

The GAZETTE



Issue No 86

May 2023

An opportunity to say “thank you”



If you give any thought at all to how our U3A keeps going, I think you'll all recognise the sometimes enormous debt that we, as members who attend groups, owe to our group coordinators. Your committee is also very much aware of this, and as a small token of our gratitude, we decided to hold a lunch get-together and invite coordinators (or their representatives) to join committee members - a chance to chat, exchange ideas and concerns, and to say “thank you”. *(Continued overleaf)*



(Continued from front page) So this is what happened on Thursday, 6 April at the Friends Meeting House. A goodly number got together, and the general opinion seems to have been that we enjoyed a rather pleasant lunch, and a rather pleasant time together. It was agreed that Anne Peller's three puddings, in particular, hit the spot very nicely: Summer pudding, pear and almond frangipan and a lovely gooey chocolate cake. Thank you to coordinators for joining us.

The Committee

The delicious puds

Some ideas to ponder from one of the books passed to me by the late Margaret Hardinge - headed "Imponderables".

If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?

What was the best thing before sliced bread?

What would a chair look like if your knees bent the other way?

Why did kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?

Why do they lock petrol station toilets? Are they afraid someone will clean them?

Why do we wait till a pig is dead before we cure it?

Why is a boxing ring square?

It's as bad as it sounds

A pregnant woman is involved in a car crash and she falls into a coma. A year later she revives to find she's the mother of twins, a boy and a girl. "Where are they?" she asks. "Don't worry," replies the doctor, "your brother is looking after them. He's had them baptised and everything." "Oh no, not my brother," the woman cries, "my brother's an idiot. What did he call them?" "Well, he named your daughter Denise." "Oh, that's nice," says the mother. "And he called your son Denephew."



Editor's Ponderings

For this issue, I was confronted with the very satisfying prospect of having THREE possible front page stories to choose from. One's gone on the back page, nearly as prominent, and one is a spectacular story inside which you CAN'T miss.

And now an apology - what a mess I made of numbering the pages in the last issue! The excuse/explanation is that during the days of the Gazette's production, pages hop around all over the place as I decide what goes nicely where. And just about the last job is to number the pages. Well, on that occasion I was so excited to have finished that I made the elementary mistake of not doing "save". Then I produced the pdf and off it went to the printer, with a right old mish mash of page numbers. I doubt I'll make that mistake again.

As with February's issue, I've already received a fair bit of material to work on, and I know of other stuff in the pipeline, such as the AGM notice and agenda. And, as usual, I'm trawling my joke books and quirky collections of writings - this has become a quarterly event for me now.

At Committee/Gazette level, it's always a delight to meet someone who's willing to join us and do some doing. And this is the case with Andy Roberts, who moved to Bakewell fairly recently. He's had discussions with Sam Lewis, and is now working on our website, bringing us a bit more up to date, and encouraging groups to have an ACTIVE web page, which makes our BU3A look ALIVE. He's written a couple of articles which are on Pages 14 and 28 (though, based on my last page numbering attempts, don't count on it). Do ponder long and seriously whether you might have something to contribute on the new ideas front - and if you have, don't hesitate. A few groups have closed (for understandable reasons) and some new, interesting ones might prove to be a delight.

*** And, finally, DO, PLEASE try to come along to our Coffee Morning on Thursday, 18 May at the Friends Meeting House, 10.30 am - 12 noon. Details are on the back page of this Gazette. Ashgate Hospice is such a good and necessary cause and if we all support it and spend a fiver, or more, we could raise a very good amount. And if you have stuff for the bring and buy stalls, even better. Hope to see you there. *** **Ed**

A sneaky Annual General Meeting?

We all know we HAVE to have one, and making it a short, business-like AGM just before we relax and listen to Jonathan Mallalieu's music, after which we enjoy afternoon tea, seemed to your committee as painfree an AGM as we could manage. After all, as members, you **SHOULD** be kept informed of what your Committee has been up to in the past few months.



Notice of BU3A 2023 AGM

To be held at the Medway Centre, Bakewell at 2.00 pm, Wednesday, 26 July.

Agenda

1. Election of chairman for the AGM
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of 2022 AGM. Proposed correction by addition of:

7.1 Jean Sutton, Pam Walker and Sheila Sidebottom were elected to the committee for a term of 3 years.

4. Matters arising
5. Treasurer's report
6. Committee's report, and questions
7. Election of chairman and vice chairman
8. Election of committee members. Committee proposes that Anne Peller, Jill Ormerod and Glenys Moore be re-elected to the committee for a further term of 3 years.
9. Any other business

We need nominations

Nominations for the offices of Chairman, Vice chairman and Groups Coordinator are sought, using the form opposite, as well as for members willing to join the committee. The Secretary and Treasurer were elected at the 2022 AGM for terms of 3 years. Other committee members are part-way through 3 year terms and are willing to continue.

