



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



U3A of Highbridge Magazine

www.u3ahighbridge.org.uk

Issue 94

May/Jun 2017

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.**

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Next Magazine Deadline: **June 20th 2017**

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Chairman's Message

Easter and April have come and gone and the sun shone on us all, even if the wind was chilly.

I can't believe the first quarter of the year has passed already, but we have much to look forward to:



- Our next day trip to Newark Park, Gloucestershire in May
- A new walking group for those who like to keep on the move

There is, of course, our own general election, the A. G. M. Please attend if you are able to. Additionally, please could you all take a turn on the Tea/Coffee rota? If you only do it once a year it would be much appreciated and it is so much easier now with the new machine.

Many thanks.

Vour Orchard

—oOo—

Club News

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for 2017 will be held on Wednesday 10th May AT 10.30. a.m. all members are invited to attend.

Only fully paid up members are eligible to vote, so if it is your intention to attend and have your say, please renew your membership before the meeting.

This notice is posted so that we comply with the Clause in our Constitution that states:

“- - - at least 21 days’ notice of the Annual General Meeting is to be advised to all members of the U3A”.

Memberships

A few weeks ago, much to my regret, I (Ken Burston) picked up a virus that affected my breathing, and, if this occurs in the middle of the night one tends to panic! The outcome was I finished up in Musgrove Hospital for 4 days; however, now - - hopefully, fully? recovered I am attempting to get back into harness.

I have found, however, that a lot the hard work associated with the renewing of memberships has been done by Fay and it appears that not too many ‘outstanding’ memberships are due- - *-(for which I am both truly & gratefully thankful)* - - -Thanks!

Although all memberships do expire at the end of March you have no need to panic if you are late renewing; you will not miss out on any of the benefits obtained from membership. We will not ‘drum’

you out of the U3A.

By-the-way: -Postage Costs---A note to members who need to have their Magazines posted to them, postal charges have risen a lot over the years; therefore, may we request that if you wish to continue to receive your copy by post you need to pay an extra £4.00 to cover this. Alternatively, you could supply the appropriate stamps, quantity, and value.

On occasions a member is not able to collect a copy, we try to arrange for someone to drop it off for us.

The Third Age Trust

If you do not see the Third Age Trust's magazine "Third Age Matters" you will not be aware that at the end of last year the number of U3A's within the UK reached the grand total of 1,000.

The U3A that had the honour of being so designated is situated at Churchdown near Cheltenham. It was reported that it has 26 interesting groups ranging from archaeology to yoga.

When the U3A National Chairman Pam Jones presented them with their official certificate, she stated that this organisation has stood the test of time over the past 34 years and is still growing. The total membership of the U3A, nationally, is approaching 400,000.

The total membership of the 'U3A of Highbridge' at the end of 2016/7 was 188.

WASPI RAFFLE

The total sum raised as a result of the raffle held on Wednesday 12th April was £56.00. Sue wishes to say a big Thank You to all who contributed .

Singing Group — Any Takers?

Interest has been shown in forming a singing group, ARE YOU KEEN?

There is no experience required just the joy of singing we will probably meet during the day time and the music will be song's of the 60's up to modern day.

If you are interested please see Pearl or phone her on 01278 793954 and we shall proceed from there.

If you have any ideas for a new group please contact Vour (01278 788984) and give her the details.

OBITUARY—RENE LEWIS

Rene joined us about 5 years ago, and has accompanied us on several of our holidays. She recently enjoyed a very special holiday in America, all expenses paid by her grandson. She was admitted to Musgrove Hospital ago suffering from pneumonia and died on Thursday 23rd March aged 88.

Group News

Barn Dancing Group

David Napper our barn dancing leader, celebrated his 80th. Birthday today. 20 of us had tea/coffee and birthday cake. A good time was had by all.



Kurling Group

There is no Kurling until 15th May because of Easter Monday and May Day. Any one wish to join us please come will be made welcome. We meet the 1st & 3rd Monday each month at Highbridge community Hall at 2pm.

Saunterers Walking Group

We have got a starting date for the Highbridge Saunterers. The first walk will be an easy one starting at the Canal Car Park next to the Boat and Anchor Pub, Bridgwater on 5th May. Details are on the walking programme shown on page 9.

HANDYMAN SERVICE

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**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.

