



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



U3A of Highbridge Magazine

www.u3ahighbridge.org.uk

Issue 96

Sep/Oct 2017

Your Committee

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Tel*</u>
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Vice-Chairman	Pearl Price	793954
Secretary	Janet Preddy	783743
Treasurer	Alison Joyce	784633
Membership Secretary	Ken Burston (co-opted)	782529
Committee Members	Philip Buoy	783647
	Carole Loveridge	780060
	Fay Burston	782529
	Pat Clipstone	788128
	Barbara Croker	780260
	Bernard Martin	787230

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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: October 23rd 2017

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Chairman's Message

Hello everyone!

I noticed this week that there are Christmas cards in the shops!! I don't know about you, but I don't want to know about them yet.



We have our Llandudno holiday to look forward to this month and the offer of no less than three holidays next year. How good is that?

We had a delicious cream tea in the hall organised by our secretary, Janet on 23rd August. Janet and her team of helpers did us proud with not only scones and cream, but cake as well. I feel so proud of our U3A organisers. They do so much for us and although it isn't always easy, they make it look as though it is! So a big thanks to you all!

Vour

Some of you have shown an interest in having a table top sale. Therefore, Janet, our secretary has kindly agreed to organise one. It has been decided that we will hold it on the fourth Wednesday of October (the 25th).

You will need to price the item you wish to sell and put your name on it so that Janet can pass on the money to the lucky seller. If this proves successful we will make it a monthly occurrence.

Club News

Wanted: An Archivist

We are looking for someone who would be prepared to take care of this U3A's stock of past magazines, ensuring that they are preserved for the future and to add to the store all future issues. The U3A of Highbridge's first printed "Newsletter" was produced in 2002, it was a single sheet of A4; a newsletter as such. Over time 'News and Views' increased and, when it grew to many sheets it became, by definition a "Magazine", a copy of which all members receive every other month. There are, obviously, quite few copies now, these cover the 'history' of this U3A since it was first formed, they make for interesting reading. It would be pleasing to know someone is prepared to take over their care and add to them as further copies are produced/printed; please let Ken Burston know if you are interested.

Watching weights?

In the room adjacent to the kitchen, there recently appeared a set of 'bathroom scales'. Apparently, there are a few members keen to know what they weigh, but don't wish to publicise the fact. It is felt that 'well known' proprietary slimming organisations tend to make rather a 'thing' of announcing everyone's weight at the start of meetings, letting all and sundry know how well its members have done since they last met. Our method keeps the information private and is the preferred way.

However, here are some of the comments made by participants after they have had their weekly check.

- * I'm wearing different clothes this week!
- * Ah! Last week I took my shoes off!
- * I should have weighed myself before having my coffee!
- * It's the hot weather---I'm wearing less this week!
- * We have friends staying and ate out last night!
- * Are you sure the scales are correct?

We may learn, in due course how successful this idea was, it could be interesting.

Social Evening

The U3A of Highbridge
Invites you to
a
SOCIAL EVENING
on
FRIDAY 27th OCTOBER 2017
at
THE RITZ --- BURNHAM
7.00pm
Tickets---£10.00
Including refreshments

Yes! This time it is to be on a Friday.

The Ritz has become a very popular venue and Saturdays are now booked well in advance, Pat had difficulty booking the venue for us. So, please note the change, get organised and buy your tickets soon.

Philip Buoy

Many of you may not be aware that Philip is our representative on the Northern Somerset Association of U3As. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Philip for his work on this association on our behalf.

Cream Tea

Janet has organised another Cream Tea which will be held on Thursday 28th September at 3.30pm in the Highbridge Community Hall. All names and money (£2.50 per person) to be paid to Janet Preddy by 20th September.

Theatre Trip

On Saturday 28th October there is a trip to the Weston-super-Mare Playhouse to see the show: -

"HALF A SIXPENCE"

The coach will leave the Highbridge Community Hall at 1.00 p.m. for the matinee show at 2.30 p.m.

The cost, including coach is £21.00, please see Ann Cross for tickets or ring 01278 786425.

Shepton Mallet Prison Visit

There will be a coach trip on 22nd February 2018 to tour Shepton Mallet Prison.

