

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

We are holding a **Special General Meeting** in order to approve an amendment to our Constitution which will enable us legally to hold AGMs on Zoom, when necessary. The proposed amendment is being sent to you with this Newsletter and details of the SGM which will be held before the Zoom talk on 15<sup>th</sup> April are on **p.2** below – we hope you will come, and stay for the talk on the Dambusters afterwards.

We are also sending you the updated Groups List with this Newsletter. It is in a new format and shows which groups are being held on Zoom. With the announcement of the Road Map, the vaccination programme and the arrival of better weather, Zoom meetings may not be necessary for very much longer. Like me, I am sure you are all looking forward eagerly to being able to meet everyone face-to-face once more.

Finally, don't miss details on **p.4** for an evening of songs from the 50s and 60s sung by the lovely Holly Reynolds on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

We hope to see many of you there.

[Eryll Fabian](#) (01892 513805)



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Notice is hereby given of a  
**SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING ON 15<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30 p.m.**

Our Constitution needs to be amended to allow our AGMs to be held legally online when necessary. An amendment proposed by the Committee, accompanies this Newsletter, and members will be asked to approve it at a Special General Meeting (SGM) to be held on Zoom at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April. The wording of the amendment has been drafted by the national u3a Office.

The SGM will be followed immediately by the Thursday afternoon talk by Guy Bartlett on **The Dambusters – Barnes Wallis and 617 Squadron**. If you are not already a member of the Zoom Talks group and would like an invitation to the SGM, or if you would like any further information, please let me know.

[Eryll Fabian](#) (01892 513805)

**Paddock Wood U3A Zoom Study Day**  
**CLIMATE CHANGE, the way forward**

**Wednesday March 17th, 10.00 – 16.15**

**Free of charge**

**For more information please contact [Sue](#) Brimlow**

**PROGRAMME**

**10.00 Welcome to the meeting**

**Michele Sinclair, Chair PWU3A**

**Introduction**

**Charles May, PWU3A Climate Change Group**

**10.10 'Heading for Extinction and what to do about it'**

**Bors Hulesch, National Speaker , Extinction Rebellion**

**11.00 Coffee break**

**11.10 'Deforestation, Ocean Warming and Acidification'**

**John Halladay, Canterbury Greenpeace Group**

**12.00 'The Climate Crisis and Some Solutions'**

**Brenda Ainsley, Climate Reality (Al Gore organisation)**

**12.50 Lunch**

**14.00 'Carbon Capture, How? Why? Where? When?'**

**Doug Barnes, Head of Chemistry, C-Capture**

**14.50 'The Answer Lies in the Soil –Land Management Solutions'**

**Dr Howard Lee, leading authority on sustainable agriculture  
Hadlow College**

**15.40 'Government Policy on Climate Change'**

**Greg Clark, MP Tunbridge Wells, and formerly  
Secretary of State For Business, Energy and Industrial  
Strategy**

**16.15 Close**



## Another Cookery Pop-up!

Following our successful and very enjoyable Pancake Party in February we will be holding another Cooking Together evening at 6 p.m. on **Tuesday 16th March**. This time we will be making

### **Stir Fry and Lemon Mousse.**

Everyone is welcome. You can cook with us, cook something different or even just watch and join in the chat.

For further details and a Zoom invitation please e-mail [Judy Horwood](mailto:Judy.Horwood@btinternet.com)

## **ZOOM POP UP QUIZ**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 4.30pm**

Contact [Sandra McDonald](mailto:Sandra.McDonald@btinternet.com)

## **Spring Zoom Talks**

Bob Slater has been 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 [suebrimlow@btinternet.com](mailto:suebrimlow@btinternet.com) to be added to the group.

4 <sup>th</sup> March	Delia Taylor	The Pre-Raphaelites – Their Lives, Lovers & Legacy
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Antonia Brown-Griffin	The life-changing work of a guide dog - from hooligan to Hero
1 <sup>st</sup> April	Melanie Gibson-Barton	Bruges – More than just chocolate
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Guy Bartlett	The Dambusters – Barnes Wallis and 617 Squadron
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Fool's Gold	Dark Light. The story of the disappearance of 3 Light-house keepers is told with visuals and live music.



