

## November Speaker: The British Trad Boom and it's Unruly Children



Howie Poole gave us a fascinating history of jazz, music that started at the end of the 19th century when the slave trade was over and African musicians were free to make their own music. New Orleans was the heart of early jazz, which according to Howie started in brothels or Cat houses as they were then called, to entertain the customers. Dixieland jazz developed in the early 20th century, it's four main influences being ragtime, the blues, gospel music and military brass bands.

He took us through all the famous names including Louis Armstrong, King Oliver, Jelly Roll, Dizzi Gillespie to Acker Bilk and George Melly and many more, with their music played along the way. There was plenty of toe tapping by the members as we all travelled down memory lane.



Our wonderful Jazz impresario Geoff Matthews joined his old friend Howie on the stage and they shared an endearing story. They had both been there when George Melly's last performance was in Southport, when he was sadly suffering from dementia, but his music was still brilliant. Buoyed by a standing ovation at the interval he packed up to go home and had to be brought back for the second half. A lovely morning was had by all.



The Short Walks 1 group were extremely lucky to have fabulous weather, walking from Waterloo to Hightown. Mary seems to have a weather angel looking after us.

A great walk finished with a lovely lunch at the Hightown pub



The Cycling For Fun group has now opened up again and has plenty of vacancies. The group will be organising rides on various days of the week, so even if you have a tight schedule you should be able to fit in the occasional ride.

[Visit their group page](#) to join or enquire about the group.



[Book Group 3](#) enjoyed an early Christmas meal, at lunchtime on November 16<sup>th</sup>. They then finished off the day with the superb 'Southport u3as Got Talent' show.





The recent cake decorating master classes, organised by our [Events Team](#) and



hosted by Cake Creations on Wesley Street, proved to be an excellent event.

Our Winter magazine, available at our December monthly meetings and online shortly thereafter, carries a full article. If you can't wait that long, here are a small selection of photos from the day.



**N.B. There is a change to the December dates, as follows:**

Cupcake class 6th Dec 2pm - 4:30pm

Cupcake class 15th Dec 6pm - 8:30pm

**Buon Appetito!** Some members of Italian Conversation Group enjoying a pre-Christmas meal at Volare, Southport in November (where all of the staff really do speak Italian!).

The [Italian Conversation Group](#) meet each Monday morning from 10.30—12 in members' homes. The meetings are held in Italian but we do cover a wide range of abilities. New members are always welcome to come and listen or to come and try out their Italian skills



Gwynn

## Gardening Group News



Our November meeting was in our new home at Liverpool Road Methodist Church & very cosy it was too. It was much warmer than Lord Street West Church hall, so it is nice that we'll be spending the winter months there.



Our speaker was the marvellous Jacqueline Iddon, who kept us entertained with hilarious anecdotes while she effortlessly created some beautiful Christmas floral arrangements and a gorgeous wreath for the door. The wreath was made with Blue Spruce, lots of members bought the rings to make one for themselves, so look out if you have a Blue Spruce tree in your garden, we'll be around with secateurs!



The poppy collection held at the last meeting raised £211.92. On behalf of the Royal British Legion (Southport Branch), we would like to thank everyone for their help.



The monies will go to help the legion support the armed forces community



YOOKS were delighted to be invited to play 2 sets on two different stages during the day. We opened the day at 12.30 with our first performance, and then at 2.30 for a further hour leading up to the light switch on at 5pm. Great fun; although it was very cold the audience dancing and singing along kept our spirits up.

Anyone who has asked to join Family History is most welcome, 10.00am Thursday mornings (except 1st Thursday of month) in the Atkinson computer section.



\*\*\* CORRECTION \*\*\*

The Board Games Group meet fortnightly, not weekly as stated in the magazine.



Tai Chi 2 is moving to the Synagogue, which is on Arnside Road which runs from Church Street to Manchester Road.

If you have never seen Tai Chi you may be worried that it is like a Martial Art. While this is true for its origin, the practice of Tai Chi is more like a dance, with no squirming around on the floor and no ridiculous bending and stretching.

