

## How We've Grown!



**Author, Alan Thomas.**

In May 2017 the **Cycling for Softies (CfS) Group** was formed with its first ride to Hightown Steps and back. Five riders took part. In the April 2019 CfS ride to MeCycle in Ainsdale 12 riders took part. At present there are 14 riders on the membership. I plan to close membership at 15. If you are interested in becoming the 15<sup>th</sup> rider please contact me either by phone 871376, 0795 689 4878, or e-mail [alanthomas200@msn.com](mailto:alanthomas200@msn.com) We meet every Monday at 9.45am, weather permitting,



(well we are CFS) outside Doves Nest by Formby Station to either start a ride at 10:00am or catch the Liverpool bound train at 9:58 am. Ride distance varies from round trips of 10 miles to 17 miles. We always plan a break half way for coffee and a chat. Rides are taken at the slowest pace so that nobody gets left behind. If you would like to get back on the saddle then this is the group for you.

Happy Cycling From 2017

## Baltic Triangle

**Author, Mary Gregg.** You may remember seeing the Duchess of Cornwall posing in front of this piece of street art in Liverpool. **Local History Group 12** had a tour of the Baltic Triangle and the ladies decided to stop and have their photo in front of the Liver Bird Wings. Ann Marshall, our guide, provided an informative and enjoyable talk about the history of this part of Liverpool and it was encouraging to see the



amount of redevelopment taking place in and around the Triangle. We clocked up 10,000 steps so we benefitted health wise as well.

## Group News

***Author Ann Knowles, Group Secretary.***

**To All Group Leaders:** Just a reminder that every Group has its own 'information page' on the FormbyU3A website. These are accessed by clicking on the Groups tab at the top of the page and then clicking on the alphabetical listing of groups. Some of these pages seem to need updating. Could all Group Leaders please check their page and e-mail any additions or amendments to the Group Secretary.

**Bridge Group 1:** This is a Group for beginners, meeting weekly on Tuesday afternoons and Thursdays by arrangement. We meet in members' homes on a rota basis and would welcome new members. For more information please contact Nikki Harrison on 871308.

**Bridge Groups 3 & 22:** We meet weekly on a Monday afternoon and a Thursday evening. We play Rubber Bridge in members' homes and currently have 2 or 3 vacancies for players with some experience. For more information please contact Maureen Simpson on 877326.

**Bridge Group Co-ordinator:** With so many Bridge Groups operating within Formby U3A, we have had a suggestion that someone take on the role of Bridge Co-ordinator, who might act as a single contact point for members interested in joining a group. If Bridge Group Leaders have any suggestions to make as how this might work, or would like to volunteer for this role, please e-mail, or ring the Group Secretary with your thoughts.

**Canasta:** Since the Canasta Group is full, there has been interest in starting a second group. Anyone who is interested in joining, please contact the Group Secretary.

**Local History 6:** Meets once a month to visit places of local history across the North West and currently has vacancies. The group generally meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the

month and try to alternate between Mondays and Wednesdays to avoid venue closures. Upcoming meetings are to Williamson Tunnels, Liverpool and Royal Institute of Architects "Sculpture, Culture & Civic Pride" 2 hr guided walk around Liverpool's landmarks. For more information please contact Elizabeth Goodwill, Group Leader, by e-mailing: [egoodwill@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:egoodwill@hotmail.co.uk)

**Walking Group 2:** Meets fortnightly on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. We leave at 9.00am from M&S Car Park. Our walks usually take about 2.5 hours (approx 5 miles), followed by a Pub Lunch. We currently have 2 or 3 vacancies. For more information please contact Rob Blackwell on 875573.

**Vacancies:** There are also vacancies in the following groups: Art, Book Clubs, Bird Watching Boules, Bowling, Cycling, Folk and Country Singing, Floral Art, French, Gardening Group 3, 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 that has no vacancies, please inform the Group Secretary.

You should show your **yellow 2019 membership cards** when you attend group meetings.

## **Welcome To April's New Members**

Kaye Adams	Brenda Barlow	Gordon Barrack
Michael Benson	Patricia Cotton	Hilda Daykin
Robin Hawthorn	Margaret Houghton	Christopher Jones
Christine Kennedy	Michael Kennedy	Sheila McGuinness
Terence Murphy	Mark Pickering	Christine Waddelove
Gail Williams	Sheila Younan	

Sorry, but we are still awaiting a report on your group's activities, hence this thin Newsletter.

## **Formby U3A Committee** **2019-20**

Chairman	Frances Taylor (2017)	577205	<a href="mailto:chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk">chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Secretary	Keith Jacques (2018)	870906	<a href="mailto:secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk">secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Treasurer	Anne Rodmell (2019)	621835	<a href="mailto:treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk">treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Membership Sec.	Christine McIlraith (2018)		<a href="mailto:membership@formbyu3a.org.uk">membership@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Group Secretary	Ann Knowles (2019)	872333	<a href="mailto:groups@formbyu3a.org.uk">groups@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Officers	Linda Smith (2019)		<a href="mailto:1stofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk">1stofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
	Lillian Coop (co-opted, 2019)		<a href="mailto:2ndofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk">2ndofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
	Linda Sharratt (co-opted, 2019)		<a href="mailto:3rdofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk">3rdofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>

*\* year appointed to the Committee*

## Monthly Meetings

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

**Parish Hall alternative access:** To avoid the front steps, an entrance at the rear of the building can be accessed by following the footpath to the left of the main doors.

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

**June 12<sup>th</sup>**            **Sing Me Mersey**. This is their 3<sup>rd</sup> visit and they have previously been lively & well received.

**July 10<sup>th</sup>**            **Behind the Scenes in Theatre & Television**, Fiona Martin

**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, May 9<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.

**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](mailto: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](http://www.formbyu3a.org.uk/newsletters.html)

**The deadline for articles for the next Newsletter is midday Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 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.