

Of Highbridge
u3a learn,
laugh,
live



U3A of Highbridge Magazine

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Your Committee

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Tel</u>
Chairman	Adele Stevens	07486 909687
Deputy Chairman	Allen Owen	01278 784500
Secretary	Janet Preddy	01278 783743
Treasurer	Carol Marriott	01278 795773
Membership Secretary	Neil Scott	01278 428422
Assistant Membership Secretary	John Ellis	01278 685483
Group & Events Co-ordinator	Denise Godby	01278 238526
Committee Member	Diane Scott	01278 428422
Committee Member	Peter Manning	01278 780203
Committee Member	Audrey Downing	07467 029154

Other non-committee roles

Webmaster	Darryl Knight-Rees	07751 565705
Welfare and Greeting New Members	Fay Burston Pearl Price	01278 782529 01278 793954

Magazine Editors:	Darryl & Linda Knight-Rees Phone: 07751 565705 Email: magazine@u3ahighbridge.org.uk
Next Magazine Deadline:	<u>Sunday February 25th 2024</u>

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Note: In accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation 2018, 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

Happy New Year to you all.

I'm not sure where the last year has gone.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas.

Look forward to seeing lots of you this year.

Come along and join us on a Wednesday for a cuppa and a chat.

Bye for now, Adele



Club and Group News

Annual Lunch

This will be at the Beachcomber on 10th April 2024. Full details and booking form will be in the March magazine.

Denise

Beading and Card Making Groups Update

Regretfully due to personal reasons I have decided to give up leading these groups. Rose Bateman.

Editor: As there is no one willing to take over the running of these groups they will no longer run as U3A Groups until further notice.

Xmas party 2023

A huge Thank You to everyone who came along to the Christmas party!

We raised £226 from the Hamper Raffle which we will buy things for good causes(to be confirmed).

It was great too see so many of you join in the games etc.

Here's to the next one!

Adele







Members Contributions

Strollers – the continuing story



The last stroll before the clocks go back and we were blessed with a lovely sunny morning after a stormy week. Steve had arranged for us to park at The Admirals Landing so that we could start at Bridgewater docks. The stroll took us up towards Victoria Park, a part of Bridgewater I do not know well. There is a café, part of a community centre, facing the park and Bernie, Fay and I went in for coffee to wait for the main group who walked around the park. On their return we all walked back to the docks, admired the brickwork on Bowering's chimney at the old feed mill and went into the pub for lunch.



The beginning of November, storm Ciaran had blown through and the day was calm when four of us set off from Marine Drive car park and strolled along the sea front. The tide was ebbing and the view clear. We turned down Seaview and Westfield Roads, and through the cemetery gate. That was when the rain started! We wandered about, looking for my family grave and the rain became more persistent. Along the path, into the Manor Gardens with heads down against the deluge. Keith headed for home along Oxford Street and we headed for the town taking refuge in the Princess coffee shop. The rain had stopped when we left and the stroll back through the town was as pleasant as walking in damp clothes can be!

I missed a couple of strolls but joined nine other people on a bright, cold, last Friday in November. We parked near the footbridge in Downend and walked around the village. We received cheery greetings from other walkers, mostly accompanied by dogs, which belied the impression given by various notices. Audrey took a photo

record!



The poor old Exchange Inn looks sadder each time we see it and none of us know why or if there are any plans for the site. The ponies were friendly, although I had returned to the car before they were encountered. Bernie and Fay also turned back just afterwards but the stalwarts



made a circuit of it along the main road and a lane back to the cars. The imposing gates at the end of the footbridge on our way to the Puriton Inn were interesting.


After missing 2 Strolls I rejoined for the one before Christmas. There was a gale blowing so we opted for a visit to West Huntspill church, which was beautifully decorated, for coffee. We then ventured around the village to stretch our legs and went for lunch at the Orchard Inn.



Paula.

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Monthly Draw

Sat 18th November 2023	No. 56	Raye Vousden-White and Hazel Sales
Sat 16th December 2023	No. 8	Brenda Hooper and Roy Bryant

Winners each received £20.00

IN NEED OF ADMIN SUPPORT?

Typing correspondence, completing forms, organising appointments, general filing, proofreading, cross-checking information.

**Phone Elaine
07971551023
All enquiries welcome**

Retired educator with technical science and administrative experience.

No job too small.



