

JUNE NEWSLETTE



• CHAIRMAN'S NOTES •

The lockdown continues and for us oldies there doesn't seem to be an end to it. However, the committee have continued having Zoom meetings, both 'official' & keeping in touch. Feel free to email me if you would like to join us in one of our keeping in touch meetings, to see how we act in them. We promise to be good!

There's still no change to all our face-to-face events being cancelled. However, some Interest Groups have been using Zoom & other similar apps to continue to meet, albeit virtually. See page 3 for what they've been getting up to.

We will be sending out the AGM papers before too long. Note that a quorum for an adjourned AGM is the same as a quorum for a committee meeting, which is three. We will endeavour to give members a say, but it would have to be by email.

Emails & letters have gone out for subscription renewals, so we look forward to you renewing your subscription.

Take care, stay safe

Malcolm

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COFFEE MORNINGS

Why not have a coffee at home this month – phone a U3A friend & chat along....try out a group chat on Skype, Zoom, or WhyPay

Or just send a smoke signal!



• Editorial •

Welcome to the June Newsletter, yet again it reinvented itself a few times. Not helped by the meerkats sabotaging my computer mouse....

But what fantastic content gathered in from so many! Take your time, may take a few days to peruse. Its a temporary Lockdown response.

There's news from the conveners about how their groups are keeping in touch with each other.

There's three Quiz Masters! Mike got the ball rolling with his cryptic quiz back in the April Newsletter. See the back pages for his last quiz & for who's stepped into his shoes – I think that's one shoe each.

There's an Index. Wherever you see bright blue text, clicking on it should take you to somewhere, & clicking on the blue arrow on top right hand corner should bring you back to this page.

The Writing for Pleasure Group have shared their creative output with us. I didn't want the burden of selection, so have put all their wonderful work in.

There are no printed copies available except to the few members who do not have online access. I recommend online printers given on [page 9](#). Hopefully local printshop Higgs will re-open soon.

Do send any contributions through your group convener or direct to me.

Enjoy !

Sarah Boyt Robinson

newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org

P.s Click on the meerkats above to find out more.....



OUTINGS

All Outings cancelled until further notice. Watch this space.

From Mike Sedman: Isle of Wight Trip

Unfortunately we have to advise that the visit to the Isle of Wight due to take place on the 14th July has been cancelled by Blue Funnel Cruises. We were to have cruised over to the Isle of Wight mid-morning & then enjoyed a coach trip round the island, with a stop for lunch at Shanklin village, another brief visit to Cowes & a return journey on the boat with afternoon tea. Needless to say we will be looking very carefully to see whether Blue Funnel plan to do the same thing next year.

At the time of writing the future does not look bright for the travel industry & as you know Shearings, one of our largest coach & hotel operators has gone in to liquidation, the airlines are

all struggling, & hotels & restaurants are not yet open. Also organisations such as the National Trust are in desperate trouble.

It appears that we will have challenges arranging any visits in the near future, particularly taking into account social distancing issues.

Please rest assured that the outings committee is still planning things for next year & you never know, there are still six months of this year left.

Mike



MARK'S LOCAL PHOTOS

More from our roving photographer Mark Robinson



Where is this?
(Identifying features removed)

And where are the three below? (Answers next month)



Antiques	<i>Carole Johnson</i>
Art/Painting	<i>Angie Thorrington</i>
Craft	<i>Angie Thorrington</i>
Book Group 1	<i>Sue Taylor</i>
Book Group 2	<i>Di Young</i>
Book Group 3	<i>Sheila Findlay</i>
Book Group 4	<i>Dee Clarke</i>
Book Group 5	<i>Sue English</i>
Music Broader	<i>Val Wolsey</i>
Music Classical 1	<i>Mike Sedman</i>
Music Classical 2	<i>John Cozens</i>
Singing for Fun	<i>Helen Fitcher</i>
Ukulele	<i>Paul Booker (temp)</i>
Photography 2	<i>Sylvia Harrison</i>
Photography 3	<i>Malcolm Brooks</i>
Play Reading	<i>Philippa Davies</i>
Poetry Reading	<i>Jill Cooney</i>
Writing for Pleasure	<i>Ros Stayne</i>

