

NW U3A NEWS

Issue No. 17 February 2012

1. From the NW Trustee
2. NW U3A Science Day – all day 6 March 2012 - Skelmersdale
3. Symposium for Chairpersons, Secretaries, Treasurers and Interest Group Co-ordinators - morning 9 March 2012 – Heswall, Wirral
4. Residential school - 3-5 April 2012 – Myerscough College
5. Literature workshop – all day 11 April 2012 – Little Crosby
6. Holiday - 12 – 18 April 2012 - Geology and Scenery in the far NW of Scotland
7. Course – dates in March and April - From ERIK to IKEA – Scandinavian Waves - Penrith
8. Distinguished Lecture and AGM - afternoon 18 May 2012 - Preston
9. Waterways Event – all day 25 May 2012 - Ellesmere Port

1. From the NW Trustee

Dear NW U3A Member,

A happy new year to all our members. In order to simplify keeping the email list for circulating NW U3A NEWS updated, we are keeping this on a new Email Address. If you want to be added to this mailing list, please send an email to nwu3anews@gmail.com not to my normal email addresses.

On national matters the Trust is currently wrestling with deciding Budget Allocations for the year starting on 1st April 2012 as well as planning various training events around the country and starting to arrange the AGM. It was good to see U3A got a mention on BBC2 Newsnight on 10.02.2012. Lets hope that the Esther Rantzen contribution on loneliness and older people did not drown the message about U3A. Apparently the item was only arranged on the day it appeared! I thought North London U3A rose well to the occasion.

Although it is rather a short time since Newsletter 16 came out there are several developments that make it worthwhile having another edition to bring information up to date. We have a very rich offering organised by various different people and groups during the next 4 months. Thanks are due to them all. I hope they will all be well supported and justify all the work involved.

Look out for information soon on a NW conference on "Communications", with the editor of Third Age Matter (lately U3A News) as the main speaker in the morning and a workshop in the afternoon, which we hope to have in the second half of June 2012.

John Ellison j.ellison521@btinternet.com 01524 733400 12th February 2012

2. NW U3A Science Day

All members of North West U3As are invited to attend the **NW U3A Science Day** on Tuesday, 6th March 2012 at West Lancs Investment Centre, Maple View, White Moss Business Park, Skelmersdale, WN8 9TG.

Full information on <http://u3ascienceday.wordpress.com/>

program

09.45 - 10.20 Arrival, registration and coffee.

10.20 - 10.30 Welcome, introduction and arrangements for the day. Jack Brettle, Augton & Ormskirk U3A.

10.30 - 11.30 How Physics Developed at Liverpool. Dr. Peter Rowlands, Liverpool University Physics Department.

11.30 - 12.30 Joseph Priestley - A Man of Many Interests. Mr Bob Roach, St Helens U3A.

12.30 - 13.30 Lunch

13.30 - 14.30 Do We Need Science in Surgery? Professor John Stanley, Wrightington Hospital.

14.30 - 15.30 It's Not Rocket Science.....Oh Yes it is!!! Mr. Daniel Jubb, Bloodhound SSC Project.

15.30 - 15.40 Closing remarks. Mr. David Starling, NW U3A Region

15.40 - 16.00 Depart

PLEASE return your form and cheque for £18 **immediately**.

.....

I would like to attend the NW U3A Science Day on **Tuesday 6 March 2012** to be held at West Lancs Investment Centre, Skelmersdale, WN8 9TG.

Name

Address

Phone number

Email

I am a member of -

U3A

I enclose a **cheque for £18.00**, made payable to **North West Region of U3As (NW Region of U3As)**

Signed

Please return the booking slip and cheque to:

Mrs Sue Watkinson, 12 Church Lane, Aughton, ORMSKIRK, Lancs, L39 6SB

Telephone 01695 422 423

Email: wandsw@uk2.net

3. Symposium for Chairpersons, Secretaries, Treasurers and Interest Group Co-ordinators - March 9th 2012

Have you a problem getting your members to join your committee?

