

# THE MEOLS MESSENGER

## The Newsletter of the Meols (Southport)



[www.meols-u3a.org.uk](http://www.meols-u3a.org.uk)

Issue 2 – June 2009

### From the Editor

A word of thanks to all those members kind words and best wishes following the publication of the first edition of the Messenger – very much appreciated.

At the last meeting Miles approached me and offered to write a piece for this edition. I said I thought the members –old and new would like that very much – and here it is (what a selection of groups there were –no wonder Miles and Julie didn't have much time for housework!)

### Some Notes From Memory – Meols U3A

After I retired, Julie and I made a concentrated effort to visit as many places abroad that we could. In the intervals between travelling, we filled our time with the usual house and garden chores.

But that wasn't quite enough – and when we saw a notice in KwikSave Store, we decided to go along to what was the second meeting of what was to become Meols U3A.

So we were in at the beginning and soon got very involved helping to organize the various Groups to get started (and being involved with most of them!)

The complaint that we had no time for housework, received the reply "Whats housework?!"

Soon we were very busy with our Groups, like Play Reading, Walking, Local History, Handicrafts, Bowling, Painting, Lunch Club, Scrabble, Holidays, Bridge, Local Theatre, Spanish, Line Dancing, Keep Fit, Ballroom Dancing and more!

So from March 1996, I was variously Secretary, Committee Member, Chairman and Vice Chairman, organiser for the Walking Group (at which we learnt a lot about old Sefton), Group holidays and Turkey and Tinsel Weekends.

But the main benefit from this activity was we made a lot of good friends and, sadly, lost a few on the way.

It has been a great pleasure to see the Group grow from about ten to over ninety members and as I retire from the FRONT LINE would like to thank you all for supporting me and trust that we will continue to support the new Committee members and organisers, and, most of all, continue to enjoy the friendship of others.

And don't forget the Raffle, a most valuable contribution to the funds!!!

See you all at the next meeting,

**Miles**

**DENNIS MAWDESLEY – A PAST CHAIRMAN OF MEOLS u3a**

It is with deep sorrow that I have to report the death of Dennis Mawdesley who died earlier this month after a long illness lasting some 4 years.

Anyone who knew Dennis, who was a very funny man who came on holidays and day trips, recognized him as the life and soul of the party. As a regular at the luncheon club he liked his food!

Dennis leaves a widow, 2 sons and 3 grandchildren.

On behalf of the Committee and members of the Meols u3a I would like to pass on our condolences to Jennifer and family and I am proud to have been a friend of Dennis for a few years. God Bless.

Paul Halsall, Chairman, Meols u3a

## GROUP CONTACTS

<p>GARDENING – Sylvia 224099</p> <p>GARDEN CLUB VISIT REPORTS</p>	<p>June 11<sup>th</sup> 2pm *Crabtree Cottage, Mere Brow, 79 Crabtree Lane, Tea and biscuits.</p> <p>June 18<sup>th</sup> 2pm *Garden Visit - Mavis Standring 120 Roe Lane, Tea and biscuits.</p> <p>July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2pm *Garden Visit - Diane Lavery, 10 Highfield Rd. Tea and biscuits</p> <p>July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2pm Moss Lane Allotments</p> <p>* Charity Donation.</p> <p>TO COBBLEHEY IN APRIL - Our visit to Cobblehey Farm and Gardens was a little early in the season to see it at it's best. However feeding the new lambs was a treat and a chance to take lots of photographs. The refreshment facilities were excellent. <b>Sylvia</b></p> <p>TO CALDERVALE BLUEBELLS IN MAY – A lovely short guided walk through woodlands with a short sharp climb to look at the bluebell woods known as the Bluebell Teas Ramble. Conditions a bit showery but the sun did reappear for a while. The view, of dark and light greens, together with masses of bluebells was truly magnificent. The woodland path led us on to a brief visit to St. Johns church, then a track and path through a farmyard back to the village hall for a delicious afternoon tea! All home cooked by the ladies of the local W.I. We also learnt that the small mill in the village produces Arab Headscarfs, working 24 hours a day, the only place in the world to do so. A lovely day out in an unspoilt village. <b>Walter</b></p>
<p>LUNCHEON CLUB</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, 12 p.m.</u> 10th June The Barking Frog, 137 Manchester Rd. Southport, PR9</p>