Proxies explained



The committee has decided to allow proxy voting by members who do not attend in person. Any member can appoint another member (their proxy) to vote on their behalf. The proxy must attend the meeting in person. Appointment must be in advance, using the form on Pages 25/26 which must be received by the Secretary at least 24 hours before the AGM. Delivery can be by email to the secretary sptmlewis@gmail.com showing an image of a completed form. The secretary can be appointed as a proxy, as can any other member of BU3A. A member who appoints a proxy can instruct their proxy how to vote or give the proxy discretion to vote as they think fit. There will be votes on acceptance of the minutes of the last AGM, the

accounts for 2022, re-election of committee members and election of any other nominees. These votes are important to the running of BU3A. A member who appoints a proxy will count towards the quorum for the meeting. It is important that a quorum is achieved.

Each member is entitled to put forward a resolution for consideration at the AGM.

21 days' notice of any resolution must be given.



Nomination form for Chair, Vice-Chair, Groups' Coordinator, Committee member

I _____ am a member of BU3A, and agree to be nominated for election to the position of _____ at the AGM on Wednesday, 26 July 2023.

Signature of nominated member _____

Continues overleaf



A summary of Bakewell Area U3A's Accounts for 2022

Our U3A's finances started the 2022 year at £10,990 and ended the year at £9,820, a deficit of £1,170. This deficit was mostly due to the reduced subscription charged to members, to compensate for the Covid reduction in our U3A's activities. The largest items of income were members' subs and Gift Aid. The largest items of expenditure were on room hire, subscription to the Third Age Trust (U3A's national organisation) and production of the Gazette. In addition to the amounts above, our U3A bank accounts hold £975 for the Craft Group's tapestry project



The Accounts have been inspected by John Topham; they do not include money held separately by Groups.

Martin Pape, retiring Treasurer

Please note that Neil Sharples has now taken over as our U3A Treasurer.

May I express, on behalf of all of us, our gratitude to Martin, for his efficient, good-natured, untiring efforts on our behalves, throughout many years of treasurership. Thank you very much, Martin. Ed



Nomination Form (Continued)

Proposed by _____ BU3A member

Seconded by _____ BU3A member

Please return to Sam Lewis, Shacklow, Mires Lane, Rowland,
Great Longstone, DE45 1NP
by **Wednesday, 12 July 2023**

MLT

**Our next Meg Laird gathering
Wednesday, 26 July**

2.00 pm for our AGM

**with a 2.15 pm start for the music
followed by afternoon tea.**

At the Medway Centre. Usual price, £3.



**A Meg Laird gathering with a difference -
our Summer Buffet, with piano
accompaniment from Jonathan Mallalieu**

Jonathan is the music teacher at the Medway Center, giving lessons to all ages in piano, guitar and singing. He is the house pianist at Biggin Hall Hotel, playing there two or three times a week, during dinner. He also plays at weddings and private events. He specialises in the great



American songbook: Gershwin, Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers, Irving Berlin, Hoagy Carmichael but also Elton John, Beatles, Joni Mitchell etc. **Ahead of the event, if you have any music requests, let me know (01629 636477) and I'll pass them on to Jonathan. What a treat we have in store. Book the date now.**



NB Can you see the wonderful BU3A Millenium Embroidery on the wall behind Jonathan? I think I'm more amazed at the talent of those embroiderers every time I look at it. Take a look some time. Ed

Not your usual U3A walk!

In February 2023 George and I had a two-week holiday in the Gambia and Senegal. We spent 3 nights at Fathala Wildlife Reserve in Senegal which we much enjoyed, as the lodge was positioned by a water hole. We could sit on the terrace and watch the endless stream of animals coming in to drink - giraffe, zebra, rhino, warthog, antelope and monkey. We went out on a game drive and a walk with bird watching, but our most exciting activity was a lion walk.



There are only 3 places in the world where it is possible to walk with lions, Fathala being one. Any U3A walker will know that I am scared stiff of cows, and so the thought of me walking with lions seems very unlikely. After having an explanation of how it was organised, and being assured that there had never been an accident, I agreed to do it. I knew I would always regret it if I didn't.

We were given instructions - no sunglasses, no bags with straps, no running, keep behind the lions and don't touch them. We signed our disclaimer, and then we set off.



We were issued with stout poles painted with the lions' names, and were told that the lions were used to humans carrying these, and then we entered the enclosure to join a pair of lions called Tala



and Tayni. The first sight of the lions was slightly alarming as they leapt about, roared and then ran off into the bush. The three guides then went off in pursuit, and we waited, just hoping that the lions would not reappear before our guides! As I tried to keep myself from shaking in fear, I was glad of my stick, but I kept remembering the story of Albert and the Lion, and also the Cautionary Tale of Jim ("He had not gone a yard when, bang, with open jaws a lion sprang."). I tried to forget these and concentrated on All Things Bright and Beautiful instead.

In a few minutes we were thankful to see the three guides return with the lions, and we were able to walk behind them. Every so often the lions got a bit stropy and growled or tried to go off the path. The guides would shout and point their sticks down and we were able to have our photos taken behind them, being careful not to stand on their tails. After having been with them for about 45 minutes we returned to the gate and stepped outside into safety. It was quite a while before our heart beats returned to normal.

I was asked if I had enjoyed this experience and I said "no," as I don't think being close to one of the most dangerous animals in the world can be anything but scary. It was, however, an amazing experience which we will never forget. We were so pleased that we had been able to overcome our initial fears and have a walk on the wild side.