The tour takes 2hrs and the guides are prison officers who have worked at the prison.

There is a very dark side to the building and its history. The Kray twins were there at one time apart from other well known criminals. The prison closes its doors in April of next year when it will be turned into shops and flats so this may be our only chance to see what it is like.

After the tour I am looking for somewhere to have some lunch, I will notify you all when I have done so.

I am taking names now if you are interested.

Vour and Carole

Group News

Latest Walking Group Programme

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	App Dist	Walk Leader	Telephone/Email
1.9.2017	Street Youth Hostel B3151	BA16 0TZ	ST480345		Edge of the Somerset Levels. This walk takes in part of Compton Durdon and The Hood Monument. Nice views.	Sleep descent then fairly level. Steep ascent to Monument. One stile	4.5	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail
15.9.2017	Wedmore Village Car Park, Cheddar Road		ST436478		Wedmore and Cocklake. Good views. Fairly flat.	Tracks and fields. Some rough ground. Part of the walk is near the River Axe	4.5	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail
6.10.2017	Kings Wood Car Park Shute Sheff		ST421560		Includes part of the Bluebell Line and Winscombe Church. Good views	One short fairly steep climb to start. Two stiles. Tracks can be muddy. Some uneven ground.	3	Ann Puddy	01278 780988
20.10.2017	Sand Point Car Park	BS22 9UD	ST330659		. Easy walk around the coast. Look out for little egrets in the salt marsh.	Some up and down. Couple of stiles.	3	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail
3.11.2017	Car park opposite Crown Inn. Left at Churchill traffic lights (A388). Turn left at Nelsons Arms.	BS25 5PW	ST445597		Following the ancient A38 from Churchill to Star and then to Rowdenrow	Steady uphill at start. Then fairly easy walking. Some uneven ground	4	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail
17.11.2017	Cheddar Reservoir Car Park	BS27 3DR	ST447534		Walk around the reservoir	Flat and Easy	2.5	Ann Puddy	01278 780988
1.12.2017	Layby Black Rock B3135 Cliff Road, Cheddar Gorge		ST482546		Black Rock and Long Wood Nature Reserve. Panoramic Views	Gradual ascent and descent. Generally level along tracks. One stone stile	3	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail
15.12.2017	Wedmore Village Car Park, Cheddar Road		ST436478		Taking in Wedmore, Muddelley and Sand. Mostly tracks and lanes	Some ups and downs and stiles	5	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail

Highbridge Saunterers Walking Programme

September – December 2017
(First and Third Friday in each month)

For further details please email: 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!

Member Contributions Part 1

Our visit to Athelhampton House

And what an enjoyable day it was.

Our day out, on Thursday 20th July dawned a lovely warm, dry day and everyone was looking forward to a grand day out; were not disappointed, our journey into Dorset was uneventful, being the usual pleasant jovial run.

Upon arriving at Athelhampton House we were greeted by the very pleasant staff who gave us a plan of the area plus a short history of the house and told us about the various facilities that were available, these included a restaurant where there was waitress service; we took advantage of this, obtaining and enjoying a very good reasonably priced meal, in comfortable surroundings.

Once suitably fed we set off to tour the house and gardens; the house was built about 1485 and, in one way or another, it has had to survive much during its 500 years of history. The restoration of the house began in 1891, with the north-east tower being added in 1895, the north wing followed in 1920/1. The beautiful formal gardens were designed by Inigo Thomas.

The house was purchased by the grandfather of the current owners, (the Cooke family) who moved there from Bristol in 1957. When grandfather purchased the property, it was in a rather derelict state, however, over the years much restoration has taken place and today, we were able to see the results of their hard work.

There is a friendly feel about the house, it has that 'lived in' atmosphere, not often found in 'stately homes' we were particularly lucky today because it appeared that we were the only coach party present, this gave us the opportunity, and space, to spend time looking at the home and its furnishings.

Thank you Vour and Carole for finding such an interesting place to visit, it was a great day out. C.F.B.

Lynton & Lynmouth - 22nd June.

