

## April News 2024

I have some very sad news to report. Roy, the son of Alex and Phyllis McNee, passed away recently at the age of 70. Unfortunately Alex and Phyllis were unable to attend the funeral due to ill health. They are holding a memorial service for Roy on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00pm at St Mary's Church, Alsager. Alex and Phyllis have been members of the U3A from the very beginning 25 years ago and they have been heavily involved with running First Aid courses for the U3A. There is an invite for all of us to attend the service and to help support them both through this very difficult time.

### **Other U3A News:**

We have just passed the 1,000 member figure for 2024, a fantastic achievement, again proving how important we are to the population of Alsager and District.

As you are all aware our official term comes to an end on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May**. Talk Time concludes its presentations on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May** and please remember there is no Civic on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May** as this is a Bank Holiday.

### **Group News**

A large number of groups decide to continue throughout the summer and some of them have space for new members in their group. Examples include Outdoor Bowls, Cycling, Painting for Pleasure, Table Tennis, Tennis, Ukulele, Walking and Yoga and if you are interested in any of these please come into Civic before the end of term and we will point you in the right direction.

**The u3a Music Appreciation group** recently had an exciting outing to see and hear Congleton Choral Society's concert with the National Festival Orchestra and special soloists. We were entertained with a performance of Puccini's *Messa di Gloria* and Elgar's *The Music Makers*. All agreed that the huge choir sounded awesome. The orchestra played beautifully and the soloists were outstanding.

Already this year, members have presented a varied selection of their favourite recorded music to the group; *Hansel and Gretel*, *Sibelius at Ainola*, music beginning with M (Miller, McCartney, Marsalis), music from Bohemia and Moravia, music from the shows and plenty of Streisand, Queen and Alfie Boe.

We have also celebrated a number of important anniversaries, including those for Bruckner, Smetana and Janacek.

If this sounds like fun to you (it is), just join us on our regular Monday mornings at the Civic.

### **Travel News**

We have day trips and holidays available throughout the summer. Again these can be booked up until 24<sup>th</sup> May. Please come and see us.

**If you are interested in a day out on the Macclesfield Canal with a fish & chip lunch please come in and enquire on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April. Spaces are limited and dates are to be confirmed.**

### **Committee News**

I ask this in every newsletter but it is important. Alsager & District U3A will need Committee Members from the AGM in October. If you are interested please come in and talk to me in Civic any time during our final three sessions.

### **Website news**

We continually update the website with useful information for all members to include local and national events – don't forget to check it out!!

### **And finally .....**

If your group is finishing at the end of May please thank your Leader for their hard work in leading your group throughout the year.

Kind regards, Alan