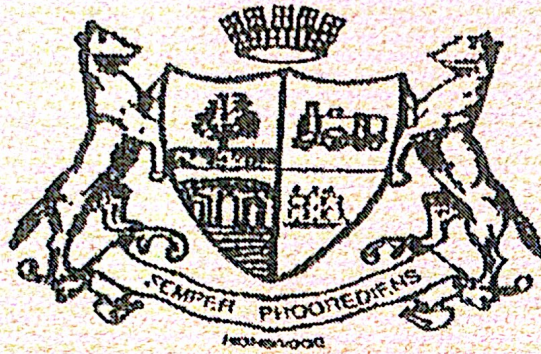


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KAN & FAY BURSTON

39 Saxondale Ave
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of

HIGHBRIDGE

MAGAZINE

November-----December

2009

ISSUE NUMBER 49

WHO'S WHO

2008/2009

Members of the Committee

Chairman	Tony Webb	01278 787483
Vice- Chair	Fay Burston	01278 782529
Secretary	Ken Burston	01278 782529
Treasurer	Pauline Chapman	01278 785163
Membership}	Carole Loveridge	01278 780060
Secretaries }	Jean Williams	01278 785240
Committee Members	Roy Bryant	01278 783780
	Beryl Bryant	01278 783780
	Phil Lyes	01278 784629
	Ray Reddish	01278 785411

Co-ordinators

Art I	Jean Berry (Tutor)	01278 785840
Art II	Phil Lyes (Tutor)	01278 784629
Card Making	Rose Bateman	01278 795906
Genealogy	Roger Ouston	01278 795007
Floral Art	Jean Williams	01278 785240
Keep Fit	Joyce Beard	01278 783913
Patchwork/Quilting	Ann Lismore	01278 787607
Play Reading	Tony Webb	01278 787483
Scrabble/Board Games	Betty Worthly	01278 795823
Skittles	Ray Reddish	01278 785411
Strollers (self –regulating)	Contact No	01278 782529
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

We were hoping to be in a position to tell you that we may have a new group soon; the Committee has agreed, in principle, that subject to sufficient members showing an interest we will purchase the equipment so that we can play the 'new' sport of New Age Kurling. In order to make it a viable proposition we would need about 15/20 players and we were told that a set of equipment might be available, being redundant to another club's requirements. Unfortunately the information was 'old', and the kit was no longer up for sale, never mind we will carry on as planned and see what can be arranged.

The Kurling 'stones' have been adapted so that the sport can be played on a wooden surface (not on ice) and is the type of activity that can be enjoyed by young and old and is not as strenuous as Skittles—there are no heavy items to lift or throw/roll etc.

The reports we have had concerning the clubs that do play this sport are encouraging and we see no reason why we should not find it fun.

Many happy returns to: -

Sylvia and Malcolm Shepherd who are now back in the UK in Somerset. They have recently returned from France and are now setting up home in West Huntspill, not too far from where they used to live before departing to France. At present they are very busy renovating their 'new home' and hope to soon resume their involvement with the Club, taking up where they left off.

Sylvia was, in the early years, the Clubs' Hon. Secretary; it was following their departure to France that Ken Burston took over.

Groups News

Art Class-Tuesday

Phil Lyes who runs this Class has asked me to advise that the fee is rising from £1.50 to £2.00. The rent for Southwell House was increased some time ago and Phil now finds that there is a need to put up the fee in order to cover the running expenses of the class. He also advised that there are a few vacancies in his Tuesday class should members be interested in joining the team.

Art Class-Thursday

This class is doing all right at present; attendance fluctuates quite a bit around this time of the year due to holidays and the inevitable coughs and colds. When we do occasionally get a full house there as many as ten present and that is adequate for Southwell House.

With regards to the other Classes, these are doing fine, attendances are being maintained, we have not heard of any problems. I am sure we will soon be told if something unforeseen turns up.

Editorial (continued)

Card Making, Floral Art, Keep Fit, Board Games, Skittles and Strollers are all well supported. Family History re-started in October after its rest and straightaway had three new members.

The Patchwork/Quilting Class: -Ann Lismore says they are keeping very busy and with the holidays now over they should now be back to a full compliment.