Current Affairs 1	<i>Trudy Davies</i>
Current Affairs 2	<i>Val Mowlam</i>
Seminar	<i>Gloria Hamilton-Peach</i>
Science	<i>Philippa Cullen</i>
French 1	<i>Janet Franklin</i>
French 2	<i>Susan Renn</i>
Latin for Pleasure	<i>Roger Morgan</i>
Spanish Improvers	<i>Val Mowlam</i>
Genealogy 1	<i>Linda Matthews</i>
Genealogy 2	<i>Mary Cozens</i>
History 1	<i>Ted Nelson</i>
History 2	<i>Patricia Shields</i>
History 3	<i>Colin Clarke</i>
History 4	<i>Jenny Potter</i>
History 5	<i>Ray Verral</i>
Writing Life History	<i>Margaret Pritchard</i>
iPad Users 1	<i>Sheila Findlay</i>
iPad Users 2	<i>Carol Chaplin</i>
Mac Users	<i>Ann Truesdale</i>

Badminton	<i>Hilly Bailey</i>
Pétanque	<i>Loren Butt</i>
Cards Bridge 1	<i>Sheila Findlay</i>
Cards Canasta	<i>Hilly Bailey</i>
Cards Cribbage	<i>Joyce Kent</i>
Cards Euchre	<i>Hilly Bailey</i>
Scrabble 1	<i>Sarah Masters</i>
Scrabble 2	<i>Veve Hadley</i>
Birdwatching 1	<i>Rosemary Garner</i>
Birdwatching 2	<i>Pam Johnstone</i>
Garden Visits	<i>Not confirmed</i>
Lunch Club	<i>Rosemary & Tony Hines</i>
Sunday Lunch Club	<i>Ken Gough</i>
Shorter Walking	<i>Paul Booker</i>
Rambling	<i>Phil Richardson</i>
Moderate 1	<i>Julia West</i>
Moderate 2	<i>Julia West</i>
Longer Walking	<i>Julia West</i>



INTEREST GROUP NEWS

All Interest Groups face-to-face contact is cancelled until further notice.

However, many Groups are keeping in touch with each other by all means electronic.

Below is a round-up of how they are doing. Thank you to conveners for doing this & big congratulations to the two who have welcomed new grandchildren into this brave new world.

From Angie Thorrington:

To all members of the Art/Painting Group & the Craft Group... hope you have all managed to stay well & are keeping busy. Have missed seeing you all & look forward to the time we can all meet up again. Stay safe & keep on keeping on...love...xx

From Roger Morgan:

Our Latin group has, I'm afraid, gone into pause mode, apart from some sporadic communication. However, stimulated by the actions of others, I'll see if I can generate some interest in a Zoom meeting this week - we're a small enough group for that to not to be unwieldy!

From Di Young:

Bookgroup 2 is alive & active. We are still following our programme of books & each month several members write their personal review of that month's book. We circulate these thoughts via email. On our usual meeting day we discuss the book via Zoom. (We had a rocky start but now experts!) This month was The Music Shop by Rachel Joyce.

A quote from Audrey Maples:

"In some ways it is apt that we are reading this now when so many small businesses will be under threat & our High Street will change just as Unity Street does in this book. Frank, the main character, & his fellow shop owners are a mixed bunch, each with their own troubles & loneliness. Frank & his music are interwoven very skilfully into the story & some readers may enjoy this aspect as much as the story itself"

Next month each member is choosing a poem & we will discuss our reasons for our choice. If anyone wants a list for further Summer Reading, the suggestions are on page xxx

Birdwatching 2: Ok here but nothing to report , all on hold.

From Linda Matthews:

For June our Genealogy group have the topic: 'What killed our ancestors?'

From Loren Butt:

The Petanque Group is poised to restart when allowed.

From Sue Taylor:

Nothing further to add from Book Group 1 as you already have our reading list. We did have a successful online Zoom meeting last month which we all enjoyed - & laughed about everyone's haircut (or not!) sagas.....!

From Sylvia Harrison:

Photo 2 Group have just been sharing a few photos each month with each other to keep in touch. We have no topics but just send some photos taken recently showing we're still thinking of each other.

From Patricia Shields:

History Group 2 has met on line twice this month, the first to share memories/thoughts on VE Day from the point of view of the children we were at the time & stories from our parents. Two weeks later Robert gave his presentation "How To Look at a Painting" planned for our last meeting before the lockdown, we shall all spend more than a few seconds looking at a painting in the future. Our next Zoom meeting will be Annette's talk on English rivers then we plan to decide on a historical TV program available to all for discussion later in the month. It is good to get together again if only remotely.

From Pam Johnstone:

From Dee Clarke:

Our book for June 11th will be "Coming Up for Air" by George Orwell. We are having a Zoom meeting.

From Jill Cooney:

I have been having Zoom meetings with four members of the Poetry reading group which we all really enjoy. We meet up weekly as opposed to our usual monthly get together & agree that this gives us a focus & we usually manage at least three poems each. I would like to say 'Hello' to the other members of the group & we are all looking forward to catching up with you soon.

