

COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONTACT DETAILS

NAME	PHONE/ MOBILE	EMAIL
CHAIRMAN SOCIAL EVENTS ORGANISER DIANE SMITH	07879850243	diane-smith@sky.com
SECRETARY DAVE SUTTON	07714450891	davidalansutton@talktalk.net
TREASURER FRANCES BARBOUR	07881522311	francesmbarbour@yahoo.co.uk
SPEAKER ORGANISER JEANETTE PARMINTER	01268 757493	andyturner47@hotmail.com
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY NEWSLETTER EDITOR VICE CHAIRMAN JAN DOWDALL	07817880306	janctu3a@gmail.com
GROUPS COORDINATOR LINDA BOSE	07787409238	linda.bose@yahoo.com

**FOR ENQUIRIES PLEASE RING THE ABOVE BETWEEN
9AM-6PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY ONLY. THANK YOU.**

www.u3asites.org.uk/canvey-thameside



WILLS, THE UNSPEAKABLE CONVERSATION

A talk by Ian Nicholson

We welcomed Ian Nicholson from Beaulieu Wills and Estate Planning to dispel a few myths and put us straight on something we all need to think about, but avoid doing so.

No will guarantees relatives crawling out of the woodwork and endless squabbles, so Ian took us through some key ideas.

On why anyone needs a will, for younger people with young children. It ensures a named guardian if the worst happens. It means the deceased's goods go to who they intended and stops the rows (hopefully, as wills can be challenged.) It means there is one less thing to worry about at what is always a difficult time when somebody dies. An old will might need reviewing as your intended beneficiaries might have changed. You can also make provision for pet care and leave gifts to charity, a way too of avoiding inheritance tax.

On what happens if you don't have a will or it is invalid (you die intestate), the will must be the original, not a copy or altered in any way. No will will slow down the payment of probate which stops payments. Of course, no will might mean your wishes are ignored.

The worst can happen at any time, so no one is too young to have a will. It protects the people left behind, including children.

On care home fees, long term care effectively comes out of your estate, with only an amount just over £23,000 per person protected. The plan to cap care fees at £86,000 has gone. So, if a partner dies, and the remaining partner needs long term care, the house has to be sold to pay for it. If one of the partners is still alive and living in the house, and the other is in long term care, the payment is taken out later after death. Avoiding this can be done by making both partners tenants in common, while both are still alive, which protects 50% of the value of the estate, as effectively this has been left to children or someone else, while you are still alive. If care is needed, that 50% remains protected, and on the death of both, the 50% goes to who you intended it to. Care fees can soon eat up the value of the inheritance, particularly if long term.

On funeral plans, again they mean the cost of the funeral is guaranteed paid for and your family are not facing another bill at a difficult time. A cheaper version of direct cremations means no real funeral as such, with the focus, maybe where it should be, on a gathering later to remember and celebrate a life together.

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

SUDOKU 1 SOLUTION

2	4	5	1	3	9	8	7	6
3	7	8	2	4	6	5	1	9
6	1	9	7	5	8	3	4	2
7	2	4	5	6	1	9	8	3
1	9	3	8	2	7	6	5	4
5	8	6	4	9	3	1	2	7
9	5	7	6	8	4	2	3	1
8	6	1	3	7	2	4	9	5
4	3	2	9	1	5	7	6	8

SUDOKU 2 SOLUTION

2	4	6	8	9	3	5	1	7
9	7	8	2	5	1	3	4	6
3	1	5	6	7	4	9	8	2
6	9	4	7	3	2	1	5	8
8	2	7	4	1	5	6	9	3
1	5	3	9	6	8	2	7	4
5	8	1	3	2	7	4	6	9
7	6	2	1	4	9	8	3	5
4	3	9	5	8	6	7	2	1

