

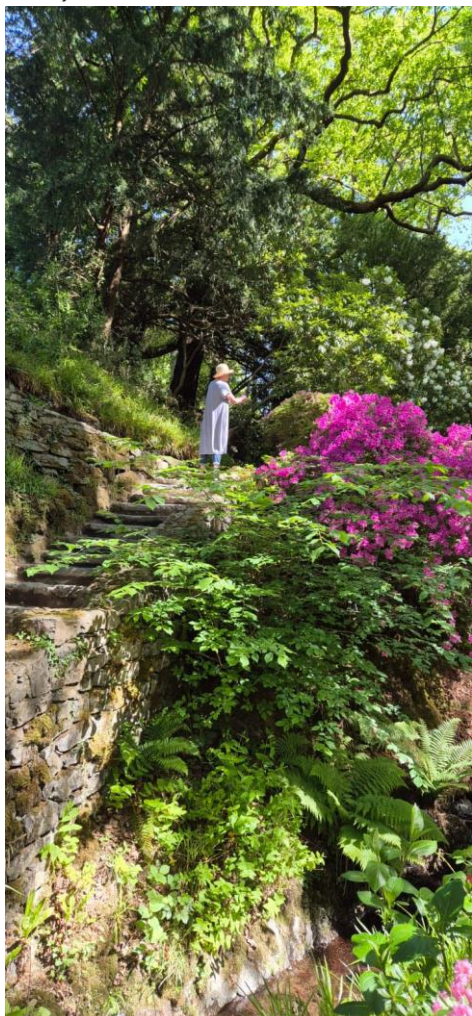


June 2025 Newsletter

Chair's Message

Hello Everyone

As I write this the weather has taken a bit of a turn – just in time for the Bank Holiday and the school half term break. It reminds me that I have yet another reason to be happy that I am now retired – I have been able to enjoy the last few weeks of sunshine with some great company (thank you Oxton and Prenton u3a).



I thoroughly enjoyed our day out to Bodnant Gardens, like many of you I had been before but this time the weather was perfect and the company made it very special. It's honestly, times like these that make me glad that I followed my sister's advice and joined the u3a all those years ago – yes, it is coming up to 12 years of membership!

I always try to 'spread the word' about the u3a, as I hope you all do. Oxton and Prenton u3a is one of the smaller u3as, which for me, is part of its charm – but we will always welcome new members so don't be shy about inviting your friends or neighbours to join us.

Looking at my diary I see that we have lot to offer, a great programme of speakers, some interesting trips out, an exciting schedule of monthly walks and an expanding range of interest groups. So do your bit and share with your friends!

My thanks to you all for your continued support.

Corinne

FORTHCOMING EXCURSIONS

Please note the change of destination – Chirk cancelled

Thursday 26 June

POWIS CASTLE and GARDEN

National Trust

A 13th century castle and an 18th century orangery, Edwardian formal garden, fountain garden, Courtyard café and Garden coffee shop

Coach payment (will be determined by numbers) will need to be made at the meeting on 19th June.

Castle entrance £16.15

National Trust members – free entrance.

<mailto:trips@oxtonu3a.co.uk>

A Glorious Day at Bodnant Garden.

What a truly wonderful day our group enjoyed on our recent coach trip to the magnificent Bodnant Garden. We were blessed with a beautiful late spring day, and the journey there was wonderfully easy, making for a perfectly relaxed start to our adventure.

Upon arrival, we split into smaller groups, each of us keen to explore the garden's famed beauty at our own pace. Laughter and chatter filled the air as we meandered along the paths, taking in the breathtaking sights.

From the iconic Laburnum Arch, with its golden glory, to the serene terraces offering panoramic views of the Conwy Valley, every corner of Bodnant offered something new to admire. It wasn't just the grand vistas that captivated us; many found joy in the intricate details of a perfect flower or the serenity of the water features. Sharing these moments with friends, pointing out particularly striking plants, and simply basking in the sunshine made the experience even more special.

Our visit to Bodnant Garden was truly a feast for the senses and a fantastic day out for everyone. It was a delightful reminder of the incredible natural beauty on our doorstep and the joy of shared experiences. We can't wait for our next adventure! Thanks to Wil for arranging this day out!



Bodnant Garden
May 2025



Art Appreciation



The Art Appreciation Group recently met up to visit the iconic red-brick Victoria Gallery & Museum, designed by Alfred Waterhouse, the renowned architect also behind Manchester Town Hall and London's Natural History Museum. Bernadette had organised a fantastic tour for us, and our enthusiastic guide captivated us with tales of the building's rich

heritage. Nestled right in the heart of Liverpool University, the Gallery's mission is to preserve and share 140 years of the University's history. It's a real treasure trove!

We then explored the historic and contemporary art treasures within. Our visit included several exhibitions. We were particularly intrigued by 'A Play of Light', a striking display exploring darkness and illumination. We also immersed ourselves in 'JMW Turner and Contemporaries', explored the diverse 'Curator's Choice' galleries, and enjoyed the charming Audubon Room.



For some of us, it was our very first time visiting the Victoria Gallery, but after such a wonderful and inspiring day, we're sure there will be many return visits.

Prizewinning photograph

The prize arrived from the u3a NW newsletter. A framed copy of the winning pic and some publicity materials including a bag and travel cups.

My apologies to both Joan Benton and Hazel Stoll who I misidentified in last month's newsletter.



May Lunch Club



Tea and Coffee Rota

5 June Greig Roberts
John Roberts

19 June Hazel Stoll
Eileen Slater

Would you like to help out and get to know more members? Please contact Joan on 0151 608 6226 or 07568563329

Joan Benton

GROUP NEWS

Art Appreciation – Held in the Session room in TWPG. 3rd Wednesday each month. 10am for 10.15 start. Also Gallery visits. Contact Bernadette – <mailto:art@oxtonu3a.co.uk>

Natter and Read

Meets at 10.30. – 12.00. in Wallasey at Joyce Woosley’s home near Wallasey Town Hall on Thursday following the first u3a meeting in the month. Spaces available. All books are provided by the Library Service.
Next meeting 12th June. Contact Joyce: <mailto:book2@oxtonu3a.co.uk>

Book Group 1

Meets in Oxton at Val Edward’s house on the second Tuesday in the month. Full at the moment. Contact: book1@oxtonu3a.co.uk

Craft Group

The meeting is on the last Monday of the month. 2.00 – 4.00. At Joan Benton’s house. Full at the moment, but names can be added to a reserve list. Contact: craft@oxtonu3a.co.uk

Lunch Group

Our lunch group hosted by Joan Benton is held monthly at the Refreshment Rooms. Numbers are limited so watch out at TWPG meetings for the signup sheet. It is held on the third Wednesday in the month at 12:45 for 1:00pm. Next lunch 18th June

Nordic Walking

Come and join Corinne’s Nordic Walking Group every Tuesday at 10.00 am at Birkenhead Park visitor centre. We walk for an hour then have refreshments at the café. All year round.

And finally...

Thanks to Steve Cottam for proofreading and to Corinne for photographs. If you have photos, reports, or comments regarding groups you lead or ones you have attended, or anything connected to our u3a, please send them to me for inclusion.

<mailto:newsletter@oxtonu3a.co.uk>

Kathy