From Ann Truesdale:

Mac Users: I have nothing to add this month. With such wonderful weather but lack of rain, watering the garden is taking me over at the moment. Feel very lucky to have a garden during this time.

From Susan Renn:

French 2 is still alive & well & meeting by Zoom twice a month, & has even welcomed a new member.

From Rosemary Garner:

Birding 1 don't really have anything to report apart from we let one another know if we see any interesting birds. We have started to think about our next programme as the current one expires in July, no meeting in August, so we are thinking about the year beginning (hopefully) in September. Watch this space...

From Carole Johnson:

Antiques 1: The May Quiz was based on advertising slogans (in lieu of a visit to an exhibition on "The Art of Advertising" at the Weston Library in Oxford - sadly cancelled for obvious reasons). This involved 25 slogans, some going way back to the 1930s, and one couple in our group returned a score of 19 out of 25! This month I hope to try something slightly different - still devising that one!

From Ray Veral:

Some of our History 5 group have taken an optimistic view by continuing their research on their chosen subjects. We had a suggestion for a Zoom discussion which would be focusing on one specific topic, which we are still considering.

From Carolyn Newbert:

Lots from the Writing for Pleasure group. There has been an outpouring of creativity. See [page 5](#)

From Colin Clarke:

(History 3) We are enjoying the lovely sun & the garden. We have let the grass grow to encourage the wild life & have seen many more species of butterfly & bees. We have also seen the return of the hedgehogs & numerous birds including a pair of Dunnocks mating. there seem to be more rooks & crows about but our best sighting was a Peregrine Falcon on our roof in St Nicholas Road! We had 4 sightings of it before it moved on. It is so nice to be able to sit in the garden and enjoy the quite and the wildlife while relaxing with a Gin & tonic or other beverage of choice. Here is my photo of the Peregrine on his last stop on the roof.



From Vee Hadley:

I thought you might like to see the finished Scout pockets & badges cushion I mentioned in last newsletter. I'm told my son-in-law is putting little Scout related items in the pockets!



From Helen Fletcher:

(Singing for Pleasure) I've been singing along with Gareth Malone at 5:30 every weekday. We've been doing Vivaldi's Gloria, amongst other things - very uplifting. I hope the potential Ukulele group members have been practising! I played along to my neighbours' rendition of We'll Meet Again on VE Day - it brought tears to their eyes!

From Paul Booker:

Poetry Group currently meeting weekly via Zoom, will we run out of Poetry to read? History Group, currently meeting fortnightly via Zoom. Next talk by Annette Booker on River Names. Shorter Walking, first route (a new one) planned & ready for the end of Lockdown. Ukekele, would it work via Zoom?

From Joyce Kent:

The Cribbage group have some members who are still playing Cribbage on Monday mornings thanks to Hilly who sets up the games on Zoom. Is it straight forward? NO!! I see & hear everyone clearly but no one hears me so I have to phone a friend on Whatsap & she puts the phone on speaker & points it in the right direction so I can be heard. We occasionally get locked out or frozen & regularly get confused but we manage two games & still have fun. Will we be pleased when we are back to normal? YES YES YES

From Janet Chaplin:

French Conversation 1 had another amusing Zoom session. We were entertained by Myron's recorder selection, useful to be in situ rather than having to carry all number of different models for our delectation. On the subject of models Mike played us the soundtrack of his model railway from his garden. All have been very inventive in keeping us amused. Jill, also of the poetry group, read us a very relevant poem entitled "Le Temps" which mentions that when a child asks for a little time you have all the time in the world. Many congratulations to Dee in our group who is just a new grandparent & will understand this all too well. Also we want is to bathe ourselves in good times - let the good times roll again! I found all this very uplifting and think that's what we all need at the moment. The poem is on [page 7](#), for anyone who may be interested in spending time translating these gems, even if not part of our little fun group.

From Julia West:

Nothing much to report from Moderate 1 & Longer Walking groups. We take part in 'sightings', i.e. sending photos of things we see on our individual walks or in our gardens.

From Phil Richardson:

I have sent the members of the Rambling Group "virtual" walks to keep them interested. Individuals can follow them if they wish but with no pub at the end! The walks are 5-6 miles. OS maps are indicated & the route described together with particular points of interest. The walks are based on those which one might have done if only



Locked Inside of Cholsey

by John Lyon

Day 31 of our purdah, in these unprecedented times, and we seem to be managing quite well. Today was a golden day, the sun filtering through light clouds. We sat in the garden reading, dozing, admiring the gently sweeping tendrils of our doomed willow (small benefit of the lockdown the willow has been reprieved until the all clear) and wondering if it might be time for tea. We are suffering, or perhaps, luxuriating in seeping indolence.

