



# REACH

Older People Active Lives



For comments, articles & info contact your Organiser or [opalreach@opalservices.org.uk](mailto:opalreach@opalservices.org.uk)

## CENSUS 2021



Every household will be receiving details of the 2021 Census to be completed on Sunday 21st March 2021. The Government is requesting where possible for the census to be completed online. If this is not possible, please ring 0800 141 2021 as soon as possible to request a paper form.

## MOTHERING SUNDAY

Sunday 14th March is Mother's Day in the UK. There will be the giving of presents, flowers and home-made cards to those we love. The actual date moves every year as it is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent. In the past, churchgoers would attend the service at their "mother church" – the main church or cathedral, not the local parish church, or "daughter church".



This led to domestic servants and apprentices being given this day off to return to visit their mother and family. They would pick flowers as they walked and presented these posies as a gift, hence the association of the day with the giving of flowers. ([www.metro.co.uk](http://www.metro.co.uk))

## BLAST FROM THE PAST -

- 1642 Abel Tasman becomes the first European to sight New Zealand.
- 1781 William Herschel discovers the planet Uranus having first mistaken it for a comet.
- 1894 Coca Cola is sold for the first time in bottles.
- 1930 Mahatma Gandhi begins 200-mile march protesting against British salt tax.
- 1961 Jaguar head William Lyons debuts the first E-Type model at the Geneva International Motor Show.
- 1973 Queen Elizabeth II opens new London Bridge.
- 2020 Covid-19 declared a pandemic by the head of the World Health Organisation.

## AS MAD AS A MARCH HARE

Have you ever wondered where this saying comes from? Hares breed in March and display erratic behaviour, but the saying is believed to date back to Sir Thomas More in 1529 when he wrote "As mad not as much as a march hare, but as a madde dogge." But you would be forgiven to think it can be attributed to Lewis Carroll and his descriptions of a mad march hare (the Mad Hatter) in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. ([mylondonnews.com](http://mylondonnews.com))



(Cheshire Now)

Lewis Carroll, whose real name was Charles Dodgson, was born in 1832 in the village of Daresbury, Cheshire. His father was the Reverend at All Saint's Church in the village, where there is a memorial window featuring characters from his stories and a small museum. In 2000, the Woodland Trust created the Lewis Carroll Centenary Wood as part of the "Woods on Your Doorstep" scheme to commemorate the Millennium.

## LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHY

When we decided to make the first OPAL Calendar last year, we had not realised how many of the OPAL volunteers enjoyed taking photographs, and last month Cheshire Museums launched a project that is right up their street, or country lane! My Cheshire is an online exhibition celebrating the places that mean something to you, your family and friends. Visit [www.westcheshiremuseums.co.uk](http://www.westcheshiremuseums.co.uk) to find out more details and see some of the entries so far.



What does Cheshire mean to you?

Is there a spot in the County that inspires you – an area of outstanding natural beauty, a local park or a little nook or cranny?

## What's On - Line?

A new Shared Reading group has recently started within OPAL and is looking for new members. There is no need to have a Zoom account; the only requirement is to be able to use emails. More details can be found in this week's Reach supplement or contact Jo Preston on 01928 787899 for further information.

## What's On?



*Grace*, new detective show, Sun 14th March, 8pm ITV 1  
*Top Gear (new series)*, Sun 14th March, 8pm, BBC1  
*Bear Grylls Wild Adventure Specials*, Tues 16th March, 8pm, ITV 1  
*Bill Bailey: Limboland*, Wed 17th March, 9pm, BBC 1

## Quizzical

### MATCH THE BOOK TO THE AUTHOR

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1) Little Women      | a) Leo Tolstoy       |
| 2) Tom Sawyer        | b) Jane Austen       |
| 3) War and Peace     | c) Louisa May Alcott |
| 4) Jane Eyre         | d) Mark Twain        |
| 5) Animal Farm       | e) Charlotte Bronte  |
| 6) Pride & Prejudice | f) George Orwell     |

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS 1) Pistachio 2) Approval to proceed 3) Emerald 4) North America 5) Jealousy or Envy.  
WHO AM I? : Glenn Miller.

## Who Am I?

8TH MARCH 1859

I was born in Edinburgh, Scotland but moved to live with my grandmother in Berkshire when I was 5 and this is where we enjoyed many a riverside boating trip. I had a successful career as bank secretary for the Bank of England and in 1930 I was shot at by a 'socialist lunatic' at the bank but was uninjured. I left a year later and became an author. I read bedtime stories to my son, Alistair, and these were made into books. My most favourite children's book was loathed by the critics but loved by readers and is still in print today.

## Spotlight..

### RICHARD HALL

Development Officer, Cultural Services, Cheshire West and Chester Council

#### Where were you born?

I was born in London and moved to Yorkshire when I was 1.

#### What's your earliest memory?

At the age of 5, I got lost in the middle of Chester and was looked after by a kind policeman until my mum and dad found me near the Eastgate Clock.

#### Where is one of your favourite places to be?

I live close to the Chadkirk Country estate, it is one of my very special places. With colleagues in West Cheshire Museums and the library service, I have recently launched an online photographic exhibition, My Cheshire. My contribution to the exhibition is a picture that I took recently whilst walking in the woods near Chadkirk. To view the exhibition and find out how to submit an entry please visit: <http://westcheshiremuseums.co.uk/my-cheshire/>



#### Who makes you laugh?

I never tire of watching Morecambe and Wise, their Christmas shows are still very funny and make me laugh no matter how many times I have seen them.

#### Did you have a career – if so what did you do?

I'm a bit of a Jack of all trades. I began my career working in PR in London, then moved to Manchester to train to be a drama teacher. After teaching for a few years I joined the education department at The Royal Exchange in Manchester. In recent years I have worked for Arts Council England and before taking up my current role with Cheshire West was Manager of Oldham Library.

#### Do you have a favourite quote or poem?

I am a great admirer of the First World War poets and in particular Rupert Brooke. My favourite poem of his is 'The Soldier'.

Kindly printed by



Think about me, not my age