

U3A

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



of

HIGHBRIDGE

2000-----2015

MAGAZINE

July-----August

2015

ISSUE NUMBER 83

Your Committee

Chairman:	Pearl Price	Tel: 793954
Vice-Chairman:	Bernard Martin	Tel: 787230
Secretary:	Ken Burston	Tel: 782529
Treasurer:	Carole Loveridge	Tel: 780060
Membership Secretary:	Fay Burston	Tel: 782529
Assistant to Secretary:	Janet Preddy	Tel: 783743
Committee Members	Philip Buoy	Tel: 783647
	Pat Clipstone	Tel: 788128
	Barbara Croker	Tel: 780260
	Vour Orchard	Tel: 788984
	Sally Williams	Tel: 787274
Web master	Darryl Knight-Rees	Tel: 783081

Prefix all telephone numbers with STD code 01278

Coffee Mornings are held every Wednesday at The Highbridge Community Hall from 10.00 am to 12.00 am. You are very welcome to join us.

Website: - <http://www.u3ahighbridge.org.uk>

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Chairman's Message

I now begin my second year as Chairman, of this U3A and on behalf of the members I would like to give our thanks to the retiring members of the committee for their work and dedication to our U3A; the retirees are Jean Williams, Ray Reddish and Tony Webb. Also to welcome onto the Committee Morvareen Orchard, Philip Buoy and Janet Preddy Janet is going to shadow Ken with the possibility of taking on the Secretary position next year.

We are a flourishing U3A, with a good membership that cannot be faulted. When we ask our members to support us at any event and especially fund raising, you give your full support, for which we thank you very much.

We are, of course, looking forward to our 15th Birthday this year and we celebrate this event on 15th July 2015; details follow later in the magazine.

I have been asking members if anyone is interested in forming a Needlework/Sewing Group, we would not have a teacher, unless there is someone who is willing to teach us. It would take the form of a group where we could help each other? Possibly on a Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon, the venue to be advised; please let me know if you are interested.

Pearl.

Editorial

During the week beginning Monday 13th July we will be celebrating this U3A's 15th Birthday, we obviously want as many members as possible to attend, some, if not all the events. Joining this U3A has been a tremendous fulfilment; it has enhanced your social lives and provided you with knowledge and entertainment.

We therefore want you all to join with your colleagues and enjoy whichever event you join in with that week, live up to this organisation's aims of 'Learning, Laughing and Living'.

For details of "What's On" see Page 4.

15th Anniversary Celebrations

Celebrations start on **Monday 13th July** with the American Picnic at the Lower Maunsel Lock on the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal.

This will follow the usual format, where everyone attending brings along a plate of food to share with others; don't overdo it because we sometimes find there is a lot of food left over. Bring whatever you fancy, savoury or sweet and of course your cutlery and a glass. Please let Fay know if you plan to come and what food you will bring, to ensure we have variety of food.

The café at the lock has a covered area should we be unlucky and have a cool, damp day. But, just in case it is fine, bring a camp chair or groundsheet.

Fingers crossed it will be a nice day!

On the **Tuesday 14th July** there is an "Away Day" to the Cotswolds; to Moreton in the Marsh and Bourton-on-the Water. Yes! It is the day before our 15th Birthday Celebration, so please don't tire yourself out on this trip to the Cotswolds.

On **Wednesday 15th July** we celebrate this U3A's 15th Birthday by holding a Special Coffee Morning; it will be somewhat different to that normally enjoyed by regular attendees.

At 'great expense' we have arranged for you to be entertained by the Burnham U3A's Concert Party and Ukulele Band. Also, at further expense, we will provide a Ploughman's Lunch to all who wish to partake of this gourmet feast; free, gratis and for nothing!

All we would ask you to do --- (that is if you wish to attend the Coffee Morning on the 15th July and join in our celebration) ----is to put your name on the list provided so that the caterers will know how many mouths need filling.

At the Coffee Morning on the 1st July, yes—TODAY-- there will be a list prominently positioned for you to ‘sign’ that is if you want a lunch. Alternatively please ring Vour Orchard on 01278/788984 to ensure you are catered for.

Please help make each day a success!!

We have enjoyed 15 successful and happy years, we consider ourselves to be a very sociable ‘crowd’, and always try to follow the sentiments expressed on the bottom half of Page 13.



Cream Tea at the Windmill Club—Tuesday 9th June.

This, being our first visit to a ‘new’ venue, caused us to be a bit apprehensive; it was, however, a success.

