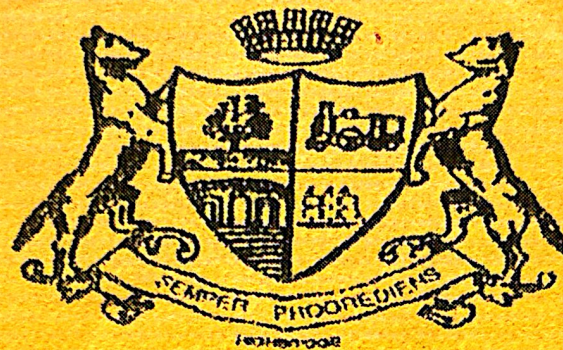


FB

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H I G H B R I D G E

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January-February

M A G A Z I N E

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ISSUE NUMBER 26

WHO'S WHO 2003/2004

Members of the Committee

Chairman	Phil Lyes	01278 784629
Vice- Chair	Fay Burston	01278 782529
Secretary	Ken Burston	01278 782529
Treasurer	Pauline Chapman	01278 785163
Membership Secretary	Beryl Bryant	01278 783780
Committee Members	Roy Bryant	01278 783780
	Ethel Titford	01278 788811
	Violet Chick	01278 784033
	Ray Reddish	01278 785411
	Joyce Curtis	01278 782716
Co-opted Members	Margaret Wall	01278 786742

Co-ordinators

Art I	Jean Berry (Tutor)	01278 785840
Art II	Phil Lyes (Tutor)	01278 784629
Card Making	Fay Burston	01278 782529
Family History	Roger Ouston	01278 795007
Keep Fit	Joyce Beard	01278 783913
Play Reading	Tony Webb	01278 787483
Scrabble/Board Games	Betty Worthy	01278 795823
Skittles	Ray Reddish	01278 785411
Strollers	Fay Burston	01278 782529
“ “	Ray Reddish	01278 785411
Swimming	Phyllis Walsh	01278 786486
Social Group	Roy Bryant	01278 783780
“ “	Vi Chick	01278 784033

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

Editorial

A Happy New Year to one and all.

May I on behalf of your Committee offer good wishes to everyone and trust you will have a healthy and successful 2006.

It is with deep regret that I have to tell you Jack Foster died on Wednesday 21st December following a long illness, one that made it difficult for him to join in our activities. Jack, who was a Committee Member, also organised our Speaker's Corner but found it necessary to request a sabbatical due to the illness. He will be sorely missed and we offer our condolences to Joanne and Paula his daughters.

The passed few months have been fairly busy; 17 members went on a Tinsel and Turkey mid-week break in November staying near Chichester. The journey down to West Sussex was a delight. The autumn colours through South Somerset, Wiltshire and Hampshire were spectacular; and on arrival at Bracklesham Bay we saw a beautiful sunset. A great start for this short break, which, to some was not really their 'cup of tea', however, they fed us well and the entertainment was quite good, most of it put on by the very talented staff. The trips out included a day in Portsmouth where some went Xmas shopping, Fay and I went to the top of the new Spinnaker Tower, this gives spectacular views over the harbour and out to the Isle of Wight. A group also visited the docks and H.M.S. Victory, a must in this 200th anniversary year of that great sea battle. It was a welcome break; not having to drive made the holiday different.

A group also went to Blackpool; the Tinsel and Turkey trips are certainly an easy way of taking a short break in the winter without the hassle of driving, they are becoming very popular.

Starting this New Year we hold our Annual Lunch on Wednesday February 15th. at the Laburnum House Hotel, the arrangements will be generally as last year. Total numbers are limited to 100; those wishing to attend please give their membership number and payment to Fay as from January 11th. (First come, first served).----- See page 12

Editorial (continued)

Adult Learning Week

Did you see the photograph in the autumn issue of the 'U.3.A.News' of our Board Games Group? It was taken in the Highbridge Library during the Adult Learning Week held earlier this year. The members spent the afternoon playing various games-Upwords, Rummikub etc not that the local populous was very interested. We did make an effort to show some our activities during the week but I very much doubt that it had a lasting effect on very many people.

We are constantly looking for ideas that might result in new groups being formed and have recently come across some members who are interested in models, in this instance Dolls Houses. It set us thinking that we could start a **Model Making Group** perhaps meeting once a month, say, to talk shop, discuss model making in general.

