

DON'T MISS PARTY IN THE PARK

Summer's coming - and that means booking your tickets for the "Party in the Park." For many years this has been the u3a highlight of the summer. It takes place on the first Day of the Southport Flower Show (18th August at 7pm) in a large marquee lit by candelabras!! - see details in the panel below.

If you have not booked your tickets yet, make sure you go to the JAZZ table at the Monthly Meeting and book them. This is also the only event that the u3a run where you can bring family and friends who are not members. So if you want a great night out with friends - or even your family! - book tickets.

You can email on matthewsjazz@sky.com, book on Beacon and pay at the Monthly Meeting, or just go along to the desk and book on the spot.

Either way - DO IT SOON!!

TRY SAILING had a great day out on the Southport Marine Lake in June and you have the opportunity to have a go yourself on the 21st July.

It costs just £20 for the day and includes lunch and drinks.

Full instruction will be given and you will be sailing your dingy under the guidance of a qualified West Lancs instructor.

Fancy it - if so contact Chris on 07788 370257



SOUTHPORT BRANCH JAZZ GROUP PRESENTS ON

THURSDAY 18th August 2022 at Victoria Park Southport

By arrangement with Southport Flower Show

Doors 7.00 pm (not before) Music 8 to 11.00 pm with one interval when supper will be served

SOUTHPORT U3A "Summer Party in the Park"

wine, dine and dance to 'DOMINIC HALPIN & THE HONEY BEES'

Tickets £40 each (includes supper) for Southport U3A members, family and friends

Supper Menu choices

To be confirmed later

Choices of main course, a pudding and tea/coffee provided by D'Vine Catering.

Reservations for tables open on Thursday 3rd March at the U3A meeting at Christ-church.



Dominic Halpin & The Honey Bees

"Two shots of Dean Martin croon, a slice of Sinatra swing, jazzed together with a dash of good old Elvis - and there you have it!" This is the band that blew us away at the Cinnamon Club on our last visit. Dancing inevitable!

ENTER PARK via the rear entrance only. Located by the Eco Centre
PARKING FREE FROM 7 PM in the park paddock by the same entrance

TAXI PICK UP-DROP OFF at the car park

MARQUEE LOCATION at centre of park - follow paths (2 or 3 minutes v

DISABLED ACCESS DROP OFF direct to marquee (after 7 pm).

THE VENUE

THE FLOWER SHOW
CORPORATE MARQUEE

SEATING ALLOCATED
TABLES OF 10 or 12.
SMALLER PARTIES
WELCOME - SHARING
TABLES

SUPPER by

D'Vine Catering
(FLOWER SHOW
CATERERS 2022)

**PLEASE BE SURE TO
ADVISE ANY SPECIAL
DIETARY NEEDS WHEN
BOOKING**

PAY BAR

OPEN 7.00.DRINKS AND
WINES LIST AVAILABLE
IN ADVANCE.

FANCY TRYING YOUR HAND AT TAI CHI??

Tai Chi 6 is a class for total beginners and meets every Monday at Lord Street West URC from 1.30 - 2.30.

New members are very welcome. Contact Barbara through the website or on 01704 531973



THE U3A CHOIR WILL BE PERFORMING AT DOBBIES, ON BEHALF OF SOUTHPORT LIFEBOATS AT

11AM ON THE 20TH JULY. IT WOULD BE GREAT IF MEMBERS COULD GO ALONG AND GIVE THEM SOME SUPPORT

DID YOU KNOW that a new group playing **Board Games** has started up. Yes, you'll be able to play a whole variety of your favourite games including Scrabble, Monopoly, Game of the Year, Trivial Pursuit and many more.



The group will meet fortnightly at Eton Court, near Hesketh Park. There is only a moderate charge of £2 per session to cover the room.

Interested? Contact Steve Pearce through the u3a Website



As we reported last month, the **Drama Group** will twice be performing another of their very popular plays, this one

called "**22 Crumpsall Road**", an original play written by our very own member, Dave Ballinger, at St James' Church Hall, Lulworth Road on **Saturday 23rd July at 7.30pm and Sunday afternoon at 2.30pm.**

Tickets are £5 and available at the u3a meeting in July, or by contacting Angela on 07834 594290 or Peter on 07528 332097.

If you would like to learn the skills of playing **Bridge**, then **Bridge for Beginners** is the group for you. They meet on Mondays at 10.30 in Our Lady of Lourdes. If interested then contact Group Leader, Brenda through the website

If you enjoyed the singalong at Christ Church last month, then why not join the regular monthly **SINGALONG**, which meets on the last Monday of the month at The Cherish Centre opposite Hesketh Park. This is not a choir, just a bunch of members who enjoy singing a selection of popular songs together. Contact Ian through the website





FAB PHOTOS

All these photos are taken by professionals.
But do you know the city they were taken in??
(ANSWERS ON PAGE 11)



A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H



I



J



K



L



GARDENING GROUP HARD AT WORK PREPARING FOR THE SOUTHPORT FLOWER SHOW

The layout is finalised, our sponsors are gearing up to deliver all the supplies they have promised, the seeds are all planted and growing in a variety of window ledges, cold frames, greenhouses. Timed, of course, to bloom at exactly the right time for the show!! The first parts of the framework have been getting painted.



