

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Firstly, I should like to welcome two new appointees to committee roles. Marilyn Stevens, who was on the committee without portfolio, has now become Vice Chair. John Tassell has taken over from Tony Dix as Webmaster. Many thanks to Tony for his sterling service and for agreeing to support John when necessary.

I was very pleased with the success of the Open Day last month. It was good to see so many group leaders and ordinary members. It was also gratifying that we were able to recruit 22 new members. My thanks to the committee and all who helped with the event.



I am now looking forward to the Christmas quiz. Questions are being compiled and I am sure we will have a great afternoon.

This will be on the 19th Dec., and we will have teams of 4-6 members. If you are able to organise a team in advance, that would be helpful although anyone arriving without a team will be allocated to one. Please arrive punctually ready for a 2pm start. Prizes will be awarded and there will be festive refreshments.

## **PUB NIGHT!**

The next date for our informal Pub Night is the 14th Nov at 6pm. These events have been increasing in popularity, with 20 members enjoying 2hrs of convivial chat and laughter

last time. A range of beverages is available and food is also served.

Members are reminded that the subscription for our u3a will be raised to £20 per year from April 2024. Unlike some other local u3as we do not charge extra for the Monthly Meeting and refreshments. Amazingly, the subscription has been unchanged since the foundation of our u3a in 2010, and I am sure you will agree that membership is excellent value.

Kind Regards

*Alastair*

## GROUP NEWS



Now that the weather is curtailing some activities it is time to pursue new interests and activities. If there is a group you wish to join, you can call **Alison on 07961333857** and I will put you in touch with the group leader.

If you love visiting Italy and want to build confidence in speaking Italian then consider joining the Italian Improvers group which has just started. Contact Jenny Malyon on [italian2@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:italian2@bridportu3a.org.uk) Maybe your travels go further afield and you may enjoy sharing your experiences in the new Travellers' Tales group starting on Monday 14th November. Contact [groups@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@bridportu3a.org.uk)

Autumn walks can be lovely if you wrap up warm so we are starting a new walking group on Tuesday 28th November. The first walk will be local. Meet in the football ground carpark at 10am and we will be back in Bridport by 1pm so you don't miss the monthly talk. Contact [groups@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@bridportu3a.org.uk)

All the details of groups are on our website but if you are not confident accessing it you can get help from our IT self-help group. They can help navigate your way through apps and devices so you don't miss out. Email [itselfhelp@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:itselfhelp@bridportu3a.org.uk)

And 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)

## GROUP SPOTLIGHT



Some members have expressed an interest in the proposed **Shanty Group**. Bridport has always been a seafaring town and the singing of traditional sailors' songs is part of our cultural heritage. I am doing some research on Sea Shanties at present with a view to a possible launch date in the New Year. If you would like to add your name to the list of possible Shanty singers, please email Alastair ([chair@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@bridportu3a.org.uk)).

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.

**At our 28th November meeting we will hear from Co-op Legal Services about 'Protecting the Family Nest Egg'.**

**Our December meeting will be our popular Christmas Quiz on 19th December.**

## JUST FOR FUN



With the weather impacting many of us in recent weeks, this month the quiz is all about weather.

1. Who was the UK's longest serving female weather forecaster, appearing on TV for 24 years, from 1990 to 2014?
2. What number is a violent storm on the Beaufort scale?
3. What line on a weather map connects points of the same atmospheric pressure?
4. Which of these cities gets the most rainfall per year: Tokyo, London, Chicago or Rome?
5. Which type of electromagnetic radiation from sunlight is a principal source of vitamin D?
6. What name is given to an area of high pressure which brings long periods of settled weather?
7. A hurricane is a storm which exceeds which speed: 74mph, 94mph, 114mph?
8. The Bayeux Tapestry depicts a man installing a rooster weathervane on which building?
9. In which direction does a katabatic wind blow?
10. Which slang term for a tornado is also the title of a 1996 film?

## MONTHLY LIMERICK CHALLENGE

### 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 lady from Skye,  
Who loved a jolly good fry.  
She drowned it, of course,  
With oodles of sauce.  
Put on weight but couldn't say why!  
(RS)*

*There was a young lady from Skye,  
The glamorous Rosie Mc.Aye.  
A Scots folk song singer,  
A four-star humdinger.  
A joy to the ear and the eye.  
(CG)*

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

**"There was an old man from Surrey"**

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

## 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](#). 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.

## U3A DIARIES

Available to buy from the u3a website, but a minimum order of 5 is required. Alternatively member Sylvia Henry has three spare, at a cost of £4.50 each, and collection/delivery to be arranged. Call Sylvia on 01308426581 or email [henryands@btinternet.com](mailto:henryands@btinternet.com)

## 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. Please note, we may use photographs from the newsletter on our website. Please advise if you do not want this to happen.

