

Green Bell



Author, Marcia Thompson.

The Fellwalking Group's walk started at Newbiggin on Lune and took us through fields to Ravenstonedale and over the fellside to the summit of Knoutberry (where the photo was taken) and then on to Green Bell. En route we passed a rather inauspicious looking rock which is the source of the River Lune (see photo).

The intention was then to do Randygill Top, but due to the strong winds and rough boggy conditions underfoot, we followed the long winding downhill path back to the car park in the Garden Centre at Newbiggin.

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The owner had very kindly allowed us to park there for free, so we availed ourselves of the facilities with tea and cake, before making our way back to Formby.

Tony Smith was our leader, gently encouraging us over the rougher and steeper ascents. A great day out; thanks Tony.



Have You Renewed Your U3A Membership? (£9 per member)

Annual subscriptions were due on 1st January. In order to ensure that the insurance cover provided by our affiliation to the Third Age Trust is not compromised, *all membership subscriptions should have been paid by 28th February*. **If you did not renew your membership by 28th February you are no longer entitled to attend U3A activities. This includes any Group that you may belong to.**

St Helens World of Glass

Author, Patrick Parkes.



Like a lot of people I thought that the World of Glass was part of Pilkington Glass, but we were informed that it is now an independent body. **Local History Group 9's** was certainly an enjoyable and informative experience, which I would highly recommend to anyone who has yet to visit it.

We were made very welcome by the staff with coffee and tea prepared and served at a table reserved for us in their modern refractory. Introduced to our guide she initially showed us original artwork made entirely from glass. After this we were led into a large dimly lit room (to preserve exhibits). They showed the history of Glass from the time of ancient Egypt (5000 years ago) via mediaeval times to the present day. It was hard to believe that some of the highly coloured early exhibits were made so long ago. The next part of the museum showed aspects of the social history of St Helens. It is by no means only a glass town, historically being important in mining, pharmaceuticals and the birth of the canal system. I certainly did not appreciate that the Sankey canal, built to transport coal to Liverpool, was the first canal in the UK. Pharmaceuticals were made by Beecham, founded by Thomas Beecham, the grandfather of Sir Thomas Beecham the famous conductor of classical music. Perhaps the highlight of the morning was a demonstration of glass model making (a swan), and glassblowing. After a viewing of the old chandelier from Manchester airport and a short film show we enjoyed lunch in the Refractory. After lunch we crossed the bridge over the Sankey Canal to a glass factory. This was an area of the canal known as the hotties which steamed from effluent discharged into it. As a young man working at Pilkington I remember seeing boys swimming there in the warm water.

Overall it was a visit to a first class living museum where we learned about developments in industrial glass making including Pilkington's development of the float glass process which revolutionised the process in terms of quality and efficiency.

Group News

Author Linda McAuley, Group Secretary.

We encourage and are always on the lookout for new activity groups and we strive to tempt out members with any talent or skill, which they might be prepared to share with other members. This is the philosophy of the U3A. If you are able to lead any groups, or suggest any activities, please contact the Groups Secretary.

Bowling: The Bowling Group meets in Formby Park every Tuesday afternoon between 2.00pm and 4.00pm during the March-October season. It has about 20 members when it is full, but last season there were only about 12 -14 attending regularly, so beginners and/or experienced players, of both sexes, would be most welcome to join. Introductory tuition is available for absolute beginners, and everyone is made most welcome. A small number of bowls and jacks are available. Because the green is a public facility there is a green fee payable to Sefton Council, of £30.00 per person, per season, or a weekly payment can be made if preferred. Friendship, fresh air, exercise, and some friendly sporting competition (though not always sunshine!) can be promised each week. If you want to give it a try, contact Ray Doldon 834253, or e-mail: doldon@btinternet.com

Craft Group: Interest has been shown in starting a new Craft Group. This could cover all aspects of craft from papercraft to jewellery to basketry to applique and many more. It would be up to the Group to decide the way forward. Please contact the Group's Secretary.

To all Local History Group Leaders: Local History seems to be a very popular activity and there are members who wish to join one of the groups. However, most groups are apparently full, therefore, would all leaders review their list of members and let me know if you have any vacancies. Should any of your members like to start a new group, please contact the Groups Secretary.

Reminder to all Group Leaders: It is important that as from January 2019, all U3A groups report any income and expenditure relating to Group Activity to the Treasurer **each month**. Even if you have no income or expenditure please let the Treasurer know.

Vacancies: There are vacancies in the following groups: Art, Bird Watching, Book clubs, Boules, Bowls, Bridge, Cycling, Floral Art, Folk and Country Singing, French, Gardening, Guitar, Golf, Knit and Natter, Lunch, Needlecraft, Science, Scottish Dancing, Swimming, Table Tennis, various Walking groups and Whist.