Play Reading has, I believe, obtained two new 'actresses', but a few leading men are needed.

Finally, the Social Group, their programme for 2009 is coming to an end and we await their announcement of what is in store for us in 2010.

The 'Pop-In' Restaurant-at Southwell House

A number of members looked forward to taking lunch here but often forget when it is open, well it is always the **Second and Fourth** Wednesday in the month. Make a note! Their Christmas Lunch is on Wednesday 2nd December.

DIGITAL TV switchover

If you have been watching your TV lately you will now be well aware that the switchover is taking place in Somerset and North Somerset next year.

The Mendip Transmitter from which we get our programmes will switch over on 24th March 2010 (Stage 1) and 7th April.2010 (Stage 2). If television is an important source of your entertainment then you should be aware of the forthcoming change, Analogue sets need to be change to Digital.

AGE CONCERN have advised that **DIGITAL OUTREACH Ltd** has been set up by leading charities to deliver the digital switchover community outreach programme on behalf of DIGITAL UK the organisation responsible for leading the switchover across the UK.

To avoid the need to print out all the details a copy of the relevant document will be put on the Club Notice Board. If you find that you have a problem arranging a changeover please contact Age Concern on 01749/347531.

P.S.

Our Chairman, Tony, had to be in Musgrove Park Hospital at 7.15 a.m. on Wednesday 22nd October for a knee operation, all went well and he was home after 5 days. Unfortunately he is barred from driving for about 5/6 weeks so we will arrange to bring him in to the Coffee Morning as soon as he is mobile. Take care Tony we will see you again soon.

Finally, may I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Group News-continued

Family History

This Group restarted on Thursday 1st October after its summer break and they hope to visit the Family History Records Office at Bristol soon. The dates for the rest of 2009 are: -

Thursday 5 th November)	Meetings at Southwell House
Thursday 3 rd December)	10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.

Card Making

The group has continued throughout the summer, their leader Rose regularly introduces to them new designs and ideas for cards.

Meetings dates for 2009 are: -

Monday morning 2nd November Wednesday afternoon 18th November

Monday morning 7th December Wednesday afternoon 16th December

Mornings 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 a.m. Afternoons 2.00 p. m to 4.00 p.m.

U3A Diaries for 2010

These are available from the Secretary and cost £1.90

A small quantity was ordered so do not delay if you need one.

Art Exhibition

Unfortunately the Art Exhibition that was held at the end of October at the Laburnum House Hotel did not get the publicity needed to ensure a good attendance from members. The plans to hold the event were still under discussion when the magazine went to print so it did not get properly announced; it was however held from Friday 31st October to and including Sunday 1st November. Members of the East Huntspill Art Club and our own Art Class members provided the paintings displayed.

There was a good selection of different media, watercolours, acrylics, water oils and pastels; they varied in size from small to quite large. The exhibition, set up by Kay Bennett of the East Huntspill Art Club was to demonstrate to the wider public just how good our (purely) amateur painters are, in some instances paintings were offered for sale.

We are anxious to see how well the event went and did any of the artists manage to sell their works-of-art, a report will be given in the January/February issue.

When researching the history of the Club I spent some time going through past issues of the magazine and I came upon some interesting articles, such as poems from Doreen Reddish, Grace Galton, Sylvia Shepherd and others. I found stories about a variety of subjects, like how best to give a dog a tablet it didn't want, a humorous write-up on a visit to the Wells Christmas Choirs when a vicar chased a member? There were accounts on holiday and days out plus snippets on a variety of subjects; it was quite an interesting exercise.

Some years ago we were given the following Christmas poem and I thought that with the festive season a few weeks away this would be an appropriate time to repeat it. I am sure the sentiments expressed must be applicable to many of our members.

Christmas Cards

We have a lot of folk we know
All written in a book
And every year at Christmas time
We go and take a look
And that is when we realise
Your names are just a part
Not of the book they're written in
But in everyone's true heart.

So never think of Christmas Cards
As just a mere routine
Of names upon a Christmas list
Forgotten in between
So when we send a Christmas Card
That is addressed to you
It's because you are on that list
Of folk we are indebted to.

Each name stands for someone
Whose path touched ours and then
Left such a print of friendship
That we want to touch again
And while it sounds fantastic
For us to make this claim
We really feel we are composed
Of each remembered name.

