

Formby u3a Newsletter

u3a

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Open Day



Author, Frances Taylor.

The Open Day on October 23rd was a very successful event. It resulted in a large number of new members joining Formby u3a and helped to spread the word about our activities. The Ukulele, Recorder and Skiffle groups provided great musical entertainment during the day. We hope the members who came enjoyed it too.

The Committee would like to thank



*Your Committee would like to wish
Happy Hanukkah,
Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year
to all our members.*

Please remember that there is no January Newsletter. The deadline for the next Newsletter is midday, Thursday 20th January at the latest.



all those who contributed to the success of the day including the entertainers, the members who came to talk to prospective members about their Group activities and of course the team who put on refreshments during the day. Jane Bienias and the recruitment team put in a lot of hard work before the event so many thanks to them as well.

Halkyn Mountain



Author, Frances Taylor.



Walking Group 6 visited Halkyn Mountain in November. The weather was cold and clear so we had excellent views over the River Dee and Clwydian Range including Moel Famau. The area has been quarried for limestone for several hundred years and the limekilns were built in the 19th Century. Today there are three large quarries and we had a good view of one of them from above. Lead was mined there from Roman times until the last century. We also visited an iron age hill fort, which is now a reservoir and a Millennium stone. After the walk we enjoyed tea and cake at the Tea Rooms at the Holywell Pet Cemetery.

Music Appreciation

Author, Linda Sharratt.

I joined this group about 3 years ago and was welcomed in by a very friendly group of people who are enthusiastic about so many types of music. The group meets every fourth Thursday between 2pm - 4pm. Someone volunteers to host the session in their home and puts together a programme of recorded music. We listen to a track, chat about our reaction to it, then move on to the next one.

The music is diverse, including classical music, film scores, opera, jazz and choral. Sometimes there is a theme to the selection, for instance I researched Music from Around the World.

There is a break halfway through for a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits and we use this time to socialise.

The group has vacancies and would welcome new members. If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact Rob Blackwell, group leader or me, 'phone 878232.

Christmas Quiz 2021

Author, Eva Milne, Quiz Group.

1. What is the name of the cake traditionally eaten in Italy at Christmas ?
2. The song White Christmas was first performed in which 1942 film?
3. What are the names of the 3 Wise Men said to have brought gifts to the baby Jesus?
4. How many ghosts turn up in the Dickens novel, A Christmas Carol?
5. In the movie it's a Wonderful Life, what happened every time a bell rang?
6. In which European country does Feliz Navidad mean Merry Christmas?
7. Which famous scientist was born on Christmas Day in 1642?
8. If you were born on Christmas Day, what would your star sign be?
9. Before Christianity what was the name of the winter festival celebrated by the Romans?
10. What ornaments do elves have on their shoes?
11. Which plant often given as a gift at Christmas has bright red and green leaves and bracts and is sometimes known as the Christmas Flower?
12. ,Balsam, Douglas, Fraser and Noble are all types of what?
13. Which US President banned Christmas trees from the White House,?
14. In the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" how many lords are a leaping?
15. What traditionally is the name of the day when Christmas cakes and puddings are made?
16. What time of day did "The Three Ships come sailing in"?
17. Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?

18. In the film "Home Alone" where are the McCallisters going on holiday when they leave Kevin behind?
19. How many gifts were given in total in "The Twelve Days of Christmas" song?
20. Three of Santa's reindeer have names beginning with the letter "D". What are they?

Answers on page 6

Abbeyfield Tea & Memories

Abbeyfield are starting a new initiative where you can get together over a cuppa to watch archive footage from the 1940s to 1970s... holidays, transport, work, the home, hobbies and much more. It's a great opportunity to swap stories, share connections and spark conversation. The first session is at Formby Luncheon Club, Rosemary Lane on Monday 6th December from 1:30pm – 3:30pm.

The Annual General Meeting of Formby U3A

will be held at 2pm on **Wednesday 9th March 2022**
in Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Rosemary Lane, Formby

Author, Evan Bale, Secretary.

