

COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONTACT DETAILS

NAME	PHONE/ MOBILE	EMAIL
CHAIRMAN SOCIAL EVENTS ORGANISER DIANE SMITH		
SECRETARY DAVE SUTTON		
TREASURER FRANCES BARBOUR		
SPEAKER ORGANISER JEANETTE PARMINTER		
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY NEWSLETTER EDITOR VICE CHAIRMAN JAN DOWDALL		
GROUPS COORDINATOR LINDA BOSE		

FOR ENQUIRIES PLEASE RING THE ABOVE BETWEEN 9AM-6PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY ONLY. THANK YOU.
www.u3asites.org.uk/canvey-thameside



BURLESQUE DANCING!

A talk by Lindsay Burrell



Well, we have had some interesting talks, but this was certainly the most unusual. We welcomed Lindsay Burrell and her colleagues to our Friday morning meeting. We discovered Lindsay was from up north, Durham way, even more up north than me. She had with her her group from Canvey Island W.I. (where else?), resplendent with pink hair and corset.

In her northern style she entertained us and played the audience well, telling us how a lady with children ended up as a president of a W.I. and burlesque dancer. Her exile in Chelmsford was prompted my marriage, but she stayed after her divorce. Later, with her children gone and realising she had plenty of acquaintances but no real friends, she decided a new hobby was needed. She started crafting, with endless cabinets and 6 sewing machines, including a computer model where most of it remained a mystery. She was a victim of the Lidl and Aldi middle aisle syndrome, where you end up bringing home something that might be useful one day, another sewing machine. (A total aside. My wife had hers serviced recently. We were horrified they had sewing machines £15,000 and more in the showroom.) Lindsay then moved on to Salsa at the Chelmsford Marconi Social Club with 100 ladies and 3 much in demand but nervous gentlemen. She then saw in the Essex Chronicle an advert for a ladies Burlesque Group classes. Dressed in her gym gear she turned up and the rest is history.

Lindsay also has the volunteer for anything syndrome, so the instructor asked for volunteers to do solos. She had a few days to get the outfit, think of a suitable name, learn more than the one move she knew, find some suitable music and perform twice in a pub in Bishops Stortford, including her daughter in the front row. So to Patricia the Stripper,

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Your newsletters contain the private contact details of many of your fellow members and we must ask you to ensure that when you have finished with your newsletter you dispose of it thoughtfully. Where possible please shred pages containing private contact details. While these members are happy to share their details with you, they might not be so happy to receive contact from anyone who has obtained their details from a thoughtlessly discarded newsletter. Many thanks.

CHANGE OF PERSONAL DETAILS

I would be grateful if you could please let me know of any changes you have made to your:

**HOME ADDRESS
EMAIL ADDRESS
TELEPHONE NUMBER/S
I.C.E. CONTACT/S**

as soon as possible so that I can update my records.

Many thanks, Jan

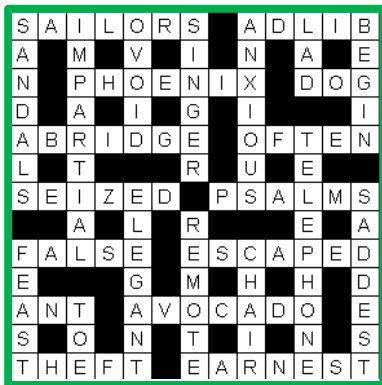
CERTIFICATES AND LICENCES

Details of our U3A Insurance, our PPL Licence and our MPLC Umbrella Certificate can be found on our website www.u3asites.org.uk/canvey-thameside under the 'INFO' tab.

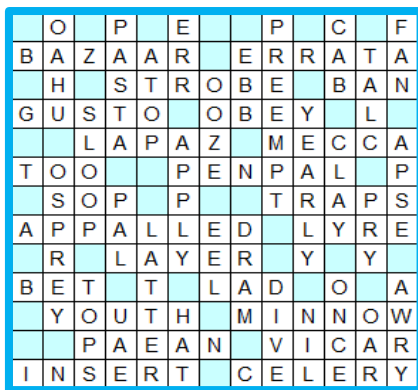
A PPL licence is required when recorded music, including radio and TV, is played in public.