And every year when Christmas comes
We realise anew
The biggest gift that life can give
Is knowing folk like you
And may the Spirit of Christmas
That forever and ever endures
Leave its richest blessings
In the hearts of you and yours.

-----oOo-----

Whilst on this theme, don't forget that at our Coffee Morning on the Wednesday 23rd December, the one before Christmas there will be the usual FREE Mince Pies to have with your drink.

Rae and Stan Vousdon-White, who are on duty that day, will be appropriately attired.

Major Frank Foley & The Highbridge Connection

You may have seen in the local newspapers articles relating to an American Film TV crew visiting the town and their interest in our local hero, Pam Lyes (Secretary for the Frank Foley Committee) has provided me with a write-up on the visit for our magazine: -

“ On Wednesday 19th August 2009 an American Film Crew, lead by Mr Michael King arrived in Highbridge. They are making a documentary on the lives of British Diplomats who risked their lives to save Jews from Nazi persecution during the 1930's and at the beginning of World War II. Major Frank Foley, our local hero was one of them. Sir Martin Gilbert and his wife Lady Lester, a very nice couple, accompanied the film crew; it is understood that Sir Martin commissioned the documentary.

On arrival in Highbridge they filmed the Foley Statue that is sited on the Town Green, and then preceded to St John's Vicarage to meet the Rev. Robin Lodge. Robin Lodge's interview took place in St John's Church in front of the altar, it was described as a question and answer session; one of the questions he was asked was “What is goodness?” The Old School that Frank Foley attended was pointed out to them.

Later during the afternoon the Foley Committee's Chairman, Mrs Joyce Curtis and its Secretary Mrs Pam Lyes, met with the film crew and took them to see the house, No 7 Walrow Terrace, where Frank Foley was born. They were filmed walking along the road to the house, Sir Martin Gilbert, who accompanied them, admired the plaque that was over the doorway said he felt very privileged to be stood outside the house of such a great man. He gave to both Joyce and Pam a copy of his book “Kristallnacht”- “Prelude to Destruction”. He had also written a booklet called “Beyond the call of Duty” this had been distributed to all who had attended the Plaque Unveiling ceremony held at the Foreign Office last November.

Sir Martin Gilbert is one of Britain's most distinguished historians; he was educated at Highgate School and had spent two years in the army as a National Serviceman. After studying history at Magdalen College Oxford followed by two years of graduate work at St Anthony's College Oxford he was elected a fellow of Merton College Oxford and a research assistant to Randolph Churchill. After Sir Randolph Churchill's death in 1968 Sir Martin succeeded him as the official biographer of Sir Winston Churchill, writing six of the eight volumes and editing eleven volumes of Churchill documents.

South West Britain in Bloom—Pam Lyes

The Britain in Bloom judges came to Highbridge on 9th July to judge the town, it was the first time it had been entered on its own merits and the Committee, formed in 2008, was anxious to see how well they had done. Joyce Curtis, Pam Lyes and Bill Fisher, plus the Mayor Cllr. Derick Cooper met the judges, also there were Cllrs. Janet Keen, John Woodman and our local PCSO Gill Bawler.

The judges were impressed with what they saw, being surprised at what the town had to offer, they likened Alpha House Gardens to a Parisian Square, the result of a revamp earlier this year. The schools also came in for praise, particularly St John's Junior School, as did Apex Park where they met some of the "Friends of Apex Park."

There then followed an anxious wait for the results to be announced, their efforts were soon to be acknowledged at the South West in Bloom Presentation Awards at Yeovil

These were held on Thursday September 17th the Committee comprising Joyce Curtis, Ray Reddish, Pam and Phil Lyes left Highbridge at 7.45 a.m. to attend the award ceremony at the Westland Leisure Centre. The Mayor and Mayoress Cllr. Derick and Mrs Cooper met up with the Committee at the awards.

The Guest of Honour, who was to make the awards, was Mr Trevor Peacock (Jim Trott---No no no no --yes) from the Vicar of Dibley. Incidentally, he insisted on giving all the ladies that received an award, a kiss!