If there are members who would like to meet to talk/make models, no matter what they may be, please let me know. We will try to book a suitable venue and agree a date so that they can meet and show off models and compare notes.

Christmas Goodies

Please do not forget to save your surplus chocolates and biscuits for the local hospital or nursing homes. As most of you will know every year we ask members to bring to us those 'naughty but nice' delicacies that help you to put on weight. These are delivered to the local hospital and, if we have enough to nursing homes as well, so that the patients may be treated to a few delicacies with their afternoon teas.

The Burnham Hospital is always very appreciative for our member's generosity and kindness in thinking of the patients, so please keep up the good work.

And finally, may I on behalf of all the Committee, not only wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year but also thank you all for your support during 2005. It has been a good year; we have moved again but you all took it in a good spirit and have given us your interest and encouragement throughout.

May we wish you all the very, very best for the future!

Group News

Card Making Group

Bookings have been made for the 2006 and are given below; please note that the Monday meetings are at **10.00am to 12.00am**. This is because Southwell House has a regular booking for Monday afternoons by another organisation; the Wednesday meetings will still be in the afternoon.

Meetings at Southwell House as below:

Monday	9th January-	<u>Morning 10.00-12.00</u>	
Wednesday	18th January-		Afternoon 2.00-4.00
Monday	6th February-	<u>Morning 10.00-12.00</u>	
Wednesday	15th February---		NO meeting (My Fair Lady)
Monday	6th March –	<u>Morning 10.00-12.00</u>	
Wednesday	15th March-		Afternoon 2.00-4.00
Cost:	£1.50		

Family History

The workshops will be held on the **First Thursday** of each month at Southwell House, time 10.00am. The relevant dates are:

Thursday 5th January	Thursday 6th April
Thursday 2nd February	Thursday 4th May
Thursday 2nd March	Thursday 1st June
Cost £1.00	

Members of this group, have, under Roger's guidance, researched their family backgrounds; unknown relatives have turned up, aided by the old Census Records. It is a fascinating subject and we are learning a lot about our ancestors; why and when records of births and deaths were produced. Wills are another source of useful information.

Art Groups

The Classes provided approximately 50 paintings for display at the Pre-Xmas Bazaar. They have produced a fine selection of paintings- mainly landscapes- mostly watercolours; there were a few pastels and some acrylic/oil. Following the bazaar Pauline Chapman sold one the paintings she exhibited to a fellow member.

Group News (continued)

Play Reading

The next session is on January 27th at 4 Brue Crescent at the usual time of 10.00 am. The play has yet to be decided but will be fun to do. Contact Joan or Tony Webb on 787483 for more details. New members are needed and are welcome-----especially MEN!

Social Group

Early in the New Year there are two excellent shows booked, "My Fair Lady" in February and "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" in April both at the Bristol Hippodrome. (See the back page)

Keep Fit and Board Games

Will restart in the New Year after their Christmas break, January 9th is the day to look forward to.

Skittles and Strollers

These are Friday activities and will remain as given in the 'What's On' list.

Barn Dancing

Joyce Beard has indicated that she will be prepared to start up a Barn Dancing afternoon at the Gospel Hall. Starting on the 1st Feb the sessions would be from 3.30 pm for one and a half hours. If interested let Joyce know early in the New Year.

Speakers Corner

I have a list of potential speakers and will start this activity going again if there is sufficient interest; before I book a venue would those members who are interested add their name to the list on the Coffee Morning notice board. Please indicate the day and time that best suits you so that I can negotiate/arrange an appropriate venue; it will probably be Southwell House and the meetings will be once a month always being on the same weekday if possible ie second Monday say. You let me know which is favoured.

The U.3.A. of Highbridge.

I regularly receive correspondence from the Third Age Trust; most of it is purely for administration, when I feel it is of interest to you I put it on our notice board for all to see. Lately I have received correspondence relating to the workings of all U.3.A.'s i.e. insurance, the responsibilities of a Committee, its duty of care to members and the contentious subject the 'Data Protection Act'.

With a New Year up on us I feel that I should give you details of the **"Aims and Guiding Principles" of U.3.A.'s.**

Preamble

The Universities of the Third Age (U.3.A.'s) in the United Kingdom are autonomous, self-help organisations run by the voluntary efforts of their members. All U.3.A.'s are members of the Third Age Trust (a Registered Charity), which is their national support and advisory body. The word "university" is used in its original sense of people coming together to share and pursue learning in all its forms.

