



The [OYCZ](#) group were considering arranging a Wild/Open Water Swimming event, subject to there being sufficient interest.

I have subsequently discovered that Southport u3a does not carry liability insurance to cover open water swimming and therefore the event will not take place.

Brian Mitchell

The [Joy of Writing](#) group will be holding its next meeting on Thursday, 13th October from 1pm at The Cherish Centre on Albert Road.

Contact one of the leaders via their group page if you are interested.



SIMPLE MEMBERSHIP - UPDATE

Following extensive testing, we are now ready to move to the next stage of implementation of our new membership system.

Starting on October 12th, workshop sessions are being run for Group Leaders. Providing all goes well and no major issues are discovered we will begin preparations to go live.

Due to the upcoming 2023 membership renewals period, we hope to be able to make the system live for members during November, giving time for it to settle in before February.

Watch out for more news.



On Saturday 17th September the U3A [Stitchers](#) group went to the Great Yorkshire Quilt Show, in Harrogate. We were joined by some of the ladies from the Southport quilters.

It was a lovely day and the Yorkshire countryside, in God's Own Country, was glorious as we travelled by coach through the Yorkshire Dales and into North Yorkshire.

The exhibition of quilts was both traditional and also some more Creative and Artistic images. showing social, historical and political designs. We all had time to wander

around the various stalls and later in the afternoon some of us walked outside in the gardens, then had afternoon tea in the very warm sunshine.

At the end of the day we all returned to the coach laden with all kinds of goodies for our own individual sewing ideas. I managed to find some fabric with musical images for me to start making a patchwork cushion for my organist and choir master.

We arrived back in Ainsdale, Formby and Churchtown having enjoyed a wonderful but long day out.

We are already planning our next trip with just my Stitchers group. We are also enjoying our new premises at the Fleetwood Hesketh Cricket Pavilion, where we meet every 1st and 3rd Fridays. The group now has 16 members and we all come together to have fun, sew while we chat over a cuppa.

Jannice Crawford



A most enjoyable and informative visit to RAF Woodvale was had by the [Local History](#) group.

We were met by Warrant Officer Neil Blair and introduced to Wing Commander David Hooton.

Neil gave us a really interesting PowerPoint presentation. He outlined how the fall of France and the Netherlands in World War II left the North West of England within easy reach of the Luftwaffe.

It was necessary to have a base to defend the area.

The MOD requisitioned that a runway be laid out in a triangular pattern.

RAF Woodvale was constructed as an all-weather night fighter airfield for the defence of Liverpool, becoming operational in December 1941.

During the Second World War RAF squadrons were brought up from the south of England to 'rest and re equip' for short periods, during which time they defended Merseyside.

Post-War, the airfield was re-opened in 1946, with the Royal Auxiliary AF moving there from Speke.

In June 1957 the British legend, the Spitfire, made its last operational flight, in active British military markings, from RAF Woodvale.

The Station Commander, Wing Commander David Hooton, spoke about the relevance of Woodvale today as a training station for Liverpool, Manchester and Salford University Air Squadrons who are based there. They provide flying training and give experience flights.

Local youth can start as a cadet aged 12 for the Woodvale ATC.

We found out that their aims are to:

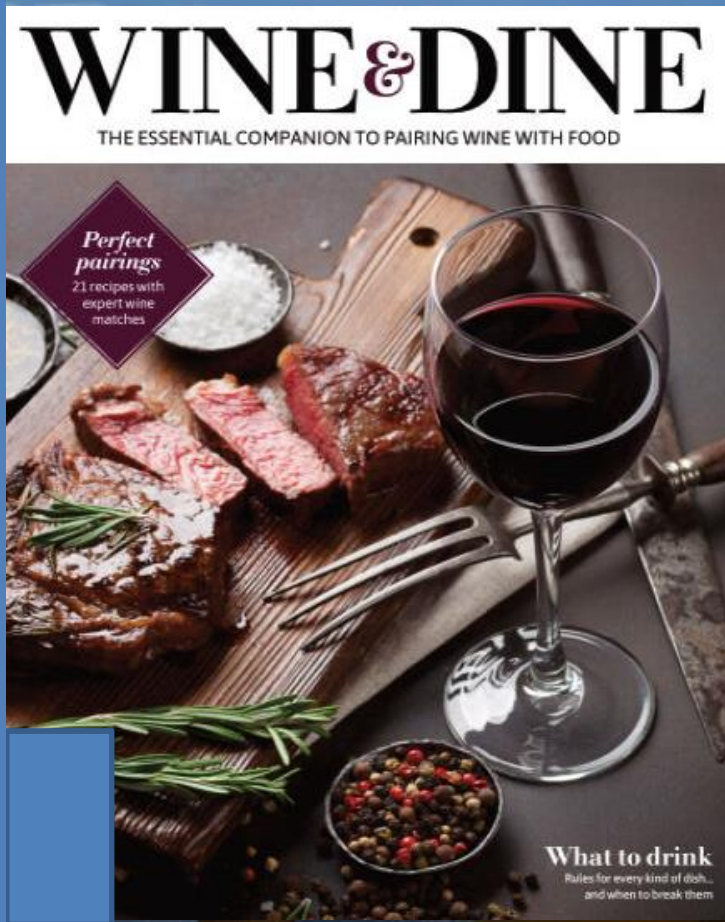
- Promote and encourage a practical interest in aviation and the Royal Air Force among young people
- Provide training which will be useful in the Services and civilian life
- Encourage the spirit of adventure and develop qualities of leadership and good citizenship

