

## June Newsletter

### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

How good it is to be Home:

Three weeks travelling 2563 miles, visiting family in California, Oregon and Washington State. Many hours driving, many days spent with family and many nights spent in Motels. Elizabeth was feeling homesick for our refuge in Birkenhead.

But we managed to achieve our objectives; the most important being spending time with Elizabeth's sister, Donna, who will be 91 in September and recently suffered a stroke. Fortunately she still recognised us, which was a plus.

In Washington State we visited the scene of our first date which was on 4th March 1981. Two weeks later Elizabeth called her sister saying "Never invite an Englishman to dinner because he never goes home". Some things are meant to last.

But how GOOD it is to be Home!

Now on the lighter side:

1. Honey is the only food not to spoil in time.
2. A Crocodile cannot stick its tongue out.
3. A Snail can sleep for three years.
4. American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by taking 1 olive from each salad served on first class flights.
5. Butterflies taste with their feet.
6. Elephants are the only animal that cannot jump.

Kind Regards,

**Alan Harding – Chairman**

## BRIAN'S MUSINGS



June is the month of the summer solstice, when for us the sun is at its highest and most powerful. From this point on it is down-hill all the way until the twenty-first day of December when the solar cycle begins again. These seasonal shifts were of vital importance to our ancestors. They determined the rhythm of life and the nutrition on which all life depended. Things are very different now. At the touch of a key-pad we can call up tropical or arctic phenomena according to need or proclivity. Even so our primitive drives and urges remain and to a considerable extent it is these that determine how we behave.

The holiday season is upon us. The urge to be somewhere else is a prevailing factor. I imagine that most U3A members are not as restricted by the academic year as they might have been as young parents. The urge to migrate is genetically imposed; though for some of us it might have to be somewhat modified. As a child we considered ourselves fortunate if we managed a day trip to Skegness, where there was a vast quantity of sand and in the distance, something that we were assured was the sea; though I never actually experienced it. We had made a journey and it was all very different from the huge lace mills and narrow streets from which we had set out. We did, however, have a canal system back there, at a time when canals were a matter of survival. Watching the narrow-boats negotiate the locks was an endless source of delight. Long before the invention of motorways and long-distance haulage they offered a window into another world beyond the limits and restrictions of my own.

We seem to be driven by a need to go beyond the known. What is it that we hope to find? How far do we need to go? Do we actually belong anywhere – or are we just making do? Having travelled a fair amount and having reached the point at which the last great adventure is but a breath away. I find these considerations to be of great interest. I have felt myself to be profoundly accommodated to the point of tears in Siberia, likewise in Uzbekistan, in Delphi and on a mountain, in the rain, in Wales. What and where is home? Is it purely a matter of perception or do place and time come into it? Now I am convinced that, whatever home is, it in some way contains an extra-dimensional element - something so vast that it contains everywhere, everything and everyone and so intimate that it uniquely pertains to the individual soul: everywhere and nowhere, everything and nothing, without distinction, all at once. It is unlikely to be accessible via a touch screen or long-haul flight.

**Brian Gill**

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## TEA AND COFFEE ROTA OCTOBER TO JULY 2023

Please contact Joan Benton on 0151 608 6226 if you would like to change your duty date.

25<sup>th</sup> May

Greig Roberts

John Roberts



8<sup>th</sup> June

Mary Hamilton

Gwyn Thomas

22<sup>nd</sup> June

Elizabeth Harding

Sylvia Hunt

6<sup>th</sup> July

Barbara Riley

Marian Jackson



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### (so far) Speakers 2023

8<sup>th</sup> June 2023:

Pauline Roberts: Travel, holidays

20<sup>th</sup> July 2023:

Cathy Warren: Talk on Callister Gardens  
(Community Garden in Oxton)



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### 2023 Social meetings

May 25<sup>th</sup>

DVD: Liners and Launches

. Colin Stredder

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### Lunch Group Dates

Colin Shredder

June 20<sup>th</sup> 2023 Meet at Pesto's, Dibbinsdale, Bromborough at 12.45  
for lunch at 1pm.



Please note that this will be the last Lunch Group meeting until September after the August Break.

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## Group News

### A Book and a Glass of Wine: Judith Whaley



Meet on last Thursday of month. The group is full at the moment.

### Bridge: Tony Swarbrick

Meetings will be in "The Cabin" at Trinity and are held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays each month, 10.15am to 12.30. We meet to play friendly relaxed bridge and new members are always welcome. Next meetings are June 14<sup>th</sup> and June 21<sup>st</sup>.



### Book Club: Mary O'Neill

Meetings take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 2pm. The next meeting is on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Mary has room for one or two more members; anyone interested should contact Tony Swarbrick our Group Co-ordinator.



### Lunch Circle: Colin Stredder

The Lunch Circle meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 12.45 for 1pm.

**Colin is now home from hospital and having physiotherapy. He has arranged lunch at Pesto's for June 20<sup>th</sup> (see above). After this the next date will be for September after the August Break.**



### Music Appreciation: Paul Cullen

**There will be a break until September.** Meetings are now on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month 2-4pm.



### Walking Group: Ken

Tony will lead a circular walk from Hoylake Station on May 26<sup>th</sup>. See below.

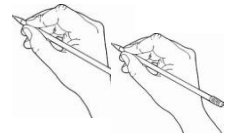
### Art Group Bernadette Hamilton

Next Session will take place in the Session Room on June 21<sup>st</sup> when Bernadette will give a presentation on Paula Rego. Meet from 10am.



