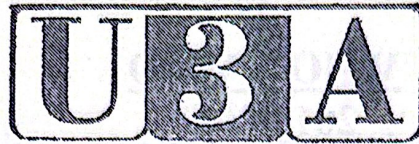


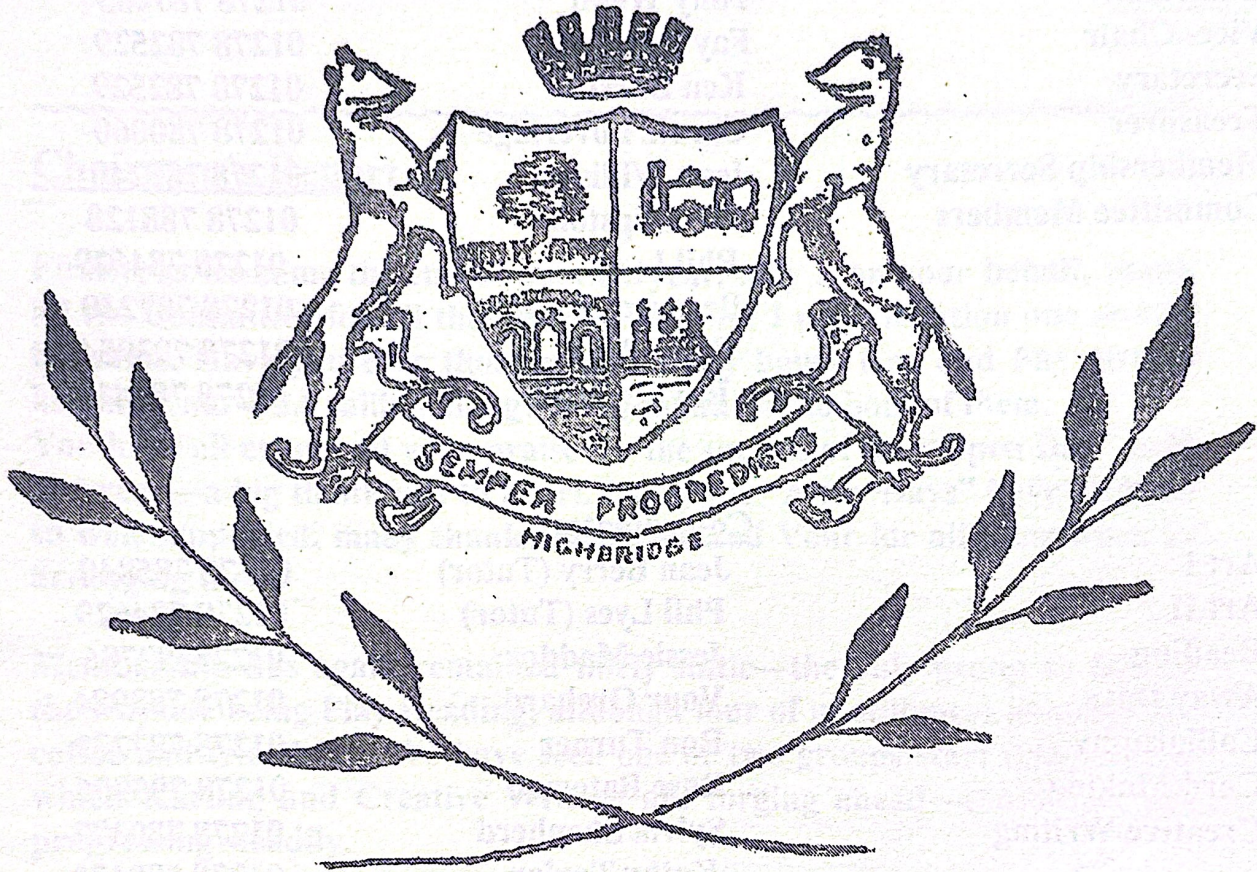
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Ken & Fay BURSTON

