

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

First, very many thanks to all of you who attended the SGM on 15th April. We were quorate and the amendment to the Constitution was passed unanimously. We can now legally hold our AGM on Zoom when circumstances make this necessary and those who cannot attend can appoint a proxy. There is a reminder about the AGM on 17th June below. Once again, we shall need a quorum, so please put the date in your diary.

You will also find below a notice about u3a day on 2nd June. Did you know that many people know about the WI, but few know about u3a although, nationally, we have more members than the WI? We need to raise our profile! In view of current restrictions our efforts on u3a day, which is being celebrated by u3as throughout the country, will be modest but anything that you can do to spread the word about us will help, so do join in. I hope to see some of you on the burgundy plaque walk.

Because of the uncertainty about what rules will apply after 21st June, booking premises is no easy matter at the moment. We hope to have more news next month but, for the time being, our talks will continue on Zoom. In the meantime, as you will see, plans for Outings are afoot, and some interesting Events are in the pipeline.

[Eryll Fabian](mailto:eryll.fabian@u3a.org) (01892 513805)



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RE M I N D E R

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Owing to Covid restrictions, the AGM will be held on Zoom (using electronic balloting) on Thursday 17 June 2020 at 2.30pm.

Anyone unable to attend who would like to appoint a proxy should obtain a Proxy Notice from the Hon. Secretary. Proxy Notices must be returned to her at least 21 days before the AGM.

Nominations are sought for the position of **Membership Secretary**.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from our [website](#)

All AGM documentation will be downloadable from our website no later than 27th May, 21 days prior to the meeting, and will be sent to all members before the AGM.

All nominations should be proposed and seconded and sent, together with motions for discussion, to the Hon. Secretary, Fiona Findlay by [email](#) or by post to 12 Faraday Lodge, Badger's Holt, Tunbridge Wells, TN3 3DX no later than 20th May, 2021

(please note that 27th May, the date shown in the April Newsletter, was incorrect)

The AGM will be followed by an illustrated talk by Erik Brown, and members of the Four Seasons Birdwatching Group

We hope as many people as possible can attend in order to form a quorum. Please send apologies for absence to the Hon. Secretary



Look out for these colourful u3a butterflies in town as part of u3a awareness day.

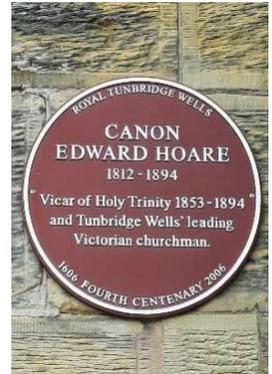




Wednesday 2nd June is u3a day, both locally and nationally

As we are as yet unable to meet in large groups we hope to use the day, or the week, to raise the profile of Tunbridge Wells u3a as well as u3a nationally and to challenge negative perceptions.

- Eryll will be leading a burgundy plaque trail on Wednesday at 10 am – see below..
- We hope your group contacts will encourage you to meet up in small social groups, especially if you have not been able to meet in lockdown.
- Keep a lookout for u3a butterflies fluttering around Tunbridge Wells.



- As it is half term we are organising a 'find Ulysses the u3a rabbit and his friends' treasure hunt around the town (rest assured they will be located in safe locations, not roaming free or eating carrots on street corners)

Last minute additions will be found on our facebook page.

Anything you can do to raise the profile of u3a will help. A poster is at the bottom of the May Newsletter. Why not pass it to a friend, put it in your window, or ask your local shop to display it? Above all, tell your friends about us!

Burgundy Plaque Walk on Wednesday 2nd June

(commemorative plaques in TW are in burgundy, not blue!)

Join Eryll for a leisurely stroll to discover who is recorded on some of the plaques in Tunbridge Wells.

Meet: in the Car Park in Fir Tree Road (near Cricket Club)

Time: 10 am on Wednesday 2nd June

Duration: About 2 hours

Contact: [Eryll Fabian](#) (01892 513805) or turn up on the day. We shall go out in groups of 6 so if you can let me know beforehand, it would be helpful.

If you would like to do the walk on your own, let me know and I will send you a list of the plaques and a suggested route.

