

**U3A**

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



# **U3A of Highbridge Magazine**

[www.u3ahighbridge.org.uk](http://www.u3ahighbridge.org.uk)

Issue 91

Nov/Dec 2016

## Your Committee

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Tel</u>
Chairman	Vour Orchard	788984
Vice-Chairman	Bernard Martin	787230
Secretary	Janet Preddy	783743
Treasurer	Carole Loveridge	780060
Membership Secretary	Ken Burston	782529
Committee Members	Philip Buoy	783647
	Fay Burston	782529
	Pat Clipstone	788128
	Barbara Croker	780260
	Pearl Price	793954

**\* Prefix all telephone numbers with STD code 01278.**

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

**Webmaster:**                                    Darryl Knight-Rees

**Magazine Editors:**                            Darryl & Linda Knight-Rees (**phone: 01278 783081, email: [darrylinda@knight-rees.com](mailto:darrylinda@knight-rees.com)**)

**Printed By:**                                    Darryl Knight-Rees

**Distribution:**                                    Ann Smith (West Huntspill), Fay Burston, Mary Akers, Chris Winter, Oliver Cox, Thelma Tripp, Marion Wright and all who give a hand!

**Next Magazine Deadline:**                    **December 20th 2016**

Copyright © U.3.A. of Highbridge. All rights reserved. No part of this magazine may be reproduced by any means without the prior permission of the copyright holders. The publishers cannot accept responsibility for any unsolicited material or for the views of contributors.

Note: In accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998 information relating to all of the U3A of Highbridge's members will be held on a computerised database and will be used solely for the U3A of Highbridge's business and communications.

## Chairman's Message

Well, didn't we do well??? We raised £510 at the Macmillan coffee morning, so a big thank you goes out to all who donated prizes for the tombola and made cakes to sell. You really did Highbridge U3A proud! I would also like to thank those of you who manned the sales tables. I am sure Pearl was delighted with the results.



I am pleased to report that the puzzle sale was a success too. We have a craft fair to look forward to on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, and our annual social evening at the Ritz on the 5<sup>th</sup>. To those of you who haven't been before, please do give it a try. It's a lovely evening with a superb buffet and music to dance to (if you so wish!), and all for just £10! Pat works hard for this event, so please support it if you can, and get yourselves in the party mood for Christmas.

Your Orchard



## Club News

### Obituary—Betty Worthy

Regrettably we need to announce the death of another member, Betty Worthy, who died on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Betty was another of our founder members and became, with Ray Reddish, co-leader of the Skittles Group.



Betty, being mindful of the fact that future lady members may not necessarily be interested in 'beer and skittles' set up the Board Games Group. She was a jovial and outspoken member, and lead both groups by example, there

was never a dull moment, her presence will be sadly missed.

The Board Games Group has been well supported from the outset, meeting every Tuesday afternoon at the Gospel Hall. Old Burnham Road.

The photo shows Betty with Pat Gray, (right) and Vi Chick (left) Pat, incidentally has taken over the leadership of the group.

## **Obituary—Sue Loxton**

We also need to announce the death of Sue Loxton.

Sue, who joined this U3A during 2015, died, suddenly, on the 6<sup>th</sup> October. Sue will be sadly missed by all who had the pleasure of working with her within the local clubs and associations to which she belonged.

\*\*\*\*\*

We, (this U3A), have been asked to thank all those members who have recently taken time out to attend the funerals of their late colleagues; this show of support has been greatly appreciated by the bereaved families. It not only shows how much the members' enjoyed the company of their late colleague, but also gives some small measure of support to the family in its bereavement.

## **The 'Old' Stagers!**

Our version of the 'Macmillan Big Coffee Morning' was held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September during the weekly coffee morning and was again a great success. It was well supported, with members not only providing financial support but many had laboured over a hot stove to make a variety of cakes for the annual cake stalls. The Tombola was again very popular, so much so that it sold out well before closing time.

No doubt Pearl will be providing a report on how much we collected and how this was achieved, it is known the total exceeded £500.00.

I would like to comment on how great it was to see so many 'old stagers' that morning, we were graced with the company of quite a few founder members. It was probably just a coincidence that they all happened to come in that morning, but it was great to meet them all again. There was Pat, Vi, Sallie, Jo, Fay, Heather, Ken, Phyllis, Gil, Marion, Thelma, Peter, Joan, Tony, Brenda and Chris.