Highbridge Saunterers Walking Programme

May – August 2017

(First and Third Friday in each month)

For further details please email: audrey_downing@hotmail.com

KEY TO LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY



Easy	Mainly flat roads or tracks
Moderate	Uneven walking, some inclines, tracks, stiles and gates
Moderate +	Open slopes, rough ground and inclines
Challenging	Open slopes, rough ground and steep inclines

Date	Walk Start	Post Code for Satnav	Grid Ref	Level of Difficulty	Walk Description	Conditions/Stiles	Approx Dist	Walk Leader	Telephone/Email
5.5.2017	Boat and Anchor Bridgwater: (Canal CP, not in pub CP)	TA7 0AQ	ST1313351		Flat and easy along Bridgwater Canal and River Parrett	Flat. No stiles	4.3	Ann Puddy	01278 780988
19.5.2017	Kings Wood Car Park Shute Sheff	ST1421560			Includes part of the Bluebell Line and Woodland. Good views	One short fairly steep climb. No stiles	3	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail.com
2.6.2017	Creech St Michael Car park, Vicarage Lane (signposted through village)	ST1275255			Easy walk following Bridgwater and Taunton Canal and River Tone	Easy. Four stiles, one squeeze	5	Ann Puddy	01278 780988
16.6.2017	Bleadon Hill Roman Road Picnic Area Car Park	ST1358578			Good views. Some medium hills	Could be muddy in places. No stiles	4.5	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail.com
7.7.2017	Street Parking at West Hurrspill Church	TA9 3RN	ST1305455		Footpaths and then walk along the Rivers Brue and Parrett	Could be muddy in parts. Some stiles	4.5	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail.com
21.7.2017	Shipham Village Hall Car Park	BS25 1SG	ST444579		Stream, Nice Views.	Some steady uphill. No stiles. Can be muddy in parts	3.5	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail.com
4.8.2017	Lydeard Hill CP	ST181337			This walk takes you along the highest ridge on the Quantocks with magnificent views	Easy Hill. 2 or 3 stiles	4	Ann Puddy	01278 780988
18.8.2017	Burrington Village Square	BS40 7AD	ST1479594		A very pretty walk with good views. Woodland. Streams. Moorland	Some hills and can be muddy. No stiles	4	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail.com

If you require a lift, please contact Walk Leader

We meet at Bank Street Car Park for car sharing and leave promptly at 10.00. If you prefer to meet at the start of the walk please be there for 10.30

Please ensure you have suitable footwear!



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Group Activities

Monday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1 st	10.00 to 12.00	Card Making	S.H.	Rose Bateman	795906
1 st & 3 rd	2.00 to 3.30	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

Tuesday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1 st & 3 rd	2.00 to 4.00	Mosaics	P.H.	Alison Joyce	784633
Every	2.15 to 5.00	Board Games	G.H.	Pat Gray	786905
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 rd	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 nd , 4 th & 5 th	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 st & 3 rd	11.30 to 1.00	Skittles	L.I.	Philip Buoy	783647
1 st & 3 rd	10.00 to ??.	Walking		Audrey & Rod Downing	256895
2 nd & 4 th	10.00 to ??.	Strollers		Self-Regulating	792529
5 th	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
Wednesdays	Luncheons	Pat Clipstone	788128
Thursdays	Away Days	Vour Orchard Carole Loveridge	788984 780060
Saturdays	Theatre	Ann Cross	786425
Varies	Holidays	Diane Barnard Brenda Clapp	781009 787963

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 #16 Answers

ACROSS

1. MAGICAL
5. ABLE
7. TWO
8. NOBLEMEN
9. RINSE
10. UNDO
13. SNIP
14. ALEC
18. DODO
19. AMOUR
21. ANDROIDS
22. KIT
23. OBOE
24. SUTURES

DOWN

1. MATERIAL
2. GROUNDED
3. CANCEL
4. LABOUR
5. AMENDS
6. LEEK
11. ONLOOKER
12. OPERATES
15. COARSE
16. COMICS
17. BASSET
20. SNUB