Upcoming free talk **Dad's Army** 20th May

Charles Garland was on the staff of the BBC for fifteen years, and is best remembered as assistant to David Croft OBE, (*Dad's Army* et al) and producer of his last sitcom series, *Oh, Doctor Beeching!*

He will be talking about Dad's Army, and how he became involved with the programme. Avoiding dull statistics and re-searchable facts and figures, Charles speaks about the writers, with whom he became close friends during their twenty-five year working relationship, and shares personal anecdotes, not only about Perry and Croft, but about the actors, and their foibles.



Jan Saudek cc commons

**Don't forget to check out the [National u3a website](#).
It's full of gems like this!**

GRINLING GIBBONS: THE MICHELANGELO OF WOODCARVING

The Third Age Trust sent our branch notice of a pre-launch film made of the work of Grinling Gibbons to be shown on 8th April.

There is to be an exhibition in August celebrating the 300th anniversary of Gibbons' death.

We were introduced to the history of the artist, born in Rotterdam, he also had British citizenship. His father was a sculptor and woodcarver working in Holland. At the age of 19 Gibbons travelled to England in the late 1660's. London was being rebuilt after the Great Fire in 1666. The quality of his work earned a commission from King Charles II to carve decorations for Windsor Castle, and over the next 25 years he worked in Whitehall Palace, Hampton Court and Blenheim as well as other parts of the country. He had a workshop with many trainees to carry out the basic design in preparation for his fine work.



"Grinling Gibbons carvings" by [Matt From London](#) is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#)

The film was made in St. James's Church, Piccadilly where the beauty of his work decorates the altar designed by Christopher Wren. Gibbons worked in lime wood, which is perfect for intricate carving, pale in colour and more easily handled. Varnished over the years, it has now been restored to its former colour. The garland looping in a curve over the centre and hanging down on both sides stands out against the dark wood of the panelling. Reminiscent of Dutch Still Life paintings, the detail of layers of flower petals on roses, and other flowers, grapes, shells, birds in nests, foliage, feathers and veins on leaves are depicted as in real life.

Gibbons was also a sculptor and the font carries biblical details symbolic of baptism and a new life.

A very enjoyable hour, I understand the film was only available for a few days, but the church is open every day, well worth a visit.

Irene Dunlop

Walking Back to Happiness with Holly Reynolds

On a warm spring evening in April more than 60 members from u3as in Tunbridge Wells, Faversham, Paddock Wood, Kings Hill, Malling and Eastbourne Meads sat down in front of their screens eagerly anticipating a musical trip down memory lane to recall pop music from the 50's and 60's with singer Holly Reynolds. In pre-covid times Holly performed in panto, musical theatre and toured in live concerts, but tonight - from her kitchen - she took us on a rousing sing-along journey back in time.

She encouraged us to sing along, but sensibly put us all on mute so we sang solo at home. Scrolling up and down on Gallery View I saw many happy faces mouthing the words along with Holly as she zoomed (literally) through songs from Bobby Vee (The Night Has A Thousand Eyes); Dusty



"01 - Dusty Springfield" by Bradford Timeline

Springfield (You Don't Have To Say You Love Me); Carole King (Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?) and other favourites from Helen Shapiro (Walking Back to Happiness), Mary Wells (My Guy) and Susan Maugham (I Wanna Be Bobby's Girl). And when she morphed into the diva Diana Ross for

The Supremes 'Stop In The Name Of Love', many of us could be seen doing the iconic hand moves straight to camera!

Those that wanted to (and could), got up to dance - maybe not around our handbags as we once had done, but around our living

rooms instead. We spotted one lady kicking up a real head of steam bopping away in her kitchen - though she later admitted that the steam had come not from her dance routine but from the iron she was busily using. Some remained seated, swaying to the beat or even doing hand jive. A few of us leapt into action when we heard the first chords of 14 year old Little Eva's 'Locomotion' (though it was more like slow-motion than locomotion).

With only the backscreen of her kitchen and a big old 60's mike as a prop, Holly's rich and versatile voice rocked through the powerful ballads and vocals and managed to transport us away from our own four walls and into another world of our memories - of dance halls and live concerts and a time of youth, fun and freedom. Judging from the hearty applause it seemed we'd all had a really good time and we demanded an encore. Her choice of a finale was Doris Day's 'Que Sera Sera' (What Will Be Will Be), which in these days of covid and uncertainty felt very apt.