16 years and still part of the original U3A of Highbridge!

### Jigsaw Puzzle Swap

Approximately 25 jigsaws were exchanged during the Sale/Swap at the Coffee Morning on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October, the puzzles that were not sold or swapped 'went home' again. The event raised a total of £12.55 for our funds, the few (4) puzzles that remained were donated to a future car boot sale.

Thank you all for your support.

## **HANDYMAN SERVICE**

### **Carpenter -- Painter -- Decorator**

**Need that door adjusting?  
Thinking about decorating?  
Want a shelf put up?**

**All those 'little' jobs around the house you keep meaning to fix but cannot get around to doing!**

**Please feel free to contact: ---- F. J. Hales**

**Home: - 01278 788247 - - - Mobile: - 07939.664538**

**For friendly, no obligation advice/estimate.**

## Member Contributions Part 1

### Somerset Churches 3

St. Mary the Virgin Chedzoy was our first visit, lots were going on when we arrived the villagers were preparing the church for their harvest festival.

There is evidence of a church in Chedzoy in 1166 but most of the present building dates from the early 16th century. Inside the pews are quite unusual being raised off the floor possibly the original 16th century ones. There are 2 brass plaques of interest one Thomas Edward Wilkinson 1st. Bishop of Zululand in 1914. Sir Richard Sydenham a local landowner, he left a piece of land to the church to be sold by auction every 21 years. The auction takes place while a half inch candle burns, the last bid before the flame dies is the successful one. This custom is still carried out today. The last one (25th) held in 2010 raised £4000 the monies go to help the up keep of the church. In the churchyard there are two tumble-gates thought to be one of the only places they can be found. Also the monument to Sydney Masson Collins 1879-1946. He served in the Royal Signals in France 1914-18. There's an inscription on the plinth DEU DE ALME EYT MERCY (God have mercy on his soul). The bronze statue depicting him in uniform astride his horse was unfortunately was stolen in the middle of the night in 2006; it has never been recovered. Chedzoy church is well worth a visit, the view from the churchyard looks across the fields where the English civil war and the battle of Sedgemoor took place.

Our second visit was to the little church at Stawell. Stawell gave its name to an important family who were the chief landowners there from the Norman Conquest until 1692. It's not clear when the

church was started perhaps the nave was built in the 12th century, the rest in the 13th. The church was considerably restored in 1874. The tower has a gabled roof it was superimposed in the cheapest manner in medieval times. There is only one bell (1770) inscribed HEALTH PEACE AND PLENTY TO THIS NEIGHBOURHOOD. It was cast by Thomas Bayley of Bridgwater. Not until the 1960s was the church dedicated to St. Francis.

Our final visit was to The Blessed Virgin Mary Moorlinch it dates from the 13th century. The earliest mention of a church at Moorlinch is a charter of King Ine in 725. The tower contains 6 bells the oldest being cast in 1651 by Thomas Purdue of Closworth Somerset. As you go inside the Norman Font faces you, turning right and facing up the church you will find on your right the old pews with carved ends (circa 1500) and a row of pegs for the men's hats. The stone effigy of a woman is Lady Eleanor De Beauchamp used to lie on a tomb in the recess where the organ is now. Hanging on the front of the gallery is a copy of Raphael's picture "Madonna Della Sedia". The coat of arms over the main door is that of King George III. The view westwards towards Weston Zoyland on the 6th July 1685 villagers gathered to watch the battle of Sedgemoor.

Bernard Martin

—oOo—



## **Hinkley Point Trip Follow-up**

As you are aware when the group paid a visit to Hinkley Point, 4 of us were denied access as we had replacement birth certificates. Myself and Jean Berry's daughter both wrote complaining that this was out of order as our certificates were fully legal, signed copies of the Register for births.

Hinkley Point contacted us with their apologies and they had looked into the system and found their interpretation of a copy birth certificate was incorrect and we were offered a VIP visit. Unfortunately Jean was unable to come and Dave Skuse declined the invitation. So it was arranged for myself, Billy Conibeer and my husband to visit on October 13th.

