



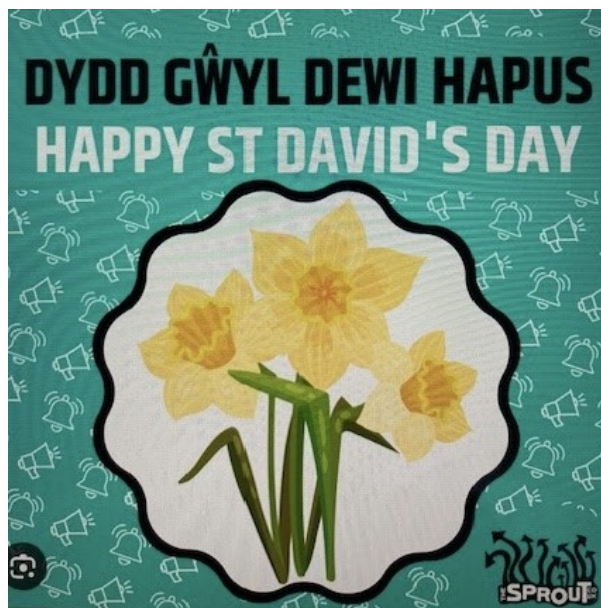
Mawdesley and Neighbouring Villages u3a

1st March 2024

The newsletter is compiled and published by the press team of Sam and Christine.

Thank you to all members who have contributed to this publication

Happy St David's Day



Advance Notice

Friday 15th March is Red Nose Day in aid of Comic Relief

Please wear something red at the Community Morning

on Wednesday 13 March



Singing for Pleasure

We have restarted after the Christmas break and would welcome new members. We meet at Mawdesley Methodist School Room, alternate Mondays 10-12 noon. Come along and give it a try, we are a very friendly group and look forward to seeing you.

Our pianist, Margery Salt, has retired after 14 years of playing for us although hopefully she will still come and join us when able. Thank you Margery for all your hard work trying to keep us in order!

Anyone interested in joining please contact me Jenny Potter on [07961 082 633](tel:07961082633)

Art Group at Avant

13 members of the Art Group will be exhibiting their artwork at the Avant Garden Centre, Leyland from Friday 1st March right through to Tuesday 30th April.

This is another opportunity for the group to show a wide range of pictures covering various media and styles, at prices to suit all pockets.

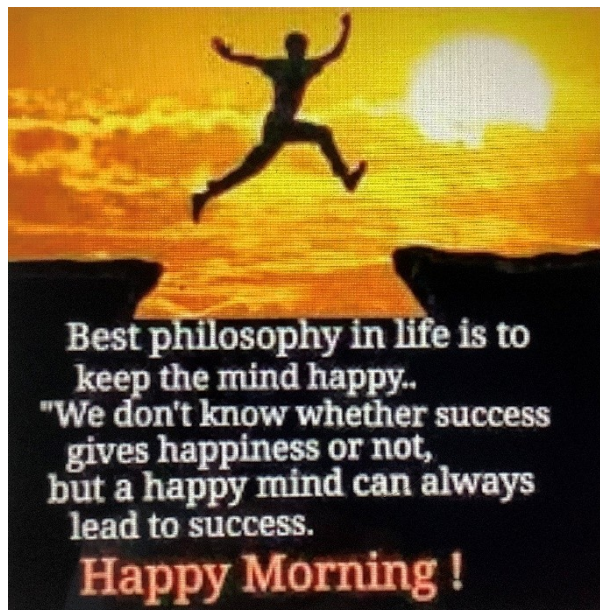
Why not take this opportunity to come along and view our work, and also enjoy coffee and cake at the same time. Wonderful!

Thanks to one of our members for this photo



Someone did what it said on the sign!

THE PHILOSOPHY OF A HAPPY LIFE



Philosophy of Happiness Part 2.

Tuesday 5th March, 10am-12, main hall.

The first session of this topic proved to be so interesting and interactive that John has arranged a second meeting to complete this intriguing subject. He will bring relevant ideas and concepts into a more modern context by examining observations made by such as Bertrand Russell, Anthony Grayling, Sam Harris---and indeed by Derren Brown(the Illusionist), who is a steadfast Stoic, and who wrote a book called 'Happy'.

According to an international survey: which country is the Happiest---worth a guess!