If any of you pop/soul fans out there want to hear more about Motown music, know that you are not alone. There is currently a free 4-week online 'History of Motown' course on the [national u3a website](#) and when I

joined the first session there were over 240 participants. Check out the website to catch one of the remaining talks, or for info on lots of other online courses.



"Motown MT-629 - SUPREMES - We Remember Sam Cooke

Mo Shaw

ZOOM HOP PICKING SEMINAR

Its not too late if you would like to come along to the Hop Picking Seminar on **Wednesday 12 May, starting at 10.00 am**. There will be 2 talks with a short coffee break in between.

Please send an email including your full name and telephone number (in case problems arise) as soon as possible to [Jean](#) Brushfield to receive the link. Put HOP PICKING SEMINAR as the title for your email. There will be **no charge** for this event.

Spring Zoom Talks

Bob Slater remains busy organising diverse, interesting and entertaining speakers. Here are the dates to put in your diary. These talks are free of charge but you do need to be on the mailing list.

Please email [Sue Brimlow](mailto:Sue.Brimlow) to be added to the group.

6 th May	Fool's Gold	Dark Light. The story of the disappearance of 3 Lighthouse keepers is told with visuals and live music.
20 th May	Charles Garland	Dad's Army. Charles will be sharing personal anecdotes, not only about Perry and Croft, but about the actors, and their foibles.
3rd June	Kevin Reynolds	Love and War - How we created our garden birds.

Outings Coordinator

I am very pleased and excited to announce that we are restarting our popular monthly outings from July this year.

The first trip will be the rescheduled outing to Anglesey Abbey and Lode Mill on Wednesday 28th July. Existing members that booked this trip last March, have been advised of the new date, as they had already paid for this outing. We have a very limited number of places left, so if any one would like to book this trip you will need to complete the application form at the end of the newsletter, and return the form with your cheque(s) and either a stamped SAE or your email address so I can confirm your place.

For September we have a planned trip to Highclere Castle and gardens: due to having to pay Highclere in advance, I am offering this trip earlier than normal. Please complete the application form at the end of this Newsletter and return the form to me ASAP, cheques will be banked by the end of June. I anticipate this will be a very popular trip so please don't delay in applying for this outing.



"Highclere Castle - Hampshire" by [neilalderney123](#) is licensed under [CC BY-NC 2.0](#)

We have decided to trial stopping at an additional coach stop on our outward journey. This will be the bus stop opposite Sainsburys local on the A26, by popular demand. We normally stop at St Johns church on the way back. So make sure you tick the correct pick up point when you complete your application form.

The August and October trips have been planned but as yet I am unable to confirm with the venues that they will be open. I am sure they will all be opened on the planned date in June, when social distancing measures will be lifted, but we will let you know in good time.

Lastly I look forward to welcoming members on our outings once more.

*[Joan Young](#)
Outings Coordinator*

Groups Coordinator

TW u3a groups.....by the members, for the members.

It is exciting, and a relief, to hear that groups are now able to meet outside. Our thanks to all those group contacts who are motivating their members to get out and see each other again.

Walking and **Sports** groups are meeting regularly. **MOTO**, **Craft Beers**, **Breakfast Brunchers**, and the **Out & About** group have been able to see each other in person. The **High Street Research Project group** has walked along the High Street to begin to gather data that will go into a nationwide report, and the **Bee Walkers** have also begun to record this year's sightings.

The **Four Seasons Birding** Group are sharing some photos from their regular trips out and the **Bus and Train Explorers** have met to work out a programme of trips.

Please keep sending photos of get-togethers so that we can keep our website and facebook page up-to-date.

[Lindsay Hasell](#)

Tech Users Group

Are you having difficulty reading text on your computer or tablet screen?

Perhaps your eyesight is not as good as it used to be. Here are some tips you might like to try to see if they help. (There are plenty of videos on YouTube to guide you through the procedures).

Tip No. 1 - Increase the size of the font and/or images and apps in Windows 10

This is easy to do.

To change your display in Windows 10, select **Start (Windows logo at bottom left of your screen) > Settings (gear wheel symbol) > Ease of Access > Display**. To make only the text on your screen larger, adjust the slider under **Make text bigger**. To make everything larger, including images and apps, choose an option from the drop-down menu under **Make everything bigger**.

