

Reg. Charity No 1048416

Web site: www.chesteru3a.org.uk

PO Box 167 Chester CH2 1WL

From the Chair

Well, Theresa May has certainly set the cat amid the pigeons. Another election to keep us entertained, or otherwise, for the next seven weeks.

Unfortunately, as you will see lower down, it has set us a few problems. Our June Thursday meeting, the 8th, is the same date as has been set for the General Election. St Columba's Church Hall will be used as a polling station, so we cannot use it. Therefore we have come to the decision to cancel June's Thursday meeting. We could use the Church, but many of you did not enjoy our sojourn there last year, and there would be no refreshments.

So, whatever your thoughts on the subject, I'm sure that there will be many discussions and arguments. What will the Grumpies say?

Bob Davies
Chairman

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 2nd May: Michael Blackburn: "Richard Trevithick: His life and work with Steam Engines" Michael is a keen photographer and geographer, in addition to his interest in engines, railways and trams. He gives very many lectures on shipping and trade, mountains, photographs and Ordnance Survey.

Thursday 11th May: June Hargreaves is giving an introductory talk on Heraldry. Book swap and computer help desk.

Tuesday 6th June: The Revd. Michael Burgess: "Marriage, For Better for Worse" Michael has served in parishes in the North East and Cornwall and now at Lymm. He has many amusing stories and anecdotes of Marriages.

Thursday 8th June: Meeting Cancelled (See above.) This speaker will be re-scheduled for next year - she is far too good to lose!

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 – every half an hour) 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.

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?** That way you can see a copy (usually from about the 1st of the month) without having to wait for the monthly meeting.

Social Events

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

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.

May 16th	Tuesday	Shrewsbury and Attingham Park (NT)		
A morning visit to Shrewsbury museum and Art Gallery, then free time in town centre to find the Darwin Gate, Quantum Leap Arch, (map provided) and have lunch where you choose. In the afternoon we visit Attingham Park for a tour of the house. Home 5.45 ish. NT members £13.00				
		Coach (Price's)	HG 8.40am / D St 8.45 / Sbys 9am	£22.50 (SP)
May 25th	Thursday	Billy Elliot comes to Liverpool Empire		
FULL		Meet at the theatre at 2.00pm		£43.50 (EF)
May 29th – June 2nd		Cotswolds Holiday	Cases not to exceed 18kgms.	
FULL but there is a waiting list. Any special requests please let Liz know, a.s.a.p.				
		Pick up times -	Chester Station 8.45am / Sbys 9.00am.	£419.00 (EF)
June 15th	Thursday	Take the Music Train into deepest Cheshire followed by a visit to a hostelry for lunch (extra payment). Then it is back to the comfort of your train to continue being entertained. A restful day out. Meet Liz at Chester Station at 10.30am		£10.00 (EF)
June 26th	Monday	Canal ride, Cheshire Cat to Wharton lock , stopping at the Shady Oak for those wanting to lunch there while picnic people can stay on board for the turnround. Leaves at 9.30am. Park in the pub carpark.	One seat left	£13.50 (EF)
June 29th	Thursday (mat)	Matthews Bourne's Red Shoes at the Liverpool Empire		
FULL		Meet at the theatre at 2.00pm.		(EF)
July 6th	Thursday (mat)	La Cage Aux Folles at Liverpool Empire . See Liz for a translation; it is not as it seems (to those of you who speak French). George is the manager of a St Tropez night club and Albin the club's star attraction. Farical adventures ensue when George's son brings home his fiancée's ultra conservative parents to meet them.		
		FULL	Meet at the theatre at 2.00pm	£32.00 (EF)
July 11th	Tuesday	Canal Trip Preston Brook to the Stanley Arms Anderton	£13.50	(EF)
July 14th	Friday	Bridgewater Canal Trip Preston Brook to Lymm	£13.50	(EF)
Aug 12th	Saturday	Full day visit to Shrewsbury Flower Show - 5 venues with flower shows and horticultural talks. Mobility scooters available but must be booked Many places to eat.		
		HG 8.45am / D St 8.50 / Sbys 9am		£27.00 (CR/EF)
Aug 24th	Thursday	Due to popularity - another Music Train ride. Hardly any walking. Entertainment both ways with a pub lunch in between (extra payment).		£10.00 (EF)
Aug 30th	Wednesday	Last chance for a tour of the Salt Museum at Marston followed by Roberts Bakery . No pacemakers or jewellery allowed in the bakery.		£14.50 (EF/CR)
Sept 20th	Wednesday	Summer holiday to the Hotel Garden, Alassio in Italy with day trips to Monaco, Monte Carlo, Dolceaqua, Ventimigli and Portofino. Details & booking forms from the desk or website. Book direct with the holiday company. Transport will be arranged to the airport (small charge). Singles are limited so need to book early.		
			Twin £849.00, Singles £998.00	(EF)

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.