If your answer is 'Yes' which is usually the case, this may be just what you need to stimulate their interest. Why not invite them to attend this symposium to learn more about the organisation of the U3A. It may just be the prompt that they need to join you on the committee.

There will be sessions for each of the subject areas above. You will share, listen and learn how other U3A groups operate; how they interact with their members; how to find and develop new committee members. Such sessions promote lateral thinking!

This is an ideal opportunity to invite any member of your U3A who may be thinking about joining the committee in any of the above roles to attend this Study Day – It would be a good opportunity for you to find out what goes on behind the scenes. Sessions will be facilitated by members of North West Region.

CHAIRS - Neil Stevenson (NWREC secretary, also chair of his own U3A)

SECRETARIES - Sue Watkinson (Aughton & Ormskirk U3A)

TREASURERS - Peter Monaghan (NWREC treasurer)

COORDINATORS - Bill Fowler (Sandbach U3A)

It will take place at Heswall Hall, Heswall, Wirral in the morning of **9th March 2012** starting at 10.00 am (coffee 9.30am). There is no fee and coffee and biscuits will be served. If you are interested contact Jenny Carley. Tel 01244 680460 e-mail Jenny.carley@talktalk.net asap

Application Form to be returned asap

Name U3A.....

Address

Post Code

Telephone

Email

Please use a separate application form for each person & indicate the group that you wish to join – chairpersons or secretaries or groups co-ordinators or treasurers.

Send to – Jenny Carley, 2 The Waltons, Belgrave Park, Chester, CH4 7EA

4. Reminder - Myerscough Easter School Tuesday 3rd – Thursday 5th April 2012

Myerscough College, Bilborrow, Preston

The North West Region of U3As is holding a residential school from Tuesday 3rd to Thursday 5th of April 2012. The cost will be **£185** for residential students or £145 for day students (including coffees, lunches and teas). Most courses have limits on the number of participants and some are nearly full now. More detail was given in Newsletter no 16. Courses are on

Archaeology, Creative Writing, Geology, An Introduction to Ancient Egypt, Novelists and Philosophers and Sixty years of science.

For availabilities contact davidstarling@fastmail.fm or 0151 342 6077

5. MERSEYSIDE U3A NETWORK - LITERATURE WORKSHOP

At CHET* on Wednesday April 11. Price £18

10.30 Registration and coffee

10.45 Talk by June Francis. "Being a Writer"

11.30 Readings and reminiscences of their favourite books by members of Merseyside Network U3As and guests.

Mary Kindelan, Crosby U3A T. 0151 931 5985

12.30 Lunch

1.30 Choice of workshop.

1) Creative writing. Contributions from members and guests or just listen in. Bette Stephens, Crosby Writers Club, 0151 928 6850

2) Poetry Your own contribution or poetry that you like or just listen in. Paul Olsen St Helens U3A T. 01744637963

2.45 Short one act play written and read by members. Barbara Richards, Liverpool U3A 0151 724 1585

3.00 Coffee

3.15 Talk by Nicholas Murray, Biographer and Writer

Closure of workshop at approximately 4.00pm.

*CHET (Crosby Hall Educational Trust) is in the totally unchanged village of Little Crosby 500 yards down Back Lane from St Marys, the village Church. CHET was created to give children from

the cities an experience of the countryside. The barns and outbuildings of Crosby Hall have been converted into a hall, dining room, study room etc. Address, 5 Back Lane, Little Crosby, L23 4UA
Tel. 0151 924 9099

A taxi is needed from the nearest Station (Hall Road) which is 1.5 miles from Chet.

Please ring David Atherton if any queries on 0151 924 7072

Name.....

Address.....

Tel. No.....

Please come and enjoy the day in lovely surroundings and if you wish to contribute anything please tick off below.

