



Skelmersdale
May Newsletter 2023



NS

Singing Group at Library 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month 2-4pm

u3a is a UK wide, cooperative movement of people no longer in full time work who come together to continue their educational, social and creative interests. Our branch of the nationwide U3A is now in its eleventh successful year. If you are interested, you are most welcome to join us for a **free taster visit to one of our activities**. Details of our activity programme are given in this Newsletter or **Telephone 01695 576550**

Joining us in Skelmersdale u3a is a great way to find and develop new interests and make great friends in a relaxed environment. Membership fee is only £12 a year. Covid restrictions, enforceable by law, have been lifted and we now have ADVICE. However, when in the Ecumenical Centre we must comply with the Centre's requirements. These are that we sanitise, wear face masks and socially distance. These can be found on the redesigned Ecumenical Centre website.

Group News

Currently our website is unavailable, however forthcoming details may be accessed via Groups Page. Paul is endeavouring to fix it. <https://u3asites.org.uk/skelmersdale/groups> Scroll down to pink Pick' Mix and click



Sally's News

Gardening Group Meetings May - August

May 9th **Golden Days**

Back Ln, Appley Bridge, Standish, Wigan WN6 8RS

June 13th **Birkacre**, Chorley, PR7 3QL

Specialising in home cooking & baking the restaurant provides delicious breakfasts, lunches & afternoon teas. With inside & outside dining.

July 11th **Sefton Meadows**, Sefton, Liverpool L31 BBT

August 8th, **Bridgewater Gardens**, Worsley. M28 2LJ



Carole's News

Walking Group News May - July

In January the group members discussed the programme for the year.

The following dates were agreed, all 2nd Thursday each month.

Awaiting venue details

May 11th Sally and Elaine

June 8th Carole and Wendy

July 13th Norma and Cliff



Jenny's Book Club News

January's book 'Cold Bath Street' by A J Hartley was about a boy who died suddenly. It was about a tragic accident killing a lot of children over a hundred years ago in Preston The discussion at the meeting was mixed some really enjoyed it others did not. February's book is 'The Goldfinch' by Donna Tatt the plot is after his mother dies at the age of 13, he is alone and gets drawn into a life of crime

March's book is Testimony by Anita Shreve

Neill's News

Subscriptions are due. The committee look forward to your continued support and company at our various activities.

We now have a **Debating Society Group** which will almost certainly meet at the library, at 2pm on a day, yet to be decided.

We have 13 members so far, who will probably be split into 4 for the motion, 4 against and 4 to judge with a chairperson to officiate.

We look forward to some good topical debates and more joining members

It is hoped that we can also start a **Pickleball Group**. We are actively looking for suitable locations.

There is also the possibility of a **Sign Language Group**, further details to follow.

If you would like to receive the u3a official magazine, '**third age matters**', free of charge following David and Margaret Cheetham's "holiday donation", then please contact Neill.

Ramlah and Jim have suggested **a day out to the Palm House in Sefton Park in June**. This would be a singalong with the Palm House Entertainer with a walk around the park and a meal nearby afterwards.

Again, if you are interested, please contact Neill.

We are not planning any activity for the Coronation on the 6th May, however March's speaker, Mervyn Saunders from Parbold u3a extends a cordial welcome to all Skelmersdale u3a members to join them in "the hut" up Parbold Hill the week afterwards. Neill will forward details to anyone interested.

The committee decided at Monday 13th March's meeting to have a **picnic in Beacon Park**, as we did last year, to celebrate u3a anniversary of both National u3a and Skelmersdale u3a, it was decided to hold the picnic on **September 21st** which would normally be our monthly meeting. A reminder will be sent out beforehand.

Finally, can I ask Group leaders to furnish Marlene with activity "news", details etc and

photographs of activities for the monthly newsletter and website. These are essential to keep everyone informed of our activities which are of course the bedrock of our organisation.



Singing for Fun News

The Big Sing

Wednesday May 10th 2023, 10.15a.m. – 3.30 p.m.

at The Quaker Meeting House, School Lane, Liverpool.

Open to all, several members have already shown interest. Cost £15 pp.

Wishing you all well and on behalf of committee

Neill Stewart
(Skelmersdale u3a Chair)

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Guest Speaker

Mike Flaherty is a Ranger with Lancashire County Council; he is going to be our Speaker at the Thursday, 18th May meeting. He will talk about Tawd Valley with a PowerPoint presentation.



Coffee Afternoons

1st May is a bank holiday, so there will be no meeting. Next meeting will be Monday, 15th May.

Benefits for u3a - Riviera Travel

Riviera Travel operate an "Affinity" Charity Scheme with the Trust that can benefit all u3as. Riviera Travel will donate 10% of the total basic cost of holidays booked by members as a charitable donation back to the u3a. Any holiday booked by a member with Riviera Travel is eligible.



Curry Club at Baba Elephant NS

For details of the next Curry Club gathering please contact Elaine [726660] to book a place on the table.

Newsletter forward planning

A big thank-you to all who contributed to this month's newsletter. The next newsletter giving details of June and July activities will be distributed Thursday, 18th May at the Monthly meeting in the library. The deadline for submissions will be Thursday, 11th May. As a possible enticement for potential new and old members to partake of, forthcoming details re Sunday Lunch venues, Cinema Club, and Guest Speakers will be gladly welcomed.

