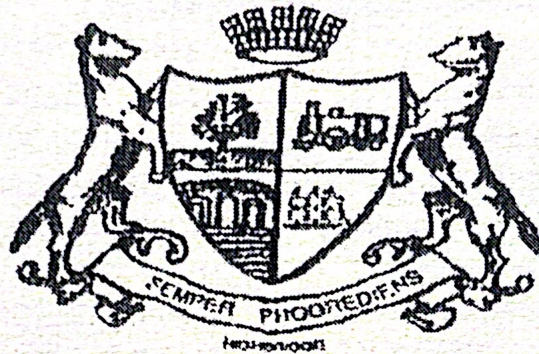


Ken & Fay Burston
39 Saxondale Ave



of

HIGHBRIDGE

November-----December

MAGAZINE

2006

ISSUE NUMBER 31

WHO'S WHO **2006/2007**

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
	Tony Webb (Rev)	01278 787483
	Joyce Curtis	01278 782716
	Margaret Wall	01278 786742
Co-opted Members		

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
Gardening Group	Carole Loveridge	01278 780060
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
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 will be used solely for this Club's business and communications.

Editorial

Tempus fugit, the end of another year, 2006 has certainly flown by. No doubt some of you feel it did not go fast enough, some might wish it had taken a little longer.

2006 was, however, a good year for us; membership is now back where it was at the end of 2005/6 and the new groups, Card Making and the Family History Workshop were very successful, both have recently restarted after their summer sabbaticals.

The Social Group's activities throughout 2006 have been very successful and I feel that the members who went on the various outings are appreciative of the efforts the team went to in their organising. The weather was kind to us on all the outdoor excursions, if there happened to be a shower when a trip set off, it had petered out before we arrived at our destinations. A big "Thank you" to our Social Group Team of Roy, Vi, Beryl, Grace and Pat for all the hard work that you have put in over the year. I believe the programme for 2007 is under discussion and that dates and events will be announced before too long. We look forward to next year.

U3A 2007 Diary? Should you wish to obtain a copy please contact me soon; they cost **£1.85** and are good value.

Carol Service

We are again organising a trip to the Wells Cathedral for the **Age Concern Annual Carol Service**

When 900 people are all looking for somewhere to eat in a small city like Wells it can be a problem. This year it is proposed we board the coach immediately after the service and travel to the Camelot Inn at Polsham, 4 miles back towards Street, **see back page for details.**

Editorial (contd)

Unfortunately there was a down side, the Relaxation Group did not take off, the first meeting was well attended but interest waned. The Leader therefore decided that in view of her other commitments it was best not to continue. The Gardening Club did however, fare better and it was agreed to meet up again in the spring; we hope the interest will take 'root' and that this group 'blossoms' during in the spring.

Speakers Corner

On Monday 9th October member Mick Brown gave a very interesting talk on Magistrates Courts, regrettably only FIVE members turned up. A great pity because you missed a very informative talk, as British Citizens we are all governed in accordance the laws of the land set out initially in the Magna Carta.

Personally, I feel that even a little knowledge on this subject is useful because we all complain when, in our opinion, the law does not act in the way we would wish it to. I propose to include in the magazine over the next few months a synopsis of this subject so that you may obtain a better knowledge of what happens and, perhaps become a little more informed.

Magazine issues

Early in 2005 it was suggested that the magazine be issued every two months instead of quarterly, apparently members who are unable to attend the Coffee Morning meetings miss out on information. The Editor (me) therefore requested that in order to do this he would need to receive write-ups from members so that those who did not attend events could hear about the actions and enjoyment of those that did. Unfortunately, in spite of making many requests, write-ups have not been forthcoming, regrettably therefore, unless someone out there is prepared be a 'roving reporter' and will volunteer to obtain/collect information for inclusion in the magazine it will revert to a quarterly issue as from 2007.

Finally, on behalf of all the Committee Members may I wish you all a HAPPY CHRISTMAS and HEALTHY and PROSPEROUS 2007?