A reading of my favourite book

A piece of my writing (suggest no more than 500 words)

A piece of poetry

I have a short play I would like considered.

Please send this slip to David Atherton, 39 St Andrews Road, Blundellsands, Liverpool, L23 8UA. Please include a cheque for £18 made out to “Crosby U3A” by 28 March.

6. Reminder Lancaster and Morecambe U3A

NW HIGHLANDS OF SCOTLAND 12 to 18 April 2012

This Lancaster and Morecambe U3A holiday with our geology group is by train to Inverness and we will stay at the Royal Highland Hotel at Inverness (next to the rail station) for 6 nights. On the 5 days out available we plan to have one day free and on the other 4 days hire a small coach (not minibus) from Inverness to go out for a day to each of Skye, Torridon, Knockan Cliff (with its world famous geological visitor centre) and the Lochinver areas. No significant walking is involved and there will be plenty of time to see the outstanding views (weather permitting) and discuss the unique geology. We could accomodate a few more people on the trip. Email j.ellison521@btinternet.com.

7 Reminder of a course by Penrith and North Lakes U3A

FROM ERIK TO IKEA -- SCANDINAVIAN WAVES

Penrith and North Lakes U3A warmly invite expressions of interest in attending this programme. Fuller details were in newsletter no 16

Dates/times: Thursday 29th March, 10.30-4.15; Saturday 31st March, 10.00-1.00; Wednesday 18th April, 10.30-4.15; Saturday 21st April, 10.00-1.00.

Programme: wide-ranging historical and cultural, roughly chronological, talks, pictures, music, texts

Providers: U3A members Robin Acland, Angela Davies, Mike Fossey and Joan McMurtry

Venues/costs: all in Penrith, full days £5, Saturdays £2, come to all or any, no commitment, pay at the door

Queries 017687 79672

8. Reminder - Distinguished Lecture & NW Region AGM- Preston.

All members of North West U3As are invited to attend our 3rd annual lecture commencing at 2:00pm on Friday 18th May 2012 at The University of Central Lancashire, Greenbank Lecture Theatre, Victoria Street, Preston. Members of U3As outside the NW are also welcome, although initially priority will be given to NW members.

We welcome distinguished speaker Bill Tidy. Phenomenally talented and widely respected as cartoonist, writer, TV and radio presenter and speaker, Bill Tidy delivers a unique presentation which incorporates his wit, expertise and indomitable style in every sense of the word.

Note that Resolutions for the AGM and Nominations for committee posts must reach the Secretary of the NW Regional Committee - Neil Stevenson, 3, Dalecrest, Billinge, Wigan WN5 7JZ ndstevenson@hotmail.com by mid April 2012

APPLICATION FORM FOR LECTURE AND AGM

I would like to attend the Lecture on Friday 18th May 2012 at UCLAN, Greenbank Lecture Theatre, Victoria Street, Preston starting at 2.00 p.m.

Name:

.....

Address:

.....

Phone Number I am a member of U3A

Email

I enclose my cheque for £5, made payable to "North West Region of U3As"

Signed

Please indicate if you plan to attend the AGM that follows the lecture yes / no

If you wish to attend the AGM but not the lecture, please let us know (email is fine). The AGM is free. Please return this booking slip and cheque to:

Neil Stevenson, 3 Dalecrest, Billinge, Wigan, Lancashire WN5 7JZ

(Telephone 01744 895723, email ndstevenson@hotmail.com)

9, Waterways Event - 25th May 2012

The 'Waterways Event' is hosted by Deeside and Wirral U3A Network. The Third Age Trust has chosen the theme 'Waterways' to celebrate the Olympics in 2012. This is the first 'Study Day' to be organised by the Network. It all happens on May 25th 2012 at National Waterways Museum (formerly The Boat Museum) Ellesmere Port. CH65 4FW web site www.nwm.org.uk

The Network will be commissioning the whole of the museum for this event

What's going to be there

Demonstrations of many crafts including lace making, rag-rug making and traditional 'Roses and Castles' painting

Activities such as canal trips, craft workshops, museum tours and singing sea shanties

A selection of lectures based on a 'Water Theme'

Food will not be provided but there is a café, a mobile BBQ, an ice cream bicycle and, depending on numbers other mobile food vans. Of course you will be able to BYO and sit by the waterside, hopefully in sunshine. If the sun does not shine there are plenty of indoor areas

The cost? £10 for the day – What a bargain!