Rosemary Wolfe

(Thank you so much to Rosemary for sharing this experience with us. I think it's the most exciting activity I've reported in all the Gazettes I've done. Can anyone beat it? Sky diving? Pot holing?)

As ever, thanks to Jane Kayley-Burgess for our collection of cartoons this issue. You'll find them scattered throughout these pages. I paused for a split second over the kangaroo joke below, before hooting with laughter. **Ed**





New neighbours?

Whenever anyone moves into our area, there's the potential for benefits all round. If we let them know about our BU3A branch and they join, they have the benefit of new acquaintances, groups and activities they might like to try, and a general sense of beginning to belong to their new community. And we gain new members who may, in time, have ideas for starting new groups, become committee members, even Chairmen??**?!

If you let me know of new residents, I'll send them a Gazette with an explanatory note: 01629 636477, glenysanmoore@googlemail.com.



BU3A bowls

has already begun for this season. If you are interested in joining us we meet on a Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 10 - 12 noon. Please email Mary Creswell mary.creswell@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01629 810134.

That's a relief!



Ted goes to the doctor's, complaining of persistent flatulence. The doctor asks him to undress and lie down on the couch. Then, to Ted's horror, the doctor produces a six foot pole. "What are you going to do with that," he asks, with some concern. "I'm going to open a window," explains the doctor.

Two recipes for a lovely supper. Thank you to Irene Yarnall

Seared tuna with salsa verde

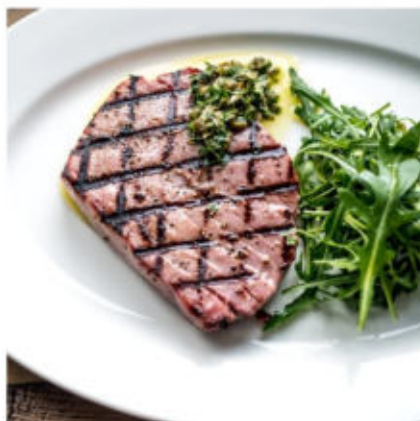
Salsa verde – this piquant Italian sauce is one of the world's great sauces!

Prep time: 15 minutes

4 x (6 oz) thick tuna loin steaks
Olive oil for frying
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 bag mixed salad

For the salsa verde:

3 tbsp chopped flat leaf parsley
1 tbsp chopped mint
3 tbsp capers
6 anchovy fillets
1 garlic clove, crushed
1 tsp Dijon mustard
Juice ½ lemon
4½ fluid oz extra virgin olive oil
½ tsp salt



First make the salsa verde. Put all the ingredients into a food processor and blend until well mixed together. Spoon into a bowl and set aside.

Brush the tuna steaks on both sides with a little olive oil and season well. Heat a ridged cast iron griddle, or a heavy base frying pan, over a high heat. Drizzle a little oil on to it, add the tuna steaks, and sear for 1½ minutes on the first side. Turn them over and cook for a further minute. Place the tuna steaks on 4 warmed plates and spoon some of the salsa verde on to each steak. Toss the salad leaves with a little olive oil, salt and pepper and pile them alongside the tuna.

Irene Yarnall

Save, save, oh save me from the Candid Friend. ***George Canning***

When I was a girl I only had two friends, and they were imaginary.
And they would only play with each other. ***Rita Rudner***

I hate housework, making the beds, doing the dishes. Then six months
later you have to start all over again. ***Joan Rivers***

If I only had a little humility, I'd be perfect. ***Ted Turner***

Pear, Almond and Ground Rice Pie

4 ripe pears
2 tbsp light brown sugar
4 oz butter
4 oz caster sugar
2 eggs
A few drops almond essence
3 oz SR flour
2 oz ground rice
1 oz flaked almonds
Custard or Crème Fraiche for serving
Oven temperature 180 degrees C



Grease a pie dish, peel and quarter the pears and arrange in the dish – sprinkle with brown sugar.

Place butter and sugar in mixing bowl, beat with a wooden spoon and then beat in eggs, one at a time, add almond extract. Fold in flour and ground rice.

Carefully spoon the creamed mixture over the pears, level the surface with a knife or metal spatula.

Sprinkle almond flakes over the top and bake for 30 minutes.

Serve warm or cold with custard or crème fraiche. **Irene Yarnall**

NB In searching for an illustration, I notice that some recipes have a pastry base. I'm sure it'll be delicious either way. After all, you can't go wrong with pears and almonds. **Ed**





NEW IDEAS - DO YOU HAVE THINGS YOU'D LIKE TO TRY?

Have you ever wondered if someone else in Bakewell U3A shares an interest of yours? Is there an event (one-off or regular) that you'd like to go to and want companions? Perhaps you'd only want to meet up once or it might become a new group. For instance, perhaps you want to walk the Derwent Way over the summer; or have a group to discuss the news; or have a day trip to the sea; or try various ethnic restaurants not available in Bakewell; or are looking for dog walking companions. As an example, I'm thinking of suggesting a Family History Group - might you like to do that with others. I have an idea how this could work.