Thursday started off a much cooler day than it had been at the start of the week when we had all been sweltering in temperatures of 30 - 34 deg. C.

At 9.30 our coach arrived with our driver Tony welcoming us aboard. He had been our driver when he previously worked for 'Axe Vale Coaches' so a few of our party would have remembered him from that time. He was very proficient in his job, taking us through the Health & Safety issues before setting off for the day, something we have not had from a driver for a long while.

We made a 'comfort' stop at a large garden centre at Wellington. Following coffee, cakes plus a few bargains for some of us, we were then off again heading towards our destination of Lynmouth.

We arrived shortly after twelve allowing us 4 1/2 hours to wander around the gift shops or along the river wherever people chose to go. Some of us ventured onto the vehicular railway up to Lynton spending time viewing the church along with a large arts & craft centre nearby.

The weather stayed warm and pleasant for us throughout the day, allowing some of us to sit outside and indulge ourselves to a cream tea before returning to the coach at half past four.

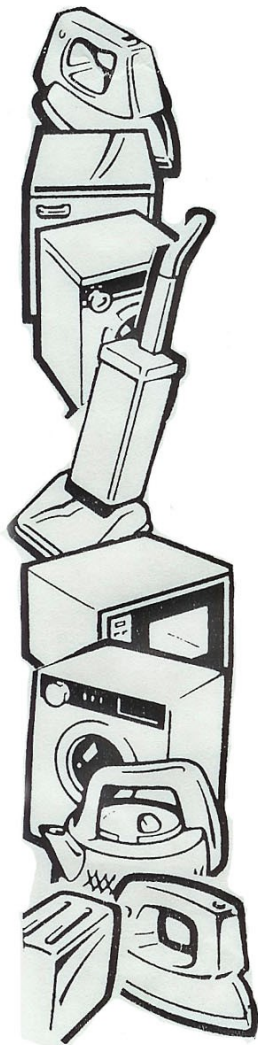
Tony took us back to Highbridge via Porlock Hill, notorious for its 1 in 4 incline as most people are aware of. The scenery was beautiful, while the sun shone over the bay as we left Lynmouth.

Tony, a very competent driver, manoeuvred the coach through and around small villages and along narrow lanes to get us all back safely.

Everyone agreed that it had been a most enjoyable day out.

Dople's

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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 #18 Answers

ACROSS

1. ANAEMIA
5. TRAM
7. VAT
8. MASTERED
9. CATER
10. ROOF
13. REAP
14. TO DO
18. EPIC
19. APRON
21. ENSNARED
22. EWE
23. OWED
24. DETESTS

DOWN

1. ADVOCATE
2. ALTITUDE
3. MEMORY
4. ABSURD
5. TREMOR
6. AXED
11. FEARLESS
12. SPANNERS
15. OPENED
16. SCARED
17. BANDIT
20. SNOW

PREMIUM QUALITY

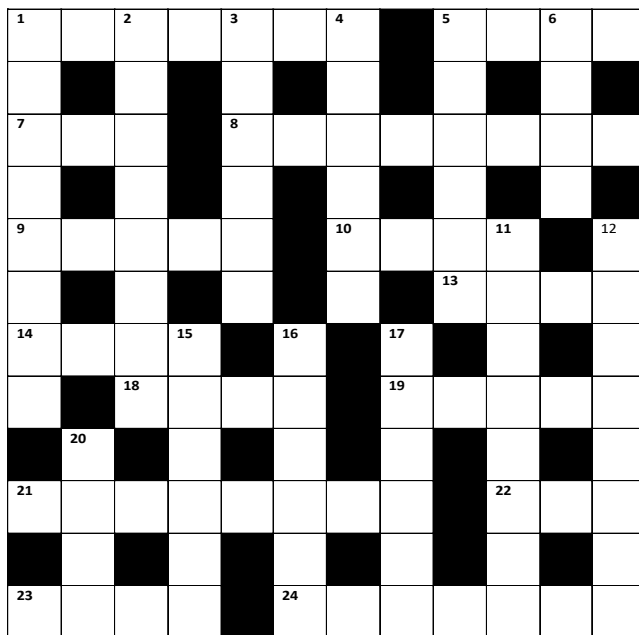
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Crossword #19



