



Newsletter 16-04-2021



The latest material in space exploration appears to be something a little different. Many things, including tin foil, were developed as a result of the space race, but now it looks as if different skills may be needed in future. Click [HERE](#) to read the article.

If you have been watching 'Great British Menu' you may have seen a brief clip about an underground farm in London. Sounds counter-intuitive doesn't it, or like something out of a post-apocalyptic novel. Click [HERE](#) to read about the reality.



It's up to you whether you try this trick out on your grandchildren or just show them so they can earn their own pocket money. Click [HERE](#) to watch the video.



Something for the weekend? How about a full showing of 'Legally Blonde The Musical'? Click [HERE](#) to watch it.



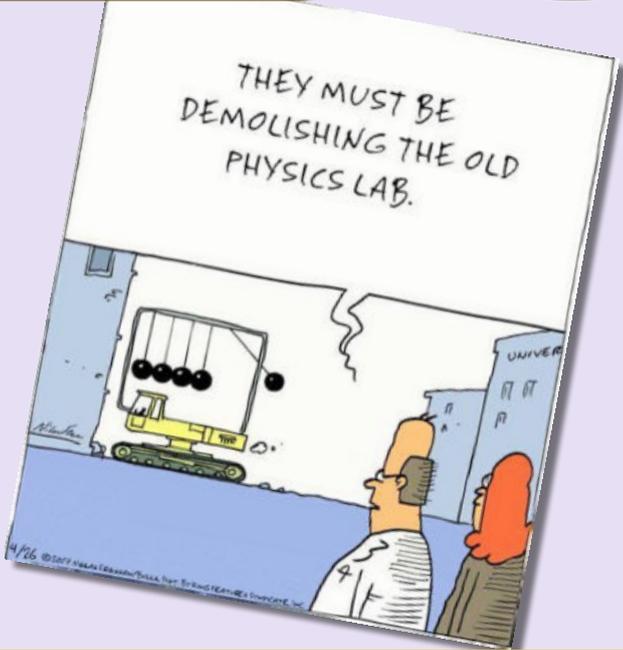
The NASA mission to Mars is still in full swing, although the news hasn't exactly been full of it. Click [HERE](#) to read the NASA pages about this mission.



Anybody remember 'That Mitchell and Webb Look'? Click [HERE](#) to re-familiarise yourself with their comedy style in 'Evil Genius'.



Some of us will have branches of our family who emigrated to America and passed through Ellis Island, but Angel Island Immigration Station in California may be less familiar. Click [HERE](#) to view a guided virtual tour of the facility.



third age matters

My first 'Third Age Matters' magazine arrived today and there are lots of interesting things in it, here are just a couple:

- The u3a are in the process of negotiating discounts at some major stores, including Sainsburys, M&S and Argos.
- On May 10 and June 21 there will be Zoom cooking demos. Click [HERE](#) to go to the U3A online events page, where you will find lots of things including the demos.

I know it's cruel to laugh at other people having mishaps, but here is a little something to watch if you are having a bad day. Click [HERE](#) to see the video.





U3A CYCLING GROUP GETS OFF THE MARK

A beautiful sunny day on Wednesday saw the opening meeting of the u3a Cycling Group.

Led by our three leaders, Dave, Derek and Alan, we set off on a nice easy 9 mile run around Southport.

After all, most of us had not been on our bikes since last summer, so it is safe to say we were a bit rusty and welcomed the relatively short run to get us started. 17 of us were divided into three groups to obey the rule of six. Dave even insisted that we set off at 30 minute intervals to make sure we did not catch up with another group!

We set off from Southport Pier and cycled up the coast road on the cycle track as far as Crossens. Then it was down through Crossens and



Churchtown as far as the Botanic Gardens where we were able to stop for a coffee and sit outside in the sunshine surrounded by the beautiful Botanic Gardens display. From the Botanic gardens we cycled round past Hesketh Park and along Marine Parade and back to the pier.

It was a very pleasant start to our season and we look forward to meeting up again every fortnight through to October. I am sure Dave and Derek will have a few more testing routes up their sleeves as the summer wears on!!





RED SQUIRREL WALK

Now that we can get out and about with our Grandchildren, here is a really nice, simple, stress free walk which you can do with them. If you click on this link [HERE](#) it will take you to the National Trust site with the Red Squirrel walk, complete with a map and detailed descriptions of the walk as you go round. Enjoy!!



TACKLE THE SEFTON COASTAL PATH

Billed as a three day coastal walk, this well signposted walk takes you all the way from the RSPB at Marshside down past Southport Pier, through Ainsdale, Formby and down the coast past Hightown and Anthony Gormley's "Iron Men" - and finishes at the Crosby Marine Park where you can now enjoy the excellent cafe overlooking the sailing lake. Of course we residents can do any parts of this at different times as we wish. It is also good as a route to cycle, as the u3a Cycling Group have done a few times. Click [HERE](#) to get details of the route

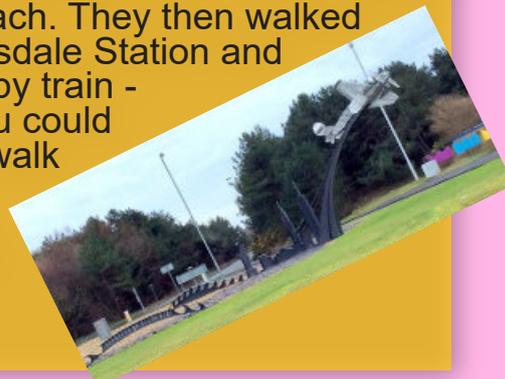


TAKE THE KIDS ON THE SWAN CYCLE ROUTE

This is a very easy 7 mile roundabout trip starting at The Eco Centre and taking a circular route that runs along Lord Street, then down to Hesketh Park and lastly up Marine Drive past the Marine Lake and back to The Eco Centre. Suitable for all ages. Click [HERE](#) for details

SOUTHPORT TO AINSDALE SANDS

Read [HERE](#) for an account by a lady and her husband walking the 6 miles or so from The Eco Centre through to Ainsdale Beach, but walking all the way through the Ainsdale Sands rather than the beach. They then walked down to Ainsdale Station and came back by train - however you could double the walk and come back along the beach if you feel energetic!!