It was arranged for a car to collect us from our homes at approximately 9.45 am and right on time a luxury car pulled up outside of our house with Billy on board!

We drove to Hinkley Point and were met by 2 Customer Managers and the 2 original guides and were taken to the main building where our ID was cleared, we were issued with badges, fluorescent waistcoats, hats & ear defenders. We were then taken on an excellent unhurried tour of the complex finishing at the management office suite where we were introduced to the Station Director and given an amazing buffet lunch. At 1.30pm the car arrived back to return us home. It was an excellent trip and we were treated like Royalty, well done Hinkley Point, we forgive you!!!

Di Barnard

## Weymouth- -Nothe Fort

We were transported to Weymouth on a beautiful day, by our regular driver, Martin, who is now well known to us all; after the usual comfort stop en route we arrived on the sea front at about 11.30 a.m. Our priority was then to get some lunch, after which to see all we could by 4.30 our scheduled departure time.

Many of us decided to visit the “Nothe Fort” and gardens which were close by, they are on an area north of Weymouth Harbour, a bit of a climb but well worth the effort.

The Fort was built between 1860-72 by the Royal Engineers to protect Portland and Weymouth Harbours and it has been put to good use over the years; especially during World War II. By 1961 the navy had no further use for it and sold it to the local Council; but during the Cold War it served as a nuclear shelter, following this it was turned into a museum and tourist attraction.

The museum has on display the original cannons and guns from its earlier days plus World War II memorabilia and exhibits; there were also many visual displays and sound effects (*the air raid sirens sent a chill down my spine having heard the real thing as a child*). There are 80 rooms in all but unfortunately we had only time enough to see a few of these with their contents because our time was running out and we had a coach to catch.

From the Fort we decided to catch the ferry back across the harbour, five minutes in a rowing boat, it was wonderful! So peaceful! Thank you Vour.

A ‘Day Tripper’



# DKR Computing

## Computer & Network Support

**Darryl Rees**  
IT Consultant



West Huntspill, Somerset

Tel: 01278 783081

Mobile: 07973 512709

Email: [darryl@knight-rees.com](mailto:darryl@knight-rees.com)

[www.dkr-computing.co.uk](http://www.dkr-computing.co.uk)

## Our Services

## No Fix No Fee!

- \* Virus and Other Malware Detection and Removal
- \* Computer, Phone, Tablet & Printer Troubleshooting
- \* Microsoft Windows Upgrades
- \* Computer Memory and Hard Drive Upgrades
- \* Home Networking Installation and Configuration (WiFi & Wired)
- \* Advice on Best Equipment and Software to Buy
- \* One-to-one Training for Computers, Phones and Tablets
- \* Data Restore from Hard Drives and USB Flash Drives
- \* Website Creation and Hosting

\*\*\* Discounts for U3A Members \*\*\*

\*\*\* Callouts welcome \*\*\*

\*\*\* 30 Years experience as an IT Professional \*\*\*

## Group Activities

### Monday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1st	10.00 to 12.00	Card Making	S.H.	Rose Bateman	795906
1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2.00 to 3.30	Kurling	C.H.	Stan Vousden-White Sybil Tilley	781567 787054
3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 to 12.00	Beading	P.H.	Rose Bateman	795906
2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 to 11.30	Calligraphy	S.H.	Ken Burston	782529

### Tuesday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2.00 to 4.00	Mosaics	P.H.	Alison Joyce	784633
Every	2.15 to 5.00	Board Games	G.H.	Betty Worthy	795823
Every	10.00 to 12.00 2.00 to 4.00	Patchwork / Quilting	P.H.	Ann Lismore	787607

### Wednesday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
3 <sup>rd</sup>	2.00 to 4.00	Card Making	S.H.	Rose Bateman	795906

**EVERY WEDNESDAY: 10.00 to 12.00 COFFEE MORNING**

### Thursday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 to 4.00	Barn Dancing	M.C.H.	David Napper	792371
Every	1.30 to 4.00	Art	S.H.	Jean Berry	785840
Every	2.30 to 4.30	Ukulele Group	C.H.	Mick Emms	07799 115347

## Group Activities

### Friday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.30 to 1.00	Skittles	L.I.	Philip Buoy	783647
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 to ???.??	Strollers		Self-Regulating	792529
5 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 to ???.??	Somerset Churches		Bernard Martin	787230

