

Of Highbridge
u3a learn,
laugh,
live



U3A of Highbridge Magazine

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[Website: www.u3ahighbridge.org.uk](http://www.u3ahighbridge.org.uk)

Issue 132

Sep/Oct 2024

Your Committee

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Committee Member	Diane Scott	07484 869011
Committee Member	Peter Manning	01278 780203
Committee Member	Audrey Downing	07467 029154
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Other non-committee roles

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Next Magazine Deadline:	Sunday October 27th 2024

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Chairman's Message

Hello Everyone

I can't quite believe we are in September already.

The weather has been kind to us, may it continue for a little longer.

Enjoy Harvest month and I hope you grow some fabulous goodies; I have managed to harvest a few Tomatoes, runner beans, and courgettes. I even have a butternut squash growing.

I look forward to the coming months and please join in the Days Out and activities around you.

Bye for Now

Adele



Club and Group News

Days Out

Our next trip is to Poole on Monday 23rd September. Cost £19.00 per person.

Our October trip will be to Monmouth via the Wye Valley on Tuesday 22nd October. Cost £19.00 per person.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Anyone wishing to have a crafty stall, please let Adele know. £5 plus a Raffle prize.

Donations for Cakes, Raffle and Tombola gratefully received.

COFFEE MORNING

HAVE YOUR CAKE AND EAT IT

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

**Highbridge
Community Hall
Wednesday 25th
September
10am - 12pm**



U3A Halloween Event



Members Contributions

DAY OUT IN BRIDGWATER AND TAUNTON CANAL

The Bridgwater and Taunton Canal is one of a kind. Cut off from other waterways and skirting the Somerset Levels, the canal offers rural calm and wonderful walks for nature enthusiasts as well as peaceful boating. For cyclists, the well-maintained towpath forms part of the National Cycle Route 3 and the Parrett Way. If you wish you can walk from Bridgwater to Taunton along the 14 mile canal.

Over the centuries, countless ships were wrecked as they sailed around Cornwall's treacherous coastline. In the late 1700AD a scheme was hatched whereby they could trade from the Bristol Channel to the English Channel via inland waterways a fast and safer route. The idea was that the Bridgwater and Taunton Canal would link with a planned network of navigable waterways reaching Exeter on Devon's south coast.

From 1822AD armies of Irish labourers (navvies) were employed under the supervision of engineer James Hollinsworth to dig out the canal. Using pickaxes, shovels and wheelbarrows, the work was hard and the days were long. Apart from cutting the channel, they had to line the bottom and sides with clay, construct the banks and towpath and build the locks, bridges and lock keeper's and lengthmen's cottages. The 12-mile canal with 5 locks was completed in 1827AD, stretching between the River Parrett at Huntworth near Bridgwater and the River Tone at Taunton. In 1838AD the canal was linked to the Grand Western Canal, which reached as far as Tiverton. If you would like a day out you can access the towpath from most bridges that cross it. Our group went to Maunsell Lock near North Newton where

there is a centre offering refreshments also the last remaining lock keepers cottage.

Bernie....

Fay relaxing ready for the Barge Trip



Congratulations

U3A of Highbridge member John Foster is an avid gardener and he won a cup in West Huntspill's vegetable and flower show.

You buy a potato and a growing bag and you then nurture possibly talk to it for 16 weeks. Whoever has the heaviest yield wins. John's potatoes grew to 10lb 9ozs. Didn't he do well!



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Monthly Draw

June 29th 2024	No. 6	Steve Allen and Alison Hanson
July 27th 2024	No. 58	Pearl Price and Vicky Cattell
August 24th 2024	No. 45	Ray Tilley and Peter Manning

Winners each received £20.00

This Space available for an advert. If you or anyone you know would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please contact the U3A of Highbridge Secretary (tel: 01278 783743, email: secretary@u3ahighbridge.org.uk).

The cost is £30 per annum for a half page advert. The magazine is published 6 times a year and distributed to approximately 200 members.