All you need to do is write a brief summary of your interest and send it to me along with a way for people to contact you (preferably an email address). I will put this on a new web page on the Bakewell U3A website and anyone who shares your interest can contact you. (If you give an email address they will be able to use a form to send you a message without your email being published on the web). You're not committing yourself to running the event, just to replying to people who contact you. It will be up to you and the people who contact you to decide how to organise it.

If you don't have ideas yourself, but would like to know about ideas that are suggested by others, then let me have your email address and I will send email summaries occasionally. (If you don't have email then I might be able to update you by phone but suspect that will be too cumbersome to work). In addition to this I will get the ideas summarised in subsequent Gazettes.

Please send your suggestions to www.u3asites.org.uk/bakewell and click on "New Ideas". Or you can ring me if you'd like to discuss anything, 07979707383.

Andy Roberts

Interestingly, the font I'd chosen for Andy's heading is Balloonist. Ed



Walking Programme May - August 2023

All Walkers: please read these paragraphs.

The format of the walking programme has changed and we no longer give walk leaders' names.

Occasionally we do not have enough volunteers by the time the pages need to go to print, which is understandable, given how far in advance we are asking. Instead we are now providing dates only for each walk, along with a short generic description and lunch arrangements.

Note also: Winter Monday Walks have changed due to large numbers of pubs/cafes being closed on Monday. If you don't receive an email before the walk, or you are unsure whether it will be suitable for you, please contact the walk organiser for details. It is vital to get agreement before bringing a dog. You need to tell the walk leader if you intend to walk, and if you change your mind.

MONDAY/TUESDAY WALKS

Week 2 – Monday/Tuesday Around 5 miles at a moderate pace but may include steep paths, stiles and uneven terrain.



Organiser: John Anderson jandganderson@btinternet.com
01629 734531

Dates: Mondays - 15 May, 12 June, 10 July, 14 August



Week 3 - Monday Gentle stroll over easy terrain with very little incline and no stiles for approximately one and a half to two hours. Walk aimed at those wanting more than a trail walk but with limited challenge. However, all are welcome and should be aware of the very gentle pace. Plenty of time to chat and enjoy the environment. Lunch at café/pub in winter

Organiser: Jill Ormerod 01298 872339
jillormerod@gmail.com

Dates: Monday - 15 May, 19 June, 17 July,
21 August

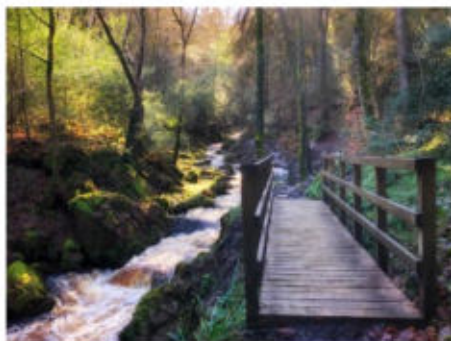
Details of our Group Activities - May 2023

Please refer to Group web pages for more information, www.u3asites.org.uk/bakewell

Subject	Co-ordinator	Telephone	Meeting day	Time	Location
Art	Linda Fussey	01629 636793	2 nd Thursday	2 - 4 pm	Youlgrave Reading Room
Birding Short Walks	Jane Burgess	07954 588053	1 st Tuesday	Am	janeburgess50@yahoo.co.uk
Bowling	Mary Creswell	01629 810134	Tues & Thurs April - Sept	10 - 12 noon	Bakewell Bowling Club
Book group	Jane Kayley- Burgess	01954 588053	2 nd Tuesday	2 - 4 pm	Friends' Meeting House, Bakewell
Bridge	Trish Simmonds	01629 814533	Every Thursday	1 - 4 pm	Medway Centre
Cooking by Men	Peter Holt	01246 583279 07801183913	2 nd Tuesday	5.30 - 7.30 pm	Lady Manners School peter@emailholt.com
Craft	Gill Roberts	01629 813414	2 nd Wednesday	2 - 4 pm	Wye Bank, Bakewell Phone the Co-ordinator
Gardens & Houses	Sheila Sidebottom Vivien Stephenson	01629 814842 01629 813643	Various Tuesday visits	Varies	Contact Co-ordinators
History	Richard Thurlow	01629 636944	1 st Tuesday	10 - 12 noon	Bakewell Methodist Church
Luncheon Club	Anne Peller	01629 813591	1st Wednesday	Need you ask?	Various restaurants

