

## March News 2024

*Can I wish you all a very happy, peaceful Easter.*

Alsager & District U3A continues to thrive. New members are joining all the time, and all our groups are thriving.

### PLEASE REMEMBER

Alsager Civic will be closed on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April and Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May as these are Bank Holidays.

As I have mentioned before, Alan has to step down as Chair from the AGM at the end of October.

### WE NEED A NEW CHAIR.

If you would like to know more, please speak to me.

Although at present we have a thriving Committee members may decide to retire.

**WE ALWAYS NEED COMMITTEE MEMBERS.** Again, please speak to us.

### New Groups

Hot off the press : Rev your retirement!

Join the “Silver Spokes – Cycling for All group”, for scenic rides and social connections.

Are you a retired cyclist looking to keep the wind in your hair and stay active? Or perhaps you're a newcomer looking for a gentle way to explore the outdoors? The Silver Spokes is a friendly cycling group for all Alsager U3A members, particularly those young at heart in their retirement years.

We offer a variety of rides to suit all abilities, from leisurely cruises on quiet lanes to gentle inclines that keep your heart pumping. Our focus is on having fun, enjoying the scenery, and making new friends along the way. E-bike riders are, of course, welcome: So, dust off your bike, spin your pedals and join us for a ride!

#### *Details*

Group leader : Ant Collins – 07882269200

Ride day/time – will be weekly, selected from Tuesday or Thursday afternoon, or Wednesday morning – to be decided.

### Group News

#### **Cookery Group**

How good is your cooking? Come and join us on April 4<sup>th</sup> : April 18<sup>th</sup> : May 2<sup>nd</sup> : May 16<sup>th</sup> : May 30<sup>th</sup> and put your skills (or lack of them) to the test.

Give Neil Smith a ring on **01270 878298** and he will give you all the details.

Some of our other groups are still recruiting members. Please look at the website or look at the noticeboard at Alsager Civic/ring the Group Leader.

### Travel News

Hot off the press : 25<sup>th</sup> September – day trip to the National Memorial Arboretum. £24 per person to include transport / entrance / coffee/tea and biscuits and a tour of the site.

Book on A MONDAY MORNING at Alsager Civic.

There are also places available on the day trips to :

- 23<sup>rd</sup> May Belton House, near Grantham, Grade 1 listed building with gardens and parkland
- 5<sup>th</sup> June Blenheim Palace, including the Icons of British Fashion display
- 4<sup>th</sup> August The Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company, performance of The Pirates of Penzance at Buxton
- 25<sup>th</sup> September The National Memorial Arboretum (Alrewas, Staffordshire)

In October we are proposing to arrange a day trip to Blackpool : date and details to be finalised.  
In November we are proposing to arrange a trip to the Regent Theatre, Hanley to see Chicago – again date and details to be finalised.

### **Thank You Letter received**

On the 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 I was on a day out with Alsager U3A to Dewlays Cheese Factory and Barton Grange Garden Centre.

During the afternoon I became incapacitated due to my knee locking therefore I was unable to straighten or put weight onto it. Thankfully, at the time two very kind ladies, Judith Aspinall and a lady named Heather (whose surname unfortunately I don't know) came quickly to my rescue. Not only did they put me at ease they arranged a wheelchair to get me back to the coach and also arranged help to get me back onto the coach. Heather very kindly pushed me all the way back to the entrance. I cannot thank them enough and I really don't know what I would have done without their quick and understanding actions. I really appreciated their help.

Also thanking Sue Broad who arranged for a couple on the front seat to exchange their seats for me. I appreciated her help.

Also thanking Alan and the coach driver, Michael, who helped me onto and later off the coach. Alan also walked me to my lift getting soaking wet in the bargain, and please thank his wife Christine for carrying my bags and getting wet too.

Also, a thank you to the very kind couple who exchanged their coach seats. I really appreciated their help. I cannot express my thanks enough – I am so grateful for such kind, caring people.

*Sue Hannan*

***Regards – Alan Bell, Chair***