An MPLC Umbrella Certificate allows us to show films and TV shows

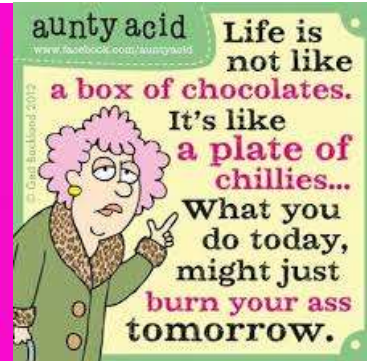
TRUE OR FALSE SOLUTION



ARROWS SOLUTION



AUNTY ACID



Lindsay went down a treat and a whole new way of life was started. Lindsay joined a new W.I. in Chelmsford Cathedral, which, due to its size split into interest groups. Lindsay offered them a Burlesque group and 20 turned up to “keep fit” classes. Things went well and soon they were ready to perform at Chelmsford Cathedral and raising money for charities on the way. The group then went on a tour of Vegas, Palm Springs.....well south Essex anyway, including Canvey Island W.I. They were impressed and eventually persuaded Lindsay to help set up a group on Canvey, including the W.I. president. It started with a lady with the corset on upside down (which I am still trying to visualise) and progressed well to first prize at the Canvey Carnival. They also performed at the island Conservative Club, performing to the music of the Red Flag (I made that bit up, but it would have been interesting).

At this point, Lindsay was joined by the Canvey Island group, suitably, attired and on stage, well the front of the hall. Top hats, fans, gloves etc. were removed as the ladies aged up to 83 did two routines, one to the song Welcome to Burlesque and the second to Chris De Burgh's Patricia (or Delicia) the Stripper, one of his more unexpected songs.

This concluded a thoroughly entertaining morning, which will inspire a lady in our group to set up our version and a gentleman to set up our own Dream Boys. I will let you work out who would be the best convenors for such a task.

PS. By the way, Burlesque has come to mean different things in different eras, with the dancing version proliferating in the USA in seedy or not so seedy cabaret bars from the 1860s to the 1940s. The revival of interest was in the 1990s and there are still burlesque shows to this day. Burlesque comes from the Italian burlesco, where a burla is a joke, ridicule or mockery.

Paul.



GROUPS



ART



The Art Group hold their meetings at
The Jubilee Hall at the rear of
Waterside Farm Sports Centre on
alternate Thursdays from 10am – 12pm



CINEMA



Our January outing to the cinema was to see Empire of Light with Olivia Coleman and Colin Firth. In February we saw Matilda the Musical based on the book by Roald Dahl. Our March outing to the cinema was to see Hallelujah starring Jennifer Saunders, Judi Dench and Derek Jacobi. Three very different films!

For details of future cinema visits please contact Georgia

MONTHLY MEETINGS 2023

These are the 2023 Friday monthly meeting dates for your diary

To be held at St. Nicholas' Church Hall,
Long Road, Canvey Island
Once a month on Fridays
between 9.45am – 12pm

19 th MAY	15 th SEPTEMBER
16 th JUNE	20 th OCTOBER
21 st JULY	24 th NOVEMBER
18 th AUGUST	15 th DECEMBER

DOORS WILL OPEN at 9.45

We aim to be seated by 10am ready for notices to be read, etc.

We would ask that our members do not arrive at the car park until after 9.30 please





Birthdays of the Month



MAY

3rd Irene Cuthbertson

3rd Irene Rhind

4th Joe O'Connor

7th James Rhind

9th Vera Martin

10th Sylvie Wright

11th Janice Smith

11th Myra Graham

12th Georgia Draper

13th Pamela Martin

16th Marilyn Green

16th Joan Lawler

24th Jacqueline Ryan

26th Sylvia Trevellion

26th Julia Cornwell

28th Mal Bhamber

29th Colin Jackson



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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If your name is not shown here your birth date was omitted from your membership form.
Please let Jan know your birthday to add to our records.

CANASTA

AND PERHAPS WHY YOU SHOULD THINK OF JOINING THE GROUP

Canasta – what on earth is Canasta? Isn't it the Spanish word for basket? Is it a card game? Is it easy to learn and fun to play?