Tai Chi is a series of gentle physical exercises and stretches. Each posture flows into the next without pause, ensuring that your body is in constant motion. Tai chi is sometimes described as meditation in motion because it promotes serenity through gentle movements — connecting the mind and body.

Physically Tai Chi will help you with your balance, your flexibility and your breathing, and mentally it encourages a feeling of well-being.

We are looking for some new beginners to learn the 24 Short Form, starting in January. If you express an interest by emailing the group leaders (from Simple Membership) you will be added to the list, so that when enough members have responded we will invite you to join the class.

We meet every Thursday morning from 11.30 to 12.30 , and charge a session fee of £4.00 to cover the cost of Hall Hire and the Tutor Fee



The Christmas lunch fest has started, sixty members of the Southport u3a Gardening Group enjoyed a fabulous 3 course meal at the Clouds Restaurant, at Southport College. Manned by the catering students we were welcomed with festive music and decorations on arrival, our



coats were whisked away; we were led to our tables and received impeccable service throughout the meal. The mushroom tarts were delicate but scrumptious, the sea bass cooked to perfection; the turkey meal was not for the faint hearted and those that chose the gingerbread creme Brule were in for a treat.

The raffle, in aid of The Brain Tumours Charity, raised lots of money and many went home with beautifully wrapped mince pies and Christmas cakes baked by the students.



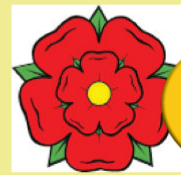
Gardening Group members are a friendly bunch so together with the crackers, complimentary wine, sunshine and a rainbow from our glorious high view over Southport an excellent time was had by all. We will definitely be back next Christmas - if not before.

Southport diners will be in for a treat when this year's catering students graduate next summer!





# HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW LANCASHIRE



learn,  
laugh,  
live

- 1 Camilla Cabello, Pierce Brosnan and James Corden were in Blackpool recently, filming for which Disney remake?  
a) Sleeping Beauty b) Mulan c) Cinderella d) Beauty and the Beast
- 2 **In which Lancashire town was the Cooperative movement founded?**
- 3 What is used to top a Lancashire Hotpot?
- 4 **Which Lancashire city was the first in the UK to open a KFC?**  
a) Preston b) Lancaster
- 5 Which Mill in Lancashire was featured in the Oscar-winning film, 'The King's Speech'?  
a) Queen Street Mill b) Helmshore Mills
- 6 **Preston is home to Europe's largest what?**  
a) Roundabout b) Bus Station c) Train station
- 7 How long is the stretch of the infamous Blackpool Illuminations?  
a) 5.5 miles b) 6.2 miles c) 4.8 miles
- 8 **If you were to paint Blackpool Tower, it would take roughly 7 years True or False**
- 9 The 'Lancashire Rose' was originally pink, but changed to red in 1832  
True or False
- 10 **Which TV phenomenon was filmed at Hoghton tower last year?**  
a) Peaky Blinders b) The Crown c) Sherlock d) Luther
- 11 Yvette Fielding, presenter of Most Haunted, claimed this location was the scariest place she'd ever filmed - can you guess the location?  
a) Lancaster Castle b) Samlesbury Hall c) Winter Gardens, Morecambe  
d) Pendle Hill
- 12 **In Lancashire, what is Christmas cake often eaten with?**
- 13 What type of dancing was performed by the Eight Lancashire Lads, a troupe Charlie Chaplin joined before he was twelve?
- 14 **Blackpool opened the world's first electric street tramway True or False**
- 15 Which infamous event took place at St Peter's Field, Manchester, in 1819, when cavalry charged into a large crowd?

