

Minutes Secretary required for Southport U3A committee.

We require someone to take and type the minutes at our monthly committee meetings.

You do not need to join the committee (unless you so desire) but we would expect you to be professional and respect the confidential nature of the job.

The committee meets once a month, on the last Wednesday, at 7 - 9.00 pm. At the minute we are meeting via Zoom, but our usual venue is Southport Fire station.

Salary is commensurate with experience but is expected to be £NIL.

Contact Phil Watling
southportu3asecretary@yahoo.com



Scientists have found a way to make metal which is four times stronger than natural substances.

Click [HERE](#) to read the article about their discovery.

A reminder for all U3A members that, if you would like a subscription to the 'Third Age Matters' magazine, you should send an email to Brian Mitchell at brianmitchell387@icloud.com.



The cost for a subscription is approximately £3 per annum, Brian will confirm this and also clarify the payment method.

Hi Everyone

As you may be aware our constitution only permits a Chair to sit for 3 years.



Due to the current pandemic I have been in post for just over 3 years and have now stood down to make way for our newly elected Chair, Paddy McNeish. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for their integrity, professionalism and commitment, and I have no doubt that this will continue into the future. Their collegiality and consistent support was much appreciated.

This past year has been challenging for all of us, but I am constantly in awe of the commitment and passion of our members, particularly the group leaders, who have demonstrated over and over again the drive and creativity to ensure we are a vibrant and proactive organisation, thinking of different ways to keep groups active, supporting our members and keeping in touch through quizzes and the newsletter. However, we are now in the year of the vaccine and I look forward to seeing everyone in a more physically and relaxing environment, as soon as possible.

Finally, I would like to thank members for their kindness, support and generosity of spirit to me personally. Without this support, the past 3 years would have been a much more difficult time.

Many thanks
Neil McMillan

Dear sir,

I received an email from U3A Secretary, Phil Watling last November about something called **Amazon Smile**. I had never heard of it but he told us that to register for this costs us nothing while every order we place with them gains funds for the U3A. It was very easy to do and I then changed Amazon on my favourite list to Amazon Smile so any Amazon orders I place automatically gets the percentage and I don't even have to think about it.

Imagine my surprise when I looked at my Amazon account and found that only three relatively ordinary orders had made £2.47 for the U3A. I am attaching a copy to let you see.

So, if everybody reading this newsletter did the same thing our U3A would gain a lot of funds for no effort at all.

Here are Phil's instructions which were very simple.

I'm sure that you've been buying more online this year than ever before - BUT - did you know you can help Southport u3a while doing so?

Next time you want to use Amazon, go to their **SmileAmazon** site. This site lets you purchase as normal, but gives a small percentage to the charity of your choice.

If you select **ACCOUNTS & LISTS**

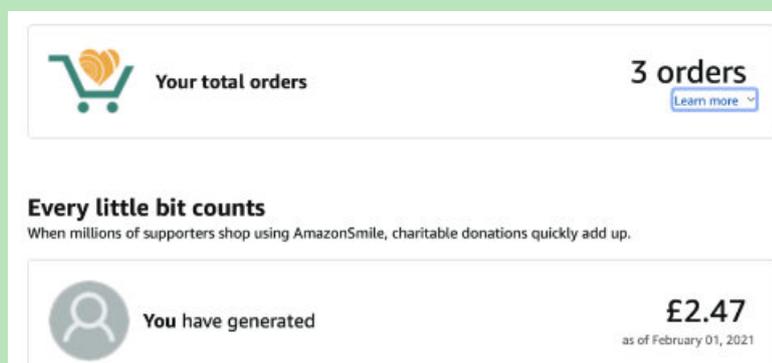
Then select **YOUR AMAZON SMILE**

You are redirected to a page where you can select **CHANGE CHARITY**

You are then able to enter **Southport U3A** in the search box and select

You could also enter our charity number **1164448**, which it also recognises.

So, at no cost to yourself, you could be generating funds for your u3a.



At the end of the war the prisoners were sent back to Germany and the council were able to house those from the bombed areas. In the very cold winter of 1947 some were reduced to removing the bedroom doors and using them for firewood.

In the early 1950s whilst still at school I delivered milk to some of these homes on a carrier bike, the milk was from Jimmy Jackson's dairy farm where I learned to milk cows, sieve, cool and bottle the stuff and fix the cardboard caps until they were replaced with aluminium ones. I often saddled the horse Dolly for the main milk delivery.

At the grand old age of thirteen I was driving a grey Massey Ferguson tractor to help with the harvesting. This was how I earned my pocket money.

