to remove the water content. We learnt about the processes of skimming, lumping, drying and lofting, as well as the different grades of salt, and how the workers survived (mostly!) in awful working conditions compared to present industrial standards. The Museum and its restored buildings have galleries that illustrate how the salt works operated and salts effect on the economy and landscape of mid-Cheshire.



After a splendid visit, the group retired over the road to The Salt Barge Inn for lunch.

*Ken and Carole Bryning*

## Liverpool Old Dock



Members of **Local History Group 9** were greeted at the Maritime Museum by Danny and John, our guides for the tour. After a short introduction telling us that the Old Dock was originally known as Thomas Steers Dock, the world's first commercial wet dock, we were escorted across to Liverpool One.

The Old Dock was built on the River Mersey, starting in 1710 and finished in 1716. A natural tidal pool off the River Mersey was partially filled and locked in from the River with quay and walls erected, the 'Pool' giving Liverpool its name. The dock accommodated up to 100 ships and the dock walls were constructed from brick laid directly onto the sandstone bedrock. The dock gates would have allowed as much as 10% of water out between high tides, resulting in a water drop of several feet, which was offset by water entering from a stream. The old dock closed in 1826, as much due to the presence of sewage being discharged into it, as to the rise of other commercial docks, and was filled in. In 2004, construction began on the Paradise street re development, financed by the Duke of Westminster's Grosvenor properties in conjunction with the City Council. When building commenced, various remnants of Old Liverpool were unearthed including most of the Old Dock. This was excavated by the University of Oxford Archaeological Group and owing mostly to the generosity of the Duke they were able to preserve under the Liverpool One car park, a large portion of this piece of history.

After a fascinating talk and viewing from our amiable guides the group had lunch at the Cote Bistro in Paradise street.

*Ken & Carole Bryning*

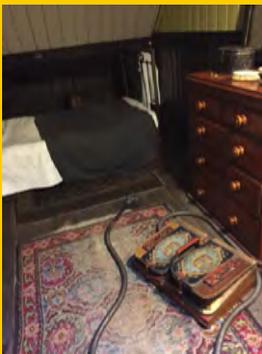
**Newsletter Editor's Note:** *Apologies to LH Group 9 for the delay in publishing this and the following article, both of which disappeared down the back of the e-mail in box!*

## Bramall Hall



**Local History Group 9** had an excellent visit to Bramall Hall, near Stockport which got off to a great start with a good quality lunch of sandwiches, crisps and cake, booked in advance, at the site's new café, the hall being set in attractive parkland which looked at its best in the clear spring sunshine. Recently refurbished, the hall made an impressive sight as we approached from the grounds and were met by Suzie, our guide for the visit.

Our tour started in the Great Hall where Suzie told us some of the history of the hall, which was fascinating as none of us new anything of the hall, nor had ever visited it. We discovered it hearing a local news item about the refurbishment and reopening. There has been some building on the site since the 12<sup>th</sup> century, being mentioned in William 1<sup>st</sup>'s doomsday book. The Davenport family took possession in 1370 and the hall remained in their ownership until the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century and Victorian England. There must be few properties that have remained in the one family for 500 years. We now benefit from this because the Davenports, though rich enough to develop the site tastefully and in keeping with the style of their times were not especially wealthy and were never in a position to demolish and replace what they had, which has happened so often in History and indeed today. The last Davenport was the tenth William Davenport. Having no sons, the estate passed to the husband of his illegitimate daughter Salusbury Price Humphreys. At one time he was in disgrace for his activities in the American War of Independence. He possibly left Bramall Hall because of the expense of its upkeep.



The house was bought by an industrialist, Thomas Neville, who gave it to his son Charles, who updated much of the house to the Victorian style and standards at the time. Some parts of the house are essentially Tudor while others are very much Victorian in character. The Nevilles used the services of a renowned Altrincham designer and craftsman Charles Armitage, who was active in the Arts and Crafts movement, a reaction to the industrialised design which was

becoming so prevalent. The house was sold in 1917 to John Henry Davies, who was the president of Manchester United and his widow lived there until her death in 1935. Subsequently ownership passed to the local council.