To zoom in or zoom out on parts of your screen in Windows 10, use Magnifier. To turn on Magnifier, press the **Windows logo key** and **Plus (+)**. Zoom in by continuing to press the **Windows logo key** and **Plus (+)**. Zoom out by pressing the **Windows logo key** and **Minus (-)**. To turn off Magnifier, press the **Windows logo key** and **Esc**.

Tip No. 2 - Switch between Windows 10 Dark Mode and Light Mode

You may find that Windows Dark Mode (where text is displayed in white on a dark or grey background) makes things even easier to read.

NB You may need to switch to Light Mode, for example when printing an email or a Word document, so that it prints text on a white background rather than the other way round!

Windows 10 provides two colour modes for your desktop: Dark Mode and Light Mode. By default, Windows 10 displays Windows in Dark Mode (Start menu, Taskbar, etc.) and Applications in Light Mode (Application windows, File Explorer, Settings, etc.).

You can switch between Dark Mode and Light Mode using the Personalization setting as follows:

Select **Start (Windows logo at bottom left of your screen) > Settings > Personalisation** (or right click on the desktop and select **Personalise** from the menu) and then click **Colours**.

Click on the "Choose your colour" dropdown menu and select Dark.

This will change both Windows and applications to a dark grey colour scheme. In the same way you can switch back to Light Mode.

In Custom mode from the drop down menu you can choose Light or Dark Mode independently for Windows and applications.

U3A Tech Users Group

Group News —Talks & Walks

The Dambusters Guy Bartlett

Guy's presentation on the Dambusters and 617 squadron was an audio-visual treat with stirring music, videos and interview footage with Barnes Wallis's daughter and the last surviving crew member from the raid.

Guy explained that disrupting Germany's hydro-electric power sources was recognised as the most effective way of hampering their war effort, but the dams were protected by torpedo nets, which meant that conventional bombs would be ineffective. The idea of bouncing bombs was not new, but Barnes Wallis worked tirelessly for a year to test and develop prototypes, until he finally had a design that could achieve the incredible



<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=25101896>

accuracy needed to be effective. Each bomb weighed 10 tons, so the Lancaster bombers had to be modified, losing some of their defensive capabilities.

The height, distance and timing needed were very precise and there was a lot of resistance from the RAF as they thought such accuracy was unachievable. Finally, Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal agreed. 19 planes were modified and Guy Gibson was chosen to lead the operation and pick his crew.

A May date was chosen, when the dams were at their fullest and on the 16th May 1943 the planes took off. 3 had to turn back, 8 were lost and 8 returned. Of the 133 crew that set out, only 77 returned. The Mohne, Eder, and Sorpe dams were attacked and the first 2 were breached. The success of the raid led to a dramatic loss in manufacturing and a £6m repair cost. It was estimated that 7,000 workers were diverted to repair the damage as quickly as possible, which meant resources were taken away from building the 'Atlantic Wall'. No other war operation caused so much damage using so few men and the morale boost to the UK and loss to the Germans was huge.

The bravery of the crew was obvious and Guy Gibson himself, after unsuccessfully delivering his bomb, turned round and joined the second wave, to help deflect enemy gunfire. Barnes Wallis carried on producing new bombs and aircraft, but he always regretted the heavy loss of crew.



Guy Gibson. Royal Air Force official photographer Stannus

Guy then told us about 617 squadron now, flying state of the art 5th generation stealth planes with a radar cross section the size of a golf ball. Their motto is 'Remembering the past, defending the future', which was a fitting conclusion to the talk.

Sue Brimlow

Bruges – it's more than just chocolate

This was a colourfully illustrated, wide-ranging talk that provided an insider's view of the beautiful city of Bruges, in Flanders in north Belgium. Although famous for its chocolate shops Melanie set out to prove that the Gothic city represents more than just this popular delicacy. The importance of Bruges to elements of Flemish culture included its language, lace, cycling — and chips! Bruges became a wealthy medieval port for Europe, that attracted Jan van Eyck and Hans Memling to its Court, but later fell on hard times. The poverty that followed meant that its delightful Gothic buildings fortunately escaped the ravages of the Industrial Revolution thus enabling it to become a draw for travellers from the 1890s to the present day.

The bear is one of the iconic animals of Bruges, adorning many of its gates and buildings. The story goes that two lovers, Judith and Baldwin, fled Bruges because the king disapproved of their liaison. An angry bear blocked their way and the brave Baldwin killed it. He became the first Count of Bruges and used the bear in his coat of arms.

