



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



U3A of Highbridge Magazine

www.u3ahighbridge.org.uk

Issue 103

Nov/Dec 2018

Your Committee

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Vice-Chairman	Rod Downing	01278 256895
Secretary	Janet Preddy	01278 783743
Assistant to Secretary	Audrey Downing	01278 256895
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	Bernard Martin	01278 787230

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and all who give a hand!

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Chairman's Message

Hello everyone,

It's that time of year again. Short days, long nights, thermal vests, scarves, gloves and shops full of Christmas cards/gifts. Every year, it's a problem of what to get for who. However, we have our Craft Fair this month on 21st November where our group displays its wares to sell. Maybe you will find something suitable as a gift here. It will also be an Open Day to, hopefully, recruit new members. Do tell your friends to come along, They will be most welcome. Tea, coffee and cakes will be served as usual. We will also be holding a tombola and Janet will be pleased to receive donations for it.



This will be the last edition of the magazine this year and I would like, on behalf of the committee and I to wish you all a healthy, happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

There will be a Coffee Morning held on Boxing Day, 26th December between 10am and 11.30am for those who wish to get out of the house.

With every good wish.

Vour Orchard



Club News

Now that the clocks have been put back an hour, evenings will get dark more quickly, this means there is more time available to do puzzles?

It is therefore proposed we have a:

“PUZZLE SALE/SWOP”

It will be held on

Wednesday 14th November during the Coffee Morning.

Prices will be: 1,000 piece **£2.00**

 500 piece **£1.00**

Note: If your puzzle is not sold, please ensure you take it away.

Obituary — Ann Cross

It is with great sadness to report that one of our members and friend has died. Ann Cross died on Sunday 28th October.

RIP Ann 30.12.38 to 28.10.18.

U3A of Highbridge

OPEN DAY

and

Christmas Sale of Work

Wednesday 21st November

Highbridge Community Centre

10.00am until 2.00pm

**Come along and see the work of the members and perhaps
find yourself a bargain for Christmas.**

Art - Jewellery - Crochet - Patchwork

And Much More

Many items for Christmas

**Lunch Available (£3.00): Soup/Bread Roll or
Ploughman's with Apple Pie**

Refreshments - Tea/Coffee Cake

Everyone Welcome

Group Leaders please let me know if you require a big or small table. We do not have any back boards so if you can borrow one from a friend that would be very useful. Please bring a cloth to cover your table. This is a good opportunity to encourage our members to join another group. Pearl Price 793954.

Members Contributions

Bournemouth Holiday

This holiday was the last to be organised by Di and Brenda; the 36 members that boarded the Daish coach in Market Street on Tuesday 11th September did so with some feelings of regret. We all knew that future holidays for this U3A are already being organised, but Di and Brenda have shielded from all the hassle and problems that one encounters when dealing with hotels for so long, that it didn't feel quite right.

Di and Brenda have done us proud over the past 5 years, so, may I on everyone's behalf, thank them (plus any helpers they may have had along the way), for their dedication to our needs, ensuring the holidays, whichever one we may have chosen, was going to be enjoyable.

It is appreciated that there were times when they may have been hard pressed to maintain their dignified composure, but they succeeded admirably, and we thank you for all your endeavours on our behalf.

A grateful member

Over the 5 years we have visited Shanklin (2013 & 2016), Newquay (2014), Eastbourne (2013 & 2015 & 2018), Weymouth (2014 & 2017), Torquay (2015), Bournemouth (2016 & 2018), Llandudno (2017) and Liverpool (2018).

Away Day—Chambercombe Manor

'Thank you Vour ' from *all* of us for yet another great day out!



An unusual place to visit to say the least, not one of our regular *haunts*, but interesting none the less.

Our *spirits* were raised for it had stopped raining by the time we got off the coach. Di-

vided into two groups, we then started our one hour guided tour. Even in the first room of this reputed to be haunted house, I caught site of a strange *spectral* light which suddenly appeared. It seemed to be emanating from around Peter's head, but I soon realised that, thankfully, it was only the flash he was using on his camera.

