

## New Members Coffee Morning 2021

The 'New Members Coffee Morning', held in August, was well attended by group leaders and new members alike. There was plenty of activity around the group desks and we even signed up some 'new' new members on the day.

It's good to see our meetings opening up and people looking forward to becoming active again, after the long lockdown.



The German group is taking shape and there are now two separate groups.

**Improvers** is a conversation group for basic level German. It is not suitable for absolute beginners but is available for those who have done some German. The group will initially be using Talk German 2 book and cd's and will be concentrating on spoken German from day one.

**Intermediates** is a mixed ability conversation group starting at rusty A level to advanced but the medium is intermediate. The group will choose its own topics each session for discussion and will be interactive

If you are interested in joining either of these groups, click [HERE](#) to contact Gwynn Owen, the group leader.

The Gardening Group leaders are stepping down and we therefore need some green fingered individuals to step forward to keep the group going. Being a Group Leader is not a difficult task and is a fundamental part of the u3a ethos. If you would like to throw your name in the hat, please email our [Group Activities Co-Ordinator](#).



### *How to perform the act of banishing:*

1. Locate the item you wish to permanently banish.
2. Be sure you really want the item to be gone forever.
3. Think "I really don't want to lose this, so I'll put it somewhere sensible."
4. Put it somewhere sensible.
5. It is done. This item will be gone from your life forever.

Some of the following announcements relate to group activities which need to be booked at the October monthly meeting, on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

**Additional leaders or Guru's are needed for the "Smart Phone Training".**

**To put yourself forward, email [Sylvia Miley](mailto:Sylvia.Miley@u3a.org.uk)**

**Appreciation of the Classics is currently suspended in the absence of somebody to lead the group.**

**If you are interested in being a leader for this group please email the [Group Activities Co-Ordinator](#), or contact him at the meeting.**

**Ukulele 3 are looking for a bass guitar player to accompany them during their rehearsals. They meet on Mondays between 1pm and 3pm. If you can help, please visit their [group page](#) to contact the group leader.**

**The Whist group is full and operating a waiting list. If you fancy a game, why not start a second group?**

**If you are interested in being a leader for this group please email the [Group Activities Co-Ordinator](#), or contact him at the meeting.**

**Jazz evenings are being planned. If you want to attend one get in touch with Geoff Matthews at the meeting.**

**OYZC have had to cancel the planned trip to the Southport Escape Room.**

**The information in our Autumn magazine, for Badminton 2, was incorrect. They actually play on Thursdays, between 2pm and 4pm.**

**The Family History group now meet every Thursday in the Atkinson Library at 10.00 until 12.00, where they have five computer terminals allocated for their sole use. There is no cost involved. Contact Colin Weir on 01704 875653**

**OYZC have three painting workshops provisionally arranged. Anybody interested should contact Brian Mitchell at the monthly meeting, to let him know their preference for events and days.**

**The workshops currently set are as follows:**

- Mixed media
- Acrylic
- Pastel

**Although these are all Fridays there is a possibility to switch to a Thursday if that suits everybody better.**

## Do you speak Italian?

**An Italian conversation group is being planned. This will be a mixed ability group in Italian only. We will meet fortnightly to start with, at group leader's home or by agreement at other members' homes**

**It is not suitable for absolute beginners. However if you are a beginner it is worth contacting the group leader, who may help organise a basic level group later in the year if there is enough interest**

**The group will have a group leader but will choose its own topics each session for discussion - it will be interactive and informal**

**There is no formal tuition but for language support the skill range in the group includes advanced.**

**Each participant will be able to contribute equally regardless of ability. If you are not sure of your level you are encouraged to get in contact as the group is about fun and social contact as well as learning**

**The day and time will depend on availability of those interested.**

**If you are interested, email [Gwynn Owen](mailto:Gwynn.Owen@u3a.org.uk) or speak to him at the next meeting.**



Hoorah, fifteen months after our last meeting, two lockdowns & a pretty forgettable Christmas, we are finally back together again. We had an excellent turnout, 350 members, the babble of greetings & conversation raised the roof. I'm sure we were all truly glad to be back together again.

We were all delighted to receive a copy of our excellent, issue No 1 Southport u3a Magazine, packed full of information, splendid illustrations, cartoons, quizzes and so much more, well done Ian and Jim.