Group Activities

Monday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1 st , 3 rd & 5 th (excluding bank holidays)	2.00 to 4.00	Board Games	S.H.	Pete Manning Chris Murphy	07976 408843 07947 203046

Tuesday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
Every Other Week	10am to Noon	Knit and Natter	C.H. (4)	Fay Burston	01278 782529

Group no longer running

Wednesday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
Every	10.00 to 12.00	Coffee Morning	C.H.	N/A	N/A
2 nd	12.00 onwards	Luncheons	Varies	Adele Stevens	07486 909687

Thursday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
Every Other Week	10am to Noon	Card Making	C.H. (4)	Shelly	07795 007602
Every	2.00 to 4.00	Table Tennis	C.H.	Audrey Downing Rod Downing	07467 029154
Last		Classic Car Appreciation		Malcolm Manser	07932 734423

Group no longer running

Group Activities

Friday

Week	Time	Group	Venue	Leader	Tel
1 st & 3 rd	1.30 to 3.00	Skittles	C.A.	Self-Regulating	238526
1 st & 2 nd & 3 rd & 4 th	10.00 onwards	Strollers	Varies	Self-Regulating	238526
5 th	10.00 onwards	Somerset Churches	Varies	Bernard Martin	787230

Occasional

Weekdays	Activity	Contact	Tel
Varies	Holidays	Christine Owen Diane Scott	784500 07484 869011
Varies	Walking	Audrey Downing Rod Downing	256895 or 07467 029154

Changes since last issue are highlighted in yellow.

Legends

S.H. Southwell House	C.H. Community Hall (Room Number)
P.H. Private House	G.H. Gospell Hall
C.A. Coopers Arms	

Should you wish to join a Group please first contact its Leader.

Knitting for Charity Update

Hi everyone I thought you might be interested, in what I do to keep myself busy when John is having one of his many naps.



I knit for a couple of charities, they distribute the various knitted and crocheted articles their members make. I can't crochet so I knit instead.

In the photo attached is some I have been knitting recently. I also have others in our u3a that knit with me - Gloria, Margaret, Barbara. Also lots of you also knit blankets and hats for my granddaugh-

ter's maternity ward in Reading. She is always very grateful for your hard work. A big thank you to you all.

The photo is just a small part of what I will be sending. The red and white stockings get filled with sweets, knitted bears, snowmen and crayons. These are sent to food banks, hospitals, hospices and elderly care homes. They need between 3000-4000 every Christmas. The red hearts go in pairs to end of life care, one stays with the patient and the other to wife, husband and partner. I also knit pastel shades for other patients, stillborn babies and anyone in need of comfort.

The poppies are attached to netting to commemorate poppy day.

I hope you have enjoyed a little window in my life.

Best regards to you all.

Janet Preddy



*Glennys Appliance
Repair*

Jon Glenn
Appliance Engineer

Burnham-on-Sea
and surrounding areas

07833696251

glennysappliancerepair@gmail.com

I live in Burnham and cover from Weston to Bridgwater and to Cheddar area. I have never received anything lower than a 5* review on Google.

Quiz (answers on page 22)

- 1 At the end of WWII China was the world's most populous country. What was the second largest?
- 2 In mythology who was partner to Gog?
- 3 Who flies in Air Force One?
- 4 Where is the Sea of Tranquility?
- 5 How many calories are there in a glass of water?
- 6 From how many letters is the Greek alphabet formed?
- 7 The word vitriform refers to something that resembles what?
- 8 For which club did England World Cup hero Geoff Hurst play the majority of his club football?
- 9 Name the Admiral who gave his name to a wind force scale?
- 10 In which city was Byker Grove set?
- 11 What does NEC stand for in Birmingham?
- 12 In which dance does the man represent a bullfighter and the woman, his cloak?
- 13 Clio, Euterpe, Thalia, Melpomene and Terpsichore are five of the nine what?
- 14 Who is nicknamed The Big Yin?
- 15 Which American is famous for a speech which included the words, I have a dream?
- 16 Which English Royal Palace was described as 'a collection of stone pumpkins and pepper pots' ?
- 17 Who designed Princess Diana's wedding dress?
- 18 According to the bible, who wore a coat of many colours?
- 19 About which profession did Richard Gordon write his comic novels?
- 20 More haste, less.... What?

John Preddy Veterans Medal

Hi everyone just thought you would like to see what John received today [July 11th 2024].

He is old enough to have done national service way back when I was just leaving school. He spent many years in the TA (territorial army) or the royal stand backs as we called them.