On arrival we found an excellent spread of scones, cream, jam and fancy cakes; all available ready for us to help ourselves. Having decided which we preferred, scone with cream and jam, and fancy cakes, we tucked in and spent a very pleasant afternoon in the snug warm lounge. The day had become rather cool and windy so to have somewhere to sit in doors was a bonus.

The staff at the Club made us very welcome and, from the comments made following our visit, we could be making further visits before too long.

General News

For the benefit of those members that were not able to attend the Annual General Meeting a brief report is given on the following pages.

Editorial ---a brief report on the Annual General Meeting

This was held on Wednesday 13th May being very well attended with over a third of the membership present. We, the Committee, thanked everyone for their support and continued interest in this U3A's well-being.

Once the usual formalities had been dealt with we got down to the more important business. Pearl, in her report, said her first year as Chair had gone by very quickly and she thanked everyone for the help she had received; especially the Group Leaders who, as always, had dedicated a lot of their time to ensuring the groups were successful.

The Social Activities, day trips, theatre visits and holidays were well supported and very popular, many being sold out on occasions. The Social Evenings at the Ritz in Burnham are always thoroughly enjoyed, as is the Annual Lunch at the Beachcomber Inn, thank you Pat and Fay.

She also thanked everyone for their continued support of the charity raffles that we hold; these always produce a good response from you all.

Our Treasurer, Carole, referred to the accounts, copies of which everyone had been distributed, and confirmed that again we had had a successful year. All the groups were paying their way, including the Social Activities, and this U3A, as a whole, was flourishing.

The Secretary, Ken, agreed with Pearl and Carole, in that we had had another good year and, if nothing is broken, there is no point in trying to mend it. He did however; need to announce that this was to be his last year as Secretary. He will celebrate his 90th birthday in a few weeks' time and felt, regrettably, now was the ideal time for someone else to take up the 'reins'. *(Please see note on Page 7)*

So, if there is a member who wishes to consider taking over if he or she would like to contact him, he will 'show them the ropes'. With this U3A flourishing and all 'ship shape and Bristol fashion' it is an ideal time to consider making the change.

Editorial (continued)

The A. G. M. concluded with the 'Election of Officers'; members of the previous Committee all had to stand down, Tony Webb, Jean Williams and Ray Reddish did not wish to be re-elected. We therefore thanked each of them for their services throughout the past years, and hope we can call on them again should we need help and advice in the future.

Because one of the previous Committee had been co-opted we needed to only elect two new members; nominations had been received for Vour Orchard and Philip Buoy. There were no other names offered so the forenamed were elected unanimously.

There being no more to discuss the meeting was wound up at 10.41 am.

#####

Following the A. G. M. the new Committee held a short meeting to elect its Officers for 2015/6. During which Pearl Price (Chairman) informed the Committee that, following the A. G. M. Mrs. Janet Preddy had informed her that she was interested in putting her name forward to take over the Secretaryship.

Therefore so that Janet could see at first-hand how the Committee operated she was immediately co-opted as a member. This will give her an opportunity to see just what goes on 'behind the scenes', there being quite a learning curve. We trust all members will be patient and give Janet their support.

#####

A note re Coffee Mornings!!

You are no doubt aware that the Hall Trustees have recently installed a coffee/tea making machine in the kitchen for the use by all hall users. This new facility does require a little time to warm up (about 30 minutes) so PLEASE be patient and don't all dash into the kitchen as soon as you arrive.

The 'kitchen staff' (whoever's turn it is) are usually set up by 10.00 am, so as from today, serving will start at about 10.30 am, this will still give you plenty of time to do what you usually do.

“Away Day” to Oakham Treasurers

On Thursday 23rd April about 40 members visited the ‘historic experience’ museum at Portbury near Bristol; this ‘Award Winning’ museum is full of items from by-gone days, many being the original items, some are quite unique.

Oakham Treasures Museum was originally a farm shop, opened in 1989 by Keith and Francis Sherrell; but they decided to diversify and set about obtaining, from various sources, memorabilia of times past and the new venture, a museum, was officially opened in 2008.

It comprises a group of buildings containing a vast array of artefacts dating back to Victorian times at least. Items are displayed in their appropriate themes; e.g. Sweet Shop ‘stocked’ with jars of sweets, etc. from the pre WWII era; a Tobacconists displaying many early varieties of cigarettes and tobaccos. The Chemists displayed remedies that families once had a great faith in; some really did make you feel better.

