

West Cheshire Rural u3a Bulletin



Your monthly news, updates and dates for
West Cheshire Rural u3a

Welcome to your September bulletin, keeping you up to date with everything happening in West Cheshire Rural u3a.



MONTHLY MEETING

**Thursday 17th September 2026
at 2.30pm**

The Barbour Institute, Tattenhall

Talk by John Winter

"Blame it on the Beatles.... and Bill Shankly"

An illustrated talk on Liverpool and the Beatles in 1960s Liverpool as experienced by John Winter, a member of the Liverpool music scene and a football fan.

Refreshments and a chat from 2.00pm before the meeting.

GET IN TOUCH



Website

<https://west-cheshire.u3asite.uk/>



Email

wcru3a@hotmail.com



Membership enquiries

For membership enquiries contact Niki Wheller, Membership Secretary, at membershipwcru3a@gmail.com



For more information about our groups and activities, visit our website or get in touch – we'd love to hear from you!

u3a
learn, laugh, live

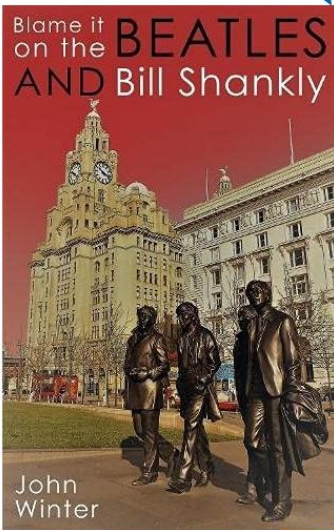


learn, laugh, live

West Cheshire Rural u3a
presents

Blame it on the Beatles ... and Bill Shankly

A talk by
John Winter
Thursday 17th September 2026
Doors at 2pm
Barbour Institute, Tattenhall



Reminiscences of life in 1960's Liverpool, the rise of the Beatles, the music scene and the success of the Liverpool football team as experienced by John Winter.

Save the Date – West Cheshire Rural u3a Christmas Lunch

Our annual West Cheshire Rural u3a Christmas lunch will take place on Thursday 3rd December at Cheshire View. It's always a great opportunity to get together, enjoy good food and great company, and celebrate the forthcoming festive season with fellow members. Save the date now so you don't get double-booked! Full details, including the menu, timings and booking information, will be available shortly.

Groups restarting after the summer break

Some groups took a break over the summer and are restarting in September – these are the ones that I know about.

- Calligraphy sessions restart in the Burley Hall in Waverton, 3rd September
- Poetry restarts with the first meeting in the Community Room in St Albans on the 7th September. The theme is “advice”
- After a summer playing at the Barbour Institute, the Ukulele Group returns to the Memorial Hall in Farndon on the 9th September
- The Drawing Group restarts on September 14th in Hargrave Hall

Potential new groups and activities.

Work is being done at the moment to offer some new interest groups and activities to members. The ones that are being looked at are:

- **A Boccia Group**
- **Line Dancing**
- **An AI workshop (the first page of this Bulletin is AI created)**
- **A monthly u3a Quiz**

Keep your eyes out for an email from Mike with further details.

Board Games Group at the Barbour

The board games group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month starting at 2pm in the billiard room at the Barbour Institute in Tattenhall.

There is a small charge of £4 per session to cover the cost of the room, payable on the day. If you have an interesting game, bring it along.

Ukulele Update – Ken Wakefield

Twice this year we had a social event that brought both our Ukulele groups together. The second time we invited singers from a local choir to sing along with us. They made a great sound; in fact, it was so good that we wanted this every time.

We are thrilled to announce that we have merged the Ukulele Players and Ukulele Improvers into one single, united Ukulele Group.

Why We're Making This Move?

- **A Richer, Fuller Sound:** Combining our instruments and voices makes a tremendous difference. Playing together elevates the music for everyone.
- **Community & Camaraderie:** Merging brings all our u3a ukulele enthusiasts under one roof, giving us a chance to socialise, learn from each other, and enjoy making music as one big community.
- **Shared Learning:** Having a mix of experience levels creates a wonderful atmosphere where we can support one another on trickier chords, rhythms, and arrangements.