If you wish to join a group which has no vacancies, please inform the Group Secretary who will endeavour to start a new one.

You should show your yellow 2019 membership cards when you attend group meetings. All groups are only for current, paid up members.

Copyright Licensing Agency

Author Glyn Pike, Chairman.

The world of copyright is fraught with difficulty but the overriding principle is that ownership of created material including text, images and music remains with its creator and permission should be sought prior to it being copied. This permission applies until 70 years after the death of the creator/author and sometimes can be extended.

Formby U3A committee has recently acquired a Copyright Licence because we understand that some groups are copying certain publications that are included in the prohibitive list below.

- Do you receive, access (including online) or share press cuttings?
- Do you copy or print articles from websites or other digital content?
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If your group does use material from the above list the Licence now allows you legally to continue. ***All other forms of copying require permission from the creator.***

2019 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Formby U3A will be held at 2pm on **Wednesday 13th March 2019** in Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Rosemary Lane, Formby

All members of the Committee (the Trustees) are required to stand down at the AGM. Some have served the maximum time permitted under the terms of the Formby U3A constitution and cannot stand for re-election. As indicated in the Agenda, nominations for some posts have been received, as well as 2 nominations for Trustees (Committee) but there are no nominations for Vice Chairman, Group Secretary, nor four Trustees (Committee members).

Our constitution states that the deadline for committee member nominations is 28 days before the date of the AGM, however, nominations for posts still vacant after this date will be accepted up to the date of the AGM. A Nomination Form for such positions on Committee can be obtained from the Secretary.

Our current Auditor, Alan Thomas, is also standing down and Kit Robinson has offered to serve as auditor for the coming year.

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Members



Your U3A Needs You

Members willing to serve on the Committee

A Secretary to serve the Groups

A person to arrange Speakers at the monthly meetings

None of these roles are onerous

Be Brave: Accept the challenge!

If you don't do it, who will?

You know you could do it!

Contact the Secretary for more details

E-mail: Secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk

Agenda

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Approval of the Minutes of the 2018 AGM, as published in the April (2018), February and March Newsletters
- 3 Matters arising from the minutes
- 4 To receive and approve the Annual Report
- 5 To receive and approve the Treasurer's Report and Audited Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2018
- 6 To appoint an Auditor
- 7 Elections of Trustees:

The following have agreed to stand for re-election/election

Chairman:	Frances Taylor
Vice Chairman:	
Secretary:	Keith Jacques
Treasurer:	Anne Rodmell
Membership Secretary:	Christine McIlraith
Groups Secretary:	
Committee Members	Ann Knowles, Linda Smith, 4 vacancies remain
- 8 Any Other Business

Formby U3A Draft Minutes Of The 2018 AGM

Held In Holy Trinity Hall On 14th March At 2 PM

- 1 **Apologies for Absence:** Mr & Mrs R J Gibbons, Linda Howard, Ann Gunstone, Mr & Mrs Noel Blundell and Keith Jacques.
- 2 **Minutes of 2017 AGM:** Draft Minutes have been published in the April 2017 and the January 2018 Newsletters. With the addition of Ann Blackman's name in the list of Committee members, the Minutes were approved nem con by a show of hands and were signed by Glyn Pike as Chairman.
- 3 **Matters Arising from the Minutes:** None.
- 4 **Annual Report:** 2017 saw the membership of Formby U3A increase to 1312 members attending 125 group activities.

The committee has met on a regular basis and dealt with matters placed before it. We have acted upon a request at the 2017 Annual General Meeting to provide the Monthly Newsletter in audio form and thanks to the hard work of Noel Blundell and David Goodwill the first edition was made available in July of that year. Should any member require the newsletter in this form please contact Noel Blundell or any

member of the committee who will arrange it on your behalf.

We have also managed to activate the loop sound system in Holy Trinity Church Hall for our monthly meetings and I am informed that it is working satisfactorily. (We plugged it in)

The past year has required the committee to deal with routine matters but that is about to change as we are now facing legislation that will require our attention.

The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) requires that any organisation which holds personal information such as addresses, both e-mail and postal and telephone numbers for their members are required to have written consent to hold and use that information. Formby U3A holds such information in order that they and group leaders may contact them for membership purposes. It will be straightforward for new members as we can add this consent to the membership application form, but we are required to obtain that information from current members. To that end we will shortly be sending each member a form of consent to sign and return to us. If we do not receive consent neither we or group leaders will be able to contact you.

We have recently received new instructions, from The Third Age Trust, regarding financial matters for all U3A organisations which will change fundamentally the way we produce our annual accounts. The Charities Commission require that all Income and Expenditure of the Charity be recorded and included in the accounts submitted to them on an annual basis. This now means that we will need to ask individual groups to record and submit to the treasurer a summary of their financial information for each year.