Group News

Card Making Group

Classes have started again, dates are given on Page 18 and the production of Christmas Cards is, I hear, in full flow.

Family History

The Workshop re-started in October. During the summer months the Ancestry.UK and other Internet databases have been extended and up-dated; Roger has therefore brought us up-to-date with the new information. It is now possible to 'surf' a number of databases and get information not previously available; including all Census from 1841 up to 1901. Details of births/marriages/deaths are continually being up-dated and, if you have the patience, you soon get the hang of it.

Art Groups

Both the Tuesday and Thursday Groups have been running successfully for many years, like the Keep Fit and Board Games Groups they were started when the Club was set up and are still very popular. The artistic achievements of many 'students' have improved in leaps and bounds due, in the main, to Jean Berry's tutorage. Local Flower Shows are frequently graced with the works of art of U3A members; many have won awards and have sold copies of their work.

Play Reading

I have been asked by Tony to include this plea for support: "We have now been going since the Highbridge U3A started and meet on a regular monthly basis, but now sadly, owing to deaths, illness or members moving away, are down to just 7 members.

Unless we can get new members I am afraid we shall have to close the group.

It is run for enjoyment and friendship, so do think about joining us---if you are interested please give me a ring or come along to our next meeting"

Tony Webb (Rev)

Group News (continued)

Keep Fit and Board Games

This Group (and Art) was the first to be formed when the club was founded and its members are to celebrate by holding their Seventh Birthday Party in November at the Hobbs Boat Inn. Most members of the group are from the early days and have stuck with it throughout. Congratulations!

Luncheon Club

On Wednesday 6th September 25 members met at the "White Cottage" West Huntspill and enjoyed a lunch organised by Beryl Hearn and Verna Rydon. Lunches at this Inn are invariably good, their menu is filled with mouthwatering fare and the members were not disappointed. A repeat performance was organised by Ann Smith on 18th October at the "Red Cow" Inn at Brent Knoll where 25 members had assembled. This was to be a buffet lunch, different? Ann had visited the Inn earlier this year and having enjoyed her meal thought it would be a good idea to let members in on the secret.

The 'Lunch Dates' are becoming quite habit forming with those members who obviously enjoy their food and I feel we will be sampling a number of local 'eateries' over the coming months.

Thank you Ann, Beryl and Verna, you have given those who attended the lunches an opportunity to try out the local inns that, perhaps, a lot have not visited for a long time.

Ann has arranged the next Lunch this will be at the "**Sedgemoor Inn**", **Weston Zoyland on Thursday 23rd November at 12.30 p.m.**

Editor's note: A short time ago we were diverted (bridge works) through Weston Zoyland and being a little 'peckish' we visited this inn, having sampled the excellent fare, made due comment to the landlord who informed us that he had taken over only five days previously. We asked if he could cater for our group and were told it would be a pleasure, so here we are. Pensioner lunches are priced at £3.25 others at £4.95.

The Committee and its purpose

It is assumed you know who is on your Committee; but you don't know what it does. It is not a secret, on average a meeting lasts about an hour and we discuss (a) what we have done recently and (b) what we need to do. Meetings are held about every two months in the conservatory at the home of Doreen and Ray Reddish. After the death of Jack Foster we attempted to recruit another man in order to maintain our 'equal sex' status, to no avail. However, Tony Webb (Rev) told us recently that he would be prepared to join the Committee and he was welcomed into our ranks at the last meeting. At that meeting we discussed the Bazaar (held last week), how many stalls to have and what would they comprise, should we hold the Annual Lunch in 2007; and the obviously the Club's activities and general well-being.

Social activities are discussed, also have we any new activities or groups to offer you. It is possible that by the time you read this we will have resolved our 'public announcement' problems having purchased our own sound system.

Meetings are very informal, the Treasurer tells us how much money we have in the bank, the Secretary up-dates us on what the Third Age Trust is doing or wants us to do, we are told how many new members we have and finally 'any other business'---which covers a variety of subjects. When it is all over Doreen kindly gives us a cup of tea and we watch the birds in their large garden and chat about the wild life.