Looking to get active again and lose some of those Lockdown Pounds??

Why not join one of the many u3a Walking Groups and get fit and active - and make new friends at the same time!! Go to the [Southport u3a website](#) & click on 'Walking Groups'

Friday 16th April 2021

Everton v Tottenham Hotspur
20:00 Sky Sports

Saturday 17th April 2021

Newcastle United v West Ham United
12:30 Sky Sports

Wolves v Sheffield United

20:15 Sky Sports

Sunday 18th April 2021

Arsenal v Fulham
13:30 Sky Sports

Man Utd v Burnley

16:00 Sky Sports

Monday 19th April 2021

Leeds United v Liverpool
20:00 Sky Sports

Tuesday 20th April 2021

Chelsea v Brighton & Hove Albion
20:00 Sky Sports

Wednesday 21st April 2021

Tottenham Hotspur v Southampton
18:00 Sky Sports
Aston Villa v Man City
20:15 Sky Sports

Thursday 22nd April 2021

Leicester City v West Brom
20:00 BT Sport

Friday 23rd April 2021

Arsenal v Everton
20:00 Sky Sports

After a brilliant first race of the 2021 season F1 heads to Monza this weekend, for the Italian GP. For the first time in a good number of years, Mercedes have some real competition, so don't miss it.



The Bird watching group resumed 3 weeks ago Our first two trips were to the back of the tip and Cheshire Lines path. We had to go on two separate days, so as not to breach covid regulations, but we saw numerous birds.



Yesterday however we went to Martin Mere, splitting up as we went round. Despite the hides not being open it was a lovely day and we saw many birds including several marsh harriers.

I do think the group should be renamed 'The Twitterers' as sometimes I think there is more talking than bird watching, but it is nice to get back out again, see fresh faces and catch up on all the gossip.





WHERE AM I STANDING ??

- 1** I'm on a famous castle rampart where mass bands play, looking down on a mile long Royal street. Way down below is another famous Royal street
- 2** I'm on a high glass floor and below me I can see a dockyard which has hosted navel ships for hundreds of years. Leaving below me are red funnelled car ferries.
- 3** I am surrounded by academic buildings and as I move along the river, I pass under a bridge built as a tribute to a famous Venetian bridge
- 4** I am standing under a huge Victorian arch watching trains depart for London, Manchester and Glasgow
- 5** I am surrounded by golden sands, looking out to wind farms and a gas rig. Over to my right stands a famous tower.
- 6** I am standing over a famous river with a medieval gaol on my right and a WWII battleship on my left, with the country's tallest building ahead of me.
- 7** I am standing on the site of former Victorian docks, but now surrounded by TV studios and a modern museum. Behind me I hear the roar of football fans.
- 8** I am standing on a wall built by an ancient civilisation in the false belief that it could contain a Northern enemy

Jim Hay



ZOOM TALKS AT HOME

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<p>Thur 22nd April at 2pm <i>Wrecks of the Coast</i> Southport</p>	<p>Thur 6th May at 2pm <i>Rivington Terraced</i> <i>Gardens</i></p>	<p>Thur 20th May at 2pm <i>Apitourism - travelling</i> <i>for bees</i></p>	<p>Thur 3 June at 2pm <i>John Dempsey, on the</i> <i>Sefton Coast</i></p>
<p>Thur 17th June at 10.30 <i>Telling time over the</i> <i>Centuries</i></p>	<p>Thur 1st July at 10.30 <i>The Seven Ancient &</i> <i>Modern Wonders of the</i> <i>World</i></p>	<p>Thur 15th July at 10.30 <i>Life of Sir Henry</i> <i>Segrave & the Land</i> <i>Speed Record attempt</i> <i>on Ainsdale Beach</i></p>	<p>Next meeting TBC</p>



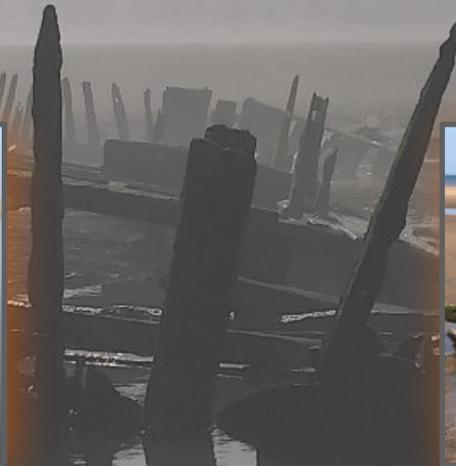
NEXT ZOOM TALK AT HOME

learn,
laugh,
live

Wrecks off the Southport Coast

by Martyn Griffiths

Thur 22nd April at 2pm



The shallow seas of Liverpool Bay conceal a maze of sandbanks and channels, which in the days before satellite and GPS claimed many vessels as they plied the historic shipping lanes.

There have been many wrecks whose final resting place are the sands around Southport's beaches and local Historian Martyn Griffiths tells the story of just a few of these, illustrated with images & maps.

Invitation and Zoom link will be sent out to all group members who have registered for this talk in due course. Anyone else interested in registering should do so through the Beacon "Groups Page", go to the bottom of the page and click on Join Group. If you have any problems, please contact Beacon admin with your membership number at peteru3abeaconadmin@btinternet.com