Details of our Group Activities, Page 2 - May 2023

Subject	Co-ordinator	Telephone	Meeting day	Time	Location
Out and About	01629 732810	01629 813414	01629 636477	01629 813591	You tell us - where?
Philosophy	Sam Lewis	01629 640352	2 nd Wednesday	10.00 - 12 noon	Phone the Co-ordinator
Photography	Neil Sharples Allen Flatman	07954241294 01629 812950	1 st Friday	10.00 - 12 noon	Bakewell Parish Church
Poetry	Anne Gould	01629 810038	2 nd Tuesday	2.00 pm	3 Brookside, Bakewell
Keep using your French	Liz Gelanos	lizgelanos@gmail.com	4 th Monday	2.30 - 4.30 pm	Email the Co-ordinator
Real Latin 1	Shelagh Gregory	01433 670026	Alternate Mondays	10.30 - 12.30 pm	Phone the Co-ordinator
Real Latin 2	Shelagh Gregory	01433 670026	Alternate Fridays	10.30 - 12.30 pm	Phone the Co-ordinator
Scrabble	Anne Peller	01629 813591			Phone the Co-ordinator
Social team and	Meg Laird team	Combined	01629 813591	01629 636477	01433 639713
Spanish	Jayne Northcott	01629 636458	Monday am, every two weeks	10.00 - 12 noon	Depends on numbers, phone for details
Theatre	Jan Chappell Diana MacBain	01629 812960 01298 873503	1 st Friday	3.15 pm	Medway Centre
Walking	Jane Burgess	07954 588053	See programme in the Gazette	Email: janeburgess50@yahoo.co.uk	
Writing for Pleasure	Pip Young	01629 814796	3 rd Wednesday	2.00 - 4.00 pm	Phone co-ordinator



Week 4 – Monday/Tuesday A walk of some 4 good tempered miles, occasional ascents and a few stiles, but much topical interest and variety.

Organiser: Alison Stuart 01629 812203

alisongayford@gmail.com

Dates: Mondays 22 May, 26 June, 24 July, August, no walk - bank holiday.

LONGER WALKS

Week 1 - Wednesday 7 to 9 miles A moderately paced walk over a variety of terrains. Picnic all year round, unless very inclement

Organiser: Neil Sharples neils.sharples@tiscali.co.uk 07954 241294

Dates: Wednesday 3 May, 7 June, 5 July, 2 August

Week 2 - Thursday 8-10 miles, at a moderate pace. Picnic all year round.

Organiser: George Wolfe geowolfe1@gmail.com
01433 631308

Dates: Thursdays 11 May, 15 June, 13 July, 10 August

Week 3 – Friday 5 to 7 miles at a moderate pace.
Pub or café lunch

Organiser: Martin Pape 01629 820265 empapecromford@gmail.com

Dates: Fridays 19 May, 23 June, 21 July, 18 August



Week 4 – Wednesday 7 to 9 miles, a moderately paced walk over a variety of terrains. Picnic all year round, unless very inclement

Organiser: Neil Sharples
neils.sharples@tiscali.com 07954 241294

Dates: Wednesdays 24 May, 28 June, 26 July, 23 August



DO YOU WANT TO 'KEEP USING YOUR FRENCH'?

We are a small group of U3A members who speak French to a 'reasonable' level, and aim to keep our French language skills alive.

We meet once a month on a Monday afternoon and spend the afternoon speaking French.

During our meetings we bring a piece of writing to share on a given subject, read an article from a French magazine, and have plenty of discussion.

Our most recent topics have been: "My perfect summer day", "Ideas to save the planet", and "A dog or a house bird. Which would you choose, and why?" - topics as varied as our group members, and their interests.



We each take turns to host and lead the group.

We would love to welcome one or two new members.

If you would like to know more, please contact Liz at lizgelanos@gmail.com

A font called Matisse seemed just right for the heading, and a French cafe is the perfect reason for needing to "Use your French". **Ed**

Notes From My Garden



My impression is that the last few months have been difficult for the garden. November rained so much that my Spring bulb filled tubs were flooded and I feared correctly that the bulbs would rot. We then had a prolonged cold patch with frozen ground impossible to dig. In February we had a lovely sunny month with a record for being the driest. Through this I cut back last year's foliage, dug my garden and prepared for the Spring as best I could.

In February I thought about planting broad beans but the soil was far too cold. I put poly tunnels over where the broad beans and onions would be planted in the hope of drying and warming the soil. A month later I planted both and replaced the protection and it is only this week that I see any signs of growth.



In the meanwhile, I started a task I love, planting seeds in boxes. First, I planted tomato seeds. My faithful favourites are Shirley; and Sungold both expensive seeds and only 10 to the packet.

I bought cheap seeds in the Coop, Red Cherry, a small vigorous cluster tomato which was very prolific last year and I planted enough seeds to give to friends. I planted them in last year's plug plant boxes and covered them and put them on a warm window ledge. They germinated a week later and were big enough to put in individual pots this week. It will be weeks before they can be planted in the green house or in growbags on a south facing wall.

I then planted sweetpeas, mangetoute peas and maincrop peas and a few of my favourite flower seeds like dahlias and rudbekkias, in trays and pots indoors. My porch and sunny window ledges are crammed full. Most have done really well. Yesterday I planted out in the garden my young peas, under a poly tunnel,



and was really pleased with the good germination. I thought that I had cracked it having had very uneven success with peas. However, I then uncovered my broad beans to discover that they were beginning to sprout and something, presumably mice, was feasting on them. It reminded me that my peas had a long way to go before I get a crop.

On a different subject, gardening is changing. We are all mindful of the environmental influences we make. For many years I have tried to grow plants that bees and butterflies like. I saw my first bee on January 2nd on my winter flowering honeysuckle and have taken pleasure in seeing them buzz around hellebores, crocuses, primroses and other flowers. I have seen my first comma butterfly, orange tip and brimstone. The birds are busy pairing up and feeding, and this year I have regular groups of pretty little long tailed tits to add to the nuthatches and aggressive robins who come to my feeders.



