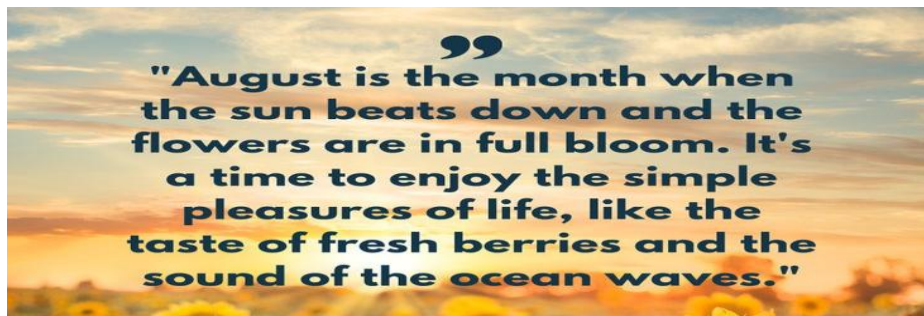




August News 2026

Dear Members

Hard copies of this Newsletter can be read on the U3A Board in the Library or pick up a copy at Alsager Civic on a Monday morning.

Welcome to the start of another U3A year. I hope that you all were able to manage the long hot summer in comfort. As you know many of our groups continued throughout the Summer but many others will start again in September.

Monday morning drop-ins and support will resume on Monday, 7th September as well as Talk Time. We will be a little short staffed for the first two Mondays so if Group Leaders are able to delay bringing monies in until the 21st September that would be helpful. Drop-ins will run until Monday, 23rd November.

We hosted a very enjoyable and successful working lunch on the 21st August for Group Leaders when 64 people attended and we were able to move forward with our agenda of going cashless.

Please drop in on a Monday morning if you need any help or have questions of our volunteers.

Best Wishes
David Gaston (Chair)

Travel

As her farewell swansong, Gill has agreed to once again arrange a trip to Bridgewater Hall so that members can enjoy

The Hallé Orchestra - Viennese New Year Saturday 9th January, 2027

Ring in the New Year with a concert of sparkling Viennese music. This traditional celebration is packed with the best-loved melodies, from the buoyant Blue Danube to the beautiful Wiener Blut waltz.



Gill is also thinking of arranging a trip, again to Bridgewater Hall

The Hallé Orchestra - Elvis: Viva Las Vegas
Saturday, 21st November, 2026

Get all shook up by the King of Rock and Roll with a spectacular performance by Lee Memphis King, Europe's most successful Elvis tribute artist.

From 'Heartbreak Hotel' to 'Suspicious Minds', hear hit after hit just as they're meant to sound. Lee's shockingly accurate vocals and sparkling charisma make him the perfect candidate to step into Elvis's blue suede shoes.

This show brings to life Elvis's Vegas years, with the artist's biggest and best songs performed in dazzling costumes and backed by full orchestra.



**PLEASE COME AND PUT YOUR NAME DOWN / PAY YOUR DEPOSIT
 FOR EITHER TRIP WHEN THE TERM STARTS ON THE 7TH SEPTEMBER**

Please note that outings are available only to members of Alsager & District U3A

An appeal for Gill's successor, when she retires as Travel Co-Ordinator in October, is still on-going. If you feel that you could take over from Gill, please come into Alsager Civic on a Monday morning (from 7th September) and speak with Gill, who will provide all the necessary training, (or contact a Committee member prior to September)

NO TRAVEL CO-ORDINATOR - NO DAY TRIPS / HOLIDAYS

A few Fun Facts about August

- ❖ **The first sandwich** was created in August 1762 by the Earl of Sandwich, who requested meat between two slices of bread while gambling
- ❖ In the **northern hemisphere**, August is the last month of summer and is often associated with the **dog days of summer**, named after the rising of Sirius, the Dog Star. It is a prime time for harvesting summer vegetables and enjoying outdoor activities
- ❖ The **Edinburgh Festival Fringe**, the world's largest arts festival, takes place in August
- ❖ **Birthstone**: Peridot, symbolizing power, healing, and protection against evil
- ❖ **Birth flowers**: Gladiolus (representing generosity and strength) and poppy (symbolizing imagination and eternal sleep)
- ❖ August was originally named Sextilis, which means the sixth month. It was renamed to August in 8 BCE to honour the first Roman Emperor, Augustus Caesar.
- ❖ The Perseid Meteor Shower is one of the most popular meteor showers. It usually peaks around August 11th to 13th and can be visible from most parts of the world and draws many stargazers and astronomy enthusiasts.



GROUPS



Learn to Play Bridge
A new class is starting on Tuesday,
1st September @ 10.00am
 at the 13 Club, Alsager : £3.00 paid weekly.

Anyone interested or wanting more information should contact Liz Gibson at
lizgibbo@outlook.com or 07985 749668



Yoga

Have you ever wanted to try Yoga?

If so, there are still a few places for members to join this new Yoga Group.
Dennis Round Court, Thursdays between 12.15 – 1.15pm.
 For more information, please contact Jean Steer on 07811 411169
 or by e-mailing jeanasteer@btinternet.com

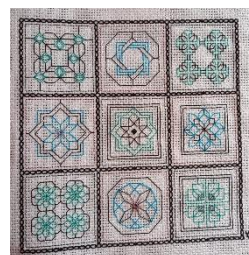
Pickleball

Pickleball resumes Wednesday 2nd September for 16 weeks
2nd September until 16th December : 5.00pm – 6.00pm
Alsager Leisure Centre Sports Hall - £40.00 (payment will be by card only)
 Please contact John Roberts if you intend to join or return by e-mailing
jroberts62@aol.com



Embroidery

Our theme for last term was "tiles" and this is a selection of our work based on tiles.



