

**Bramhall**



SEPTEMBER 2020

# Uppbeat Magazine

**A.G.M.**

**2020  
Information**

**Pages 6+7**

Bramhall Hall is a superb example of a Tudor Manor House with origins dating back to the Middle Ages.



Photo-montage courtesy of Bramhall USA Photography Group

in September is always lovely

# Did you know?

**September** comes from the Latin word **Septem**, meaning “seven,” because in the original Roman republican calendar September was the seventh month of the year, and not the ninth, as it is now. The last six months were assigned names according to their ordinal numbers. **Quintilis** was the fifth month and **Sextilis** is the sixth month.

In 46 BC, when Julius Caesar introduced the **Julian** calendar, which he named after himself, the year grew to include two more months, January and February. Quintilis and Sextilis were later renamed *July* and *August* in honor of Julius Caesar and Augustus Caesar. Despite repeated attempts to change them, the names for September, October, November, and December not only stuck, but also spread to other languages as well.

The strangeness of calling the ninth month “Seventh Month” didn’t seem to bother the speakers of Old English. *September* replaced the Old English forms *Hāligmōnað* and *Hærfestmōnað*, which, when translated, mean “harvest month” in modern English.

Its also worth mentioning that the Roman Senate also considered calling September, *Tiberius* or *Antoninus*, after either of two Roman Emperors and also *Germanicus*, as Emperor Domitian wanted.



Bob Dumbarton



Eileen Elliott

## September

*Trees reach like glowing embers  
to singe the autumn skies.  
Leaves burst with blinding colour  
like sparks that spin and rise  
Then a breath of weightless fog  
moves across the silent lake  
where trails of molten clouds  
fill the sunset's smoky wake.*

*The harvest moon emerges  
like a second burning sun  
to fill the sky with button-stars  
that morning pulls undone.  
Sunlight floods the gardens  
to melt the morning dew.  
This is where my heart resides  
since September gave me you.*

**Heather Ober**



Hubert Worrall



Hubert Worrall



A Cornish village - Colleen Worrall

*If we shouldn't  
eat at night,  
why do they put  
a light in the  
fridge?*



Hubert Worrall

# A September welcome to you all ...

Have you had a holiday at all this summer? I had several days only but it was enjoyable. I hope you managed to have a break.

As I said last month in the Magazine, we do have to have an AGM, so we are doing this by email and by post.

Everyone has a chance to read and review our annual reports for last year, to nominate members for positions on the committee and to ask questions before voting.

This month's magazine contains all the necessary information and voting forms, and gives time for members to question the committee about any items in the reports.

Queries and responses need to be in by the 30<sup>th</sup> September please.

There is also be a chance for you to volunteer to serve on the committee. It's enjoyable I assure you! We have some vacancies. Please email me at [chairman@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@bramhallu3a.org.uk) and let me know you'd like to help the rest of us volunteers.

In the meantime, stay safe and keep following the current rules on what we can and can't do.

**Alaister Macrae**

## **\*Bramhall U3A. Contact information for your U3A\***

**Our website address, for everything you need to know about your U3A:** [www.bramhallu3a.org.uk](http://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk)

**Group enquiries:** [groups@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@bramhallu3a.org.uk) **General enquiries:** [enquiries@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@bramhallu3a.org.uk)

**Charity items:** [charities@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:charities@bramhallu3a.org.uk) **Upbeat Magazine articles:** [magazine@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:magazine@bramhallu3a.org.uk)

## **Your 2019/2020 Committee**



**Alaister Macrae**  
Chairman



**Peter Webster**  
Vice-Chair,  
Newsletter &  
Magazine



**Alistair Gardner**  
Treasurer



**Chris Stubbs**  
Groups



**Christine Hollingsworth**  
Holidays



**Bob Dumbarton**  
Events,  
Newsletter &  
Magazine



**Meg Rowell**  
Minutes  
Secretary

**Membership:** **Kay Witham** **Along with:** **Doreen Neil; Edward Haynes; Frances Bell; Christine Hollingsworth; Jill Rickman and Joy Armstrong.**

# Community stuff

There are loads of helpful things available for you on the **Bramhall U3A** website .

<http://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/>

Keep yourself up to date with these official websites ...