# ST GEORGE'S HALL VISIT

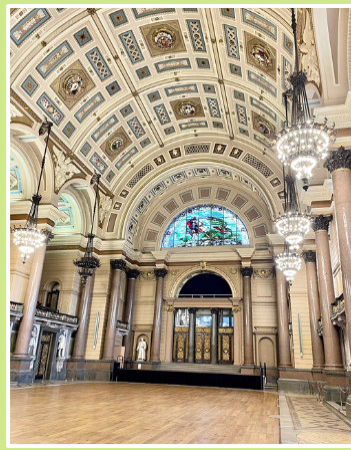
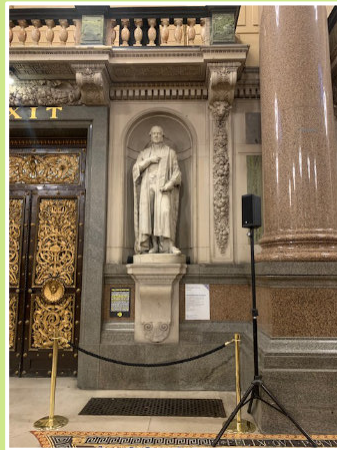
**Local History 1** had a really interesting visit to Liverpool's most impressive St George's Hall. It is as imposing today as it was when it was completed in 1854 and is one of the finest examples of neoclassical architecture in the World.

We explored the old prison and courtroom, the Great Hall, and the fabulous Music Room and heard how Charles Dickens loved the building, giving many readings there. Our guide took us into the biggest classical reception room in the UK: the Great Hall, illuminated by huge light fittings, said to be the biggest ever made. Fine marble statues of local notables lined the walls and we saw the Great Willis organ, the third largest of its kind in the World.

We were taken beneath the spellbinding grandeur of the Great Hall into the doldrums of the prison cells and the law courts, where many a Victorian prisoner awaited their fate.

The jewel in the crown was the magnificent circular Concert Hall. It has an impressive crystal chandelier, originally powered by gas but converted to electricity in 1895.

During the 2000's, a major restoration of the hall took place costing 23 million and it was officially opened in 2007 by the then Prince Charles.



# We're All Going To Blackpool!

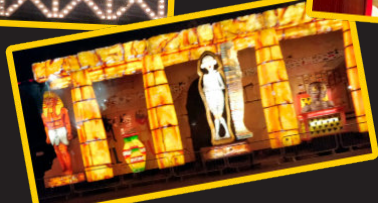
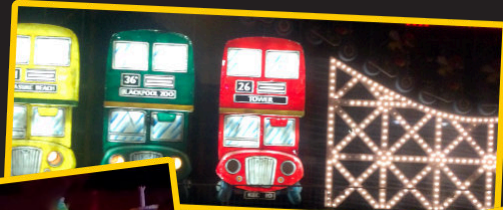
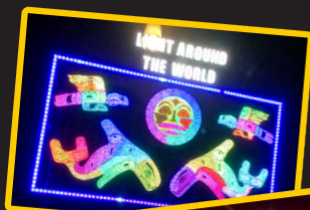


On Wednesday, 29th November 2023, the coach trip group had an enjoyable evening visiting Lytham for fish and chips and then travelled to Blackpool for a tour of the illuminations on board the illuminated Western Train Tramcar.

What an amazing experience it was travelling both ways along The Promenade on this Tramcar and for many it was a trip down memory lane.

This tram was first introduced in 1962 and modelled on a train from a western film, the Illuminated Western Train Tram attracted long queues in its heyday as seaside visitors waited for a ride. It is reported in 1963 that Sir Cliff Richard, travelled on the tram to the ABC Theatre in Church Street to reopen the theatre and launch his first summer show in Blackpool.

It was withdrawn from service due to old age in 1999 and for some time was under threat of being broken up for scrap. Thanks to the Lottery Heritage Fund, between 2007 and 2009, this national icon was completely rebuilt and fully restored to its authentic 1962 condition externally, whilst internally, the carriage was returned to its 1928 appearance.



# LOCAL HISTORY 2 VISIT SUDLEY HOUSE



Local History 2 went to visit Sudley House, near Mossley Hill in Liverpool in early October.

