

## Beyond the Bagel



**Author, Elizabeth Goodwill.**

As well as trying some wonderful kosher food, **Local History Group 6** members found out about the Jewish faith and culture at the Manchester Jewish Museum when we travelled there by train and a short bus journey. Our visit was based on the notion that those who follow the Jewish faith are always getting ready for the next festival and that each is

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associated with preparing and eating delightful festival foods. As a consequence, we were able to eat our way through the Jewish year. We were wisely advised not to eat a lunch before arriving as, on arrival, we first sampled some tasty bagels, followed by some delicious cakes and were provided with some traditional Jewish recipes to try for ourselves at home.

The Museum is located in a former Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue on Cheetham Hill Road. It is the only Jewish Museum outside London, being in the oldest surviving Synagogue building in Manchester, completed in 1874. The law that Jews cannot drive, or cycle to the synagogue on the Sabbath meant that the synagogue, a beautiful example of Victorian architecture in the Moorish style with splendid stained glass windows and the distinctive cast-iron fittings, became disused as the Jewish community gradually moved out of the area.

## Windermere



**Author, Marion Knight; photos Ian Higson.**

In the week that the Lake District was given Heritage Site status a smaller than usual number of the **Outings Group** set out early from Formby for Windermere. We had a coffee break at the services and arrived at the Lakeside Hotel an hour early for lunch–time to browse in the gift shop at the aquarium, or have a pre-lunch glass of wine or a coffee. The staff were very attentive in serving and able to accommodate some menu changes. There was more time to relax before boarding the 'Tern' for a scenic journey up Lake Windermere with the Captain pointing out some buildings of interest on the way. The coach was there to meet us at Ambleside and took us into Bowness where we had 50 minutes to look round the shops or go for a cream tea. The coach made good time back to Formby after a relaxing day.



***P.S. There has been a cardigan left on the coach – contact Ann for collection.***



## RAF Woodvale



**Author, John Adamson.**

Members of Formby **Local History Group 7** were given a talk on the history of RAF Woodvale Aerodrome and a tour of the aeroplane hanger. Prior to the visit a list of members wanting to attend the tour, had been given to Warrant Officer Neil Blair, so on arrival at the base everyone was given a name tag for security purposes. Following coffee we were given an introduction to the Aerodrome by the Station Commander, after which, W.O. Blair gave a very entertaining presentation on the history of the facility.

The area currently occupied by the aerodrome was originally a 9 hole golf course in the south and a farm in the north. The base was operational from December 1941 until 1945. It was interesting to note that the dual-carriageway from Southport to Formby was built before the aerodrome. The area to the east of the carriageway, (now occupied by the Formby Hall golf course), was also part of the aerodrome and used to house personnel and stores. There were 42 operational aircraft on the site during the war. As well as UK RAF personnel on the Station there was a large contingent of Polish airmen and about 500 WAAF's, some of whom were employed in the command post monitoring aircraft flights.

Between 1953 and 1957 a Spitfire was used to collect temperature and humidity data for the Met Office. This plane was superseded by a Meteor which flew between 1958 and 1971. The Spitfire was overhauled and is now part of the Historic Aircraft Flight as one of the longest serving aircraft. Most of the buildings on the aerodrome had been built of asbestos cement. When these buildings were demolished most of the rubble was buried on the site together with bits of old aircraft and metal.

RAF Woodvale is an operational station which is also used to train students from Liverpool and Manchester Universities who want to learn to fly. The RAF also encourage them to join the airforce, and are apparently very successful. The students fly GROB Tutor T Mk 1 trainer aircraft. These aircraft were seen during the visit to the aircraft hanger. There is also a Woodvale Aircraft Owners Group (WAOG), on the site that facilitates about 12 private aircraft housed in their own hanger.

The visit lasted about two and half hours and was very interesting and enjoyable. After the tour we had lunch in the Pinewoods Pub.

## Car Park - Warning

Some Formby U3A members have been of the understanding that they may park in the Cross House Pub's car park whilst on a U3A activity. Please be aware that signs have recently appeared in the car park stating that it is solely for the use of patrons; there should be no parking outside opening hours; parking is patrolled by enforcement teams; £100 fines may be imposed.