Groups

Painting 2

Group vacancies

Could you be a budding Picasso or Constable? Come and find out at Painting 2.

For more information contact Barbara Wright on 01244 349760.

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 or leave a message on 01244 348715.

Whatever happened to ... ?

Singing for Pleasure

Soon after I joined U3A, I started seeing notices in this newsletter asking for someone to accompany a new singing group. I thought they would need a pianist so said nothing for quite some time, until it became obvious that, at that time, it was me or no one. I offered myself and my guitar.

We held our set up meeting in August 2015 under the friendly supervision of Kay Lunt, deciding where, when and how frequently to meet. Those initial members were certain that they didn't want to become a choir but rather meet socially to enjoy singing together.

After a little over 18 months, we're still not sure how many members we have – the numbers fluctuate – but we're in the region of 25-30 and regularly have 15-20 people at our monthly meetings in the Upton Pavillion. Our repertoire is growing all the time and takes in popular songs from many eras along with songs from shows and movies – anything I can play on the guitar.

Although we never set out to perform in public, we've been invited a few times to perform for U3A events like the Christmas Fair and the singers came up trumps in terms of turning up and putting on a show – and even seemed to enjoy themselves. They're a friendly bunch of people and I'm really pleased I got involved. *Mal Waite*

What's your group's story?

Social Events

Notice to new members.

We hope you have seen the possible visits/trips outlined on the Social Events page of this Newsletter.

Just a few points:

- 1) Events organised by the Social Group are open to all members of U3A.
- 2) In accordance with the ethics of the U3A they are deemed to be educational in some form.
- 3) The initials after each outing show the person to contact for that particular visit.
- 4) Names and telephone numbers are listed at the top of page 2.
- 5) You can find the organisers at the Tuesday and Thursday meetings – sitting at a table at the back of the main hall. Do go and talk to them.

Some information about booking trips:

- Because many of the trips have to be booked and paid for in advance, unfortunately the 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 the venue money cannot be refunded either.

Possible New Groups

Crossword Solving, Chess,
Creative Writing, Gardening 2,
Literary Appreciation, Whist,
Psychology, Mindfulness

Anyone interested in the above,
please email Kay Lunt on
groups@chesteru3a.org.uk
or leave a message on 01244 348715.

MUSIC PERFORMING

Are you interested in performing in small musical ensembles with an emphasis on enjoyment and personal satisfaction rather than the performance?

To express an interest, please contact Kay Lunt on groups@chesteru3a.org.uk or leave a message on 01244 348715.

The Herbert Protocol

Do you have a friend or relative with Alzheimer's or dementia and often worry that they may go missing?

We appreciate that caring for people with dementia is challenging - and that planning ahead and keeping safe is really important. There is often a risk that people living with dementia can at some point start to 'walk about'. While this may only be into the garden or street and they return a short time later, some people can get lost and go missing. This can lead to feelings of confusion, fear and vulnerability for individuals and their families, particularly at night time or during times of extreme weather.

The Herbert Protocol is here to help provide you with reassurance, and help you keep friends and relatives safe. It is a national initiative adopted by Cheshire Constabulary, as well as other police forces around the UK.

Information to help to search for someone with dementia As part of making reasonable life adjustments, we want to help by putting a system in place that will help to give the emergency services the best possible information should there be a need for them to become involved in a search for someone with dementia.

The Herbert Protocol is a form which is kept at home, or in a safe place, with important information about a vulnerable person. Should they go missing, information is easily on hand about routines, medical requirements and favourite places to visit and can be handed over to the police, alleviating the worry of collecting it together during a stressful time.

How to utilise the Herbert Protocol

To join, you need to download and complete

[The Herbert Protocol Vulnerable Adult Missing Person Profile](#) from the Cheshire Police website and retain it in a safe place. Guidance is also available on the website.

If someone goes missing: This is vital - if you can't find someone in the normal way you would expect to, then you **MUST** call the police on 999. It is quite normal to worry about calling 999. Some people are concerned that they will be criticised for calling the police, but if you are worried about a person's safety then this will not happen.



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

Tuesdays

May Line Dancing
June Literary Appreciation 2
July Local History

Thursdays

May Literary Appreciation 1
June Meeting Cancelled
July Mahjong

The cut-off date for the next News Sheet is **Wednesday 24th May.**

Please send contributions to the News Sheet web address: newsheet@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

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