U.3.A.'s have the following aims and guiding principles:

Aims

- 1) To encourage and enable older people no longer in full-time paid employment to help each other to share their knowledge, skills, interests and experiences.
- 2) To demonstrate the benefits and enjoyment to be gained and the new horizons to be discovered in learning throughout life.
- 3) To celebrate the capabilities and potential of older people and their value to society.
- 4) To make U.3.A.'s accessible to all older people.
- 5) To encourage the establishment of U.3.A.'s in every part of the country where conditions are suitable and collaborate with them.

Guiding Principles

U.3.A.'s are guided by the following principles:

1 Programmes

- a) U.3.a.'s offer learning activities which reflect members' wishes and which aim to satisfy the widest possible range of interests: educational; cultural; physical; recreational and social.
- b) U.3.A.'s seek resources appropriate to their learning; from their own memberships; from the Trust's national support systems; and from outside organisations, both local and national.
- c) U.3.A.'s make use of new technologies as they become available.

2 Purpose, Styles and Methods of Learning

- a) The pleasure of learning is a driving force in the work of U.3.A.'s.
- b) U.3.A.'s neither require nor award any qualifications.

(continued on page 15)



At 10 o'clock the hall came to life; a few eager customers were to be seen weighing up what we had, money had started to change hands.

The kitchen was soon opened, tea, coffee and soup was available. The latter proved to be a favourite during the lunchtime due to it being a cold day.



The decorative eggs produced by Derek Hand were well worth a visit; Maureen McLaren kept an eye on the cake stall. Ethel is selecting a cake or did she fancy one of those eggs?

We last put on an Art and Craft show in November 2002, the previous show included some outside involvement, (professionals) but this one was purely U.3.A.

Recent Shows !

The theatre trips over the past months have met with mixed comment. "Millie" did not really come up to our expectations, most felt that the music had been changed, as they did not recognise some of the songs. Also, it was far too loud, we were sat in the stalls and the sound volume down there was such that it spoilt our appreciation of the show musically.

"Scrooge", now that was quite different, right from the opening scene with the street carol singers through to the finale was first class. The costumes were true to the period, the scenery-well you couldn't fault it the magic was there. Tim, the little boy was very good and we all felt for him; the whole cast was great, all giving superb performances.

Shane Richie's who portrayed Scrooge was the star of the show getting a standing ovation at the finale. The audience stood and called the cast back for three encores, truly one of the best shows we have been to. Our entire group came away glowing, having enjoyed a very good performance.

Carol Service at Wells

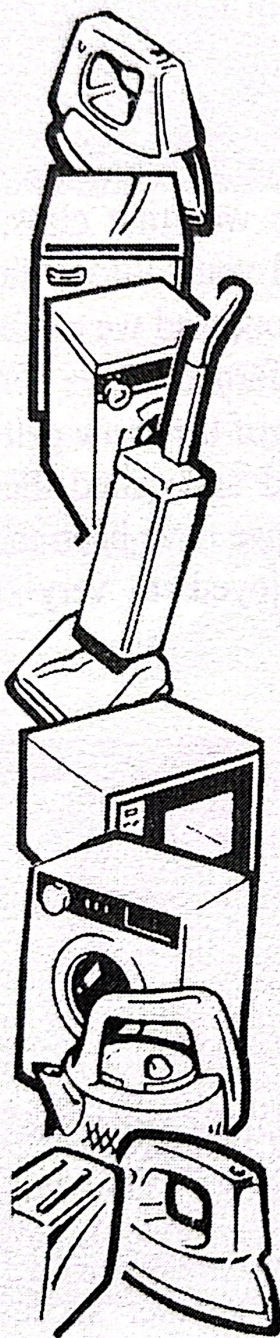
Age Concern had organised their Annual Carol Service and we again arranged for a party to visit this great event at Wells Cathedral. It lived up to its past great performances, the Cathedral was full; coaches and mini buses had collected people from all over Somerset. Our party comprised 44 U.3.A. Members, 9 from the Berrow Club.

In line with our usual practice we had a free raffle on the coach, the 1st prize was won by Sallie Park, (again, I think she won last year?) we had a number of prizes and many on the coach went home with a bottle or box of goodies. During the visit to Wells many went Christmas shopping, it was a lovely dry, but cold day and another successful venture.

Both write ups by Vi Chick.