It's tough being on a Committee; I can well understand why so many clubs, not just U3A, have problems finding volunteers willing to stand for nomination at their A.G.M.

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Counselling for Boredom?

We heard the other day that a lady who had recently retired at 60 and was attending counselling---because she could not cope with retirement. She very much regretted having given up work and did not know how to fill in her time each day----poor soul?

Third Age Trust Information

For those who may not know, the Third Age Trust is the organisation that oversees the running of all U3A's in the U.K. As Hon. Secretary I regularly receive correspondence that covers many subjects, some is relevant to all members, a lot is not; so obviously I don't bother you with it. However, the information that I feel could be of interest to some, not necessarily all of you, I have passed on.

As an example! For those of you who like to travel there is a cruise lined up that leaves on a 4 day cruise from Falmouth on 15th September 2007 goes to Le Havre, the Scilly Isles and returns to Falmouth on 18th September. The cruise will include a Conference and other activities—the full coverage will be in the next issue of the U3A News.

A new publication called “**Pass**” arrived recently; I have given it to Roy and Vi because it includes a number of interesting trips that we could possibly use at some future date.

I also received a few “flyers” covering a Household and Motor Insurance scheme that Norwich Union thinks is very competitive. They have built in an automatic cover for you should you wish to offer other members a lift to meetings: not something that we are required to do very often but you may be interested in the scheme.

Please see me if you want a copy.

Holidays

Every year there is a list produced of U3A National Tours, that for 2007 is now out and covers a wide variety of holidays:

Scotland: - A coach tour in the Scotland to Arran, Skye, Mull and Iona.

European: - Norway, Spain, Italy, France, Croatia and Cyprus.

The holidays vary, in that some are direct flight some coach, and Norway is obviously ferry/coach.

Again, I have details of who to contact and will provide a member with the relevant information.

H.O.P

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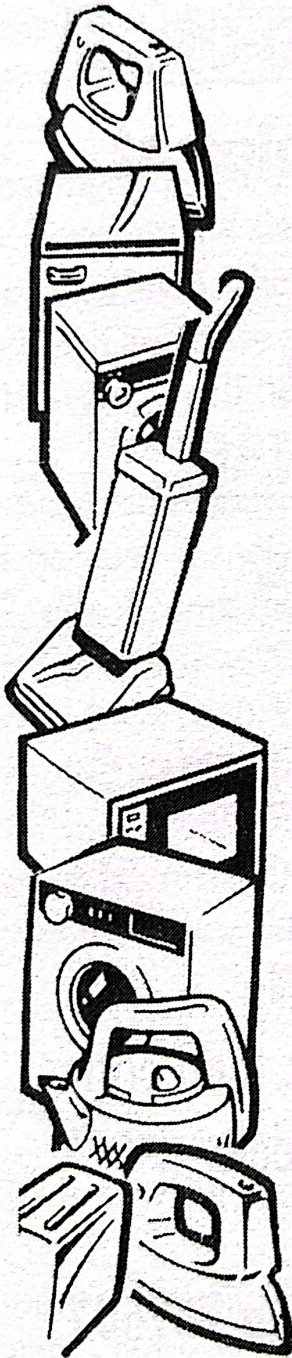
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Gardening---what on Earth are they doing?

God (talking to St Francis) Frank, you know all about gardens and nature; what is going on down there on earth? What happened to all those daises, thistles, dandelions and nettles we started, oh! Eons ago? I thought we had a near perfect non-maintenance garden plan. Those plants will grow anywhere no matter what the soil is like and will withstand drought multiply with abandon, the nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honeybees and flocks of birds. I expected to see a vast garden of colour by now. All I see are patches of green.

St Francis: I'm afraid it's the tribes that settled there, Lord. They are called Suburbanites. They didn't like our flowers, called them "weeds" and went to great lengths to kill them; they have replaced them with what is called "grass".