Our new Chair, the lovely Paddy McNeish, gave us a cracking good welcome (when she could finally get us to stop chattering). We had a few moments of quiet reflection for the pandemic and all those who had suffered, followed by a very thorough walk through of Health & Safety which even drew



our attention to the wrapped biscuits and advice that in the event of a fire alarm if we used the correct exit we could enjoy a jolly good view of the fire engines & crew from the nice church gardens on Lord Street.



Then thanks and farewell to the exiting Chair, Neil McMillan and all the many people that helped to make our Southport u3a group the success that it clearly is.

**The Speaker** was our own Jamie Gaskin, who had generously stepped in at the last minute as the original Speaker was unwell.



Jamie gave us a fascinating, amusing and enlightening talk on his time as a Civil Servant working for the Ministry of Defence as a Military Press Officer. His career had started as a young journalist with the Daily Star, including a pic of him in the 60s as a cool young guy leaning on the door of his Company Mini!!



His time as Press Officer with the MoD had led him to meet many celebrities including Prince Charles, Princess Alexandra & apparently a very scary Kate Adie! He'd been in Bosnia and Iraq, been under attack, slept in the desert, cooked food in a bag in the hot sand and showered under a bucket. He'd helped distribute vital vaccines to indigent tribes, led camera teams through war zones and even done an impromptu report on the conflict for Sky TV, so consequently a celebrity himself.

Still with the MoD in 2001, he'd reported on the terrible outbreak of Foot & Mouth disease that had struck the UK & especially Cumbria, which went on to take such a terrible toll of UK livestock. It was a thought provoking and thoroughly enjoyable talk, but also a stark reminder that the world had seen some pretty dreadful times prior to Covid.



The meeting wound up with news and updates from some of the various groups, and an invitation to Zumba, endorsed by Paddy. Can't wait until the next one !



## WALKING GROUP 1 VENTURES OUT IN THE SUN

Early September - and the hottest day since early July - saw Walking Group 1 take to the streets of Southport. Meeting at Hays Travel in Chapel Street, we were ably led by Ilush (Mary was playing hooky in IOM!) and 17 of us meandered our way down to the Prom and around the lake until we got to Pleasureland.

At this point there was a potential mutiny about carrying on in the heat. Some of us (led by Fun, Fun, Fun, Brenda) were in favour of going into Pleasureland and enjoying the rides, even without our Grandchildren as an excuse!!

However, sense prevailed, and we decided to carry on with Ilush's walk. This took us along the shore to the Birkdale roundabout whereupon we then headed inland. Ilush took us through the very nice back streets of Birkdale to the Station. We were supposed to eat at Bar N'ista but it was so busy with residents enjoying the late summer sunshine that we broke up and found lunch in a variety of cafes in Birkdale. A lovely sunny walk to finish off the summer



## MEET & EAT GOES GREEK

Forty Meet & Eat regulars had a Greek night at the Crete Greek Taverna in Gordon Street for their September event. They were showered with a procession of favourite Greek dishes like Tzatziki, Pantzaria, Loukanika, Kalimari, Souvlaki and many more. Our host Robin Brayshaw presented us with a quiz on Ancient Greek mythology which most of us failed miserably. A great night with great company.





# THINK NOT WHAT THE U3A CAN DO FOR YOU BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR THE U3A!!



Now that we are coming out of lockdown, you have a chance to help your u3a recruit new members.

We now have a series of five A4 printed posters which we want to distribute in as many places as possible around the town. This could be your local newsagent, your hairdresser, your community notice board, your grandchildren's school, your local supermarket or convenience store, your fitness studio, your local church, the back window of your car. Or anywhere you think people who would be interested in joining will see them.

To get your supply of these please email Paddy McNeish on [paddyclinch@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paddyclinch@yahoo.co.uk)

**learn, laugh, live**

**BEAT THE COVID BLUES!!**

Southport U3A is open to all over 50's who are not in full time occupation.

Even through the lockdown many groups have been meeting by Zoom.