Further details from Jenny Carley, e-mail jenny.carley@talktalk.net

Copies of a flyer with more information can be found on Chester's U3A web site www.chesteru3a.org.uk

APPLICATION FORM - Waterways Event – 25th May 2012

Each person to complete a separate application

Name: _____ U3A Group: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ e-mail address: _____

Name of guest (if applicable): _____

Attendance at some activities will be limited, so you will need to advise the organisers of your preferred choices below by ticking the appropriate boxes.

Activity	Approximate Times (subject to change)	1 st Choice	2 nd Choice
Museum tour with guide	10.30–11.30		
Roses and Castles demonstration	10.30-11.30		
Walk and Talk: Engines and Boats	11.00-12.00		
Life on the Waterways	11:00-12.00		
The History of Ellesmere Port	11:00-12.00		
Tour of canal side with Local Historian	11.00-12.00		
Sea Shanties	11.30-12.30		
Museum tour with guide	11.30-12.30		
Roses and Castles demonstration	12.00-13.00		
The Wolverhampton connection	12.30-13.30		
British Inland Waterways	12.30-13.30		
Looking to the Future with young people and Volunteers.	12.30-13.30		
Ghost tour	13:00-13.30		
Sea Shanties	13.00-14.00		
Tour of canal side with Local Historian	13.30-14.00		
Roses and Castles demonstration	13.30-14.00		
History of Boat Museum	14.00-15.00		
European Waterways	14.00-15.00		
Flora and Fauna of the Waterways	14.00-15.00		
Ghost tour	14.00-15.00		
Sea Shanties	14.30-15.30		

Return this form to: Jenny Carley (Chair) 2, The Waltons, Belgrave Park, Chester. CH4 7EA
OR by hand to your U3A Chair

Together with a cheque for £10 made payable to "Deeside and Wirral U3A" (Payments are non-refundable). You will receive a ticket with your successful choice(s) prior to the event

The sooner your application is submitted the more chance of being successful with your selection. All forms to be returned by 31st March 2012.

I have read the notes on the reverse and accept them: (Signature)

Application form notes.

Guests

Members may bring a guest with them, but please note that there are no activities suitable for children.

Cost

The charge for the event is £10 (non-refundable) and includes: entrance to the museum and all additional activities organised by the U3A, subject to restrictions on numbers as covered below.

Additional charges apply to boat trips organised by the museum, any food or drink purchased during the day, purchases in the museum shop, and any items that may be purchased from displays or demonstrations.

Safety and access

We are guests of the National Waterways Museum, which is well established, with wheelchair access available to most areas. However, the ground is uneven in places and you should follow any guidance provided by the museum.

Food and drink

There is a picnic area and, as we are expecting a beautiful day, you may bring your own picnic. Alternatively, food and drink may be purchased from the cafeteria tea/coffee area and bar on site, or from the BBQ (outside caterer).

Bookable activities

While we will try to meet your requests overleaf for timed activities, places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to U3A members. Attendance at activities on the day without booking will only be possible if spare places are available. (Please note that some activities may be brought forward by 15 minutes for logistical reasons, so check the programme on the day).

Parking

There is ample parking at the museum for cars (300) and coaches. Advise if your U3A is hiring a coach

Photographs and videos

We are planning to produce a video of the day, so unless we know otherwise you are agreeing to the use of and materials containing images of you that may have been taken at the event.