## ARE YOU READY FOR A SING-ALONG?!

Need something to dispel the  
winter blues?

Then join us for an evening of  
nostalgia with Holly Reynolds  
as she sings the hits of our  
youth and invites us to join in.

the date: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April

the time: 7.30 p.m.

the place: on Zoom

the price: IT'S FREE!

for a Zoom invitation, email [Eryll](mailto:Eryll)

You can find out more about Holly  
and have a sneak preview on her  
website: [www.hollyreynolds.co.uk](http://www.hollyreynolds.co.uk)



# Walking Back to Happiness

*Hits from the  
50's and 60's*

For further information contact:  
07854 570264  
hollyreynolds014@gmail.com  
[www.hollyreynolds.co.uk](http://www.hollyreynolds.co.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/hollyreynoldsvocalist](https://www.facebook.com/hollyreynoldsvocalist)

*Holly Reynolds*

## HOP PICKING SEMINAR

We are pleased to invite our members to **register** now for our Hop Picking Seminar. This will take place online on Zoom on the morning of **Wednesday 12 May, starting at 10.00 am**. There will be two speakers.



Hartlake Bridge

First, Barbara Myatt of the Tonbridge u3a will set the scene for us. The title of her talk will be "The history of hops in Kent: how they were picked by the annual "London Invasion" by East Enders; the drying process; and how oast houses were developed.

Then, after a short coffee/tea break, Geoff Doel will tell us about the "The Hartlake Bridge Tragedy & Other Hopping Traditions". Geoff and his wife Fran have published two books about what happened at the bridge at Golden Green in 1853.

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

**Save the date! 2nd June 2021 is u3a Day!**



**Help us make it happen in Tunbridge Wells**

On 2 June, u3as throughout the UK will be making a special effort to raise the profile of the u3a movement. We in TWu3a want to do our bit – but we need your help both with ideas and in practical ways. Lindsay Hasell has already got a lot of interesting plans and she is putting a team together to think of more and to put them into practice. This will be fun as well as helping to meet the objective so, if you would like to be involved, please contact [Lindsay](#) (01892 673180) as soon as possible.

## **Invitation to the final talk from the Friends of the Museum**

### **“A Georgian Journey”**



The last winter talk is on **March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6pm** and will be on **Mary Delany**, a fascinating story of a woman artist, needle-woman and paper-cutter. This last skill was the one she is most famous for, when at the age of 72 she started making accurate collages of flowers using paper. She was acquainted with the famous botanist Joseph Banks, who sent her flowers from the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. When he saw Delany's works, he described the collages as the only imitations of nature he had seen from which one could 'describe botanically any plant without the least fear of committing an error'.

What an interesting woman and how inspiring for us that you can start a whole new genre in your 70's. Please email me if you would like to hear this talk and I will send you the link a day or so before the talk.

[Sue Brimlow](#)

**Groups coordinator**  
**TW u3a groups.....by the members, for the members.**

**Are you interested in old Tunbridge Wells?**

**Then join our group to find out more!**



Did you see the article on p.47 of the recent Third Age Matters about the national High Street Project? This was set up last year to investigate what has been happening in our high streets. It is not too late for us to join in and several members are keen to start a group researching the area around the Pantiles, Chapel Place and the High Street.

Are you interested? Then contact [Lindsay](mailto:Lindsay) (01892 673180) as soon as possible and help to plan the strategy.

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 10-12**

**Zoom Craft Show & Tell**

woodwork, model making, crochet, knitting,  
painting, sewing, card making, needle  
felting, quilting, textiles, patchwork

We currently have at least 20 members who have sent in photos of the crafts they have made during the last year for our informal Zoom meeting, and we would welcome more.

**Please support our talented members by joining this informal Zoom meeting.**

**For Zoom invitations contact**  
**[lhaselltwu3a@gmail.com](mailto:lhaselltwu3a@gmail.com)**  
**or 01892 673180**

**ZOOM COFFEE CLUB**

Our next coffee morning will be  
on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30 a.m.

Members who have not already joined the club,  
and non-members who would like to meet us  
should contact [Eryll](mailto:Eryll) (01892 513805) for an invitation.





