



The Christmas edition of the newsletter is being prepared and will be sent out on Friday 18th December.

If you have any festive contributions you would like included, please send them to me by Friday 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be no newsletter on 25<sup>th</sup> December or 1<sup>st</sup> January, so I am hoping to make the 18<sup>th</sup> a bumper edition.

This year, as will not be able to hold our normal December meeting, the hamper draw will be performed by random number. The eight lucky winners will be contacted in the middle of December, to arrange delivery of their hamper.



**Good luck everybody!**



## Photography Group 2.



This group was formed following a meeting at Bistro Pierre on 11th March 2020. then LOCKDOWN! The leaders debated whether it would be possible to start a group without meeting face to face and decided it was worth giving it a go... thank goodness for Zoom. An email was sent out to 27 people who had expressed an interest in joining the group and we had a good response We now have a core group of 15 regulars at our meetings.

We have four leaders Ilush Bricknell who organises Zoom and PIWIGO, Chris Belcher is on Themes and Skills, Jacky Carter gets the Outside Speakers and Shirley Hale is Responsible for Communication to members.

Chris has drawn up a program entitled 'Towards better photography' with various themes. Form and Structure includes Textures, Harmony and Discord. Light: Reflections, Shadows, Around the Home plus many more. This is great for the beginners amongst us to have the programme broken down into easy sections.

Jacky arranged for Steve Birchall to give us a talk on taking photographs on a mobile phone and Trevor Davenport spoke to us about 'Natural Treasures of the Sefton Coast' the photos for both talks were very interesting and amazing.

We meet twice a month. One of the meetings we either have a talk by Chris or an outside speaker and at the other we review two photographs submitted for the current project by each member. As we have members at different levels of experience, we bounce ideas around on whether the photos could be improved. We have all agreed that we have now have a better understanding of what we are doing and can see a big improvement as the months go by. So much so, that a couple of us have invested in new cameras.

I suppose you could say that we are not only looking, but looking and seeing now. Watch out Rankin you may have competition next year.

**Shirley Hale**

Francine and Sylvia have come up with a novel idea for our newsletters. When we meet up, either in person or online, there are always discussions which get cut short. Let's see if we can finish off those discussions in these pages. If the unfinished bits don't make sense on their own that could be part of the fun!



OH THE VIRUS OUTSIDE  
IS FRIGHTFUL  
BUT THIS **WINE**  
IS SO DELIGHTFUL  
AND SINCE WE'VE NO PLACE TO GO  
LET IT FLOW  
**LET IT FLOW**  
**LET IT FLOW**



**Where Are These Trams Running?**



1



2



3



4



5



6



**Watch 42nd Street this weekend!**



This popular stage show is streaming on YouTube for 48 hours from tonight (4<sup>th</sup>). Click [HERE](#) to go to the YouTube page.

**Premier League Football**

**Saturday 5th December 2020**

Burnley v Everton  
12:30 BT Sport

Man City v Fulham  
15:00 BT Sport

West Ham v Man Utd  
17:30 Sky Sports

Chelsea v Leeds United  
20:00 Sky Sports

**Sunday 6th December 2020**

West Brom v Crystal Palace  
12:00 Sky Sports

Sheff Utd v Leicester City  
14:15 Sky Sports

Tottenham Hotspur v Arsenal  
16:30 Sky Sports

Liverpool v Wolves  
19:15 Amazon Prime Video

**Monday 7th December 2020**

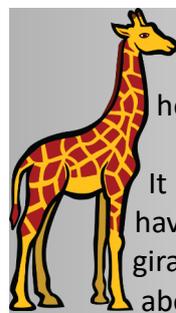
Brighton & Hove Albion v Southampton  
20:00 Sky Sports





If you're looking for a low maintenance bee-friendly super shrub, heathers are one of the simplest and most effective additions to a bee-friendly garden, and you can probably have a different variety in flower throughout each season.

Native Ericas or varieties that are derived from them, tend to be the ones that flower earliest in the year and that do well in most soil types, rather than the acid-loving Calluna varieties. These mat-forming shrubs do well in all manner of places from ground cover to containers. They tend to prefer sunny locations, though most will cope with some shade. The winter-flowering varieties can be a vital resource for thirsty queens and their first cohort of workers in spring. Varieties to try: those based on Erica carnea or the hybrid Erica x *Francine Sagar*



We have all heard of white elephants, but how about white giraffes?

learn, laugh, live

It isn't a surprise if you haven't, there is only one known white giraffe in the world. Click [HERE](#) to read about the efforts to protect it from poachers.