In Tudor times the Hall would have consisted essentially of what became the Great Hall. Additions to the north would be servants' quarters and to the south where the family would have lived. Throughout the building, including the servants' quarters, thought had been given to the use of windows to provide light as well as access views of the estate.

There is probably not space here to describe all the rooms, but particularly impressive was the large chapel, its size necessary as it served the community. Fascinating was the Solar Room in the top of the building. Here, we could examine Tudor murals; remarkable how they had survived the tests of time. This is possibly because of a lack of funds they were painted rather than woven in tapestry. At the end of the tour we thanked Suzie as one of the best guides we had experienced: In fact I think she was the best.

*Patrick Parkes*

## **Audio Version of the Newsletter**

Formby U3A have started to produce an audio version of the Newsletter. This is available for members who are visually less able and is distributed through the post. If you are aware of any Formby U3A member who would prefer to receive an audio version of the Newsletter, please let a member of the Committee have their details.

## **Christmas Show 2017**



Susan Birchall organised the 2016 Formby U3A Christmas Show, but is not able to continue doing so in 2017. Formby U3A urgently requires a willing volunteer to come forward and organise something; a variety show, a pantomime, or anything else that they perceive as appropriate. If you are able to help, please contact the Chairman. Details are on page 18.

## Lingmoor and Blea Tarn



Ken Bryning led the **Fellwalking Group** from Elterwater, over Lingmoor and then a steep but pleasant path down to Blea Tarn where we had lunch with one of the best views in the Lake District, looking towards the Langdale Pikes. After that we followed the Cumbria Way to Colwith Force, Skelwith Bridge and back to Elterwater along a newly re-constructed path. We were blessed with beautiful weather, sunshine, blue skies and a gentle breeze. The spring flowers were out and it was altogether a perfect day.



*Marcia Thompson*

## Deva



Legionnaire Tiberius, who braved Chester's recent cold and wet climate, must have thought he drawn the short straw when other centurions had postings to the warmer climes of the Mediterranean. Nevertheless, his passion for Roman Chester drew everyone in as he brought **Local History Group 6** an informative tour of the city's hidden past. History came alive as we learned about Roman baths, gladiator fights, feasts, orgies and daily life of both citizens and slaves. Starting near the Cathedral, we were taken down side streets, passageways and into cellars in what turned out to be well over the promised 1½ hour, light-hearted journey exploring Roman heritage. We were also shown some interesting artefacts.

Whilst Tiberius explained that a lot of Roman Chester was destroyed by developers in the 1960s, we were amazed to see so many remains, secret, hidden, relocated and restored. We were given an excellent understanding of how big, complex and efficient the Roman presence was with a balance between sights, information, and human interest stories.

*Elizabeth Goodwill*

### Welcome To May's New Members

Brenda Blackman

Debra Doherty

David Jones

Denise Jones

Linda Lett

John Stoten

Margaret Wilson

## Astley Hall



**Local History Group 9** spent a lovely summer's day at Astley Hall, a Grade 1 listed building near Chorley. Only a 50 min drive away makes it a great handy day out. The hall is beautiful and renowned for its Jacobean plastered ceilings. The guide explained the tricks and methods used to make the fruits, vegetables and cherubs so realistic. You felt as though you could have picked the corn on the cobs! Interesting stories of the former inhabitants were relayed to us through their portraits in the Great Hall. We saw the 4 poster bed Oliver Cromwell is believed to have slept in. Perhaps the crowning glory was the Long Gallery with its sloping floor, majestic windows overlooking the lake and fountain and an extremely long table (7.2m), the finest shovelboard table in existence. There were parallels with Speke Hall. The Victorians and Edwardians had added their own features: each room told its own story. We would thoroughly recommend Astley Hall. The Cafe Ambio is welcoming, has tasty food and it was a treat to sit out in the courtyard. Oh yes and the renovated Victorian walled garden and walks around Astley Park are an added bonus.



*Ray Aspinwall*

## Group News

**All groups are only for current, paid up members.** If interested, please contact the Groups Secretary unless otherwise stated.

