



MAY NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As I was going through the various notices at the beginning of one of our recent meetings, I was more and more amazed by the amount and variety of excursions, theatre trips and educational outings that are on offer to all our members. So I would like to bring to your attention the latest two excursions that are on our 'to do' list.

Firstly the two Barbara's, in conjunction with our Gardening Group, are taking us off to Chatsworth House, seat of the Duke of Devonshire. Fascinating house, wonderful gardens complete with the famous Cascade Waterfall and fabulous 90m high Emperor Fountain. For approximately £30 you can be transported by luxury coach to Chatsworth in Derbyshire and spend the day enjoying the many delights of the house and garden available there on the 14th June.

Secondly on 13th July for the princely sum of £33, you can take a ride to, and then on, the River Severn, enjoy a carvery lunch at an award winning inn which is the only UK inn that cooks a carvery lunch using an Aga cooker. And also take a guided tour of Much Wenlock and Shrewsbury before returning home.

My head aches when I think of the amount of organization that goes into one of these excursions let alone two of them. Show your appreciation of our wonderful social team and especially the two Barbara's by booking your tickets NOW before they are sold out.



Sandra Lakin
Chairman

BRIAN'S MUSINGS



MAYPOLES and THINGS.

I gather that pole dancing is fashionable in certain quarters. I even know someone who does it. It seems that the pole itself has phallic connotations and that the dancing therefore is deemed too erotic to be allowed out amongst the general public. This is not a recent dilemma. An earlier version of the practice was totally forbidden amongst the adult population but managed to survive in a few primary schools where it was generally assumed that the participants would be too sexually immature to know what they were about.

This inability to come to terms with human sexuality only added to the general sense of guilt and anxiety that the subject is capable of generating. It has also deprived us of all the rich symbolism, teaching and meaning concerning the relationship between energy, matter and creativity encoded in the traditional maypole. The Large Hadron Collider, as previously mentioned, has yet to equal it for depth, significance, insight and understanding when it comes to energy and matter.

A recent extensive article in a reputable news paper, went to great lengths to assure us that we do not have a 'psyche' as such and that what we do have is in fact two dimensional and algorithmic (behavioural memes expressed mathematically). When popular physics assures us that the physical universe needs eleven dimensions in order to be able to justify itself, I see no reason why we psychologists should content ourselves with only two.

I would like to issue a general warning here to any who like to think that they are capable of logical reasoning, especially when it is supported by science: beware of interpreting the phenomenon of earthly existence according to the limits of sensory perception. Not only do they vary but more importantly so does our interpretation of what our senses actually perceive. I know that a great many people would be much happier with a two dimensional psyche and would have no problem in dismissing all the material that fails to measure up, but, given a choice, I prefer the option that allows for factors that lie beyond the limits of my current understanding. This offers little comfort for those who demand certainty. A two dimensional, binary, artificial intelligence may be capable of simulating meaning but it will never understand what it actually is to be meaningful.

There have never before been so many of us on Planet Earth and movement across its entire surface has never been so easy. The internet and finance have no respect for barriers and borders. Artificial lines drawn in the sand are losing their significance. When the Earth's population can be counted in billions the planet's resources, in the end, will have to belong to everyone. A two dimensional, robotic and predictable psyche might well provide us with a much needed solution to the problems this situation engenders. Without the need for identity, meaning and culture we could model ourselves on ants or bees and in so doing match ourselves perfectly to our ecology.

However we are apparently an evolving species and, whether we like it or not, a vital component of that evolutionary process is the ontological phenomenon of consciousness and the 'hard question' this imposes. When we consider an acorn we can entertain a clear image of what its ultimate destiny might be, given reasonable growing conditions. If the tree is evolving the process is too slow to warrant serious attention. We are a different matter entirely. For us evolution is accelerating and we have no idea what our ultimate destiny might be; though religion and science fiction offer some interesting pointers. Unfortunately their ideals tend to collapse in dualistic conflicts which tend to tarnish their appeal.

