



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

## **WELCOME**

Welcome to the Bridport u3a Newsletter for January 2021. You can now find this and all previous Newsletters on our website under News.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to comment on our Newsletters, and we welcome all suggestions. If you have anything you would like to be included in future Newsletters, please send your submissions to [newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk) and we will do our best to use as many as possible.

## **YOUR u3a NEEDS YOU!**

### **This is an urgent appeal for help.**

Bridport u3a is run by the members for the members. We have no paid staff. Everything is done by volunteers. Without volunteers we cannot function.

At our AGM this year (May/June date tba) 3 of our Officers will be standing down after many years service. This means we will have vacancies for a Chairperson, Business Secretary and Groups Co-ordinator. Importantly, we are simply not allowed to operate as a u3a if these Officer roles are not filled, so it is over to you, the members, to step forward if you want to keep your u3a. If there is no response, Bridport u3a will cease to exist after the AGM.

Because these are official positions, there are role descriptions available on the u3a Trust's website,

or they can be emailed to you on request from [newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk). If you would like an informal chat with the current post holders to find out more about what is involved, please contact them to arrange a telephone conversation, details on contact page of website.

Without your help, there will be no u3a. Please consider volunteering if you can.

## **MEMBER RENEWALS**

Thank you to all the members who have paid their subscription for the current year, and for continuing to support us in these difficult times. Your membership subscription is our only source of income, and without that we would not be able to offer any groups, now or in the future.

## **JUST FOR FUN**

(answers are at the end of this Newsletter)

1. How many gifts were given in the "12 Days of Christmas" song?
2. What is a female turkey called?
3. Other than leap years, there are 365 days in a year. What number day is Christmas Day?
4. On what day of the week are all Walkers Crisps' expiry dates?

5. 'Fair is foul, and foul is fair: Hover through the fog and filthy air ' is the opening line of what?
6. In which country is the world's smallest volcano?
7. What is the most abundant metal in the earth's crust?
8. What is the only mammal that cannot jump?
9. Who has been married to both Michael Jackson and Nicolas Cage?
10. By what name is Edward Teach aka Edward Thatch better known?

### AT HOME GROUPS

As I am sure you understand, it is difficult for your committee and Group Convenors to keep activities running at the moment, but we all hope that 'normal service will be resumed as soon as possible'. Meantime, many groups have been meeting online (often via Zoom) and a wide range of new groups have been set up specifically to run online, such as our 'At Home' groups, which include: (\* Recently started)

*Art History*  
*Birdwatching*  
*Board Games*  
*Broadcasting*  
*Classical Music*  
*Coffee Time Discussion Group*  
*Creative Writing*  
*Exploring Art*  
*Family History Group\**  
*Haiku \**  
*History*  
*IT Self Help Group*  
*Knit & Natter \**  
*Limerick Club*  
*Dorset Museum*  
*Non-Fiction Club*  
*Opera*  
*Political Discussion*  
*Puzzles for Fun*

*Thomas Hardy Poetry*  
*World Service Archive*  
*Monday Coffee time Chat*

Please see our website for further information

### JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING

Our January talk is as advertised in your booklet, Wildflower Grasslands in West Dorset by Nick Gray, a very knowledgeable conservation officer at Dorset Wildlife Trust at 2pm on 26th January, via Zoom.

Our February talk is also as advertised, The Making of West Bay Discovery Centre by John West, but online via Zoom.

### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

It has been decided to stop using the title Group Leaders and instead refer to them as Group Convenors. You may wonder why? Research has shown that people think they cannot become a Group Leader unless they are a teacher, or a subject expert who wants and is able to pass on their knowledge. Whilst this may be true for some individuals, the purpose of a Group Convenor is someone who organises a group, not necessarily a subject expert or teacher. It could be someone who wants to learn about a subject together with like-minded individuals, who arranges for one or several knowledgeable people to pass on learning to the group.

It is hoped that by renaming this function as Group Convenor, more people will feel empowered to start groups, and topics that are not currently available can be started. If you would like to be part of a group about a specific topic, and feel you have administrative or organising skills rather than an expertise in the topic, please contact Paul on [groups@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@bridportu3a.org.uk) to discuss further. You also do not need experience in using Zoom as we can provide training and support, including paying for the Zoom licence if you need one, or we can arrange for someone to host the Zoom sessions for you.

## **GROUP NEWS**

Our At Home Groups are identified separately above.

Some of our other groups are managing to continue online, or, when possible, with reduced numbers. Please see our Groups page for information on how to contact Group Convenors and for information on groups that have vacancies, and the latest information available.