**Cycling for Softies** needs a few more names before starting this new group. This will be a lovely summer activity.

**DIY Group:** We would like to start a DIY group. Anyone wanting information, please contact the Groups Secretary.

**Family History 2** has now started and meets monthly on a Friday morning. Group leader Linda Feeney can be contacted on 833026 or e-mail: [linanben7@gmail.com](mailto:linanben7@gmail.com)



**French Improvers 1** would like new members to join them at their weekly Tuesday morning meetings. Please contact Jean Wardlaw on 631102 or e-mail: [handjwardlaw@hotmail.com](mailto:handjwardlaw@hotmail.com)

**Golf Groups:** Beginner to experienced golfers can join U3A golfers.

**Guitar Group:** Meets fortnightly on a Wednesday afternoon. It is now up and running. Please contact John Allcutt on 870766.

**Scottish Dancing:** Meets on Wednesday mornings every fortnight and would welcome new members. Contact Jim McMillan, 876094 or e-mail [jim@burnieboozle.co.uk](mailto:jim@burnieboozle.co.uk)

*Linda McAuley, Group Secretary*

## Ride Of The Roses



The **Cycling Group** has been meeting regularly at 9:30on Tuesday mornings at the Liverpool side of Formby railway station for many years. It was originally established by very enthusiastic cycling members of Formby U3A but then a group

called "Cycling for Softies" was introduced about 5 years ago and our numbers have increased. Now the two groups have amalgamated and each week our dedicated leaders, David Manning-Fox, Pam Ashton and Nic Dickson devise a range of interesting cycle rides to suit all tastes and abilities, with different distances and at different speeds. They even arrange the weather so that we rarely get wet and the wind is usually in the right direction! All the rides involve a cafe stop half way round and we finish usually somewhere between midday and one o'clock.

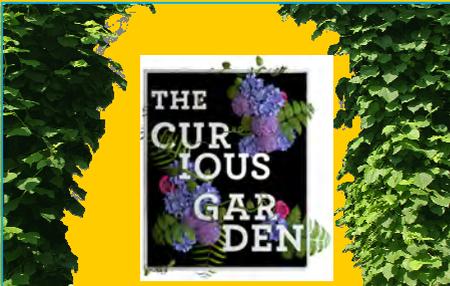
A small group of us have registered to take part in a Charity Ride on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2017 called **Ride Of The Roses** in aid of **The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity**. We shall be taking part in a 50 mile circular ride from Banks around South Lancashire including places like Chorley and Leyland and involving several steep hills! We shall be working out a training schedule over the summer to get fit in time.

Naturally, because it is a charitable event, we shall be looking for sponsorship donations. The Formby U3A committee has kindly agreed that we can advertise our ride in the Newsletter so that we can raise as much money as possible for this very worthwhile charity from our membership.

This message is just an advance notice of the event and further details of how donations can be made will appear in future Newsletters.

*Andy Hoare*

## Southport Flower Show



If Formby U3A members wish to purchase any day tickets for this year's show (17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> August), they can be purchased at a U3A members discount rate of £16.00, compared to the normal advance purchase price of £17.50 . Discounted tickets are available on-line [www.southportflowershow.co.uk/u3a](http://www.southportflowershow.co.uk/u3a) (no booking fee), or by post, to Southport Flower Show, Victoria Park, Southport

PR8 1RX (£1 booking and postage charge applies). Offer ends June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Trentham Gardens



Thanks to Ann the Outings Group enjoyed a lovely day out at Trentham Gardens. It was easy to see why it was voted BBC Countryfile's Garden of the Year in 2015. The gardens were spectacular and date back to at least the 1600s with later designs, including the Pleasure Ground by Lancelot (Capability) Brown in 1759. There were many attractions including the very recent meadow planting around the lake by Nigel Dunnett, the Mystery Garden and the exquisitely sculptured ornamental Fairies – not forgetting the good selection of shops.

A number of the group took a boat trip around the Lake and saw herons, cygnets and black swans. The weather could have been kinder, rain when we arrived, clearing up in the afternoon and the sun making an appearance when we were leaving, but we're British and expect this type of thing so came prepared with hooded raincoats, umbrellas and a sense of humour.