Sudley House and its estate were bequeathed to the Liverpool Corporation, by Emma Holt in 1946. She left her father, George Holt's wonderful collection of paintings, as an art gallery for the people of Liverpool.

We had an excellent guide who told us the history of the house and gave us insights into a few of the different paintings and bringing them to life.

We learnt how Liverpool merchant and ship owner George Holt (1825-



1896) and his family had moved into Sudley House in 1884, who brought his invested inherited wealth, and enormous profits generated by his trade in foodstuffs, in his passion for collecting art. The paintings at Sudley House are by some of the finest artists of his time, now form the only surviving, intact collection of artworks once owned by a merchant family. His fortune also enabled him to enhance Sudley House and furnish it to his taste. The ground floor of the house is furnished in keeping with the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, with artwork on every wall.



Among the eclectic range of paintings, we saw J.M.W. Turners including **Schloss Rosenau (Seat of Prince Albert of Coburg)** and **Margate Harbour. Vicountess Folkestone (Gainsborough)**, **The Finding of the Saviour in the Temple** William Holman Hunt, also paintings by John Melhuish Strudwick, Joshua Reynolds and many, many

more painters too numerous to mention, contributing to the artwork on show.

A very enjoyable and worthwhile place to visit.





# JAZZ GROUP SWING IN NOVEMBER AT THE BIRKDALE SPORTS CLUB



For a gig by **THE TIM KLIPHUIS TRIO**  
Tim Kliphuis violin, Nigel Clarke guitar Roy Percy double bass



Dutch violinist Tim's international reputation encouraged a full house; along with his acoustic trio with whom he has played, toured and recorded extensively for 17 years.

They started the set in the mode of Tim's first musical inspiration, with a couple of *gypsy jazz* tunes popularised by the famous French swing violinist (and Tim's mentor) Stephane Grappelli.

A change of mood to a JS Bach derived jazz fugue took the gig in a more classical direction and show cased the trios' collective skill through intricate arrangements. Tim, in his usual immaculate English, explained that another of his classical influences is the Russian composer Mussorgsky. We were treated to a preview performance of some pieces from a soon to be recorded album entitled *Pictures*. Using some Mussorgsky melodies and some of his own compositions, the pieces are inspired by and named after some famous paintings including Georgia O'Keefe's *Ritz Tower* and Hokusai's *Under The Wave*. Absolutely breathtaking musical performances achieved by all three on the rarely trodden path of jazz/classical fusion.

Tim is a master at holding an audience attention and he chose the very well known movement *Winter* from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* to lighten the gig back to a pure swing finale. Three wonderful ballads were given the *gypsy jazz* treatment. *I surrender Dear* written by Harry Barrie, Hoagy Carmichael's *The Nearness of You* and a perfect conclusion to a unforgettable concert, Manning Sherwin's *A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square*.



## Jazz Group at Southport Jazz Festival 2024 Sunday Feb 4th

### The Southport Jazz Festival

Running annually since 2005, the festival (a.k.a. "Jazz on a Winter's Weekend") started life and prospered for 16 years at The Royal Clifton Hotel until 2020, when along came Covid and a change of ownership at that venue. It was restarted at The Grand last year and got off to a flying restart with new management and a great programme.

### The Occasion

The final day of the **2024 SJF** 'weekend.' The U3A Jazz Group has been offered a significant (£10-20%) discount for a combined ticket to the late afternoon and evening finale concerts, both really good music. To get this discount Group Members should book through the U3A Jazz Desk in the normal way. [not through the festival website.] Tickets to any other concerts at the festival should be booked direct through the jazz festival website at the published prices.

### The Grand 180 Lord St PR9 0QG

Those who attended the U3A Coronation celebration or other music events there will know that the Grand, situated at the north end of Lord St, has been beautifully refurbished as a bar/restaurant and event venue. The SJF gigs take place in the upstairs entertainment suite which is equipped with suitable seating, sound and lighting for a music festival.