### Occasional

Weekdays	Activity	Contact	Tel
Mondays (usually)	Local History	Bronwyn Fraley (email: bronwyn.fraley110@gmail.com)	788487
Thursdays	Away Days	Vour Orchard Carole Loveridge	788984 780060
Thursdays	Luncheons	Pat Clipstone	788128
Saturdays	Theatre	Ann Cross Brenda Clapp	786425 787963
Varies	Holidays	Diane Barnard Brenda Clapp Gloria Brown	781009 787963 785359

### Legends

S.H. .... Southwell House	C.H. .... Community Hall
P.H. .... Private House	G.H. .... Gospell Hall
M.C.H. .... Methodist Church Hall	L.I. .... Lighthouse Inn

**Should you wish to join a Group please first contact its Leader.**

## Crossword #13 Answers

### ACROSS

1. Product
5. Able
7. Ire
8. Windlass
9. Eaten
10. Lean
13. Time
14. Acre
18. Easy
19. Ochre
21. Affluent
22. Cue
23. Asks
24. Fusspot

### DOWN

1. Primeval
2. Overture
3. Unwind
4. Tingle
5. Afloat
6. List
11. Nightcap
12. Tenement
15. Eagles
16. Myself
17. Months
20. Efts

The advertisement features a large white signpost in a grassy field under a blue sky. The signpost has a horizontal bar with a house icon containing solar panels hanging from it. The text on the signpost reads: "PREMIUM QUALITY" (written vertically), "SOLAR PV SYSTEMS FROM £4,500 FULLY INSTALLED" (written diagonally). To the right of the signpost, the text reads: "Local • Professional Competitive", "01278 781821", and "info@greener-way.com". At the bottom right is the "GREENACRE RENEWABLE ENERGY" logo with a green leaf icon. At the bottom center is the website "www.greener-way.com".

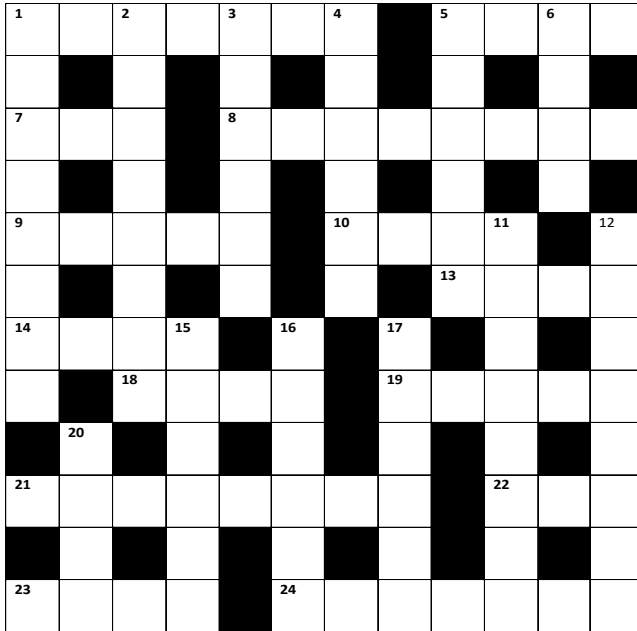
**PREMIUM QUALITY**

**SOLAR PV SYSTEMS**  
**FROM £4,500**  
**FULLY INSTALLED**

Local • Professional  
**Competitive**  
**01278 781821**  
 info@greener-way.com

**GREENACRE**  
 RENEWABLE ENERGY

[www.greener-way.com](http://www.greener-way.com)

**Crossword #14****ACROSS**

1. Loud & persistent noise (7)
5. Natter (4)
7. Mother (3)
8. Orchestrate (8)
9. Application (5)
10. Female Sheep (4)
13. Essential (4)
14. Concludes (4)
18. Keep (4)
19. Skinflint (5)
21. 'Tot in CIA' [anag] (8)
22. Short for Doctor (3)
23. A chopping tool (4)
24. Slips away (7)

**DOWN**

1. Tablet for example (8)
2. 'Nabs dram' [anag] (8)
3. Undone (6)
4. Sorrow (6)
5. Two working together (6)
6. Types of vegetable (4)
11. Abates (8)
12. Draws towards (8)
15. Cruel & vicious (6)
16. A light red colour (6)
17. Girls name (6)
20. Gentle (4)

