

## **FROM THE CHAIR**

We held a very successful Coffee Morning for new members at the Golf Club on 21 March. At this event we gained a new member of our committee, Carole Irving. We are grateful to her for volunteering, and I would like to remind you that new committee members (without portfolio) are always welcome. Let me know if you would like to help us with this.

I am introducing a monthly **Breakfast at the Greyhound Hotel**, open to all members without reservation. The first one will be on Thursday 25 April from 0830 a.m. It is intended that they will then be on the 4th Thursday of each month. Just come and join us and order your own breakfast.

*Alastair Forbes*

Chairman

## **MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION DUE**

Please remember that your subscription was due at the end of March, and it has increased to £20 for the year. You should already have received notices about this. If you have any problems, please contact [treasurer@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@bridportu3a.org.uk)

## **AGM**

Our AGM will be held at the start of our next monthly meeting, at 2pm on Tuesday 23rd April in the Bridport United Church Hall. All members are invited to attend. Please note that a minimum of 10% of our membership is required to reach a quorum (the legal minimum for a meeting to be valid), so please do attend if you are able.

You should already have received an email with further details, and the AGM papers can be found on our website [bridportu3a.org.uk](http://bridportu3a.org.uk).

## **GROUP NEWS**



We love to hear any suggestions for a new group or offers of help in running a group. Contact [groups@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@bridportu3a.org.uk)

Please note that many groups have changed venue recently so make sure to check messages from your group leader.

## **COACH EXCURSIONS**

Crossways Travel have a programme of outings throughout the year. As a member of Bridport u3a you get a 10% discount on trips that pick up in Bridport. Book directly by contacting Crossways on 01305 851697 and quoting your membership number.

In April there is a trip to Dartmouth combining the south Devon steam train with a boat trip on 11th and a visit to Looe on 28th



The full list can be found on our website events page [here](#)

More details are on their website [here](#).

### **GROUP SPOTLIGHT**

If you would like your Group featured here, please send information to

[newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bridportu3a.org.uk)

### **MONTHLY MEETING**

Our monthly meeting is held at Bridport United Church Hall on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 2pm. Admission is free to members and £3 for non-members, with tea and biscuits provided after the meeting.

Our 23rd April meeting will be our AGM, and we will also have a talk from Joanna Gardiner of Super Sniffers, medical detection dogs.



Our May meeting will be on 28th May, when Alan Jenkins' talk is entitled 'My Police Journey - Liverpool to Dorset'

### **JUST FOR FUN**



1. Which food additive was discovered by Remsen and Fahlberg in 1879?
2. What was TV chef Fanny Craddock's real first name?
3. What type of curry was a UK number 2 hit for Fat Les in 1998?
4. What gas is used to make fizzy drinks fizzy?
5. What is the scientific name for egg white?
6. Where are you likely to find a barista?
7. In which county would you find the towns of Ham and Sandwich?
8. Which drink apparently 'gives you wings'?
9. In France, what would you buy from a Boulangerie?
10. What liquor is mixed with white wine to create the cocktail Kir?

### **MONTHLY LIMERICK CHALLENGE**



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). Thank you to everybody who takes part.

*There was a young man from Kinross,  
Who argued with his boss.  
There's no pay rise for me,  
He said miserably,  
As I've made my boss very cross.  
(IM)*

*There was a young man from Kinross  
Who rode round the town on a horse  
In a big cowboy boots  
And an old John Wayne suit.  
Left everyone laughing, of course.  
(CG)*

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

**"an old man who lives in a cave"**

Also, remember that the Monthly Challenge is open to ALL u3a members and not just the members of the Limerick Club.

Please send your contributions to [limericks@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:limericks@bridportu3a.org.uk) by 30<sup>th</sup> April and a selection will be printed in the next Newsletter.

## NATIONAL u3a

February saw the launch of the new-look for u3a Friends Newsletter, which you can access at [www.u3a.org.uk/news/newsletter](http://www.u3a.org.uk/news/newsletter), where you can also sign up for future editions to be emailed to you automatically, or not, as you prefer.

This contains news from other u3as around the country together with updates from the national Chair, Liz Thackeray, and special offers for u3a members, which currently includes Sainsbury's, M&S and Currys, amongst others.

Do you know about **Festival 24**? The u3a national Summer School is in York this year 18-20th July. Full details are still to be finalised, but it will be based around the University of York with various options for accommodation. Tickets are not yet available, but the cost of attending will be:

- Day 1 £25 including buffet supper
- Day 2 £10 for the full day
- Day 3 £5 for half a day

You can find the latest information and sign up for updates [here](#) and information will be included in the Friends Newsletter as above.