### A meal between gigs?

Being in Southport town centre and with many restaurants close by, Jazz Group members may choose to make your own arrangements for a meal between about 6 and 8 pm between the two concerts (see opposite). For those interested there is the possibility to make a group booking at SAPORI nearby on Lord St, an Italian restaurant with a good local reputation and already used by other of our U3A groups.

### The Music (www.trypl.co.uk)

3.30 for a 4pm start "TRYPL" septet (ends 6pm)

Three of the top UK jazz horn players (pictured) have combined their talents to form this most creative band specialising in 'Latin' style jazz and have written a pad of new original tunes in that rhythmic idiom.



Paul Booth tenor sax  
Ryan Quigley trumpet  
Trevor Mires trombone

### TRYPL Latin rhythm section

Edwin Sanz - percussion  
Tristan Banks - drums  
Dimitri Christopoulos - bass  
Alex Wilson - piano



A power house of a front line

7.45 for 8.00 pm start THE JOE STILGOE TRIO (ends 11pm)



Joe Stilgoe piano/vocals  
Tom Farmer bass  
Ben Reynolds percussion

The highly entertaining Joe Stilgoe makes a welcome return to the Southport Jazz Festival. Now a much sought after artist on stage, TV and radio he brings a joyous mix of great jazz piano and cabaret style singing which never fails to please. (www.joestilgoe.com)

To book for this event post a cheque £36 p/p payable 'Southport U3A' + SAE to 1A Crosby Road Birkdale PR8 4SU or call at the Jazz Desk at U3A Church meetings. Also pay by card via our Southport u3a website. To reserve email matthewsjazz@sky.com or ring 01704 643835. Let us know if you are interested in joining us for an inter gig meal at SAPORI please.





# HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW LANCASHIRE ANSWERS



learn,  
laugh,  
live

- 1 c) Cinderella
- 2 **Rochdale**
- 3 Sliced Potatoes
- 4 **a)Preston**
- 5 a) Queen Street Mill
- 6 **b) Bus Station**
- 7 b) 6.2 miles
- 8 **True**
- 9 False
- 10 **a) Peaky Blinders**
- 11 d) Pendle Hill
- 12 **Cheese**
- 13 Clog dancing
- 14 **True**
- 15 The Peterloo Massacre

## Liverpool Welsh Choral, 2023-2024 Season Concerts

(For Details see Web site: [www.lwcu.co.uk](http://www.lwcu.co.uk))

Concert 1: Christmas with the Liverpool Welsh Choral and Northop Silver Band, Saturday 16th December 2023, 7.30pm at the Tung Auditorium, Yoko Ono Lennon Centre, University of Liverpool, 60 Oxford Street, Liverpool, L7 3NY (junction of Oxford St. and Grove St.).

Spectacular Concert 2: Requiem by Giuseppe Verdi: Saturday 27th April, 2024, 7.30pm at the Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, St James Road, Liverpool, L1 7AZ.

Featuring: Liverpool Welsh Choral, Vivace Chorus from Guildford, Surrey, Cantorion Menai, Liverpool University Chamber Choir, accompanied by the Manchester Camerata Orchestra.

Special Guest Soloists: Clare Rutter (Soprano), Jess Dandy (Mezzo-Soprano), Gwyn Hughes-Jones (Tenor), Ivegen Orlov (Bass).



LIVERPOOL WELSH  
CHORAL

*"Simply Dynamic"*

## REMEMBER

You can keep up to date with news items on our website, by subscribing (free) to our [Daily Digest](#). Every time a new item is posted onto our news page you will receive an email during the evening. You can unsubscribe at any time.

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If you use Facebook, you can join the [Southport u3a Facebook Group](#). Keep up to date with the things members are doing, which may not make it into our news pages.

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If you have any stories, jokes or event reports, which you think may be of interest to our members, you can send it in to the [editor@southportu3a.org.uk](mailto:editor@southportu3a.org.uk) email address, for inclusion in any of our publications. Photographs are always welcome.