We tend not to set the alarm anymore, so we drift down around nine. The paper has been stopped so we iPad it, still reading all the dire news we said we would not, an addiction we can't break (although we have stopped watching the news, far too depressing) Then we shower and dress, and suddenly its coffee time! Next I try to do a job that has been hanging around, the handle on the wardrobe door, little weeds growing in the cracks of the patio, nothing too strenuous. This brings us to lunch, salad and fruit. We are working our way through a book of "quick crosswords" and yesterday we did two during the course of the meal! After we have washed up, in recent times, we have been taking our leisure in the garden. I am trying to read the books that should be read. I got half way through Madam Bovary. Was there a film of this? Anyway I know the end, and after what I am sure, must be very erudite prose, I gave up. I don't need help in dropping off, so after I wake up it is time for our walk. This is the difficult part of our day, all our usual walks seem to be full of young families walking, replete with bouncing kids and dogs, and no room for "social distancing" So, we walk the village. There are no commuter cars parked for the day. Hardly any moving cars. When we see anyone approaching, and especially if we know them we cross the road, and we are being polite!

So, we have settled into a routine. We know we are privileged by our age, we get fresh food delivered to our door, we get wine and chocolate, we bake cakes, and then we walk it all off on a walking machine, if we don't feel like venturing out. We are like the siblings of the Sultan banged up in the Topkapi Palace, and outside the turbulent world goes on. Death tolls increasing on a scale hard to comprehend, and even harder to make sense of people going to parks to enjoy the sunny weather. It must be hard to live in a flat at the moment, but why is the seriousness of the situation still beyond some peoples grasp?

Can we now assume the NHS will now be funded to the same level it was before "austerity", when we get back to normal? I think our leader a few weeks back referred to this as a war. Well, when it is all over and we revert to what passes for normal, cenotaphs should be set up across the land to remember those who gave up their lives so others could live.

I think perhaps, dear fellow scribes I should stop. My apologies for being unable to get to grips with our chosen titles, and I leave you with something I noticed in today's paper.

The five countries with the least deaths
are all headed by women.

That Sinking Feeling

by Carolyn Newbert

Sleepless and wakesome, a feeling of
Impending doom
Not knowing why.
Keen-edged, needle-pointed
Imaginings flying through my mind.
Never justified but
Gnawing at my brain in the small hours.

My Favourite Place

by Vee Hadley

My favourite place is in my mind
I can go forward or rewind
Dreams come true and wishes granted
My life indeed can be enchanted

I can be Prime Minister
Or even something sinister
Like working deep in M15
Skirting danger to survive

And if I ever feel inclined
To have a go on Mastermind
My knowledge will be unsurpassed
My answers accurate and fast

My way with words is always thrilling
History, romance or even chilling
Masterpieces of suspense
My reading public quite immense

I've been a Grand Slam winner
I've entertained the Queen to dinner
I've sky-dived not just once, but twice
In Las Vegas I have lucky dice

There is nothing that I cannot do
Musician, artist, actor too
I never have to wonder whether
I can get myself together

And once I've had my share of fame
And everything remains the same
I walk the dog to canine training
And thank the gods if it's not raining.



William and the New Sledge

by Ros Stayne

William was in disgrace, a disgrace so deep he thought it probable he would never get out of it. He imagined a dark swampy hole in which he floundered with just his tousled head sticking out.

Christmas seemed an age away. What a glorious Christmas it had been, one of the very best, and when he had torn the wrappings from his parents' present to him his joy had rendered him almost inarticulate. Not completely though – William was a most articulate boy. A beautiful sledge had emerged from the wrappings with blue painted runners and shiny wooden seating slats. William's thanks to his parents had been heartfelt and sincere. The only trouble was that there was no snow on Cow Hill and so no opportunity to try it out. There had been a cold snap after Christmas which held out some promise but although the village pond froze over, still there was no snow.

The Outlaws, Ginger, Henry and Douglas, knocked on William's door one frozen morning. Ginger had a pair of old ice skates draped about his neck. "Coming skating, William?" he asked.

"I don't have any skates." replied William morosely. "I dunno what folks have to do to get skates around here, but I don't have any. Ethel's got some, but she won't lend 'em to me."

"You can have a go of mine," said Ginger generously. "We'll all take turns."

And a morning of bliss and pain was spent by the four of them as they slid and fell on the pond until the cold drove them homewards with agreement to meet there the next day.