First was the Neighbour Awards Scheme presentation there being over 170 entries, the standards were high and our "Friends of Apex Park" received an award for Outstanding Achievement. Whilst they were accepting their award the Vice Chairman of South West in Bloom commended them and the Highbridge Group for doing so well having just come back into the competition.

During lunch a slide show was given, this showed pictures of a variety of entries, the local images were of Joyce Curtis, Pam Lyes and Bill Fisher by the War Memorial in Church Street. The Memorial Gardens at Southwell House were also shown.

There then followed the presentation of the Town Awards; eventually Highbridge was called and the Committee mounted the stage to receive an award, nervously waiting to find out what it was. We jumped for joy when it was announced that we had been awarded Silver Gilt, at our first attempt, didn't we do well!

Apparently this had been the biggest Presentation Award ceremony in the South West, over 450 attending.

Plans are already being drawn up for 2010 and should anyone be interested in joining us to help us go one better next year please have a word with a committee member.

A Social Group Special Request

Roy has asked that we include in the magazine the following request: -

There are three holiday destinations suggested for the end of next year, they are provided by a 'New Company', this is a company that we have not used before and we feel that it would be to our advantage not to leave our bookings too late otherwise we could lose them. The company, anxious to get our custom, has produced all the publicity notices and we feel concerned that unless we show some interest they will cease to be so enthusiastic toward us.

It is of course appreciated that you would not wish to go on all three holiday destinations, you may not be interested in any, but it would help us greatly if you could spare a couple of minutes to fill in and return the form below to us.

Thanks a lot Roy

Details of the Hotels and Dates have been posted on the Notice Board and are repeated briefly below.

We ask you to please indicate on the enclosed form your preferences,

i.e. First Choice-----Second Choice-----Third Choice

Holiday 1---“Toorak Hotel” Torquay. Price: £249.00 p.p.

Dates: - Monday 1st November OR Monday 13th December 2010

Holiday 2---“Sefton Hotel” Babbacombe. Price: £205.00

Dates: - Monday 8th OR Monday 15th OR Monday 22nd November 2010

Holiday 3---“Derwent Hotel” Torquay. Price: £249.00 p.p.

Dates: - Monday 6th December 2010

All holidays are 5days (4nights) HALF BOARD.

It is recommended that you obtain your own insurance if you wish to go on any of these holidays.

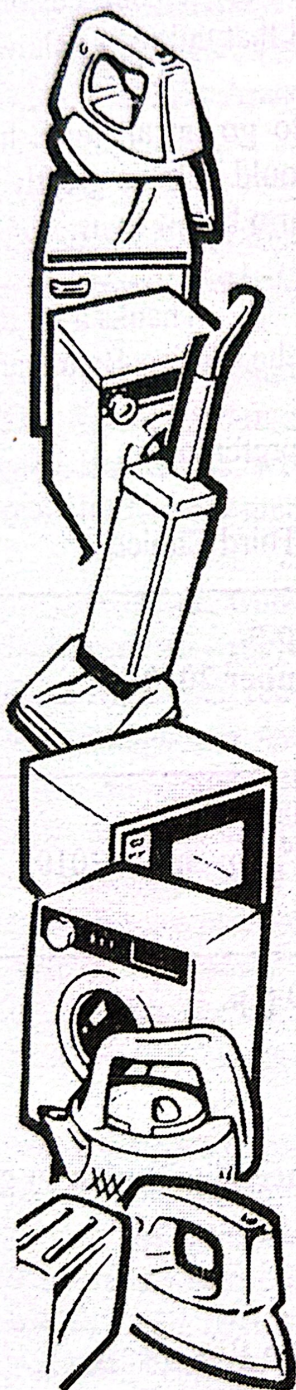
Holidays 2 & 3 are “Tinsel & Turkey”

Make your choice, then--Tear out this page and give it to Roy please.

A last minute addition to the programme is a trip in early December to the Brewers Quay and Shopping Village at Weymouth; it includes a 3-course lunch and afternoon tea. See the notice on the board and speak to Roy or Vi about it.

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Continuing--A brief history of U3A of Highbridge—2006

At the end of 2005 we had lost one of our stalwart members to the big 'C', namely Jack Foster. Jack had been a member for some years and following the departure of Roy and Yvonne Preston had organised our Speakers Corner. Early in 2005 he had been diagnosed with cancer, and during the year his health had gradually deteriorated until, on the 21st December he died. Jack loved Highbridge; he was truly a 'Man of Highbridge'.