The Grocery, Haberdashery and Hardware stores were similarly stocked with goods that were once the delight of everyone, but had disappeared years ago.

An array of old Post Boxes dating from Queen Victoria, Edwards VII and George V; with postage stamp dispensers; were reminders of a time when people actually wrote letters. You would get up to 10 collections a day?

War time memorabilia included ration books, identity cards, gas masks and many of the security notices used from 1939 until 1945.

For the menfolk there was a vast array of tractors, dating from the 20’s up to the more modern models; plus old vehicles and machinery.

It was possible to spend all day reminiscing and dreaming of ‘the good old days’ but we had to eventually leave for a ride along the coast road to Clevedon; there to take a walk along the sea front and have a cup of tea and an ice cream. To quote Wallace and Grommet it was a ‘grand day out’.

“Away Day” to Beer Caves and Seaton

In May there was a run through the lovely Somerset and Dorset country sides to the south coast, the destination -- Beer Quarry Caves. Stone from this site has been used in the construction of many of our beautiful cathedrals plus a number of important buildings, apparently some was shipped over to the United States.

Beer Stone is a creamy-grey, fine textured limestone, being what is called “Free stone” meaning it can be sawn or squared up in any direction. When first mined it is relatively soft and easily cut, this makes it a favourite with stone-masons because they are able to carve very intricate designs without fear of breakages. However, once it is exposed to the air it becomes as hard as Portland stone.

The earliest workings were in the Roman period, initially from open quarries but it soon became necessary to quarry into the side of the hill because of other rock strata. Being close to the River Axe it was possible to remove the stone by boat to wherever it was needed. After the Romans had left these shores the Normans started to work more deeply into the hillside and eventually the caves were gradually produced.

The stone was extensively used in the construction of Winchester Cathedral and members who go on the trip to Winchester will be able to see the full extent of its use. Other notable buildings where it is used are the cathedrals of St Pauls, Exeter, Rochester plus Westminster Abbey and Hall.

The members visited Seaton after leaving Beer and were able to, amongst other pursuits, to use the Tramways that are a feature of this Devon resort. An interesting day out, thoroughly enjoyed in fine dry weather.

Thank you again Vour and Carole, we are visiting some excellent places this year.

Group Activities

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel.
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Monday

1 st	10.00 to 12.00	Card Making	S.H.	Rose Bateman	795906
1 st & 3 rd	0200 to 03.30	Kurling	C.H.	Stan Vousden-White Sybil Tilley	781567 787054
3 rd	10.00 to 12.00	Beading	P.H.	Rose Bateman	795906
2 nd & 4 th	10.00 to 11,30	Calligraphy	S.H.	Ken Burston	782529
Last	02.00 to 03.30	Creative Writing	P.H.	Linda Knight-Rees	783081

Tuesday

1 st & 3 rd	02..00 to 04.00	Mosaics	P.H.	Alison Joyce	784635
Every	02.00 to 04.00	Art-1	S.H.	Maureen McLaren	773804
Every	02.15 to 05.00	Board Games	G.H.	Betty Worthy	795823
Every	10.00 to 12.00 02.00 to 04.00	Patchwork /Quilting	P.H.	Ann Lismore	787607

Wednesday

1 st & 3 rd	02.00 to 04.00	Music Appreciation	P.H.	Sylvia Shepherd	780377
3 rd	02.00 to 04.00	Card Making	S.H.	Rose Bateman	795906
4 th	10.00 to 12.00	Photography	C.H.	Kevin Gainford	789374

EVERY WEDNESDAY 10.00 to 12.00 COFFEE MORNING Community Hall

Group Activities

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel.
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Thursday

2 nd , 4 th & 5 th	02.00 to 04.00	Barn Dancing	M.C.H.	David Napper	792371
Every	01.30 to 04.00	Art-2	S.H	Jean Berry	785840

Friday

1 st & 3 rd	11.30 to 01.00	Skittles	C.I.	Phillip Buoy Betty Worthy	783647 795823
2 nd & 4 th	10.00 to ? ? ?	Strollers		Self-regulating	792529
5 th	10.00 to ? ? ?	Somerset Villages		Bernard Martin	787230

Occasional

Thursdays	“Away Days”	Vour Orchard Carole Loveridge			788984 780060
Thursdays	Luncheons	Pat Clipstone			788128
Saturdays	Theatre	Diane Barnard Brenda Clapp			781009 787963
Holidays		Diane Barnard Brenda Clapp Gloria Brown			781009 787963 785359