39 Saxondale Ave
Bosco



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



of

HIGHBRIDGE

MAGAZINE

May-----June

2012

ISSUE NUMBER 64

2
WHO'S WHO
2011/2012

Members of the Committee

Chairman	Tony Webb	01278 787483
Vice- Chair	Fay Burston	01278 782529
Secretary	Ken Burston	01278 782529
Treasurer	Carole Loveridge	01278 780060
Membership Secretary	Jean Williams	01278 785240
Committee Members	Pat Clipstone	01278 788128
	Phil Lyes	01278 784629
	Bernard Martin	01278 787230
	Pearl Price	01278 793954
	Ray Reddish	01278 785411

Co-ordinators

Art I	Jean Berry (Tutor)	01278 785840
Art II	Phil Lyes (Tutor)	01278 784629
Beading	Jessie Maddox	01278 782786
Away Days	Vour Orchard	01278 788984
Calligraphy	Ron Turner	01278 787231
Card Making	Rose Bateman	01278 795906
Creative Writing	Sylvia Shepherd	01278 780377
.. ..	Kathy Taylor	01278 780171
Crochet & Knitting	Lorita Gainford	01278 789374
Genealogy	Roger Ouston	01278 795007
Floral Art	Jean Williams	01278 785240
Keep Fit	Joyce Beard	Ex directory
Kurling	Stan Vousdon-White	01278 781567
Mosaics	Alison Joyce	01278 784633
Patchwork/Quilting	Ann Lismore	01278 787607
Scrabble/Board Games	Betty Worthy	01278 795823
Skittles	Ray Reddish	01278 785411
Somerset Villages	Bernard Martin	01278 787230
Strollers (self –regulating)	Contact No	01278 782529

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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.

Chairman's Report

Tony Webb

May we remind the members who have not renewed their membership by the end of May that this is the last magazine they will receive!

Editorial (continued)

Yes, the time has again come around when we have to think about the 2012 A.G.M. and what will its outcome be? Last year we welcomed onto the Committee three new officers because three of the existing officers were resigning; will there be any changes this year?

It is understood that the majority of the current Committee members are prepared to stand for another year, but members are reminded that should they wish one of their friends to stand for nomination all they need to do is: Obtain permission to put their name forward, fill in a Nomination Form, obtainable from the Secretary and return it, duly signed by Wednesday 9th May.

If a member wishes to put forward a proposition at the A.G.M. they must let me (Secretary) have the subject details in writing, again by Wednesday 9th May.

The forthcoming A.G.M. will be providing information about a proposed new group, at the time of writing its make-up etc. has to be fully discussed and agreed, but I believe members will be interested in what is proposed. There will however, be one new group, you may remember seeing a demonstration a few weeks ago on 'Jewellery Making' this was by Jessie Maddox. Well, Jessie has decided there is sufficient interest in the craft to start a group and its first meeting will be at Southwell House at 10.00 am on Monday 21st May.

During the latter half of 2011 interest in the Clubs' activities increased somewhat, mainly due to the success of our "Open Day". The event not only brought the U3A of Highbridge more to the notice of local people, and gave them an opportunity to see what we did. Although some had heard about the Club, they did not know what we did at our meetings. Many that came to the event now do and have decided to come along and join in our activities.

For instance---Crochet, Kurling and Creative Writing have benefited: The Crochet Group has grown to become the Crochet & Knitting Group.

Kurling has also increased in popularity, so much so that Stan Vousdon-White, its leader, suggested we purchase another set of Kurling Equipment ('stones', target and 'pusher' heads). We have and this new set has proved to be a revelation. Whereas the 'older' set needed a bit of an effort to propel the 'stone' down the hall; the new set is so free running that there is a danger it might go out through the wall of the hall. Members of the Group are thoroughly enjoying their Monday afternoons this, you will agree, enjoying what we do is what it is all about.

Editorial (further continuation)

Following the demise of the Creative Writing Group some years ago we have tried, many times, to get it restarted, but to no avail. Now, thanks to Kathy Taylor and Sylvia Shepherd the group is again active and its members meet at Kathy's home at the end of each month, I am looking forward to receiving some write-ups for this magazine.

As stated earlier we welcomed three new 'officers' onto the Committee, at the start of year 2011/2012 these were Pearl Price, Pat Clipstone and Bernard Martin.

Pearl Price got off to a great start by organising the very successful "Open Day"; this event certainly brought the Club a lot of publicity locally and the result was an increase in membership. It also opened the eyes of some current members because a number of them have now joined some of our activities. A very good result achieved all round.

