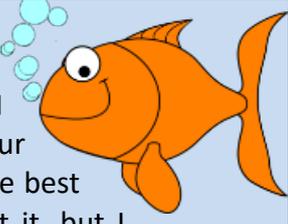




Newsletter 12-06-2021



I recently bought a cheap GoPro equivalent, underwater camera, so that I could see what goes on in our pond. I'm still finding out the best depth and direction to point it, but I thought you may be interested in this little video. It's only a few minutes, but if you get bored make sure you don't miss the surprise visitor at the end.



Click [HERE](#) to watch it.

Are you prepared for the worst? Is your cupboard full of long shelf life foods and toilet roll? Click [HERE](#) to watch a video about people who really take this seriously.

Your empty plastic bottles could eventually power you to your holiday destination. Click [HERE](#) to read how.



If you have ever suffered through somebody learning to play the harmonica, please spare a thought for the partner of whomever invented the 'Khaen'. Mind you, the end result is pretty amazing! Click [HERE](#) to watch.



Unmarked police cars are getting much easier to spot these days!!

Julie's jaunt!

Kings gardens looked lovely in the sunshine when local history members enjoyed a guided tour courtesy of Julie Rudge.

We learnt about the history of the Gardens and Julie was able to show us photos to illustrate how the gardens had looked in the past. Currently volunteers tend the community garden and their hard work means it's a lovely area for all to enjoy.

Kings gardens was opened in 1913 and due to Heritage Lottery funding being granted it has in recent years undergone restoration work.

Our photo shows the group looking over to the Venetian Bridge which was originally constructed in 1931.

Kings gardens is on the register of Parks and Gardens(Grade 11) in recognition of its special historical interest.

Julie had not given a tour for some time! Yet her delivery was great and everyone enjoyed listening to her.

If anyone is interested in undertaking a tour of the gardens then please e mail the local history leaders using the link on the u3a web page as it will be possible to arrange a further tour. Details of the next Local history event will be in a weekly newsletter in the near future..

Jean



HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW **LIVERPOOL**



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SEE THE ANSWERS LATER IN THE NEWSLETTER

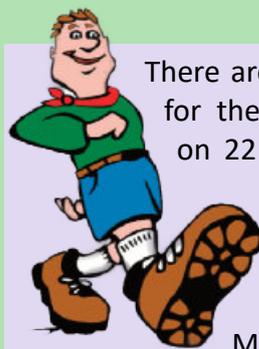


THE BOOK SALE IS BACK!



The U3A bring and buy bookstall will be in Liz and Keith Rea's garden, at 59 Richmond Road, Birkdale, on Thursday 17th June between 1 and 4pm, weather permitting.

Please bring your donations, and stock up with some new reading ready for your staycation.



There are a few spaces left for the Sefton park walk on 22 June. It starts at 10-30 and is followed by a late lunch at Elif on Lark Lane.



Members can contact Brenda directly on Brenda.i83@gmail.com.

Have you ever wished you were in David Beckham's underpants? Steady on, not like that! Click [HERE](#) to watch a special 'Only Fools and Horses' episode.



a little while ago, we published information about how you can sign up to Amazon Smile and nominate Southport u3a. By doing so, a (small) percentage of everything you spend with them is donated to Southport u3a.

We have had our first statement from them and can see that, to date, we have received £13.57. This may seem like a trifling amount, but every little helps and the more people that sign up the larger that amount will become.

Click [HERE](#) to find out how to sign up to Amazon Smile.



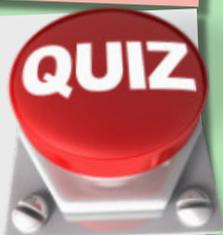
If you are the type of person who thinks tech is too smart for them, maybe you need to watch this. In fact, if you are the type of person who thinks tech is the answer to everything you also need to watch this. No matter what type you are, click [HERE](#) to watch.

The Friday badminton 3 group leader is unable to open the sessions up again unless 3 members offer to assist on a rotating basis, meaning each does one Friday per month.



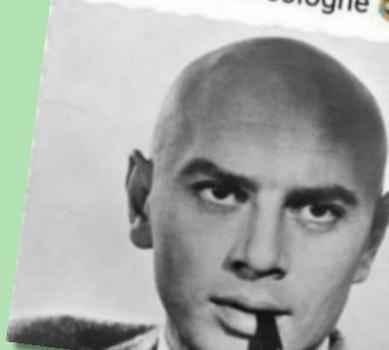
If you are able to offer this time commitment then please contact Yvonne Mcculloch at Ymcculloch@live.co.uk to enable the Friday sessions to start again.