After lockdown nearly 100 groups will be open for you to join

**WANT MORE INFORMATION?**  
[www.u3asites.org.uk/southport](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/southport)  
[membership@SouthportU3A.org.uk](mailto:membership@SouthportU3A.org.uk)

CHARITY REG 1164448

**u3a Southport**

**OVER 100 GROUPS IN OVER 60 CATEGORIES** including

Banjolele, Bridge, Belly Dancing, Coffee Morning, Bird Watching, Choir, Book Clubs, Coach Trips, Jewellery Making, Local History, Pilates, Tai Chi, Theatre Trips, Whist, Sailing, Wine Appreciation, Badminton, Guitar, Table Tennis, Russian, Gardening, French, Singalong, Racquetball, Photography, French, Egyptology, Cycling, Bowling, Jazz, Drama, Ukelele

Recently retired - Or not in full time employment? Looking for the next chapter in your life.

**Then join Southport u3a**

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[membership@SouthportU3A.org.uk](mailto:membership@SouthportU3A.org.uk)

One of five u3a Walking Groups

**learn, laugh, live**

CHARITY REG 1164448

**u3a Southport**

No longer working full-time or raising a family? Now's the time to make the most of life.

Southport u3a gives you the chance to develop your interests, make new friends and enjoy yourself

With over 100 Groups to choose from in a whole variety of subjects, like:

- Banjolele • Bridge • Choir
- Coffee Morning • Bird Watching
- Book Clubs • Coach Trips • Local History • Pilates • Tai Chi • Theatre Trips • Sailing • Wine Appreciation
- Badminton • Guitar • Table Tennis
- Gardening • French • Singalong
- Photography etc -

You can enjoy your passions and make many new friends

**Blow those Covid blues away**

**WANT MORE INFORMATION?**  
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[membership@SouthportU3A.org.uk](mailto:membership@SouthportU3A.org.uk)

**learn, laugh, live**

CHARITY REG 1164448

**u3a Southport**

No longer working full-time or raising a family? Now's the time to make the most of life.

Southport u3a gives you the chance to develop your interests, make new friends and enjoy yourself

**share your talents**

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CHARITY REG 1164448

**u3a Southport** learn, laugh, live

**let your hair down**

No longer in full time employment

Looking for the next chapter in your life and to expand your horizons

**Then join Southport u3a**

Over 100 separate interest groups

**WANT MORE INFORMATION?**  
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CHARITY REG 1164448



# HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE ROYALS??



- 1 - **Before Princess Diana married Prince Charles, what was her job?**  
A - Personal Tutor B - Nursery School Assistant C - Ballet Instructor
- 2 - **Queen Elizabeth II overtook this sovereign as longest-reigning British monarch in 2015.**  
A - Queen Elizabeth I B - George III C - Queen Victoria
- 3 - **How many wives did Henry VIII have beheaded?**  
A - Five B - Three C - Two
- 4 - **Which of the following animals does the sitting British monarch NOT technically own?**  
A - All the Dolphins in the UK B - All the swans on the river Thames C - All the stray cats in London
- 5 - **Which royal family member was suspected of being Jack the Ripper?**  
A - Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany B - Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence and Avondale C - Edward VII
- 6 - **Who was the first member of the British royal family ever interviewed on television?**  
A - Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh B - Princess Margaret C - Edward VIII (Duke of Windsor)
- 7 - **Pablo Picasso wanted to marry this member of the royal family.**  
A - Princess Margaret B - Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother C - Princess Alexandra, the Honourable Lady Ogilvy
- 8 - **Queen Elizabeth II has two birthdays. The first, her real day of birth, is April 21. When is the other celebrated?**  
A - September B - December C - June
- 9 - **Which of the following is NOT part of Prince William's birth name?**  
A - Arthur B - George C - Philip
- 10 - **Which subject did Kate Middleton study at the University of St. Andrews?**  
A - Comparative Literature B - Geography C - Art History
- 11 - **What was Queen Victoria's biological relationship to her husband, Prince Albert?**  
A - First Cousins B - Second Cousins C - Half-Siblings
- 12 - **Queen Elizabeth II (then Princess Elizabeth) served in World War II as what?**  
A - A Truck Driver B - A nurse C - A supplies Co-ordinator