Melanie Gibson-Barton



"bruges ecusson" by badvador59

Virtual walks group

These are the upcoming virtual walks with Caroline Piper. Each walk costs £5 per member and the Walks Group automatically get details of the next walk. To join this group please contact Sue Brimlow by [email](#).

N.B All tours start at 2pm, so members need to log on before that.



Caroline Piper
Blue Badge Tourist Guide
<http://pipertours.com>

Please follow me on
www.facebook.com/pipertours
Or see Tripadvisor for reviews

May: Virtual Day tours

Monday 10th May 11 am - Shakespeare's Stratford. This is the rearranged tour from last month. **Please note the start time.**

Wednesday 26th May – Chelsea; bohemian village on the river

Wednesday 9th June – Wapping; great historical stories and views

Caroline is also repeating some popular earlier tours.

Encore tours:

Monday 24th May - Covent Garden, theatres and markets

Last Month's Walks

Christopher Wren's City of London

We began our fascinating tour at St Magnus the Martyr which is very near to the old London Bridge. It dates back to 1130 and would have been a strategic meeting place for traders and craftsmen because of this position in the city. It was one of the first churches to be burnt in the Great Fire because it is near to Pudding Lane.

The Monument was built by Wren in 1667 to mark the spot where the fire began and used Portland Stone. At 202ft. It was



the tallest building in London for a long time and was designed to carry a telescope in the central tower. St Paul's Cathedral had been totally destroyed. Wren's plans to replace it also used white stone, clear glass in the windows to make a gracious, light space inside. Towers on the west front hold the bells and a colonnaded entrance to the south has a pediment with a statue of a phoenix with RESURGAM above. He compromised his wish to build a dome with the clergy's wish for a spire by putting the spire above the dome. He is buried in the nave but his memorial is the whole magnificent church.

Wren rebuilt 51 of the churches many on difficult sites such a St. Stephen Walbrook. Over the old ruins and a stream running underneath and constrained on both sides by other buildings, Wren built a church flooded with light from the clear large windows just below his dome and above the plain side walls.



Damaged in WWII the nave now has new pews and a central altar by Henry Moore.

Another of Wren's well known churches is St Mary le Bow, named for the bow shaped arches in the Norman crypt which survived the fire. 21 miles away is Highgate where there is a statue of Dick Whittington's cat commemorating the place where, on hearing peals of the Bow Bells, his master turned back to the City to become Lord Mayor. According to Caroline, they can still be heard (when all the modern noises are quiet), thus making her a cockney!

Yvonne Spencer

BOWLS We announced in April that the Grove Bowling Club and Frant Bowls Club have invited TWu3a members along to have a go during their practice sessions. To arrange a visit to The Grove Bowling Club, please contact the Chairman, [Phil Boddy](#) or telephone 01892-513435. If Frant is more convenient, then contact their secretary, [Norman Connolly](#).

Raising our Profile: How every little helps

I went into a shop recently and, while placing an order, I chatted about u3a. When I went to collect my item, the shop manager who had taken great trouble to get me what I wanted, said: "I'd never heard of u3a until you mentioned it the other day, but last night I noticed a reference to u3a somewhere else". He would not have noticed it at all if we had not been chatting – so please keep on spreading the word!

Eryll Fabian



From the u3a National Website

Sue Stokes, u3a day Coordinator said, "We are so excited that from now on, every year, there will be a day dedicated to learning, staying active and having fun in your Third Age - that's people who are retired, semi-retired or no longer bringing up a family.

"We hope this day will help to challenge negative perceptions of older adults and will bring together all Third Agers in the community to learn about the contribution u3a makes to the quality of life for retired people. Even during the pandemic, u3as have kept in touch with members on various platforms and enabled them to safely continue to learn, be active and have fun".



Colin's Quick Quiz

IT'S ALL IN THE GARDEN

1. Which flower's name comes from the Ancient Greek word for star?
2. Which flowers were once known as "gillyflowers"?
3. Helianthus is another name for which flower?
4. Often used in salads what has the botanical name "nasturtium officinale"?
5. Vanilla flavouring is derived from which flower?
6. What word is used to describe plants that like acid soil?
7. Which fruit is a cross between a raspberry and a blackberry?
8. What type of flower is a Michaelmas Daisy?
9. What is the common name for the flower "dianthus caryophyllus"?
10. What colour is the flower "speedwell"?