It is both alarming and exhilarating to be aware that every day that we live and breathe we are breaking new ground. We are going where none have gone before. With this in mind we might have to resign ourselves to a situation in which the social, political, financial and psycho/spiritual paradigms that have supported us so far may no longer be fit for purpose. We have no choice but to go beyond the known. The very essence of the relationship between energy and matter demands a constant readjustment of the ecology. So we should not be too dismayed when things seem to get a bit out of control; it is probably a cosmological event.

BRIAN GILL

REQUEST FROM BARNADO'S

I am writing on behalf of Barnardo's to ask whether you are able to do anything to help us promote volunteering in the local Oxtun community.

The Oxtun store based at Townfield Lane Shopping Centre are currently looking to recruit volunteers to join our friendly team. Our aim is to provide all of our volunteers with a quality volunteering experience, where volunteers gain from meeting new people, learning new skills and having fun. Many of our existing volunteers have shared that volunteering has increased their self confidence and given them a sense of achievement by helping the UK's most vulnerable children and young people.

We would be happy to speak with any of your members who would like to find out more, if they would like to drop into the shop for an informal chat or they can call the shop manager, Linda Dean on 0151 651 2100 to arrange a visit. Linda's e-mail address is linda.dean@barnardos.org.uk if you would like any further information or have any questions.

Julie Goodrum

PLAY READING GROUP



There is room for another three men or women to join the Play Reading Group which meets on the first and last Wednesdays of the month between 10.30 and 12.30 am. at June Wilson's house.

We read a variety of all types of plays, moving the parts around and switching frequently so that everyone gets the same chance to read. It is very informal and totally non competitive plus we enjoy coffee and biscuits and a good chat.

Anyone interested in joining should phone June Wilson who is leader of the group on 652 8756

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE UPTON CROQUET CLUB HAS ASKED US TO PASS ON THIS INVITATION

THE SEASON HAS STARTED, SO THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO START PLAYING

UPTON CROQUET CLUB INVITE YOU TO ENJOY A FREE TRIAL SESSION

Phone 644 7671 for more information

HAVE YOU TRIED CROQUET ?? *PLAY CROQUET*



We invite you to join a group of up to ten people for a session lasting about two hours or so. We will show you the basics of golf croquet using standard adult equipment.

You can then have fun playing each other in competitive games. [Beware – croquet brings out the worst in people!]

All equipment and instruction required will be provided by the Upton Croquet Club. No special clothing is required, but please note that shoes with heels are not allowed on the greens.

Light refreshments are supplied at the end of play.

There is an inclusive charge of £5 per person

Proposed date : April 10th at 1.30

Place : Victory Hall, Salacre Lane, Upton, CH49 0TL

** In the event of bad weather, an alternative date will be offered*

Enquiries 644 7671

LUNCH GROUP

Dates to note for 2018 MEET AT 12.45 for 1pm **Note new time**

Tuesday May 15 th	The Shippons Pub, Irby.
Tuesday June 19 th	The Refreshment Rooms
Tuesday July 17 th	Afternoon Tea at Peel Hey at 2.30pm

Cost £17 – full payment on booking please.

Closing date for booking June 21st

COLIN STREDDER

SOCIAL OUTINGS

No bookings or reservations can be taken without payment.

This is necessary in order to be fair to all our members

PLEASE try to book events BEFORE the START of meetings

Payment at end of meetings MUST be either cheque or correct cash only

Full booking details available @ meetings - see your social organisers

EVENTS

Now booking

Annual outing to House & gardens 2018

CHATSWORTH HOUSE

Bakewell Derbyshire

Cost which includes Entry & coach **£30**

N.b Any adjustment will be notified (if necessary)