Perhaps as you flicked through the pages of the monthly newsletter or as you noticed the group information slips on Linda's desk at the monthly meeting, a passing thought may have been "I wonder what Canasta is"? Then you have flicked the page over or continued on passed the table and dismissed the thought of Canasta and joining the Canasta group.

Or, perhaps you lingered a while on that page or paused to look at the Canasta Group information slip and thought of finding out a bit more about the game and the group.

What is Canasta?

Canasta is an easy to learn card game which is played by four or six players in two teams with two standard decks of cards and wild cards. Each card has a score value and the object of the game is for each team to score points and one team to reach 5000 points before the opposing team.

To score points players in each team together attempt to make canastas. A canasta is a group of seven cards of the same numerical rank. A team "goes out" by one of the team playing all the cards in his hand. The points are then counted and a new game begins again until one team reaches 5000 points.

Then you may have asked yourself:

- If I am interested in joining this group, is the group a friendly one?
- Do they welcome new group members with open arms?
- Do they help new group members learn the game?
- Does that help continue until the new member is comfortable with the game?
- Would it be a way of pleasantly passing an afternoon, learning new card skills with a group of friendly group members, some of whom I may currently know, or other members I will get to know and become friends with?
- Will playing help keep my brain active with a gentle workout?
- Does the alternate Tuesdays and Wednesdays timetable fit in my schedule without a commitment?
- Do the playing times of 2pm to 5pm suit me?
- Would I be able to play just occasionally if other commitments crop up?
- Does playing in the Morrison's community room have its attractions because it's free and convenient to pick up some shopping before or after the game?



On the other hand, if you have played Canasta in the past, you may be thinking whether you would enjoy getting reacquainted with the game. Perhaps you play occasionally with other non-u3a groups already and you may be thinking it would be good to meet and play with new players. You probably then are asking yourself the same questions a member with no Canasta knowledge has.

Well, there is just one answer to those questions and that answer is YES.

So why not join our friendly group and enjoy a relaxing game of cards in great company while keeping your mind active and giving your brain a gentle workout at the same time.



(The group meets on alternate Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 2pm and 6pm in The Morrison's Community room).



CRAFT



GROUP NOW FULL

We meet every 4 weeks.
We provide everything.
The cost is £4 per session.
You take home your masterpieces!
Refreshments can be bought instore or bring your own.

**WE MEET IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM,
MORRISONS STORE, NORTHWICK ROAD
FROM 13.30 TO 15.30**

CRIBBAGE

The crib group is full as we meet at people's houses and 8 is our maximum. Perhaps if anyone else wants to play a new group could be formed?

We aim to meet about every two weeks but this will depend on people's other commitments.

Jan



NEWS & INFORMATION

FRIDAY MEMBERS MEETING SPEAKERS LIST MARCH TO MAY 2023

APRIL 21st IAN NICHOLSON
His talk is titled 'Wills, the unspeakable conversation'.

-oOo-

MAY 19th ANDREW BAICZ
His Talk is about Seasonal Container Gardening

Andrew started as an apprentice gardener in Scotland with the National Trust and then went on to work at the RHS gardens Wisley, Kew Gardens and Hampton Court. He also spent a year working in nurseries in Holland.

He is a keen photographer and has thousands of digital photographs of flowers and plants used in his talks.

-oOo-

JUNE 16th ROD BISHOP
His Talk is about Canvey Island

Funny Poems About Old Age

DEAD CERTAIN

A senior couple were lying in bed one morning.
Just as a new day was dawning
Having had the most perfect nights sleep
Long, restful, undisturbed and deep



The old gentleman turned to his wife and asked
"Would you like a cup of tea?"

She lay perfectly still in the same position
"NO! Of course I don't want a cup of tea"

Surprised by her vehemence he asked "Why not?"
She answered, "Because I'm dead"
"What are you talking about? Of course you're not
What put such a thought in your head?"