And there's one more important thing - it's a lot of fun!



WINE GROUP 4

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY *(Wines recommended in the press)*



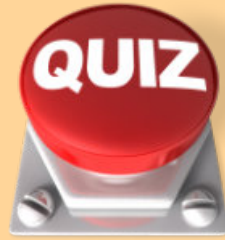
**Venue :-Barnista
Birkdale**

£20 pp

2 Wine Tasting Evenings

Monday 10th October 2022

Tuesday 25th October 2022



1

Built for the 2008 Olympics in Beijing



2

Famous House owned by Princess Royal hosts Horse Trials



3

Island town on the South Coast hosts an annual yachting event



4

Home of Newcastle United FC



5

Home of Scottish Rugby National team



6

Home of Middlesex County Cricket Club



7

Home to the largest Marathon in the World



8

Home to the 2014 Winter Olympics



9

Annual Home of the Masters Golf



10

Home of The French Open Tennis



COACH TRIPS GROUP FOUR DAY UK TOUR

learn,
laugh,
live

50 members from our [Coach Trips](#) Group have just returned this week from their first ever stay-over coach trip. They were away for four days and this took in visits to Bletchley Park, famous for its war time exploits in breaking the German WWII coded traffic, Blenheim Palace, near Oxford, home to the 12th Duke of Marlborough and former home of Sir Winston Churchill as a boy. And finally they visited The National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire, home to over 350 memorials commemorating a wide variety of military organisations, charities and emergency services.

We are still collecting pictures from this very busy trip, but here are a few in advance. The full trip will be covered in the next u3a Magazine



OYCZ had a very enjoyable day at Peter Owen's Studio in Birkdale learning how to paint with Acrylics. The day was split into two halves. First they undertook painting a Welsh seascape, and then in the afternoon their creative juices were released to create some more abstract canvases!!!





OYCZ had 5 members spending a successful afternoon at Fishfingers Creative Clay in Kew Road Birkdale. 2 of us crafted Christmas trees, 1 lady crafted an Angel and 2 of us built Bird Feeders. We all had a great time in the warmth of the pottery looking out at the pouring rain. These items will now be first fired. In November we will return to paint them with liquid glass glazes. So look out for the finished results!!



OYCZ keeps pushing the boundaries for us all to try. The latest offering on the u3a website is the opportunity to go wild/open water swimming. So if you are interested put your name down on [Beacon](#)



TAPAS & TAMLA



Let's Go had a very enjoyable night in Liverpool this month. First indulging in a great Tapas meal at The Silk Road and then off on the Mersey Ferry to dance the night away to a live soul band playing Tamla Motown music. They had some wonderful views of the Liverpool riverfront lit up in spectacular form.





BUXTON U3A COME TO VISIT

Following the successful exchange during the summer with Buxton u3a and our Walking Group 4, the Buxton members had a very enjoyable few days in and around Southport, walking with our WG4 members. Here is a taster of their walks. A full report will appear in the next edition of the u3a Magazine.