Pat Clipstone has stepped in and helped with the paperwork associated with the signing-in of new members, renewing memberships, and the other formalities associated with the payment of subscriptions at this time of the year. Helping Fay Burston take payments/orders for the Annual Lunch was another task with which she gave a hand.

Bernard Martin, who was already a member of Strollers, discovered that he had been 'volunteered' into leading the new Somerset Village Group. We have, so far, visited North Curry, Somerton and Stogursey discovering parts of Somerset that many of us had not previously visited.

The village visits provide us with interesting historical information, e.g. the castle at Stogursey has served many purposes since the 12th century, a fortified residence, a farm, a home and now a 'holiday let'. The first Aussie to win a V.C. had emigrated from the village; he had been born in Stogursey in 1863. In the church of St Andrews there is the fossilised skeleton of an Ichthyosaurus from the Jurassic age, it was found in a garden at Shurton, a neighbouring village.

You can learn something new every day especially if you join the U3A.

Heard on Radio 2: If you give a man a gun and he will rob a bank, give him a bank and he will rob everybody!

Articles to be included in this magazine must be handed to me by the second Wednesday of the previous month.

Group News

Genealogy Group is now taking its summer sabbatical; its members have decided that they got as far as they can at present in their research and have decided to take a break. They plan to resume their research later in the year, under Roger Ouston's guidance.

Calligraphy Group has gained two male members recently and is moving on to Gothic Scripts; this 'hand' is harder to master but looks good. We have room for more members should anyone wish to join us on the 2nd Monday in the month?

Jewellery Making Group this group will be meeting for the first time on Monday 21st May at Southwell House, the class will commence at 10.00 am and be for 2 hours, finishing at 12.00 am.

The Group Leader is Jessie Maddox. 01278 782786

The group will continue to meet on the THIRD Monday of the month.

Forthcoming events

Cream Teas

Two cream teas have been booked for this summer; they will again be at Wick Farm. Lympsham. Cost £5.00

Dates are: Friday 29th June at 3.30 pm

Monday 16th July at 3.30 pm

The usual booking arrangements will be provided soon.

American Picnic

There will probably be another picnic this year, details will be announced as and when they are finalised. We will hope there will not be a repeat of the traffic problems that we experienced last year.

Anniversary Year

Had you noticed that 2012 appears to be an 'anniversary' year? Significant anniversaries are: - 100 years since the Titanic sank, 60 years ago was our Queen's Coronation and it is 30 years since the University of the Third Age was founded.

Jubilee Celebration

The Club will celebrate Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee on Wednesday 6th June by providing a special Jubilee Cake from which every member will be given a celebratory slice.

A visit to Thursford's Christmas Extravaganza

Pat Clipstone

We departed Burnham bright and early and proceeded to the charming Stratford upon Avon where we enjoyed a stopover for lunch and shopping. Onwards then to Kings Lynn, and after a warm welcome and a good meal next on the agenda was a much needed night's sleep.

Waking refreshed next morning we went into Kings Lynn for a spot of sightseeing and shopping. It is a very interesting history having been a trading port where traders from the Hanseatic League, a group of German cities, whose ships travelled together in convoy for safety against pirates, came with fish, furs, timber and wax. Taking away with them the English wool, cloth and salts. Today the port still exports grain and imports timber. A visit to the Customs House proved interesting and informative.

We then returned to our hotel for a quick change and an early dinner at 4.30; because the time is approaching where we leave for Thursford. Will the show be as spectacular as those who have previously visited say it is? Or will we be disappointed?

After about half an hour's journey we turn off the main road into a narrow lane and we begin to wonder where we will end up. We then enter a large car park filled with coaches and cars and leave our coach to make your way to what looks like a large barn; this is where the magic begins. The buildings is illuminated with beautiful coloured lights and you enter to see quaint little shops bedecked in Christmas decorations, all selling an array of things to remind you of your visit to Thursford.

After taking in all this finery we enter the theatre proper which is difficult to describe. It is vast, the magnificent decoration are gigantic, all surrounded by beautiful Christmas trees. There is a large steam engine and a Carousel, plus a Wurlitzer organ that is also part of the show.