### Drawing Group: Pauline Horner

The next meeting will be on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10am. in Birkenhead Park; meet by the Visitor Centre. The following meeting on July 7<sup>th</sup> will be at the Lady Lever Art Gallery at 10am.



## The Play Reading: **Eliane Davie**



The Group meets at Eliane's house on the second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be on June 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am. We will be reading: a Shakespeare comedy, "As You Like It". Judith managed to get sufficient scripts from the Liverpool Central Library – thank you Judith.

## Craft Group! **Joan Benton**



Meetings take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at her home; next meeting is on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Places on this group are full at the moment.

## Nordic Walking, **Corinne Whitham**

Meets every week at 10am Tuesdays at the Visitor Centre in Birkenhead Park. If you can't come every week simply come when available, as often or as little as suits. Open to all, why not give it a try? A pair of poles is essential, standard walking ones will do to start. Lightweight walking shoes or trainers are best. Expect to walk for one hour at a smart pace.



## Rock Park Walk:

Walk and talk on May 15<sup>th</sup> was a great success. Another Group (for 15) is arranged for June 5<sup>th</sup>. This walk will meet at the Refreshment Rooms where we will return to lunch after the walk. **Please note that this will be earlier at 9.30am.** No charge but suggested donation of £5.

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## Art Appreciation Programme - **Bernadette Hamilton**



June 21<sup>st</sup> – Presentation on Paula Rego given by Bernadette Hamilton in the Session Room.

July 19<sup>th</sup> – To be arranged. **Please make a note in your diaries**

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## Drawing Group

Pauline sent this note with some photos of her Group with their work, when they took to the open air outside TWPG!

*Hello Eliane*

*Today was the first time the drawing group sketched outdoors - between showers!*

*We finished with a Throwdown where everyone shows what they have done. It was lovely to hear all the positive comments.*

*I've attached a couple of photos.*

*All the best*

*Pauline xx*

Thank you Pauline for sending in these great photos; what a lovely collection of work!

Art Group sent by Pauline Horner, Group Leader. May 5th



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## Walking Group

Circular walk from Hoylake, Via West Kirby, Grange Hill

- Meet at: Hoylake Station to start at 10.30
- West Kirby Train from Hamilton Square at 9.45 or 10.00
- Distance: 6 Miles approx,  
Mainly on good paths, bit of beach walking
- Lunch: Green Lodge - Hoylake
- Leaders: Tony Swarbrick

Please let me know if you will be joining us.

- Date: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May
- Where: Circular Walk from Hoylake Station
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## Sandra's Tree

This Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, members of Committee will be planting tree at St. John's Hospice in memory of Sandra Lakin who died there last year after a long illness. A long standing and very active member, she was well liked and admired for the great courage with which she met her final months. RIP Sandra; we miss you.

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## Secret Gardens of Oxton May 14<sup>th</sup> 2023



A great turn out for the annual “Secret Gardens” event in Oxton Village! The weather stayed dry right through the afternoon until nearly 5pm. We saw some beautiful gardens and shops and cafes did a roaring trade. Well done Oxton and all the people who worked so hard to make it such a successful event; really enjoyable.  
Ed.

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## Rock Park Walk May 15<sup>th</sup> 2023



By all accounts the Rock Park Walk was a great success, enjoyed by all participants who found the talk really interesting. Lunch at the

Refreshment Rooms finished off the morning in a satisfactory manner too! I look forward to experiencing both at the second walk on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Ed.

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## Art Appreciation Group

### Visit to the World Museum Liverpool on May 17<sup>th</sup>



We all found this Exhibition of 'The Return of the Gods' to be really interesting and well laid out. As one who gets mixed up with the Greek and Roman names for their mythical Gods, it proved quite enlightening as the Roman name was there under the Greek name in a different colour! We found the time lines particularly useful in placing events in chronological order.

Many thanks once again to Bernadette Hamilton, for organising a viewing that she knew would interest us! Ed.

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## Books and Jigsaws

Thank you everyone for thinning down the books and jigsaw collections; they are at a much more manageable number now and we can return to bringing in books and jigsaws for exchange again. In the interest of not getting stock in excess of storage space again, please keep to only bringing the number of books that you take – it seems to work really well!



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## Friendly Ear

If you know of any member who is sick, in hospital or in need of a friendly chat please let Mary Hamilton or Dot Matthews know. They will contact them to see whether they need help and send cards (where applicable)



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## New Committee April AGM 2023



Alan Harding  
Chairman



Elizabeth Harding  
Business Secretary



Margaret Cullen  
Treasurer



Tony Swarbrick  
Groups Co-ordinator



Ken Jackson



Eliane Davie  
Newsletter Editor



Eve Felton  
Dep. Group Co-ordinator



Pamela Southall  
Speaker Secretary



Pauline Horner  
Membership Secretary

Brian Jones



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## And finally.....

Isn't it great to have some warmer weather at last? I hope that you are all making the best of it and getting out and about. There is quite a bit of news this month so I am going to try to send the Newsletter out a little earlier so that you'll have the dates to refer to. You can also see the new Committee line up and find out who is going to be doing the various jobs entailed.

Perhaps this is a good time to mention for new members that we break for August so there are no meetings in that month unless Group leaders arrange something for their own Group. I will remind you again in the July Newsletter; we resume in September and dates for that month should be in the newsletter too.

Don't forget to send any holiday news that you think will be of interest and photos too! Simply email them to me at the address with the newsletter.

All best wishes,

*Eliane Davie - Editor*