**The NHS/Coronavirus.**

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>

**Stockport MBC website.**

[www.stockport.gov.uk/](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/)

## **\*\*\*Check your bin collection day\*\*\***

<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/find-your-collection-day>  
**Please put your bins out by 7am**

**GREEN** Every 2 weeks.

**BROWN** Every 4 weeks.

**BLUE** Every 2 weeks

**BLACK** Every 2 weeks

All information taken from the SMBC waste collection website

### **378 Bus Route Extended to form new circular routes**

**Buses 378 and 379** serving Heald Green and Cheadle Hulme are partly replacing buses 307 and 308. All journeys are also rerouted to serve Dairyground Road in Bramhall. Evening, Sunday and public holiday journeys will run between Grove Lane and Stockport only and are renumbered **378A**.

Monday to Saturday daytime journeys will continue to run every 30 minutes between Bramhall and Stockport .  
Route map and timetable info: <https://tfgm.com/public-transport/bus/routes/378-stockport-circular>



**In 1870-72, John Marius Wilson's Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales described Bramhall like this:**

BRAMHALL, or Bramall, a township in Stockport parish, Cheshire; on the Manchester and Macclesfield railway, 2½ miles S of Stockport. It has a station on the railway. Acres, 3,250. Real property, £7,819. Pop., 1,615. Houses, 331. Bramhall House, now the seat of the Davenports, belonged formerly to the Bramhales; is a fine timbered edifice of the 16th century, partly modernized; and contains portraits of Sir A. Legh, and many ancient interesting objects. There are a cotton mill, a silk mill, a police station, and Independent and Wesleyan chapels.

*(Thanks to "A Vision of Britain Through Time")*

## **On a lighter note ...**

**We might be British but, by heck, we are funny!**

Being British is about driving a German (or Japanese) car to an Irish pub for a Belgian beer, then on the way home, grabbing an Indian curry or a Turkish kebab, to sit on a Swedish sofa and watch USA shows on a Japanese TV, and most of all being suspicious of anything Foreign.

Oh, and only in Britain can you get a pizza to your home faster than an ambulance.

Only in Britain do banks leave both doors open and chain pens to the counter.

Supermarkets make sick people walk to the back of the shop for prescriptions whilst healthy people get their fags at the front.

We might be British but by heck we are funny!

**Submitted by Eileen Elliott**

### **Science For All**

The **Science for All group** will continue with talks using Zoom for the autumn. The program is as follows:

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October (2pm):** "COVID-19 – what just happened?" by Professor Pamela Valley & Dr Paul Klapper, Medical Virology, Manchester University.

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November (2pm):** "Made to be measured: The revolution in analytical science for the real time analysis of the human body", by Dr Tony Bristow, AstraZeneca, Macclesfield (to be confirmed)

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December (2pm):** "Caroline Herschel: the Comet Sweeper", by Jane Whitehead, Rugby U3A  
If anyone would like to join the Group, please email [groups@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@bramhallu3a.org.uk)

with "U3A Science for All enquiry" in the Subject box.

**Mike Hollingsworth**

## **It's always worth sharing your Upbeat**

If you can read the U3A magazine online and have a friend or 'buddy' who cannot, then you can always phone them to chat about it. You could also, if you can, print parts of it yourself and post it or give it to them.

**Stay Safe - Stay in Touch.**

# Quiz Time ...

Answers to all questions are on the back page, but no cheating ...

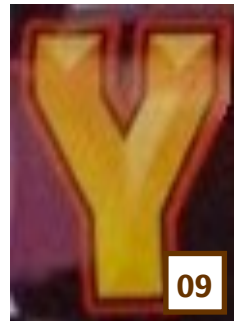
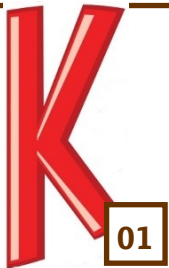
## Know Your Numbers? Thanks to Instant Quizzes

1. In bingo, which number is known as two fat ladies?
2. What was Sir Stanley Matthews' shirt number when playing for Stoke City?
3. What number is represented by MCM in Roman numerals?
4. Which number is represented by the French 'treize' (Pronounced Trezz)?
5. What is the base number in the Hexadecimal number system?
6. What 'A' is a branch of mathematics where numbers are represented by symbols or letters of the alphabet?
7. What are the total degrees in the interior angles of a triangle?
8. What number was given to the Boeing aircraft known as a 'Jumbo Jet'?
9. What is the absolute minimum number of strokes a tennis player must hit in order to win a set assuming no withdrawals, penalties or disqualification?
10. On a standard dartboard, what number comes next in the clockwise sequence 12, 5, 20?



