

THE MEOLS MESSENGER

The Newsletter of the Meols (Southport)



www.meols-u3a.org.uk

Issue 15 – August 2011

FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN –

For the benefit of any of our members who were unable to attend the last meeting, I am delighted to inform you of the award of honorary membership that was made on behalf of the committee to Paul and Audrey Halsall and to Tony Barber in recognition of their long and distinguished service to Meols U3A. We also presented Paul, Audrey and Tony with gifts of wine and flowers on your behalf.

My report this month includes the following information -

Diaries -

I have now received half a dozen 2012 U3A diaries from Bromley. They are good value at £2. Please let me know if you would like to purchase one.

Eleanor

Next of Kin/Medical Information Cards -

We have also received from Bromley some cards which I hope will be useful. They have next of kin details on one side and medical details on the other. They are on the desk next to Jennifer and Audrey for you to collect.

PA System -

As you know, we have been struggling with our present PA system. As a consequence, we have purchased, on approval, a new system which we hope will be an improvement. Please let us know what you think about it.

Networks -

What is a network? Network is a term for groups of U3As which have chosen to work together for support and the mutual benefit. We belong to the SW Lancs Network which currently meets every couple of months.

Publicity -

It has been suggested that the three Southport U3As get together to have a publicity campaign to promote our U3As. At the moment it is very much at the first stage of planning but we hope to be able to have a shop (which is currently vacant) in Lord Street on 1st October.

The shop will be open to the public to come in and find out what we are all about. More news nearer the time.

We will of course be looking for the Group leaders from Meols to be present on the day to answer questions from the public.

GROUP CONTACTS

MUSIC APPRECIATION – Steve 536830	Continues to meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.
THEATRE – Pam 549841	The Theatre Group starts again in September. Please advise Pam if you wish to join them as she has to make the bookings in August. If you are interested in matinee performances at the Liverpool Playhouse see below and please contact Eleanor Bowden 01704 231966 so that we can organise a group visit.
CREATIVE NEEDLEWORK Eleanor - 231966	The next meeting will be on Wednesday 24 th August – a visit to Mere Sands Wood to see a Textile Art Exhibition. Catching the 347 Chorley bus from the Monument at the bus stop for 12.15p.m
CREATIVE WRITING GROUP Doreen - 570008	Meets on the last Friday of each month at Doreen Harwood's – 19 Orchard House, Orchard Road, Ainsdale at 2p.m.

LUNCH CLUB

Eunice – 213419

For your diary, every other Wednesday at 12noon;

10th August	Prince of Wales, Lord Street, Southport
24th August	Salvatore (formerly The Curzon) 519 Lord Street
7 th September	The Latin Lounge, 8 Post Office Avenue PR9 0US
21 st September	The Barking Frog, Manchester Road.
5 th October	Fylde Fish & Chip Shop, Fylde Road.
19 th October	The Toby Carvery. 537 Liverpool Road, Ainsdale.

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 unless of course it is an emergency. My telephone number is shown above and you can leave a message. Thank you.

WALKING GROUP

Nat – 224805

Walking GROUP spots German sub – sensation!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thirteen walkers turned out in sunny weather in July for the Appley Bridge/Parbold Walk.

Alighting from the train at Appley Bridge the group were soon heading out into the glorious Parbold countryside.

Proceeding, the party entered the local beauty spot known as Fairy Glen, which is a haven of woodland trails and contains many species of wild flowers, especially the Blue Bells, which put on a spectacular show in May time.

After ascending Parbold Hill the walkers trekked down towards the Leeds and Liverpool canal where everyone paused for a breather on the bridge.

It was at this point that we all witnessed the unbelievable sight of a German U Boat emerging around the bend of the canal and heading towards us! All were amazed but it was soon realised that it was a converted narrow boat and the smiling owner said he was heading to Liverpool for the centenary celebrations of the Liver Buildings.

Leaving the canal the group then crossed the River Douglas and made their way through the countryside to Appley Bridge and the Water's Edge pub for refreshments and a recap of an eventful summers day.

Future Walks;

Aug 1.	Preston River Walk	Early Bus 2X. Fiona/Walter.
8th.	Hilbre Island.	Southport Station. 9 - 50 am. Vera.
15th.	Ruff Woods.	Meet Eastbank St 10 -00 am For Bus. Pearl.
22nd	Thurstastan Hill.	Southport Station 9 - 50 am. Owen / Pat

Alternative arrangements will be made if cars are unavailable

GARDENING CLUB **Sylvia - 224099**

Reports on visits to two very different locations.

The first from Sylvia:

Our guided tour of the lavender and chamomile fields in Rainford in June began slowly but soon gathered pace as the enthusiasm of the staff came through.

Twenty different lavenders, plus essential oil plants are grown, their use for therapeutic and medicinal properties explained. Other on site attractions included rescued animals - Lucky the sheep and Whitey the donkey!! Other attractions included tea rooms, an art gallery, farm and craft shops, a laboratory and distillery for essential oils.

The second report from Terry:

On Thursday 14th July, 22 members of the Garden Group spent a most enjoyable afternoon at a very special garden in Brocklebank Road.

It is difficult to put into words the beauty of the garden, the stunning display of flowers and plants and the history of the Victorian equipment used for plants, walkways, fountains etc. Later we all enjoyed tea and cakes on the patio in the warm sunshine – a truly inspiring afternoon.

Future Dates:

August 25	Harvest with Sylvia 2p.m Please bring along your produce for show.
September 11	Barton Grange and Canal cruise.
October 16	Cholmondley Castle Autumn Day – approx. £16 Please see Sylvia if you are interested.
November 3	2012 plans with Sylvia 2p.m.
December 1	Christmas event - with Jackie Iddon at Hazelwood. Demonstration; Seasonal refreshments and music 1.30p.m £7.

THEATRE GROUP – LIVERPOOL PLAYHOUSE

Contact: Eleanor 231966

Details of the Liverpool Playhouse – matinee performances (Thursdays at 1.30p.m) are as follows –

10th September Tartuffe or The Imposter by Roger McGough after Moliere. (2p.m)
6th October The Resistible Rise of Arturo VI by Bertolt Brecht.
10th November The Ladykillers by Graham Lineham **SOLD OUT**
21st January Cinderella – the Rock 'n' Roll Pantomime

Cost : average £14 per ticket with possibility of discount depending on take up.

If you wish to attend, please put your name on the list on the back desk.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to Meols and wish them a happy and rewarding membership :- Dorothy Taylor, Sheila Hewitt, Joyce Walsh, Doris Johnston, Shirley Hodgson, Roz Hughes, Eileen McCormick

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 October 1st - if possible by e.mail to mike.kedzlie@gmail.com

Mike Kedzlie