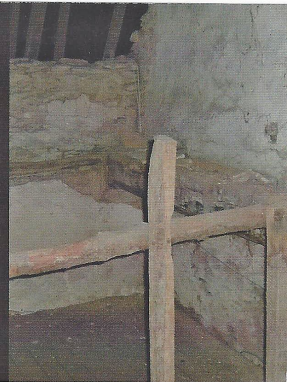
In the second room that we entered, there came a faint knocking from what appeared to be a closed door! Being the nearest and with my heart in my mouth, I slowly inched the door open a fraction at a time, with no way of knowing who or what was

trying to '*come over from the other side*' It was such a relief when I was confronted by our second group, who by this time, had caught up with us.

The Haunted Room

Unravel the mystery of the skeleton found on the remains of a bedstead, bricked up in a hidden chamber within the Manor.

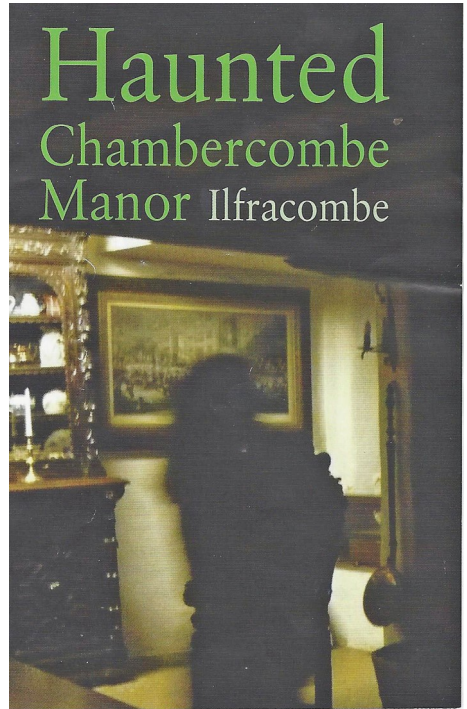
Will you feel the presence of an incarcerated soul?



The guide opened yet another door with what looked like a set of *skeleton* keys, describing how the manor at one time, was the home of a family of ship wreckers. Interesting to learn that during this period, the value of tea far outweighed the value of gold.

Walking gingerly down the 900 year old creaking stairs to the ground floor, I was thinking about the ghost that supposedly haunted the manor, when suddenly, out the corner of my eye, I caught site of a strange and *unearthly apparition*, my heart was racing, but I soon realised that it was just my reflection in a mirror!

A very old sepia photograph of a former inhabitant of the manor, (probably a ship wrecker by the way he looked) and which was hanging on a wall, seemed to catch my eye, it appeared to resemble our Neil, *aura* ... very good likeness of him!



Lunch was then served at 12.30 with no complaints there, except that I did ask for a *Sprite* to go with it, but received only the offer of a glass of water.

In the corner of the cafeteria, I thought I saw a *doppelganger*, but no, it really was the *real* Rod sitting there next to Audrey.

After lunch, Martin bused us down to the centre of Ilfracombe for a couple of hours. Those that braved the rain and walked to the harbour entrance couldn't help but notice the 20 metre (65 ft!) high bronze statue by Damien Hurst of 'Verity' a heavily pregnant lady holding a sword aloft. As she had been there for well over a year, I assumed it must be a *phantom* pregnancy.

—————XX—————

(Written by Vour's usual *Ghost* writer)

p.s. I really can't think what on earth *possessed* me to write this!

p.p.s Looking again at the photo montage, (bottom left hand corner) ... is that our John kneeling by the door in yet *another* one of his disguises?



Photos from Away Day @ Hatton Gardens



*Thanks to Audrey Downing for
the photos*





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Monthly Draw

September 1st 2018	No. 50	Irene Klein, Gillian Cadwal- lender, Diane Dowd
September 29th 2018	No. 27	Carole Loveridge and John Ellis
October 27th 2018	No. 56	Ivor Alford and Julie Watson

Each received £25.00

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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
2 nd & 4 th	2.00 to 3.30	Kurling	C.H.	Stan Vousden-White Sybil Tilley	781567 787054
4 th	2.00 to 4.00	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
2 nd & 5 th	2.00 to 4.00	Photography	S.H.	Pete Manning	780203
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	2.30 to 4.30	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	1.45 to 3.45	Art	S.H.	Ken Burston	782529
Every	2.00 to 4.00	Table Tennis	C.H.	Carole Loveridge	780060