The first social event of the New Year was a trip to Bristol to see "My Fair Lady" this was in February and was followed by our Annual Lunch at the Laburnum House Hotel on February 15th this was attended by close on 100 members. In the March a group of members attended the first Luncheon Club of the year at the Lighthouse Inn (*two years on we have just been there again*) and in April there was a trip to see "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers". In May, Roger Ouston, who leads our Genealogy Group, gave a very interesting talk on how to trace your family tree; and in October there was a talk on "The Workings of a Magistrates Court" that, I remember, was very absorbing and the subject was covered for many months in the magazine. A new innovation in the magazine was the supply of a Traders List, it came to our attention that many members did not have a list of reliable tradesmen, those who would not 'rip them off', so put together a list of known craftsmen and each member received a copy, a practice we have continued.

In May there was the A.G.M. and a new Committee was formed, new intakes being Margaret Wall and Joyce Curtis.

Day Trips during the year were to Beaulieu Motor Museum and Bucklers Hard, plus St Fagan's Rural Life Museum at Cardiff; there was also a trip to the "Eden Project".

A new venture was the Cream Tea at Lympsham held on a scorching hot June day later there was an American Picnic at Langport on a not so nice day. During October we held a well-attended successful Autumn Bazaar. The total membership at the end of 2006 was 177

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A "Thank you message" from Sylvia Shepherd

I would like to thank all members who came to my birthday bash on 2nd October, for their lovely cards and presents; and for their good wishes on my 70th. It was such a nice surprise to see everyone, especially as I was expecting to see 2 or 3. I was amazed at the secrecy of it all. Thank you also for your very kind welcome to Malcolm and myself on our return from living in France, your friendship and comradeship has really been missed and we are looking forward to our renewed social life with you here in Somerset. Many thanks.

On Top of the World---Ron Fulcher

We started off by staying a couple of days in Kathmandu, a large dirty, bustling city. Our tour round the city included visiting various temples and a look at one of the burning ghats; 80% of the population are Indian. Our hotel was very good but there is a countrywide shortage of electricity when there are fixed periods when it is off, so it was a risky business using the lift as we were on the third floor.

One of the highlights of the holiday for me was a flight up the valley as far as

Mount Everest and we had a wonderful view of part of the Himalayan Range with perfect weather conditions. The first internal flight was to Tiger Tops camp, landing on a grass strip at the edge of Chilwan National Park, it was very basic, we were issued with wind-up torches, and there were oil lamps at the side of the paths. We rode into the



jungle on elephants to look for tigers, the elephant backs into a marked space and you walk onto its back from a higher point. When our turn came to ride, the elephant bolted into the jungle, perhaps it was going to have tea with the tigers. However, we did not see him again but another soon came along and all ended well but we did not see any tigers, the group on the previous trip did see one.

The journey to our next camp was by Land Rover, boat and ox cart, the river was very wide, it is a tributary of the Ganges. We spent a couple of days exploring the local countryside, a complete contrast to Kathmandu all clean and neat; the rice harvest was in full swing. It was the start of a National Holiday and the local girls school was turning out as we passed on our bullock cart, they were all very smart and all with mobile phones. Our camp was in pleasant grounds rather like a garden with an open-air swimming pool.

The next internal flight was to Pokhara, which is one of the main tourist centres of the country. Our lodge, which consisted of individual bungalows, was on the top and sides of a hill; I was lucky because my bungalow was the first one down from the top and it was a steep climb for those at the bottom. The views of the Annapurna Range of this section of the Himalayas were breathtaking.

The following day we had a tour of Pokhara and a visit to the Gurkhas Museum (we beat Joanna Lumley by a few months) the Gurkhas were having a recruiting drive, there being no shortage of takers.

To finish our holiday we traveled by coach back to Kathmandu, some 200 miles of pleasant countryside with a stop for lunch at a café in a garden. In all a wonderful holiday!

Strollers Programme

The suggested strolls for November and December are:

November 13th A short stroll at West Huntspill is proposed, a local walk over an area we have not visited for some time, it will make a nice change from some of our recent longer strolls.