### Tram Quiz Answers

1. BLACKPOOL
2. LISBON
3. CROYDON
4. EDINBURGH
5. HONG KONG
6. SOUTHPORT

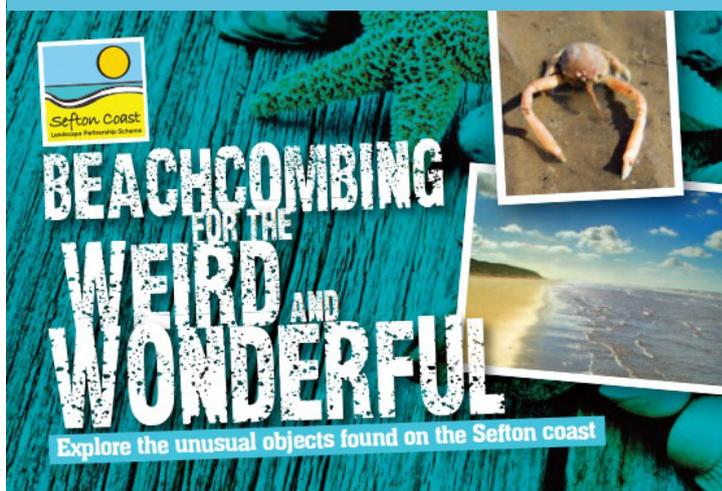
**You come from dust, you will return to dust.**  
**That's why I don't dust.**  
**It could be someone I know.**

Click [Here](#) to see what can happen when fireworks go wrong!

### Beachcombing Guide

If you'd like more information about the odder finds on the coast, or the commoner seashells, Green Sefton can send you a PDF copy of "Beachcombing for the Weird and Wonderful" a booklet produced some years ago, but which may still be helpful today.

If you would like a copy, please email [John Dempsey](mailto:John.Dempsey@sefton.gov.uk)



### amazon smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Many of us use Amazon for online shopping, even more so during the recent restrictions, but did you know that you can automatically donate a percentage of your purchase value to a charity of your choice?

It is very easy to set up, simply visit [Amazon Smile](#) and log in as normal. Then, from the menu, select 'Your Amazon Smile'. In the nominated charity section, specify 'Southport U3A', or our charity number of '1164448'.

If you use the Amazon shopping app you will find the AmazonSmile section under the app's 'Settings' page.

It is only a small percentage, but every penny helps!

## Aah, the Golden Years!

SPECIAL POEM FOR OLDER FOLKS

A row of bottles on my shelf  
 Caused me to analyse myself.  
 One yellow pill I have to pop  
 Goes to my heart so it won't stop.  
 A little white one that I take  
 Goes to my hands so they won't shake.  
 The blue ones that I use a lot  
 Tell me I'm happy when I'm not.  
 The purple pill goes to my brain  
 And tells me that I have no pain.  
 The capsules tell me not to wheeze  
 Or cough or choke or even sneeze..  
 The red ones, smallest of them all  
 Go to my blood so I won't fall.  
 The orange ones, very big and bright  
 Prevent my leg cramps in the night.  
 Such an array of brilliant pills  
 Helping to cure all kinds of ills.  
 But what I'd really like to know.....  
 Is what tells each one where to go!

*(Sent in by Col Chop)*



## I saw a Girl

I saw a girl in shoes that women wear,  
 a boy whose eyes said he was not there,  
 old men sitting next to an empty chair,  
 old women treading steps that go nowhere.

I know of people with no friends to share  
 the pains and travails of a recurring  
 nightmare.

They look around but there's no one there  
 to bid them good day and ask how they fare.

I see children smiling thinly hiding despair  
 when they see fun and laughter everywhere  
 sitting quietly with a torn dirty teddy bear  
 not understanding as yet why life is so unfair.

I watch young people wandering aimlessly.  
 Hooded furtive, defensive ,tattooed  
 aggressively  
 on street corners whispering conspiratorially  
 lost in their quest for a meaningful identity.

Life can be grim and hard for people  
 everywhere.

We should not indulged ourselves that we are  
 rare  
 and exclusively endowed with more than our  
 share  
 of misfortune grief, worry and moments of  
 despair.

Be thankful for the joys we have each day we  
 wake,  
 each child we see, each friend we greet, each  
 time we make  
 a smile lighten a saddened face. Just reflect  
 and contemplate  
 that dignity fortitude and compassion are  
 common place.

**Joe Forshaw**