Also, John will consider some psychological and sociological principles that give us all a 'personal philosophy' that we each develop as we strive to live a fulfilling, worthwhile life. Of course the question of whether our estimation of a 'Good life' changes as we get to older age, will be made.

Members who have not yet attended a Philosophy session will find these meetings full of interest ---and indeed relevance-- to our daily perceptions and appreciation of life.

And the Good life continues----Coffee and biscuits at half time! Please come along and contribute to a fascinating debate.

IT for Beginners



The next session will be on Thurs 7th March

2- 4pm in the lounge.

The subject to be covered will be To View and Manage Storage on your Phone and Laptop

Cost £2.

French Conversation Group



Our next French Conversation will be at 10h00 - 11h30 on Friday 8th March

in the Mawdesley Village Hall Lounge.

Nigel Smith will present – The Battle of Waterloo.

Nigel is very knowledgeable about military battles of this era.

Coming Soon

- 22nd March Eric Vrain revisits Mme Guison's rustic retreat, group discussion about childhood holidays, future tense revision, Eric's driving experience in France with group discussion of members' experiences.
- Date to be agreed - Dr Madeline Moulden returns to describe her career as prison governor, including visits to Russian jails.

There is more information on the Mawdesley u3a Group website including future dates of conversations. <https://u3asites.org.uk/mawdesley/page/75524>

To discover more, contact Adrian on [07989 343503](tel:07989343503) or, better still, why not just pop in to see what's going on?

Adrian Dean

Group Leader French Conversation

Visit to Blackwell House



An Art Deco house built by a businessman for his family.
Stunning inside and all parts open with lots of interesting furniture and fittings.

Booking now.

Also includes the Windermere Jetty Museum where we can buy lunch in superb surroundings. We will then visit Grasmere.

Tuesday 26th March.

Further details from Val on a Wednesday morning.

Important Notice about Watercolour Class

There will be no Watercolour Classes on Monday 11th March as there is a funeral booking on that day.

Threads Through Creation Exhibition



Don't miss this astonishing textile art exhibition at Blackburn Cathedral.

Marvel at the 12 beautiful silk panels that are nearly 3m high & have taken the artist 3 years & 8 million stitches to create.

A light lunch is included

Saturday 30th March

Further details at the Social Table & booking from Wednesday 6th March 2024.

Potential New Groups

Motorcycle Group

Rob Harvey, one of our new members and a retired Merseyside police officer, is interested in forming a motorcycle group to be run in a similar fashion to the cycle groups.

He is a member of a worldwide organisation that run similar groups.
Are there any motorcyclists out there who would be interested?

Please contact Stuart via the chair email.

Table Tennis

Ralph is proposing to run some trial sessions for people who are interested in Table Tennis, Currently the Friday sessions are full, so this would be for beginners, improvers or people returning to the sport.

The sessions are initially planned for three Tuesdays the 12th, 19th and 26th March.
Time tbc.

Please contact Ralph via the Table Tennis page on the website if you are interested.

Unfortunately we have not had sufficient response to date, to consider forming a chess group.

What's On in our Neighbouring Villages

Rufford Lenten Lunches



Tickets are still available for dates over the coming weeks.

Delicious home made soup & cakes and convivial company.

Contact Brenda on [07821 107341](tel:07821107341)

Local Explorers



A group of us visited Southport last Friday and were treated to a fascinating tour of the Atkinson. The guides were superb, telling us about the history and architecture of the buildings which now make up the town hall, museum, art gallery and library.

We were taken behind the scenes and even saw the Bank Manager's office in what used to be the National Westminster Bank.

The Atkinson have a number of possible tours and we hope to arrange further visits in the future.

Next stop - The Cheese Factory - Thursday 18th April

See the Local Explorers page on the website or contact Christine.

And on the subject of libraries



Shakespeare Group trip to Stratford upon Avon



On Thursday the Shakespeare Group went to Stratford to see A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Most of us found it a really enjoyable production – and a great one for young people's first experience of Shakespeare. In fact, the many children in the audience were well behaved and most enthusiastic in their applause. That can only be a good thing, though I tend to agree with those critics who say that The Dream is not actually a play for children. There is darkness to be found in it and the adult themes explored mean that it's certainly not just escapist froth.

