

THE MEOLS MESSENGER

The Newsletter of the Meols (Southport)



www.meols-u3a.org.uk

Issue 13 – April 2011

FROM YOUR CHAIRPERSON

Three Southport U3As

As you know there are three U3As in Southport – Southport; Birkdale and Meols. We have recently had a couple of meetings to discuss how we can promote the U3A in Southport and to work together more closely whilst still keeping our own identity. With this in mind it was agreed that members of the three Southport U3As could attend each other's interest groups, provided that there are vacancies in that group, and general meetings. It is most important to check with the leaders of an interest group or in Southport's case the Secretary, whether it is possible to attend to their meetings. The details of Birkdale and Southport programmes can be found in the listings at the end of this newsletter.

GROUP CONTACTS

MUSIC APPRECIATION – Steve 536830	Continues to meet 1 st and 3 rd Tuesdays of each month.
THEATRE – Pam 549841	In the Autumn we are hoping to organise visits to the Playhouse Theatre in Liverpool. They will take place for each production on a Thursday afternoon. If you are interested, please contact Eleanor Bowden 01704 231966 so that we can organise a group visit.
CRAFT GROUP Eleanor	The next meeting of the Craft Group will be on Wednesday 20 April and the following meeting will be 25 May, Each meeting takes place at 2 pm at 58 Rathmore Crescent - 01704231 966. Everyone brings along their latest project and all are welcome.

LUNCH CLUB

Eunice – 213419

Every other Wednesday 20th April to 15th June 2011

20th April Fylde Fish Restaurant, Fylde Rd., Marshside

4th May Auberge Brasserie, 16 Seabank Road, Off Lord St.

18th May The Bold Hotel Restaurant, Lord St.

1st June Nostalgia Tea Rooms, Upper Floor, 215 Lord St

15th June Cloisters, 239 Lord St. (down the passageway next to Bank building)

If members are unable to attend any of the above venues, then please let me know at the latest by noon on the Monday of the same week. Thank you for your co-operation.

WALKING GROUP **Nat – 224805**

Waterloo To Hightown - March 2011

The recent Waterloo to Hightown walk proved to be ever popular with 22 walkers turning out.

On leaving Waterloo station the group were soon down at the sea front and, sheltered by the dunes, began walking toward the Coast Guard station at Crosby.

As the group proceeded a huge container ship fully laden came into view sailing along the channel towards Liverpool; suddenly every one's gaze was averted to the impressive sight of the destroyer HMS Liverpool Only 500 yards from shore and heading out to the open sea. It has been on nostalgic visit to its birth place Liverpool and after an illustrious career it is sadly due to be de-commissioned.

Arriving at Crosby the walkers passed Antony Gormley's Iron Men looking forlornly out to sea before trailing along an excellent man-made path and into the village of Hightown. After a hearty lunch in the Hightown Hotel a group of 8 decided to walk on to Formby, leaving the remainder to catch the train home, thus ending an enjoyable days walking.

Walks:

April 18. Hoylake to Moreton. Southport Station 9.50 am. Walter.

April 25 Details of new programme being discussed at the moment.

Alternative arrangements will be made if cars are unavailable

GARDENING CLUB **Sylvia – 224099**

April 14 Robinsons Seeds and Plants. Forton – guided tour/walk – vegetable plants for sale. Meet at 1.50p.m

May 19 Ness Gardens - Laburnum Spectacular. Transport to be arranged.

May 25 Hightown Wildflower Trust – guided tour with Sefton Ranger. 7p.m

June 23 Lavender Farm, Rainford – tour and talk. 1.50p.m

OUT AND ABOUT GROUP

Margaret Wright received a very nice letter from Captain Michael Jones of the Liverpool Seafarers Centre, following the visit by the Out and About group on the 28th October last year.

Whilst at the Centre, the ladies of the group volunteered to knit woolly hats for the seafarers and many dozens have been produced and given to the sailors, who are now wearing these hats over the oceans of the world, keeping many heads warm and healthy.

Captain Jones writes on behalf of the many seafarers expressing heartfelt thanks for their new headwear

Future outings include The Masonic Hall, Liverpool, the Greek Orthodox Church, a tour of Liverpool in the Yellow Duckmobile and a visit to the Queen Elizabeth Law Court.