THURSDAY 14 JUNE

Brief schedule

Depart Trinity with Palm Grove 9.00 am

Arrive destination approx 11.30 am

Free time to explore gardens, visit house & have lunch

Depart for home 4.30 pm – arrive home 7.00 pm approx

Booking must close 24 May at the latest



ANNUAL 'BOAT TRIP' 2018

FRIDAY 13 JUNE

A little different this year

Depart Trinity with Palm Grove 9.00am

Collect 'guide for the day' and spend a little time exploring Much Wenlock

LUNCH 1.00 pm in award winning Inn

Lunch will be served from the U.K's first AGA Carvery

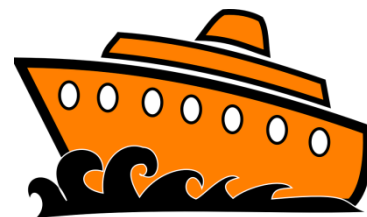
After lunch will spend a little time in Shrewsbury

Finally a 45 minute 'cruise' along the River Severn

Leave for home 5.00 pm to arrive home approx 6.30pm

COST £33 to include travel, lunch & boat trip

Any necessary adjustments to cost will be notified



CHINA'S FIRST EMPEROR & THE TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

World Museum, William Brown Street Liverpool

Thursday 17 MAY 2018 @ 10.30am

Booking now closed

Meet at museum approx 10.15am



THEATRE

REMINDERS

AN OFFICER & A GENTLEMAN – The Musical

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE

Wednesday 23 MAY 2018 @ 2.30 pm

Booking closed

Collect Tickets & meet @ theatre

NOW BOOKING

PAINT YOUR WAGON

EVERYMAN THEATRE

Thursday 31 MAY @ 7.30pm

Tickets £20

Booking closing 26 April



AN EVENING WITH DAN SNOW (Historian, broadcaster & TV presenter)

FLORAL PAVILION, NEW BRIGHTON

FRIDAY 22 JUNE @ 7.30 pm

Tickets £20

Booking must close 26 April



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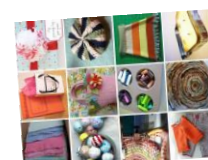
COACH COSTS are dependent on numbers travelling so it may be necessary to adjust prices slightly from time to time.

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NOTICES FOR MEMBERS

CRAFT GROUP

Do you want a social afternoon, with a cuppa and maybe a slice of cake, if so why not join our Craft Group? We have changed the format so that members



usually bring their own work instead of learning a new skill every month, but occasionally one of us will demonstrate a new technique.

We meet on the second Monday afternoon in the month at my house at 2 p.m.

Ring me.....Joan Benton, telephone number 608 6226

TEA AND COFFEE ROTA -2018



May 10 th	Sue Porter Ruth Trace Sue Phillips
May 24 th	Kathleen Pugh Mary Hamilton Steve Cottam
June 7 th	Marion Jackson Barbara Riley Gerry Riley

MEETINGS and SPEAKERS 2018



2018

Thursday 24 th May	Joyce Grenfell. – Jean Finney
Thursday 21 ST June	Thomas Edgerton and the Earls of Derby – Bernard Dennis
Thursday 19 th July	Behind the Scenes in Theatre and TV. – Fiona Martine
Thursday 13 th September	The Cultural Significance of the Belly Dance – Fatma
Thursday 11 th October	Ephemera – Glynn Parry
Thursday 8 th November	The Christmas Tree: where Culture, Science and Magic Meet.
Thursday 6 th December	Faith, Fun and Fellowship – Michael Burgess

News From the High Seas



Steve Cottam e-mailed another photo from his travels, this time the Golden Pagoda in Rangoon. He is due back at the end of April so will no doubt have some interesting stories to tell us.

He has been through the pirate area of the Indian Ocean where the ships take special precautions to safeguard themselves and passengers and will be travelling through the Red Sea to the Med. via Suez. By the time you receive the Newsletter he should be home.

Ed.

WALKING GROUP



Our April walk on the 20th saw us car sharing to meet at the George and Dragon pub at Tarvin where we left the cars. It was a circular walk, starting and ending at the pub for lunch.