*Pauline Rooney, photos David Skelton*

## Music and Theatre Events

(Events are open to all members of Formby U3A)

Please pay for tickets when the initial booking is made and don't forget to book early to avoid disappointment. If you are unable to attend the event, could you notify us as soon as possible. Dave Irving's phone number is at the bottom of this article. ***The coach will leave The Cross House bus stop at 6:15pm, unless otherwise stated.***

**Thurs. 29<sup>th</sup> June, Matthew Bourne's "The Red Shoes," Liverpool Empire.** This is based on the classic, award winning film and tells the inspiring story of one girl's love of dancing and obsessive ambition, despite many obstacles, to be the best dancer known to the world. Tickets including transport cost £40 centre rear stalls.

**Sat. 22<sup>nd</sup> July "Last Night of The Summer Pops," Liverpool Philharmonic.** Don't miss this last chance to enjoy an amazing evening featuring saxophonist and Young Musician of the Year, Jess Gillam, conductor Ian Tracey and The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. There's a combination of rousing, choral favourites and some long loved British classics including the themes from The Archers, Brideshead Revisited, Sailing By, Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance and, of course, Parry's Jerusalem. An evening to remember. Tickets £38 including transport, middle rear centre stalls.

**Thurs. 26<sup>th</sup> Oct "Giselle," Liverpool Empire.** This iconic ballet comes following a highly successful 2016 tour. Sets and costumes by Academy Award winning designer Tim Yip, enhance the beauty. The English National Ballet Philharmonic perform this adaptation of Adolphe Adam's original score. Tickets, including transport, £30, stalls.

**Thurs. 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov. "War Horse," Liverpool Empire.** This highly acclaimed, record breaking production is a story of the enduring relationship between a boy and his beloved horse, Joey. When Joey is shipped to France at the start of World War 1, Albert although legally too young to enlist, embarks on a perilous journey, determined to find him and bring him home. The atmospheric sets and amazing, ground breaking puppetry bring this dramatic, heart-warming story to life and commemorate the Centenary of the end of the war. Tickets, including transport, £55, centre rear stalls.

**Thurs. 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. "Crazy for You," Liverpool Empire.** Prepare for an evening of high energy, glamour with this Watermill Theatre production, starring Tom Chambers and Caroline Flack and featuring the classic Gershwin favourites, I Got Rhythm, Someone to Watch over Me and Nice Work if You can Get It. Tickets, including transport, £38 stalls.

Dave Irving can be contacted directly, if necessary tel: 630192.

*Eileen Jones*

**Crosby Capriol Singers** present

# Here, There & EVERYWHERE

A concert featuring lighthearted  
music from five continents

Conductor **Richard Pomfret**  
Accompanist **Julie Oade**

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7.30pm

**St. Michael's Church Hall**  
Dowhills Road, Blundellsands, L23 8SP

**Tickets £9 (£8 concessions)**  
Accompanied under 19s free

available from

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Registered Charity No. 503870

## Scammers – Beware!

It is great that so many of you are having success and enjoyment from using modern technology. You may think that you are the type of person who knows what a scam is and that you will never get caught out, but recent events show that it doesn't matter how big, or smart you are. We can all be fooled by a scammer.

*A person in Britain is scammed every 15 seconds.*

*£1.2billion is lost to investment scams each year in Britain (source Financial Conduct Authority)*

*62% of people have been targeted by online fraudsters in the past 12 months (Which)*



Scammers use slick sales techniques and are highly trained. They can produce impressive websites that look identical to the real company they imitate. Scams can take many different forms: a telephone call out of the blue; an e-mail, text message; a door-to-door salesman. It's not always easy to tell whether something is genuine or not, so it's important that you know the warning signs to look out for.

**Recognising scams:** Most scams either appear too good to be true (*because they are*), or try to worry you into quickly taking action under pressure. They may also tell you that the offer is exclusive to you and that you shouldn't tell anyone else. This should be a danger flag as it's important you take advice and have the support of your friends, family, or independent advisors.

