

THE MEOLS MESSENGER

The Newsletter of the Meols (Southport)



www.meols-u3a.org.uk

Issue 1 – April 14th 2009

Welcome to 'The Meols Messenger'.

At a recent meeting of your committee it was suggested that a bi-monthly newsletter might be helpful in "passing the message" about what is happening within our U3A.

The Messenger will be used to report on the immediate past, current and future activities of the various Interest Groups. It could also act as a conduit for members to express their views on group current affairs and, hopefully, make suggestions for the future.

The committee may wish to pass on their words of wisdom to the membership in the same way!

When this idea was raised at the committee meeting, I volunteered to EDIT the Newsletter. I do not plan to write any copy!!!

Responsibility for the success or failure of the Newsletter will lie with Group Leaders, the Committee and you the Members, based on the information passed to me. Ten years ago the U3A News was launched but proved difficult to sustain because of lack of contributions.

We will publish The Messenger bi-monthly to coincide with our monthly meetings. Therefore copy deadline dates for this year would be 7 days before the monthly meeting dates i.e. April 7th; June 2nd; August 4th; October 6th; December 8th.

**Copy can be e.mailed to me at: mike.kedzlie@googlemail.com
or by telephone to 01704 229097 or by post to 15 Abington Drive, Banks,
West Lancashire PR9 8FL.**

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN – PAUL HALSALL

Dear Members.

I have been asked to contribute to the Meols U3A first Newsletter.

Firstly I must tell you that I am the new Chairman for 2009-10 for those who do not know me.

I have been a member of Meols U3A for ten years and was voted in because Miles Padley resigned, and since then he resigned from the committee due to ill health. This is a sad loss to the U3A as Miles was one of the original members 13 years ago that started the group.

What we need in my year of office, are new groups starting; we are short of new groups so anyone who can start a new one please see me and we can have a talk.

This year we have organized 4 coach trips and a holiday to Eastbourne – I hope we can fill the coaches.

MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER – TONY BARBER

My late wife Maureen was one of the founder members of this U3A in March 1996 and she volunteered me for the post, although I was still working at the time. Nevertheless I took the job but was unable to attend monthly meetings until October 1996 after I had retired. I have been your Treasurer ever since and am pleased to say our financial position has become healthier over the years.

MESSAGE FROM OUR SECRETARY – JENNIFER MAWDSLEY

Most Meols U3A members know me as the person who asks for their name when coming to the monthly meeting. I do the job secretaries do but I am unique in as much as I do not have a computer etc. I am just an old fashioned girl and do all correspondence etc. in long hand.

GROUP CONTACTS

<p>GARDENING – Sylvia 224099</p> <p>See list of dates for Garden visits in Diary Column.</p>	<p>From first sowing the seed of an idea for a Gardening group in July 2007 it has been taken up with enthusiasm by our members, We meet on a monthly basis visiting gardens, both public and private by arrangement.</p> <p>At our meetings, views, information, garden knowledge and plants are exchanged, making new friends along the way.</p> <p>In winter months garden DVDs and Videos are shown together with the occasional quiz. Together the group members have put their efforts and talents into our Garden Group Banner - a big success.</p> <p>Plans for 2009 include arranged visits to local gardens and Council allotments and members are growing flowers, herbs and veg. for our own Autumn Show – something for everyone.</p> <p>Although on some occasions numbers are restricted due to lack of space, we do welcome new members. Please join us and see me at the April meeting.</p>