## Saturday 25th September 2021

12:30 Chelsea v Man City  
BT Sport

17:30 Brentford v Liverpool  
Sky Sports

## Sunday 26th September 2021

14:00 Southampton v Wolves  
Sky Sports

16:30 Arsenal v Tottenham Hotspur  
Sky Sports

## Monday 27th September 2021

20:00 Crystal Palace v Brighton & Hove Albion  
Sky Sports Main

## Saturday 2nd October 2021

12:30 Man Utd v Everton  
BT Sport

17:30 Brighton & Hove Albion v Arsenal  
Sky Sports

## Sunday 3rd October 2021

14:00 Crystal Palace v Leicester City  
Sky Sports

16:30 Liverpool v Man City  
Sky Sports

## Saturday 16th October 2021

12:30 Watford v Liverpool  
BT Sport

17:30 Brentford v Chelsea  
Sky Sports

## Sunday 17th October 2021

14:00 Everton v West Ham United  
Sky Sports

16:30 Newcastle United v Tottenham Hotspur  
Sky Sports

## Monday 18th October 2021

20:00 Arsenal v Crystal Palace  
Sky Sports

## Friday 22nd October 2021

20:00 Arsenal v Aston Villa  
Sky Sports

## Saturday 23rd October 2021

12:30 Chelsea v Norwich City  
BT Sport

17:30 Brighton & Hove Albion v Man City  
Sky Sports

## Sunday 24th October 2021

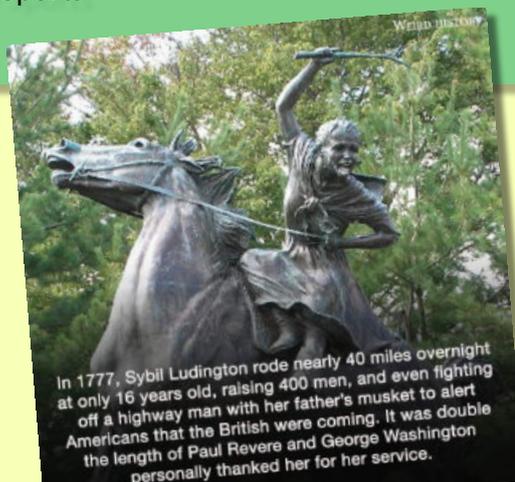
14:00 West Ham United v Tottenham Hotspur  
Sky Sports

16:30 Man Utd v Liverpool  
Sky Sports

## Saturday 30th October 2021

12:30 Leicester City v Arsenal  
BT Sport

17:30 Tottenham Hotspur v Man Utd  
Sky Sports



- 1 - **A** - Nursery School Assistant
- 2 - **B** - Queen Victoria
- 3 - **C** - Two
- 4 - **C** - All the stray cats in London
- 5 - **B** - Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence and Avondale
- 6 - **A** - Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh
- 7 - **B** - Princess Margaret
- 8 - **C** - June
- 9 - **C** - George
- 10 - **B** - Art History
- 11 - **B** - First Cousins
- 12 - **B** - A Truck Driver

Take a look [here](#), at 53 before and after photographs of locations around the world. Some well known, others not so much.



As autumn approaches it's time to start thinking about soup recipes. Click [HERE](#) to see a National Trust recipe for people who like green things.



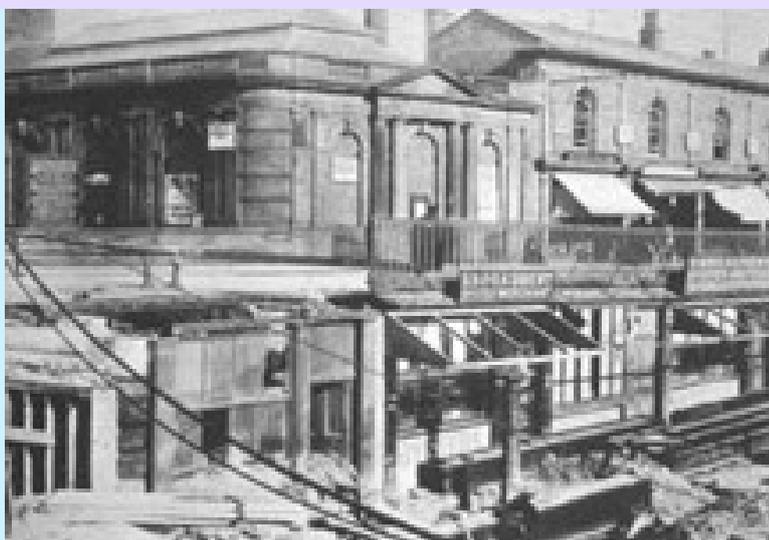
Did you know that Captain Pugwash was brought to life in Southport? A little studio in Churchtown to be exact.