All members of the Committee (the Trustees) are required to stand down at the AGM. Although some, including the Treasurer and Secretary have indicated their willingness to stand for re-election, these positions can be contested and there are several vacancies for committee members – new names would be most welcome.

A Nomination Form for any of the positions on Committee is available on the website, www.formbyu3a.org.uk at either the Wednesday or Thursday meetings or by emailing secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk. Completed forms should be returned to the Secretary by 9th February 2022, either by post to the address given below, or via email. Forms may also be handed to any Committee Member in person.

Additional Resolutions

If any member wishes to propose any additional items for consideration at the AGM, they are requested to submit these in writing to: The Secretary, Formby U3A, PO Box 216, Liverpool, L37 1XQ, or via email to: secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk. These should be received by 22nd January 2022 so that they can be included in the February newsletter with the notice of the meeting.

It's Nearly Time To Renew Your U3A Membership (£9 per member)

Annual subscriptions are due on 2nd 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 be paid by 28th February at the latest.

Formby U3A now has to pay bank charges of 40p on each cheque we receive. If you do not already do so we would be grateful if you could arrange to pay your membership fees for 2022 by Standing Order or by Online Bank Transfer.

How to renew your membership:

a) Standing Orders: Thank you to those members who have already set up a Standing Order for their membership fees. If you wish to set up a new Standing Order, please request details from the Membership Secretary by e-mailing: membership@formbyu3a.org.uk or phoning 874787.

b) Online Bank Transfer: The reference or description field of the payment MUST contain your membership number followed by your surname and initial. If you do not know your membership number you should contact the Membership Secretary (as above).

Payment should be made to the following Formby U3A bank account:-

Account name: Formby U3A

Sort code: 40 21 20

Account number: 41365878

c) We ask that all other renewals should be by cheque. We prefer not to handle cash as there is too much potential for error.

Payment by Cheque:

If paying by cheque (£9 per member) please make your cheque payable to Formby U3A and write your membership number on the back. (If you do not know your membership number, please write your name and address instead).

i) Payments can be made in person at the at the Wednesday afternoon meetings in Holy Trinity Parish Hall (12th January and 9th February) or at the Thursday coffee mornings in Holy Trinity Workshop (13th January and 10th February). If you pay by cheque at the Monthly Meeting or Coffee Morning, you can collect your card at the same time.

ii) Payment can be made By Post: Cheques should be posted to: Membership Secretary, Formby U3A, PO Box 216, Liverpool L37 1XQ . **Please remember to enclose a stamped addressed envelope to receive your Membership Card.**

Membership Cards will be posted to those paying by Standing Order or Online Bank Transfer once your subscription has been received from your bank.

Groups News

Author, Pam Ashton, Group Secretary.

There has been excellent news on recruitment and on the Open Day which has led to a considerable number of new members. This has led to a huge take-up of places in existing groups and a few requests for new groups. There has been some success with establishing new groups and it is hoped that this will continue. If you are interested in a new wine tasting group please let the Groups Secretary know. There may also be a new Local History Group starting up – watch this space!

Please look at the Groups page of the Formby U3A website for vacancies.

Committee 2022/3

Author, Frances Taylor, Chairman.

Please think seriously about joining the Committee next year. Frances Taylor, the Chairman, comes to the end of her 3 year term of office. We do not have a Vice-Chairman and other Committee members will also be at the end of their terms of office. Without a strong Committee, Formby U3A cannot go forward effectively. Please get in touch with the Chairman chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk or 'phone 577205 to find out more.

Christmas Quiz Answer

1. Panetonne
2. Holiday Inn
3. Caspar, Melchior And Balthazar
4. 4
5. An Angel Got His Wings
6. Spain
7. Isaac Newton
8. Capricorn
9. Saturnalia
10. Bells
11. Poinsettia
12. Christmas Trees
13. Theodore Roosevelt
14. 12
15. Stir Up Sunday
16. Morning
17. Germany
18. Paris
19. 364 Gifts. One For Every Day Of The Year
20. Dasher, Donner And Dancer

New Members

Formby U3A is pleased to welcome the following new members.