Your committee has contacted all group leaders to establish their groups' income and expenditure and we will shortly be calling a meeting of group leaders to listen to their views on how the new regulations will impact on their activities as they and the treasurer will bear the brunt of these regulations.

Although these new requirements may seem daunting, with a positive attitude and an initial concentrated effort it will become the norm.

The Charity Commission, after extensive consultation with the Third Age Trust, have directed that all activities including those hitherto classed as "social", must be charitable. They seek to impose on us and all U3A's a revised Objects clause which will be put to an EGM in due course. This removes territorial restrictions from joining a U3A and makes no reference to a minimum age for membership.

At the conclusion of my report for last year I commended the committee on their dedication to ensuring the continued smooth running of Formby U3A and stated that in return they asked that others do the same for them when their term of office expired. It seems that those words were not fully understood as we still have vacancies on the committee and in particular, a Treasurer for 2019 onwards. May I suggest that these positions are regarded, as I do, as membership of another U3A group. It is an opportunity to meet other likeminded members and to engage in conversation for the benefit of the organisation as a whole. I have always found that the members are very supportive of new recruits. Without a full committee Formby

U3A will not be able to function, a situation that does not benefit anyone. May I urge you to put your name forward for the most important group in Formby U3A.

Jack Ashworth, Ann Blackman, Rosemary Thomas, Linda Howard and Susan Birchall retire today as committee members, they have served you well, and on your behalf I thank them. Three of those positions have been filled but three still remain to be filled.

Please re read the previous paragraph.

May I on behalf of the committee wish you all a successful year in your U3A activities.

Glyn Pike

5 Treasurer's Report: Copies of the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2017 were available to all who attended. The Treasurer gave an explanation of the major entries. The Capitation Fee paid to Third Age Trust which provided inter alia third party insurance cover was unchanged at £3.50. Administration had increased due to the purchase of a supply of stamps (for the issue of membership cards etc) shortly before there was a price increase. The Newsletter is more expensive because it was now in colour and there is still a difficulty in anticipating the size of the print run. Meetings costs included the presence of St John Ambulance personnel at the monthly Speaker event and Speaker fees were greater as a result of a policy to engage better quality which, by and large, had proved successful.

The deficit for the year £1,649 was readily absorbed by reserves, the amount of which was moving towards the Charity Commission advice of no more than 6 months' anticipated expenditure and stood at £14,217 at the end of the year. The Accounts had been audited and found correct and it was proposed by Andrew Hoare and seconded by Derek Thomas that they be accepted. Approval was given by a show of hands nem con.

6 Appointment of Auditor: Alan Thomas, after many years of much valued work, was standing down after auditing the Accounts year ended 31st December 2018. There was no response to a request for someone to come forward to succeed him.

7 Election of Trustees: Christine McIlraith had volunteered recently and her name was to be added to those of Committee members. There remained 3 vacancies and, in response to an earnest plea from the Chairman, Andrew Hoare allowed his name to go forward. This was approved by the meeting. There being no other proposals, it followed there were no contested positions and those names were confirmed en bloc by a show of hands.

Chairman	Glyn Pike
Vice Chairman	Frances Taylor
Treasurer	David Manning-Fox
Secretary	Keith Jacques
Membership Secretary	Ann Gunstone
Group Secretary	Linda McAuley
Committee Members	Valerie Tibbitts
	Derek Thomas
	Christine McIlraith

Andrew Hoare
Two vacancies

8 Any Other Business: Ann Blackman, from the floor, felt we should not immediately accept the Charity Commission imposing its financial rules on us. She thought a representative from the Charity Commission should be invited to meet us when the opportunity would be taken to illustrate how these rules designed for all charities, but inappropriate for local U3As, would impact adversely and make so many aspects of our work unnecessarily difficult. The Chairman agreed Committee would give this due consideration.

Derek Thomas, from the floor, graciously thanked Noel Blundell and Dave Goodwill for their skill and hard work in producing the audio Newsletter which was so much appreciated.

The meeting closed at 2.30 pm and was followed by a highly amusing and well received talk by Cathy about her adventures owning a tugboat.

Welcome To February's New Members

Irene Beatty	Carol Beddows	Peter Bienias
Pam Billington	Christopher Carr	Phyllis Coid
Barbara Davies	Victor Donaldson	Enid Halloran
Samuel Harris	Dorothy Kearney	Val Mizen
Valerie Phillips	Michael Roe	Carol Tattersall
Marilyn Tippet	Rosamund Turner	Steven Turner
Caroline Williams		

Outings Group

At the time of going to press the programme had still to be received. Anything received before the next Newsletter will be available on the Formby U3A Website, Latest News section.

