

Note: There is NO August meeting due to an event at the URC

Our next meeting - Sept. 17th
Britain's white slaves, a tale of piracy

Presented by John Kerwin

A part of our national history about which very little is generally known. John tells this extraordinary tale.

The Thrive group go Himalayan Balsam Bashing



Himalayan Balsam is an imposing weed which is negatively impacting vital canal-side habitats. Uprooting or cutting the plants is an effective means of control.

Members of the **Bramhall u3a Thrive group** joined the "Balsam Bashing" team last month by the ponds in Happy Valley as part of the effort to reduce the effect of this invasive species.



Carol Wilson



June Monthly Meeting

Thank you to Tom Jones for a well illustrated and informative talk on the history and development of Chester Zoo.

Getting started with AI (Artificial Intelligence)

Following on from an article in the May edition of the Newsletter about online 'scams' using Artificial Intelligence and how to react, the **u3a NW Region** has now organised a second series of talks about 'Getting Started with AI' for those u3a members who wish to use it in everyday life.

A 12 minute video clip from one of these talks has been posted on the **Bramhall u3a Facebook page**, and it can be viewed by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/767996688174533>

If the link does not work, copy & paste it onto your internet browser.

Scroll down the Facebook page to view the first video about 'scams'.

Please note: You may need to click the volume icon at the bottom right hand corner of the video screen.

Art Appreciation

The next Art Appreciation talk will be at 2pm on Wednesday September 9 at the Village Club on Lumb Lane when **Frank Vigon** will be giving a talk on **Artists in Winter** which will show the various ways in which painters have depicted winter.

Everyone is welcome to attend and there is a charge of £3.

Science Group Talk - September

The next Science Group talk will be at 2pm on Wednesday September 2 when the talk will be given by **Bernie Rowell** on

The Latest Developments in High Speed Trains.

Talks are held at the Village Club on Lumb Lane.

Please note the room is limited to a capacity of 65 and there is a charge of £2.00

**** Use it or Lose it ****

A message from Jennefer Richmond – Our Holidays & Outings organiser

Could I make a request that we have more support for our holidays and days out?

There are a number of excellent outings and holidays available for our u3a members:

A Liverpool day out in September 2026

A 3-day break to the Thursford Spectacular in November 2026

A holiday to Winchester in April 2027

If we don't get any more people booking, all 3 events are in danger of being cancelled which is a great shame for those who have already booked.

Outing – Thursday 3rd September 2026

Day Trip to Liverpool

A visit to Liverpool's Albert Dock in the morning where there will be time for coffee and perhaps a browse around the shops or a visit to one of the many museums. Then we board the Floating Grace at 2:30pm for a leisurely cruise down the river with afternoon tea served on board.

Full details on the u3a website. <https://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/events/outings>

Holiday – Departing April 11th 2027

Winchester, Wine and Wildlife 5 nights (6 days)

Following a morning pick-up we make our way to the Winchester Wessex Hotel with time to check in and settle before dinner in the evening. A full holiday programme is booked.

Full details on the Bramhall u3a website: <https://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/events/holidays>

Jennefer Richmond – Holidays & Outings

Date	THEATRE – Events open for booking <i>Theatre contacts: Frances Bell & Kay Witham</i>	Price
Aug 2	Gilbert and Sullivan – Pirates of Penzance at Buxton by coach (<i>Waiting list</i>)	£55
Sept 21	These Shining Lives – Players New Season	£14
Sept 24	High Society at The Lowry by coach. <i>Extra tickets may be available</i>	£72
Oct 22+24	Stockport Operatic – Chess at the Plaza	£20
Dec 7	The Muppet Christmas Carol – The Halle & Film – Bridgewater Hall by coach	£69
May 2027	The Magic of Motown Bridgewater Hall by coach	TBC

Cancellation, Refund and Guest Policies for Outings and Theatre Trips

A full refund will be made if a booking with payment is cancelled by telephone within 7 days of the booking being made. In other circumstances, a full or partial refund will only be made if there is a sufficient number of members on the trip to cover the costs. A refund of ticket costs can only be made where either the ticket has not yet been purchased or the ticket is sold to another member.

Refunds – All refunds will be made after the theatre event/outing has taken place.

Guest policy – Non-members can come on a theatre event/outing as a guest of a member on one occasion only.

Other Aspects

The costs for all theatre events, outings and holidays will include transport, driver's tip and where appropriate, tickets. The dates for future outings, for which bookings are not yet being taken, are posted on the website