Gillian Brady	Berit Cornell	Geoffrey Davies
Gillian Davies	Patricia Davies	Andrew Dickinson
Jan Dickinson	Richard Duckett	Sylvia Evans
David Gerrard	Fran Glynn	Margaret Goodrum
Valerie Greenhill	Gillian Grundy	Susan Harrison
Patricia Heaney	Olive Hellmers	Barbara Hurst
Patricia Jones	Barbara Kershaw	Irene Kershaw
Phil Knight	Phil Lally	Sandie Lally
Marie Lawson	Elizabeth Linker	Barbara Locke
Ann Lord	Charles Marsh	Pat McCarthy
Elsie McCavery	Julie McConnochie	Deirdre McCormick
Susan Morgan	Jackie O'Hanlon	Marie O'Neil
Paula Parker	Christopher Pellow	Madeleine Percival
Pauline Poynton	Linda Price	Tony Roberts
Ian Robertson	Sue Robertson	Hazel Sarkanen
Ann Short	Bernie Sullivan	Pamela Swarbrick
Barbara Vose	Malcolm Vose	Graham Wagstaff
Patricia Wallis	Susan Watson	Pamela Williams

Formby U3A Committee 2021-22

Chairman	Frances Taylor (2017)	577205	chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk
Secretary	Evan Bale (2020)		secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk
Treasurer	Anne Rodmell (2019)	621835	treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk
Membership Sec.	Christine McIlraith (2018)	874787	membership@formbyu3a.org.uk
Group Secretary	Pam Ashton (2020)		groups@formbyu3a.org.uk
Officers	Christine Kennedy (2020)	577774	1stofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Nikki Harrison (2021)	871308	
2ndofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk	Jane Bienias (2020)		3rdofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Martyn Rodmell (2021)	621835	4thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
	Sheila Wise (2020)		5thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk
Accessibility Officer	Ann Knowles (2019)	872333	6thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk

** year appointed to the Committee*

Speaker Meetings

Christine Kennedy, Speaker Organiser.

Speaker meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month in **The Holy Trinity Parish Hall**. The meetings start at 2.00pm and last about an hour.

Access There is ramp access to the hall.

Parking Please remember to enter your vehicle registration number on the electronic pad in the hall foyer each time you park. There is no charge for parking but failure to enter your number will almost certainly result in a heavy fine. If you are unsure what to do please ask for help.

December 8th: We welcome back the popular **Sing Me Merseyside Choir**. Sing Me Merseyside is a multi-award winning choir led by SingMe Founder & Musical Director Billy Hui from his trusty digital piano - no backing tracks in sight! Along with SingMe Choir Manager & Administrator Wendy Williamson, they appear at over 150 performances each year raising vast amounts of money for local and national charities which led to Billy being awarded the British Empire Medal as part of The Queen's New Year's Honours 2021. SingMe Merseyside presently consists of over 300 members to entertain you with unique SingMe arrangements of popular songs and their famous medleys. From Queen to West End & Broadway, Dionne Warwick to The Mighty Wah, they will definitely have some of your favourite songs for you to enjoy at their appearances! They perform in a wide variety of venues from local nursing homes through to regional class theatres and onboard P&O cruise ships. To find out more, please go their website www.singmemersey.co.uk or search for their hashtag - #singmemerseyside.

January 12th 2022 Our speakers will talk to us about **Social Prescribing**. This is proving an increasingly popular and effective way of helping GP patients. Come along and learn more about it.

February 9th: Ken Pye will entertain and inform us about **The Stately Homes of Liverpool**.

March 9th **AGM please be sure to come along to our AGM. Following the AGM** Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon Mr George Amat will talk to us about non-surgical solutions to pain relief.

Please remember to bring your current **ORANGE membership card to all activities & events, including monthly talks and group activities.**

Coffee Morning: The day after the Speaker Meetings there is a coffee morning in the Holy Trinity Church Workshop to which all are welcome. Mince pies will be served at the December coffee morning. The coffee mornings are a chance to meet and chat with other u3a members and to pick up information about Formby u3a and Group activities. There is no charge for attending the coffee mornings or for the refreshments so do come along. **Parking** As above.