However, we also have a change in garden products. Slug pellets and other pesticides have been banned and peat compost is definitely not to be used, to preserve our peat moss bogs. I used to water peas and beans with a mixture of diluted Jeyes Fluid when newly planted because, as advocated by my Father, it discouraged mice who hated the smell. You can still buy it but it is different. It has lost its coal tar smell and doesn't cloud the water. So, when preparing potting compost for my seeds I have had to experiment. I had some of last year's seed compost left which I mixed with vermiculite for the fine seeds like tomatoes. The peat free compost is much coarser with a lot of straw like fibre in it, which again, mixed with vermiculite, seems to have worked for peas and beans and larger seeds like cosmos. Have any readers found a good potting mix?

Hopefully, soon we will have warm Spring and Summer days when we can enjoy the fruits of our work. I have my first rhubarb already and the currants are in flower. I have a few busy weeks ahead of me and hope that the garden will take care of itself and the seedlings will only require watering.

Mrs Blossom

Thanks, as always, to Mrs Blossom, but particularly now, as she wrote for us, in spite of having a very busy time away from the garden. Ed

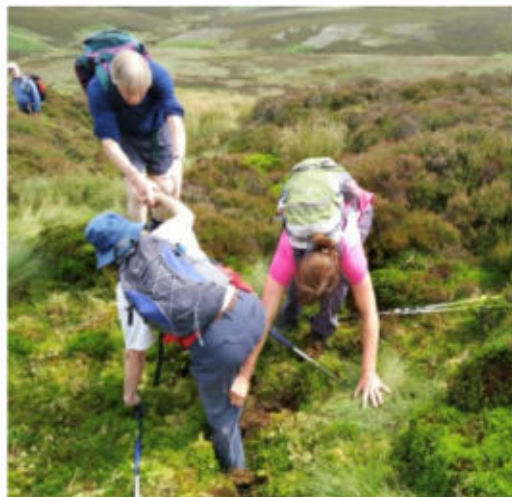
Frank Galbraith 1935 - 2023

Frank Galbraith was a cornerstone of our walking group. Funny, lively, enthusiastic for “the finest views in the north of England”, Frank was a real gentlemen. He would often turn up at walk meets with a gift for 'my esteemed leader'. Most curious was a small plastic bag with fabric squares and folded paper napkins “for occasions when you might need a cloth”, but my favourite was a whittled piece of birch to clean the mud from the soles of my boots. Both live in my rucksack.



The sadness of Frank's death was felt throughout the walking group and by all those whose lives Frank touched. Who will forget “name the teddy”, a staple at our coffee mornings, and Frank's long held but unfulfilled wish that we go to Austria to walk and stay at the hotel of people he knew.

I arrived (very) early at St Helen's in Grindleford where Frank had been a pillar of the community. I was delighted when a lady came and sat with me. She walked with Frank's Grindleford group and soon we were quoting 'Frankisms' to each other. The small church was quickly packed, with later-comers crowding the doorway.



In contrast to the many funerals I have attended this year, Frank's mourners wore black to a man. His coffin was preceded by a young standard bearer carrying the colours of the Royal British Legion, and a piper. Totally unexpected by most, the stirring skirl of the pipes filled the tiny church with sound. Frank's son, Duncan, read a poem of Frank's and Elgar's Nimrod added to the solemnity and beauty of the service.

Frank was played out of the church by the piper and laid to rest in the grounds of the church.

Jane Kayley Burgess



The Early Morning Run by Frank Galbraith

The purple in an early morning mist
Is intense against the grey enveloping fog.
No world exists beyond my own sight
A world in which I inhabit a different body
A body glorified in the movement
Of limbs and labouring breath.
A world in which my thoughts can drift
To long remembered hills and glens
Forgotten in the haste of everyday life
Outside the closed and secret space which is my own.
Soon the sky will clear and the path succumb to boots
Of many who seek the purple heather
But the spell of this secret world will not be theirs.

I didn't ask Frank for his contribution to Poetry Corner in the Gazette. His poem will be our Poetry Corner for this Issue. **Ed**

The second photograph - Frank being the gentleman he always was and pulling Rosemary out of a bog (with Annie's help). **Jane**

A night to remember

at Bakewell Town Hall Chamber Series

I feel sure you will agree with me that life is about “making memories” and on a Friday night in April, as I was sitting in Bakewell Town Hall, listening to music being performed by five members of the Halle Orchestra, I certainly gained a memory which will stay with me. It was encouraging to see every seat was taken and, in fact, as I walked through



the door I could see the whole of the front row was taken up by people I recognised from Bakewell U3A.

Performing for us were Amy Yule who is the principal flute player of the Halle, Stephane Rancourt, principal Oboe player, Marie Schreer, the versatile violin player, Chris Emerson a member of the viola section and Dale Culliford on

the cello, who organises the Bakewell Town Hall concerts.