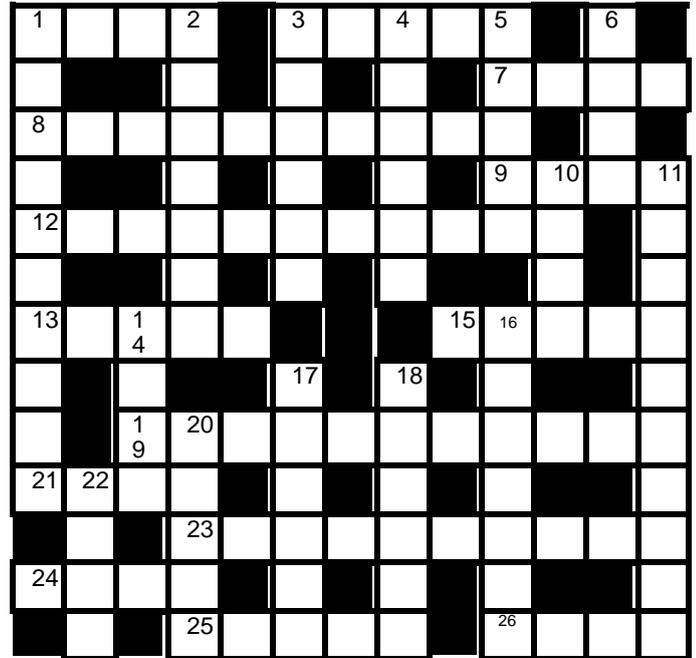


Answers on next page

BOOKS AND AUTHORS THEME - answers to CRYPTIC and QUICK clues are identical.

CRYPTIC CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Where author may work, opening dictionaries, encyclopaedias and finally finishes book (4)
- 3 Patron knocked over, losing last of beer on draught (2-3)
- 7 Captain gets in a hoo-hah about revenge (4)
- 8 Updated publication amended wine, I noted (3, 7)
- 9 Matchmaker starts exclusive men's marriage agency (4)
- 12 Nebular tale rewritten and cannot be changed(11)
- 13 Author carved in elm (5)
- 15 Fictional Brighton detective may fall from here?(5)
- 19 Jane's heart-throb is Man of Kent? (2, 9)
- 21 This might be turned into pulp fiction! (4)
- 23 Regency author wrote this as an inducement?(10)
- 24 Piglet's home is pronounced an eye sore (4)
- 25 Fast car, flower! (5)
- 26 Regularly discarded jetsam Peter Pan found for Hook's sidekick (4)



CRYPTIC CLUES DOWN

- 1 Retreat out encompasses English chaps. End of story! (10)
- 2 Bug first replaced by last spook to find HQ of Smi-ley's enemy (7)
- 3 Alternative about appearing in person leaves boy wanting more (6)
- 4 James Clavell's book sounds like an Asian cooking utensil (3-3)
- 5 Where Booker Prize judges come together on penal reform (5)
- 6 Distant start of manuscript provides part of Orwell's title (4)
- 10 Very large parent holds illustration (4)
- 11 Sozzled new baronet joined with north eastern author (4, 6)
- 14 Fruity Greene character! (4)
- 16 Opposes sister's novel (7)
- 17 Old bishop held by police officer. Time for small Dickensian character!
- 18 Fictional evil spirits, those committing grave crimes? (6)
- 20 Drive back, heading north, an unclean colonist of "The Island" (5)
- 22 Forename of murder mystery writer who has her own Bible book! (4)

*By kind permission of
Eastbourne Meads u3a
Cryptic Crossword Group
2021*

Answers below

QUICK CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Bureau (4)
- 3 Readily available (2-3)
- 7 Fictional sea captain (4)
- 8 Updated publication (3, 7)
- 9 Jane Austen heroine (4)
- 12 Cannot be changed (11)
- 13 Author of Winnie the Pooh (5)
- 15 Tuesday's child is full of------(5)
- 19 Male protagonist in Brontë novel (2, 9)
- 21 Oak, for example (4)
- 23 Jane Austen novel (10)
- 24 Eye infection (4)
- 25 Exotic flower (5)
- 26 Captain Hook's boatswain (4)