Please note, the advice from government is changing all the time, so it is important that you each keep up to date with regulations as they apply to you. As part of the wider u3a movement, we must take our guidance on what we can do from the Third Age Trust, not least because not complying with their advice means our insurance is invalid.

The Third Age Trust has a link to Covid-19 advice on u3a activities. A direct link to the most recent advice is available here:

[Covid 19 Advice – Click here](#)

From 5th January we are once again in a national lockdown, so no groups can meet face to face.

## **SHORT COURSES**

The next short course will be about taking better photographs using your smart phone, and will be in mid February, date and time to be arranged. More information in next month's Newsletter. If you have any suggestions for other one-off short courses that you would like to see, please email [groups@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@bridportu3a.org.uk).

## **NEW WEBSITE**

Our new website ([bridportu3a.org.uk](http://bridportu3a.org.uk)) will launch very soon! Watch out for an email with the link coming your way soon.

## **GROUP SPOTLIGHT**

Each month we would like to run a more detailed story on one of our groups. If you would like your group featured here please send information to

[newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk). This month we feature the **At Home History Group**.

Members mostly come from the group that used to meet before the lockdown started, which has been running for a few years, but now operates via email. Each month every member chooses



who they want to write about and prepare a brief summary of the life of their chosen public figure. These are all sent to the Group Convenor, who then sends them as a combined email to all the members. They recently ran a quiz where all the answers could be found in the emails shared in recent months. Pictured is

Michael Gittins who won the quiz and a Groves voucher.

If you want to find out more about the group please visit the Groups page on our website or contact the Group Convenor Gwen Kinghorn on 01308 488270

## **MONTHLY LIMERICK CHALLENGE**

There was a good response to our first limerick challenge last month, so here are a selection of those we received, in no particular order:

*He sat on a bench in Bucky Doo Square  
When what should arrive but a huge polar bear  
The bear seemed quite nice  
Although covered in ice  
So, they sat and they chatted this unlikely pair.  
(CR)*

*He sat on a bench in Bucky Doo Square  
It collapsed! But he was helped by a pair  
Of beautiful girls  
With golden curls  
"Great, but next time I'll bring my own arm-chair!"  
(JG)*

Each month the Newsletter will bring you a suggested first line for a limerick, and publish some of those submitted from the previous month (using contributors initials only).

If you want to participate, please create a limerick with the following first line:

***"I'd like to fly off on a plane "***

Please send your contributions to [limerickclub@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:limerickclub@bridportu3a.org.uk) by 25th January, and a selection will be printed in the next Newsletter.

***\*NEW\* MONTHLY LOCAL PHOTOGRAPH***

Each month we will publish a photograph of a local scene. Please submit your photographs to [newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk) and let me know when and where it was taken, and if you want to be acknowledged as the photographer or remain anonymous.

To start the new year, this magnificent sunset over Lyme Bay was taken from Burton Bradstock on 26th November 2020.



***NATIONAL u3a***

Did you know that Third Age Matters is also available as a text-only download that can be read by text-readers, so anybody with a visual impairment can still enjoy the national magazine? The link is available here.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/advice/publications/tam-text>

More information about national online groups, the latest u3a Covid guidance, projects, research and much more can be found in the national u3a Newsletter, which you can sign up to here.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/about/newsletter>

***SMILING IS INFECTIOUS***

A poem by the inimitable Spike Milligan

*Smiling is infectious,  
You catch it like the flu,  
When someone smiled at me today  
I started smiling too.*

*I passed around the corner  
And someone saw my grin.  
When he smiled I realised  
I'd passed it on to him.*

*I thought about that smile,  
Then I realised its worth.  
A single smile, just like mine  
Could travel round the earth.*

*So, if you feel a smile begin,  
Don't leave it undetected.  
Let's start an epidemic, quick,  
And get the word infected!*

***ZOOM & OTHER TECHNOLOGY***

Love it or hate it (and many of us feel both in the course of a Zoom session!) it is a free, advert-free, safe and accessible way to keep in touch with friends and family, and with our own social groups while we cannot meet face to face.

In addition to local support, Zoom offer a number of short helpful online video tutorials to show you how a number of different aspects of the software work, which are ideal to familiarise yourself with the product before you try to use it.

[Zoom tutorials – Click here](#)

Also you can contact our At Home group, IT Self Help Group, and our own members will be able to give you whatever assistance you need.

There is a wealth of information to help you get to grips with Zoom, available from both the Trust (u3a.org.uk) and Bridport u3a, including online tutorials, and one-to-one help. If you are struggling with Zoom or just don't know where to start, there is help available for you. If you need help contact us for signposting to the right sources of help for you.