**Solutions next issue**

## Member Contributions Part 2

### August Strollers

The weather was good so we decided to visit Westhay Moor Nature Reserve. The paths were firm and good walking and we admired the plants, which were abundant, and other wildlife which was less in evidence. On reaching the Bridge over a main drain, which may be the North Drain or the Panborough Drain, (I am unsure at what point it changes its name, but not its personality) some of our party turned back. Five of us carried on (not in the biblical sense) and reached Chine Drove. We then decided to try and make it a “round trip” so turned right, found a track on the right and set off with hope in our hearts! Having gone a ways we were back to the multi named drain found gates across the path and a delightful herd of goats occupying the enclosed space. The drove beyond was overgrown and soft under foot, we were not sure it was a public way (it is); there appeared to be a track along the drain, no doubt used by the Environment Agency for weed cutting, and we could see the 1<sup>st</sup> bridge, but I was unsure if there would a ditch blocking our way back. After discussion we decided to return the way we came. A quick call to tell the others we were alive but might be some time, we walked back. On arrival at the cars mine had grown an interesting clump of twigs, investigation disclosed a note saying the sensible members of the party had gone to Sweets Café. We joined them, with a sense of relief, for refreshment.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> stroll was at West Huntspill along the Huntspill River (known locally as “the cut”) from the A38 car park to the sluice gate, over the sluice and back the other side. Although there are some longer return routes known by some of our party we all chickened out and took the direct way. It was a beautiful breezy day and the stroll was much enjoyed. The only unpleasant part was



the metal pipe discharging some evil looking, unidentified, brown liquid downstream of the sluice. Most of the party returned to Bronwyn's home for coffee and refreshments which I understand were plentiful and much enjoyed.

### September Strollers

We revisited our planned but aborted destination of the Strawberry Line at Winscombe, despite the clouds and the odd spit of rain. There are some who would say we never learn! However the gamble paid off this time and the walk was breezy but very pleasant. Having looked at all the inset history plates and walked along a stretch of the track we left the line of the old railway and walked along a lane (which would have eventually brought us up to the A38), found a friendly horse who was delighted with the proffered polos and some nosey, friendly donkeys. One of our group was miffed to find pink cyclemen growing happily in the hedgerow when her garden ones had disappeared without trace! The A38 was not a joyous prospect for a walk so we returned the way we came. The pub was as welcoming as ever.

*Photo by Audrey*





### Away Days

Have you ever been on one of Vour and Carole's "Away Day" trips? Oh! You should, they find some great places to visit, they are also very well organised. Your day out starts soon after you have settled in your seat, the coach's driver, (Martin) welcomes you aboard, introduces himself and gives a brief run down on what you might expect during the day. Martin, as it happens, is the driver usually allocated to our trips, he is, by now well known to our regulars and they look upon him as their favourite.

It is not known how Vour and Carole 'fix' it but their trips are invariably lucky with the weather, it very rare that they are affected by rain or showery, damp conditions, the sun obviously shines on the righteous.

When the need arises there is often a comfort stop en route and it has been found that this U3A's members are very good at returning

to the coach on time afterwards. On arrival at the determined destination Martin sets everyone down as near as possible to the attraction's entrance and, of course, will pick them up again as arranged. Some members need to make use of walking frames, etc. Martin is again helpful, assisting the needy as much as his job allows.

The most recent trip was to Sudeley Castle near Winchcombe in Gloucestershire, the castle has, in its past, gone through some rough times, in spite of this, it is the home of Lady Ashcombe.

Upon arrival we were invited to take tea/coffee in the Conservatory Reception area, Guide 'Jane' gave us a brief history of the castle and its life, mainly since the time Queen Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup> visited it. Apparently the castle has been in and out of favour for many centuries, until the present incumbents laid a more permanent claim to its ownership.