Group Activities

Friday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1 st & 3 rd	11.30 to 1.00	Skittles	L.I.	Philip Buoy	783647
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
Wednesdays	Luncheons	Pat Clipstone	788128
Thursdays	Away Days	Vour Orchard Carole Loveridge	788984 780060
Varies	Holidays	Christine Owen	784500

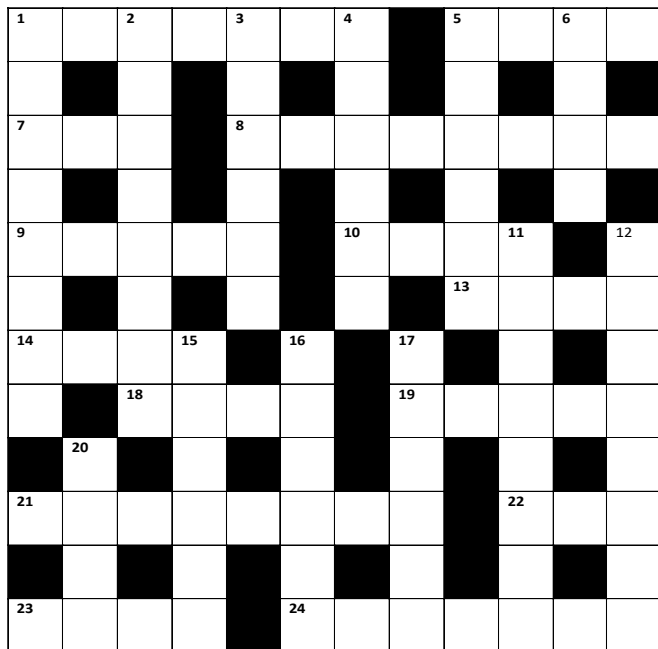
Changes since last issue are highlighted in yellow.

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 #25



Crossword #25 Clues

ACROSS

1. Shipping channels (7)
5. Leak (4)
7. Pat (3)
8. 'Core fins' [anag] (8)
9. Scent (5)
10. Type of net (4)
13. Type of container (4)
14. Activate (4)
18. Countertenor (4)
19. Near (5)
21. 'A gin hunt' [anag] (8)
22. Deprive (3)
23. Expunge (4)
24. Remains (7)

DOWN

1. English town (8)
2. 'I as Rambo' [anag] (8)
3. Proclaim (6)
4. Hit (6)
5. Poem (6)
6. Saga (4)
11. Obtained (8)
12. Part of pronunciation (8)
15. Celestial body (6)
16. Imitator (6)
17. Straightens (6)
20. Undisturbed (4)

Solution on page 26

More Humour

An atheist trekking through a forest in Canada is confronted a grizzly bear.

“Oh God help me” he cries. Everything around him froze and God appeared.

“You have denied I exist all your life, now you suddenly need me”.

The man thinks for a while on what was said.

“Yes, you’re right, it is hypocritical of me to expect you to treat me as a Christian--- would it help if you made the bear a Christian”?

God considers the matter and says, “Very well” and disappears. Whereupon the bear looks at the man, raised itself to its full height, puts its paws together and said

“For what I am about to receive, may the lord make me truly thankful”.



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More Members Contributions

Somerset Churches 11

Our visit started on Friday at All Saints Church Otterhampton overlooking the river Parret. Many years ago Christians built and set apart this place for prayer. They made their church beautiful with their skill and craftsmanship. Here they have met for worship, for children to be baptised, for couples to be married and for the dead to be brought for burial. Although services are no longer regularly held here, this church remains consecrated. It's one of the 291 churches throughout England cared for by The Churches Conservation Trust. A church was established on the site in the 12th century although the current building dates from the 14th century. The perpendicular west tower was added later, it has a peal of 4 bells dating from the medieval period. The interior includes a Norman font with a Jacobean cover, and a screen from the 16th century. The original dedication was to Saint Peter, however it was later renamed All Saints.

The former church at Stockland Bristol was dedicated to All Saints in 1316. The parish church was probably a mother church as suggested by the claim in 1377 that people from Otterhampton and the Marsh



should normally be buried in Stockland churchyard and the vicar was entitled to all offerings for requiems. In 1865 Thomas Daniel, lay rector and patron rebuilt the present church at his own expense. The new church on the site of the old was dedicated to Saint Mary Magdalene. It was built of lias stone in the early 14th century style and comprises a chancel with south transept, a nave with north aisle and south porch and a west tower, which contains a peal of 5 bells, only one of is dated 1827 and pre-dates the rebuilding of the church. Many fragments of the old church were used in the building of the new church.