To celebrate this astounding fact, the Atkinson are holding a Pugwash exhibition until 28<sup>th</sup> December. Click [HERE](#) for details.

## The Lost Street of Southport

Who knows about the mystery of Nevill Street, raised in the 1900s to cover a bustling 19th Century highway with rumours that its shops fronts and cobbles are still preserved below ground? Here's a picture of how it was of the old Victoria Baths on the corner of Nevill Street and the Promenade. [Follow the link](#) to read a fascinating article by Dan Longman about this enigma.

*Diane Fitton*





## The Station Masters House Birkdale

The Station Masters House, also known as The Birkdale Community Hub and Library celebrated an Open Day on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Tucked away next to Birkdale Station you might miss it if you didn't know it was there. The Hub was set to open in 2020 but Covid and Lockdowns got in the way & it

had to be deferred until now. Decked with bunting, delicious free cakes and melodious accompaniment from Pete Rimmer and Chris Nelson, the Hub can finally open its doors to all.



It was the brainchild of the BLAG (Birkdale Library Action Group) formed back in 2012, when devastated at the callous closure of the local libraries they joined with groups in Ainsdale & Churchtown to form a new library for the community. After an abortive attempt to buy back the library building, they looked for other suitable premises. Then the old & practically derelict Station Masters House was suggested. The long struggle to acquire the premises, bureaucratic paperwork, eye watering amount of money & colossal amount of sheer hard work to make it suitable for community use is comprehensively documented by Sylvia Thompson, Trustee of the Charity, and makes fascinating reading.

The Hub is amazing, inside it's modern light and airy with every facility you could possibly need. Downstairs there's a huge, free to join, lending library (3000 titles & growing), a creche for children with lots of toys and adorable furniture donated by The Monkey Puzzle Nursery, a small well-appointed



kitchen, massive toilet and changing facilities and a lift to the first floor. There's even a delightful garden area outside with benches & tables, apparently a real sun trap on a sunny day. Upstairs are two beautifully appointed meeting rooms, both with huge wide screen TVs, available for hire at very reasonable rates, (the large one can seat up to 25 people, sounds ideal for u3a use maybe?!!) and a computer room with six PCs, each has full



Microsoft Office suite and browser software, speedy internet connection and printing facilities. Each computer can be booked free for hourly sessions. The plan is to run training sessions for all levels of computer operation and Smart phones. Best of all there's lots of friendly helpful volunteers to help and advise. I should also mention that there's full wheelchair access throughout and free parking in the Station Car Park.

The charity is entirely self-supporting and relies on volunteers to run it. At present the opening times are Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00am – 8:00pm and Saturday 10:00am – 1:00pm. Additional opening times will be added as conditions and volunteer availability allows. For all information about The Hub and the numerous planned activities just call in or visit [www.thestationmastershouse.co.uk](http://www.thestationmastershouse.co.uk)

Phil Margham is the Chair of the Trustees and Ian Anderson is the Co-manager pictured here in the outside garden area. This really is an amazing place to visit, even if it's just to borrow a book, consult Google (there's an extra PC downstairs in the library you can just pop in to use anytime) or to see what's going on in the community, the staff (or rather the volunteers) are all absolutely lovely and best of all – its FREE! - **Article by Diane Fitton**



There have been plenty of documentaries over the years, about the building of the Great Pyramid in Egypt. Well, here is another (short) one which describes a theory about how the exterior was accomplished.

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



Short but sweet. Click [HERE](#) for an iconic moment from Fawlty Towers.