## Name The Sweet

Submitted by Barrie Roberts



## Our charities still need our support

**Bramhall U3A** has been thinking about the loss to our charities of the money collected at the monthly meetings, Jill's card stall and Helen's books for **St Ann's Hospice** and collections of items for **The Wellspring**.

Can we suggest that we each put aside the meeting entry fee, plus any spare coins and put them into a money box or tin to save for a time when everything is normal again. Things might not be the same for a little while, so, as we are not spending money on our usual outings, holidays and meals out, put it in a box to help others.

Stay Safe - Stay in Touch

# Bramhall **U3A** A.G.M. 2020

Dear members,

Although many of our groups are meeting virtually or outdoors, it seems that due to the continuing situation with Covid-19, we won't be able to have our usual monthly meetings in the United Reform Church again for the rest of this year.

However, we do have to have an AGM, and so we are proposing to do this online, by email and by post.

Everyone will have the opportunity to view, read and review all of the annual reports from all the coordinators, and the committee for last year,

You will also have the chance to nominate and vote for members, for positions on the committee, and to ask any questions before you cast your vote.

We hope that this item will contain all the necessary information you need to make your decisions. It also contains details of the voting procedure and voting forms.

There is a chance for people like you to volunteer to serve on the committee. It's great fun let me tell you and we have some vacancies. Please email me at [chairman@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@bramhallu3a.org.uk) and let me know if you'd like to help the rest of us volunteers.

**Alaister Macrae**      **Chairman**

***Bramhall U3A are unable to hold an AGM meeting this year, with members present, due to the current Covid-19 situation.***

***In order to fulfil our legal requirement to have an AGM, all annual reports, plus the voting form, are be available to members via the links shown below.***

## **The Bramhall U3A Annual Report document** (in PDF)

<http://www.bramhallu3a.org.uk/members/2020%20-%20AGM-Trustees-Annual-Groups-report.pdf>

***\*Should you wish to ask any questions about the reports, please email Alaister Macrae at :  
[chairman@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@bramhallu3a.org.uk)***

## **The Bramhall U3A AGM Voting Form**

**This can be accessed via the link: <https://forms.gle/FPw9gXBbQtJ7go3f9>**

**(Place the cursor/arrow over the link, and left click or press and hold the Ctrl button and then left click on your mouse or touchpad)**

**Enter your email address, click the appropriate answers, then click submit.**

***\*Please complete the voting form and submit by 30th September 2020. Thank you\****

**The results of the Members Voting will be published in the November version of *Upbeat*.**

**Please note that any members who we know do not have access to the email/online version of *Upbeat* magazine, are receiving a monthly paper copy by post.**

**They will also be getting a paper copy of the Annual Reports and a voting Form along with the September issue.**

# Bramhall A.G.M. 2020

The Committee currently comprises the following members:

<b>Alaister Macrae</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Peter Webster</b>	<b>Vice Chair/Newsletter</b>
<b>(Vacancy)</b>	<b>Business Secretary</b>
<b>Alistair Gardner</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Kay Witham</b>	<b>Membership Secretary/Theatre</b>
<b>(Vacancy)</b>	<b>Speaker Secretary</b>
<b>Chris Stubbs</b>	<b>Groups Organiser</b>
<b>Bob Dumbarton</b>	<b>Events Organiser/Newsletter</b>
<b>(Vacancy)</b>	<b>Accommodation Hire Organiser</b>
<b>Chris Hollingsworth</b>	<b>Holidays</b>
<b>Meg Rowell</b>	<b>Committee Secretary</b>
<b>Edward Haynes</b>	<b>External Relations</b>
<b>(Vacancy)</b>	<b>Outings</b>
<b>Frances Bell</b>	<b>Theatre</b>
<b>Jill Rickman</b>	<b>General</b>

## **New Nominations:**

### **Helen Webster**

*Nominated by*

*Bob Dumbarton,*

*Seconded by*

*Alaister Macrae*

### **Speakers**

### **Dudley Newall**

*Nominated by*

*Peter Webster,*

*Seconded by*

*Christine Hollingsworth*

### **Outings**

### **Christine Hollingsworth**

*Nominated by*

*Edward Haynes*

*Seconded by*

*Meg Rowell*

### **Holidays**

Whilst some nominations have been received it would be good to see if any of the newer members would like to share the Committee's load. The remaining members of the committee have indicated they are willing to stand for this next year.

