



## Is John Adderley u3a's oldest Pickleball player ?

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in u3a and the UK at the moment. Three years ago there were 15 or 20 u3a groups offering pickleball but today nearly 100 do so. Playing numbers within u3a have grown from a few score to more than 2,000 in that time.

One such player who has been active for nearly five years is Bramhall u3a's John Adderley. John plays pickleball once or twice a week, every week, outdoors with our u3a Pickleball Group. In addition he plays tennis on twice a week.

John celebrated his 90th birthday in February and is planning to carry on with his regular playing schedule for many a year. A few of the Pickleball Group members celebrated with him on court at a recent session. John may be the oldest pickleball player in the whole of u3a, unless somebody else comes along to lay claim to his title! Along with his colleagues, John plays in almost all weathers. Only heavy rain or snow and ice prevents him indulging in his weekly exercise regime. He is a great example to all who share the courts with him and far beyond.

**David Pechey**



John, playing the sport he loves.



### "Hello," from your Chairman

Are you all set for Easter? Many go away then for a long weekend but the last time my wife and I tried that we got stuck on the motorway for hours, so I'll be staying at home. If you're going away, good luck to you.

Another thing many of us do at this time of year is book a holiday. I've got one abroad booked for early May and a shorter one booked in the UK in June. Where do you fancy? I'm past the lying by the pool, or on the beach stage now, and prefer sightseeing. Luckily, I can still trek around with my video camera and capture the sights. I even take the odd snap as well. These days, lugging a camcorder or a camera around isn't that essential when modern smart phones are pretty good at both. It depends on what you do with the results. I give shows with mine, so I'll stick to my camcorder for the best quality.

Cheers,

**Alaister Macrae**

## Art Appreciation

**Kay Witham**

Everyone is welcome to the next Art Appreciation talk which will be at 2pm on Friday April 12th at the Village Club on Lumb Lane when the subject will be Stanley Spencer The Road to Calvary  
This will be the last talk of the season, which will restart in September

## 2024 Walks

**Wed 27 March Higher Poyton**  
5m EASY+ *Anthea Slater 07727 196621*

**Thurs 11 April Bollington & Blaze Hill**  
6m MOD+ *Bryan Johnson*  
*07957 242154*

**Wed 24 April Styal (NT membership card)**  
5m MOD *Hubert Worrall 0161.439.7015*

**Thurs 9 May Rowan to Lantern Pike & Cowan Edge**  
57m TOUGH *Sally Atkinson 07948 617228*

### Definition of Grade:

**Easy** A flat walk with no hills  
**Mod** Generally a flat walk with some hills  
**Tough** A walk with some hills which may be severe



**Knitting Group A** is selling knitted items (with or without chocolate) at the March meeting.

They are also available from Sheila via [charities@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:charities@bramhallu3a.org.uk)

All proceeds to St Ann's Hospice.

Thanks, **Sheila**

## The 'Technology for Everyone' (The Appliance of Science)

The 'Technology for Everyone' (The Appliance of Science) Group of Cheadle Hulme u3a is a member of the North East Cheshire Network as an 'Open Group'. This Group invites Speakers on technical subjects that we all come across in our day-to-day activities.

You are therefore invited to attend any of their meetings on the first Tuesday of the month (Feb to May, and Oct to Dec inc.) at 2pm in the Heald Green Village Hall, Outwood Road, Heald Green, SK8 3JL. Admittance fee is £3 including Tea/Coffee and Cake/Biscuits.

Our April meeting will be a talk on "Electricity Generation, Storage, and Usage", by Royce Lewis from Poynton U3A.

In order to ensure that members are covered by the u3a Insurance Scheme, please bring your membership card or membership number with you.

For further details, please contact Roger Law, email: [roger@lawfamily.com](mailto:roger@lawfamily.com), or Tel: 0161 485 5744.

