



Social Meeting: 10am, Friday 16th June, Elm Bank Conference Centre M30 9BA
Speaker: Pauline Miller: Medical detection dogs

Last month's meeting



Our speaker, Jim Williams, gave us a run-down on notable charlatans, frauds and fools of the past. Two basic rules for charlatans are a) that there is no idea so stupid that no-one will believe it and b) that no-one is immune to 'dodgy' claims - who knew it was so easy to be conned?

First Aid training

Several members attended a first aid course last month, arranged by Carolyn Siddall.



The Red Cross trainer taught them how to do chest compressions, and how to manage choking and various other emergency situations. They also learned about using ordinary household items when there is nothing else available, as you can see (right).

Trips and short breaks

The short break to the **West Country** in September is now fully booked.

***The day trip to **Bowness** on Friday, 23rd June leaves Duke's Drive at 9.30 ***

The **u3a NW Regional AGM and conference** is on Tuesday, 4th July in Liverpool – a chance to meet members from other u3as and to hear about developments at regional and national level. Click [here](#) for details.



A huge *Thank you* to everyone who volunteers their time, energy, skills and know-how to keep Salford u3a the friendly, lively, thriving organisation we are.

Convenors, organisers of trips and events, brewers-up, putters-out of chairs and tables, leaders of meetings, distributors of posters, meeters and greeters, signers-in, collectors of money, committee members and everyone who helps in any way – you all make it happen.

Groups of the month: Board and card games

This month, we're highlighting three of our groups:-

[Scrabble](#)

[Bridge](#)

[Mah Jong](#)

They're all games of skill and strategy, they're competitive but they're also played for the fun of it.



As a newcomer to Scrabble, I found that it has a vocabulary all of its own – still not sure of the meaning of ew, na or xi. Members play in 2s or 3s, depending on how many are present; they manage a couple of boards, plus a tea/coffee break.

Next meeting: 1.30pm on 27th June at Eccles Gateway. Convenor: Jean Addy.

Bridge and Mah Jong share a room at St Paul's in Walkden. Mah Jong play in 3s or 4s and in Bridge, two teams of two play each other.

Next meetings: 2pm on 15th and 22nd June at St Paul's Walkden.

Convenors: Martin Maynard (Mah Jong) and Andy Scutt (Bridge).

All three groups welcome new members at any level of experience, with 'tuition' to get you started if you're new to the game. Both venues are accessible and on public transport routes.

See details of all our interest groups [here](#).

Nine members were at the launch meeting of the [Spanish Conversation](#) group, and started with basic introductions and a short listening exercise.



There was a range of experience and ability but everyone found something useful in the activities, with members helping each other. Next meeting is **Thursday, 22nd June at 2pm**. New members welcome. Contact Gill Skurok.

Do you have any other ideas for board/card games?

**Rummikub? Canasta? Draughts? Whist?
Upwords? Dominoes? Best of British?
Othello? Mexican train dominoes?**

The possibilities are (almost) endless and all you need is the game, someone who knows the rules, a table and a room.

The Community Room at Morrisons in Eccles is free to hire, to get things started.



Lovely day for the [Strollers](#) at Buile Hill Park

Boat Trip

(especially for those heading to Bowness)



Climb on board the Tern, for a pleasure cruise

From Bowness to Lakeside, admire the views

Wooded shorelines, birds flying high

Overcast clouds in a dull grey sky

People talking with family and friends

The taking of photos with a wide angled lens

Groups in long dresses, scarves covering tresses

People with rucksacks, children on laps

Some eating food, some having naps

Dogs sitting, between the wide gaps

I wonder what Mr Wordsworth would have
thought

To hear strange languages, he wasn't taught

People's behaviours are so different too

Some do not seem willing to queue

Ruskin would have been surprised

To find many peoples with such different lives

Beatrix would be pleased to see

Peter Rabbit on a child's knee

The world has changed, we are many more

As we climb the steps to the waiting shore

Janet Maynard

Remembering Betty Baker



The Local History Group is deeply saddened to announce the death of Betty Baker.

