

## AGM 2021

Due to the Government restrictions regarding Covid, we will hold a virtual AGM on 14 April at 2pm using Zoom. The Chair will be sending out notification to all members on 24 March and then invitation links will be sent to everyone on 10 April, together with an agenda. Current members without email will receive the invitation via the post. Please don't forget that in order to join this meeting you need to have renewed your subscription. We really look forward to seeing you on 14 April.

### Not renewed yet?

The final date for renewing your membership was given as the end of February. However, we are giving people two further weeks until 15 March. You can pay by PayPal online (you don't need an account) from the Canterbury and District u3a website—go to the **Member** page, the 3rd bullet point down and click on the link that says **Renewals**.

Alternatively, you can pay by the following methods:

**Online bank transfer** (known as faster payments), **PayPal** or **Cheque**. Please go to your renewal letter for detailed information. If you can't find it contact the membership secretary by email [membership@u3acanterbury.org.uk](mailto:membership@u3acanterbury.org.uk) or on her home phone number **01227 832 641** (our Orange Street office is not in use owing to Covid restrictions).



## A Message of Thanks

'Thank You' to all those members who contacted me about renewing their membership; sending cards and messages of support and lovely words of thanks. There were also those members who were not renewing at this time but who appreciated what has been done for u3a members this year. It has made quite an intensive job so much more rewarding and enjoyable.

*Mary Laslett, Membership Secretary*



## Why not shop on SmileAmazon at no extra cost to you?

Our u3a has signed up with Amazon and they will donate to us 0.5% of the net purchase price (ex VAT) of any eligible goods that you order from the [SmileAmazon](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) website. This has exactly the same range of goods and the same prices as the Amazon website. All you have to do is click on this link [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) or copy and paste it into your search engine to go to their website. The first time that you use it you will need to select u3a Canterbury as your chosen charity. You can use your existing account on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.co.uk) for the SmileAmazon website.



## Monthly Meeting

This month's meeting will be held via Zoom on **10 March** at **2 p.m.** The speaker is Paul Robbins and his talk, **Great British Eccentrics**, takes a light-hearted journey looking at some of the great characters from the past.



## **New Memory Project**

Following the warm congratulations to those of our members whose cameos of their life stories were shared in our recent 'Capturing Memories' project, we are hoping more participants will volunteer to have their stories recorded for the Canterbury u3a Memory Bank. The plan now is to follow up the original recordings with further accounts, either elaborating on the initial themes, or opening up others. So far, we have participants who want to talk about the (very different) world of the workplace, the impact of their student exchange programmes in America, staying on in the Far East after 1947. Of particular interest are the stories of our parents and grandparents in that we are the last curators of their histories.

Even if you feel that you had a somewhat conventional life, it would still be a revelation to the younger generation, especially if you could talk about budgeting on lower income, attitudes to the other big taboos of the time that were swept under the rug or embarrassing—anything that the young these days are so open about e.g. mental illness, debt, divorce, love (or not) and marriage, domestic abuse—doesn't have to have happened to you, just attitudes of the day! Or we could talk about expectations, aspirations—and reality, again not necessarily just you but your wider family, school friends. But please feel free to suggest any theme addressing aspects of our early lives that will enlighten or amuse those in the future who dip into our 'memory bank'.

Do contact Rosina on [Rosinapullman@aol.com](mailto:Rosinapullman@aol.com) or ring 01233 840024 for an initial chat.



## **Free Courses from Hadlow College**

Hadlow College, Kent, are offering free courses to adult residents in Kent boroughs. They are delivered online via Zoom, starting early March through April, anticipating that they can move to face-to-face delivery soon, again free.

These are short courses, in both horticulture and floristry and delivered by college lecturers, technical instructors and, for horticulture, the Head Gardener. For more details visit their website <https://www.hadlow.ac.uk/courses/horticulture>. Scroll down and all the free courses are listed. You can also contact Sam who will be happy to assist: [samanthajenkins@northkent.ac.uk](mailto:samanthajenkins@northkent.ac.uk).