## Are you confused about pension scams?

MoneyHelper brings together the support and services of three government-backed, financial guidance providers: The Money Advice Service, The Pensions Advisory Service, PensionWise, Consider looking at the MoneyHelper website: <https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en> Or call: 0800 011 3797. The Financial Conduct Authority also provides guidance on how to avoid falling for a pension scam. It's worth running through their simple questions to get appropriate guidance if you are considering transferring your pension benefits. <https://fca.org.uk/scamsmart>

For more information regarding the avoidance of scams, see our website under Links/Finance.

## u3a Bramhall Committee Vacancies

**Outings**

**Events**

**Business Secretary**

### *Did you enjoy the outings and Christmas parties?*

You do realise that without these Vacancies being filled, there will be NO FURTHER outings or parties. We have lost these popular events from our annual schedule unless someone volunteers.

**Help the members, by volunteering with a friend, to fill these vacancies.**

Full information will be provided. You will find your involvement both interesting, great fun and very rewarding.

*Interested in helping? Of course you are, so please contact one of the Committee.*

## Meetings & Speakers in 2024

*Join us, we love your company.*

**Doors open 1.30pm**

**\*Meeting starts and doors close at 2pm\***

- April 18**      **Bringing Law to Life with Laughter**  
Presented by Sue Holden
- May 16**      **Lies, Damn Lies and Statistics**  
Presented by Neil Sheldon
- June 20**      **Air Born**  
Presented by John Wallace

*Members £2*

*Remember your membership card.*

*More details on our website:*

<https://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/>

## u3a North West Region

**Summer School 13th-16th August**  
**Cumbria University, Carlisle**

This year's school has courses on:-

**Art Challenges:** " Working in the style of..."

**Archaeology:** " Archaeological sites in Cumbria

**Literature:** " North by North West "

**Art Appreciation** " British Artists: Hogarth to Hockney " .

**Genealogy**

**Japanese Encounter**

**Ukulele for Improvers**

If you are interested, please visit:-

<https://u3asites.org.uk/north-west/events>

### War Horse at the Lowry

**Thursday September 26 2024 at 2.30pm**

**Coach from Bramhall (St Michael's)**

**Tickets £63**

War Horse tells the story of a young boy and his horse caught up in the first world war. The horse is a puppet worked by a team of three puppeteers who create a fantastically realistic horse. The story is based on the book by Michael Morpurgo.

The coach will leave at 12noon.

### Jesus Christ Superstar at the Lowry

**Wednesday May 22 at 2pm**

**Coach from Bramhall (St Michael's)**

**Tickets £58**

Jesus Christ Superstar is a musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice based on the Passion of Christ, and largely told from the position of Judas Iscariot.

The coach will leave at 12noon

THEATRE – Events open for booking		
Date	Theatre contacts: Frances Bell (439.8654) & Kay Witham (439.6898)	Price
May 13 –16	Wife After Death by Eric Chappell – Players Theatre	£12
May 22	Jesus Christ Superstar at Lowry – Matinee with coach	£58
Aug 10	Buxton HMS Pinafore and Trial by Jury – Matinee with coach	£50
Sept 26	War Horse at Lowry – Matinee with coach	£63

**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 under *Dates for your Diary*.

Follow these golden rules and remember: contact out of the blue . . . it's not for you!

**Always log on to a company website directly rather than clicking on links in an email.**

**Do not just rely on glowing testimonials. Get advice from those you trust.**

**Be aware ... Click with care.**

**If you suspect deceit, hit DELETE.**

All information from 'Ten golden rules to prevent fraud' on the Greater Manchester Police website

## Groups

Art  
**Art Appreciation**  
 Badminton  
 Bird Watching  
  
 Books  
 Bowling – Crown Green  
 Bridge – Beginners  
 Bridge – Duplicate  
 Café book club           1  
   2  
   3  
  
 Canasta  
 Card making  
 Creative writing  
 Cribbage  
 Cycling  
 Dining  
 Discussion                 1  
 Discussion                 2  
 Family History           1  
   2  
  
