

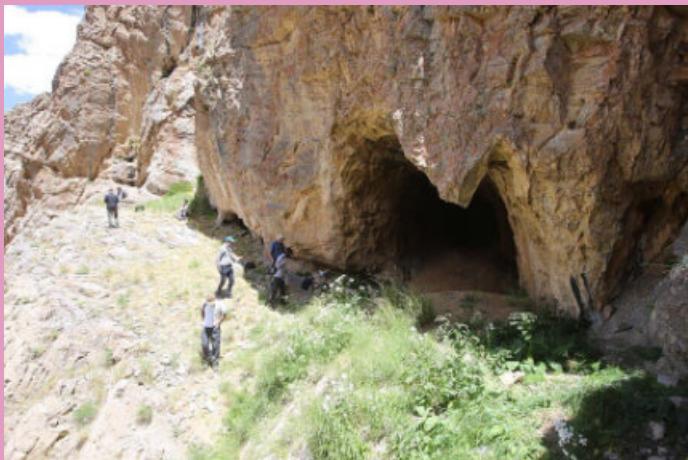


The Meet and Eat group got together at The Lansdowne last week.

There were 38 attendees, some of whom were new U3a members and some simply new to Meet and Eat.

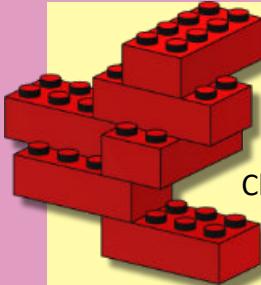
The next event is on July 20 at Bistro Pierre and more are planned.

Anybody interested in joining Meet and Eat can [email Paul Carter](#)



A 2,800-year-old castle built by an enigmatic ancient civilisation known as the Urartu, or people of Ararat, was recently unearthed by Turkish archaeologists from Van Yuzuncu Yıl University.

Click [HERE](#) to read the article.



Still fascinated with Lego? That isn't a problem and don't let anybody ever tell you that it is.

Click [HERE](#) to watch a video which shows just how far Lego has come since those early rectangles and squares.

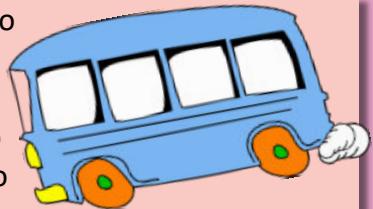
(Of course, it is no less painful now)

A truck loaded with Vicks VapoRub overturned on the highway.

Amazingly, there was no congestion for eight hours.



We are pleased to announce that coach trips are resuming. We are starting with two 'old favourite' trips to get us back into our regular outings.



Most members will be familiar with the first two destinations, plus they offer plenty of outdoor space in which to explore at your own pace.

- Saturday 4th September-Bowness on Lake Windermere
- Saturday 25th September- Llandudno

In addition, we are planning a coach trip to RHS Bridgewater in the coming months following a large number of requests. Further details to follow.

Details on the booking process will be announced as soon as restrictions are eased and we have all the necessary agreed procedures in place.

Derek & Anne



DO YOU REMEMBER YOUR 60'S MUSIC?

learn,
laugh,
live



- 1 - Which of The Beatles was born with the middle name Winston
- 2 - Which Beatles's album includes the song "Drive my Car"
- 3 - What were the first two Rolling Stones singles to reach No 1 in the US charts
- 4 - With a song written by Tony Hatch, who was the only British solo artist with a No 1 hit single in the US in 1965
- 5 - Which English group from Muswell Hill, north London were part of the initial British invasion until they were banned from touring in the US in 1965
- 6 - Peter and Gordon's "A World Without Love" reached number one on both sides of the Atlantic in 1964. Which songwriting genius penned the song
- 7 - In 1968 a British invasion band landed a No 7 hit single in the US charts. Twenty-six years later a cover version of the song spent 15 consecutive weeks at No 1 in the UK charts. Name the song
- 8 - Which band from London were the 2nd group of the British Invasion to appear on The Ed Sullivan Show
- 9 - Graham Nash was a member of which band before he joined Crosby and Stills
- 10 - Which Liverpool band had hits such as "Good Golly Miss Molly" and "Hippy Hippy Shake"
- 11 - Which 1967 single gave The Monkees their first UK number 1
- 12 - Which song gave Cliff Richard his first UK number one of the 1960s
- 13 - What was the title of The Shadows first number one without Cliff Richard
- 14 - Which group of the 1960s consisted of Declan & Conleth Cluskey and John Stokes
- 15 - Which song written by Lennon/McCartney holds the record for being recorded more than any other





Southport Little Theatre is re-opening on Monday 5th July.