Autumn Quiz



Tuesday 29th November 2022
At:- Fleetwood Hesketh Club
Fylde Road
Southport
PR9 9XH



Arrive 7pm
for 7.30pm start



Includes:- Hotpot Supper & Raffle

Cash Prizes

Tickets £9
from Neil Mc Millan at the monthly meeting
Or enrol on Beacon
Or email neilmcmillan6@hotmail.com

**IT'S THE CHRISTMAS
EVENT OF THE YEAR!!!**

THE **u3a** **SOUTHPORT** CHRISTMAS LUNCH

LUNCH

FREE RAFFLE!!

COMEDIAN

DANCING

**THE BLISS
HOTEL**

TICKETS

£32

**THURSDAY
8TH DECEMBER**

12 TILL 5.30

FOR TICKETS - CLICK [CHRISTMAS MEAL](#) AND CONTACT VIV

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY VACANCY (as FROM FEBRUARY, 2024)

Jim Hay will have completed six hard-working but rewarding years in February 2024 and will not be standing for re-election. However, he has very kindly offered to take on an Assistant in 2023 in order to make the transition as smooth as possible for the benefit of all our members.

This position is one of the most important tasks on our very pro-active and forward-looking Committee. The successful candidate will be the first point of contact between new members and Southport u3a, so a warm personality, a good sense of humour and the ability to empathise and deal with the general public is essential.

You won't be starting from scratch as there is already an excellent system in place and you will have the support of the Committee.

Some basic aspects of the job are:

- You will be responsible for providing information to all our members using excellent administrative and database knowledge.
- You will maintain accurate membership records in the desired format.
- You will produce leaflets, brochures and joining packs for new members.
- You will co-ordinate open days or attendance at public events to raise public awareness of u3a and attract new members.
- You will liaise with the Treasurer over financial aspects of membership
- You will deal with income accrued from membership fees.

If you think you could manage some or all of the above, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Paddy McNeish, Chair, on paddyclinch@yahoo.co.uk



Upcoming Jazz Group Events

MONDAY NOVEMBER 7th at Southport & Birkdale Sports Club – 7.30 for 8 pm

Phil Shotton's 40th Birthday Celebration Big Band

Tickets £25p/p including an interval fish & chip supper
Tickets still available.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 20th at The Grand (formerly The Casino) 180 Lord St Southport 2.30 for 3 pm

Swingtime Big Band featuring vocalists Matt Ford and Emma Holcroft

Tickets £18 p/p
The U3A Jazz Group has been allocated 40 tickets (10%

discounted from list price). There are just a few left as at Thursday 6th October.

Winter sessions at Boulevard West Bar, Lord St Southport

MONDAY DECEMBER 5th

MONDAY JANUARY 9th

MONDAY FEBRUARY 6th

Back to our favourite small bar gig at "The Boulevard" by kind permission of owner Bryan Ainscough. maximum 35 per gig. Ticket price £20 p/p including single plate hot supper with veggie option.

Bands will be confirmed on November 3rd when tickets go on sale.

RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED FROM THURSDAY 6th OCTOBER



Events Secretary



Building on the success and growing demand for u3a Social Events this role is to arrange and co-ordinate the one-off Southport Special Events. As the Events Secretary you will lead maybe one, two or more people working together to plan, create and support these Special Events. These are outside the normal Group Events and involve the whole of Southport u3a.

Good organising skills are needed and some experience organising parties or events would be useful but is not essential.

The Committee will agree these Special Events and you will be supported at every level in this role. New, fresh ideas are always needed in this ever-changing world and your creativity would be welcomed.

Some basic aspects of the job are:

- You will be responsible for finding suitable locations for events, negotiating room hire and catering and other requirements.
- With your team, you will plan the event and request any budget and assistance.
- You will arrange any decorating, place settings, gifts necessary for the event
- You will liaise with any guests, speakers, musicians etc. required for the event and ensure their needs are met eg. Parking, tables, AV
- Working with the Marketing Secretary, you will advertise the event, sell tickets and take monies –as appropriate to the event.
- Classic example of this would be the Annual u3a Christmas Lunch, but this may also include other events throughout the year as determined by the Committee
- You will keep records of attendees and balance all monies with the Treasurer.
- You will plan the event from start to finish requesting all the help you need.
- You will review after each event on what we did well and what could have been done better.
- You will organise the u3a Christmas Meeting each year at Christchurch, liaising with performing groups, organising raffle, hampers etc

If you are interested in performing this function, please contact Paddy McNeish, Chair, on paddyclinch@yahoo.co.uk



Paul Carter is pleased to invite you to the first of two Christmas dinners.