 Fitness & flexibility  
 French  
 Gardening A  
 Gardening B  
 German Intermediate  
 History                     1  
 History                     2  
 Italian Beginners  
 Italian Improvers  
 Knitting A  
 Knitting B  
 Mapping Bramhall  
 Music for Pleasure  
 Pickleball  
 Pilates A  
 Poetry  
 Pub Quiz  
 Science for All  
 Scrabble  
 Singing For Fun  
 Spanish – Intermediate  
 Spanish – Upper Intermediate  
 Strollers  
 Table Tennis: Fun for All  
     Competitive Singles  
**Transports of Delight**  
 Ukulele  
 Video & Film Making  
 Walking  
 Wine Tasting

## Co-ordinators

Mel Edge  
**VACANCY**  
 Phil Kay  
 Robert Mantle  
 Paul Carter  
 Dudley Newell  
 Gordon & Ruth Kempster  
 Angela Harding  
 Ray Lee  
 Olga Hampson  
 Kay Witham  
 Sharon Turner  
 Veronica Dean  
 Jill Rickman  
 Pat George  
 Val Barker  
 Ian Pennie  
 Vera Moore  
 Dina Levy  
 Brian Dougal  
 Mary Hambleton  
 Brian Turner  
 Vikki Radford  
 Kay Witham  
 Carol Wilson  
 Nancy Comerford  
 Jean Cox  
 Angela Devaney  
 Olga Hampson  
 Steve Goodall  
 Helen Webster  
 Sheila Porter  
 Shelagh Lord  
 Val Murray  
 Jackie Harmer  
 Julie Suckling  
 Vikki Radford  
 Valerie Greenwood  
 Cathie Kay  
 Mike Hollingsworth  
 Val Barker  
 Vera McWhirter  
 Diana Blaney  
 Janet Smith  
 Gwendoline Shorrock  
 Liz Pennington  
 Liz Pennington  
**VACANCY**  
 Jackie Harmer  
 Alaister Macrae  
 Viv Grimshaw  
 Judy Godsell

## Days/Times

2nd + 4th Wednesday – 10am to 12  
**2nd Wednesday – 2pm**  
 Tuesday – 1.45pm to 3.45  
 Usually 4th Wednesday –  
 at 9.15am  
 4th Thursday  
 Contact for details  
 Wednesday – 2pm  
 Wednesdays – 10am to 12  
 Monthly. Monday – 10.30am  
 Monthly. Tuesday – PM  
 Monthly. 3rd Wednesday – PM  
 1st + 3rd Monday – 2pm  
 Alt. Mondays 2pm – 4  
 2nd Wednesday – 2pm  
 1st Thursday – 7.30pm  
 Every other Tuesday – 10am  
 Tues. or Wed. evening – 4th week  
 4th Monday – 2.30pm  
 3rd Thursday – 2pm  
 Monthly – Wednesday 2pm  
 Second Thursday – 1pm to 3.00  
 Mondays 09.30 – 10.15  
 Alternate Mondays – 2pm  
 2nd Monday – 2pm  
 2nd Monday – 2pm  
 2nd and 4th Tuesdays – 10.30am  
 Alt Thurs – 10am to 12  
 1st Thurs – 10.30 to 12.00  
 2nd + 4th Tuesday – 10am  
 Alt Wed – 10am to 11  
 3rd Tuesday – 2pm  
 1st Thursday – 2pm  
 3rd Monday – 2pm  
 3rd Friday – 10.30am  
 Every weekday – 10am to 12  
 Monday – 10.30am + 11.40am  
 2nd Monday – 1.30pm  
 1st Thursday – 8.30 for 9pm  
 1st Wednesday – 2pm to 4  
 2nd Monday – 2pm to 4.30  
 1st + 3rd Monday – 10am  
 Alt. Thursdays – 2pm  
 Tuesdays – 10am to 11.30  
 1st Tuesday pm – 3rd Wed. am  
 1st/2nd/3rd Wednesday – 10 to 12  
 4th Wednesday – 10.30 to 12  
**Group coordinator needed**  
 2nd and 4th Tuesday – 2pm  
 Monthly – Contact for details  
 See schedule on website  
 Bi-monthly – contact for details