## Group News-Talks & Walks

### Upcoming free talk

18th March Antonia Brown-Griffin

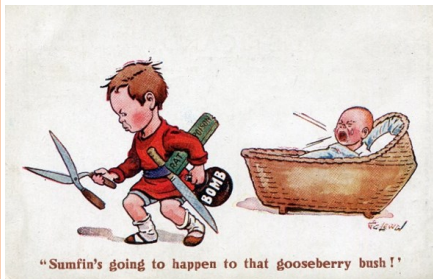
### The life changing work of a guide dog - from hooligan to Hero

My five Guide & Assistance dogs have all saved my life on more occasions than I can remember, they have given me a great privilege & strength to take on whatever life throws at me, with many laughs & tears along the way.



### Brilliant British Humour Seaside postcards Dr James Taylor

It was difficult on Zoom for Dr Taylor to hear the he chuckles that his descriptions of the post-card jokes brought forth. But I think we all enjoyed them in our own homes.



J Salmon Ltd of Sevenoaks was the oldest publisher of postcards starting in 1880 and eventually going bust in 2017.

Tunbridge Wells had its own postcard producing company Photochrom and Co whose cards were mostly photographs of the area.

Postcards became very popular during the war where humour helped keep up morale. They were a quick way for the soldiers to communicate with their sweethearts and families.

You will probably have heard of Lucie Mabel Atwell who also illustrated children's books and her drawings of plump children are instantly familiar. Donald McGill who holds the record for the most postcards ever sold (6 million) has a dedicated museum at Ryde on the Isle of Wight.

Their popularity waned after WWII as the cost of postage became very expensive and the telephone more widely used.

### Margot Pierson contacted us after reading the write up on Staff Nurse Emily Connell in the February newsletter.

"It says that she received no pension after four and half years of service. My step-grandmother Edith, retired in 1959 after 38 years as a nurse in the health service both before and after it was Nationalised. She received no pension as one had to have served for 40 years to be entitled to one. I always thought it utterly scandalous.

However, she was possibly instrumental in saving my life and that of my mother, who had a very bad heart. She was hospitalised, waiting for me to be born, in Kings College hospital and Edith went to see her. My mother was already three weeks late having me. She was naturally very thin and said to Edith, "Look at my lovely plump arms, Edith. I've really put on weight." Edith realised straight away that my mother had serious oedema and drew it to the attention of the medical staff. My mother was rushed into surgery for an immediate C-section which was conducted by Sir William Gilliat who went on to deliver the Duchess of Cornwall, Prince Charles and Princess Anne. That's my claim to fame! I was delivered by the Queen's gynaecologist.

I don't know anything about her early career but she finished it as a Sister on night duty in the maternity ward in St Mary's, Paddington hospital. Roger Bannister was doing his training there and was often late for duty, as he had been out running!"

### 2000 years of London history Diana Small

This really was the whirlwind tour it had to be to fit 2000 years of history into 60 minutes. The bits that intrigued me were the origins of many of our everyday sayings.

At theatres like the Globe, the poorer customers (known as the penny stinkards) would put their penny entrance fee in a box. This was then taken to an upstairs office for counting. Hence the theatre's '**Box Office**' that still survives today.

In Tudor times Thomas Hobson owned a coaching inn where travellers could hire out horses. However, Mr Hobson didn't allow the customers to choose the horses but gave them the one nearest the door.

Hence '**Hobson's choice**' being the choice of take it or leave it!

When Crystal Palace was built for the Victorian Great Exhibition the first flushing toilets with seats were installed. They were men only and offered a towel, a comb and a shoe shine along with use of the facilities for the price of a penny.

Hence the term '**spending a penny**'.

## Virtual walks group

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



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

Please follow me on  
[www.facebook.com/pipertours](http://www.facebook.com/pipertours)  
Or see Tripadvisor for reviews

**March: World Civilizations;** seen through the objects they left behind.

**Wednesday 10th March 2021** at 2pm - a virtual highlights tour of masterpieces at the British Museum, and discover 'What did the Romans ever do for us'?

**Tuesday 23rd March 2021** at 2pm - a virtual highlights tour of masterpieces at the British Museum from ancient Assyria and Athens

### **April: Virtual Day tours**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm** – Christopher Wren's London

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April** – Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon.