## Welcome To July & August's New Members

Alan Ankers	Rita Billington	David Bradley
Elizabeth Christy	Margaret Duffy	Linda Harrison
Susan Jacques	Fiona Martin	Pamela Sinclair
Ann Watson		

## Music and Theatre Events

*Author, Eileen Jones.*

**Music & Theatre Events are open to all members of Formby U3A.** Please pay for tickets when the initial booking is made; cheques should be made payable to Formby U3A M&T Group and please write the event name and your telephone number on the back. If you are unable to attend the event, could you notify us as soon as possible. Dave Irving can be contacted directly, if necessary tel: 630192. ***The coach will leave The Cross House bus stop at 6:15pm.***

**Thurs. 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov. "War Horse," Liverpool Empire.** *This is now sold out.*

**Thurs. 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. "Crazy for You," Liverpool Empire.** Tickets, including transport, £38 stalls. ***Tickets are selling fast; only a few remaining.***

## Memory In Older Adults

Deborah Talamonti is a first year PhD Psychology student at Liverpool John Moores University who would like some volunteers, over 50 years old, who are interested in helping with her research. Participants, who should have no diagnosed dementia, would take part in a 1 hour session at the Byron Street Campus. They would be reimbursed for the time with a £10 Tesco, or Amazon voucher. Free car park space is available, if required. Tasks would involve neuropsychological tests, including paper and pencil tasks and two computer-based memory and attention tests.

If you are interested in helping with this research, please contact  
D.Talamonti@2016.ljmu.ac.uk

## Group News

**Author, Linda McAuley, Group Secretary.**

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

**Cross House Car Park:** Will all Group Leaders please note that **PATRONS ONLY** are allowed to use this car park. The pub has now appointed a company to enforce a £100 fine for non-customers. Some groups have been using the car park to assemble and leave their cars for a period of time. Please let your group members know.

**Cycling for Softies:** This group meets every Monday morning at 10.00 for a leisurely ride of 8 to 10 miles.

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

**Guitar Group:** The group meets once a fortnight on a Wednesday afternoon, learning a mixture of skills.

**DIY Group:** will be starting soon. Please contact the Groups Secretary.

## Outings Group

**Author, Ann Blackman, Phone 871127.**

**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 reserved 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.**

**Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, Tatton Festival.** Tickets £23 include coach, entrance to mansion, gardens farm and event. Attractions include steam engine, scarecrow and corn dolly making, spinning, woodturning, clog making, sheep racing, Brass Band concert and animal blessing at 2pm. There are facilities to purchase refreshments which are **NOT included** in the price. Depart Cross Green 9am.

**Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, Pendle Witches Tour.** Tickets £22 include coach, morning coffee in Clitheroe where a guide will join us to travel on the coach through spectacular autumn scenery providing us with an interesting commentary. The guide will leave us at Boundary Mill where a fish and chip lunch will be served with tea or coffee. You will then have free time in the shopping outlet, departing 4pm to return to Formby. Depart Cross Green 9am

**Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, Chatswoth Christmas Event.** Tickets £33.00 include return coach, entrance to Chatswoth House and grounds. The House will be decorated for the Christmas theme 'What the Dickens'. depicting Charles Dickens stories. A Christmas Market will be open during our visit. Refreshments can be purchased but are **NOT included** in the price. Depart Cross Green 9am

**Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, Outings Christmas Party Briars Hall.** Tickets £27 include coach, two course Christmas meal, live entertainment with Tony Ravel who was so popular with you all at our last visit to Briars Hall. Depart Cross Green 11am

## **Formby U3A Committee, 2017/18**

Chairman	Glyn Pike (2016)	0151 929 2996	chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk
Vice-Chairman	Vacant		
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	Rosemary Thomas (2015)	871376	5thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Valerie Tibbitts (2016)*	577985	6thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk

\* year each Committee Member first took office

### Monthly Meetings

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

**September 13<sup>th</sup> Sledding in Antarctica**, Pat Ashcroft. This inspiring lady from Garstang has proved there are no limits to pensioner power with her bid to raise money for Mencap. She has travelled widely and had many adventures, none more inspiring than her five day sleigh ride across the frozen wastes of Antarctica, caring for huskie dogs and staying in the most basic lodges.

**October 11<sup>th</sup> That Certain Age**, Gay Rhodes. An irreverent look at "growing older" with many very telling observations that hit their mark. Her aim is to make her audience laugh and she says that this applies to people of all ages, men and women.

**November 8<sup>th</sup> Fire Service**, Danny Murphy, Merseyside Fire Service Museum/Heritage & Education Centre. The talk will illustrate the pathway to the fire and rescue service over the years, the development of machines and equipment.

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

**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, September 14<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.

**If you have changed your address, telephone number, or e-mail address**, please inform [datamanager@formbyu3a.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk)

**The next edition** of the Newsletter is due to be sent by e-mail and be on the website early October. 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, 21<sup>st</sup> September at the latest** to the Editor, e-mail: [newseditor@formbyu3a.org.uk](mailto:newseditor@formbyu3a.org.uk)