## **Seenager**

I have just discovered my age-group! I am a seenager (senior teenager).

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 55–60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driving-licence and my own car.

I have ID that gets me into bars and the wine shop. I like the wine shop better! The people that I hang around with aren't scared of getting pregnant; they aren't scared of anything, they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared? And I don't have acne. Life is good!

Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this if you are a seenager. Brains of older people are slower because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age; it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains. Scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing, as it puts more pressure on your inner ear.

Also, older people go to another room to get something, and when they get there they stand wondering what they came for. It is not a memory problem, it's nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

So there!

I have more friends I should send this to, but right now I can't remember their names. So please forward this to your friends—they may be my friends too.

## Best Quote

You may not have heard of Bjarne Stroustrup, but he's a very clever chap. A computer programmer. He came up with a new way of writing programmes back in the 80s that's still used today. One of his best quotes is: 'I have always wished for my computer to be as easy to use as my telephone; my wish has come true because I can no longer figure out how to use my telephone.' What chance do we have!



## Zoom Meetings are just modern Seances

- ~ There's someone who wants to join us.
- ~ Elizabeth, are you there?
- ~ We can't hear you.
- ~ Can you hear us?



## This Month's Quiz

Here you need to find the word that can form a link with each of the three words given. The word can go either in front or at the end of the words.

- |            |        |          |            |          |        |
|------------|--------|----------|------------|----------|--------|
| 1. castle  | tray   | builders | 9. boy     | maid     | wheel  |
| 2. ground  | field  | fore     | 10. stand  | paper    | boy    |
| 3. auto    | mini   | lane     | 11. wards  | standing | set    |
| 4. wall    | house  | fire     | 12. up     | hat      | news   |
| 5. village | light  | back     | 13. grate  | guard    | forest |
| 6. shine   | blue   | harvest  | 14. battle | yard     | wright |
| 7. hand    | blue   | tower    | 15. cow    | friend   | tall   |
| 8. foot    | bridle | way      |            |          |        |

Janet McBride

*The answers will appear in next month's issue.*



### Answers to last month's quiz

1. Montevideo, 2. Prague, 3. Mogadishu, 4. Berlin, 5. Lagos,  
6. Seoul, 7. La Paz, 8. Ougadougou, 9. Nairobi, 10. Monrovia



## Book Reviews

### ***Unnatural Causes* by Dr Richard Shepherd**

Dr Shepherd is a world-renowned forensic pathologist who has worked on individual murders and international disasters from the Marchioness/Bowbelle sinking to the death of Princess Diana.

I've been around medicine all my working life but was bowled over by the knowledge and expertise of this branch of the profession, which leads to such clever and amazing answers to some of the most baffling and difficult of events.

A riveting read for medics and lay alike, and I guarantee you will be totally fascinated.

Penguin, 400pp.

*Jocelyn Thomson*



### ***Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens**

The author is a retired wildlife biologist.

This memorable novel opens in 1969 with the discovery of a young man's body in a Carolina swamp. It then reverts to 1952 and tells the story of Kya Clark, who is left by her family at an early age to fend for herself in the family's shack in the swamp.

Kya grows up with minimal human contact, she avoids school and earns money from collecting mussels. Nature is her teacher. As the book unfolded, I kept wondering about the significance of the dead man's body and the tension builds wonderfully. This book combines a murder mystery with superb nature writing, romance and survival. I don't think I will forget Kya and her struggles to survive. A good read while we are all isolating.

*Pam McGregor*



## Recommended Books

From Barbara Armstrong: *Murder Mysteries* by Julie Wassmer, a local author, available from Amazon Bookstore.

From Jenny Davis: *Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and *The Book of Senior Moments* by Shelley Klein.

From Dan Liverman: *Giovanni's Room* by James Baldwin.

Please keep your recommendations coming in, they are much appreciated.



## Just in Case

We don't want our members to miss anything we send, but sadly we find that some of the messages go straight to spam or junk folders. Please check these regularly and stay in touch.