The music struck up and a night of unforgettable entertainment followed; there were Dancing Girls, Choirs, Orchestras and all took place on a massive stage, you did not know what was coming next. The resident compere comedian did a grand job and I am proud to say he hailed from Weston-super-Mare. It was a night of sparkling, wonderful enjoyment and it did not end there because whilst we were away the staff at our hotel had prepared refreshments for us, this finished off the evening beautifully.

Next day we travelled back to Windsor where we once again enjoyed a couple of hours soaking up the atmosphere of this lovely part of England, so ending our mini break.

Thank you Burnham U3A for an enjoyable and well organised outing.

NB Burnham U3A has run a trip to the very popular Thursford Christmas

Extravaganza for a number of years; if you are ever given the opportunity, take it.

The Annual Lunch-2012

This was again held at the Beachcomber Inn. Brean and on Wednesday 14th March the members were served an excellent lunch and, although they were told to help themselves to 'seconds' I doubt anyone did because the portions are so generous. In fact I suspect that many of those that attended (86) upon arriving home, put their feet up and had a nap.

The Inn closes over the Christmas period but re-opens at the beginning of March in order to provide us with a sumptuous lunch, and being the first group each new year to enjoy their hospitality we certainly fair very well.

The organisation of this annual function is down to a fine art and everything moves along smoothly. The quiz keeps those that are already seated occupied whilst everyone sorts themselves out and, following the lunch, the quiz is marked and then comes the raffle. Pearl Price and Bernard Martin officiated this year (thank you both) and it is felt that about half the diners went home with a present.

(Someone was heard to say upon leaving "Can I book now for next year?)

Thanks you Fay for another successful Annual Lunch.

Mendip Hills Study Day

This was held on Thursday 1st March at Draycott Village Hall and had been organised by Wells U3A on behalf of the Northern Somerset Associations of U3A's.

The hall was full to overflowing, there being about 200 present, to hear the three eminent speakers invited to talk about the Mendip Hills. Chris Sperring MBE spoke passionately about the local wildlife and the current environmental issues that affect the Mendips. Professor Jodie Lewis talked about the "Prehistoric History" of this range of hill; in particular the time between early man (Neanderthal) up to the Iron Age. Professor Simon Haslett then increased our awareness of the "Geology and Landforms" of the Mendip Hills.

Because the earth, as we know it, has been and in fact is still changing, it was interesting to learn that the land form that is England/Wales was originally somewhere off the Barrier Reef (Australia) and has moved continuously over millions of years to where we are at present. Scotland was a land mass on its own that broke off from the American shelf and 'joined' us later.

The Highbridge 'Five' learnt a little more about the range of hills that dominates our view to the north east; an interesting day.

Picture Gallery

A few photographs of what some members get up to:



The Strollers, following a visit to Holford Glen some weeks ago stopped at the Cottage Inn, Keenthorne for refreshments and were met by a Scottish piper who was waiting for a wedding party to arrive. Not wishing to miss this photo opportunity our ladies asked the piper if they could be photographed with him, he agreed.

Photo by Billy Conibeer.

Then on the recent "Away Day" to Devon a few members stopped off at Exeter to visit the historic sites; Bernard Martin, Sue Bloska and Fay Burston went down the Underground Passages that were dug by monks in medieval times to supply the city with spring water. Sue and Fay were brave and crawled through the low, narrow tunnel section.

Photo by Bernard Martin

On a visit to Pawlett Hams the strollers came across this edifice that, reputedly, had a 'story' about it and which prompted the showing of a few ankles.



(You will have to ask the ladies what the 'story' concerned, but it did raise a chuckle from them)

Photo by Billy Conibeer



If you have any Group Photo's that you would like to be published, please let me have them to scan, originals will be returned.