There is also help available with a range of technologies, either from the above sources or from Dorset Digital Champions helpline on 01305 221048 (select option 2).

### ***FUTURE-PROOFING BRIDPORT u3a HAVE YOUR SAY***

If you want to contribute your thoughts and ideas to this group, please send your comments to [newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk). Progress updates will be published in future editions of the Newsletter.

Initially we are looking for members with a range of skills and experience to help us move forward, including PR and Media, Facebook, Diversity and Equality advisors.

This is your u3a, and without additional help the committee are unable to take forward the range of improvements needed to make us better for all our members. Please help us if you can.

### ***OUTSIDE u3a***

Please note There is a different listing in each Newsletter so for other sources please refer to previous editions, available in the News section of our website. Also, some entries are time-

sensitive, particularly free give-aways, so action these promptly if you are interested.

**The new Pantone colours for 2021** are Ultimate Gray 17-5104 and Illuminating 13-0647, which is a vibrant citrus yellow. The art world is calling the grey the pandemic colour, sludge, indicative of the gloom and despondency brought about by the global pandemic. The fashion industry is aghast as the bright citrus yellow is one of the hardest colours to wear and accessorise. So this announcement has not been greeted with universal approval. Expect to see more about these colours in the coming weeks.

**Google Art & Culture Experiments** have some interesting activities, which currently include creating your own blob opera, colouring in Hokusai's The Great Wave and a virtual 3d exploration of the Brandenburg gate.

[Google art & culture – Click here](#)

**Artist Zheng Chunhui** spent 4 years creating his 40ft long tree sculpture. There is much online to explore, but this is a good starting point.

[Zheng Chunhui – Click here](#)

At the close of the year, many people like to take stock. Here **Stephan Ango** suggests the questions you might want to ask yourself.

[Taking stock – Click here](#)

**The White Cube gallery** in London has made many past and present exhibitions available online, which are available here

[White Cube Gallery – Click here](#)

I am a big fan of **time lapse photography**. This is about the creation of an ash bench

[Time lapse photography – Click here](#)

Many of us may have **Poinsettias** in our homes. Here is guidance on how to help them survive, and maybe even produce the distinctive bracts for another year.

[Growing Poinsettias – Click here](#)

This is a list of the **top 10 Board Games** for history buffs, including 2 that can be for single players

[Top 10 Board Games – Click here](#)

With cold nights on the way, this free knitting pattern for a cute polar bear hot water bottle cover is timely.

[Polar Bear Knitting Pattern – Click here](#)

**Bridport Library Service** has free e-books, audio e-books, e-magazines, e-newspapers and ancestry resources that library members can access from their own devices. Membership is free too.

## ANSWERS TO JUST FOR FUN QUIZ

1 364

2 A hen

3 359

4 Saturday

5 Macbeth

6 Mexico, Cuexcomate volcano

7 Aluminium (about 8%)

8 Elephants

9 Lisa Marie Presley

10 Blackbeard

## ANSWERS TO CHRISTMAS QUIZ

### Section 1 Mick's GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

1. The Elephant Man, 2. Lawrence of Arabia, 3. Verde, 7. Grace Kelly films, 8. Spruce Goose, 9. The aerobatic displays of starlings, 10. b. Small marsupial, 11. Madison Avenue, 12. Eritrea, 13. American Civil War (CSS Virginia & USS Monitor, Battle

of Hampton Roads 1862),, 14. Strasbourg or Cologne Cathedrals, Notre Dame in Rouen, St Nikolai in Hamburg or Washington Monument, 15. Cary Grant, 16. Allied D-Day Landing beaches, 17. Copenhagen, 18. Myanmar (Burma), 19. Scale insects or beetles, 20. Camera