Dople's

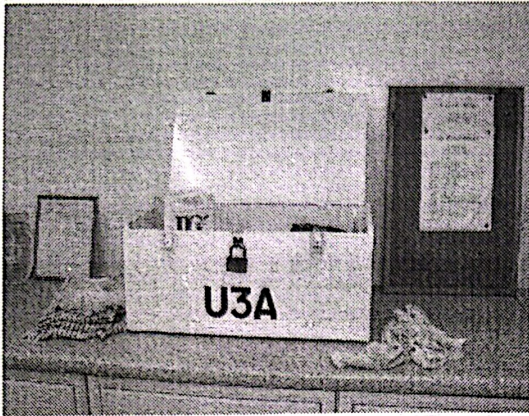
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This is the Coffee Morning Chest; it is to hold our coffee, tea, biscuits and other ingredients for the production of our successful mornings.

You may ask why we need such a box? Well, a few weeks ago we were requested by the caretaker (John Ladd) to leave our tables out because he

needed to clean those that we had not used. A new large jar of coffee had been purchased that morning and was left (unopened) in our cardboard box on top of the tables as usual.

John locks up soon after we leave, but there was a short interval during which intruders entered the hall and 'nicked' our new coffee. Stan Yousden-White who happened to be present when this was discovered, offered to make a box for us. This is a very solid, metal-framed box and we defy anyone to run off with it; therefore, as long as we remember to buy the coffee etc you can be assured that your coffee mornings are safe.

Xmas Skittle Party

We may yet persuade someone to write a report on this but in the mean time here are two photos. The buffet was excellent plenty of food and very well presented.



24 attended this annual event, it came to an end at about 3.30 pm.



Annual Lunch

Wednesday 15th February
AT
LABURNUM HOUSE HOTEL

3-Course Carvery Lunch

Price per Member: £ 8.00

Price per Non-Member £ 9.95

Money will be collected from 11th January. *
The Club will again subsidise the price of members' meals.

The Hotel has raised its prices since last year but we are sure you will again be well served and will enjoy the day, more quizzes are being devised to keep you busy during the pre-lunch arrangements e.g. drinking, seating etc

The tables will probably be laid out as last year and we assume serving will be as before, but don't bank on it, the final decision lies with the hotel staff.

***When booking please give your membership number.**

Places of Interest! ! !

On the 25th November, not a very good day for strolling, six hardy souls set off to see the changing face of Highbridge. Wow! You might say, but I will have you know it was interesting, places where some of us had not been for years, if at all!

First destination, the riverbank to see what progress the Environment Agency had made with the cycle path on the heightened sea wall. We went via Scott Way, Doreen and Ray had never been along there; the sea wall cycle path was looking good. We pressed on passing a group planting some more spring bulbs near the Highbridge entrance to Apex.

Down John Street to the Poplar Estate to look at the 'White Hart' site, the houses look better and more spacious from that side. The houses/apartments on the 'Norman' site are quite a different story, no-one realised just how many are being built there, certainly an eye opener. Next stop the Opportunity Play Group's premises in Coronation Road, -(very impressive); then across Church Street into an alley to see which Mead Realisations plan to develop with a supermarket, car park etc, the space behind Church Street is enormous.

We then past Southwell House en route to Station Walk and over the railway bridge to the Kings Oak development, this site also looks better than we had expected. Time was running out at this stage, but we have much more to explore; perhaps on a day when it not wet; by keeping to the paths it was not muddy but certainly very interesting. Fay Burston

Sandra

Hairdressers

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Highbridge, Somerset

TA9 3HW

Tel: 01278 783091



Our Pre-Xmas Bazaar

This was held on the 26th November and it proved to be quite a success; I must admit that on the morning of the event I was not overly confident that we would have sufficient items to fully cover the planned tables/stalls. How wrong can one be? Just before 9.00 am. Fay and I turned up at the hall to find Ray Reddish had just parked and by 9.00 we had started to put up the tables as outlined on Fay's plan. From then on we did not stop, I still had my coat on a 10.00 am not having had time to take it off, all and sundry were arriving; where do you want this? (Boxes of White Elephant items), is there a table for Art? We finished up with three tables for both the White Elephant and the Art- only one had been planned for each of them.

Margaret Wall (o.i.c.Cake sales) arrived with Maureen McClaren and soon had two tables spread with cakes of all varieties (exceedingly good too). We ran out of tables eventually so had to double up on some.