Legends

S.H.....Southwell House	C.H.....Community Hall
P.H.....Private Home	G.H.....Gospel Hall
M.C.H.....Methodist Church Hall	C.I.....Crossways Inn

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Crossword

Herewith the answers to Crossword No 5

Across: - 1. Balloon 5. Beer 7 Ink 8 Proverbs
 9 Heads 10 Lull 13. Earn 14 Owls
 18. East 19 Arrow 21 Abridged 22 Nor
 23 Vent 24 Antwerp

Down: - 1 Brighton 2 Likeable 3 Oppose 4 Noodle
 5 Beetle 6 Ebbs 11 Lawrence 12 Snowdrop
 15 Sadist 16 Stigma 17 Bandit 20 Able

Aphorisms:

These are short sentences that express a wise or clever observation; sometimes they are a general truth!

“Always be true to yourself because the people who matter don’t mind, whereas, the people who do mind, don’t matter”

Do you know the feeling?

My forgetter's getting better
But my rememberer is broke
To you that may seem funny
But, to me it is no joke.

For when I'm 'here' I'm wondering
If I really should be 'there'
And when I try to think it through
I haven't got a prayer.

Oft times I walk into a room
Say 'what am I here for?'
I wrack my brain, but all in vain
A zero is my score

At times I put a thing away
Where it is safe, but Gee!
The person it is safest from
Is, generally just me!

When shopping I may see someone
Say 'Hi' and have a chat
Then, when the person walks away
I ask myself, 'Who on earth was that?'

Yes, my forgetter's getting better
While my rememberer is broke
And it's driving me plumb crazy
And that isn't any joke.



The author of the following is not known but the advice is very sound.
Time?

Each morning we wake up to receive 86,400 seconds, the day's gift of life; and when we go to sleep at night any time remaining is not credited to us. What we didn't use up that day is lost; yesterday has gone forever. So what will you do with your 86,400 seconds today?

Those valuable seconds are worth so much more than the same amount in pounds. Just think about it and try to enjoy every second of your life, because time races by far more quickly than you think.

So, take good care of yourself, be happy, love deeply and enjoy life to the full.

Don't complain about growing old; many people do not get that privilege!

"Life is never tied with a bow, but it is still a gift"

Theatre Group-- "Sister Act"

Thank you Diane and Theatre Group for introducing us to this 'new' venue, the Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre at Monkton Heathfield, Taunton houses a superb theatre. The seating is spacious and comfortable, all are able to see the stage without obstructions and there is plenty of knee room.

Having seen the film a number of times I did wonder who would take the part of Sister Marie Clarence, Whoopee Goldberg had made that part her own; but Kathryn Stevens of Taunton Amateur Operatic Society did a great job, as did all the cast. It was an excellent production; why do we bother to go up to the Bristol Hippodrome when we have such a good theatre so close at hand.

We look forward to more visits to theatres at Weston and Taunton.



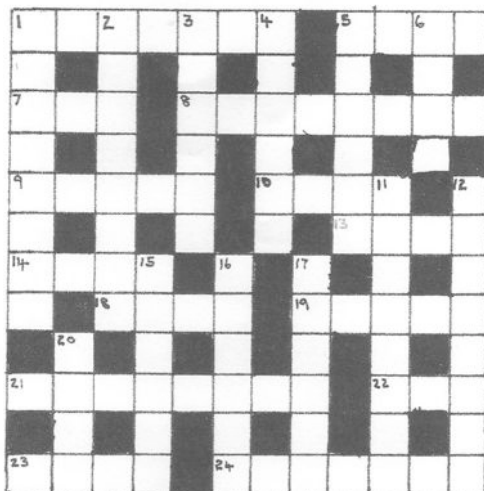
Holiday Group

This Group is doing very well, the holiday in Torquay from Sunday 20th until Thursday 24th September has been fully booked for some time and I believe there is a waiting list.

For your information Diane, Brenda and Gloria have not been idle lately, because another holiday has been booked; this time in Bournemouth, from Saturday 16th to Wednesday 20th January 2016. This too is already fully booked, therefore if there be any members who, regrettably, did not hear of this until it was too late, will they please let Diane know.

Because the holidays are proving to be very popular, invariably being booked within a few days, some members are missing out; this is regrettable, so we must make an attempt to resolve this anomaly by some means or other.