The volunteers to man the Stand and Show Garden have been selected, even the volunteer photographers have been selected. Leaflets, brochures and banners have been printed. We have heard from over 20 other u3a's that they will be visiting our Show Garden at the show.

All we need now, is for a huge number of Southport u3a members to book their tickets to come with family and friends to the Flower Show and say hello to their fellow members.

We have negotiated with the Flower Show a special discounted price for all u3a members, their families and friends.

So, when you are booking your tickets for the Show at www.southportflowershow.co.uk, make sure you enter 'u3a' into the promo code box. When you hit the 'Go' button this will change all your tickets from £28 to £18. This offer is open right up to the day of the show and gives you a full days entry.

**SAVE
£9 PER
PERSON**

SOUTHPORT FLOWER SHOW
SUMMER FESTIVAL

18TH - 21ST AUGUST 2022

KIDS GO
FREE*

HEADLINE SPONSOR

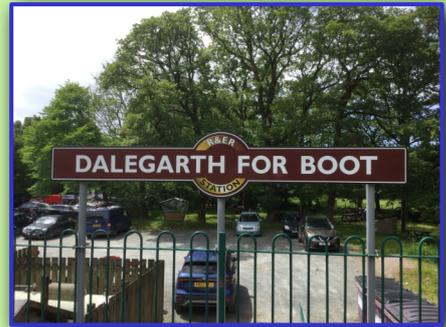
home bargains

Coach trip to Ravenglass and Munster Castle

On Saturday 11th June 2022 the coach trip group had an enjoyable visit to Ravenglass In the Lake District. On leaving the M6 north of Carnforth we had a very scenic journey along the roads and country lanes towards the coastal town of Ravenglass. On arrival we embarked on our rail journey on the Ravenglass and Eskdale steam railway. This is England's longest narrow gauge heritage Steam Railway and home to the World's oldest narrow gauge steam engine, River Irt built in 1894. This was a railway journey of seven miles with ever changing countryside and coastal scenery from the Western Lake District Coastal village of Ravenglass to England's highest mountains at the terminus station - Dalegarth. After a short stop and refreshments we made our return trip back to Ravenglass and then made a short journey to our next stop at Muncaster Castle.

Muncaster Castle is still a family home with three generations still living at the castle. This historic and reputedly haunted Castle dating from the medieval age has been home to the Pennington family for over 800 years. On arrival one of the daily flying displays was in operation - The sky hunters.

The grounds and gardens are absolutely beautiful and everything seemed to be kept in perfect condition. There were many walks in and around the grounds and a visit inside the castle was worth exploring which is reportedly to be haunted. Many of us met the current owner inside the castle - Iona Frost-Pennington who was very welcoming and interesting to talk to about the history of the castle.





Yes the boy is back after 36 years with a new version of Top Gun - and doesn't he still look young!! Who would have believed that Tom Cruise is 59 and still looking 30. This will be the big cinema filler this summer as there is only one way to watch - and that is on the big cinema screen!! And as usual our man is doing a lot of the flying and stunts himself - although they wouldn't let him fly the F-18. I can highly recommend it. But click [HERE](#) for the scene that encapsulated the original and made him a star for life.

learn,
laugh,
live

YES FOLKS - IT'S CAPTION COMPETITION TIME AGAIN!!

Here is a wonderful photo of our Chair - Paddy McNeish - in a former guise, when she worked for Aer Lingus, that famous Irish Airline.

So, all captions should be sent to editor@SouthportU3A.org.uk and will be printed next month.



JUNE GARDENING GROUP DEMONSTRATION

For the June meeting we were treated to an energetic, informative, and hilarious talk by Tony Brougham, he is an ex-service man turned gardener & helps to run SAFFA the armed forces charity. He gave us lots of useful gardening & plant advice – including if you water your



strawberries with ice cold water, they will be sweeter, who knew that! He described how SAFFA was run and all the good work they do, then we all settled down to hear about hanging baskets. Tony likes some audience participation, and he persuaded our member Karen Goddard to come up and help, together they made two beautiful hanging baskets, one was raffled off and



lucky Karen got to keep hers. I think it was the most rollicking meeting we've had so far, and he's been booked again for January, not sure what he's going to talk about yet but who cares - you can guarantee it will be very entertaining!

The first meeting of the new PICKLEBALL Group met at the Dunes this week. 15



members turned up and enjoyed getting to grips with a brand new racquet sport. If you are interested in trying out this brand new fun sport, please contact Roger,

Group Leader, through the website.



Last month 11 Southport u3a members set off on a trip to The Gower Peninsula for a four day walking holiday managed by Involved Holidays. This was the brainchild of Jacky Carter and she had also arranged for walks led by other u3a walking groups along the way.

They car shared and stayed overnight at The George Hotel (Wetherspoons) in Bewdley where the following day they were joined by Wyre Forest U3A who led them on a 6 mile walk

The following day they met Brecon U3A for a 5 mile walk along the river and canal, with magnificent views of the surrounding hills.