The Church of Saint Andrew in Stogursey was built as a Benedictine priory church around 1117 by William de Falise who came over from Normandy with William the Conqueror; he was rewarded with several Somerset estates including one called Stocche (was Stoke Courcy now Stogursey). The church was enlarged around 1180 when the apses were demolished and the chancel extended. The priory was dissolved around 1440 and it became a parish church. It was further altered in the 15th century, more restoration and rebuilding was done during the 19th century. The church contains 2 Norman fonts one being brought from the redundant church of Saint Andrew at Lilstock. At floor level in the South porch is a Sanctuary Ring installed in the 13th century. In Medieval England criminals could find a Place of Refuge in a church for up to forty days and then admit their crime or stand trial. (Good job that doesn't apply anymore). A magnificent building well worth a visit.

Our lunch stop this time was at the Quantock Gateway, highly recommended.

Strollers Late Summer/Autumn

Most of our group were in Bournemouth, or otherwise occupied, so five of us set off for Pawlett. It's a longish track down to the site of the old pub, opposite Combwich, with several gates. Mary did a sterling job and I promised her an Easter Egg! Our wind-cheaters were pressed into service and we set off along the Parrett



bank. The tide was in and two jet skiers entertained us doing showy turns and the like, however they wisely gave way when the sand dredger, Arco Dart, rounded the bend. We had been watching her progress from Dunball as the meanders had made it look as though she was sailing in a field with the cows! Very black clouds around us appeared to be heading in our direction so we made our way back to the cars. By the time we arrived at Riches for coffee it was early lunch time, the rain arrived two hours later.

The weather was holding dry, but coats were needed, when we set off for the Avalon Marshes Centre to park for our stroll along the South Drain through Shapwick Heath Nature Reserve for our second outing in September. A lone young swan, still in his brown feathers, which I have learned they keep for about 6 months before turning white, was cautiously descending the bank to the water where he took off very strongly. He was swimming faster than we were walking! A grey heron rose just in front of us and flew along low to the water, I guess we had disturbed his fishing. The sun came out to play during our return journey and we de-toured around a boarded track along a lake, but there was no wild life in



evidence. All except four of us went to Sweets for lunch “al fresco”. Much ribald hilarity was caused by Brenda who declared “I’m looking between that man’s legs to see what I want in my bap”! (Perhaps I should explain the menu boards are below the counter). Further laughter broke out when Fay said she knew she had put on a pound

while on holiday and that her chair had broken. What lovely company you all are.

The 1st two weeks of October had been warm and mainly sunny, an Indian Summer perhaps but Storm Callum arrived over Thursday night and Friday morning was, like the baby in the night, wet and windy. Seven of us bravely gathered in the car park and much less bravely decided that walking was not an option as not only was it pouring with rain, the gusts of wind were very strong. So a pleasant couple of hours were spent at Ollies sharing anecdotes of working life over breakfast and coffee.

The convoy set off to Morrison’s car park for a walk along the canal where there was some shelter from the cold wind. The canal was fairly full and the path strewn with wet leaves. As we walked toward the YMCA we saw a heron come in to land and several moorhen but little else and encountered relatively few other people using the path as we made our way to the docks. The high walls, carved beams and bridges make this section an interesting walk. We cut back through the “brewery” field (now a playing field), Angel Place, the Arcade and the Corn Market to St Mary’s Church where we diverted to look around this very old building, and so back to the cars. There was some confusion about the lunch venue so we inadvertently split up.

Paula Cook

Group News

Holidays Group

I have taken over from Di and Brenda and would first of all like to thank them for all their hard work over the years they have been arranging the holidays – everyone has much appreciated them.

The next holiday to Newquay from 27th April to 1st May 2019 is now full and we have a waiting list. For those who have booked may I please have your final payment by Wednesday, 20th February 2019.