Group Activities

Monday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1 st , 3 rd & 5 th (excluding bank holidays)	2.00 to 4.00	Board Games	S.H.	Pete Manning Chris Murphy	07976 408843 07947 203046
2 nd & 4 th (excluding bank holidays)	2.00 to 3.30	Kurling	C.H.	Pete Manning Lynne Hembrow	07976 408843 07562 919566

Tuesday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1 st & 3 rd	2.00 to 4.00	Mosaics	P.H.	Alison Joyce	784633

Wednesday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
Every	10.00 to 12.00	Coffee Morning	C.H.	N/A	N/A
2 nd	12.00 onwards	Luncheons	Varies	Adele Stevens	07486 909687

Thursday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
Every	2.00 to 4.00	Table Tennis	C.H.	Audrey Downing Rod Downing	07467 029154

Group Activities

Friday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1 st & 3 rd	1.30 to 3.00	Skittles	C.A.	Self-Regulating	238526
1 st & 2 nd & 3 rd & 4 th	10.00 onwards	Strollers	Varies	Self-Regulating	238526
5 th	10.00 onwards	Somerset Churches	Varies	Bernard Martin	787230

Occasional

Weekdays	Activity	Contact	Tel
Varies	Holidays	Christine Owen Diane Scott	784500 428422
Varies	Walking	Audrey Downing Rod Downing	256895 or 07467 029154

Changes since last issue are highlighted in yellow.

Legends

S.H. Southwell House	C.H. Community Hall (Room Number)
P.H. Private House	G.H. Gospell Hall
C.A. Coopers Arms	

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

Quiz (answers on page 22)

- 1** What word means 'pleasure seeking as a way of life'?
- 2** Which doll's name gave Aqua a No 1 hit?
- 3** Name the idol made by the Israelites when they believed Moses would not return from Mount Sinai.
- 4** What is the county town of Lancashire?
- 5** Who were the original sponsors of the London Marathon?
- 6** What is borborygmus?
- 7** Which European country has the oldest Parliament?
- 8** What term describes the fineness of yarns (not story yarns)?
- 9** According to Arthurian legend what was the Holy Grail?
- 10** What's the name of the winged horse of Greek mythology?
- 11** Who on TV played 'Lovejoy'?
- 12** Who is uncle to Dewey, Huey and Louie?
- 13** Name the author who created Lord Peter Wimsey.
- 14** Who had a 1984 hit with I just called to say I love you?
- 15** Name the strait separating Sicily and Italy that links the Tyrrhenian and Ionian Seas.
- 16** What is a herbivore?
- 17** What is anthracite?
- 18** In which year was the coronation of Queen Victoria?
- 19** What World War II air raid shelter took its name from the Home Secretary?
- 20** With which recording company did George Michael lose a long drawn out battle in 1994?



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Turkey and Tinsel

After storing all the walking aids and scooters on the coach, our driver set off for the short journey to sunny Torquay.

Our first glimpse of our destination was the sun reflecting on the sea as we approached Abbey Lawn Hotel, our home for the next four days of Christmas and the New Year.

The manager got on the coach to welcome us and the porters took our luggage to our rooms while we enjoyed a welcome drink and mince pie in the conservatory.

That evening's theme at the hotel was Christmas Eve, followed by Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Eve.

The Highbridge u3a did well in the nightly quizzes especially the ones related to Christmas and Adele's team won two boxes of Dairy Box chocs and Denise's team also won some on the first night.

After enjoying the first day looking around Torquay and doing some good shopping, we made use of our bus passes and spent a couple of days visiting Brixham and Teignmouth. I would highly recommend the local bus drivers, nothing seemed to be too much trouble for them especially when helping travellers on and off the buses. Also we were able to compare Wetherspoons in Torquay, Brixham and Teignmouth and had some very nice hot chocolate drinks with sprinkles in each.

We had a really good time and the weather was kind to us (there were even people swimming in the sea in Teignmouth). Many thanks to Chris Owen for organising the holiday with Diane and Denise (her able assistants) and we look forward to the next one!

Rod and Aud







Time is like a river

**You cannot touch the water twice,
because the flow that has passed
will never pass again.**

Enjoy every moment of life.

As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends, so the service was to be an unmarked grave at a pauper's cemetery in the Nova Scotia back country.

As I was not familiar with the backwoods, I got lost and, being a typical man, I didn't stop for directions.

I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch. I felt bad and apologised to the men for being late.

I went to the side of the grave and looked down and the vault lid was already in place. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play.

The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family and friends. I played like I've never played before for this homeless man.

And as I played "Amazing Grace", the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together. When I finished, I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head

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was hung low, my heart was full.

As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say,
"I've never seen anything like that before, and I've been putting
in septic tanks for twenty years."

Apparently, I'm still lost...it's a man thing.

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Quiz Answers

1	Hedonism	2	Barbie
3	Golden Calf	4	Preston
5	Mars	6	Stomach Rumbling
7	Iceland	8	Denier
9	Cup of Christ	10	Pegasus
11	Ian MacShane	12	Donald Duck
13	Dorothy L Sayers	14	Stevie Wonder
15	Straits of Messina	16	Plant Eater
17	Coal	18	1838
19	Andersen Shelter	20	Sony

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Calendar

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2024		
10th April	Annual Lunch @ The Beachcomber, Brean	TBA



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.