



Older People Active Lives

REACH



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

BRIGHT LIGHTS OF BLACKPOOL

Last Friday, 4th September, saw the switching on of Blackpool Illuminations, the annual event with 6 miles of lights along the Fylde coast. The first lights' festival was in 1879, and the world famous show usually runs for 66 days, but this year it has been extended for an extra 2 months until 3rd January 2021 to try and boost the badly hit tourism industry.



[liverpoolecho](https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk)

BACK TO A NEW REALITY - SCHOOLS RETURN

September sees the return to school for children, most of whom have not been in the classroom since March. Usually school breaking up for Summer in July is quickly followed with "Back to School" shelves appearing in the supermarkets! The shopping trip to purchase new uniforms, school shoes and a pencil case had more than the usual nerves and excitement about it this time around.

Do you remember getting your new uniform – was it a hand me down from an older sibling or a special visit to a uniform specialist to be measured for a blazer and school cap?

Do let us have your 'back to school' memories and/or photos for a special edition we are planning.



BLAST FROM THE PAST - 15 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

- Israel completes its withdrawal of troops and settlers from the Gaza Strip.
- Kim Clijsters wins the US Women's Open tennis title whilst Roger Federer beats Andre Agassi to win the US Men's title.
- Typhoon Khanun hits Zhejiang Province in China with winds of 144 km per hour.
- eBay announces it will buy Skype in a \$2.6 billion deal.
- England draw the final Ashes Test with Australia at the Oval but win the series 2-1.

ACTIVITY PACK DELIVERIES

Our Organisers and Volunteers have been busy over the last fortnight delivering 'goody packs' to our Club Members. Inside the packs were some treats to eat, lots of puzzles, activities and craft ideas as well as a flower ornament and our wonderful OPAL badges -ready for wearing when we eventually return to our club setting, which unfortunately, with the recent news of reduced numbers at social gatherings, could still be some way off.

Many of us enjoy knitting and crocheting, so we have also launched a "knitting for OPAL" project. A knitting activity pack is available for Members and Volunteers who want to return to the pastime and there is something for everyone from knitting and crocheting squares to more complex patterns. Please let your Organisers know if you would like to participate.



Age UK Cheshire "Supporting You" are offering free advice on welfare benefits.
Contact – 0151 348 8113 or email : supportingyou@ageukcheshire.org.uk

Riddles & Teasers

How many words (three letters or more) can you make out of

ILLUMINATIONS

Watch out for...

TV COMING SOON...



Strictly Come Dancing, BBC 1
Great British Bake Off, C4
Singapore Grip, ITV
Agatha and the Midnight Murders, Channel 5

Quizzical

THE ALPHABET QUIZ

M, N, O, P, Q or R are used at the beginning of each answer but not necessarily in alphabetical order...

1. Walnuts, eggs and gherkins can all be what?
2. Between 1925 and 1954, 2.3 million immigrants passed through which city port?
3. What do 'Lady Emma Hamilton', 'Queen Elizabeth', 'Emily Bronte' and 'Gertrude Jekyll' all have in common?
4. You could eat one whilst looking at it through a telescope.
5. If R is for Romeo ? is for _____?
6. I'm rare, I need protection but I do love to 'hang about' in a tree or two.

Last Reach Quiz Answers

SNOW

SHOW

SHOP

SHIP

SLIP

SLID

SAID

RAID

RAIN

In the spotlight....

....BARBARA- REACH'S NO 1 FAN!!

Where were you born?

Helsby, in Crossland Terrace, my husband was born in Willington. I have lived in Helsby all my life.

What's your earliest memory?

During the war me and my 2 sisters slept in a bed made in the under stairs pantry while the air raids were going on. We heard all the planes flying over towards Liverpool.

Where is one of your favourite places to be?

In Blackpool. My husband and I got the Crosville Bus there on our honeymoon and it's been my favourite place ever since.

Who makes you laugh?

My daughter Diane.

Tell us something we might not already know about you

I once met Stan Ogden from Coronation Street at a darts competition my husband was playing in.

Which OPAL service do you use and what do you like most about it?

I am currently receiving Reach and I really love it, it brings back so many memories for me. Like the VE day stories and a spotlight on an old friend from the village. I am still unable to go out so getting Reach brightens up my week. I hope to join Helsby Opal once things are back to normal.

Do you have a favourite quote or poem?

The Complete Poems for Christopher Robin, by A.A Milne - I remember my Auntie kneeling down saying her prayers and reading the poems.



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FARRALL'S GROUP

Think about me, not my age

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