QUIZ ANSWERS



- 1 - Nelson Monument
- 2 - The Palm House, Sefton Park
- 3 - St Luke's Church
- 4 - St John's Tower (Radio Tower)
- 5 - St George's Hall
- 6 - Museum of Liverpool
- 7 - Mathew Street
- 8 - Lewis's Building
- 9 - Picton Reading Room, Central Library
- 10 - Philharmonic Dining Rooms
- 11 - Liverpool Town Hall
- 12 - Billy Fury Statue, Albert Dock

Did you know the actor Yul Brynner was a life long Liverpool fan and he never wore aftershave in his life. That's right Yul never wore cologne 🤔🤔





ZOOM TALKS
AT HOME

TIME THROUGH THE AGES

By John Hope

Thursday 17th June at 10.30am

A journey through time telling over the centuries, showing the development and improvement of time telling devices from sundial and water clocks through the introduction of mechanical clocks, railway time, domination of pendulum devices to the atomic clock.

I suggest to the audience that they fasten their seat belts as I take them through a journey of 3 centuries in just 60 minutes.





Photo Group 1
theme for May -
Geometrical
shapes.

Click [HERE](#) to see
the full gallery.



Bodnant Garden by Julie Pigula FRPS FDPS.



I am a keen gardener, photographer, proud owner of a Labradoodle called Bailey and mobility scooter user. Bodnant Garden in the Conwy valley is the perfect place to enjoy all my hobbies. It is one of the few National Trust properties which allow dogs all year round too (provided they are kept on a short lead).

The gardens belong partly to the National Trust is the most amazing place to visit set in 80 acres it includes everything from Italian rose terraces, meadows and woods, riverside gardens and more than 250 years of horticultural history. It is



cascade of long yellow flowers from late May until early June. Summer and the garden are filled with the colours and scents from the rose terrace. Autumn is also a great time to be out with all the rich autumnal colours of the leaves of the trees along with the late perennials still flowering in the upper terraces.



home to plants from around the world, champion trees and botanic collections.

Winter brings snow and frost which bring a whole new dimension to garden photography. Wrap up warm for a trip around the Winter garden which has been planted to show off winter trees, shrubs and heathers. From the beautiful barks of the Himalayan Birch tree to the red stems of the dogwoods. You will be amazed at how much there is to photograph even in the middle of winter.

It's not just about flowers and rose beds, there is lots of wildlife, beautiful architecture, waterfalls and all set against the beautiful backdrop of the Welsh mountains. The garden is open all year round except for a few days over Christmas and is truly a garden for all seasons.

Whilst Bodnant does not as yet provide mobility scooters there are several wheelchairs available for hire. The garden including the car park and



Spring brings not only snowdrops and daffodils but lots of the scrubs like the Daphne and Hamamelis bring a beautifully scented blossom to the garden. April and the Azaleas and Rhododendrons bring the swaths of bright colours to the slopes of the garden. There are lots of beautiful shapes and colours in the new leaves on the trees.

entrance to the garden is built on a slope with increasing gradients as you head down to the Dell at the bottom of the garden. The top tiers are on the flat with gentle slopes to each of but after that, it does

May and the spectacular Laburnum Arch starts to flower, a curved walk over 50 metres long covered with laburnum which produces a magnificent

them get steeper. For people on foot or carers pushing wheelchairs, there are lots of benches and seats to stop, rest and take in the view.

You can collect a leaflet as you arrive showing you the suggested disabled routes around the garden



which is signposted with a disabled icon. There are also signposts with a red strike-through indicating which routes are not

accessible for wheelchairs or mobility scooters. I would advise you to stick to these routes, especially if you are not familiar with the garden's layout. If you veer from these routes



to many of the flowers around the garden without having to bend down.

The rose bed on the top terrace is one of my favourite places to take pictures because you can get so close to the roses. I never get bored with Bodnant, there is always something different to see every time I visit.



A lot of the flower beds changed with the seasons and there is always something coming into flower or leaf depending on the season. As a gardener myself I appreciate how well the garden is maintained and the fact that many of

the slopes can get rather steep and there are steps in places.

These are just a few of the pictures I have taken over the last couple of years. Most of my pictures are taken from low viewpoints because I am either sat on the ground or in my mobility scooter. Using a scooter or wheelchair gives you a whole new perspective on photography and I find the arms of my scooter provide a brace to help keep my camera steady.

I am at flower level too which can be an advantage as you can get very close

the plants and trees are labelled so if there is a specific plant I like I can take a picture of the label and then buy one for my garden.



Bodnant is truly a garden for all seasons and is accessible for people with mobility problems like me.

Please note at the moment entry to the garden is by pre-purchased ticket only (these are free if you are a National Trust member or RHS member.) The tickets must be booked in advance at least a day ahead [on their website](#) or by calling 0344 249 1895.

Please be aware they will not admit same-day visits at the current time. Tickets are released every Friday for your week ahead (Monday to Sunday) and the ticket line closes at 3 pm daily.