From there we walked across farmland to Oscroft village then across a golf course to Dudden Mill and on to the village of Dudden, completing a circular walk back at the George and Dragon where we sated our appetites with a most enjoyable lunch.

Tony Swarbrick led the walk for April (Left on the photo)



WALK 18th MAY 2018

I am leading this 5 mile walk from The Harp Inn in Little Neston we will meet at the pub to start the walk at 10-30 am with lunch at The Harp at about 1-00 pm.

It is an almost entirely flat walk and hopefully there will be lots of spring flowers for us to see. I did this walk last August and most people found it very enjoyable and asked for a repeat, so this time we will do it the opposite way round.

We are limited to 20 people only for lunch as it is a very small pub although if you want to walk without staying for lunch, you will be very welcome.

Please put your name and contact number down on the list at the back of the Church Hall and also give your menu choice if you are staying for lunch.

Sandra Lakin tel
07811 577121

MUSIC GROUP



A most enjoyable afternoon was spent by the group and some extra guests when group leader, Paul Cullen's brother Brian entertained us with an A to Z selection of sixties music. The presentation was diverse and well thought out.

The photo shows Paul thanking his brother Brian on behalf of us all.



Hoylake U3A are planning a trip to Ireland and Althorp House and have asked whether any of our members would be interested.

Details are below and anyone interested in joining them for the trip should contact Hoylake U3A

e-mail: harrycopnall@binternet.com

Tralee Ireland
Staying at the Earl of Desmond Hotel
Monday 8th to Friday 12th October 2018.

The Earl of Desmond Hotel is located on the outskirts of Tralee and is one of the Whites Groups best hotels. It offers a high standard of accommodation with locally sourced produce cooked in its restaurant. Entertainment is provided most nights.

Monday

Depart approx. 09.00 for Holyhead.
Board the 14.10 Stena ferry to Dublin Port. Enjoy Dinner on board during the crossing.
Travel to Tralee with a stop on route to arrive late evening.

Tuesday

Breakfast
Travel into Killarney the major town in the area with the option of a Jaunting Cart ride through the National Park and a cruise on the Loch.
Return to the hotel late afternoon.
Evening Dinner

Wednesday

Breakfast
Excursion around the renowned Ring of Kerry to view some of Irelands best scenery.
Evening Dinner

Thursday

Breakfast
A trip to the Dingle Peninsular with some free time in Dingle and Tralee
Evening Dinner

Friday

Breakfast
Travel to Dublin Port
Join the 15.10 Ferry to Holyhead
Return to the Wirral to arrive back late evening.

Price £379 per person.

Includes En suite accommodation on a Dinner Bed & Breakfast Basis.
SIX single rooms with **NO** surcharge. (Additional single rooms £100 Surcharge)
All coach travel as specified.
Return Ferry Crossings Holyhead to Dublin
Dinner on board ship on outward crossing.

PLUS An Irish Music pub evening arranged privately

ART APPRECIATION GROUP

Dates for U3A history of art meetings.
All meetings in Trinity Session room start at 10.15a.m. unless otherwise stated:

2018

Wednesday May 16th

MEET AT TATE GALLERY 11.45a.m for 12 noon

KEN'S SHOW: exploring the unseen.

Celebrating the 30th Anniversary Special Exhibition of the gallery's Collection.



PLAY READING

The group spent an interesting afternoon on April 24th recording some of their short stories for the hospital radio station. Glyn Thomas, a presenter on the station, came to Monica's and recorded six varied stories by different members of the group with a view to them being aired in between other programmes at different times. If popular it could become a regular feature.

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

Last week, the [national newsletter](#) was emailed to members who signed up to receive it. Please continue to encourage your members to sign up at u3a.org.uk/email.

[Read the national newsletter](#)

AND FINALLY

*Thank you once again for all your contributions,
please keep them coming!*

elianedavie@hotmail.co.uk

Eliane Davie Editor