Beware of companies that have vague contact details, e.g. only a PO box, premium rate telephone number starting "09" or only a mobile telephone number. If anything goes wrong it's important you can contact those involved and these contact details can be difficult to track down. In addition premium rate telephone numbers are a favourite trick for squeezing every penny out of you.

You may be inundated by phone calls, letters, receive glossy brochures, or e-mails trying to pressurise you into quickly investing in a scheme which promise exclusive offers with high returns. Such schemes are often promised with a "*limited time to buy.*" They may even include the name of a legitimate company and a Financial Conduct Authority number in an attempt to appear genuine. Should you be fooled into buying shares, wine, land, carbon credits, diamonds, or minerals then the investments you have been promised may never turn up, or if they do, they will be worthless. You may receive telephone calls about your "*recent accident,*" asking you to confirm details. If you are called by any company, make sure you do all you can to verify the identity of the caller. Ask the caller to provide the details that only that company will know, such as your name, the details of an accident, your service contract details, payment details, bank account details, ***but don't provide any***



**details yourself.** It's highly unlikely that the caller can provide any details as they are simply "cold calling" and have no idea who they 'phoned.

Fraudsters may impersonate the police, or a bank. They tell you that they have reason to believe criminals are planning to empty your bank account. The fraudsters use scare tactics to ask you to give them your bank account details and passwords. If they ask for these, it is a clear sign that the call is fraudulent as the **police and banks never ask** for such details. They may ask you to hand your bank cards to a courier who will call. If you do hand your card over, this will give fraudsters everything they need to take your money out via a cash machine.

Number spoofing involves adding another layer to fraudster's sophistication to make you believe that the telephone caller really is your bank. They can make it appear as if the telephone number they are calling you from is your bank's when you have number display, or use 1471. They may tell you to ring off and call back to your bank to check it really was your bank 'phoning, but they can keep the line open so that when you ring your bank you are really telephoning back to the fraudsters. If you receive any such a call telephone **never ring your bank back**; call a friend before

Dear Customer. Please note that, at this moment we have to refund you £280.40,taxes for the last 2 years. Please visit <http://hmrc-online-refund.com/>

you do anything else. If the person answering your call claims to be your bank rather than your friend, you know you have received a number spoofing call.

If you use e-mails, you may receive a phishing scam. This is a message that appears to come from your bank, a company that you sometimes shop with, or may never have used.

The page can look very authentic, although it may sometimes contain very poor spelling or grammar and like the illustrations shown may even include some fake trusted words. This type of message asks you to log in to your account, or click on a link. If you log in, you will provide the fraudsters with your log in details so that they can access your account and empty it, or purchase things for themselves using your money. If you click on the link, it will install a program that will either mean you are unable to use your computer, or will deliver a ransom note demanding money to "fix" a problem, or install a malicious virus.

**Do not click on such messages.** Even if you pay the exorbitant ransom, your computer will not work again until you have paid a legitimate





Detected Security Error. Due to possible Suspicious Activity Found On Your Computer. Contact Expert Certified Live Technicians

IG!

YOUR COMPUTER MAY BE INFECTED:

(2) New Potentially FATAL Viruses: Rootkit,Sirefef,Spy and Trojan FakeAV-Download. Your Personal & Financial Information **MAY NOT BE SAFE.**

To Remove Viruses, Call Tech Support Now:

1-877-695

(24/7 - Toll Free - High Priority) Virus Removal CSB Live

\*Our IP Address: [redacted] Generated on November 5, 2014, 11:43 pm (UTC) - Privacy Statement

specialist to recover it. If you need to log in to your account, do so via the trusted company's normal website, not the e-mail you received.