10.00 o'clock saw the entry of the first customers. It was a cold morning and we had planned to include a mug of soup and a roll on the menu, a wise move, because after a slow start visits to Kwik Save were necessary to re-stock with more soup

I think Phil Lyes was the first to sell out, on his Bottle Stall, by 11.00 am all his wares had gone, shortly after Margaret and Maureen declared that all the cakes had gone, another success. Meanwhile the White Elephant Stall was doing very well, I thought they would struggle, but no; customers were constantly appearing. Of the other stalls Trevor Dinham and Marjorie Tripp were doing well with the Tombola, Vi Chick and Ethel Titford were getting rid of the raffle tickets and Ray Reddish did well with the honey.

The two stalls for Cards (Tony and Joan Webb) and (Mary Brown); Jenny Eckford (Cards/Booklets) were busy at times. Anne Smith and Sallie Park were looking after our "Message in a Bottle" stall, starting out with two full carrier bags of bottles they had all gone by the end of the day.

A nice warm meal was our first priority, and then Fay did the sums and found that after covering expenses (hire of hall etc) we would have £232.00 to donate to a chosen local charity/charities. Not a bad days effort after all? Thank you all for the hard work put in on the day, it was greatly appreciated. Late donations brought the final total up to £235.00.

Aims and Guiding Principles (continued)

- c) By sharing their learning, U.3.A. members help one another to develop their knowledge, skills and experience.
- d) U.3.A.'s arrange and support their own programmes as appropriate to their chosen learning activities.
- e) U.3.A. Members regard themselves as both learners and teachers.

3 Funding.

- a) U.3.A's are funded in the main by the subscriptions of members. Funding from outside sources may be sought on occasions and accepted only if there are no conditions attached which conflict with the Trust's aims and guiding principles.
- b) Members undertake themselves, without payment, the many and varied tasks necessary to run their U.3.A. Usually, paid tutors are engaged only when special expertise is necessary to ensure the health and safety of members taking part in certain activities, when U.3.A.'s do not have an appropriate qualified member available.

4 Reaching Out

- a) U.3.A's are encouraged to take every opportunity to promote the benefits of learning later in life and the attractions and advantages of the U.3.A. way of learning. They make membership available to the whole spectrum of older people in their communities.
- b) U.3.A's keep in touch with members and former members who, for a variety of reasons, can no longer take part fully in U3A activities, in order to maintain their interest in learning and to offer friendly support, a fundamental part of U3A life.
- c) As appropriate, U3A's offer voluntary assistance in learning activities to educational and cultural bodies in their communities.
- d) U.3.A's are encouraged to collaborate with institutions such as museums, galleries, libraries, in learning partnerships in which both U.3.A's and the institutions themselves may benefit through research, advancement of knowledge and mutual respect for capabilities.
- e) U.3.A's engage with local and national government departments and any other agencies that formulate lifelong learning policies and practices in order to influence those that relate particularly to learning of older people in society.
- f) U.3.A's are encouraged to collaborate with institutions undertaking research into ageing and the position of older people in society.

5 Association.

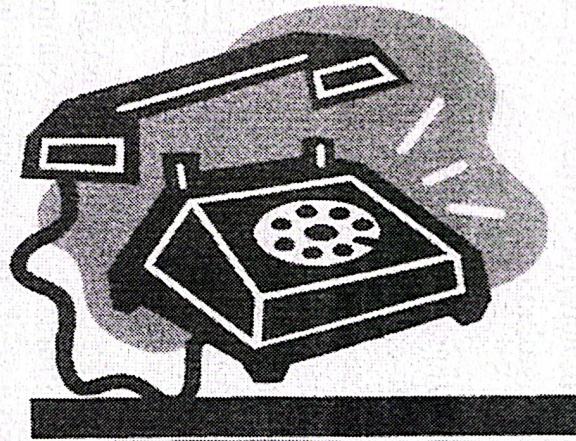
- a) U.3.A's collaborate with each other to share expertise and facilities and offer systems of support. They may form themselves into regional or neighbourhood associations.
- b) U.3.A's work, individually or together, to establish and support new U.3.A's.

Those are the Aims and Guiding Principles; they are what the Club's constitution is based upon and are the foundations of what we endeavour to maintain in your interest.

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Once again

C is for the Candles on a Christmas tree
H is for the Holly berries bright for us to see
R is for the bells Ringing in the night
I is for the Icicles glistening 'what a sight'
S is for the Snow scenes on the cards so neat
T is for the Tasty goodies, some savoury, some sweet
M is for the moment children dream about
 'As Father Christmas been "Yes" will be the shout
S is for the silence as we give thanks to heaven above

So make the most of Christmas and spend it filled with love.