Betty, born in 1930, was 92 and one of our longest serving members. She joined u3a thirty years ago and was also a member of the walking group until she was eighty.

Betty was born in Nairn, a seaside resort on the Moray Firth, Scotland and spent most of her childhood on a nearby farm. She joined the Wrens (Women's Royal Naval Service) three years after the end of the War in 1948. It was this work that brought her to the Manchester area where she later worked as a telephonist at the main Manchester Telephone Exchange.

Over the years Betty researched many local topics for the group and it was only last year that she gave an interesting power-point talk on her life in Scotland during the War – comparing her experiences with the experiences of people in the Salford and Lancashire areas.

Her many friends will miss her kind and interesting conversation, her home-made shortbread and the marmalade which she made every year!

Betty is survived by her son and three grandchildren.

Anne McGarry

u3a National events

Subscribe [here](#) for monthly updates.

Coming up: online learning events including Into the mind of Van Gogh; Adapting to Climate Change; and Introduction to Cryptic Crosswords

Our survey of new members

There was a response rate of 40% to our recent survey so thank you to all who gave us your comments. Thanks also for the positive comments on the welcome you received as a new member. Here are some points you raised that we plan to act on.

How you first heard of u3a: by far the main way is word of mouth. Let's capitalise on that. If everyone introduced one new member to Salford u3a ... well yes, we'd be bursting at the seams, but in a good way. If you can put up a flyer, or know of a group that we could talk to, please let a committee member know.

Joining u3a: many of you would like to see an online option for joining and paying. This is in progress and we'll keep you informed. We also hope to introduce an option for online renewal payments by the end of the year.

Activities at different times: there is interest in groups/events in the evening and at weekends. We're happy to support anything that members are interested in. An evening book club? Cinema club? Supper club? A monthly meet up on Saturday mornings around the borough? A weekend walking group? Wine or beer appreciation? Just say the word and we'll see what interest there is.

Your views wanted: we'll be sending out a Question of the Month to all members following the monthly Social – something quick and easy so please give it a go. Thanks

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## Singers wanted – an invitation from *The Entertainers*



We are a singing group who are trying to recruit new members, due to the impact of the Covid virus, which has seen our numbers decline. We sing at various venues around Bolton and district, with a varied repertoire to meet the needs of the people who hire us to sing. We sing WW1, WW2 songs to modern classics and music from the shows.

If anyone wishes to join us, we rehearse every Wednesday at St. John's, Walkden, from 1:00 pm, or get in touch for more information: telephone Sandra Blyth 07969162949 or James Walton, 07759977534

## Check and Chat calls

Age friendly Salford offers a telephone service providing wellbeing support to older residents who may be experiencing loneliness or social isolation. The calls are aimed at keeping people connected, building confidence and spreading the word about what's going on in the area.

If you would like to find out more, contact Tonicha on 07983 884160



## A request from members for support with their charity fundraisers

**Jean Wadesdon** and friends are celebrating Jean's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with a 2-hour Nordic Pole charity walk in aid of **Brain Tumour Research**. What a great way to celebrate!

You can donate via her [Just Giving page](#). Alternatively, John Anstis, who will be walking with Jean, will be at the June Social with sponsorship forms. You'll spot John in his snazzy pink t-shirt.

**Beverley Robinson** is hosting a Coffee and Cake afternoon in her garden on 30<sup>th</sup> July, including tea, soft drinks a raffle and an auction. A very enjoyable way of raising funds for **clinical research at The Christie**. Contact Beverley for her address.

**Carolyn Bilsborough** is holding a car boot sale at Buile Hill Park on Sunday morning, 25<sup>th</sup> June. She's raising money for **Being There**, a charity supporting people with life limiting conditions, including practical support, hospital transport and one-to-one befriending. Carolyn's husband is a volunteer driver for them. <https://beingthere.org.uk/>