ACROSS

1. A U3A adventure (7)
5. Minutes & hours (4)
7. Curved in shape (3)
8. Scrounger (8)
9. Frequently (5)
10. Accurate (4)
13. Level (4)
14. Pubs (4)
18. Precious metal (4)
19. Scorch (5)
21. A schemer [anag] (8)
22. Plump (3)
23. Keep secret (4)
24. Having two poles (7)

DOWN

1. Relating to dragons (8)
2. Water sport (8)
3. Feel remorse (6)
4. Brigand (6)
5. Absorbent paper (6)
6. Friend (4)
11. Full of incidents (8)
12. Trace son [anag] (8)
15. Girls name (6)
16. Part of grammar (6)
17. Inactive state (6)
20. Cab (4)

Solutions next issue

Member Contributions Part 2

Somerset Churches 6

Our first visit today was to the little church of St. Andrew at Compton Bishop. The church was dedicated by Bishop Jocelin on 13th July 1236. The south doorway and the font were made for a church at least a century older, evidence of more than 800 years of worship in this beautiful peaceful place. The church has a 14th or 15th century pulpit with tracery panels, carved friezes said to be “one of the best in Somerset”. The tower is of the Perpendicular style and dates from the 15th century. An external stair turret gives access to the bell ringing chamber which contains 6 bells, 4 of which were cast by the Bilbie family the famous bell-founders of Chew Stoke. In the centre of the nave is the Churchwarden’s Oak Chest which at one time contained a slot into which money for the poor could be dropped. A walk around the churchyard you’ll find 2 chest tombs date unknown, also an ancient cross. Enjoy the peace and tranquillity to be found in this church, not a car to be heard just the singing of the birds. If you plan a visit parking is a bit restricted.

On we go to our next port of call. The village of Loxton is referred in the Domesday Book as Lochstone, which suggests a Saxon origin. The church is also dedicated to St. Andrew, it was built on an old Saxon foundation. The first authentic date is from the list of Rectos (to be found on the West wall of the nave) which is complete as from 1297. On entering the porch a fine specimen of an ancient hagioscope (or squint) through this the sexton had a direct view of

the altar, enabling him to see the celebrating priest elevating the host at the mass (or holy communion) and thus ring the Sacrificing bell. The church has a peal of 6 bells 2 of which are pre Reformation, they are rung from the porch and are regularly used. The oak panel work and carvings in the church are exquisite, well worth a visit, but parking can be a bit of a problem.

Our last visit was to the church of [St.Peter@St.Paul](#) at Bleadon. There is good reason to believe that there was a church on this site in Saxon times, although nothing remains except perhaps the little stone angel in the arch on the north wall. The dedication to [St.Peter@St.Paul](#) was quite common in those days as the 2 saints shared the same feast day. The tower, which has been dated to around 1390, contains 5 bells dating from 1711 and were made by Edward Bilbie of Chew Stoke and 1 from 1925 by the Whitechapel Bell foundry London. The 80ft tower has 3 chambers: the ringing chamber, clock chamber and the belfry. The clock was installed as a result of public subscription to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. The copper convex dial is 7ft in diameter and is placed approximately 70ft above the ground, another fine building. After all of this if you wish to purchase a sandwich or a light lunch, try the Bleadon farm shop and cafe great value for money.....

bernie.....

Strollers Summer

23 June and the solstice is past! Denise had planned a West Huntspill stroll starting at the church car park. We set off down Church Road, turned into Sloway Lane and then walked along the “cut” to the outfall. It was a bright blowy day and I for one was glad to be in the sea air (no pollen). The sluice gate on the seaward end provided a crossing and we returned on the south side of the channel to Sloway Lane Bridge. Strolled up past Laburnum House and found the footpath across the field, which fortunately had been cut, back to the cars just in time as other cars were coming in presumably for a church function. I was unable to go for lunch at Denise’s home but am told she provided a royal feast and her garden is a joy to see.