GROUP ACTIVITIES**Calligraphy**

At: 2nd Monday in the Month
 Southwell House
 Times: 10.00 am to 12.00 am
 Cost: £2.00
 Facilitators: Ron Turner 787231 & Ken Burston (782529)

Card Making

At: 1st Mondays and 3rd Wednesdays
 Southwell House
 Days/Times: Monday 10.00 'til 12.30 p.m. & Wednesday 02.00 'til 4.30
 Cost: - £2.50
 Contact: Rose Bateman (795906)

Kurling

At: - 1st and 3rd Third Mondays
 Highbridge Community Hall
 Time: - 02.00 p m. to 03.30 pm.
 Contact: - Stan Vousden-White (781567)
 Sybil Tilley when Stan is away (787054)

Jewellery Group

At: - Third Monday in the month
 Southwell House
 Time: - 10.00 am to 12.00 am
 Cost: - To be advised.
 Contact: - Jessie Maddox (782786)

Creative Writing

At: - Last Monday in the month
 Steart Drive
 Time: - 02.00 pm to 03.30 pm
 Facilitators: - Sylvia Shepherd (780377) & Kathy Taylor (780171)

Mosaics

At: - Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday
 Highbridge Community Hall (Room-4)
 Times: - 02.00 pm. to 04.00 pm.
 Cost: - £2.00 per class
 Facilitator: - Alison Joyce (784633)

Mosaics

At: - Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday
 Highbridge Community Hall (Room-4)
 Times: - 02.00 pm. to 04.00 pm.
 Cost: - £2.00 per class
 Facilitator: - Alison Joyce (784633)

Art--1

At: - Every Tuesday
 Southwell House
 Time: - 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm
 Cost: - £2.00
 Group Leader: Self regulating

Floral Art

At: - 4th Tuesday
 Southwell House
 Date/Times: 10.30 am. to 12.00 am.
 Cost: £1.75

Keep Fit & Quiz

At: Gospel Hall, Old Burnham Road
 Time: 2.15 pm to 3.15 pm
 Group Leader: Joyce Beard All Welcome.

Board Games

At: Gospel Hall, Old Burnham Road.
 Time: 3.15 until 5.00 pm (After Keep Fit & Quiz)
 Group Leader: Betty Worthy (795823)

Patchwork/Quilting

At: Church Close, East Huntspill
 Times: 10.00 am. to 12.00 pm. or 2.00 pm. to 4.00 pm.
 Cost: Free of charge at present
 Facilitator: Ann Lismore (787607)

Coffee Morning

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

Crochet & Knitting

At: - First and Third Wednesdays
 Time: - Highbridge Community Hall (Room 4)
 Contact: - 10.00 am. to 11.00 am.
 Lorita Gainford (789374)

Art-2

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

Genealogy

At: First Thursday in the month (No classes until later in year)
 Time: Room 1 at Community Hall
 Facilitator: 10.00 am.- 11.00 am.
 Cost: - Roger Ouston (795007)
 £1.00

Skittles

At: 1st and 3rd Friday in the month
 Time: Crossways Inn-West Huntspill
 Leaders: 11.30am to 1.00pm
 Ray Reddish (785411) and Betty Worthy (795823)

Strollers

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

Somerset Villages

At: 5th Friday in the month
 Time: Start from Bank Street Car Park
 Facilitator: - 10.00 am
 Bernard Martin (787230)

Sandra

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Highbridge in Bloom

Club members will be well acquainted with our Highbridge in Bloom Group who have, over the past years, been successful in winning various awards in the South West Region category of the Britain in Bloom competitions. You may notice that this Club has helped brighten the town by sponsoring one of the planters outside Alpha House. A number of our members are also members of the local group, so we do have a common interest.

With this in mind I have been asked by the Bloom Group to approach U3A members to ask if any of the garden lovers amongst you would be interested in showing off your own bit of 'horticultural art' to the general public. The Britain in Bloom scheme is run every year in an attempt to brighten up the world around us. It has been suggested the owners of private gardens may wish to include their gardens in a scheme that is introduced in Highbridge?

For instance, a North Somerset Town already has a scheme where several people open their gardens for public viewing; a town programme is produced and sold to raise funds. The leaflet contains details of where each garden is etc. and in this particular case prizes have been donated for the best gardens, voted for by the viewers.

Think about it! Talk to members of the Highbridge in Bloom Group about the idea, they will be pleased to hear from you.

Strollers Programme

Because the price of petrol is increasing week by week it is felt that we should, until the situation calms down, restrict our mileage and take strolls a little nearer Highbridge.

The strolls selected by the group for the next two months are: -

- May 11th Kingscliffe Woods, North Petherton (Blue bells)
- May 25th Uphill—Nature Reserve or Beach Walk (depends on the tide)
- June 8th Fynne Court, Woodland walks
- June 22nd Bridgwater/Taunton Canal (Start at Lower Maunsel Lock)

Strollers leave the Bank Street Car Park in Highbridge at 10.00 am.