This is at The Imperial, Albert Road, Southport PR9 0LN. This is between the Fire Station end of Lord Street and Hesketh Park. Several buses stop outside.

It is on Tuesday December 6 at 630pm . Note the earlier start time which is to ensure our meal is over before the Quiz Night (for which you are welcome to stay).

Peter Ballentyne has once again negotiated an excellent deal for us, which is a drink on arrival (house pint, house wine, soft drink) 3 courses and a coffee or tea for £19 including the tip (though you are welcome to give £20 as it's Christmas!)

Here is the menu

Starter

- Garlic Bread with Cheese (v)
- Butternut and Sweet Potato Soup (v) (ve)
- King Prawn Cocktail
- Lemon and Rosemary Goujons

Mains

- Trailblazer Stout Braised Featherblade of Beef
- Roast Turkey
- Beetroot, Spinach and Mushroom Wellington (v) (ve)
- Pan-Roast Salmon
- Wexford Chicken

Desserts

- Baked Vanilla Cheesecake
- Chocolate Orange Tart (v) (ve)
- Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce
- Simply Ice Cream



Three Courses and a selected drink, as before any draft lager or cider, any soft drink. Any house single shot spirit with mixer and any 175ml house wine.

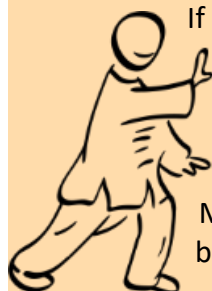
Excludes prosecco but if pre ordered Prosecco can be on a deal for £10 per bottle.

Also included after the meal free tea and filter coffee. Excludes speciality coffee (latte, cappuccino etc.)

Important Note: If you are not an ME member, and because payment is on the night, if you book but do not arrive you are liable for a £10 charge as a “no-show” exposes us to a charge for wasted food.

If you would like to attend, please join the ‘ME first Xmas Meal’ group on [Beacon](#).

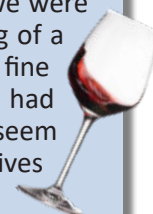
Paul Carter



If you want to prepare yourself for those Christmas excesses, [Tai Chi](#) 6 have vacancies.

They meet at Lord Street West Monday 1,30-2,30 and it is a beginners class.

[Wine Appreciation 3](#) - The September meeting took place on the day the Queen died. We were sampling English and Italian wines. Greatly saddened as we were at the news, we were proud to toast the passing of a dear and respected monarch with a glass of fine English sparkling wine. We all felt that since she had been a fixture throughout our lives it really did seem like the end of an era for us who have lived our lives almost entirely during her reign.



Jobs for the Garden in October

Plant up cheery pot displays with winter colour, heathers, cyclamen, winter pansies and ivy.

Plant up spring bulbs in pots, try Alan Foxall's excellent idea of bulbs planted in separate pots within the main planter so they can be removed and replaced with new when the flowers are over so you're not left with the messy leaves.

Empty spent summer pots and hanging baskets and compost the contents.

Water plants more sparingly as conditions get cooler and the days turn shorter. Remove any pot saucers and raise pots up onto feet to prevent waterlogging over

Reduce the height of shrub roses to avoid wind rock damage over winter.

Before we have early frosts:-

- Lift gladiolus bulbs to store and mulch dahlias under several inches of mushroom compost.

Alternatively lift tubers from the ground, cut back the stems to approx. 5cms, dry out in a warm place for a couple of days then store in dry compost and newspaper in a warm dry place until spring. Sprinkling with yellow sulphur powder will help control powdery mildew.

- Overwinter tender fuchsia and geraniums in a porch or greenhouse, cut back any dead stems and leaves, water sparingly and so long as kept frost free, most will survive the winter.
- Protect pots of evergreen agapanthus from frost damage over winter.
- Transplant deciduous shrubs that are in the wrong place or have outgrown their current position.
- Split herbaceous perennials that have finished flowering, do it before we have frosts so they can make new root systems.



SPORTING VENUES



ANSWERS

1 - THE BIRDS NEST, BEIJING

2 - GATCOMBE PARK

3 - COWES, I.O.W

4 - ST JAME'S PARK

5 - MURRAYFIELD

6 - LORDS CRICKET GROUND

7 - LONDON

8 - SOCHI, RUSSIA

9 - AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, USA

10 - ROLAND GARROS, PARIS