"It's no good you arguing with me about it
I have no doubt at all. I am definitely dead,
And that's it and all about it, because
I woke up this morning and nothing hurts" she said

DON'T THROW ME ON THE SCRAP HEAP

Don't throw me on the scrap heap
Just because I'm old
I still have talent and skills to offer
If I may be so bold
My talent is called multi tasking
Or so I've been led to believe
And I can simultaneously wet myself
And laugh, cough, fart and sneeze



Thanks to: peculiar-poetry.com

CROCHET & KNITTING



This group meets on 1st
and 3rd Wednesdays of
every month

DINING CLUB



**WATCH THIS SPACE FOR
DETAILS OF FUTURE
DINING BOOKINGS**

INDOOR GAMES

The Indoor Games group meets every other Wednesday at the Jubilee Hall from 1.45pm till 3.45pm.

We play a variety of games - mostly board and card games.

We are full at the moment but if you would like to start a second indoor games group please contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator.

Regards, Jan & Den



KEEP FIT

Our Keep Fit Group meetings are held:

EVERY TUESDAY
(2 morning sessions)

At: **THE JUBILEE HALL**

at the rear of Waterside Farm Sports Centre

The sessions are run by Karen Lawrie



ARROWS

SOLUTION PAGE 22

Hawaiian island		Shaped dough		On		Stray	Acquire		Taxi		Devotee
Fair							Misprint				Baby powder
						Seep					
Relish		Lighting							Prohibit		
		Sailing vessel							Annually		
				Comply						Mud	Part of a church
				Enforce							
Also	South American city							Holy city			
	Hawk										
			Crony	Writing friend							Be nosey
Drench											
Shocked			Second of two			Long fish	Snares				
							Unit of weight				
								Ancient stringed instrument			
Wager	Tier								Plunge	One time	Amiss
	Goes beyond										
			Arab federation, initially		Young man					Nothing	Paddle
					Headwear						
Young person						Small fish					
Put in	Hymn of praise							Clergyman			
						Vegetable					

ANDY CAPP





ARE YOU SITTING COMFORTABLY?



YORKSHIRE JOKES AND FUNNY STORIES

(From funnyjokes.com website)

Yorkshire people are a very particular breed: they can be dour, they speak their minds and they are hard working, friendly and kind. Yorkshire people refer to their county as 'God's own county,' and indeed can boast some of the most beautiful countryside in Britain.

A Yorkshire man had emigrated to America, but still used to receive news from home by mail.

One day, he got the following telegram: 'Regret father died this morning STOP Early hours. Funeral Wednesday STOP

Yorkshire two hundred and one for six STOP Boycott not out ninety six.'

Yorkshire man takes his cat to the vet.

Yorkshireman: Ayup, lad, I need to talk to thee about me cat.

Vet: Is it a tom?

Yorkshireman: Nay, I've browt it with us.



A Yorkshireman's wife dies and the widower decides that her headstone should have the words "she were thine" engraved on it. He calls the stone mason, who assures him that the headstone will be ready a few days after the funeral. True to his word the stone mason calls the widower to say that the headstone is ready and would he like to come and have a look.

When the widower gets there he takes one look at the stone to see that it's been engraved "she were thin". He explodes, 'Blimey man, you've left the "e" out.'

The stone mason apologises and assures the poor widower that it will be rectified the following morning. Next day comes and the widower returns to the stone mason, 'There you go sir, I've put the "e" on the stone for you.' The widower looks at the stone and then reads out aloud, 'E, she were thin.'

AYUP - FOOTNOTE

'Ayup', by the way, is an all purpose Yorkshire word that means Hello, How are you? Whassup? What are you up to? Look at this, Oyl, Gerroff, See that? Bloody hell! Are you listening? Watch out. Where you been? Pay attention. Wake up.....



PC/LAPTOPS & PHOTOGRAPHY



The PC/Laptop and Photographic groups meet regularly every two weeks, from 1.30–3.30pm, at B.O.P.H, Charfleets Close.



If anyone has old photos they wish repaired or transferred to disc, we are willing to do this.

A small donation would be welcome for this service, if possible.



MINION MOMENTS

Bra Sizes

A-almost boobs.
B-barely boobs.
C-cant complain.
D-dang.
DD-double dang.
E-enormous.
F-fake
G-get a reduction.
H-help me I've fallen and cant get up.



If you could read
my mind
you'd back
away slowly,
Then run
for your life..



How to make sure you're A normal person!