Welcome to *Formby University of the Third Age*

A U3A member recently went to the A&E Department. When asked what the problem was the member replied that they had broken every bone in their body. "I don't think so," the Doctor replied. But if I touch here it's painful; and it's the same when I touch here, here and here"

"No," the Doctor sighed with resignation. "You've broken your finger."

The Harry Whitehouse Players

Present:

You Just Never Know

by Liz Dobson



This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Lazy Bee Scripts.

On Thursday 11th & Friday 12th April

at 7:45 pm



and a matinée on Saturday 13th April



at 2:30 pm

In the Fisher Hall, Formby United Reformed Church,

111, Church Road, Formby, L37 3ND

Tickets £5 including refreshments, from Sheila – 01704 879998

Music and Theatre Events

Author, Eileen Jones.

These events are open to all paid up U3A members. Can I remind you to please pay for tickets when the initial booking is made and to write the event name and your telephone number on the back of the cheque. This is extremely helpful to us. If you cannot attend an event let us know as soon as possible and we will attempt to sell your ticket to someone on the waiting list. The coach leaves The Cross House bus stop at 6:15pm and any variation on this will be specified with the event details.

Thurs 28th March, “Abigail’s Party,” Playhouse. Mike Leigh’s classic comedy set in 1970’s suburbia. The disco is well under way, the cocktails flowing but then, Susan, banned from her own daughter, Abigail’s party, decides to join them and events begin to take a definite turn for the worse. Tickets and transport £30.

Thurs 11th April, Matthew Bourne’s “Swan Lake,” Empire; Tchaikovsky’s masterpiece. The all male dancers and award winning designers create a powerful, passionate and beautiful ballet. Tickets and transport £38.

Thurs 30th May, Agatha Christie’s “The Mousetrap,” Liverpool Empire. A group of people cut off from the outside world by a severe snow storm, discover there is a murderer amongst them, but who dunnit? Tickets and transport £28.

Thurs 6th June, “The Comedy About a Bank Robbery,” Empire. A city bank should be the perfect place to house a priceless diamond. Unfortunately this is far from an ordinary bank with conventional staff and state of the art security systems. What could possibly go wrong? Tickets and transport £30.

Fri 14th June, “Great Directors and Composers: Steven Spielberg and John Williams,” Philharmonic Hall. The programme includes some of the best known and much loved film music. The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, digital effects, special lighting will be a memorable experience. Tickets and transport £40.

Dave Irving can be contacted, if necessary, on 630192.

Formby U3A Committee, 2018/19

Chairman	Glyn Pike (2016)	0151 929 2996	chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk
Vice-Chairman	Frances Taylor (2017)	577205	vicechair@formbyu3a.org.uk
Secretary	Keith Jacques (2018)	870906	secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk
Treasurer	Anne Rodmell (<i>co-opted</i>)		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	Andrew Hoare (2018)	877650	1stofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Christine McIlraith (2018)		4thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Valerie Tibbitts (2016)*	577985	6thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk

* year each Committee Member first took office

www.formbyu3a.org.uk

Monthly Meetings

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

Mar 13th **AGM** followed by **Percy Thrower to the rescue**, Alan Foxall. Alan is the retired Head Gardener of Southport's Botanical Gardens.

Apr 10th **Herbs for Health**, John Taylor. John looks at possible help with cold/remedies.

May 8th **The Rhymes and Ramblings of a performance poet**, Ian Kenyon. Ian has performed with Ken Dodd and been on Radio Merseyside.

Please remember to bring your current YELLOW membership card to all events, including group activities.

Coffee Mornings are from 10:30 to 12:00 on Thursday, Mar 14th 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.

Discounts: Formby U3A has negotiated discounts for members with local firms. A list is on the website or available from the Secretary.

Contributions informing members of your group and its activities are always welcomed.

Please send contributions to the Editor, e-mail: newseditor@formbyu3a.org.uk No e-mail providers guarantee 100% delivery rate and if, 7 days after submitting an article you have not received an acknowledgement one of the e-mail systems failed, so please try again.

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.

Contributors' names should be given.

Photographs submitted must be members' own photos as copyright of third parties' photos remains with the owner and the Newsletter cannot publish such photos.

Please ensure that all people shown in photographs are aware that photographs are being taken for inclusion in the Newsletter.

Previous Newsletters: are available at: www.formbyu3a.org.uk/newsletters.html

The deadline for articles for the next Newsletter is midday Thursday, 21st March at the latest.

The next Newsletter is due to be distributed by e-mail and be on the website early next month. Paper copies can be collected at the monthly meeting & coffee morning.