**Caroline is also repeating some popular earlier tours.**

### **Encore tours:**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm** - Virtual Walking Tour of the East End; Shoreditch and Spitalfields

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm** - Virtual Walking Tour of London on Film 1

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm** - a leisurely meander around the Cotswolds

## Last Month's Walks

### **The Cotswolds (Part 2)**

On 10<sup>th</sup> February Caroline Piper treated us to the second of her tours of the Cotswolds this time concentrating on the North. She used her familiar combination of well-chosen photographs, maps and commentary to bring to life the richness of history, landscape and culture of this area of England's rural heartland. We started in the beautiful town of Stow-on-the-Wold which is still centred round its old Market Square and Church and heard of its reliance for its wealth on the famous Cotswold sheep.

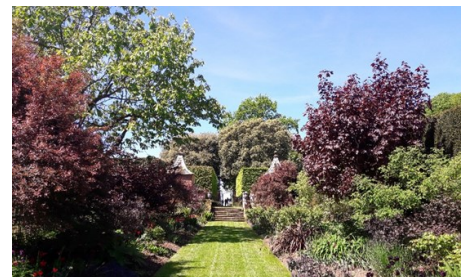
We then moved on to Chipping Campden another wealthy wool town, still thriving with a long High Street and lively local shops and pubs. At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century it



*The view of Old Campden House remains with the Church in the distance, Chipping Campden*

became a centre for the Arts and Crafts Movement, especially silversmithing. The overwhelming quality of the town that Caroline beautifully created comes from its exquisite buildings – the magnificent 14<sup>th</sup> Century Church, the astonishing opulence of Grevel House and the warm domesticity of its cottages – all built in the honey coloured oolitic limestone.

Our tour ended in the Arts and Crafts inspired National Trust Gardens of plant hunter, Lawrence Johnston at Hidcote where Caroline could give only a very enticing taste of their magical brilliance.



*The Red Borders at Hidcote*

**Stuart McTavish**

*Photographs by kind permission of Caroline Piper*

*Editor's note: I would very much like to thank Stuart McTavish for contributing this article and also Graham Wykes for the one on the Shetland bus last month. Despite there often being over 60 members at the Talks and Walks surprisingly few volunteers come forward.*



## Georgian Bath

Even the Morrisons in Bath is built in the iconic honey coloured limestone that defines the city. Two of the must-see sights are the work of the John Woods. The younger is responsible for the Royal Crescent, a row of 30 terraced house with the centre marked by double columns and No. 1 being fully restored in Georgian style and open to visitors.

John Wood the elder designed the Circus. He was very interested in Celtic history and the circle of houses is based on the diameter of Stonehenge and there are 3 roads, 33 houses (11 in each arc) and 3 tiers of columns

It was the hot springs that enticed people to Bath and the Georgians drank up to 2 pints a day in the Pump room as it was considered a cure for everything. Beau Nash became the Master of Ceremonies in 1704 and was influential in making



*The Circus*



*The pump room fountain*

Bath into the popular spa town (later of course, he did the same for Tunbridge Wells).

The Upper Assembly rooms became the place to be seen. For the first time the ballroom, cardroom and tearoom were all in one U shaped building. The windows were high to discourage onlookers and had tiered seating to accommodate everyone. It was destroyed during WWII but has since been restored. The Whitefriars cut glass chandeliers are said to be the finest in the world and were apparently wanted for the Whitehouse.