When the Americans joined the European war they established a big airfield at Burtonwood, Warrington. Most of their supplies came through the Liverpool docks and they used the A57 that came through Huyton and with all of the men away on military duties the American servicemen were an

attraction for the local ladies. So much so that two of them, one from next door and another on the opposite side along with a third from round the corner ended up pregnant only for all three servicemen to be shipped back to the States immediately.

Another older lady married one of them and went off to America with him, only to return some few years later with two young children and divorced. They were right when they said of the Americans that they were 'over here, over paid, and over sexed.' Many had their own cars shipped here courtesy of the American government. This was one of the main attractions to our women, the cars and the back seats. It was many years before we British could afford cars.

Ironically I was twenty five when I bought my first car, I was in the Army serving in Libya alongside Americans and it was a left hand drive automatic Chevrolet that I purchased from one of their servicemen.

Astronomy Group

Robert Mount has provided a link to a 'Sky At Night' article which highlights what we can see in the night sky this year (providing of course that those clouds clear out of the way).

Click [HERE](#) to read the article.

Would you be able (or willing) to drive at **261mph** in a Bugatti Chiron?

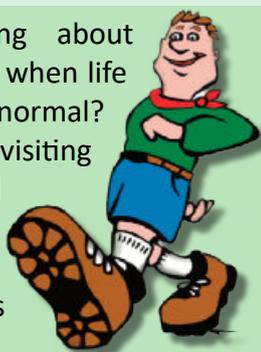


There are people who are (and are), click [HERE](#) to watch the video which proves it.



A winter sunrise on Loch Lomond, taken from the Rowardennan Youth Hostel (photo by Ian Homewood)

Are you thinking about possible days out when life returns more to normal? Then what about visiting the area around Silverdale and Arnside?



This region of South Lakes is one of the favourite walking grounds for walking group 4. There are many lovely walks to be had, both short and long.

The very narrow fissure of the Fairy Steps, which is part of the old coffin route from Arnside to Beetham, can be walked from Arnside centre, returning along the old Hinacaster to Arnside railway line which hugs the coast back to Arnside. The other route is a circular walk from Beetham village, using the 'limsetone link' footpath and returning through the delightful Hallam park, where deer are often seen grazing.

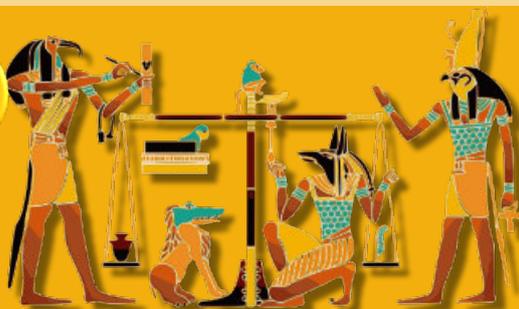
It is possible to climb up Arnside Knott, with excellent views over Grange and the Kent estuary. This walk can be started from either Arnside village or from Woodwell, south of the Knott and returning via the coastal path, or the beach if the tide is out.

Another favourite is to walk along the South Silverdale coast, and to include a visit to the pepper pot (built to celebrate Queen Victoria's jubilee) and also Trowbarrow quarry.

The photographs here are from the Fairy Steps walk. We'll show you photos of the other walks in future newsletters.

David Miley





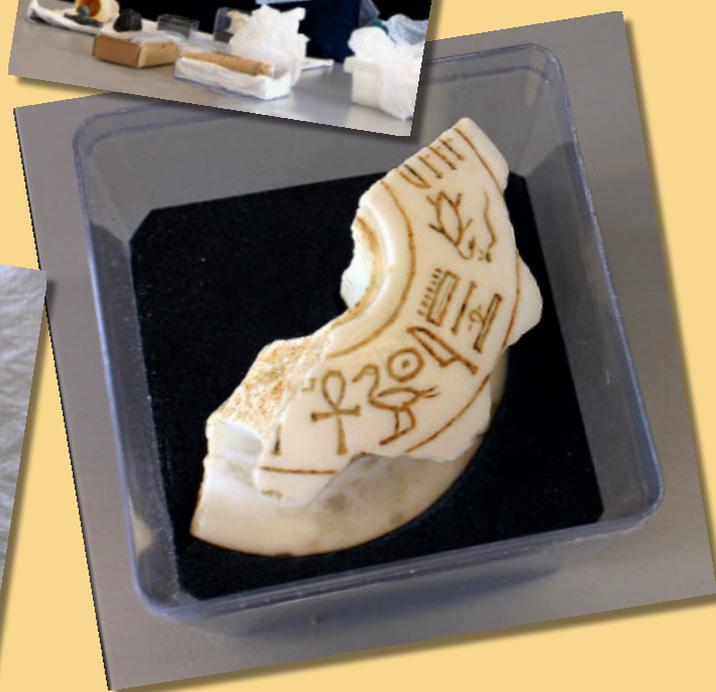
In 2019, Vivianne Rowan organised a trip to Manchester Museum, where the group were taken round the Egyptology Dept by Dr Campbell Price. They even had a visit to the Mummy room!