November 27th Poets Corner at Clevedon has been selected for this month; refreshments will probably be taken at the beach café.

December 11th It is suggested that instead of our usual morning stroll we try one in the afternoon and go to West Hay with a view of, hopefully, see the starlings that flock and roost at sundown on Nature Reserve there, say leave Highbridge at 2.00 p.m.

December 25th I don't think the strollers will be very interested in a stroll on this particular day of the year; perhaps a quiet family stroll along the sea front to walk off the Christmas lunch will suffice, enjoy!

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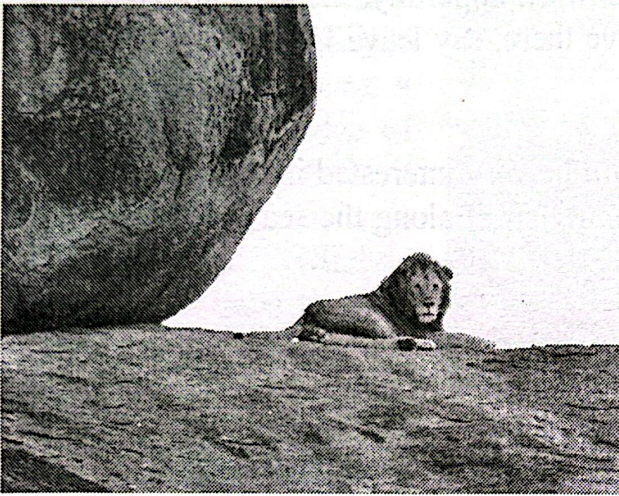
Tel Highbridge 07770 404717

23 Paddock Drive, Highbridge, Somerset, TA9 3LQ

My Tanzanian Holiday (June 2009)--continued

Janet Holderness

When entering the Serengeti reserve the driver has to show his papers and, I think, pay a fee allowing us to go into the reserve area. Whilst Kishuma was doing this Mike, Madeline and I thought we would go up the track to the top of the viewing area that overlooked the plains. However, halfway up there was a family of elephants just off the track (no fence) so we took the opportunity to get some pictures of them but one started to get a bit angry and trumpeted. A decision was made to leave them and go back because we realized the female elephant had a baby and was being protective; but it was quite a scary moment though. Serengeti plains are vast and on our way we saw a lot of impala and other antelope, it was getting very hot; the rains had not come



so consequently some areas were very brown with dried up riverbeds. We eventually got to our lodge just after 1 p.m. having seen quite a few animals, including hartebeest, eland, lion, elephant, etc. It was very hot in the vehicle and we were drinking lots of water but we got back to the lodge in time to shower and change for dinner, then an early night as we were going on a game drive after breakfast the next day.

8.30 a.m.---A longer game drive today and because we were not returning to the lodge for lunch we took packed lunches, these were excellent. Tahreen asked Kishuma if he could perhaps look for cheetah and leopard. He knew the sort of terrain where we would see leopard so drove for 2 hours hardly seeing any wildlife, and then spotted about 10 vehicles surrounding a lone tree halfway up which was a leopard. However, we could only see it clearly through binoculars, but we stayed for a while waiting for the others to leave, Kishuma then went off road to get much closer and we got excellent photos of this beautiful animal that wasn't bothered by us being there; we felt privileged as these are quite elusive. There were also some cheetah in the area, a group of 5 brothers and later we saw a family of lions.

We had lunch at the Serengeti Visitor Centre, it was very hot but we found a shady table-----not many tourists about. Kishuma had lunch with us and because we had more than we could eat we gave what was left to him, he probably distributed with other staff back at the lodge (or may not). Kishuma was not married which is unusual for a Maasai of his age (30) but he had quite a big family of brothers and sisters who were living in a village a fair distance away; he was possibly the breadwinner.

At the visitor centre there was a large number of cape hyrax (like a large rodent) that are supposed to be related to the elephant!!

We wended our way slowly back to the lodge and on the way saw tree-climbing lions. There were quite a few giraffe that are such graceful creatures, and a family of elephants with several very young ones. We were all so hot and tired when we got back at about 4 p.m. and looked forward to a rest before dinner. Our destination in the morning was Lake Manyara, Tahreen had booked to go on a balloon flight early the next day and had to leave the lodge at 4.30 a.m.! We did not think she would make it but she did.