Next, they travelled and stayed 3 nights (2 full walking days) at the Mercure Hotel in Swansea.

They were transported to and from the walks in the Gower by Involved, and spent two great days walking and enjoying the wonderful views.



On a glorious sunny day in June, we had our first coach trip, 51 intrepid gardening group members set off for Ness Botanical Gardens, 64 acres on the Wirral peninsular with fantastic views across the Dee Estuary.

We split into three groups each with a very knowledgeable guide, our group must have looked fit cos we were definitely not on the wheelchair and mobility scooter track, up rock gardens, waterfalls and woodland trails we had a wonderful time, but a bit puffed when we finally got back to the café for lunch.

Then off again to Port Sunlight which was magical. A model village built by the Lever Brothers to accommodate workers in their soap factory now part of Unilever. The name is derived from Lever Brothers' most popular brand of soap, Sunlight.

Port Sunlight contains 900 Grade II listed buildings, work commenced in 1888. Beautifully laid out, each block of houses was designed by a different architect and each house is unique. In terms of architectural features, there is half-timbering, carved woodwork and masonry, ornamental plaster work, moulded and twisted chimneys and leaded glazed patterns. Some houses were built in Flemish style, with bricks imported from Belgium. It is absolutely stunning and if you haven't been you should go.

We were lucky enough to meet a lovely lady who had lived there for 60 years and remembered the village as it was when inhabited only by Lever employees and no cars.

The icing on the cake was a fabulous and very reasonably priced garden centre, so after stocking up on more plants followed by tea on the Green, it was back to the coach.

No one got lost or left thanks to Jessica & Sues' marvellous organisational skills, our first coach trip was voted a success, and we will be organising another in September when we've recovered from the Flower Show garden!



Meet and Eat invites the wider U3a to join us at our August event at:

Refreshment Rooms, Rock Ferry, at 6.15 on August 16

In summer we venture further afield and this venue is on the river facing Brunswick. It is an attractive pub with a good reputation for food and offers a "seniors menu" which is £16.50 including your tip. [over 60s menu.cdr \(refreshmentrooms.com\)](http://over60smenu.cdr(refreshmentrooms.com))

Most of us will go by Merseyrail to Rock Ferry. The pub is about 20 minutes walk.

If you would like to join us, book yourself on Beacon under **Meet and Eat Refreshment Rooms**. We would need a pre-order from you for food and please note that you are liable for the cost if you book and then fail to arrive.



LOCAL HISTORY GROUP VISIT TOAD HALL

The Local History group led by John Dempsey, an experienced Green Sefton Engagement Officer, went to view the biggest sand lizard in the World. It has been completed on the outside, of Toad Hall, a derelict former nightclub in Ainsdale.



Covering an area equivalent to the size of four tennis courts, it is believed to be the UK's biggest painting by one artist. The piece was commissioned by Sefton Council and completed by Paul Curtis who is famous for brightening up buildings across Merseyside.

The initial designs went for the obvious to put a toad on Toad Hall. However after producing a series of toady designs, none of them seemed to work. It was decided that a sand lizard with its bright colours and elongated shape would match the proportions of Toad Hall. It ticked all the boxes.

He used 330 litres of paint, 42 spray paint cans and spent 360 hours, through rain and sunshine creating the incredible scene across the exterior of the building. Paul said that there were many challenges with the building, as it was far from being a flat canvas.

The Sefton coast is one of the UK strongholds for the rare sand lizard which is now rarer than the Panda and the Tiger.

After coffee in the Ainsdale activity centre John treated us to a window into the past. He covered the historical timeline from Prehistoric footprints, links with the Vikings and into the 21st century.

He touched on sightings of prehistoric footprints, submerged forests, the Blitz beach and details of wrecks along our coast. He also outlined the aviation and motoring history. John gave us fascinating details of the creatures and natural features to be found on our coastline.





A - Red Square, Moscow

B - Taj Mahal, Agra

C - Arc de Triomphe, Paris

D - Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

E - Skyline, Singapore

F - Trevi Fountain, Rome

G - Basilica, Barcelona

H - Charles Bridge, Prague

I - CN Tower, Toronto

J - Harrods Building, London

K - Colosseum, Rome

L - Guggenheim Museum, New York

Jobs for the Garden in July

- Lift and store tulip bulbs after flowering
- Check lilies for Red Lily beetle and remove by hand, if possible, peppermint oil is supposed to repel them.
- Give wisteria its summer prune, cutting all the long side shoots back to 20cm, to promote flowering next spring
- Support tall-growing perennials, including hollyhocks and delphiniums, with a sturdy cane
- Regularly water and dead head summer bedding in pots to help them establish and continue flowering
- Cut back spring-flowering perennials, such as pulmonaria, to encourage a fresh flush of foliage
- Tie in new stems of climbing and rambling horizontally to supports, to encourage more flowers
- Pinch out the tips of fuchsias and bedding plants to encourage bushier growth
- Give container displays and hanging baskets a liquid feed every few weeks to encourage flowering
- Prune late-spring or early-summer shrubs after flowering, such as weigela and philadelphus, thinning out the older stems

Diane Fitton