The second stroll in June was an unknown to all of us doing it! We had rejected any that needed travel on the A38 so set off for Wedmore. The ten of us there knew none of the footpaths so having parked at the village hall we walked up a road, with some beautiful houses, towards the church, hoping there would be, as there often is, a church path but there wasn’t. We returned to where there was a footpath sign pointing up a hill. There was a worn path across the field so we bravely set off to explore. It led to a very wonky bridge leading to a high and dilapidated stile, which some of us (well me) found difficult. This led to a very pleasant amble through a wooded track to another very steep stile, which I negotiated somewhat inelegantly, leading to another worn path back down the hill to the gate where we started. Despite the stiles it was an enjoyable stroll and my thanks to the group for their help and patience. We returned to Riches for lunch.

June was coming to an end and the weather uncertain when we travelled the short distance to Downend (Puriton not Bristol!) and

parked along the road. A short way further on there was a foot-path, but the stile had been removed and a temporary gate tied across which was skilfully removed (and replaced) to gain access. The way marker indicated the path into a field that had been planted and the margins left overgrown with thistles and other weeds. We walked up the opposite side of the hedge but on reaching the top the footpath route was not clear, so we retreated. At this point I left the group. On my return down the road I spoke to a lady cutting her grass who informed me that the path should go across the top of the hill and re-join the road but the farmer did all he could to discourage people from using it. When the main group returned having walked around the village we all crossed the motorway on the foot bridge and had lunch at the Puriton Inn.

I was unable to join the group for the first stroll in July but am told they went to Shapwick Nature Reserve at Ham Wall so here is a photo supplied by Audrey. Lunch was taken at Sweets.



There was no stroll on the last Friday of August as most of the group went on the boat trip.

Paula Cook

HANDYMAN SERVICE

Carpenter -- Painter -- Decorator

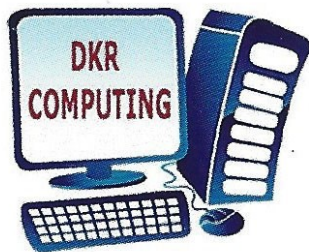
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Thinking about decorating?
Want a shelf put up?**

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Away Days

Cirencester Park – The Bathurst Estate £7.00 September

Cirencester Park is the home of the Earl and Countess Bathurst. There are extensive grounds and walks. The town of Cirencester is only $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from the house at the top of the Broad Avenue. Cirencester was the second largest town in Britain during Roman times.

The market square is dominated by the parish church of St. John the Baptist, which is almost cathedral-like, and the square itself is mentioned in the Domesday Book.

There are no catering facilities in the park, so you will need to take either a packed lunch or walk in to town for refreshments.

Batsford Arboretum £13.50 October

The arboretum is situated near Moreton-in-the-Marsh, Gloucestershire. It was created by Lord Redesdale in the 1800s. He was the grandfather of the infamous Mitford sisters and the arboretum covers fifty-six acres. It has been featured on BBC's Gardeners World and Countryfile.

There is a garden terrace café serving hot and cold food plus a garden and gift shop to peruse if you wish to take home a memento or plant.

Monthly Draw

July 8th 2017	No. 25	Gillian Cottey & Maisie Hand
August 5th 2017	No. 27	Valerie Cox, Betty Montgomery & Linda Brigg

Each received £20.00



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Calendar

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2017		
September 5th—9th	Holiday: Llandudno The Somerset Hotel	From £225.00
September 21st	Cirencester Park	£7.00
September 27th	Macmillan Coffee Morning Highbridge Community Centre	FREE
September 28th ** NEW **	Another Cream Tea for 2017 Highbridge Community Hall	£2.50
October 19th	Batsford Arboretum	£13.50
October 27th ** NEW **	Social Evening: The Ritz at Burnham-on-Sea	£10.00
October 28th ** NEW **	Theatre Trip: Half a Sixpence at The Weston Playhouse	£21.00
November 23rd	Worcester and Christmas Market	£8.00
2018		
February 5th—9th	Holiday: Eastbourne Claremont Hotel	From £120.00
February 22nd ** NEW **	Shepton Mallet Prison Visit	£TBC
September 11th—15th	Holiday: Bournemouth Bournemouth Sands Hotel	From £215.00

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.**