William however was not satisfied with only getting one go in four and crept out of the house the following morning with his sister Ethel's skates hidden under his coat. His feet were large and Ethel's were small, and by stuffing socks into the toes he managed to get them on and laced up. The Outlaws became more proficient at staying upright that morning and were pleased with their progress until William's exuberant hubris sent him head over heels into a prickly bush with his legs in the air. When he was upright again he was appalled to see that he had broken one of the blades on Ethel's skates; skating was at an end, and also probably pocket money for the foreseeable future.

Ethel's fury filled the house. "Look what he's done, father!" she cried. "The little beast! Reggie Taylor had invited me to join a skating party at their house this afternoon with a bonfire and fireworks afterwards. And now I can't go!" And she ran, wailing, out of the room.

Nemesis caught up with William in the shape of a session of prolonged contact with his father's slipper, a withholding of (as he had foreseen) pocket money for three months, and an embargo on his leaving the house for a week.

Time dragged for William. Essentially he was an outdoor sort of boy and he seldom spent time in the house. He slouched about from room to room trying to find things to do. "Stand up straight, William!" commanded his mother whenever she saw him. And then, on the third day of his imprisonment, he had an idea.

When the adults were out one afternoon he created a sledge-run down the stairs. He dragged Ethel's mattress to lie lengthwise from the landing to the dogleg, and his own he placed from the dogleg to the hall. He then sat on his sledge at the top of the mattress-run and let go. His parents came home to a staircase with several balustrades missing or broken, a newel post with a large chunk taken out of it, and William lying dazed on the hall floor.

The retribution falling on William's head as a result of this escapade is too painful to relate, and at the end of the day the sledge was taken into custody in his father's study and William went to bed supperless and friendless.

All that night the snow fell, and the Brown family woke to a strange and magic white landscape; buildings were covered with soft white curves, the birds were silent, the light was clear and the sun shone brightly, creating deep shadows by trees and fences.

After a breakfast during which none of his family spoke to William, there came a knock at the door. Mr Brown went to answer it and looked with disfavour upon Ginger who stood on the front steps clutching his sledge. "I'm going sledging on Cow Hill" he said breathlessly, "Can William come?"

William was standing behind his father, who turned to look at him, a tart reply at the ready.

William stood looking mutely up at him, his whole soul in his eyes.

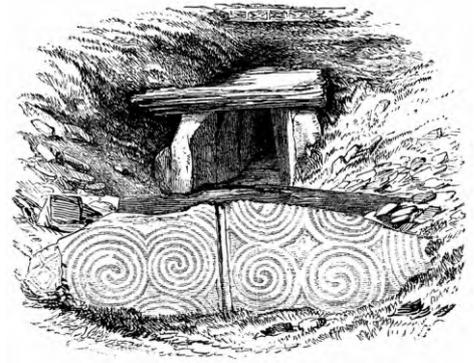
To a British gentleman the inalienable right of every boy in the land, whatever his misdemeanours, to ride his sledge down a snowy hill when one fortuitously becomes available is as powerful as the Magna Carta, and Mr Brown, gazing back at his son, hesitated and was lost. He went to his study, brought out the sledge and nodded curtly to William. William's face shone with joy; he grabbed the sledge and ran. "Don't..." his father started to say, but William was already halfway down the garden path whooping and shouting, his coat half off and his scarf flying out behind him.



First Light by Janet Sharpe

(Inspired by the Neolithic passage grave at Newgrange, Ireland)

Under this earthen mountain built by the gods,
A cosmic egg artfully crafted in rare symmetry
Girdled and guarded by sun-spiralled boulders,
A dark stone-lined passageway through a narrow entrance leads
Straight as a die to the dwelling of the Ancestors.
In the gathering gloom I am led through the portal.



I am the Chosen One, why I cannot tell.
The old priest urges me onwards with a guttering flame
By massive walls smooth with the passage of time,
I walk into eternity to meet the Ancestors.
My vigil begins before a sun-spiralled pillar.
The door rumbles shut and darkness descends to cloak me.

The Ancestors whisper, blood beats in my head.
How long I stand I do not know, faltering with the cold.
Then so suddenly it comes: a shaft of light
Pierces my body so the crops will grow, the flocks bear young.
It is the first light of the winter solstice sunrise.
The world turns on its axis, the symmetry runs true.

FRENCH 1 Le Temps

On dit que le temps arrange tout, il suffit de l'attendre.
Mais qu'il est donc lent, le temps de l'attente.
L'attente de l'ami, qu'on a pas vu depuis longtemps.
L'attente des secours, quand survient l'accident.
L'attente de la guérison, quand s'éternise la souffrance.
L'attente du soleil, quand tarde le printemps.
L'attente de la compassion, quand dure l'indifférence.
L'attente du pardon, pour une lointaine offense.