Activating your 'Grey Matter' page: - Crossword V1



Across

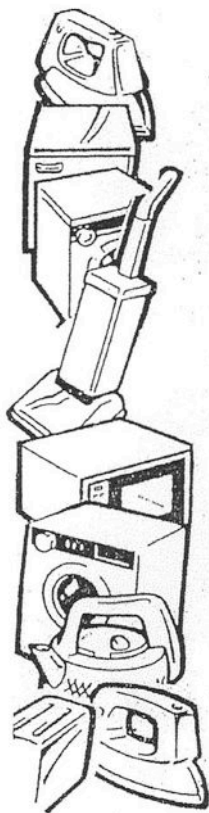
1. A ROD NAP (anag)
Go back! (7)
- 5 Part of the ear (4)
- 7 A Deed (3)
- 8 A menacing indication (8)
- 9 Sacred or forbidden (5)
- 10 Liquid measure (4)
- 13 At that time (4)
- 14 Food informally (4)
- 18 Form of greeting (4)
- 19 Very proficient (5)
- 21 Illness (8)
- 22 Cease (3)
- 23 Fastener (4)
- 24 Slim (7)

Down

1. CITE CARP (anag)
A lawyers firm (8)
- 2 Used for recording memos (8)
- 3 Choice (6)
- 4 Sharp (6)
- 5 Gained knowledge (6)
- 6 Insects (4)
- 11 Having done with a needle
and cotton (8)
- 12 Jumper for example (8)
- 15 Morally bad (6)
- 16 Things of value (6)
- 17 A little girl informally (6)
- 20 Used to dress wounds (4)

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Group News**Photography Group---Slide Shows**

Coffee Morning Slide Shows: Some time ago the group started providing us with a twice monthly show; these have covered visits, by its members' to a variety of interesting places. The majority are in the U.K. but recently we have seen views of a visit to Russia and a Safari in Botswana, and there are some more good shows still to come.

It is of course appreciated that some attendees prefer to talk to their friends; slide shows are not necessarily being their 'cup of tea'. This was very apparent during the showing of the 'Safari in Botswana' where a number of members were absorbed in watching the wild animals, birds and scenery. When approached they said it would have been to everyone's advantage if there had been subtitles or a commentary

This has prompted us to look at the idea of organising an evening showing of a selection of the slides at a venue to be arranged, subject of course to there being sufficient interest. At a separate showing whoever who took the pictures could be on hand to provide more detail and with an interval for coffee/biscuits and it could make for a pleasant evening's entertainment.

Would you be interested in this type of Slide Show?
Evening or Afternoon?

If so, please tell Kevin Gainford or Ken Burston before the end of July because, if the idea is well received, we need to find a suitable venue and set everything up. The venue will be in Highbridge and have adequate parking.

The Slide Shows from July to October are: -

- July 1st Abbotsbury Swannery
- .. 15th No show-----Birthday Celebration Morning
- Aug 5th Bovington Tank Museum (One for the boys)
- .. 19th A presentation by Billy Conibeer
- Sept 2nd Weymouth Sea Life
- .. 16th Galapagos Islands (Presented by Sue Bloska)

Monthly Draw

**March/April No 10 Janet Holderness, Irene Klein and
Sally Williams**

**April/May No 17 Janet Preddy, Mike Parker and
Kevin Gainford**

**May/June No 17 Janet Preddy, Pearl Price and
Kit Partington**

Each received £20.00

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Social Activities--2015
“Away Days”

Moreton in Marsh & Bourton-on-the-Water

Date: Tuesday 14th July

Price: £7.50

Berrow: -	Triangle.	9.00 am
Burnham: -	Morrisons, Pier St.	9.10 am
Highbridge: -	Alpha House, Market St.	9.20 am

Times of Pick-ups for an “Away Day” trip will be advised when you make a booking and are always given on the ‘Payment Receipt’, if in doubt **PLEASE** check with Vour or Carole well before the trip.

15th Anniversary Celebrations

Wednesday 15th July 2015

At

Highbridge Community Hall

Holiday

Torquay

Date: Sunday 20th September until Thursday 24th September

5 Days/4Nights at £170.00 per person

Cheques to cover payments for all “Away Days”, Theatre trips and Holidays must be made payable to **“U3A of Highbridge Social Account”**

Please also add your name, address and phone number on the reverse of the cheque, this: -

- a) helps to identify you on the passenger list, and
- b) If a trip is cancelled you can be notified quickly.