Copyright Doreen Reddish 2004

Doreen brought her poems along to the Skittle Xmas Party but we did not get the opportunity to read them, there was so much going on---in addition to the skittles (Brenda Hooper won with the highest score—24--), there was a raffle, everyone had a prize. Also a Christmas Fancy Hat prize, Ray Reddish won for the Men and Barbara Palin for the Ladies. We had a Bingo session and last but not least the lovely buffet, the time went by so quickly. It all took place at the Royal Artillery Inn at West Huntspill.

Monthly Draw

October	Marjorie Tripp	and	Pat Gray	No 36
November	Fay Burston	and	Stan Yousden-White	No 33

All received £20.00

Editor:	Ken Burston
Production:	Fay and Ken Burston
Distribution:	Ann Smith (West Huntspill) Mary Akers, Pat Gray, John Grigsby, Anne Lismore, Betty Pocock, Thelma Tripp, Phyllis Walsh, Heather Swift, Betty Worthy and Marion Wright.

'18 GROUP ACTIVITIES

Card Making Mondays and Wednesdays (see details on page 5)

At: Southwell House

Times: 10.00am-12.00am and 2.00pm –4.00pm

Admission: £1.50

Contact Fay Burston (782529)

Art Every Tuesday

At: Southwell House

Time: 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm

Cost: £1.70 Group Leader: Phil Lyes (784629)

Keep Fit Every Tuesday

At: Gospel Hall, Old Burnham Road

Time: 2.15 pm to 3.15 pm

Group Leader: Joyce Beard (783913) All Welcome.

Board Games Every Tuesday

At: Gospel Hall, Old Burnham Road.

Time: 3.15 After Keep Fit.

Group Leader: Betty Worthy (795823)

Coffee Morning Every Wednesday

At: Highbridge Community Hall

Time: 10.00am to 12.00am

All are welcome, come along, meet up with friends, and see what we have to offer.

Luncheon Club

This group will probably start again following the Annual Lunch in February; see Notice Board and Magazine for details.

Speakers Corner

Recently interest has been shown in the Club reviving this activity, as soon as the opportunity permits it will be reinstated; please advise a Committee Member if you know of a good subject and/or speaker.

Art Every Thursday

At: Southwell House

Time: 1.30pm to 4.00pm

Cost: £1.70 Tutor: Jean Berry (785840)

Skittles 1st and 3rd Friday of the month

At: **Royal Artillery Inn**

Time: 11.30am to 1.00pm

Group Leader: Ray Reddish (785411) Lunches available

Play Reading Fourth Friday of the month. (27th January 2006)

At: 4 Brue Crescent. Burnham-on-Sea.

Time: 10.00am

Play: To be advised

'Producer': Tony Webb (787483) New members welcome-especially men

Family History Tutorial Workshop

At: Southwell House

Time: 10.00 a.m 1st Thursday of each month up to and including June.

See dates on page 5

Facilitator: Roger Ouston (795007)

Strollers 2nd and 4th Friday of the month

At: Start-Bank Street Car Park

Time: 10.30pm

Stroll: Local area, stout footwear is recommended during winter months.

Group Leader: Fay Burston (782529) or Ray Reddish (785411)

With all of the foregoing it is advisable to check with the Club Notice Board or with the Group Leader to ensure the activity is being held, especially with outdoor events

Social Events

FEBRUARY 8th "MY FAIR LADY" ----- Wednesday

At: Bristol Hippodrome Matinee Performance

Meet: Bank Street Car Park, coach leaves at 12.30pm

Price: £24.00 (Stalls)

FEBRUARY 15th ANNUAL LUNCH ----- Wednesday

Meet : LABURNUM HOUSE HOTEL at 12.30 pm

Price: Members £8.00 Non-members £9.95

APRIL 12th "SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS"

At: Bristol Hippodrome Wednesday Evening Performance

Meet: Bank Street Car Park, coach leaves at 5.30pm

Price: £27.50 (Stalls) Payment by 8th February

**Payment for shows is needed EIGHT weeks before the show date.
This a requirement by the theatre**

**Note! Bookings can only be accepted with the payment of a £5.00 non-returnable deposit. Cheques must be made out to "U3A of Highbridge Social Club"
Vi Chick (784033) will provide details, or you may make your booking with Roy Bryant (783780) or at Coffee Morning.**