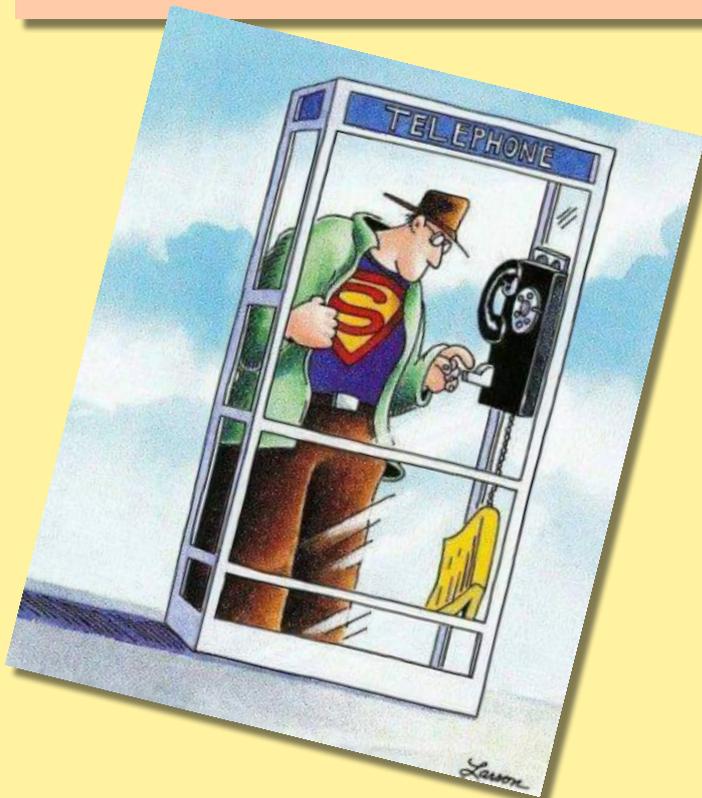


Time for a bit of culture. Click [HERE](#) to watch the Brandenburg Philharmonic playing 'The Typewriter'

I'm not sure when this was composed, but I doubt there would be a modern equivalent.



How old is your DNA? The chances are that it may not be as old as this Montana man. Click [HERE](#) to read the article.



**SOUTHPORT U3A JAZZ GROUP AT  
THE BIJOU CINEMA, POST OFFICE AVENUE, SOUTHPORT PR8 1JP**  
(Just off Lord St close to Sainsburys, all main bus routes and Southport station)

By agreement with Andy Harrison of Bijou Cinema  
The Jazz Group Christmas Special

**A late afternoon and evening of film and live jazz with a meal in between  
on MONDAY 6th DECEMBER 2021 - Doors 3.30 pm ends 10 pm - maximum 70 attendees**

**THE FILM SHOWING 4 to 6 pm  
"HIGH SOCIETY"**



A private showing for U3A Jazz of the 1950's classic based on the Broadway musical "The Philadelphia Story" featuring music by **Cole Porter** and set in Newport Rhode Island, the venue of the famous Jazz Festival with guests "The Louis Armstrong All Stars" (Louis Armstrong, Trummy Young, Edmond Hall, Billy Kyle, Arvell Shaw and Barrett Deems).

**THE MEAL 6.15 to 7.30 pm  
A 2 COURSE HOT BUFFET  
served in the Bijou lounge and  
provided by D'vine Catering.**



**Choice of 4 main courses and 4 puddings + tea/coffee.**  
[Choose when you buy your tickets - vegetarian option and special diets catered for]

*Please note there are 2 flights of stairs up to the lounge and there is a lift for anyone who may have difficulty with the stairs.*

**THE LIVE JAZZ 7.45 to 10 pm  
In the Bijou Lounge  
(one interval)  
The Liam Byrne All Stars Sextet**



**Liam Byrne - leader and reeds  
Phil Lucas - trumpet  
Andrew Mackenzie - trombone  
Tony Ormesher - guitar  
Tom Kincaid - keyboard  
Jim Swinnerton - double bass**

Scintillating swinging mainstream jazz from a top line UK band reprising the music of Louis Armstrong, the Chicago jazz era and even venturing into the realms of UK '60's Brit-Jazz of Barber, Ball, Bilk and Lyttelton,

**THE VENUE**



Under the direction of the late Michael Lockwood, the building, formerly 'The Latin Lounge' has undergone a major 2 year project to convert to a 70 seat community cinema and a comfortable upstairs entertainment lounge bar plus an excellent small ground floor bar.

**DRINKS**

Good selection of bottled craft beers, a choice of reasonably priced wines and spirits, soft drinks and tea/coffee available, all of which can be taken into the cinema where the seats are equipped with drinks holders.

[www.southportbijoucinema.co.uk](http://www.southportbijoucinema.co.uk)

**TICKETS £30 EACH (INCLUDES MEAL)**  
Pre booking essential. To reserve phone Geoff Matthews on 01704 643835.  
Post—Cheques payable 'Southport U3A' + SAE to 1A Crosby Rd, Birkdale PR8 4SU.  
Or buy tickets at the Southport U3A Jazz Desk meetings at Christchurch starting Feb 6th.