### **What can you do?**

In addition to the above steps, you should:

a) Contact your bank, as soon as possible, to tell them that you have been scammed. They will be able to stop any further money transfers, even if they can't recover money that has already been taken.

b) Be aware that if you have already been scammed you are more likely to be targeted again. This could be from someone offering to help you recover your stolen money by charging a fee in return for their "help."

c) Don't be embarrassed, or afraid to speak up. Let others know. Contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040, or online at [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk) Contact the police, especially if the suspect is known, or still in the area.

d) If you have to allow someone to access to your computer so that they can fix a problem, make sure that it is a person that you know and can trust.

e) If you have a computer, make sure that everything, the operating system (Windows etc.), as well as security system is up-to-date. Many companies such as Norton and McAfee sell one via high street shops, or the internet. Other free security systems are available via the internet, such as Avast, Kaspersky, or AVG. It also improves your computer's security if you regularly run an "anti-malware" program on your computer and there are also free and purchase versions available on-line or at retailers. It's no use just having these security systems, you **must run updates and scan** your computer **at least once a week**.

f) If you are worried about the security of your computer you can contact the Formby U3A webmaster by e-mailing [webmaster@formbyu3a.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@formbyu3a.org.uk) or by passing a message via one of the Committee members at the monthly coffee morning. He will be able to inform you of the range of anti-virus and anti-malware options available. Be careful as some of the free ones can sometime try to get you to opt in to the more expensive "premium" versions.



g) The Police have produced a helpful 40 page booklet, "***The Little book of Big Scams.***" It not only gives "Golden Rules," but also warns about the many ways that

criminals may try to scam you by telephone, door to door and over the internet. You can find the booklet by typing, or copying and pasting this website address into your internet browser [www.met.police.uk/docs/little\\_book\\_scam.pdf](http://www.met.police.uk/docs/little_book_scam.pdf)

h) Age UK has produced a 24 page booklet, "**Internet Security, Staying Safe Online.**" You can find the booklet by copying and pasting this website address into your internet browser [www.ageuk.org.uk/Documents/EN-GB/Information-guides/AgeUKIL4\\_Internet\\_security\\_inf.pdf?dtrk=true](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/Documents/EN-GB/Information-guides/AgeUKIL4_Internet_security_inf.pdf?dtrk=true)

### **Remember**

- 1 Be suspicious of all "too good to be true" offers and deals. There are no guaranteed get rich schemes and offers that appear too good to be true are just that!
- 2 Do not immediately agree to offers, or deals. Insist on your rights for time to obtain independent advice before making decisions. If you are not given such an opportunity it often indicates a scam.
- 3 Do not hand over money, or sign anything until you have had time to check the credentials of the company.
- 4 Never send money to someone you do not trust and do not use a method of payment that you are not comfortable with.
- 5 Never give banking, or personal details to someone you do not know, or trust. This information is valuable, so keep it safe.
- 6 Always log on to a website directly rather than clicking on to a link provided in an e-mail.
- 7 Do not rely on glowing testimonials. Find solid independent evidence of a company's success.
- 8 Always get independent/legal advice if an offer involves money, time, or commitment.
- 9 If you spot a scam, or have been scammed, report it and get help. Contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040, or online at [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk) Contact the police if the suspect is known, or still in the area.
- 10 Do not be embarrassed to report a scam. Scammers are cunning and clever and there is no shame in being deceived. By reporting a scam, you will make it more difficult for scammers to deceive others.



*10 Golden Rules, © Metropolitan Police,  
Formby U3A Newsletter Editor &  
Formby U3A Webmaster*

## It's Your Newsletter

This edition of the Newsletter contained 6 Local History Group reports from the 14 Local History groups in Formby U3A, as well as reports from Fell Walkers and the Outings Group. There were also outlines of what 3 groups are planning. Thank you for your articles.

Imagine how good the Newsletter could be and how much news there could be if the other 140 interest groups sent a report, or a photograph to show what they had been doing.

*Why doesn't your group tell others what you've been up to?*

## Formby U3A Committee, 2017/18

Chairman	Glyn Pike (2016)	0151 929 2996	chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk
Vice-Chairman	Vacant		
Secretary	Jack Ashworth (2016)	874847	secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk
Treasurer	treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk		
Membership Sec.	Ann Gunstone (2016)	872879	membership@formbyu3a.org.uk
Group Secretary	Linda McAuley (2016)	871890	groups@formbyu3a.org.uk
Officers	Susan Birchall (2015)	201240	1stofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	(co-opted) Frances Taylor (2017)	577205	2ndofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	(co-opted) Ann Blackman (2015)	871127	3rdofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Linda Howard (2015)	570141	4thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Rosemary Thomas (2015)	871376	5thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Valerie Tibbitts (2016)*	577985	6thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk

\* year each Committee Member first took office

## Outings Group

**Outings are open to all paid up members of the U3A.** All we ask is that you have the ability to get on and off the coach independently. We cannot be responsible for providing assistance. The coach can accommodate mobility aids which are kept in the luggage compartment on the bus.