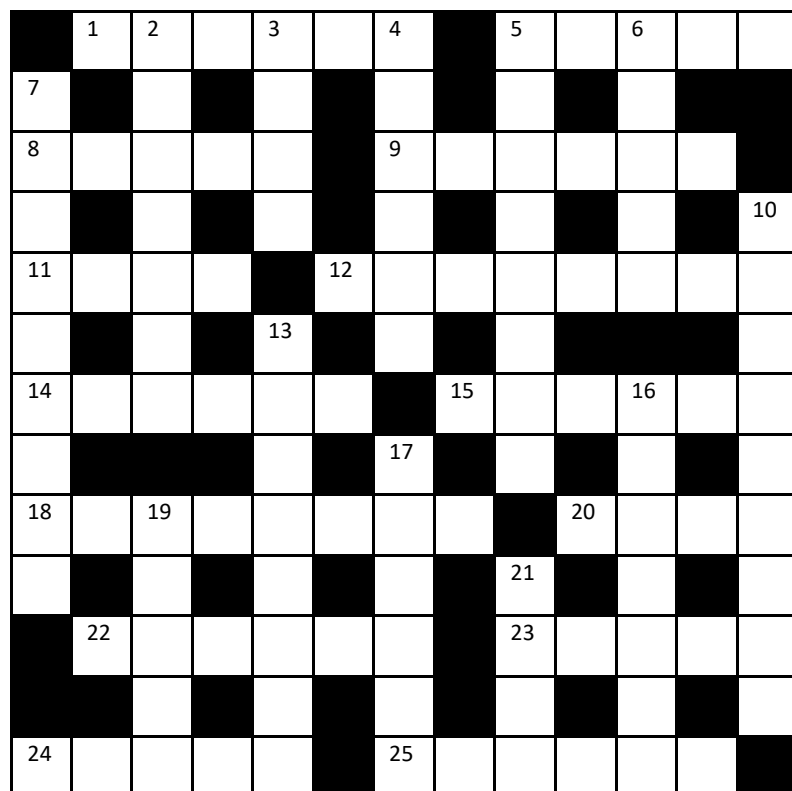
No-one can mention Bath without thinking of Jane Austen and both Northanger Abbey and Persuasion are largely set there. Her parents met in Bath and she stayed there twice, the second time for 5 years. The family left Bath when her father died in 1805.

*Photographs by kind permission of Caroline Piper*

## Colin's Fizz Quiz

1. Name the Benedictine monk who, allegedly, invented Champagne?
2. In the film "Gigi" who sang "The night they invented Champagne"?
3. Which grape varieties can be used to make Champagne?
4. Which wine is added to Champagne to produce pink champagne?
5. What two word term is used to describe the best quality champagne?
6. In the name "Veuve Clicquot" champagne, what does "veuve" mean in French?
7. A Blanc de Blanc champagne is made from which grape?
8. An apocryphal story suggests that the wide brimmed champagne glass was modelled from the breast of which royal person?
9. Which gas produces the bubbles in champagne?
10. Back to question 1, which champagne house produces this famous brand?

## SEA THEME-the answers to both CRYPTIC and QUICK clues below are identical.



*By kind permission of Eastbourne Meads U3A Cryptic Crossword Group 2021*

*Answers at the end of the Newsletter*

### CRYPTIC CLUES ACROSS

- 1 A sea pen encloses a naval officer. (6)
- 5 Bear a backhand swipe round old lady. (5)
- 8 As long as a cricket pitch, it can support an anchor. (5)
- 9 Without a compass heading gets you to sea. (6)
- 11 Killer mammal in horror catastrophe. (4)
- 12 Where navigators learn to steer correctly. (2, 6)
- 14 Juliet being held by North Sea god, parent of Freya. (6)
- 15 Beginning a sea hunt of red eels on dry land. (6)
- 18 Digger with religious education went mad so shrouds and sheets were replaced. (2-6)
- 20 Unpleasant ejection from marine bar. (4)
- 22 Hundreds of fish to educate. (6)
- 23 Work a long time to produce Pirates of Penzance, for instance. (5)
- 24 Warrant Officer has no sub at sea. (5)
- 25 Doctor swears it's a fish. (6)

### QUICK CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Sea between Sweden and Lithuania. (6)
- 5 Arctic/Antarctic. (5)
- 8 Links; anchoring equipment. (5)
- 9 Straits between USA and Russia. (6)
- 11 Killer whale. (4)
- 12 Following the intended route, e.g. of a ship. (2, 6)
- 14 Alternative spelling for Norse god of the sea, Njoerd. (6)
- 15 On dry land. (6)
- 18 Fitted new ropes to a boat. (2-6)
- 20 Protrusion of land into the sea, often sand or shingle. (4)
- 22 Large group of fish. (6)
- 23 Form of musical entertainment. (5)
- 24 Deck boss on board ship, in charge of equipment. (5)
- 25 Brightly coloured marine fish. (6)