Our first get together will be on the 9th September. The group now has 35 members and you are welcome to join us. Just go to our webpage and click the leaders name to send a message.

Short walk – August



The August short walk was led by Jill and Marjorie. It was a good 4mile walk in spite of the heat, taking lots of rests in the shade, and taking on board plenty of water. Unexpectedly, there was lots of fruits too, the usual blackberries, then figs left out by a Churton resident and plum cherries in a hedge. At the end we went to Bellis's for lunch.



Long Walk

Unfortunately, the walk on 27th August coincided with the heaviest rain we have seen for months, but nine brave souls turned up to take part. Consequently, the planned walk to Beeston was cancelled, and Jill led us on a shorter walk around Peckforton Hill, followed by a stop for coffee at The Pheasant and then lunch at Alison's. Despite the weather, it still seemed to be an enjoyable morning.



Walk Leaders

Short Walk Leader			Long Walk Leaders	
Sept	Gill F & Sue		Sept	Carol S & Carol B
Oct	David & Lynda B		Oct	
Nov	Hilton and Pat		Nov	
Dec	Sheila			

Manchester Geological Association Event

On Saturday September 19th the Manchester Geological Association will be holding an Introduction to Geology event.

As with the previous event, and a successful course at this year's u3a NW u3a Summer School, it is aimed at the amateur geologist, both the established amateur and those totally new to the subject.

It will be held at:

**University of Manchester,
176 Oxford Rd,
Manchester
M13 9QQ.**

There is no charge for the event and there will be complimentary refreshments. Booking isn't essential but ideally email niallclarke01@gmail.com so we can get the right number of biscuits.

Programme

11:30 - The human impact on geology - how we are changing the planet

12:30 - break with tea and coffee provided

13:15 - Practical session in the Labs, an opportunity to look at the University collection, wrapping up around 14:30

West Cheshire Rural u3a Interest Groups

You can join as many groups as you have got time for. If the group you want is not there, why not get one started? There is a lot of help available.

Some groups are limited in size by their resources, for example the Reading Groups, but if there is demand we can start another group.

Group	Current Meeting Times	Group leader
Solving Cryptic Crosswords	Alternate Mondays at 2pm	Mike Woollard
Poetry	First Monday in the month in St Albans Community Room Tattenhall	Gill Foster
Chapter Chats	Last Tuesday in the month at 7.30pm	Barbara Garner
Pageturners	The third Friday in the month 11.00am in St Albans Community Room Tattenhall	Linda Davenport

Group	Current Meeting Times	Group leader
Ukulele Players	Alternate Wednesdays at 10.30 am in Farndon	Ken Wakefield Royan Anthony
Walking	Walking groups schedule: • Short walk on 2nd Thursday • Long walk on 4th Thursday Other groups on ad-hoc basis	Anne Bayliss
Drawing Group	Fortnightly meeting in Hargrave Village Hall	Carolyn Vickers
Dining	Dining Group 2 second Wednesday of the month	Marian Hagan
Mah-jong for Beginners	2nd & 4th Fridays at 10.30am community room St Albans	Linda Davenport
Music Appreciation	First Thursday of the month in the community room at St Albans	Marian Hagan Colin Bate
Historic Places & Gardens	Fourth Tuesday of the month.	Marian Hagan Jill O'Callaghan
Discussion	Alternate Tuesdays in The Barbour	Steven Prince
Art Appreciation	Various visits during the year	Jean Mumford Vanessa Newman
Sunday Lunch	First Sunday of the Month	Elaine Dunham
Sunday Dining 2	Third Sunday of the month	Marian Hagan
Canasta	2 nd and 4 th Tuesday in the month	Carole Curphy
Board Games	Held at the Barbour Institute on the 2 nd and 4 th Tuesday in the month	Mike Woollard
Sewing And Quilting	Every three weeks Huxley Village Hall	Donna Eaton
Calligraphy	Twice monthly on a Thursday	Anne Bayliss
Bird Watching	Third Wednesday of the month	Niki Wheller
Concert Goers	As arranged	Anne Bayliss
Knitting and Crochet	Weekly 10:30 am-12:00 pm at Applegate's on the A41	Helen Weaver