All these performers are consummate professionals and it was a real privilege to sit and listen to the result of their years of training. In fact, following Stephane’s solo rendition of “Benjamin Britten – Six Metamorphoses after Ovid”, I gave him a standing ovation and wished other people present had joined me!

Certainly a night to remember.

Irene Yarnell



More (or less?) than he bargained for

A man sees a barber’s shop advertising David Beckham-style haircuts and decides to go in. Half an hour later he’s horrified to see his hair looking messy, ragged and with bald bits. “That’s not how David Beckham has his hair,” complains the man. “It would be if he came here,” comes the reply.

Town Hall Chamber Series: Summer Strings

Bakewell Town Hall

Saturday, 1st July 2023, 7.30 pm

An evening of chamber music for strings, with members of the Hallé Orchestra.

Works include

Richard Strauss – String Sextet from ‘Capriccio’ opus 85

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart – String Quintet in G minor K516

Johannes Brahms – String
Sextet in Bb major opus 18



Performers

Roberto Ruisi and

Yu-mien Sun – violins

Christine Anderson and Alistair Vennart – violas

Nicholas Trygstad and Dale Culliford – cellos

Cross purposes



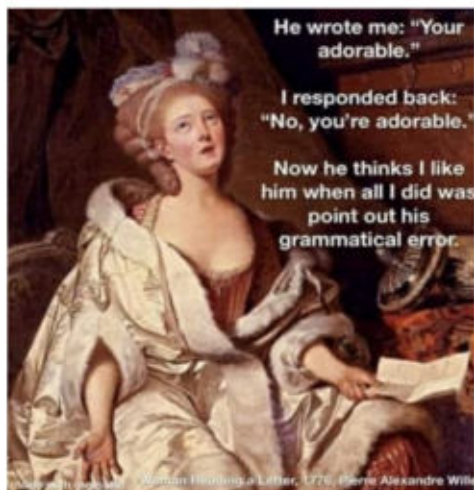
A feminist gets on a bus and is annoyed when a little old man stands up to give her his seat. “Don’t patronise me,” she mutters, and pushes him back down. At the next stop another woman gets on, the old man rises, and again the feminist pushes him back into his seat. This happens again at the next stop and the feminist hisses, “You’re living in the Stone Age.” “For pity’s sake,” wails the old man, “please let me get off, I’ve missed three stops already!”

Proxy Form

I, _____ (your name) nominate

_____ (Name of proxy)

as my proxy at the BU3A AGM to be held on Wednesday, 26 July 2023/
at all future BU3A meetings. (Please delete one.)



Is it risky to be risqué?

I sometimes find myself in a bit of a quandry. A few of the jokes which make me laugh out loud or chuckle for ages are just a little risqué. I don't want to offend but I'd love to share odd ones with you; perhaps we could have a vote at the AGM? **Ed**



First among equals?

A bricklayer, a carpenter and an electrician sit in the pub and argue over which of them has the oldest profession. "We built the pyramids," says the bricklayer, "we must have been first." "We built Noah's Ark before the pyramids," says the carpenter. "We were first." The electrician says, "You're both wrong. When God said, 'Let there be light,' it came on straight away. So we must have been there to do the wiring."



What do you get if you cross a door knocker with courgettes, onions, tomatoes and garlic?

A rat-a-tat-a-touille

One day the don't knows will get in and then where will we be?

Spike Milligan

Proxy form to be returned to:

Sam Lewis, Shacklow, Mires Lane,
Rowland, Great Longstone. DE45 1NP

or a copy emailed to sptmlewis@gmail.com

To be received at least 24 hours before the meeting.



BAKEWELL U3A THEATRE GROUP

On 23 March, BU3A's Theatre group enjoyed a trip to Sheffield Lyceum to see Northern Ballet's production of **The Great Gatsby**.

This was an excellent production choreographed by David Nixon. The dancing was very good; especially good were the male dancers Jonathon Hanks as "Gatsby", Harry Skoup as "Buchanan" and Filipino Di Visio as "Carraway". A lively Daisy was danced by Sarah Chun. The scenery was minimal but very effective, with clever lighting and pieces moved around to depict the different scenes, from Gatsby's mansion to Wilson's garage and



Buchanan's seedy New York love nest. It was lovely to have a live orchestra, the jazz music was great, had my feet tapping. The costumes were fantastic, very rich and colourful.

Judging by comments on the bus going home, everyone had enjoyed the performance, especially the jazz music and also came in for a lot of praise, as

having a live orchestra. The costumes well as the dancing, of course.

Cate Hunt

Currently, no further productions have been booked. Does anyone from the Theatre Group fancy stepping up to the mark and organising the next event? Jan and Diana would support.

Jan: 01629 812960, Email: jchappell7@btinternet.com

Diana: 01298 873503, Email: dcmacb@aol.com

A NEW GENERATION JOINING U3A?

I've never been one for the different "generations" that are talked about - "Gen X", "Gen Y", "Millennials" - these all seem like things made up by journalists. However, "Baby Boomers" (born 1946 - 64) does make sense - the austerity of the war at the start of the period, then the teenage revolution and "You've never had it so good" of the 60s - it's not surprising that they/we were different to the generation before (who are apparently called the Silent Generation).