- 1) You have Facebook
- 2) You have a cell Phone
- 4) You're wasting your time reading this
- 5) You didn't notice there is no Number 3
- 7) You just checked to see of there is no Number 3
- 8) Where is number 6, Idiot?
- 9) You're now smiling because you know you're an idiot
- 10) Where is number 1? ?
- 11) You believed me and went to check!
- 12) You're not normal at all.





SOCIAL, FAMILY & LOCAL HISTORY



WE MEET AT THE CAFE/BAR IN SANDY BAY, THORNEY BAY ROAD
(The bar is left past the entrance, near the pool)

2nd May. Members' Stories Part 2. We did part 1 but only had time for 3 lots of stories. So please bring along the ones you prepared for that meeting and we will try to get through the rest.

30th May. Death. I am interested in particular at what our ancestors died of, very different to today. Bring along any death certificates, or causes of death, common or unusual, to help build up a picture and add to what i have found out, including wallpaper poisoning and death on the toilet. (Different to what is asked in every household, when you a long time, and "Have you died in there?")

27th June. Canvey pubs, here still and gone. Further meetings for the year are 25th July, 22nd August, 19th Sept, 17th Oct, 14th Nov and 12th Dec.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO FORWARD THIS TO ANY MEMBERS THAT MIGHT BE INTERESTED



DO YOU REMEMBER?



1950s

If you were born in the 1950s it is very likely that your mother did not work outside the home, but instead concentrated on providing a safe and cosy environment for the family. Only your father would have gone out to work to provide an income for your family.

1951

Festival of Britain - this event marked the centenary of the Great Exhibition of 1851. The festival generated demand for new fashions in furniture and furnishings. The exhibits introduced new styles of pottery, ceramics, fabrics and furniture made from revolutionary materials - fibreglass, plywood, formica and plastics.

1953

Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II

To celebrate the coronation, everyone was allowed an extra pound of sugar and four ounces of margarine.

1953

The summit of Mount Everest was reached for the first time by Edmund Hilary and Sherpa Tenzing, his Nepalese guide.

1954

All rationing comes to an end

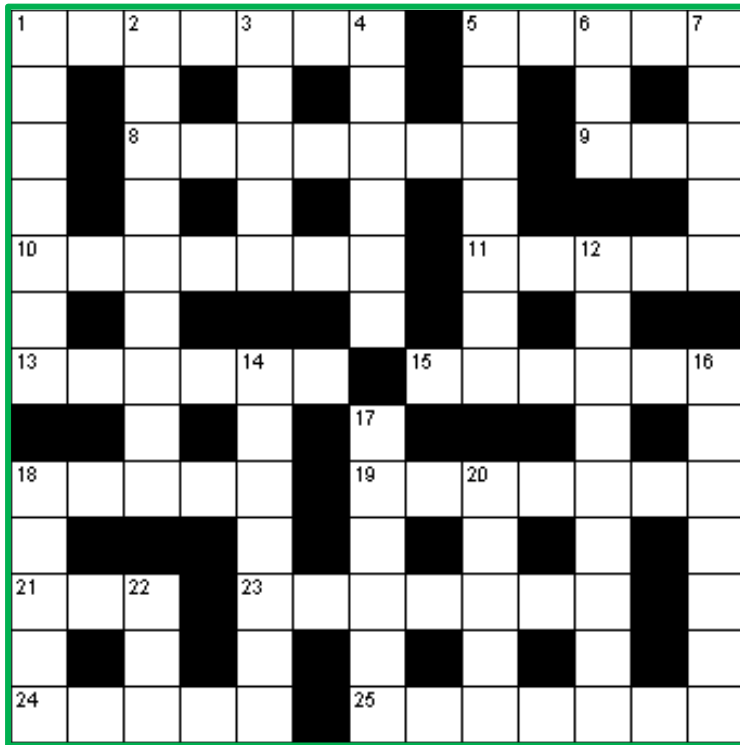
1957

The space Race began with the Soviet Union launching the first vehicle to orbit the Earth, the satellite Sputnik 1, on 4th October 1957. This was followed a month later by the launch of Sputnik 2. On board was the first living creature to travel from Earth into space, a dog named Laika.



TRUE OR FALSE

In this crossword there are two clues for each word.
Can you work out which is true and which is false?