God: Grass! That's boring, not very colourful at all. It doesn't attract butterflies, bees or birds, only grubs and worms. It is temperamental with temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want grass to grow there?

St Francis: Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it has grown a little, they cut it-----sometimes twice a week.

God: They cut it? What then bale it like hay?

St Francis: Not exactly, Lord. They collect it and put it in bags.

God: They what? Bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

St Francis: No Sir, just the opposite, they pay to throw it away.

God: Now let me get this straight---They fertilise it to make it grow and when it does they cut it off and pay to throw it away.

St Francis: Yes Sir.

God: They must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on rain and turn up the sun; that surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

St Francis: Your not going to believe this Lord. When the grass stops growing they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it to make it grow so that they can cut it and get rid of it.

God: What nonsense! At least they kept some of the trees, that was a stroke of genius, although I say it myself. Trees grow leaves in the spring to give beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. -----(contd)

Then, as they rot the leaves become compost to enhance the soil---a natural circle of life.

St Francis: You'd better sit down Lord. As soon as the leaves fall the Suburbanites rake them up and pay to have them taken away.

God; No way! What do they do to protect the roots of the trees and shrubs in the winter to keep the soil loose and moist?

St Francis: After throwing the leaves away they buy something called mulch, take it home and spread it under the trees and shrubs.

God: Where do they get this mulch stuff?

St Francis: They cut down trees and grind them up to make it.

God: That's enough; I don't want to hear any more. St Catherine, your in charge of the Arts. What programmes are there scheduled for tonight's entertainment?

St Catherine: There's a Party Political Broadcast tonight. Sir

God: Don't bother; I've heard enough rubbish for one today.

oooOOOooo

Are you a technophobe?

Did you know that today's youngsters although well versed in computers and mobile phone usage are not as technically minded as you might think; it has been found that 26% of the 18 to 30 year olds do not know how to re-wire a plug, in effect they don't know their earths from their elbows. But us oldies do, only 6% of the over 50's don't know.

This lack of basic knowledge means that the younger generation spends on average about £1,700 a year hiring a tradesman to do jobs for them. Many little jobs are beyond their abilities, and some, because they have been brought up to expect everything to be provided on a plate for them, are not aware of more simple facts that we take for granted. We have heard of a lad who thought that when you bought your first car and had paid the insurance that was it, you did not pay it again. "You have to PAY it, EVERY year?"

ANNUAL LUNCH

A Wednesday early in February
at
LABURNHAM HOUSE HOTEL
2-Course Carvery Lunch

Following the success of our previous lunches it is proposed we hold another in 2007, it is too early to give details just yet but we suggest that you put a note in your diaries to keep the Wednesdays in early February open until we are able to give you more information.

As they say: Watch this space!

Sandra

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“Fiat Justitia”
or
“Let justice be done”

‘The Role of the Magistrate’

History. Although the Romans had Magistrates as law officers there was little in the way of a law enforcement code--or consistency—under the Saxons or Danes, both preferred systems of private justice or compensation (the *wergild* among the Saxons); and under the Normans initially the feudal system prevailed.

There were ‘**Justices**’ from the 11th century onwards dispensing the King’s Law; but “Justices of the Peace” date from the Act of that name in 1361, which provided in each County for one Justice “with three or four (men) of the Shire” to be appointed and act. The criminal law was simple but savage.

Originally—and until the nineteenth century--Justices” administered the law, kept the King’s peace and undertook administrative tasks, like maintaining the turnpike (highway) and, much later, running poor law relief. There is still a vestige of this historical role in modern day licensing for drinking and gaming, although the local authorities now do most of this work.

The modern role of JP’s dates from the mid-nineteenth century, although the 20th century saw considerable expansion of their activity into e.g. the law on families and children. All JP’s were men until the early 20th century. The ratio is now roughly eleven men to ten women.

J.P. or Magistrate?

