



Older People Active Lives

REACH

Issue 19

For comments, articles & info
contact your Organiser or
opalreach@opalservices.org.uk

LOCKDOWN NEWS

The good news was that, on 1st August, those who had been shielding against coronavirus were permitted to go out, adhering to masking and social distancing advice. Sadly though we were not able to move to the next stage of lockdown relaxation due to increased infection rates. In fact, for some areas of the North West, stricter guidelines were imposed due to a spike in the case numbers. So, the situation is still uncertain and there are no plans to resume OPAL as it was. This makes us all very disappointed, but OPAL is working to find some alternatives...



A few trial GARDEN VISITS have commenced, where a volunteer, armed with a flask and a deck chair perhaps, goes to sit in a member's garden for a social distanced catch up. Another pilot project is providing ACTIVITY PACKS full of things to do, things to read, things to make, to see if these are successful in keeping members busy and active. There will be something for almost everyone,

eventually, and we will keep you updated as these progress.

On August 1st, the policy on free TV licences for those over 75 changed. In future the free licence is only aimed at those receiving Pension Credit. However, do not worry, you will all receive a letter explaining what you need to do, **so do not do anything until you personally receive your letter.** If you have any questions at all, please speak to your Organiser, who will be able to provide you with up to date information.



BLAST FROM THE PAST....TRANSPORT

- May 1905 – The Widnes-Runcorn Transporter Bridge was opened by Sir John Brunner.
- June 1938 – Manchester Airport handled its first scheduled flight, a KLM operated Douglas DC-2 to Amsterdam.
- July 1938 – LNER Class A4 Mallard achieved the world speed record for a steam locomotive of 126mph.
- Sept 1957 – Liverpool's last tram ran from the Pier Head to Bowring Park.
- Dec 1958 – The first section of motorway opened in Britain was the Preston By-Pass (now part of the M6).

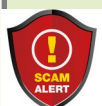
DRIVING HIGH...

Whilst the OPAL Reach team had a week off, some OPAL Reach readers have been sending in stories about their favourite pastime – driving! Whether it is a drive in the country with a picnic, or taking part in a rally, there are some members and volunteers who are passionate about their cars. We do hope you enjoy our Transport special supplement.

Summer outing favourites have also been affected by the pandemic with the local steam rallies at Malpas and Kelsall cancelled this year.

Even Formula 1 took place with no spectators last weekend.

However, we've put together some ideas that are currently still running in our 'Out and About' section overleaf. But please do check again with the venue before venturing out.



YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE TO PAY FOR A CORONAVIRUS TEST — IF YOU ARE ASKED TO IT IS A SCAM. REFUSE AND REPORT IT TO CHESHIRE POLICE ON 101.

What's On? - out and about!

Please check with the venue before travelling!

8TH—30TH AUGUST,
THE COMEDY OF ERRORS,
GROSVENOR PARK OPEN
AIR THEATRE,
CHESTER

SUNDAY 30 AUGUST,
CHESHIRE CLASSIC
CAR & MOTORCYCLE
SHOW,
CAPESTHORNE HALL

SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER,
FESTIVAL OF 1000
CLASSIC CARS AND NW
CLASSIC BIKE SHOW,
CHOLMONDELEY CASTLE

LAST WEEK'S PHOTO QUIZ ANSWERS : Paddington, Fantastic Mr Fox, the Gingerbread Man, Mary Poppins

Quizzical

1. In which decade was the motorway system constructed?
2. What is the oldest surviving railway station in the world?
3. Which mode of transport has parts called an envelope and a burner?
4. How are trolley buses powered?
5. From where would you catch a ferry to the Isle of Man?
6. Who invented the canal boat?

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS - 1. LOVE, 2. HAIR, 3. JOKERS, 4. GNOME, 5. ICE, 6. KNIVES

In the spotlight....

PHIL FROM MALPAS

Where were you born?

Trevalyn Nursing Home, Rossett, near Wrexham

What's your earliest memory?

Living in a damp rented farm cottage with my parents and loving hiding in the orchard under the vast gooseberry bush.

Where is one of your favourite places to be?

Greenwich Village, New York City in a jazz club.

Tell us something we might not already know about you...

Since the 1960s I have been a semi-professional drummer and I have played for Ken Dodd, Frankie Howerd, Tom O'Connor, and Little Jimmy Reid (Alabama blues guitarist).

Who/what makes you laugh?

Funny situations that people get themselves into...

Did you have a career, if so, what did you do?

As an electrical engineer, I worked at what is now Airbus UK for 37 years.

Which OPAL services do you volunteer for?

I drive the minibus for Malpas OPAL, and appear as percussionist with the Malpas Ladies Choir who entertain the Club every month, I am also a BreakTime volunteer. I love it all.

Do you have a favourite quote or poem?

Rather a funny saying...someone once commented about a bandleader I was working for, "he's not too good on the trumpet, but he's great on the telephone."



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FARRALL'S GROUP

Think about me, not my age

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