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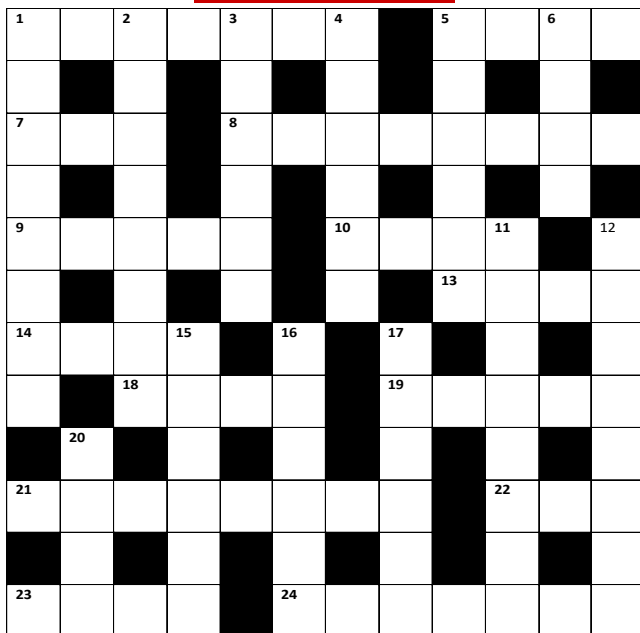
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Crossword #17**ACROSS**

1. Makes a journey (7)
5. School punishment (4)
7. Cob for example (3)
8. No Dr. Pair [anag] (8)
9. Japanesh dish (5)
10. Part of an opera (4)
13. Woman's name (4)
14. Malevolent (4)
18. Area with a cathedral (4)
19. Not fixed (5)
21. A rail cam [anag] (8)
22. Fuss (3)
23. Imitated (4)
24. Propose (7)

DOWN

1. Hard steel (8)
2. Gifted with creativity skill (8)
3. Small insect (6)
4. Black grape—for wine (6)
5. Golfers assistant (6)
6. Middy (4)
11. Assign (8)
12. Boo after [anag] (8)
15. Type of reptile (6)
16. Alternative route (6)
17. Act of travelling by plane (6)
20. Type of fish (4)

Solutions next issue

Member Contributions

Latest Strollers Outings

Last stroll in February

Storm Doris had blown away the grey murk and left the day bright, fresh and breezy for us to enjoy a pleasant walk at Avalon Lakes Nature Reserve. It was a bit of a shock to encounter traffic! A car, pick-up truck, and a quad bike, it transpired some repairs were being carried out to a hide. There were no spring flowers in evidence, as remarked by one of our party, but we saw two pairs and one lone swan and a raft of ducks, while on the opposite bank of the south drain a horse and rider were enjoying a good canter. Some of the party diverted to look at the Sweet Track before we all returned to the car park and drove to Sweets cafe.

March

A fairly typical March day, sunny intervals and a light breeze, so the decision was taken to stroll around Uphill village. Most of us climbed up to the church which was locked. I always felt sorry for the pall bearers when people were buried up there, even though they were probably less well fed than we are. It was suggested we went down the other side of the hill which gave us the opportunity to climb the beacon tower. The view from the top was glorious in the clear March air. The descent was less perilous than if we had retraced our steps and the non-climbers met the ascenders on the path at bottom. We returned to Ollies for lunch.

Our second outing in March was along the King Sedgemoor Drain to the first road bridge. There was a large grebe on the water that took flight as soon as he saw us and some swans in the distance but

the most intriguing were a group of “wild swimmers”, all women, heading up stream. We gave a cheer as they reached the bridge, despite being clad in wetsuits but they admitted it was still cold. The general feeling of our group was that they were welcome to it. Most people had other commitments following the walk so only four of us went to the Knowle Inn.



Good Friday and it was a good day for a stroll. To avoid the main road traffic Fay suggested parking at her house and walking the



footpaths along the edge of the golf course. To reach these there was a short walk through the estate where most of the gardens were bright with fresh green lawns and late spring flowers. Bordering the footpath there were bluebells (some were white!),

honesty and lords and ladies (Arum). On reaching the church we returned by the pavement and after some searching found the restored round pig sty that now stands in its own little garden, with not a pig in sight. We crossed the green, where three little girls took a rest, and inspected the new Co-op store before returning to Fay and Ken’s home where we were royally treated to lunch.

Paula Cook

Somerset Churches 4

Lying almost exactly half way between Cossington and Catcott is the tiny village of Chilton Polden. At the western end of the Broadway is the little church of St Edward, the erection of the present church is unknown, but the church is evidently by no means modern, it's thought to be 15th century in origin. It was rebuilt in the perpendicular style in 1889 by Henry Edwards. There are the usual memorial tablets in different parts of the church. One in the east end has some marvellous looking figures depicted on it. From time immemorial the chapel was attached to Glastonbury Abbey. It has been truly said that "no place in England" has ever attempted to rival Glastonbury as a site of the first British Christian settlement.