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The Holistic Weekend

Saturday 2 June & Sunday 3 June 2012
10:30 ~ 16:30

Contact
Rita
01278 760486

a family fun charity event for Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance & other Moose welfare charities

reiki, aromatherapy,
Indian head massage,
crystals, reflexology,
crystal healing,
natural remedies, facials,
aura photography, clairvoyance



jewellery, beauty therapies,
forever living products,
Swedish massage, crafts,
angel items,
drinks, hot/cold food,
many other variety of stalls

w w w . h o l i s t i c w e e k e n d . c o . u k
Mooseheart Winscombe Somerset BS25 1BB

We invite all members and friends to come along and join us at our fun, relaxing weekend and help us raise the much needed funds for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance and other welfare charities.

It is set in beautiful grounds at Mooseheart Winscombe and is the ideal place for bringing a picnic or buying food provided by Lynda's Loaf.

This will be our third event. We look forward to meeting you all and trust you have a good time.

Thank you Rita Harris & Moose International,
Burnham-on-Sea Lodge 123

Somerset Villages Group

Bernard Martin, the Group Leader, has selected Langport as the place to visit on Friday 29th June.

Although it is called a Somerset Village Group we tend to deviate a little because Langport is considered to be a small town, having a population of just over 1,000; it lies 19 miles south east of Highbridge.

The first charter by Queen Elizabeth I in 1562 recognized Langport as a borough of great antiquity. The town lies on the east bank of the River Parrett, below Langport the river is tidal and it flows through the Somerset Levels to Bridgwater and out into the Bristol Channel.

Near the bridge over the River Parrett is the Visitor Centre opposite which are some environmentally designed houses that are considered to be the 'homes of the future'.

Langport is not a large town but will prove to be an interesting place to visit.

Jubilee Charity Raffle

On Wednesday 30th May the Crochet Group are holding a raffle of crochet and knitted items in aid of Hounds for Heroes. All the proceeds will be go to this charity.

Since the New Year we have had yarn donated to the group and we have cleared out our spare yarn to make these items for this charity raffle.

Hounds for Heroes was started by the charity Help the Heroes to assist wounded servicemen. We all see in the news the brave men and women who lose their lives fighting for our country, little is ever said about the number of personnel returning wounded. Some of these are able to return to their units, however, many are permanently disabled and need help to adapt to civilian lives. Some of these service men and women need help in their daily lives to try to live as independent as possible. Hounds for Heroes train dogs to assist them from dressing themselves to helping with household tasks, small things that we can take for granted like collecting the newspaper, picking things off the floor, fetching mail and shopping. Their very presence can also provide much needed emotional support and companionship.

If any of the other Groups would like to donate their work to this raffle it will be acknowledged and gratefully received.

Many thanks in advance for your support.....Lorita Gainford

A Special Event ---you may not have noticed that this event is on.

On Saturday 2nd June there is to be a Diamond Jubilee Tea Party in the Community Hall for Highbridge residents who are 60 years of age or over. Tickets for the Tea Party, which will be from 4.00 pm until 6.00 pm, will cost £1.00 and are obtainable from Ken Burston.

The timing of the Tea Party has been arranged so that residents can watch any Diamond Jubilee event that may be on Television or an event held locally. You can then adjourn to the Community Hall for your tea, cake and a natter. It is hoped this get together of Highbridge residents will enable them to recall what they were doing 60 years ago and reminisce with their friends about the 'good old days'? When people were, perhaps, a little more neighbourly and restrictions did not prevent people from holding street parties etc.

oo

Enclosed with this magazine is an up-to-date copy of the Traders Directory, please keep it handy, it may come in useful sometime.

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Monthly Draw

February	No 42	Mary Akers	No 42	One sheet only sold
March	No 18	Kit Partington	No 18	Club wins. No. not sold

Each 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 Marian Wright

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An atheist was trekking through a forest in Canada when he was suddenly confronted by a grizzly bear.

"Oh God help me" he cries and with that time and everything around him froze and God appeared.