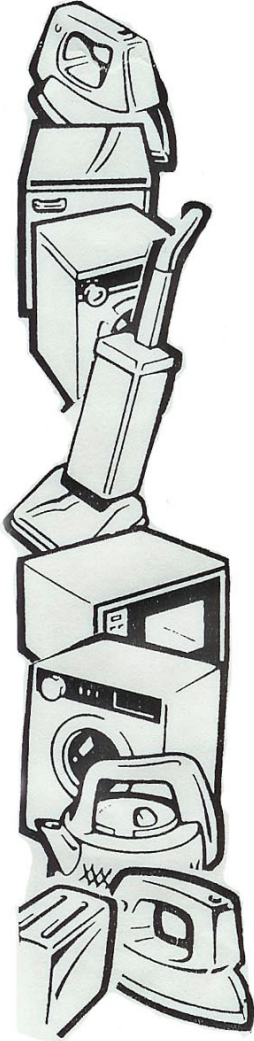
We were allowed a free reign to wander pretty well anywhere within reason, there was certainly a lot to see and some members felt that they may need to go back some time to complete their viewing. It was a great day, again the weather was good, cool but dry; no-one was lost or left behind and, to quote Wallace and Grommett "It was a grand day out".

Thanks Vour and Carole

'A very satisfied member'

# Dople's

## DOMESTIC APPLIANCE REPAIR SERVICE



- REPAIRS TO MOST MAKES OF WASHING MACHINE, VACUUM CLEANER, TUMBLE DRYER, FRIDGE, FRIDGE-FREEZER, TWIN-TUBS, DISHWASHER.
- AN EXTENSIVE RANGE OF VACUUM CLEANER BAGS AND SPARES
- A WIDE RANGE OF NEW AND RECONDITIONED WASHING MACHINES
- A RANGE OF KETTLES, IRONS AND TOASTERS.
- REPAIRS TO SMALL DOMESTIC APPLIANCES (KETTLES, IRONS, TOASTERS)
- PANASONIC SERVICE CENTRE
- REPAIRS TO MICROWAVE OVENS
- A RANGE OF NEW MICROWAVE OVENS IN STORE
- SUPPLY COOKERS, HOBS, FRIDGES, FRIDGE-FREEZERS AND DISHWASHERS.
- SERVICE AGENTS FOR VAX, DAEWOO, SAMSUNG

27 Victoria Street • Burnham-on-Sea  
Somerset • TA8 1AN

**Tel: 01278 780486**

## Away Days

### Gloucester Quays – November 24<sup>th</sup>

Our final trip this year is to Gloucester Quays Shopping Outlet Village. There is something for everyone here, plenty of shops, an antiques market, the marina plus the cathedral and city centre within easy walking distance. There are plenty of eating places to choose from. The marina and old dockyard has been used by film crews on location, so you may recognise it!

The cost is £6 per person.

All the best,  
Vour

## Joke Corner

I'd like to buy a new boomerang please. Also, can you tell me how to throw the old one away?

\*\*\*

Police officer: "Can you identify yourself, sir?"

Driver pulls out his mirror and says: "Yes, it's me."

## Monthly Draw

September 3rd 2016	No 37	Sue Carvett, Janet Raine & Kathleen Taylor
October 1st 2016	No 55	Pauline Korda and Diane Elsmore

Each received £20.00

### Sharon Elliott

#### HOME CARE FOR THE ELDERLY

DO YOU OR A LOVED ONE REQUIRE A HELPING HAND TO MAINTAIN  
AND SUPPORT LIFE AT HOME?

Over 10 years of experience. Personable and Friendly manner.

- \* Help with shopping
- \* Ironing
- \* Light household duties
- \* Personal care
- \* Sitting service available

For further details please contact: **Sharon**

**Phone 01278 788315**

**Mobile 07787 787571**



# Sandra

## Hairdressers

We welcome O.A.P.'s

3 Market Street  
Highbridge, Somerset  
TA9 3BW  
Tel: 01278 784950



PETER LISMORE  
PAINTER & DECORATOR

07773010873 / 01278 320253

HOMES INSIDE AND OUT  
GARDEN SHEDS, FENCES, FURNITURE

No job too small  
Free Quotes



## Calendar

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Cost</u>
<b>2016</b>		
Nov 5th	Annual Social Evening at The Ritz	£10.00
Nov 23rd	U3A Craft Sale	Free
Nov 24th	Away Day: Gloucester Quays	£6.00
<b>2017</b>		
Jan 30th—Feb 3rd	Holiday: Weymouth	£110 (sea view supplement £10)

**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.**