QUICK CLUES DOWN

- 1 Resolution of a book (10)
- 2 Russian citadel (7)
- 3 TV chef; Dickens character (6)
- 4 Novel by James Clavell; a foreign head of a business in China (3-3)
- 5 A sheet of wood or board (5)
- 6 Agricultural establishment (4)
- 10 Giant (4)
- 11 One of three novel-writing sisters (4, 6)
- 14 Citrus fruit (4)
- 16 Opposes (7)
- 17 Charles Dickens' novel, Little ----- (6)
- 18 People morbidly interested in disasters (6)
- 20 Disgust (5)
- 22 Old Testament book (4)

Crossword Solution:
Across: 1 Desk 3 on-tap 7 Ahab 8 New edition 9 Emma 12 Unalterable 13 Milne 15 Grace 19 Mr Rochester 21 Tree 23 Persuasion 24 Style 25 Lotus 26 Smea
Down: 1 Denouement 2 Kremlin 3 Oliver 4 Tai-Pan 5 Panel 6 Farm 10 Mega 11 Anne Brontë 14 Lime 16 Resists 17 Dorrit 18 Ghoul 20 Repel 22 Ruth

Colin's Quiz Answer
 1 Aster 2 Carnation 3 Sunflower 4 Watercress 5 Orchid 6 Ericaceous 7 Loganberry 8 Aster 9 Carnation 10 Blue

Important information

Forthcoming Events For Your Diary

12 th May 2021	Virtual morning seminar - The History of Hop picking
21 st August 2021	Lunchtime BBQ at the Neville Golf Club (to be confirmed)
10 th November 2021	30th Anniversary Tea & Big Band at Masonic Hall (to be confirmed)
10 th December 2021	Christmas lunch (details later)
19 th March 2022	Barn Dance (details later)

New members

A big welcome to our 7 new members this month.

Susan and Michael Kay, Ann Liles, Geneviève Jackson, Aileen Muir, June Everett and Sue-Anne Mayne

Your Committee

Chairman	Eryll Fabian	01892 513805
Vice-Chairman	Adrian Twiner	01892 459352
Secretary	Fiona Findlay	07872 169146
Treasurer	David Brimlow	01892 860598
Group Coordinator	Lindsay Hasell	01892 673180
Membership Secretary	Ruth Johnson	01892 523097
Outings Coordinator	Joan Young	01892 546687
Seminars/Study Days	Jean Brushfield	01892 520630
Newsletter	Bridget Sands	01892 546161
Short Breaks & Holidays	Sandra McDonald	01892 752196

A Message from the Editor

Any publication is only as good as its contributors and I do hope you will continue to support the Newsletter as it is such an easy and effective way to communicate with you all. If you have a great idea for an article or there is anything interesting you would like to see in the newsletter in the future please let me know.

If anyone objects to their photo being reproduced in this Newsletter, please contact me as soon as possible.

All contributions to the **June** Newsletter should be e-mailed to **Bridget** by May 31st at the latest (**earlier submissions are always welcome!**) or phone 01892 546161.

National Office



Keep up to date with National Office news on the website:

www.u3a.org.uk or write to:

The Third Age Trust, Room 104, Lenta Business Centre,
156 Blackfriars Rd, London SE1 8EN

u3a Members only

Tunbridge Wells u3a Outing on Wednesday 28th July.

A visit to Anglesey Abbey and Lode Mill. A National Trust Property

The outing for July takes us to Anglesey Abbey, the home of Lord Fairhaven until his death in 1966 when he bequeathed the Abbey, Lode Mill, gardens and furnishings to the National Trust. He requested that the Abbey inside and out, and the gardens stay arranged as they were at the date of his death. Consequently it remains a Jacobean style house with fine furnishings, books, paintings, silverware and rare clocks sustaining a feeling of opulence. The house, garden & mill are situated in 114 acres.

In 1926 Anglesey Abbey was bought by Huttleston Broughton, later Lord Fairhaven. In 1934 he acquired the mill and restored it to its original corn-milling condition. This was completed in 1935-36. Freshly ground National Trust flour can be bought from the mill or their shop in the visitor centre.

On arrival, the time is your own to walk around the house etc at your leisure, as there is no guided tour. The self service licensed restaurant offers light refreshments and hot or cold lunches.