<p>MUSIC APPRECIATION – Steve 536830</p>	<p>The Music Group meets fortnightly, 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month. At each meeting we listen to CDs of classical music, rather like a concert. Members of the group who have CDs take turns to bring the music of their choice. There is an interval for tea and a chat (30p for tea and biscuits). There is a break in summer, from July to September.</p> <p>We have been meeting for over 10 years now with the same format and several of the original members. Occasionally, there is space for new members, who enquire through members they know or direct to the host.</p>
<p>WALKING – Nat 224805</p>	<p>As 2009 gains momentum, the Walking group continues to thrive. The current programme ends on April 27th and a new one starts on May 11th. The walks take place in Merseyside, the Wirral and Lancashire and are about 5 miles in length. Waterproof clothing and good footwear are advisable along with sandwiches and a drink.</p>
<p>THEATRE – Pam 549841</p>	<p><i>We visit the Little Theatre from September to April on a Friday evening and we see 8 plays. We do need new members so please contact me at the monthly meetings.</i></p>
<p>HOLIDAYS – Tony Barber 532271</p>	<p>We have now booked a group holiday for this year, which will be at the Queens Hotel, Eastbourne from Wednesday 14th to Sunday 18th October. We will have 4 nights dinner, bed and breakfast at the hotel with entertainment on at least 2 evenings. There will be a full day excursion to Brighton and Lewes; a further day excursion to Hastings and Rye and one free day in Eastbourne, with lunch provided at the hotel. The cost for this will be £155 per person and a £30 deposit will be required nearer the date of the holiday.</p>
<p>OUT AND ABOUT Margaret 380012</p>	<p>We have had an exciting start for this newly formed group and have visited a wide variety of places. We started off with a tour of The Williamson Tunnels, followed by a tour and talk backstage at The Empire Theatre. In January we visited both of Liverpool's Cathedrals and in February we had a fascinating tour including the history of The Adelphi Hotel. A visit to the Southport Reformed Synagogue and the Harris Museum took place in March and April. Future visits; include The World of Glass in St. Helens on 7th May and our June visit will be The Crosby Coastguard Station (date and time to be arranged). Other suggested visits are The Old Liverpool Synagogue; Sudley House; Radio City Tower; Western Approaches; Aintree Race Course. For information - please see me at the monthly U3A meetings.</p>

<p>LUNCHEON CLUB Eunice 213419</p>	<p>The Luncheon Club has proved very popular recently, we now have 30 members, and we have extended our list of suitable venues. Any member of the U3A Group can become a member of the Luncheon Club and it is ideal for those members, both ladies and gentlemen, who like to dine out in a warm and friendly atmosphere, usually within the vicinity of Southport town centre or only a short distance and convenient for a bus route.</p> <p>We meet every two weeks' on a Wednesday at 12 noon, at the chosen venue, when you will be made most welcome and advised of the forthcoming events. You can also access information about all forthcoming events on our U3A website: www.meols-u3a.org.uk</p> <p>Do please introduce yourself to me at the U3A meeting if you would like to join or need any further information.</p>
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DIARY DATES

Summer Day Trips by Coach (Thursdays)

4 th June	Trentham Gardens
9 th July	Harrogate
6 th August	York
10 th September	Lake District

Coaches will depart Emanuel Church Hall at 8a.m.
Cost £5 per member and £10 for a visitor.

Gardening Group Summer Visits

23 rd April	Cobblehey Gardens & Farm, Nr. Garstang. Admission £3
13 th May	Holehird Gardens, Windermere.
17 th May	Bluebell Woods at Caldervale.
11 th June	Crabtree Cottage, 79 Crabtree Lane, Mere Brow.

Full details of these and later forthcoming trips from Sylvia.

Luncheon Club Dates

15 th April	Toby Carvery, 537 Liverpool Road, Southport.
29 th April	The Richmond, Scarisbrick New Road, Kew.
13 th May	The Falstaff, King Street, Southport.

Members please advise Eunice if they cannot attend or for any other information.

AND ANOTHER THING.....

Our Webmaster– Eunice Owen, wants to see more input onto our Website from Group Leaders, particularly up to date information that cannot wait for the next Messenger to be published. Any problems regarding input please contact Eunice on 213419

U3A Meeting – 9th June

The 9th June monthly meeting is entitled “U3A Members’ Hobbies”. This will be an informal meeting, the success of which depends on you our members. We hope to have tables setting out examples of your hobbies.

So come on all you painters, photographers, embroiderers, knitters, lace makers, stamp collectors etc. – show us your work!!!!

Please let me know –

- (a) if you have any questions
- (b) if you wish to participate
- (c) what you would like to bring along
- (d) if you would like to give a short talk

Eleanor Bowden - 01704 231 966:

THE RAFFLE AND BOOK STALL

The monthly raffle was initiated in order to boost Club funds, which indeed it has. The raffle and the recently introduced Book Stall are our only means of revenue, as the monthly entrance fee barely covers the cost of hiring the hall.

There have been some adverse comments on the poor quality of the prizes but it must be pointed out that these are donated by you the members, and whilst we are most grateful and sincerely hope that you will continue to do so, may I suggest that you are more selective with your donations.

BOOKSTALL

Thanks to those of you who have donated books to the bookstall in the past and we hope you will continue to do so. However, for the future we are only accepting fairly new, good, clean hardbacks and paperbacks which can be sold to our members. Of particular interest are gardening, arts & crafts, wildlife and autobiographical books.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Contact Doreen for the Raffle and Eunice for the Book Stall.

PLEASE NOTE:

Deadline for copy for next issue is June 2nd if possible by e.mail.

Mike Kedzlie