Vivianne would like to start holding talks, via Zoom, on Wednesday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm.

The talks will be called 'A Sojourn into the past' and will cover Ancient Civilisations from Pyramids to Petra, The Suez canal and its history, Ancient Inventions still in use today and History of Pirates.

There are over 150 talks on all aspects of the past, which she has delivered over the past 10 years on cruise ships all around the world, until Covid struck.

If you are interested in attending Vivianne's talks please email her on egyptsojourn@gmail.com





Saturday 6th February 2021

Aston Villa v Arsenal
12:30 BT Sport

Burnley v Brighton & Hove Albion
15:00 Sky Sports

Newcastle United v Southampton
15:00 BT Sport 1

Fulham v West Ham United
17:30 Sky Sports

Man Utd v Everton
20:00 Sky Sports

Sunday 7th February 2021

Tottenham Hotspur v West Brom
12:00 BT Sport

Wolves v Leicester City
14:00 Sky Sports

Liverpool v Man City
16:30 Sky Sports

Sheffield United v Chelsea
19:15 Sky Sports

Monday 8th February 2021

Leeds United v Crystal Palace
20:00 Sky Sport

Don't forget this weekend is **Superbowl** Sunday! It will be shown live on BBC1, from 11:30pm. Grab your corn dogs, burgers and beers and settle in for a late night!



Have you ever been 'Outnumbered'? The Producers of this series gave the children an idea and let them run with it, often with hilarious results. Click [HERE](#) for a short clip from the first series.



The following are taken from signs seen while travelling around Japan and have been sent in by Joe Forshaw.

It is forbidden to steal hotel towels please. If you are not the persons to do such things please not to read this notis.

You are invited to take advantage of the chambermaid.

If you want just condition of warm air in your room please control yourself.

This bar has special cocktails for ladies with nuts.

A car park detour sign; please drive sideways.

NAME THEIR OTHER HALF



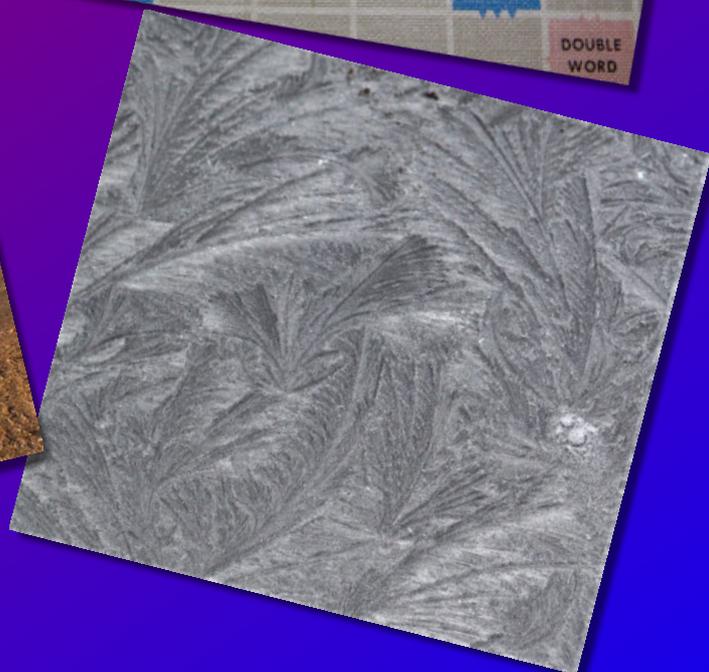
1. ANTHONY &
2. MULDER &
3. LANCELOT &
4. MILLS &
5. ABERCROMBIE &
6. VICTORIA &
7. MOET &
8. FRED &
9. EDWARD &
10. HINGE &

Answers on Tuesday



HOT AND COLD

BY PHOTO GROUP 1



In January, the theme for Photo Group 1 was 'Hot and/or Cold'. As it happened, there was much more opportunity for 'cold' photos and it showed in the submissions. Here is a random selection of the photos, you can see the rest by clicking [HERE](#).