**Please submit any nominations to the Chairman to either of the addresses below as soon as possible.**

Should you have any comments regarding the AGM Report or any matters relating to it, please submit to the Chairman, using either address below, as soon as possible.

Email: [chairman@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@bramhallu3a.org.uk)

or

Post: **Alaister Macrae, 20, Southpool Close, Bramhall, Stockport, SK7 3PU**

On a lighter note ...  
These are real signs



Podiatrists  
fight   
Arch Enemies

Suggested by Alister Gardner





## Groups Update

Good news for our groups with the local lockdown having been lifted on Wednesday September 2nd. This means that those groups wishing to reopen in an outside venue may now do so in line with the Government and the National U3A guidelines, which state:

- **Outside venue:**  
Groups of up to 30 can meet in a Covid-19 secure venue.  
*This is a venue that has carried out a Covid-19 risk assessment that demonstrates its use can meet social distancing and hygiene recommendations.*
- **Private Home, Inside venue:**  
No interest group can be conducted inside a private home at this time.
- **Private Home, Outside Interest groups:**  
Groups can meet in any outdoor space in a group of up to 6 people from different households

**For further details please go to :**

<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/showcase/coronavirus>

**Chris Stubbs - Groups Organiser**

### **Quick recipe For Plum, or any stewed fruit, fudge crumble**

**4oz butter**

**4oz Demerara sugar**

**6oz digestive biscuits or ginger biscuits crushed into crumbs**

**1 rounded tsp ground cinnamon if using digestive biscuits**

**Melt butter in saucepan, stir in Demerara sugar and biscuit crumbs**

**Cover surface of stewed fruit and bake in a Bain Marie (water) at 150 - 170c for 30-40 minutes or until brown. This crisps up on cooling.**

**Submitted by Eileen Elliott**



### **Hello from the Card Group**

A small selection of our cards displayed for you. We have a wide range of hand made cards for all occasions. We also make individual personalised special occasion cards at your request & have many new designs that we have been working on. Do give us a ring, we would love to hear from you. (see Newsletter) regards from us all



**Chris, Jill, Avril & Chris W**



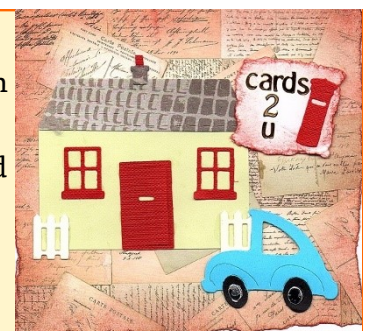
### **Our delivery card service has been a great success.**

We are so grateful to all those who have ordered cards from us, as it means we can continue to support our charity, **The Wellspring**.

We have decided to make this a regular service, so that people who do not attend monthly meetings where we have a stall, can still benefit from getting our hand-made cards. Many thanks to you all.

**Jill Rickman - Card Making**

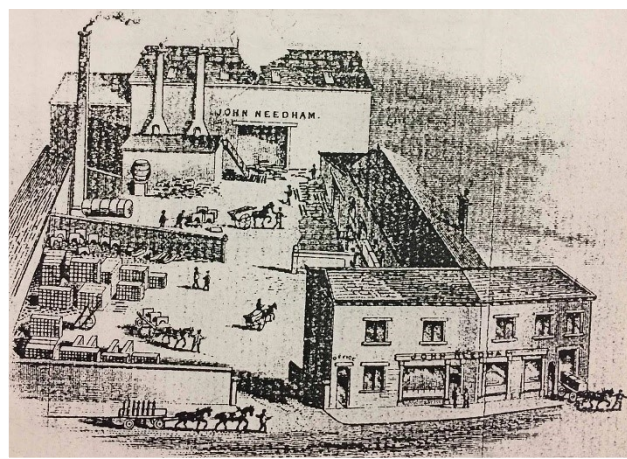
**Contact: [charities@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:charities@bramhallu3a.org.uk)**



## John Needham, man of Stockport, 1852 - 1897.

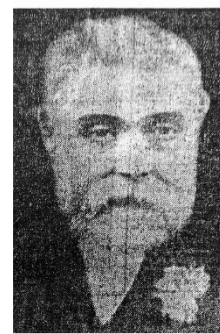
This may seem like an odd suggestion, but next time you are out and about walking, take a look at the ironworks covering grids and manholes. You will see several have the words: **'J. Needham Stockport'** written on them. Strangely this same name can be seen in many towns and cities in England and, indeed, further afield.

