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## June 2015

### Report on the Trip to Black Country Museum

A full coach set off at 9.00 am sharp on the 10th June for The Black Country. The sun was shining down and we had our previous driver who took us to Cosford Air Museum, so knew we were in excellent hands.

A very nice drive which only took around an hour and a half brought us to this very interesting establishment. There was so much to see and various employees were dressed up in old fashioned apparel and were very informative about their pet subjects.

The biggest thrill was going into the mines with hard hats and torch-like lights which emitted only candle light so it was a very authentic experience. The story of how a lad as young as 12 started work there and progressed to walking with pit ponies and on to mining, was told to us by our guide.

I think we all felt deeply what a hard life this was, especially starting so young and only having Sunday off. Various tableaux would suddenly light up and all the sound effects were so well done it seemed like the real thing. A couple of "blasts" and rumbling noises made us jump out of our skins !!!

Afterwards, we sought out the restaurant and had a lovely meal and then walked down a "street", how it would have been in olden times and so great to see some items which we could remember from childhood.

I would highly recommend this visit should the opportunity arise in the future and want to thank Doreen & Paul Hebden for their efforts on our behalf.

**Kay Bayliss**

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**To contact Sandbach U3A**

Phone: 0844 58 60670 (Calls cost 5p/min. Leave a short message and we will ring you back)

Email: [SandbachU3A@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:SandbachU3A@hotmail.co.uk)

Newsletter items should be sent to Alan Butler (alangbutler@yahoo.co.uk or phone 077148 11008) by the end of the third week of each month.

## **Trip to National Memorial Arboretum Alrewas, Staffordshire**

This will take place on Thursday 17 September and the cost will be only £7 per head for the coach. Entrance to the arboretum site is free. Click here <http://www.thenma.org.uk> to see the detailed arboretum website listing the facilities and events available.

Tickets will go on sale in the Library on the second and fourth Wednesdays in July and August.

## **Leaders registers**

Thank you to all Group Leaders who have handed in their Registers.

It would be appreciated if those Group Leaders who have not yet done so, would complete their Registers after your next Banking and either email it to

**SandbachU3ATreasurer@live.co.uk**

Alternatively, you may hand it in to either Louise Adams or Linda Richardson

It is important that all banking relating to this financial year is completed well before 31<sup>st</sup> August.

## **Pilates**

Would those members who attend Pilates sessions please note that with effect from September this year, there will only be one session on Thursday mornings in Elworth Methodist Church Hall. This will commence at 10am

The Monday session at the same venue will continue to start at 11.45am

**Pauline Evans**

## **Trip to see “The Girls” at Lowry Theatre 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

If anybody is interested, there is one ticket remaining for the above show

The cost is £38 including coach travel.

The remaining ticket can be purchased by contacting Alice Holmes on 01270 765856

## **Christmas Party**

This year's Christmas Party will take place at Crewe Golf Club, Haslington on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm for 8.00pm

Tickets will be on sale on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October between 9.30am - 11.30am in the library. Alternatively, you can obtain tickets by contacting Alice Holmes on 01270 765856

Tickets are priced at £25 each and will include a 3 course meal and Disco / Dancing.

## **New Years Eve Party**

The venue for this event will be The Horseshoe Inn, Church Lawton 7.30pm for 8.00pm

Ticket prices will be £24 per person and this will include a 3 course meal with wine, Entertainment and dancing.

Tickets will be available for sale in the Library between 9.30am and 11.30am on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

Alternatively, you can obtain tickets by contacting Alice Holmes on 01270 765856

## **Speaking French**

If you are able, and would like to lead the above group, it would be greatly appreciated if you could make contact with a member of the Committee.

## **Bowls**

If any members would like to join a bowls group, it would appear that one or more bowls groups currently have spaces available.

If joining a bowls group is something that you would like to do, please register your interest by telephoning 0844 58 60670 or by emailing SandbachU3A@hotmail.co.uk

## **Request for Assistance**

The Third Age Trust is the organisation that provides support and structure for the hundreds of U3A groups around the UK. Its North West region trustee – Jenny Carley – has requested help to provide material for external magazines.

She writes:

“The magazines Mature Times and Educational Journal want an article writing on “technology and learning” for older people. They want to know how technology can be used to reach out to those Third Agers who are isolated either because they cannot afford the fees of alternative educational courses or that they don't know that such technology is available. The Mature Times editor wants the piece to be angled in part (though not exclusively) on how technology can be used to reach isolated Third Agers.

If you have experience or know of anyone in this situation please send it to me (carleyjenny@gmail.com ) in the first instance.

Do you have any thoughts on the use of online courses e.g. MOOCS Future Learn, TED or Great course? Are they useful? Do you see them as counter-productive to combating isolation? Are there any negative effects of badly used MOOCS?”

The replies you sent last time were really appreciated. Let's see if we in the North West can deliver again.”

## **Learning About iPad or Android Tablets**

Several members have asked for a course to help them learn how to use their tablets. Not their medicines – their little computers that come in two main types: iPads from Apple and Android tablets from other manufacturers like Samsung. The clever chaps at Holmes Chapel U3A have produced detailed slides as the basis for two courses for these different types of device and have shared them with us.

Kevin Dean, while not an expert in using either of the two types, is interested in starting courses to lead members through the Holmes Chapel material. The feedback from the Holmes Chapel courses is that the class should be limited to 12 members but more than one leader is required to ensure that all members of the course benefit from the material. If you can use the iPad or Android tablet and would like to assist this worthy effort to empower your peers in Sandbach, please send a message to [SandbachU3A@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:SandbachU3A@hotmail.co.uk) that will be directed to Kevin.