Our next visit was Ashcott. Christianity came early to this part of England at a very early date; Ashcott was part of the vast estates acquired by the Abbey of Glastonbury. A charter of the abbey of 1168 refers to 42 places which includes Ashcott, however it is not absolutely certain that at that date there was a church at every one of those places. The first specific reference to a chapel in Ashcott occurs in a charter of 16th June 1234, and it's dedication to All Saints is first found in a charter of 1244. To summarise, a chapel existed in Ashcott in 1234 and it might have been there for a hundred years; and it became a church in the 14th century. Nothing remains of the original church except part of the south wall. Less than fifty years after that, the church's long association with the abbey was to end. King Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries in 1536. The abbey was ransacked, and its lands came into the possession of the king, who, apparently granted Ashcott to Thomas Walton. From then until the early 1800s we have no information about the church. Early in the 19th century the church evidently became too small for the rapidly growing village, so in

1831 and 1889 extensive alterations were made.

Two miles south-east of Catcott stands Shapwick, a village with a bluff, durable air long associated with peat-cutting. Saint Mary's Church stands south of Shapwick Manor alongside East street. Grainy-grey weathered stone, the colour of storm clouds, surges up to form a massive embattled tower; no prongs or pinnacles, just a blunt strength of form, essentially Norman. No firm date can be given for the establishment of the first church in Shapwick, however, the kings of Wessex founded Christianity in Somerset when they reached Glastonbury in 658AD. The first church was dedicated to St Andrew situated about half a mile to the east of the present church. Little is known of the building of the present church although the tower was certainly built in the 14th century, it's unusual in having the tower in the centre rather than at the west end. 1702 is the earliest date inscribed on the present peal of 6 bells, they were rehung in a new oak frame in 1938 by John Taylor @ Co. of Loughborough. Major restoration took place in 1861 under the supervision of the architect George Gilbert Scott. In 2004 modernisation of the nave was completed to allow more flexible use as a church and village resource.

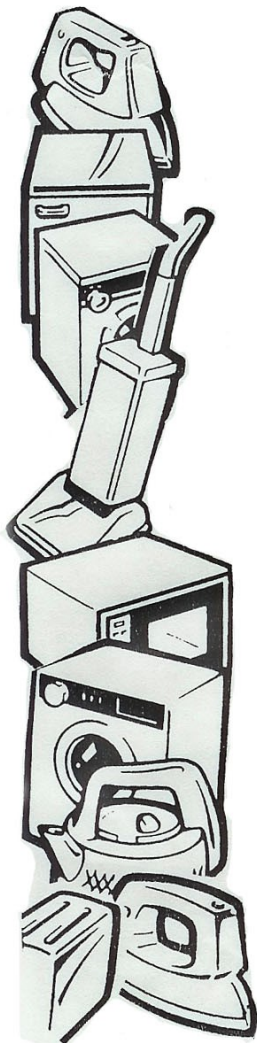
Well worth a visit to all three churches.....

Bernard Martin

—oOo—

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Away Days

Newark Park—May 18th

Newark Estate is a secluded estate with splendid views of the Cotswolds and a historic country home at its heart. Dating from Tudor times it was dramatically rescued from ruin by a 20th century Texan.

There are waymarked walks and geocaching on the estate. The Pavilion Café in the garden serves light lunches and snacks with outdoor seating and indoor seating available in the house. There is a souvenir shop on the first floor and plants for sale at the visitor reception.

Joke Corner

Man enters Doctor's reception.

Nurse: "Yes!, can I help"?

Man: "I've got the shingles".

Nurse: "Take this robe into that cubicle and put it on".

Some 10 minutes later, a nurse enters.

Nurse: "Can I help"?

Man: "Yes! I got the shingles".

Nurse: "Right, I'll get a Doctor".

Doctor enters, after an examination: "Sorry! you have not got shingles".

Man: "Yes I have, they're outside on the lorry".

Monthly Draw

March 18th 2017	No 43	Stan Vousden-White & Valerie Cox
April 15th 2017	No 48	Tony Webb & Ilse Davey

Each received £20.00

Sharon Elliott

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Calendar

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2017		
May 18th	Newark Park, Gloucestershire	£13.00/£5.50 (for NT members)
June 22nd	Lynton & Lynmouth	£10.50
July 20th	Athelhampton, Dorset	£20.00/£8.00 (for NT members)
August 25th	Bristol Packet Boat Trip to Bees Tea	£15.50
September 5th—9th	Holiday: Llandudno The Somerset Hotel	£225.00
September 21st	Cirencester Park	TBC
October 19th	Batsford Arboretum	£13.50
November 23rd	Worcester and Christmas Market	£8.00

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.