The following holiday will be to the Isle of Wight from Saturday 31st August until Wednesday 4th September 2019 and will cost £244 per person (single supplement of £10). The last time we went this was a very enjoyable holiday in a more characterful hotel. I'll start taking bookings from January 9th next year. All deposits of £50 to be paid by February 13th. As with Newquay if the demand for single rooms is more than those available – and I have again obtained the maximum Daish's allow! - we shall again have to “draw names out of a hat” as this seems to be the only fair way to ensure everyone has an equal chance.

The team consists of Diane, Denise and Linda as well as me.

Happy Holidays!

Christine Owen

*****Please note new meeting time of 9.30 am – Bank Street Car Park*****

Highbridge Saunterers Walking Programme October 2018 – January 2019 (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
19.10.18	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
16.11.2018	Sand Point Car Park £3.50	BS229UD	ST330659		Nice views	Undulating.	5	John Ellis and Thelma Pound	01278 783071 thelmapound@gmail.com 01278 685483 (John)
21.12.2018	Wedmore Village Car Park, Cheddar Road		ST436478		Wedmore, Aller Moor and Sand. Nice views	Lanes, Tracks and Fields.	4.5	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail.
18.1.2019	Chilton Polden Playing Field	TA7 9EG	ST377398		Around historic Chilton Polden	Lanes, Tracks, Fields. A couple of stiles	3.5	Rod and Audrey Downing	01278 256895/07467 029154 audrey_downing@hotmail

If you require a lift, please contact Walk Leader
We meet at Bank Street Car Park (rear of Community Hall) for car sharing and leave promptly at 9.30.
If you prefer to meet at the start of the walk please be there for 10.00
Please ensure you have suitable footwear!

Away Days

Exeter — November 22nd

The last trip of the year will be to Exeter on 22nd November.

The Coach is full at the moment and there is a waiting list for spaces, so if you have decided you won't be joining us please let Carole or Vour know so that someone else can fill the seat.

The first pick-up will be at Berrow triangle 9-30am.

Pier street 9-40am

Highbridge 9.50am

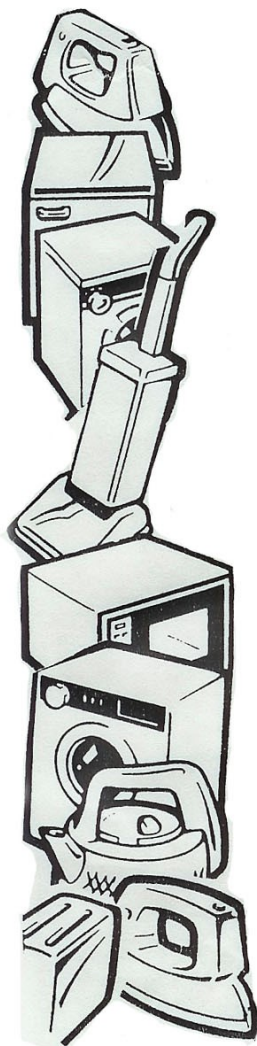
Return journey will leave Exeter at 4-30pm.

Did I read that right? Signs

- * Notice at Safari Park: Elephant, please stay in your car!
- * At a Conference Centre: For anyone who has children and doesn't know it, there is a day care on the 1st floor
- * At Health shop: CLOSED--due to illness
- * Notice in field: 'The Farmer allows walkers to cross this field free, but the bull charges'
- * Message on office notice board: 'If you cannot read, this leaflet will tell you how to get lessons'.

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Crossword #25 Answers

ACROSS

- 1. SEAWAYS
- 5. SEEP
- 7. DAB
- 8. FORENSIC
- 9. ODOUR
- 10. KEEP
- 13. TRAY
- 14. TRIP
- 18. ALTO
- 19. LOCAL
- 21. HAUNTING
- 22. ROB
- 23. OMIT
- 24. RESIDUE

DOWN

- 1. SIDMOUTH
- 2. AMBROSIA
- 3. AFFIRM
- 4. STRIKE
- 5. SONNET
- 6. EPIC
- 11. PROCURED
- 12. SYLLABLE
- 15. PLANET
- 16. COPIER
- 17. ALIGNS
- 20. CALM



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Calendar

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2018		
November 21st	U3A Open Day	Free Entry, Lunch £3.00
November 22nd	Away Day: Exeter, Devon	£10.00
2019		
April 27th — May 1st	Holiday: Newquay	??
August 31st — September 4th	Holiday: Isle of Wight	From £244

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.