ACROSS

1. Mariners / Doctors (7)
5. Recital / Spontaneous remark (5)
8. Legendary bird / Legendary horse (7)
9. Animal / Fish (3)
10. Lengthen / Shorten (7)
11. Frequently / Infrequently (5)
13. Grabbed / Dropped (6)
15. Pop songs / Sacred songs (6)
18. True / Untrue (5)
19. Broke away / Captured (7)
21. Insect / Bird (3)
23. Fruit / Vegetable (7)
24. Charity / Larceny (5)
25. Sincere / Insincere (7)

DOWN

1. Gloves / Footwear (7)
2. Fair / Unfair (9)
3. Square / Egg-shaped (5)
4. Vocalist / Instrumentalist (6)
5. Tense / Relaxed (7)
6. Girl / Boy (3)
7. Start / Finish (5)
12. Gardening tool / Communication device (9)
14. Clumsy / Graceful (7)
16. Happiest / Unhappiest (7)
17. Close / Distant (6)
18. Snack / Banquet (5)
20. Piece of cake / Piece of furniture (5)
22. Part of the hand / Part of the foot (3)

SOLUTION PAGE 22

SUNDAY GROUP

ARE YOU AT A LOOSE END/ WOULD LIKE COMPANY AT THE WEEKEND?

JOIN THE SUNDAY GROUP.

WE HOPE TO MEET ONCE A MONTH, MOSTLY ON SUNDAY, TO HAVE LUNCHES, VISIT PLACES OF INTEREST, ETC.

SUGGESTIONS ARE MOST WELCOME.



THEATRE

PLEASE CONTACT THE
CONVENORS FOR DETAILS OF
FUTURE THEATRE EVENTS





WALKING



We intend to walk once a month, keeping the walks easy and as local as possible and will increase the frequency, walk length and travel further afield in the Spring.

Strong shoes/trainers or walking boots are recommended.

Please contact Sue and Dave for details of their next walk.

ENGLISH IDIOMS WITH THEIR ORIGINS

1. PLAY IT BY EAR

Origins: This saying has its origins in music, as "playing something by ear" means to play music without reference to the notes on a page. This sense of the phrase dates back to the 16th century, but the present use only came into being in mid-20th century America, primarily referring to sports. These days, the expression has lost this focus on sports and can be used in any context.

2. RAINING CATS AND DOGS

Origins: The origins of this bizarre phrase are obscure, though it was first recorded in 1651 in the poet Henry Vaughan's collection Olor Iscanus. Speculation as to its origins ranges from medieval superstition to Norse mythology, but it may even be a reference to dead animals being washed through the streets by floods.

3. CAN'T DO SOMETHING TO SAVE MY LIFE

Origins: Anthony Trollope first used this expression, in 1848 in Kellys and O'Kellys, writing, "If it was to save my life and theirs, I can't get up small talk for the rector and his curate."

4. TURN A BLIND EYE

Origins: Interestingly, this expression is said to have arisen as a result of the famous English naval hero Admiral Horatio Nelson, who, during the Battle of Copenhagen in 1801, is alleged to have deliberately raised his telescope to his blind eye, thus ensuring that he would not see any signal from his superior giving him discretion to withdraw from the battle.

5. FAT CHANCE

Origins: The origins of this expression are unclear, but the use of the word "fat" is likely to be a sarcastic version of saying "slim chance". A similar expression is "Chance would be a fine thing", which refers to something that one would like to happen, but that is very unlikely.

FUN STUFF

WORD SEARCH

WEATHER THEME



Can you find the weather words in the box? They may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forwards or backwards.



BLIZZARD, BREEZE, CHINOOK, CIRROCUMULUS, CIRROSTRATUS, CIRRUS, CLOUDY, COLD, CUMULONIMBUS, CUMULUS, CYCLONE, DOLDRUMS, DRIZZLE, DRY, FAIR, FOG, FREEZING, FROST, HAIL, HARMATTAN, HEATWAVE, HOT, HUMID, HURRICANE, LIGHTNING, MILD, MIST, MISTRAL, MONSOON, NIMBUS, OVERCAST, PRECIPITATION, RAIN, SHOWER, SIROCCO, SLEET, SLUSH, SNOW, STORM, STRATUS, SUNSHINE, THUNDER, TORNADO, TYPHOON, WIND, ZEPHYR.