John Needham occupied an important role in the life of nineteenth century Stockport. He was actually born in Chesterfield in 1827, son of an iron-worker, Samuel Needham.



Samuel was a shrewd businessman who could see that times were changing and so moved his family first to Oldham and then to Stockport, which, like so many northern towns, was growing and changing at an unimaginable rate. He established a good, profitable business here.

MR JOHN NEEDHAM



John inherited the family business and took it to ever greater heights, his foundry being on Millgate in the centre of Stockport. John, like his father, was astute enough to realise that towns and cities everywhere, but especially in the industrial north, were growing at breakneck speed. Roads and houses were appearing all

the time, all in need of an infrastructure, a way of making it all work, and, of course a well-managed drainage system. Such a system needed ironworks at street level and who better to provide them than John Needham of Stockport. He was the right man at the right time, whose products can be seen all over the UK and beyond.

John married a Priscilla Wilson in 1852 and the family at first lived in the rather grandly named Millgate Hall, the original home of the Lords of Stockport. John's was not the only foundry in Stockport and, along with the many mills all belching smoke, we can only imagine how murky the air and how black all the buildings must have been.

His daughter, Priscilla, cemented the place of the family in the commercial life of Stockport by marrying one William Robinson. Their son was Frederic Robinson, whose name is seen widely as the originator of our very own Robinson's brewery.

The site of John's foundry is now occupied by a car park, opposite Aldi, on Newbridge Lane.

Difficult in the twenty-first century to envisage the hive of activity, the carts arriving with the raw materials and leaving with the finished goods, the grime and the noise of this industrial hub, but it is indeed part of our heritage, still visible everywhere in those ubiquitous grids and manhole covers.

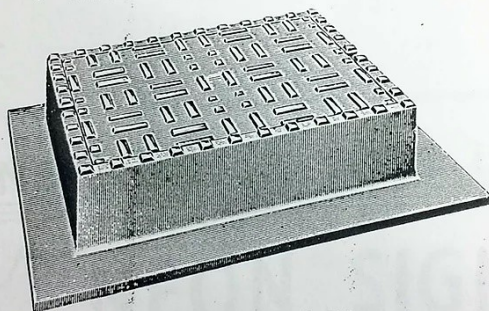
**Helen Webster**



## John Needham & Sons

LIMITED

IRONFOUNDERS, ENGINEERS  
: AND PATTERNMAKERS :



MANUFACTURERS OF  
MUNICIPAL IRONWORK

Heavy and Light Manhole Covers for Roads and Paths,  
Cable Manholes for Electrical Undertakings, Gully  
Grids and Frames, Hydrant, Valve and Water Meter  
Covers and Castings for Waterworks, Tramway and  
Gas Undertakings, Etc., Etc.

Contractors to Principal Railway Cos., The Metropolitan Water  
Board, The London County Council, The Cities of Liverpool and  
Manchester, The County Boroughs at Gateshead and Plymouth, &c.

**MILLGATE FOUNDRY**  
STOCKPORT

# Saving the Planet

A short story

by

Keith Wright

Watching from his celestial space craft, Tranquillity became alarmed at the new evolutionary happenings occurring on Earth, a planet Father had asked him to monitor as its Guardian Angel. Because of the excessive use of fossil fuel, which was creating a greenhouse effect around the planet, temperature was increasing more rapidly year on year.

The polar icecaps were melting, forest fires were increasing, there were more droughts and a decrease in crop yields. Millions would have to move soon as rising water levels swallowed up their homes. Tranquillity estimated that within 10 years the temperature rise would become unsustainable and Earth would destroy itself. Younger Earthlings were trying to persuade their elders to take preventative action, but nothing seemed to be happening.

Tranquillity decided to contact Father and explain the situation to him. He was more than a little surprised when Father said that he would come to the craft immediately. When he arrived he quickly looked down on Earth through the craft viewing screen.