<p>Eunice 213419</p>	<p>9BD 24<sup>th</sup> June The White House, (Southport Golf Links) Park Rd. West 8<sup>th</sup> July The Shrimper, Fylde Road, Marshside. 22<sup>nd</sup> July Auberge Brasserie, 16, Seabank Rd. Off Lord St. PR9 0EW 5<sup>TH</sup> August The Richmond, Scarisbrick New Rd., Kew.</p>
<p>MUSIC APPRECIATION Steve 536830</p>	<p>The Music Group meets fortnightly, 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3rd Tuesday of the month.</p>
<p>OUT AND ABOUT Margaret 380012</p>	<p><b>T</b> Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June Southport Lifeboat House We will be meeting at Morrisons' Café at 6.30pm which will give us time for a quick coffee and the use of their facilities! there aren't any at the Lifeboat House!! Our talk will start at 7.15pm. Donations to the Off Shore Life Boat.</p> <p>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July Radio City Tower We will be Meeting at Chapel Street Station at 3.50pm for the 4 pm train. It has been suggested we have a snack at The Tappas Bar before going to the tower where we will start our tour at 5pm. Cost - Concessions £4. 25</p> <p>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August Sudley House We might as well make a day of it!!!! We will meet at 9.50 am for the 10'clock train. We are fortunate that the Emily Tinne Exhibition is on show which reflects whole wardrobes full of clothes dating between 1910 and 1943. Admission is free and there are plenty of places for picnics. There are also Tea Rooms available.</p> <p><i>My sincere apologies if the evening meetings are not suitable for members but these were the only times offered.</i></p>
<p>SCRABBLE Joyce 228804</p>	<p>The Scrabble Group meets fortnightly 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. We play two games with an interval for tea and biscuits. This year we have lost two of our members Maureen Barber [ one of the founder members of U3A ] and John Lewis, they are both sadly missed. We have room for new members so please contact me at the meeting or by telephone if you are interested.</p>
<p>THEATRE – Pam 549841</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>WALKING – Nat 224805  Walking Group</p>	<p>The opening summer walk covering the countryside of Burscough and Latham, was thoroughly enjoyed by 15 members. After a packed lunch in the picturesque grounds of Latham chapel we continued in glorious sunshine to the newly owned Bull &amp; Dog pub in Burscough for a well earned drink. June 15 Hilbre Isle Southport station 9.50a.m Owen</p>

programme	June 22	Longton	Bus	Vera
	June 29	Burscough Bridge	Southport station 9.50a.m	Pat
	July 6	Ashurst	Cars Churchill Ave 10.00a.m	Pat
	July 13	Clieves Hill	Eastbank St 9.50a.m for bus	Nat
	July 20	Owd Nells	Cars Churchill Ave 10.00 a.m	Vera
	July 27	Raby	Southport station 9.50a.m	Vera/Pat
	Aug 3	Moreton to New Brighton. Lunch	Southport Station 9.50a.m	Walter
	Aug 10	Mawdesley	Cars Churchill Ave 10.00a.m	Pat

If any member is thinking of starting a new group and unable to find a venue, then you might consider hiring Crossens Community Centre, Rufford Road, which is charged by the hour at very reasonable rates. There are excellent facilities to make tea and off-road car parking available. They have applied for planning permission to extend the main room and larger kitchen facilities, meanwhile it is adequate for small/medium groups.

More details from: Elaine Price, **tel. 225884** or go to: [www.crossens.org.uk](http://www.crossens.org.uk) where you can get more information and download a booking enquiry form.

If you need any help in setting up a new group please do not hesitate to ask Eunice.

### **Summer Day Trips by Coach (Thursdays)**

9<sup>th</sup> July Harrogate  
6<sup>th</sup> August York  
10<sup>th</sup> September Lake District  
Coaches will depart Emanuel Church Hall at 8a.m.  
Cost £5 per member and £10 for a visitor.

## **AND ANOTHER THING.....**

### **ANNUAL SEMINAR AT ABERGAVENNY – 17<sup>TH</sup> to 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

All presentations will be by members of the U3A attending the seminar. The programme is not finalized but we expect to have talks on Aeronautical Engineering, Navigation, Technology of secret messages in WW2, Polmers/Plastics, The Calendar, The Properties of Light, SS Great Britain and Blood Transfusions!!!!

The lectures are all illustrated and at a level of general rather specialist interest.

We will also have a debate and a welcome party.

Our main outing will be to the SS Great Britain in Bristol. The Seminar will be held at the Ty'r Morwydd Environmental Study Center, Abergavenny.

Half board cost is £180 per person in single or double rooms. More details from Tony.

### **General U3A News - North West Region of U3As**

A meeting of U3As in the North West Region was held in Preston on the 29 April when a new organisation was set up for the NW Region. How will this affect our U3A you may ask? A committee was appointed and the objectives are that there will be better collaboration to develop educational, cultural and social interests of the U3A movement in the NW region by giving us support, sharing ideas and resources. It is hoped that there will be joint events such as summer schools, study days, seminars and conferences. The Third Age Trust have agreed to funding for the first two years. So watch this space for further information.

**Forum meeting 26<sup>th</sup> June at University of Central Lancashire Preston.**

This will take place at the Harris Building, Room HB304 at 1.30pm and is all about the digital switchover for television in this area – could be very interesting. More details from Tony.

**THE PLANNED HOLIDAY** – to Eastbourne had to be cancelled due to lack of support. Maybe October was too late and Eastbourne too far, but the main problem was getting people to share rooms.

**BOOKSTALL**

Please note that we are unable to accept any more books from members at the moment because of limited storage space and we already have a very good selection to choose from, plus CDs and jigsaws. Come along and have a browse.

**Contact Eunice for the Book Stall.**

**Our Webmaster– Eunice Owen, STILL** wants to see more input onto our Website from Group Leaders. Any problems regarding input please contact Eunice on 213419

-----  
**PLEASE NOTE:**

Deadline for copy for next issue is **August 4<sup>th</sup>**, if possible by e.mail.

Mike Kedzlie