

## From the Chair

Well, Janus has us looking forward and wondering what is in store for us all. I, on behalf of the Committee, wish you all a very happy and healthy new year.

Sometimes the hardest working members are the group leaders. If you are one, do you have a good friend in your group to help you out? If not, why not make a New Year's resolution to make sure that you have one. A problem shared is a problem solved. Good luck.

*Bob Davies, Chair*  
07986515449

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

*Starting at 09.45 with tea/coffee followed at 10.30 by the meeting in St Columba's Church Hall, Plas Newton Lane, Chester*

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January:** Peter Turner: 'Through the Eyes of a Magician'. An amazing introduction to an interesting and unusual topic, the science of magic. 'The journey starts here'.

**Thursday 12th January:** Tim Carley is presenting his eagerly anticipated New Year Quiz so all are invited to join in. Come as a team or make up a team when you arrive. Book swap, computer help desk and social desk.

**Tuesday 7th February:** Simon La Frenais: "Charles Darwin". A retired GP, Simon has a lifelong interest in Charles Darwin and also his associate Robert Fitzroy, Captain of the Beagle. He enjoys travel and photography.

**Thursday 9th February:** is a welcome return of Gerry Weatherston who will talk about the benefits of Tai Chi, give a demonstration and invite as many as wish to participate in some healthy exercise. Book swap, computer help desk and social desk.

*Car Parking at Monthly Meetings: With the popularity of our Tuesday Meeting, parking has become difficult, so if you can come on foot or on the bus (No 51 Stagecoach, Stand 12) it will be helpful. Please park tidily in the car park and take care not to damage other vehicles. If the car park is full there is room in the surrounding roads, but remember not to park on Newhall Road as it is a busy street. There is always more space at the Thursday Meeting.*

**Please Note:** - One of our members has noticed new road signs about parking on pavements and verges in the locality. Do watch out for the signs if you usually park on surrounding streets.

**NEWS SHEETS:** Copies left over from the Tuesday monthly meeting are taken to Age UK in Queen Street. **Did you remember to download the electronic version this month:** [www.chesteru3a.org.uk](http://www.chesteru3a.org.uk)? That way you can see a copy (usually from about the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month) without having to wait for the monthly meeting.

## Social Events

The Team: Elizabeth Flanagan - 341097 Sue Proctor - 335943  
Jill Heaps - 351284

*Bookings will not be accepted without full payment. Please remember dates and times can change so check with an up-to-date newsletter. PLEASE PAY BY CHEQUE IF POSSIBLE. For information, these are the abbreviations for our stopping places – HG = Hough Green at Redlands Close bus stop / D St = Delamere St / Sbys = Sainsbury's / SpU = Spar Upton / W100 = Wirral 100. Last two are only for Liverpool trips that go via the A41. It is your responsibility to get to the bus stop in time. Parking for Sainsbury's pick up:- Daytime - use Halfords Car Park / Evening – use Caldley Valley Church lower car parking.*

**January 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday evening Aladdin Theatre Clwyd Rock and Roll Pantomime**  
Coach (Darrens) HG 5.45pm / D St 5.50pm / Sbys 6.00pm **£25.00 (EF)**

**February 15<sup>th</sup> Thursday matinee Million Dollar Quartet Liverpool Empire**  
In 1956 four star musicians (**Elvis, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins**) gathered together in Memphis for what would be one of the greatest jam sessions ever. This musical, telling the story with many top songs, will take you back to your youth. Make your own way and I will meet you at 2.00pm. FULL **£19.00 (EF)**

**March 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Norton Priory and Museum of Policing**  
Norton Priory has good accessibility and a hearing loop; tea/coffee is included. Freshly made light lunches, soup or sandwiches will be available for less than £5.00 and need to be booked with me. We also visit Warrington Police Station for our pre-booked visit to the Museum and we should be home about 5.30pm (depending on traffic). There are only 34 places on this day out so booking only accepted with full payment. You should also bring your cameras as plenty of photo opportunities.  
Coach. HG 9.00am / D St 9.05am / Sbys 9.15am **£22.00 (SP)**

**April 6<sup>th</sup> Thursday A morning tour of the Hat Museum at Wellington Mill, Stockport.** Then we travel to **Arley Hall** (family home of Viscount Ashbook) for a tour of the Hall and Gardens, complete with Sculpture Trail. Lunch will be available here but needs to be booked. Times and price confirmed at meeting. **£23.00 (EF)**

**May 25<sup>th</sup> Thursday Billy Elliot comes to Liverpool Empire Top seats**  
**£43.50 (EF)**

**May 29<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup> Cotswolds Holiday** with visits to two villages on the way. Included days out to **Longleat House and Safari Park, Bath, High Grove Gardens, Oxford, Blenheim Palace, Chavanage House**, often used for filming and many other attractions. FULL but I will have a waiting list. **£419.00 (EF)**  
Cases not to exceed 18kgms. Any special requests please let me know, a.s.a.p.  
Pick up times will be Chester Station 8.45am and Sainbury's 9.00am.

**N.B.** We do ask that you pay by cheque please (maximum of two trips per cheque) which is more convenient and secure for you. Also, please pay in full when booking.

**Special phone number (07913111709)** to ring on the day of a trip if you are unable to go at the last minute or get lost in the town/area/venue where we are. At other times please phone whoever is organising the trip.

Because many of the trips have to be booked and paid for in advance, we regret bus price cannot be refunded as this has to be paid regardless of cancellations. Also please take care when booking that you are available on that particular date as on occasions we cannot refund venue money.