Mike, Madeline and I left after breakfast (8.15) and a few miles from our lodge saw



2 cheetahs by the side of the road and round the next bend our road was completely blocked by hundreds of wildebeest. It was an incredible sight; we stayed to watch them for quite a while and eventually had to push through the middle in order to continue our journey.

We picked up Tahreen at one of the other lodges; there had been 16 people in the basket on her flight and they had not seen many animals, eventually landing early, as it was very windy. She was quite disappointed after having paid \$500, and they had had their champagne breakfast in the bush before returning to the lodge.

On the way to Lake Manyara we did a detour to Oldupia (sometimes spelt Olduvai) Gorge where there is a small museum, most of it devoted to Louis and Mary Leakey who excavated the area during the 1930's and discovered the oldest hominid skeleton; the area is still being excavated.

We arrived at Serena Lodge at 2.30 p.m. just in time for a late lunch. This was a very eco-friendly lodge and the buffet style food was excellent. All the meals here were fantastic but we stuck to cooked food rather than salads, although they did look very appetising. The fresh fruit was gorgeous; there were peeled oranges, paw-paw, mango, pineapple, melon, etc. The rooms all had a balcony overlooking Lake Mantara and the Rift Valley---so peaceful. After lunch we just relaxed, as we were all tired from the long drive.

Final instalment in next issue.

Tribute to a late member

A few years ago a lady asked Jean Berry our Art tutor if she could join the art class, as she was interested in learning to paint. She had had no previous experience and did not have any art materials---but she was keen to learn.

The lady, Sheila Innes, was a quick learner and was soon trying her hand at a range of media, producing some good work, watercolours and pastels being her favourites. Unfortunately she fell ill with a very debilitating illness, but after a spell in hospital and much treatment she did manage to rejoin the class; regrettably it was not for long, Sheila died a short time ago.

Recently her husband decided to leave the area, but before doing so asked Jean Berry if the Art students would be interested in buying some of Sheila's art materials. The result of the sale raised £90.00 this was given to her husband a few weeks ago and he has written to thank the Club members for their kindness. Regrettably it was not possible to scan his letter into the magazine, but it is reproduced below: -

"Dear Ken. First off I would like to say thanks to you and other members of the U3A for all the help and support you gave Sheila in her time with you, the money you gave for the art books will be taken and donated to the I.C.U. unit in Musgrove Park Hospital. This will bring the total donations made to £370. A picture Sheila painted hangs in the relative's quiet room adjacent to the I.C.U. unit. Anybody who wishes to see this will be more than welcome to visit.

Once again I say many thanks"

Dennis Innes

PS Further to the above, I have now received from the Intensive Care Unit & High Dependency Unit at Musgrove Park Hospital a letter acknowledging the receipt of Dennis's donation and it thanks all of those who donated for their generosity.

Monthly Draw

July	Mary Kearns	No 14	Ray Reddish	No 14
August	Jean Williams	No 39	Oliver Cox	No 39

All received £20.00

Editor:	Ken Burston
Production:	Fay and Ken Burston
Distribution:	Ann Smith (West Huntspill)
	Mary Akers, Fay Burston, Pat Gray,
	Pearl Price, Thelma Tripp, Phyllis Walsh,
	Chris Winter, Betty Worthy and Marion Wright.

Social Scene

The Windsor Castle trip proved to be a great success; the weather was ideal, dry and not too warm.

Upon arriving at the Castle and before entering the grounds we had to pass through the security checks to which we Brits are now well accustomed, and what struck me was the number of other nationalities that were present. Our intention when we set off was to see as much as possible of the Castle, the State Apartments and St Georges' Chapel; and we made good progress. Going through the State Apartments took up a lot of time and was rather tiring, the carpets take a toll on 'old' legs; Fay's 16-year-old grandson, he's from Australia, could not understand why they needed a fireplace in every room. As our history unfolded we began to appreciate the way of life that existed centuries ago, and it was also apparent that the numerous 'Nationalities' that accompanied us were also enthralled with the splendor of everything. It somehow gives one a sense of pride to share with all the tourists some of our history, they come to the U.K. to see and share with us our heritage and Windsor Castle certainly gives them value for money.