I think that I come from another new generation! The newly retiring generation that we would like to attract to our U3A are different in one way.

I'm 65, fairly recently retired, and when I was at school we didn't have a computer, and jobs in computers certainly weren't mentioned by the careers master. A couple of years later

there was a panic about computers taking over most of our jobs, so when I finished university I was one of an enormous number of people offered programming jobs (it seemed every candidate was offered a job!). Three years later the IBM PC was launched (now just known as "the PC" because it's everywhere); 2 years later Microsoft Windows was launched. So in a very few years the PC revolution happened and a new generation began. These people have spent most of their working lives linked with computers. There are, of course, a few who will have come through without that link (and we have to ask how we contact them) but for most,



the internet may be the first place they look for information about Bakewell U3A, and we all know that first impressions are important.

So, first point - the website is important to the future of Bakewell U3A in a way it hasn't been in the past. I've just taken over managing the website so my job is now to

encourage groups and members to make sure the website is attractive to potential members. Some questions - Does your group have a page on the website? If so, would its contents inspire interest in your group? Could it have interesting photos added? If not, could your group be involved together in creating a group page on our website?

If you went to buy your favourite newspaper and found the headline, "Drake Defeats Spanish Armada," you'd think that it was a novelty issue or a joke. But if the paper continued publishing old news you'd move on to a more up-to-date paper. Everybody says that the world is moving faster, and certainly things go out of date on the internet very fast. If I see an internet page that was last updated in 2020 then I assume that the group hasn't got going again since Covid. An earlier date implies that it is closed permanently. So, when I moved to Bakewell, the U3A website gave the impression that nothing much was going on, with only 6 active groups, which I know isn't the case, and I'm sure isn't the impression we want to give.

So, second point - make sure your group's web page exists, isn't out of date and, where you can, please update it with current activities, so that our U3A looks active. If you need any help with web pages on the site then please get in touch with me (email address below).

Andy Roberts web.admin@BakewellU3A.e4ward.com
07979707383



I think we should have a Bakewell baseball hat! Ed



Gardens, Houses and Art Group Spring into Summer

BRIDGEWATER



A visit has been organised to Bridgewater on Tuesday, 30 May, leaving Bakewell at 8.30 am. Cost for RHS members is £25, and for non-members, £33.50. There are two places still available. Contact me if you are interested, 01629 814842 or s.sidebottom2017@gmail.com

BARNSDALE GARDENS

A visit is being organised to Barnsdale Gardens, Oakham, to take place on **THURSDAY, 13 JULY.**

The cost will be £20 per person for the coach and £9 per person for entry to the Gardens.

More details will follow.

Sheila Sidebottom

Bakewell Area U3A - Registered Charity No 111699

YOUR OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The members of the committee of the Bakewell Area U3A are ex-officio the Trustees of this Bakewell U3A Trust No 111699. The Trustees are answerable and accountable for the finances, activities and publications of the Trust.

There is a link to our data protection policy on the members' page of the BU3A website.

Chairman

Vacant

Secretary

Sam Lewis 01629 640352
sptmlewis@gmail.com

Database Co-ordinator

Phil Clarke 01629 630095
bakewellu3adba@outlook.com

New Members

Groups Secretary

Website Manager

Committee Members

Judy Hinsliff 01629 650119
Jean Sutton 01433 639713
Pam Walker 07786 245406

Vice Chairman

Vacant

Treasurer

Neil Sharples 07954 241294
neils.sharples@tiscali.co.uk
11 Castle Drive, Bakewell. DE45 1AS

Gazette Editor

Glenys Moore - 01629 636477
email.the.gazette@googlemail.com

See below

Vacant

Andy Roberts - 07979707383
web.admin@BakewellU3A.e4ward.com

There are vacancies for committee and co-opted members. Please contact the Secretary if you would like more information.

Website: www.u3asites.org.uk/bakewell

Bakewell U3A warmly welcomes all new members. Please contact the Membership Secretary for more information. Membership forms are also held at the Library, the Medway Centre and the Information Centre. The form can be downloaded from our website.

Completed membership forms should be sent to G Moore, Green Peace, Stoneyside, Youlgrave, Derbyshire DE45 1WH

Our charity fund-raising Coffee Mornings have been so successful and enjoyable, that your Meg Laird/Social Team decided to organise another one. And we also decided to continue to support Ashgate Hospice; after all they do still need over £10 million, and every little helps. Please make this one as well attended as the January one. So . . .



another BU3A Coffee Morning
on Thursday, 18 May
10.30 am - 12 noon in the
Friends' Meeting House

It will be a good chance for members to get together, chat and enjoy company from across the groups. And as Spring will be springing, and thoughts turning to gardening and growing, we hope little plants and unneeded seedlings might find their way to the hall. We'll do Bring and Buy on anything you'd like to bring - plants, cakes, preserves, bric-a-brac, Cds, DVDs, books, etc. And, of course, there'll be nice refreshments.

Please join us, invite friends who haven't joined yet, spread the jolly BU3A message. *And, please, book the date in your calendar/diary. Let's make this another good one. Entrance £3, includes refreshments.*