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP -

The first meeting of this informal group went well which we all enjoyed. The meetings are held in Doreen Harwood's apartment which is No 19 Orchard House, Orchard Road, Ainsdale. Tel: 01704 570008. The 49 bus stops outside.

The next meetings will be on the fourth Friday of every month at 2 pm. i.e 29 April and 27 May. All are welcome.

SUMMER COACH TRIPS

Thursday 16 June Jodrell Bank and Arboretum

Tuesday 5 July York

Thursday 11 August Haworth

Thursday 15 Sept Keswick and possibly a Derwent Water Lake Cruise

Further information regarding costs and pick up arrangements will be available from Tony Barber.

COFFEE MORNING

This will be held on Tuesday 3 May from 10.00 to 12 noon. There will be a small charge of £2 to cover the hall rental cost. It is hoped that many Group Leaders will be in attendance to explain details of their particular interests.

COMPUTER COURSES

Interest has been shown by some of our members in computer courses. It is possible to book a one to one course at Southport Library. There is also the option of booking tuition with Age Concern in your own home. If anyone has additional information about Computer Courses please let us know so that we can publicise them in The Messenger.

NEW MEMBERS

Our membership list continues to grow, which can only mean that we are 'doing some things right'!!

This month we welcome – Caroline Ball; Jessie Brookfield; Barbara Harley; Pamela Lewis; Victoria Potts; Ruth Rimmer; Ann Singleton; Eileen Standing.

We look forward to welcoming them to future meetings, having a chat and a cup of tea and we do hope they will join some of our interest groups.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS – Following the AGM, the members listed below are your committee for 2011/12

Chairperson	Eleanor Bowden
Vice-Chair	Eric Newton
Secretary	Michael Kedzlie
Treasurer	Tony Barber
Garden Group Leader	Sylvia Cornick
Luncheon Group Leader	Eunice Owen
Out & About Group Leader	Margaret Wright
Theatre Group Leader	Pam Armitt
Holiday Organiser	Doreen Blackburn
Committee Member	Jennifer Mawdesley

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Below are the accounts for the year 2010 as produced by Tony Barber our Treasurer at the AGM.

MEOLS U3A

**Income and
Expenditure 12
months ending 31st
December 2010**

<u>2009</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2010</u>
£521.00	Attendance Fees	£537.00
£567.00	Subscriptions	£697.00
£402.20	Raffle Takings	£423.00
£103.00	Book Sales	£77.60
£2.35	Bank Interest	£2.52
£780.00	Collected Money for Coach Trips	£1,590.00
£500.00	Coach Funds Brought Forward	£0.00
£325.00	Sale of Xmas Buffet Tickets	£350.00
£0.00	Grants Received	£350.00
£3,200.55	Total Income	£4,027.12
	<u>PAYMENTS</u>	
£225.00	Subscriptions to HQ	£336.00
£42.00	Insurance	£84.00
£520.00	Hire of Hall	£520.00
£380.00	Refreshments/ Xmas Buffet	£412.20
£235.00	Donations and Speakers	£255.00
£221.68	Expenses / Fees	£54.65
£0.00	Expenses for Newsletter	£179.00
£8.00	Misc. Purchases	£59.95
£1,250.00	Cost of Coach Trips	£1,330.00
£0.00	Cost of Tours at Hoghton	£225.00
£0.00	Coach Funds carried forward	£0.00
£2,881.18	Total Payments	£3,455.80
£2,705.50	Balance brought forward	£3,024.87
£319.37	Surplus/Deficit on current year	£571.32
£3,024.87	Balance carried forward	£3,596.19

**Consolidated Balance
Sheet as at 31st
December 2008**

Sheet

as at 31st December 2010

<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
£31.14	Cash in Hand	£54.39
£2,993.73	Cash at Bank	£3,541.80
£3,204.87	Total	£3,596.19

AND ANOTHER THING.....

SINGING TOGETHER DAY

It has been suggested that members of the u3a's in the North West might like to get together and take part in either a choir or a small group activity. No more details are available but anyone who is interested, please contact Eleanor.

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*

BOOK STALL

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 6th June, if possible by e.mail.

Mike Kedzlie
mike.kedzlie@gmail.com