### Section 2 Heather's NUMBER QUIZ

1. 7 D in a W 7 days in a week, 2. 30 M in a HAH 30 minutes in half an hour, 3. 5 V in the A 5 vowels in the alphabet, 4. 4 S in a Y 4 seasons in a year, 5. 1 M and HD 1 man and his dog, 6. 4 S in a POC 4 suits in a pack of cards, 7. RTW in 80 D Round the world in 80 days, 8. 1916 BSTI 1916 British summer time introduced, 9. 6 L on a I 6 legs on an insect, 10. 50 P for BID 50 points for bulls-eye in darts, 11. 30 DHSAJ and N 30 days have September, April, June and November, 12. 4 L on a LC 4 leaves on a lucky clover, 13. 55 Y is a EWA 55 years is a Emerald wedding anniversary, 14. 5 GR on the FDOC 5 gold rings on the fifth day of Christmas, 15. TPL at N 10 DS The Prime Minister lives at Number 10 Downing Street, 16. 3 PC 3 primary colours, 17. 22 B on a ST 22 balls on a snooker table, 18. D 999 for the ES Dial 999 for the emergency services, 19. 1959 FBD went on S 1959 first Barbie doll went on sale, 20. 54 S on a RC 54 squares on a rubic cube, 21. 1908 FBSTF in E 1908 first boy scout troop formed in England, 22. KEN 1 Kelly's eye number 1, 23. 6 S on a G 6 strings on a guitar, 24. 3 LKLTLM 3 little kittens they lost their mittens, 25. 100 Y in a C 100 years in a century, 26. 5 R on the OF 5 rings on the Olympic flag, 27. 24 W on an AC 24 windows on an Advent calendar, 28. 1863 LUO 1863 London Underground opened

### Section 3 Karen's THANKSGIVING QUESTIONS

1. a) 1621, 2. b) Abraham Lincoln, 3. a) Around 46 million, 4. b) Macy's, 5. c) 20%, 6. c) Plymouth, 7. a) Because the turkey at his Thanksgiving proclamation looked nervous., 8. c) 50 million

### Section 4 Mick's ISLANDS AROUND THE WORLD

1. Portugal, 2. Saint Helena, 3. Greenland, 4. Staten Island / Manhattan, 5. Galapagos, 6. Anglesey, 7. Corsica, 8. Victoria, 9. Indian, 10. Hispaniola, 11. Tasmania, 12. Rhode Island, 13. Alcatraz, 14. Jamaica, 15. Cyprus, 16. China, 17. Ellis, 18. Madagascar, 19. Easter, 20. Rikers, 21. Tenerife, 22. Isle of Wight, 23. Ionian, 24. Sicily, 25. Crete

**Section 5 Mick's NUMBERS QUIZ**

1. 3 = BM Blind Mice, 2. 3 = S to H Steps to Heaven, 3. 6 = W of H the E Wives of Henry the Eighth, 4. 6 = Z in a M Zeroes in a Million, 5. 6 = F in a F Feet in a Fathom, 6. 8 = F in a M Furlongs in a Mile, 7. 10 = Y in a D Years in a Decade, 8. 12 = S of the Z Signs of the Zodiac, 9. 12 = I in a F Inches in a Foot, 10. 12 = D of C Days of Christmas, 11. 12 = D in a G Dozen in a Gross, 12. 12 = K of the RT Knights of the Round Table, 13. 13 = BD Bakers' Dozen, 14. 13 = C in a S Cards in a Suit, 15. 16 = O in a P Ounces in a Pound, 16. 24 = H in a D Hours in a Day, 17. 26 = L in the A Letters in the Alphabet, 18. 26 = M in a M Miles in a Marathon, 19. 32 = P in CS Pieces in a Chess Set, 20. 36 = I in a Y Inches in a Yard, 21. 39 = S Steps, 22. 40 = D of L Days of Lent, 23. 50 = S in the USA States in the USA, 24. 60 = M in an H Minutes in an Hour, 25. 80 = DA the W Days Around the World

**Section 6 Paul's CAROLS, SCIENCE AND AROUND THE WORLD CHRISTMAS QUIZ**

Christmas carols

1. The Holly and the Ivy, 2. Hark, the Herald Angel sings, 3. While Shepherds watched their Flocks by Night, 4. O Come all Ye Faithful

Christmas science,

5. Mistletoe, 6. Blue, 7. Frankincense, 8. Sulforaphane

Christmas around the world

9. Oslo, 10. Mexico, 11. Nuremburg, 12. Italy, 13. Netherlands

**Section 7 Mick's MORE GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**

1. Korean War, 2. Algeria, 3. Taiwan (Formosa or Republic of China), 4. Yo yo, 5. Pavilion, 6. China, 7. Goliath, 8 North of the equator, 9. Last placed rider, 10. Cuban cigars (1000 of them), 11. Chile (Puerto Toro), 12. The Sargasso Sea, in the middle of the North Atlantic Ocean, 13. The Knights Templar, 14. Speed of light, 15. Adidas, 16. Doughnut (Donut), 17. Sandwich Islands, 18. Peoples Liberation Army, 19. Flour and fat (butter), 20. Ukraine (Pripyat was built to house the Chernobyl nuclear power plant workers)

**Until next month**

**Stay safe**

**Bridport U3A Committee**

**Charity Number 1165000**