The Castle comprises a spectacular collection of beautiful buildings, most of them nearly 1,000 years old, and because they are so well maintained, on our behalf, they provide a lasting symbol of our past royal heritage.

At the end of the day everyone was completely whacked, we had walked and walked, but had thoroughly enjoyed the splendor of it all; a trip I feel that will stay long in the memory of us all. Our Australian grandson was more tired than both of us, but we felt the opportunity for him to accompany us was one he may not get again.

Visit to Westonbirt

On Friday 23rd October a group of members left Highbridge at 10.00 a.m. to visit the Forestry Commission's National Arboretum, it is at this time of the year there is a glorious spectacle of autumn colours from the Japanese Maples and other trees. The traffic was light resulting in an early arrival giving us the opportunity to enjoy nearly 5 hours of nature's array of colourful autumn trees which makes Westonbirt one of the most amazing places to visit at this time of the year.

Everywhere you looked someone was taking a photograph of the kaleidoscope of colours (*an elderly gent from Tiverton who sat by us had just discovered he had ruined all 36 of his efforts because his camera had broken- but I'll be back he said*).

Many of our group had not previously been to Westonbirt but they resolved to come back again; perhaps a trip could be organised for April or May next year when the Cherry trees, Magnolias, Rhododendrons or Camellias are in bloom. All usually surrounded by a carpet of Bluebells; Westonbirt has much to offer those who like to walk in quiet woodland glades at anytime of the year.

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GROUP ACTIVITIES

Card Making 1st Mondays and 3rd Wednesdays
At: Southwell House
Dates/Times: See 'Group News'
Cost: £2.00
Contact: Rose Bateman (795906)

Floral Art 4th Tuesday
At: Southwell House
Time: 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 a.m.
Cost: £1.75
Group Leader: Jean Williams (785240)

Art Every Tuesday
At: Southwell House
Time: 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm
Cost: £2.00
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 until 5.00 p.m.
Group Leader: Betty Worthy (795823)

Coffee Morning Every Wednesday
At: Highbridge Community Hall
Time: 10.00am to 12.00am
All welcome, come along, meet with friends and see what we have to offer.

Luncheon Club
No plans just yet for a meal out, but we will issue details as soon as information is to hand.

Art Every Thursday
At: Southwell House
Time: 1.30pm to 4.00pm
Cost: £1.50
Tutor: Jean Berry (785840)

Skittles 1st and 3rd Friday in the month
At: Royal Artillery Inn
Time: 11.30am to 1.00pm
Leaders: Ray Reddish (785411) and Betty Worthy (795823)

Play Reading Fourth Friday in the month.
At: 4 Brue Crescent. Burnham-on-Sea.
Time: 10.00am
'Producer': Tony Webb (787483) New members welcome-
 Especially men!

Family History Tutorial Workshop on first Thursday in the month
At: Southwell House
Time: 10.00 a.m.- 11.00 a.m.
Facilitator: Roger Ouston (795007)
Cost: - £1.00

Strollers 2nd and 4th Friday in the month
At: Start-Bank Street Car Park
Time: 10.00 a.m.
Stroll: Stout footwear is recommended.
Self-regulating Contact No 782529 in event of a problem

Patchwork/Quilting Every Tuesday
At: 2 Church Close, East Huntspill
Times: 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. or 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
Cost: Free of charge at present
Facilitator: Ann Lismore (787607)

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

2009

N.B. Prices quoted for all days out are subject to a minimum of THIRTY seats being occupied on the coach.

Trip: - "Tinsel & Turkey"
Date: - 16th to 20th November
Destination: - Cheshire—Alveston Hall
Meet: - Highbridge---the time and place will be advised
 as soon as details are made available.

2010

Event: - Annual Lunch
At: - "Beachcomber Inn"---Brean
Date: - Wednesday 24th February 2010
Further information to follow

Please note the following booking arrangements: -
 Cheques must be made out to "U3A of Highbridge Social Club"
 For further details of all trips etc. please contact either Vi Chick (784033)
 or Roy Bryant (783780) or see them at the Wednesday Coffee Morning.

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**The Social Group have made a Special Request to members and ask
 that they please read the notes on Page 9**