They are not quite the same thing; the best way to remember it is this:

J.P. describes a Crown **Office** to which suitable people are appointed.

Continued on page 15

Continued from page 14:

A **Magistrate** is a someone who performs a **function** or task--the someone is a J.P.—which involves adjudicating criminal cases and some civil-law cases; the grant or withholding of bail; disposing of a small number of administrative issues; and authorising certain policing-type actions, like signing search and arrest warrants.

You can be a J.P. without being a Magistrate, if you are on a retired or supplemental list; if you are a judge; or if you are made an honorary J.P., of which there are very few: but you cannot be or act as a Magistrate without being a J.P. on the active list.

Well! That is just the start, it describes the difference between a J.P. and Magistrate, next comes how they are appointed etc; we then get into the more interesting parts on law and order.

ContoC Christmas Concerts

For the Elderly, Handicapped, Blind and Visually Impaired

“My Words Versified”

A Collection of Poems

by

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This booklet, containing twenty-one poems, has been published for the purpose of
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Our Bazaar

This event was held a little earlier this year to avoid being too near Christmas, it was quite well supported, a little quiet at times but the various stalls were kept fairly busy. A reasonable profit was made and it is now the Committee's job to decide which organization has the greatest need and would appreciate receiving the cash. It is our practice to donate any profit we happen to make to local groups so that we can give them a little support and help them get over any financial problems they may have. It is never a vast sum but every little helps when you find that the bank balance is not what you would like it to be. We will let you know in due course who received the money.

In addition to our own stalls for Tombola, Bottles, Cards (2), Art (2), Cakes, Refreshments and Raffle, we were supported by the Children's Hospice-South West and Roy Stenning who had Jams, Chutneys and Fruit for sale,

We greatly appreciate the help given to us again this year by the same willing members who invariably turn out on all occasions to support the Club and its activities.

Monthly Draw

September	Jean Williams	and	Angela Cook	No 38
October	Ken Burston	and	Margaret Wall	No 45
All received £20.00				

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

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Card Making

At: Southwell House

Dates: Monday 6th November at 10.00 a.m. and Wednesday 15th at 2.00 p.m.
Monday 4th December at 10.00 a.m. Dates for 2007 to be advised.

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

The next lunch is on Thursday 23rd November at the "Sedgemoor Inn" Weston Zoyland at 12.30 p.m. see the Notice Board for the details of the menu.

Speakers Corner

This activity is to be held over for a while until such time it is possible to obtain a more convenient day/time to suit members. Please let me know what day/time you would suit you best and an attempt will be made to meet this.

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) and Betty Worthy (795823) Lunches available

Play Reading Fourth Friday of the month.
At: 4 Brue Crescent. Burnham-on-Sea.
Time: 10.00am
Play: To be advised
'Producer': Tony Webb (787483) New members welcome-especially men
Please see Tony's note later in the magazine.

Family History Tutorial Workshop
At: Southwell House
Next Workshops: 2nd November and 7th December
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.
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

DECEMBER 20th "PETER PAN" (With Joe Pasquale)

At: Bristol Hippodrome Matinee Performance

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

Price: £20.00

2007

March: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

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.

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Age Concern 2006-Carol Service

December 13th Wednesday "Wells Cathedral Carol Service"

Price: £8.00 coach

Price: £4.00 meal #

Meet: Bank Street Car Park, coach leaves at 9.30 a.m.

The service is from 11.00 a.m. to 12.00 a.m. and in the past members have found it difficult to obtain lunch; VI and Roy have therefore made arrangements for us all to eat at the Camelot Inn, Polsham. Immediately after the service would members please return to the coach so that we may all be transported to the Inn where lunches will be available?

Vi has a copy of the menu and asks that you contact her within the next two weeks in order to select what you require to eat and, most important, PAY for it.

The Social Group has agreed to sponsor the cost of all meals, all you will need to pay just £4.00 for whatever meal you select---the exceptions are Lasagne and the Fish and Chips, these will cost you just £3.00---Enjoy!