Like all other theatres, our Little Theatre has been closed because of the pandemic. It is now able to re-open and for one night only there will be a performance of 'Swan Song' This play is based in Liverpool in 1987 and is apparently one of those plays which will make you laugh and cry in equal measures.

To visit the Little Theatre website, for bookings and information about what else is on the schedule, click [HERE](#).



The wine group met for the first time face to face in 16 months

We had a wonderful socially distant meeting tasting our wines and the accompanied food.

A great afternoon was had by all, bathed in sunshine

Brenda



The mysterious underground lakes on Mars have been causing scientists to scratch their heads. In 2018 they made another discovery, which just seems to raise more questions.



Click [HERE](#) to read the article.

FACT



In the 1928 Olympics, Australian rower Bobby Pearce stopped mid-race to let a family of ducks pass in front of his boat before going on to win that same race.

learn,
laugh,
live



It's time for your mindfulness session.

Today you can relax to a 10 minute video of wood turning and burning. It was my favourite part of woodwork at school.

If I had the space (and the time and the talent) I'd happily take it up again.

Click [HERE](#) to watch the video.





June has come to an end and, with it, the inaugural Southport u3a Writing Competition.

The entries were varied to say the least, but, after careful consideration by the judges, the winner is (artificially long pause to increase tension and make the item longer)

Sylvia Miley

Sylvia will receive a £10 book token, plus bragging rights for the next month or so.

In case you are wondering about Sylvia's contribution, here it is.

"Religion isn't the secret of happiness,"
it was written in the Daily Mail this week.

So what is the answer for today as we face our collective destiny as a human species?

The betterment of the world.....

Is this achievable? We see the tumbling of strong structures of those ancient worn out institutions, weary of not being able to resolve their problems, and seeking everywhere to find answers. It isn't here - it isn't there – it's elusive yet everywhere, and within our reach!

Covid showed the way - sharing, cooperation, kindnesses, compassion,

and a wider vision.
Whisperings in high places: "We have to share the vaccines," says one. "We must do something about the lack of clean water," another declares. "We are friends with each other, so let's make a difference," was murmured at the G7 at Carbis Bay last week

All over the world the struggles increase our feelings of helplessness. So the question is asked as to what we can do individually and collectively.

For those helplessly sunk in materiality there is a need to encourage the concept that we are not just a physical being but we have a noble character that needs to be valued. Present day society heaves and cracks with the strain of horrific events and calamities, causing inner turmoil individually and collectively. Actions speak louder than words, and during the recent months occasions have arisen where we have been prompted not to pass by on the other side and we find ourselves acting with natural instincts to help make a difference.

To strive to do that which is right, and bring hope to the hopeless and try to steer those who are eaten away with bitterness and hate to revalue that kindly words and good deeds are surely steps forward to the betterment of the world.

"The betterment of the world can be achieved through pure and goodly deeds". Baha'u'llah

A big "Thank you" to all the contributors and, to those who didn't win, better luck next time.

Many of you will be familiar with Dobbies and many of you will also use their excellent loyalty card and take advantage of the two cups of coffee every month!! But did you know the history of Dobbies?

The business was founded in 1865 by James Dobbie, who created a seeds business named Dobbie & Co. in Renfrew, Scotland. After being awarded the Royal Warrant for Gardeners and Nurserymen to the Royal Household, they expanded into a seed catalogue business, where it built up a customer base of 50,000 over the following century.