Pourtant, il suffit qu'on l'oublie, le temps.
Quand arrive l'ami qu'on attendait depuis longtemps.
Que se réveillent les souvenirs d'antan.
Et qu'on déroule les histoires du bon vieux temps.
Il en profite pour nous échapper et galoper, le temps.
Et quand vent le temps d'aller voir où en est le temps,
On s'aperçoit qu'il a filé comme le vent, le temps.
Et qu'on ne peut le rattraper, le temps.

On a parfois envie de l'emprisonner dans les bons moments.
Mais lent ou rapide, on ne peut l'arrêter de passer, le temps.
Puis quand vient le temps de disposer de notre temps,
On voudrait arrêter, histoire de regarder passer le temps.
Mais on se lasse vite à ne faire que regarder passer le temps.
Alors on proposera à un ami, à qui il ne reste que peu de temps,
De l'accompagner jusqu'au bout de son temps.
On répondra à l'enfant qui nous demande un peu de temps.
Que pour lui on a tout notre temps.
En espérant que, quand il nous restera que peu de temps,
Quelqu'un aura pour nous, un peu de temps.

Texte de Martial Nouveau

BOOK READING LISTS

Here are the Book Groups' Reading lists drawn together – you are all invited to peruse!
Please do let the Editor know of any recommendations any of you have to go in the next Newsletter

Book Group 1:

A Spark of Light by Jodie Picoult
Bettany's Book by Thomas Kineally
Clock Dance by Anne Tyler
Educated by Tara Westover
Home Fire by Kamila Shamsie
Queenie by Candice Carty-Williams
The Child by Fiona Barton
The Force of Nature by Jane Harper
The Heart's Invisible Furies by John Boyd
The Holiday by Tim Logan
The Testaments by Margaret Atwood



Book Group 2:

A Life of my Own by Claire Tomalin
Accidents in the Home by Tessa Hadley
Pompeii by Robert Harris
The Beekeeper of Aleppo by Christy Lefteri
The Dangerous Edge of Things
by Candida Lycett Green
The Hidden Village by Imogen Matthews
The Music Shop by Rachel Joyce
The Prince of the West End by Alan Isler
The Salt Path by Raynor Winn
Wilding by Isabella Tree

Book Group 3:

Conclave by Robert Harris
Dangerous Crossing by Rachel Rhys
Erubus by Michael Palin
Lie of The Land by Amanda Craig
Once upon a River by Diane Setterfield
Pomfret Towers by Angela Thirkell
Sapiens by Yuval Noah Harari
The Curious Heart of Ailsa Rae by Stephanie Butland
The Great Alone by Kristina Hannah
The Reason to be Cheerful by Nina Stibbe

Book Group 4:

Janice Hadlow, **The Other Bennett Sister**, Pan Macmillan, 2020, (£11.04 at Book Depository)
Peter Frankopan, **The Silk Road : A New History of the World**, Bloomsbury Paperbacks, 2016
Bernardine Evaristo, **Girl, Woman, Other**, now in paperback
Tracy Chevalier, **A Single Thread**, The Borough Press
Donna Leon, **Trace Elements**, in pbk from September 2020
Marlon James, **The Book of Night Women**, One world Publications, 2014
Madeleine Miller, **Circe**, Bloomsbury
Elizabeth Strout, **Olive Again**, pbk in Nov.
Salley Vickers, **Grandmothers**, Viking
Rose Tremain short stories – **The American Lover**, Vintage
Emily Ruskovich – **Idaho**, Vintage
Elizabeth Macneal, **The Doll Factory**, Picador
Linda Grant, **A Stranger City**, Virago pb in June 2020
Nina George, **The Little Paris Bookshop**, Little, Brown
Claire Fuller, **Our Endless Numbered Days**, Penguin
Lindsey Davies, **2 series of Classical Roman Crime** novels.
Simon Barnes, **On the Marsh**, Simon & Schuster Ltd
Deirdre Madden, **Mollie Fox's Birthday**, faber & faber
Hilary Mantel, **The Mirror and the Light**, Fourth Estate
A book for dipping into:
Helen Dunmore: **'Counting Backwards'**
Poems 1975-2017

RESOURCES:

Wallingford Book Shop
is taking orders & can get you just about **any** book you want.

Place order by phone or email & they will post them out to you.