“Wasn’t the earthling human lifespan to be “three score years and ten”, Father exclaimed. “I can see a lot of very old people down there. If the elderly were brought home to heaven there would be a big reduction in the population, and less fossil fuel would be required. Which part of the planet contains the largest population”?

“A country called China,” replied Tranquillity.

Father thought for a long time, then spoke quietly to Tranquillity.

“This planet is very important to me. That is why I created life forms here. To save it I have to take drastic action. I’ll arrange for a virus to infect the planet, starting in China. The virus will result in severe respiratory problems, but only the elderly and the humans with on-going health issues will die from it. The remaining earthlings will fight it by developing much cleaner habits and an inoculation antidote, and hopefully the catastrophe will bring peace to warring nations as they fight it together. They might then work together again to find an energy supply solution to replace fossil fuel. It’s a drastic step, but it has to be done for the planet’s survival.”

When Father left the craft Tranquillity went back to his viewer, looking initially at Northern China and then around the planet as the virus spread. As the population fatality rate began to rise rapidly Tranquillity felt an increase in movement outside his craft, and recognised it as human souls coming up to heaven.

The weeks passed, becoming months, and countries across the planet did indeed come together, sharing their research. Health Services worked around the clock and populations obeyed all the life rules necessary to prevent the spread of the virus. An inoculation antidote was produced, tested and then put into production all over the planet. Finally the number of people infected began to fall as quickly as it had risen. Self-isolation rules were relaxed and then repealed. Street parties celebrated the final return to normal living.

When Father returned to his favoured planet he saw for himself the end of the virus. He was deeply moved and troubled by the deaths and the damage it had caused, but then he also saw something which filled him with joy. For the first time in many years there were no armed conflicts on the planet. Countries were much friendlier with their neighbours. There was to be a moratorium on contaminating the oceans. The move that gave him the most joy, however, was that all the countries decided to meet regularly and plan the containment then reduction of global warming and the replacement of fossil fuel as an energy source.

Father left in high spirits and Tranquillity smiled to himself as he realised that he may now be in his craft for centuries to come, watching over a much happier planet.

# The Back Page



A Cornish beach in 2020  
by Colleen Worrall

## Know your numbers?

The answers ...

- |    |      |     |         |
|----|------|-----|---------|
| 1. | 88   | 6.  | Algebra |
| 2. | 7    | 7.  | 180     |
| 3. | 1900 | 8.  | 747     |
| 4. | 13   | 9.  | 12      |
| 5. | 16   | 10. | 1       |

(12 aces on serve opponent serves 12 double-faults)

## Answers to Name the Sweet

- |               |                       |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| 01. KitKat    | 07. Maltesers         |
| 02. Fudge     | 08. Cadbury's Flake   |
| 03. Crunchie  | 09. Yorkie            |
| 04. Aero      | 10. Fry's Choc. Cream |
| 05. Twix      | 11. Mars              |
| 06. Toblerone | 12. Snickers          |



Tomato grown by  
Bob Dumbarton

Do you have any amusingly misshaped fruit or vegetables? If you do, then let us have your Photographs for the next edition of Upbeat.



# Help us keep your Magazine Upbeat

It is likely that we will be producing the Upbeat Magazine for the remainder of this year. To help us to keep creating a quality read for everyone, all Members are invited to contribute ideas to be used in the magazine.

Send your submissions to [magazine@bramhallu3a.org.uk](mailto:magazine@bramhallu3a.org.uk)

**Interesting** holidays or places you have visited and enjoyed.

**New recipes** for members to try, using ingredients from your store cupboard.

**Updates** on what your Group is doing.

**What keeps you busy?** Let us know so that we may share your ideas with others.

**Photos** of anything that would be of interest to all.

**Writing**, poems or items of interest, about local places, people or events.

**We need members** to contribute to a puzzle page.

**Jokes** ... good, bad, but clean, please!

**A message from the Upbeat magazine editorial team ...**

**Peter Webster, Bob Dumbarton & Helen Webster**

We hope that you have enjoyed reading the **SEPTEMBER** edition of your **Upbeat Magazine** and we would like to thank all contributors for their brilliant input.

The next edition will be available on the **FRIDAY OCTOBER 2**

We would really welcome your articles, pictures, quizzes, jokes and, of course, feedback.

**\*Please submit all items for the October magazine by SEPTEMBER 21\***