*This month's photo is of the Harvest Festival in St Giles' Church in Chideock by Jennifer Tett, who created the beautiful floral arrangement.*





**OUTSIDE u3a**

**Autumn walks with pitstops**, for when the weather improves! Following on from last month's talk, [Stourhead Gardens](#) has a footpath that takes you all around the lake in a leisurely hour or so, allowing time to peer into the delightful follies. Other walks through the grounds will take you to the 160ft King Alfred's Tower, with spectacular views from the top. Lots of refuelling options include The Spread Eagle pub and panini parlour in crenelated former stables near the garden entrance, a National Trust cafe by the car park, and the Alpine Coffee Co in the forest near King Alfred's Tower

A one hour walk takes you to [Will's Neck](#) (but not Will), the highest point in the Quantock hills, starting and finishing at The Rising Sun in West Bagborough, which has a reputation for good food

At [Kingston Lacey](#) a moderate 4 mile walk will take you around the network of



droves, along the magnificent Beech Avenue with their rich red leaves (if they have'nt all blown away!) and around the edge of National Trust's Kingston Lacey parkland in around an hour and a half. Head back into Wimborne to the Ancient White Hart, former stables, cells, and abattoir – but don't let that put you off lunch.

Or over in North Devon, visit one of my favourite places at [Porlock](#). In just over 4 miles you can take in Porlock Bay, the wooded hills above, and the marshy pastures above. The poet Samuel Coleridge who lived nearby at Nether Stowey often strolled around Porlock with his mate Willam Wordsworth, and I have sighted several current-day famous faces in The Ship Inn on the beach.

Or try some real [ice skating rinks](#), including the UK's largest undercover winter ice rink with Christmas rides, festive food, and Pippen the Penguin, from Tuesday 7th November to Sunday 7th January at Icescape at Tropicana in Weston-Super-Mare.

Or how about a shop and skate combo? At [Clarks Village](#) in Street, the undercover rink in the grounds of the Alfred Gillett Trust with penguin and seal skating aids and bob skates to keep you steady. Then shop at 90 designer and high street brands with up to 60% of RRP, and a number of food outlets on site. From Thursday November 9th to Sunday January 7th.



One of the venues for band [Show Of Hands](#)' final tour is here in Bridport at the Electric Palace on Friday 17th November.

[electricpalace.org.uk](http://electricpalace.org.uk) or for other venues around the south west [showofhands.co.uk](http://showofhands.co.uk)

Being a fan of quizzes, I am interested in the show [Quiz: the Coughing Major Millionaire Scandal](#), which stars Rory Bremner as Chris Tarrant uncovering new evidence. It is time to 'ask the audience' to put hands on buzzers and ask the ultimate 50/50 question: guilty or not guilty? At Bath's Theatre Royal from Monday 20th November until Saturday 25th November.

With the demise of the **Sunday Lunch** Group, it is maybe time to suggest some places renowned for their Sunday lunches.



[The Acorn Inn](#) at Evershot, a former coaching inn midway between Dorchester and Yeovil, is a charming country pub. Starters include braised pig cheek and black pudding, or broccoli and Dorset Blue Vinny Cheese soup. The

deserts are renowned and not without calories!

The [Three Horseshoes at Burton Bradstock](#) is a local thatched pub, using the best local produce. Starters include smoked haddock chowder, Frito miso and baked Somerset camembert. A short walk to Hive beach will help to work off some calories after.

[The Queen's Arms at Corton Denham](#) on the Somerset/Dorset border, formerly a Georgian coaching inn, attracts an eclectic crowd, including (gasp) young people, with traditional roast and all the trimmings, and a good wild mushroom and nut roast alternative.



[Dorchester Museum's](#) programme is winding down now, and there is just one talk in November. Richard Osgood is an archaeologist with the MOD, heading up Operation Nightingale, which is a programme to assist the recovery of military personnel using archaeology. His talk is entitled 'Several Months in the Country' and looks at some of the major projects and findings, on 16th November at 7pm.

If you are flying abroad soon, perhaps best not to read this article entitled ['No One Can Explain Why Planes Stay In The Air'](#) from the Scientific American, which I found fascinating and disturbing in equal measure.

## ANSWERS TO JUST FOR FUN

1. Sian Lloyd
2. 11
3. Isobar
4. Tokyo
5. Ultraviolet radiation
6. Anticyclone
7. 74mph
8. Westminster Abbey
9. Down a slope
10. Twister

## CONTACT US

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