Next term we hope to concentrate on the Japanese skill of Sashiko where running stitches are used to make patterns or pictures.



This jacket has an example.

Table Tennis 2 **VACANCIES**

Please contact
Patrick Berrisford on
07773222629
If you would like to join this Table
Tennis Group



Who meet on a Monday,
1.45pm to 3.45pm
at the **13 Club, Alsager**

Sitting Down Keep Fit **REMINDER**

The Group's Leader is very pleased to confirm that the group will re-start on **Tuesday 8th September** at a new venue : **St Mary's Church Hall, Alsager : 11.00am – 12.00noon**
Please contact Margaret Mortimer on 01270 874899 or 07752 704647 if you are interested in joining.
If you have to leave a message Margaret will get back to you as soon as possible.
There is plenty of parking at the rear of the Church Hall.

A message from Crewe & Nantwich U3A **ALL MATTERS MEDIEVAL**

The Group leader for "**All Matters Medieval**" would like to ask if there are any members of Alsager & District U3A who would be interested in joining her group.
It is an online group and runs on selected Mondays between 10.00am and 12.00noon.
If anyone is interested, they should contact Lynne Jones, Chair - Crewe & Nantwich U3A
07757 498576 :: membership@candnu3a.org.uk

Is your Group short of numbers?
If so, please let our Secretary know by e-mailing
secretary@alsageru3a.org.uk
Or would you like to display your work in
future Newsletters

Talk Time

SEPTEMBER 2026 DETAILS

07 September 2026	Roger Blaxall	<i>Hold the Front Page</i>
14 September	Geoff Scargill	<i>Edward Elgar</i>
21 September	Russell Philips	<i>North Staffs Miners saved a Czech village during WW1</i>
28 September	Danny Wells	<i>The Place between Heaven and Earth</i>

DON'T FORGET – WE WOULD PREFER CARD PAYMENTS THAN CASH

Do you fancy a bit of a Quiz

Round 2b – History and Geography - Answers

31. What is the capital of Italy? **Rome**
32. Which year did man first land on the moon? **1969**
33. Who was known as the "Iron Lady"? **Margaret Thatcher**
34. What is the largest ocean on Earth? **Pacific Ocean**
35. What is the capital city of Germany? **Berlin**
36. Who was the first Emperor of Rome? **Augustus**
37. Which country gifted the Statue of Liberty to the USA? **France**
38. What is the smallest continent? **Australia**
39. Who was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize? **Marie Curie**
40. What is the capital of Brazil? **Brasília**



Round 3a Science and Nature

41. What gas do plants primarily absorb from the atmosphere?
42. How many bones are in the human body?
43. What planet is known as the Red Planet?
44. What is the boiling point of water in degrees Celsius?
45. Which animal is known as the "King of the Jungle"?
46. What is the hardest natural substance on Earth?
47. What is the process by which plants make their own food using sunlight?
48. How many planets are in our solar system?
49. Which blood type is considered the universal donor?
50. What is the largest mammal in the world?

Forthcoming Events



We are pleased to confirm that once again Alsager & District U3A will be supporting the

Alsager Health and Wellbeing Event

run by Cheshire East Council

Saturday, 26th September : 10.00am – 12.30pm

Alsager Civic

Come along and support your U3A : we look forward to seeing you

Join u3a North West for a cracking good opportunity to catch up with u3a friends from around the region and find out what's going on.

When - Wednesday 30th September 11.00 - 4.30 pm

**Venue – The Grand, Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QG
Princess Grace Suite first floor - there's a lift.**

Getting there - Free parking at the back of the Grand.

Local and Regional buses stop outside on Lord Street
Southport u3a members will collect visitors from Southport
Train Station or 10-minute walk

(Please advise if you need collecting from the station and provide mobile number)



Agenda Activities

11.00 -11.30. Welcome & Refreshments

11.30 -12.30. Outside the Box Group Activity & Feedback

1.00 - 2.00 Lunch (choice of Beef Bourguignon or Vegetable Lasagne)

2.00 – 2.30 Trust Exploration Questions & Answers

2.30 onwards Working Together & Ice Cream

Who's Invited - Valued NW Regional members who want to be involved in our future.

Cost - £21.00 a head to include lunch, tea and coffee and afternoon ice cream.

Payment by Monday 21st September to

North West Region of u3as

Sort code 30-90-16

Account Number 00197002

Reference – Your initial and surname

Please use the link below to access the booking form

Any queries or anyone who doesn't use BACS can contact chair@nwru3a.org.uk to arrange payment by cheque.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf-YD7mK6k0t2_KITPAc6ZOKR0IWRjxn57vNjBmI3-RTaHTrA/viewform?usp=dialog

A.G.M.

**Advance Notice :: Our 29th AGM will take place on
Monday 19th October – 11.15am, Alsager Civic.
WE NEED over 90 members to be quorate.**



**Don't forget ::
We re-open on MONDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER 2026
See you all at Alsager Civic for tea/coffee at 10.45am before Talk Time
at 11.15am**



Kind Regards – David Gaston (Chair)