"You have denied my presence all your life and now you find yourself in danger; you call upon me for help"

The man thinks about what God has said and replies "You are right; it would be hypocritical of me to ask you to now treat me as a Christian, would it perhaps help if you made the bear a Christian instead"

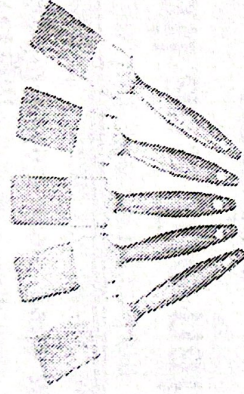
God considers the question and says "Very well" and disappears.

Whereupon the bear looked at the man, raised itself up to full height, gently put its paws together and said

"For what I am about to receive, may the lord make me truly thankful"

PETE THE PAINTER

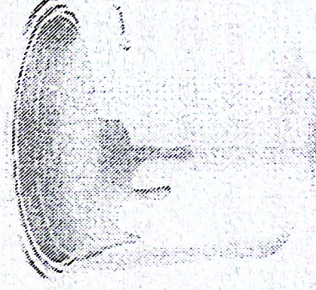
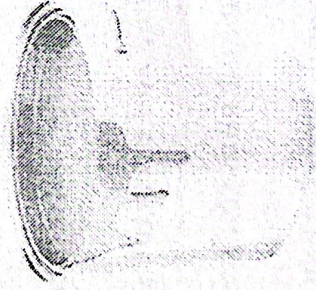
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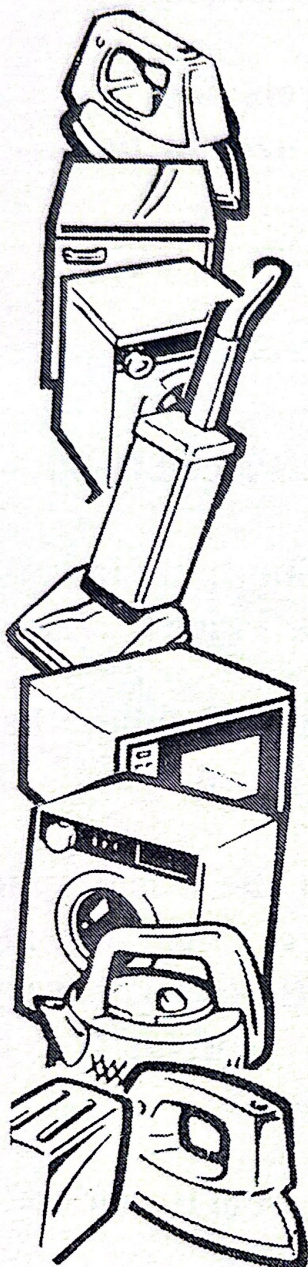
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"Away Days" 2012

The following are "Away Days" for this year: -

**Thursday 3rd May: - Cockington Court Country Park & Village
and Torquay.....Price £9.50**

Pick-ups are at Pier Street (Morrisons)--- 09.30 am

& Highbridge (Market Street)--- 09.40 am.

Return from Torquay at 04.00 pm and Cockington at 04.20 pm

**Thursday 7th June: - Tiverton Canal Boat Trip, a relaxing
afternoon on a horse drawn narrow boat.**

Price.....£8.00 plus Boat Fee at £11.35

Pick-ups are at Pier Street (Morrisons)---10.00 am

& Highbridge (Market Street)---10.10 am

Return from Tiverton at 04.45 pm

Thursday 2nd August: - Brixham.....Price £10.00

M. 9.30 HB - 9.40

Thursday 13th September: - S.S. Great Britain & Shopping in

Bristol.....Price £7.50.....Entrance to ship...Price £7.75 *EN 8012*

M. 10.12 11.10.00

**STOP PRESS: A visit to Highclere Castle (Downton Abbey) has
been booked for 25th July 2013 so make a note in your diaries.**

Pick-up Points for all "Away Day" trips will be at the Bus Stop in Market Street, Highbridge by Alpha House and outside Morrison's in Pier Street Burnham-on-Sea; times will vary depending upon the trip, so PLEASE check with Vour or Carole well before the trip.

Cheques to cover payment of trips to be made payable to "U3A of Highbridge"

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 we have your details to hand so that you can be notified immediately.