As a surprise I applied for his veterans medal which he received in the post. Just what he needs to give him a boost. He might even wear it on his pyjamas. Janet Preddy



Strollers Update

Last Friday 16 August, it was nice to welcome new member Carol to our group.

As we didn't have our usual leaders to give us ideas where to stroll (Steve being up in a hot air balloon and Denise entertaining visitors), Rod suggested we have a walk along Merry Lane, East Huntspill. We met some very laid back goats enjoying the sunshine and walked across a bridge where there was an interesting pill box left over from WW2.

Afterwards we went for a coffee and snacks to the Purple Spoon in Highbridge. All in all, we had a very pleasant couple of hours.

Audrey





Carnival Time

Being here, when amazing carts do appear
Roaming our towns, filled with cheer
Costumes, singing and dancing, is the order of the day
Street performers pave the way
Great excitement is high on list
Carnival is a creator of magical moments, not to be missed

Poem by Paul Parker

Subject: Grandma still drives..

Grandma is eighty-nine years old and still drives her own car. She writes:

Dear Grand-daughter, the other day I went up to our local Christian book store and saw a 'Honk if you love Jesus' bumper sticker.. I was feeling particularly sassy that day because I had just come from a thrilling choir performance, followed by a thunderous prayer meeting. So, I bought the sticker and put it on my bumper.

Boy, am I glad I did; what an uplifting experience that followed.

I was stopped at a red light at a busy intersection, just lost in thought about the Lord and how good he is, and I didn't notice that the light had changed. It is a good thing someone else loves Jesus because if he hadn't honked, I'd never have noticed.

I found that lots of people love Jesus!

While I was sitting there, the guy behind started honking like crazy, and then he leaned out of his window and screamed, 'For the love of God!' 'Go! Go! Go! Jesus Christ, GO!'. What an exuberant cheerleader he was for Jesus!

Everyone started honking!. . I just leaned out my window and started waving and smiling at all those loving people. I even honked my horn a few times to share in the love!

There must have been a man from Florida back there because I heard him yelling something about a sunny beach.

I saw another guy waving in a funny way with only his middle finger stuck up in the air. I asked my young teenage grandson in the back seat what that meant. He said it was probably a Hawaiian good luck

sign or something... Well, I have never met anyone from Hawaii, so I leaned out the window and gave him the good luck sign right back.....My grandson burst out laughing. . . Why even he was enjoying this religious experience!!

A couple of the people were so caught up in the joy of the moment that they got out of their cars and started walking towards me. I bet they wanted to pray or ask what church I attended, but this is when I noticed the light had changed. So, grinning, I waved at all my brothers and sisters, and drove on through the intersection..

I noticed that I was the only car that got through the intersection before the light changed again and felt kind of sad that I had to leave them after all the love we had shared. So I slowed the car down, leaned out the window and gave them all the Hawaiian good luck sign one last time as I drove away. Praise the Lord for such wonderful folks!!

Will write again soon,

Love, Grandma


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Quiz Answers

1	India	2	Magog
3	US President	4	The Moon
5	Zero	6	Twenty four
7	Glass	8	West Ham
9	Beaufort	10	Newcastle
11	National Exhibition Centre	12	Paso Doble
13	Muses	14	Billy Connolly
15	Martin Luther King	16	Brighton Pavilion
17	David/Elizabeth Emanuel	18	Joseph
19	Doctors	20	Speed

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Calendar

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2024		
Sep 23rd	Day Out in Poole	£19.00
Sep 25th 10am to Noon	Macmillan Coffee Morning Highbridge Community Hall	N/A
Oct 22nd	Day Out in Monmouth via the Wye Valley	£19.00
Oct 30th 10am to Noon	Happy Halloween Raffle & Rail Highbridge Community Hall	N/A
Nov 24th to 28th	Tinsel & Turkey Holiday in Torquay	£289 + single supplement



Cheques to cover payments for all "Away Days", Theatre trips and Holidays must be made payable to "U3A of Highbridge Social Account"

Please also add your name, address and phone number on the reverse of the cheque, this: -

a) helps to identify you on the passenger list, and

b) If a trip is cancelled you can be notified quickly.