8.30am coach leaves Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells.

8.35 am coach leaves opposite the local Sainsburys St. John's (Bus stop).

8.40 am coach leaves Southborough Fountain.

10.30am coach arrives Anglesey Abbey.

3.30pm coach departs for Tunbridge Wells.

5.20pm Arrive back at Southborough Fountain.

5.25pm arrive back at St Johns Church.

5.30pm arrive back at Tunbridge Wells.

Cost for National Trust members £17, which covers the cost of the coach and gratuities. (You must bring your National Trust Card) or for non-National Trust members an additional £15.80 will have to be paid on arrival at the Abbey, to cover the entrance into the house, Lode Mill and Gardens

Please note no food or drinks are supplied during this outing, members can purchase them at the Restaurant on site.

Applications, including a cheque payable to "Tunbridge Wells U3A" for £17 should be sent to Joan Young, 21 Coniston Avenue, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9SP, with your email address or a self addressed envelope for reply. Telephone numbers for enquiries: Linda Trowell on 528680 and on the day Joan Young 07504919081.

Members are advised that neither TWu3a nor the outings organisers will accept responsibility for any mishap of whatever nature during the outing. Members are advised to consider personal insurance cover.

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Tunbridge Wells Outing to Anglesey Abbey, on Wednesday 28th July 2021

Please reserve.....place(s) for this visit

I/We enclose a SAE , plus cheque for £17. I/We shall join the coach at Crescent Road,

Bus stop opposite local Sainsburys in St Johns Road, Southborough Fountain.

Delete as appropriate.

Name.....U3A Membership No.....

Email/ Address.....Tel No.....

Signed.....Date.....

A visit to Highclere Castle and Gardens

The outing for September takes us to Highclere Castle. The first records of the estate date back to 749 when an Anglo-Saxon King granted the estate to the Bishops of Winchester. Bishop William of Wykeham built a medieval palace and gardens in the park. Later on, in 1679, the palace was rebuilt as Highclere Place House when it was purchased by Sir Robert Sawyer, the direct ancestor of the current Earl of Carnarvon. In 1842, Sir Charles Barry, who also designed the Houses of Parliament, transformed Highclere House into the present Highclere Castle.

There are between 250 and 300 rooms in the Castle and during your visit you will explore the main state rooms so familiar from "Downton Abbey". You will see some of the bedrooms after which you will follow the stairs down to the cellars and old staff quarters where you will find the Egyptian Exhibition, celebrating the 5th Earl of Carnarvon's discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun.

On arrival, the time is your own, to walk around the house etc at your leisure as there is no guided tour.

ITINERARY

- 7.45am Coach leaves Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells.
- 7.50am Coach leaves bus stop opposite Sainsburys local at St Johns.
- 7.55am Coach leaves Southborough Fountain.
- 10.00am Coach arrives Highclere Castle.
- 15.30pm Coach departs for Tunbridge Wells.
- 17.20pm Arrive back at Southborough Fountain.
- 17.25pm Arrive back at St Johns Church.
- 17.30pm Arrive back at Crescent Road.

Cost £35. Please note no food or drinks are supplied during this outing, members can purchase them at either the cafe or tea room that offers light refreshments and hot and cold drinks.

APPLICATIONS, including a cheque payable to "Tunbridge Wells U3A" for £35, should be sent to Joan Young at 21, Coniston Avenue, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9SP, stating your email address or a SAE for a reply. Telephone numbers for enquiries: Joan on 546687 or on the day 07504919081.

Members are advised that neither TWu3a nor the outing organiser will accept responsibility for any mishap of whatever nature during this outing. Members are advised to consider personal insurance cover.

Tunbridge Wells Outing to Highclere Castle and Gardens on Monday 6th September 2021.

Please reserveplace(s) for this visit. I/We enclose a cheque for £35 with a stamped SAE or an email address for confirmation of a place for this outing.

I/We shall join the coach at (delete as appropriate): Crescent Road..... Bus stop opposite local Sainsburys in St Johns Road.....Southborough Fountain.....

Name.....U3A Membership No.....

Email address / address

Tel Nos

Signed.....Date.....



**June 2, 2021 is
u3a Day**

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no longer in full-time
employment to develop their
interests, make new friends
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