Owing to increased demand, we cannot reserve tickets: **Tickets will be allocated on a first come and paid for – first served basis.** A separate cheque is required for each outing and **it is essential that members include their telephone number with each booking.** Several cheques have been received with no information and I have struggled to identify what they are for. If no contact details are provided, I am unable to contact people when outings are fully booked.

Bookings and information are available at U3A monthly meetings, or coffee mornings. Alternatively please send a stamp addressed envelope to:  
Ann Blackman, 9 River Close, Formby, Liverpool L37 6DJ, enclosing a separate cheque for each outing made out to **Formby U3A Outings Group**, having your name, address and telephone number **on the back.**

**Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, Portmeirion.** Tickets £26.75 each include coach travel and entrance to the village designed by Clough William-Ellis in the style of an Italian village. There are a number of cafes etc., or bring a picnic. Blue badge holders **may** qualify for a discount so please bring your Disability Blue badge with you on the day. Depart Cross Green 8:30am.

**Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, Windermere Lake Cruise.** Tickets £45.50 include return travel, 2 course lunch with tea & coffee at the Lakeside Hotel, Newby Bridge, followed by a lake cruise from Newby Bridge to Ambleside returning to Bowness and then Formby. Depart Cross Green 8:30am.

**Monday August 21<sup>st</sup>, Llandudno.** Tickets £14.00 to include return coach to Llandudno and a brief stopover en-route at Tweed Mills Outlet Village. Whilst in Llandudno you have free time to enjoy this classic resort, catch the open-topped bus to Conway and its castle, or travel up the Great Orme on the Victorian Tramway, or cable car (*not included*). Depart Cross Green 9:00am.

*Ann Blackman, Tel: 871127*

### Monthly Meetings

Are at 2:00 pm in Holy Trinity Parish Hall, the second Wednesday of each month.

**June 14<sup>th</sup>**      **Fundraiser of the Year**      Ron Hutchinson has rubbed shoulders with the great and the good.

**July 12<sup>th</sup>**      **Life with Steeplejack Fred**      Sheila Dibnah

**August - No meeting**

**September 13<sup>th</sup>**      **Sledding in Antarctica**      Pat Ashcroft

**October 11<sup>th</sup>**      **That Certain Age**      Gay Rhodes

**November 8<sup>th</sup>**      **Fire Service**

**December 13<sup>th</sup>**      **Christmas Show** (*subject to finding volunteers to organise the event!*)

**Please remember to bring your current (2017 blue) membership card to all events, including group activities.**

**COFFEE MORNINGS** are from 10:30 to 12:00 on Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup> and each Thursday, the day after the monthly meeting, except August. These are held in the Workshop, Holy Trinity Church, with free coffee and the chance to pick up information about other groups and meet some of your Committee.

### To Help You

**An audio version of the Newsletter** is available for members who are visually less able and is distributed through the post. If you are aware of any Formby U3A member who would prefer to receive an audio version of the Newsletter, please let a member of the Committee have their details.

To inform Formby U3A if **you have changed your address, telephone number, or e-mail address:** Please contact ***datamanager@formbyu3a.org.uk*** or tel: 872862. Please remember to include your full name and address, or membership number.

To ask about your **membership card, or subscriptions:** Please contact ***treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk***

**The next edition** of the Newsletter is due to be sent by e-mail and be on the website early July. Paper copies can be collected at the monthly meeting & coffee morning.

Contributions are always welcomed. Formby U3A Committee would like to remind contributors that it is their responsibility and not the Editor's to check their submitted articles for the grammar, spelling, punctuation etc. and that contributors' names should be given. **The deadline for receiving articles is the penultimate Thursday of each month; midday Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June at the latest** to the Editor, e-mail: ***newseditor@formbyu3a.org.uk***