### CRYPTIC CLUES DOWN

- 2 Leaders of alternative justice alliance challenge cartel in overseas port. (7)
- 3 Fish otter adult hunts; feast taking nothing but hearts. (4)
- 4 California trash cans in ship's accommodation. (6)
- 5 Sounds like New Yorker's aim for aquatic mammal! (8)
- 6 Ship for meandering river Nile. (5)
- 7 Large sherry vessels originally used in Americas Cup. (9)
- 10 Heavenly form of navigation. (9)
- 13 Antler coral? (8)
- 16 Hawks hunt animals south, following Ordnance Survey. (7)
- 17 Scared of the sea? (6)
- 19 Remove female from dresses to become a hazard to shipping. (5)
- 21 Unpleasant smell precedes artist - strong wind! (4)

### QUICK CLUES DOWN

- 2 Principal port of Corsica. (7)
- 3 Fish popular in sashimi. (4)
- 4 Individual rooms on a ship. (6)
- 5 Small toothed whale. (8)
- 6 Passenger ship. (5)
- 7 Traditional sailboats. (9)
- 10 Type of navigation, often using a sextant. (9)
- 13 A branching coral; type of moss or fern. (8)
- 16 Birds of prey which feed on fish. (7)
- 17 Sea between Korea and China; colour. (6)
- 19 Large stones. (5)
- 21 Adriatic wind. (4)

# Important information

## Forthcoming Events For Your Diary

**Please Note - Owing to the pandemic, all face-to-face events have been cancelled for the time being. They will resume as soon they can be arranged safely within government guidelines. However do look out for the many Zoom events provided by your local & national u3a**

May 12 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Virtual study day - The History of Hop picking
October 2021	Quiz night—details to be announced later
December 10th 2021	Christmas lunch—details to be announced later
March 19 <sup>th</sup> 2022	Barn Dance

## New members

A big welcome to our 2 new members this month. **Diana Jarrett** and **Elizabeth Arkell**

## 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 **April** Newsletter should be e-mailed to **Bridget** by March 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](http://www.u3a.org.uk) or write to:  
The Third Age Trust, Room 104, Lenta Business Centre,  
156 Blackfriars Rd, London SE1 8EN



## SHORT BREAK

### ALL- INCLUSIVE 5 Day Break to POTTERS 5 star resort in Norfolk

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October

#### Includes

- Own coach from Tunbridge Wells
- Four meals a day including midnight dish of the day!
- ALL** drinks including wines, beers and spirits
- First class entertainment
- All Potters sports and activities
- Blue Badge guide on Day 3

**Day 1** En route - stop at a place of interest (cost not included)

**Day 2** On site

**Day 3** Blue Badge Guide visit to Norwich and a boat trip on the Norfolk Broads (included) Packed lunch provided

**Day 4** Choose from Hickling Nature Reserve (approx. £4.00), Cromer or Felbrigg Hall. N.T The coach will drop off at all 3 locations & packed lunch provided

**Day 5** Return home stopping at a place of interest

**COST £572 pp** This is based on 25 people. There will a reduction if there are more people on the coach.

**GUARANTEED - ALL MONIES RETURNED IF HOLIDAY IS CANCELLED BY THE COMPANY**

#### ACCOMODATION

In bungalows but there is no separate living room. Bedrooms are spacious and of a very high quality **There is a waiting list for SINGLE rooms. HOWEVER, I am able to offer 2 bedroomed family bungalows for 2 single people (thus ensuring privacy) but sharing a bathroom.**

Contact [Sandra McDonald](#)

#### Colin's Fizz Quiz Answers

1. Dom Perignon
2. Leslie Caron
3. Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunière and Chardonnay.
4. Pinot Noir red wine.
5. Prestige Cuvée
6. Widow
7. Chardonnay
8. Marie Antoinette
9. Carbon Dioxide
10. Moët & Chandon

#### Crossword Solution

##### ACROSS

1 Baltic 5 Polar 8 Chain 9 Bering 11 Orca 12 On course  
14 Njorth 15 Ashore 18 Re-rigged 20 Spit 22 School  
23 Opera 24 Bosun 25 Wrasse

##### DOWN

2 Ajaccio 3 Tuna 4 Cabins 5 Porpoises 6 Liner 7 Schooners  
10 Celestial 13 Staghorn 16 Ospreys 17 Yellow 19 Rocks  
21 Bora