**Fit For Future**, not a new exercise group, but a movement to change the way the u3a is run nationally, is trying to engage as many u3a members as possible to gather diverse opinions. There is a section on the national website outlining everything to date and seeking member opinions on the proposed changes during March and April. Details [here](#). Please note, as this is a members-only consultation, you will have to register as a u3a member to access this information.



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](#). You can also access previous editions.

More information about national online groups, projects, research and much more can be found in the national u3a Newsletter, which you can sign up to [here](#). You can also access previous Newsletters.

**MONTHLY LOCAL PHOTOGRAPH**

Each month we will publish a photograph of a local scene. Please submit your photographs to [newsetter@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsetter@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. Please note, we may use photographs published in the Newsletter on our website – please advise if you do not want this to happen.

This is the beach at Burton Bradstock in the midst of a recent storm with frothy water piling up against the carpark wall.



**SEASONAL RECIPE**

If you have a favourite seasonal recipe (please bear in mind the Newsletter is written in advance so recipes must reach me by the end of the month previously) please send them to [newsetter@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsetter@bridportu3a.org.uk). Do not worry about imperial/metric fahrenheit/celsius/gas mark conversions etc, as we can do that, just send your recipe.

Julie Frew sent in this recipe for Aubergine Parmigiana



I use a major shortcut when I make this and use burrata and Parmesan cheeses (or whatever cheese ends I have in the fridge) but don't bother to make a cheese sauce which saves time. Local cheeses can be substituted if you prefer.

**Method:**

Slice 3 aubergines lengthwise and cook for 15 minutes at 200c/400f/gas 6 in a roasting tin with some good olive oil.

Make a tomato sauce with 2 cans of tomatoes, half a chopped onion, a chopped carrot, salt, pepper and oregano to taste. Put it all in a pan with more olive oil and let it cook for half an hour.

Layer up the dish by starting with the aubergines, then a layer of sauce, then some Parmesan and a broken up burrata. Repeat until the aubergines and sauce are used up and top with more burrata and Parmesan. I use 3 Burratas altogether but you might find that too cheesy! Cook in the oven until bubbly and browned on top. Serve with a free salad.

## OUTSIDE u3a

A new [artisan market](#) opens in Dorchester on 28th April from 10 'til 3 in Brewery Square and the surrounding streets, and then every month on the 4th Saturday until November, with over 200 stalls and live music to boot.

If we do get some bright, dry walking days soon, maybe head out to see the world renowned Himalayan rhododendrons and azaleas in bloom at [Minterne Gardens](#) near Dorchester,



amongst the spring flowers, along the glorious horseshoe-shaped walk below the house and head to the cafe for hot drinks with cake or light lunches.

At [Abbotsbury sub-tropical gardens](#), originally established by the first Countess of Ilchester in 1765 as a kitchen garden, this month the 20 acre garden is renowned for its camellias and magnolias. The Colonial restaurant, plant centre and gift shop satisfy the shopaholics too

[Barrington Court](#) at Ilchester is renowned for its apples, and the 150 different types of apple here will soon be bursting into bloom, but the spring bulbs are pretty spectacular too! Daffodils line

the avenue and in the orchards, together with primroses, crocuses, scillas, aconites, giant fritillaries and tulips popping up all over the place. The cafe, shop, artisan workshops and Book Barn are with a visit too.

At [Dorset Museum](#) in Dorchester April is the last opportunity to visit the Elisabeth Fink exhibition which closes on 21st April. On 18th April there is a lecture by Sophie Adams about the Chettle Grave Group, all items made locally and discovered in Chettle park.

Did you keep a [scrapbook](#) when you were younger, or maybe still do? I enjoyed seeing these stage ones with an insight into different times.



The [Claude glass](#) is said to have helped transform how the British thought about landscapes, while causing a few accidents on the way. This article is an interesting insight into a gadget I knew nothing about.

A follower (but not slave to) [fashion](#), I have a keen interest in the unusual, and this is often sparked during 'awards season'. This year the Grammys gave us Miley Cyrus' amazing dress made of 14,000 safety pins which took 675 hours of craftsmanship.

In these times of fake news, misinformation and unchecked social media, it was good to read an article to remind us that [correlation is not causation](#).

***ANSWERS TO JUST FOR FUN***

1. Saccharin
2. Phyllis
3. Vindaloo
4. Carbon Dioxide
5. Albumen
6. Coffee shop
7. Kent
8. Red Bull
9. Bread & cakes
10. Creme de cassis (blackcurrant)

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.

**Until next month**

**Stay safe**

**Bridport U3A Committee**

***CONTACT US***