In 1969 the company expanded out of its Scottish base into England, and was floated on AIM in 1987. Up until 1984 Dobbies continued to operate principally as a seed merchant. It was then bought out by David Barnes, managing director of Waterers. Between 1984 and 1989 Dobbies opened five new garden centres in Scotland.

The company was floated on the Stock Exchange in 1997 and this led to Dobbies expanding their garden centre operations into England.

Acquisition by Tesco

Tesco announced its intention to purchase Dobbies Garden Centres for

£155.6 million on 8 June 2007. Tesco raised its holding to 65% in September that year.

On 10 May 2009, Dobbies announced it had made £1million sales of its "Grow Your Own" range in that year to date. "Grow Your Own" allows many of Dobbies' 10 million-strong customer base to grow salad, vegetables and fruits from home with more than 100,000 tomato plants sold in the previous two months alone. For the year to early 2009, turnover was £97 million.

In 2010, Dobbies opened their first outlet in Northern Ireland and the store, near Lisburn, opened in September 2010.

Sell off from Tesco

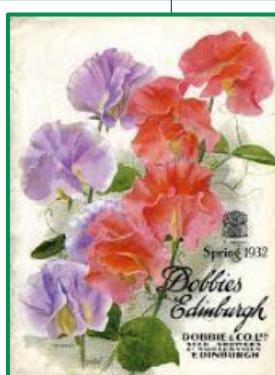
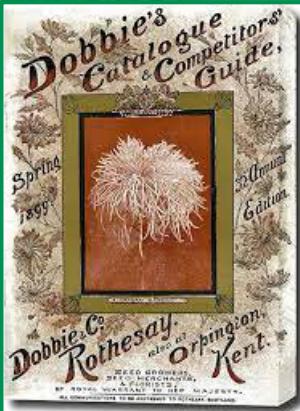
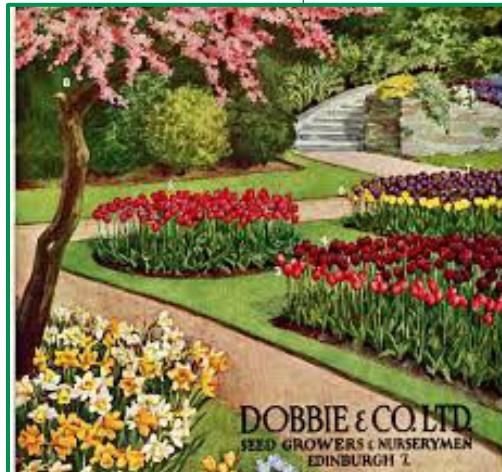
On 17 June 2016, Tesco sold the company on to a group of investors led by Midlothian Capital Partners and Hattington Capital for £217m.

Recent years

Dobbies now operates 68 garden centres and restaurants across the UK, as well as several large tourist attractions including Anker Wood, in Atherstone. (*And you can use your card in all of them!!*)

In May 2019, Dobbies bought 37 stores from Weyvale Garden Centres, doubling its reach and becoming the biggest garden centre in the UK.

Jim Hay





DO YOU REMEMBER YOUR 60'S MUSIC? – ANSWERS

- 1** - John Lennon
- 2** - Rubber Soul
- 3** - (I can't get) No Satisfaction & Get off my cloud
- 4** - Petula Clark (Downtown)
- 5** - The Kinks
- 6** - Paul McCartney
- 7** - Love is all around (The Troggs + Wet, Wet, Wet)

- 8** - The Dave Clark Five
- 9** - The Hollies
- 10** - The Swinging Blue Jeans
- 11** - I'm a Believer
- 12** - Please Don't Tease
- 13** - Apache
- 14** - The Batchelors
- 15** - Yesterday with over 3000 covers

LET'S GO - To SEFTON PARK

The daffodil walk had to be postponed from March 2019 due to the pandemic, so how refreshing it was to walk round Sefton park albeit without the daffodils.

Twenty members enjoyed magnificent sunshine visiting the palm house and the fairy glen before decanting to Elif on Lark Lane for a late lunch.

How lovely to be all together again

I was gutted not to be able to lead it but I was in isolation. Thank you to Shirley who stepped into the breach.
Brenda