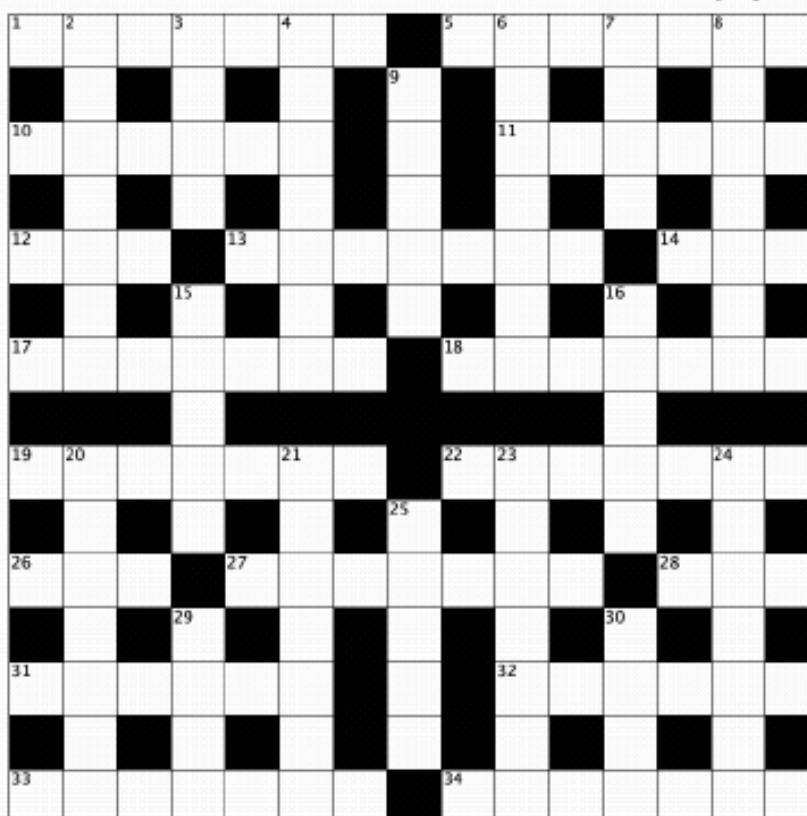


## A Little Light Mischief

Ozpiiper

### ACROSS

1. You and I come to this place with a note to be shown the way (7)
5. Well regarded commercial ground to a halt (7)
10. Transcendental vegetable? (6)
11. Slapdash look around crop (6)
12. "I see!" spoken coldly (3)
13. To bury an example in a number (7)
14. Is able to make a container (3)
17. Expects donkeys to carry a Greek letter back (7)
18. Learner to play prank around Germany (7)
19. Edges around to spoil drinks (7)
22. Occupied making joke in need, unfortunately (7)
26. Infection reported to have been airborne (3)
27. Buttonholes accounts contain expenses (7)
28. Evenly varied assistance (3)
31. Clone half a page of pain (6)
32. Improved gambler? (6)
33. Senior journalists report decay in backside (7)
34. Notwithstanding hawk in river (7)



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### DOWN

2. Origins of alleged impertinences (7)
3. Long time to have a broken nose (4)
4. Former writers on point to incur a cost (7)
6. Came down to get rid of smell? (7)
7. Image of counterfeit coin (4)
8. Make it clear that previous partner was not beautiful (7)
9. Wrong directions for connection to bone (5)
15. Relocate swelling to glue skin (5)
16. Thought first led to perfection (5)
20. Permitted to borrow the lot? (7)
21. Terribly unclear at the core (7)
23. Can't be significant! (7)
24. Very important to find mine in tangled net (7)
25. Panel sounds disengaged (5)
29. Queen leaves poor tinker to tie up loose threads (4)
30. Animals come back from short walk (4)



Please keep sending in your items of interest, from a couple of sentences up to 250 words to Ursula Steiger [ursulae@btinternet.com](mailto:ursulae@btinternet.com) or [Editor@u3aCanterbury.co.uk](mailto:Editor@u3aCanterbury.co.uk)