01491 834383
books@wallingfordbookshop.com

Museums and galleries on-line
The Ultimate Guide to Virtual Museum Resources, E-Learning, and Online Collections



RENEWALS

You should all have received a renewal request by now, either by post or email. We would like to remind you that the closing date is still 31st July to enable you plenty of time to make your renewal without putting yourself at risk. Although our activities have been severely curtailed this year we do hope that you will continue to support the group in order that, once life returns to normal, we can **all spring back into action!**

Subscription is £12.50 per person.

Please put your membership number on the back of the cheque or in the BACS payment reference.

Next Newsletter

The **JULY** issue will hopefully be released by
1st July

It will be emailed to you and also put up on our website

www.wallingfordu3a.org

**No deadline for contributions,
just send it in!**

Recommended Printing Services:

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NEW MEMBER ENQUIRIES

If someone asks you about becoming a member, please direct them to
Anna Gordon

membership@wallingfordu3a.org

COMMITTEE 2019-20

Malcolm Brooks - Chairman

Ken Johnstone - Deputy Chairman

Hilly Bailey - Treasurer

Paul Booker - Secretary
& Outings Co-ordinator

Yvonne Griffiths - Groups Co-ordinator

Anna Gordon - Membership Secretary

Jane Milne - Minutes Secretary

Neil Kelly - TVN Representative

Sarah Boyt Robinson - Newsletter
& Communications

Contact by email:

chairman@wallingfordu3a.org

treasurer@wallingfordu3a.org

secretary@wallingfordu3a.org

outings@wallingfordu3a.org

groups@wallingfordu3a.org

membership@wallingfordu3a.org

newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org



THE THIRD AGE TRUST is the national representative body for U3As in the UK
Information on its activities can be found at www.u3a.org.uk and on **FaceBook** 

U3A THAMES VALLEY NETWORK

We are one of thirty-eight U3As within the Thames Valley Network.

The TVN website is <http://u3atvnetwork.org.uk>

Our representative is Neil Kelly who reports:

Most activities are suspended or cancelled but committee meetings are being held on Zoom while the lockdown continues.

This is a list of the current proposals.

2020 25 Sept – Understanding Historic Buildings at Benson

9 Oct – Quiz Day this event is ready for advertising

29 Oct – Beginners Ukulele Day at Benson

6 Nov – Biodiversity and Climate Change day at Benson

20 Nov – Understanding Historic Buildings at Benson

2021 17 Mar – The Thames and its boats at Henley

SE Region Spring Gathering no date

The Thames and its boats – hoping to re-book this day for June 2021

Visit to RHS Wisley postponed to 2021 no date

Cybercrime at Amersham postponed, no date

Generally, original applicants will retain their places where an event has been postponed. Where they have been cancelled cheques have been destroyed.

If you are interested in any of these events keep an eye on the TVN website.



MIKE'S CRYPTIC JUNE QUIZ



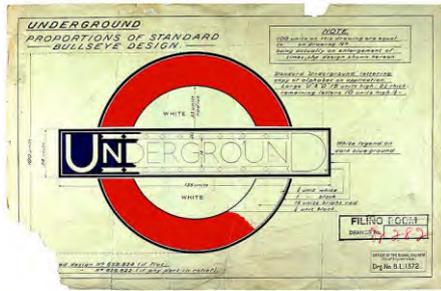
London Underground

All the answers to this quiz are Tube (or DLR) stations.

Have a go and have fun!!
Answers in next newsletter.

This is my last quiz here.
I would like to disappear
into the comforting
shades of oblivion....

All the best
Mike Sedman



1. Lady sheep's weight?
2. Applaud ordinary pig meat.
3. Very, very large.
4. Heavy building material.
5. Leg joint's lair.
6. Home for rabbits?
7. Murder small stream.
8. Vicar's golfing area?
9. Lofty religious building.
10. Male chicken looks after.
11. Headgear worn in a bad mood.
12. May attach a poppy to you.
13. Lords trapped.
14. Nelly plus fortress.
15. Citrus dwelling.
16. Irate monarch.
17. Cattle crossing river under big top.
18. Not round socialite.
19. Created a small valley.
20. Mild road rage on wide street.
21. Lives in heaven.
22. Could have posh tea party here.
23. Tree in second part of bible.
24. Commonwealth country's H20.

Here are the answers
to the **May** Quiz.

1. Winston Churchill
2. Pearl Harbour
3. Dunkirk
4. Berlin
5. Harry Truman
6. Goebbels
7. Spitfire
8. Stalin
9. Operation Overlord
10. Mussolini
11. Doodlebugs
12. Roosevelt
13. Coventry
14. Montgomery
15. Warsaw Ghetto
16. Lancaster
17. Anne Frank
18. Goering
19. Marlene Dietrich

KEN'S GENERAL KNOWLEDGE JUNE QUIZ

And he's back! Your redoubtable Quiz Master Ken.
Answers will be in the July Newsletter.
Ken's online Zoom Quiz is in the offing – watch this space!



1. Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash and who else took part in the "Million Dollar Quartet" session in Memphis in 1956?
2. What name is given to a vertical window and window box that projects from a sloping roof?
3. What is the British equivalent of the German hereditary title Herzog?
4. The abridged memoirs of which former chancellor of the exchequer were published in 2011 under the new title of *Memoirs of a Tory Radical*?
5. Who founded the Methodist movement?
6. The name of which chemical element literally means "light-bearer" or "light-bringing"?
7. Australian wildlife expert Steve Irwin died in 2006 as the result of an attack by which sea creature?
8. "If you really want to hear about it, the first thing you'll probably want to know is where was I born, and what my lousy childhood was like" Is the opening line of which novel?
9. What is the capital of New York State?
10. What was Scotland's first national park, established in 2002?
11. Which country was readmitted to the Commonwealth in February after it quit the organisation in 2016 over criticism of its human rights record?
12. The Villanelle series of novels by Luke Jennings forms the basis for which TV series?
13. What name is given to the technique of seeking underground water sources by observing the motion of a forked stick?
14. Who was the first Roman emperor to become a Christian?
15. Which advertising agency formed by two brothers rose to fame with a "Pregnant Man" ad for the Health Education Council?
16. "I was born in a cross-fire hurricane, and I howled at the morning driving rain" are the opening lines of which Rolling Stone Song?
17. Which two countries share the world's longest land border?
18. What is the highest number on the Richter Scale?
19. In terms of value, which country topped the list of ship-owning nations in 2019?
20. Finally, which French soldier's name came to describe someone who demands complete obedience and is a strict disciplinarian?

Here are the answers to the **May** Quiz:

1. Hippocrates
2. 1993
3. India
4. Australia
5. Fry's
6. Love me tender
7. Pea
8. Green
9. Billy Butlin
10. I'm Sorry, I Haven't A Clue
11. President Rutherford B Hayes
12. Constance Markievicz
She was the Sinn Fein candidate but due to party policy did not take her seat (Nancy Astor was elected in 1919)
13. Peterlee, County Durham
14. Helen Sharman
15. Louis XIV

MALCOLM'S OBSCURE KNOWLEDGE JUNE QUIZ

AKA USELESS INFORMATION

Introducing yet another Quiz Master!
Answers will be in the July Newsletter.



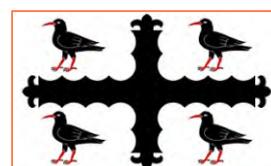
1. What are the thin white lines on the Union Flag called?
2. What is their purpose?
3. Who is the odd one out of these consorts and why? Isabella of Angoulême (King John), Berengaria of Navarre (Richard 1st), Princess Caroline of Brandenburg-Ansbach (George 2nd), Prince Philip (Elizabeth 2nd). NB not gender!
4. What links these four songs? Love minus Zero/No limit (Bob Dylan), Bohemian Rhapsody (Queen), Space Oddity (David Bowie), Darkness and Light (John Legend)
5. Is it possible to see a rainbow which is a full circle?
6. What was unusual about the British Rail Class 50s diesel locos when they were introduced?
7. Captain James T Kirk. What does the T stand for?
8. Ardwick was the original name of which Premier League club?
9. Of the teams which have been crowned champions of the English Rugby Football since its inception in 1987-88, five have only won once. Name them.
10. Who got the first half century in a one day international?
11. Who wrote The Symphony of a Thousand?
12. What's the significance of this window?
13. Where is this?



14. Whose flag?



15. And this flag?



More questions on next page.....

MALCOLM'S
OBSCURE KNOWLEDGE JUNE QUIZ
CONTINUED....



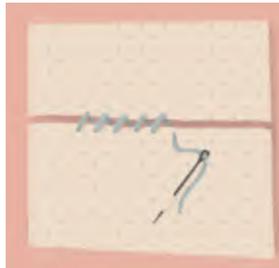
16. Here's a butterfly. What is it?



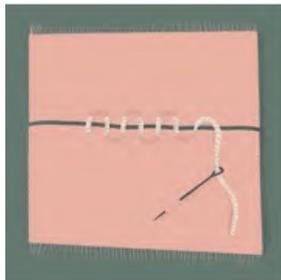
17. What aircraft is this the cockpit of?



18. What sort of stitch is this?



19. And this?



20. And lastly, a knitting stitch?