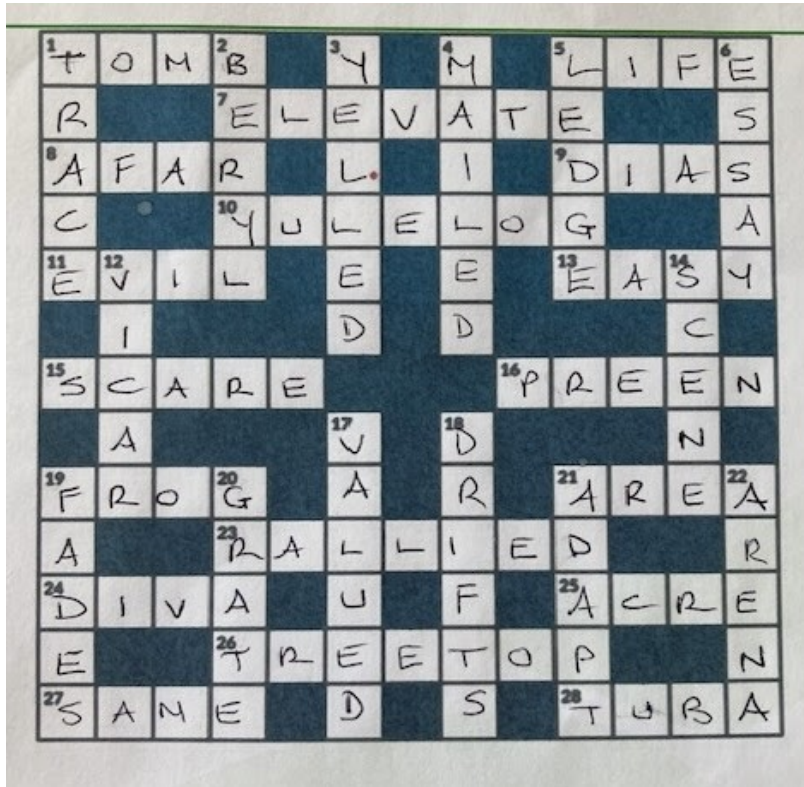
However, in this production, the special effects were imaginative, music played an important role and some of the characterisations were excellent including Mathew Baynton's 'Bottom' and Emily Cundick as Snout playing the Wall. It was great fun – raucous, fast-moving, vibrant and funny.

On the other hand, in my opinion, it missed some, not all, of the beauty of the poetry in the play and the sense of magic and mystery – somewhat restored by Puck's final speeches when it was at last possible to catch the emotive quality of the language.

As for the rest of the trip – there were no hold-ups on the road, the rain held off and a good time was had by all!

Moyra

Solution to last week's crossword



Where are we?



Where was I?



Answer: Egglestone Abbey, near Barnard Castle.

This is a Premonstratensian Abbey, founded by White Canons between 1195 & 1198



Who was the backing group to these singers.....?

1. Herb Alpert
2. Desmond Decker
3. Ian Drury
4. Wayne Fontana
5. Freddy
6. Bill Hayley
7. Johnny Kidd
8. Kool
9. Billy J Kramer
10. Bob Marley

Answers at the bottom of the page.

Quiz 190 Questions

1. What is the capital city of Croatia?
2. Which boyband did Justin Timberlake begin his musical career?
3. Nursery Rhyme, How many blackbirds were baked in a pie?
4. Which British coin was worth twenty one shillings?
5. Who played Sally in the movie "When Harry met Sally"?
6. What type of triangle has lengths of different sizes?
7. On an Ordnance Survey map, what symbol signifies a battle?
8. How many stars are on the flag of the European Union?
9. Which herb is worn by Australians to remember ANZAC Day?
10. Who wrote the novel "A Tale of Two Cities"?

Quiz 189 Answers

1. Sydney
2. Oliver
3. Tony Stark
4. The Cartwrights
5. The Golden Hind
6. Four
7. Simon and Garfunkel
8. Numerator

9. Golfer Greg Norman

10. Badger

Answers to Backing Groups

1. Tijuana Brass

2. Aces

3. Blockheads

4. Mindbenders

5. Dreamers

6. Comets

7. Pirates

8. The Gang

9. Dakotas

10. Wailers

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

**WHEN I ASK FOR DIRECTIONS PLEASE DON'T
USE WORDS LIKE "EAST".**

(Specially selected for Kay, Pat and Sam)