Notice to new members. These social outings are open to all members of U3A. In the ethics of the U3A they are deemed to be educational in some form. The initials after each outing show person to contact for that particular visit. Names and telephone numbers are listed above. We are in the main hall at the meetings; come and talk to us.

# Groups

## Your Chance to learn the Ukulele!

The Ukes3A meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays each month at 1:30 in Upton Pavilion. Our 2017 season starts on 11<sup>th</sup> January. No experience, skill, nor apparent talent needed! We're here for absolute beginners as well as improvers, so please feel welcome to check us out.

Even if you are not ready yet for the Ukulele, you can have fun playing kazoo, percussion or just singing along.



## Possible New groups

Chess, Gardening 2, Literary Appreciation 3, Poetry. Anyone interested in the above groups please contact Kay Lunt on [groups@chesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@chesteru3a.org.uk) or leave a message on 01244 348715.

## Possible Italian Group :-

A set up meeting will be organised for the New Year. Apologies for the delay. Kay

## Can you help?

Is there anyone who knows British Sign Language and would be willing to help other members learn?

If so, please contact Kay Lunt on [groups@chesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@chesteru3a.org.uk) or leave a message on 01244 348715.

## New Group Maths for Fun

This group will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at Ros Flinn's house in Hoole. We will be exploring, with plenty of group work and discussion, a range of short and longer topics from the esoteric side of maths including infinity, zero, the Golden Ratio, Pascal's triangle, topology, pentominoes, illusions of depth and perspective, and tackling a range of brainteasers, spatial puzzles and mathematical paradoxes.

**Contact:** Ros Flinn 01244 343944

## Computer Help Desk

New smart phone/tablet/pc for Christmas? Or potentially even more confusing, acquired your son's/daughter's/grandkids' old one? Need help, advice, support? We're on hand in the side room at every Thursday meeting to give guidance and answer questions.

## Popular Science - open to all members!

The next Popular Science lecture will be held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at Bishops Blue Coat Church of England High School, Vaughans Lane, Great Boughton, Chester CH3 5XF. Coffee will be served in the Library at 09.30 and the lectures will start at 10.00, finishing at noon. You do not need to book. There is plenty of parking at the school.

Dr Hilary Ash is Honorary Conservation Officer of the Wirral Wildlife Group of Cheshire Wildlife Trust. She has led the development and management of New Ferry Butterfly Park since its inception in 1993 and was honoured as Green Flag volunteer of 2016. Her talk is on Creating and managing Habitat for Invertebrates. Our second speaker is Dr Godfrey Harrap, well known to most of us as a recent chairman of Chester U3A and a regular speaker at Popular Science. His talk this time is about Rivalries & Controversies in Science.

For questions or to be added to an email reminder list, please contact Janet Money on 0151 327 2566 or email [popularscience@chesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:popularscience@chesteru3a.org.uk).

## Short Course organised by Heswall U3A, and open to other U3A members: A History of Cartoons

A series of 3 x 2hr lectures by Ian Barclay on 16<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017, all from 10.00 am to 12 noon, at Heswall Hall at a cost of £10 for the three sessions.

Session 1: Art, Drawing, Cartoon Creation, and the Early History of Cartoons;

Session 2: Modern Day Cartoons and the Influence of Cartoons;

Session 3: Commerce and Communication and the Best of the Breed.

Contact Tricia Harrison on 0151 334 6085 for more information or to book.

### **New Members' Lunch - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

Ideal opportunity for new members to meet the Committee and get to know more of how our U3A community and our group activities work

*Place & Time:* St Columba's Church Hall, Newhall Road, Newton, Chester (12 noon for 12:30)

*Buffet Lunch:* Cost of the meal is £10.00. Special dietary needs can be catered for

*How to Book:* Latest date 20<sup>th</sup> January - see details in invitation sent to new members or Email or telephone Ken Bramham (Email – [comms@chesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:comms@chesteru3a.org.uk) /Tel. - 01244 383723)

### **News-Sheet Co-Editor**

Are you looking for a new interest or challenge this New Year? We are still looking for someone (or more than one someone) who would like to help collate the monthly news-sheet. It's very rewarding, is not difficult and training can be given.

If you're interested, please contact Joyce Carrington on 01244 373189



### **Understanding Tomorrow's World**

This study day, led by Dr. Alex McMinn, presents the U3A programme of research into areas such as artificial intelligence, robotics, driverless cars and the internet of things.

It is for any U3A member who wants to learn more about new developments in science and technology and how they will change our lives. There are two chances to attend - from 1pm to 4pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017 in Warrington and from 1pm to 4pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in Lancaster.

*There is no charge for this study day. More information and registration details can be found via the Diary page of the Chester U3A website <http://www.chesteru3a.org.uk/diary.htm>*



**Tea Rota for Monthly Meetings.** Groups responsible must confirm with: Veronica Cavanagh 01244 679217 (Tues) or Jan Maidment 01244 344328 (Thurs).

#### **Tuesdays**

January      Handbell Ringing  
February     Holistic  
March        Industrial Heritage 3

#### **Thursdays**

January      History  
February     Industrial Heritage 1  
March        Italian Improvers

The cut-off date for the next News Sheet is **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January.**

Please send contributions to the News Sheet web address: [newssheet@chesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:newssheet@chesteru3a.org.uk)  
or in writing to: PO Box 167 Chester CH2 1WL

This month's editor: Mal Waite

Next month's editor: Joyce Carrington

**Chair:** Bob Davies: [chair@chesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@chesteru3a.org.uk)

**Membership:** Patricia Gifford: [members@chesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:members@chesteru3a.org.uk)

**Business Secretary:** Laurence Cole: [businesssec@chesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:businesssec@chesteru3a.org.uk)