WORD FIT SOLUTION

M	U	S	C	L	E	S	C	Y	C	L	E
A	L	A	C	A	I	N					
E	D	I	C	T	H	A	B	I	T	A	T
S	C	E	E	I	A	E					
T	H	E	O	R	E	M	N	A	D	I	R
R											
O	R	A	C	L	E	S	C	Y	L	L	A
T	A	S	T	E	I	G	N	E	O	U	S
R	E	A	Z	T	A	W					
A	M	N	E	S	I	A	A	I	S	L	E
P	C	E	R	C	I	R					
S	T	E	E	L	D	E	T	E	S	T	S



GRID-JIG SOLUTION

V	I	D	E	O	E	C	C	E	N	T	R	I	C		
A	O	P	X	H	E	R									
N	A	R	R	A	T	E	A	B	S	O	L	V	E		
I	M	L	C	R	I	A	A								
S	E	A	T	S	U	L	T	I	M	A	T	A	T		
H	N	T	I	E											
I	N	T	E	G	R	I	T	I	T	Y	L	O	D	G	E
N	A	V	E	A	N										
G	R	A	N	D	E	N	S	H	R	I	N	E	D		
I	G	T	F	E	U										
P	E	R	S	E	V	E	R	E	F	L	A	I	R		
A	P	T	E	R	I	R	A								
S	P	O	N	S	O	R	D	U	N	G	E	O	N		
T	R	E	M	I	A	A	S	C							
E	X	T	R	E	M	E	L	I	T	H	E				



AUNTY ACID ANECDOTES

On lasting power of attorney, Ian argued this was as important as a will. If it is in place, the affairs of someone no longer able to manage them through dementia, illness or an accident, can be managed by someone else. There are two types of lasting power of attorney, financial affairs and health and welfare, with both equally important. It takes 3-6 months to set up with charges to the people arranging it and £82 cost on top. This is a lot cheaper and a lot easier to set up than trying to set one up after the person loses capacity. This can take up to 18 months, involves a lot of stages of proof and is £320 a year to become someone's deputy acting for them.

Inheritance tax is currently free up to £325,000 per person, and that amount transfers to your partner on your death, so doubling it. Having children also adds to the amount clear before tax.

Before questions and a long queue to seek Ian's advice, he told us some amusing stories about wills and inheritance. A woman went to the same Chinese restaurant for 20 years in Witham and left her money to the owners, all £10 million of it. The family took it to court and lost, helped by the fact the lady had made it clear in her will she didn't want the useless nieces and nephews to gain anything. The restaurateurs did pay part of the inheritance to the family to sooth the situation, but did not have to, of course. Another gentleman left his entire estate to 70 random people picked out of a telephone book. An American left his entire home to fund a cat palace for local strays. (Imagine what your relatives would say if you told them you were going to do this!) Another person left £200,000 to his sons provided they didn't grow moustaches. I quite liked the legacy of £3,500 to pay for a boozy weekend in the honour of the deceased. You really can leave it to anyone or anything.

Ian did a great job of presenting real information clearly, dispelling many of the things we thought we knew and didn't, giving clear suggestions as to how could effectively make life a lot easier for our families in the future. It was a very good and important summary for us all.

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

Diane (**TEMPORARY CONVENOR**) : 07879850243 or diane-smith@sky.com
Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974



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

For further details please contact:
Georgia: 07506783450 or georgiad@btinternet.com
Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974

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

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



JUNE

3rd Jean Wilkinson

5th Val Bancroft

6th Joan Skedge

9th Avril Bowden

16th Frank Stringer

19th Sue Hampson

22nd Joan Sargent

22nd June Gleed

23rd Barbara Ing

24th Malcolm Barratt

24th Les McDonald

24th Jim Martin

25th Alison Harris

26th Peter Cann

27th Barry Knowles

27th Margaret Martin

28th Jan Saxelby

28th Helen Sweeney

29th Pat Hunt

30th Jean Wilkinson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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.

u3a

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.

Take the first step by contacting:

Lynn on: 01268 685479 or 07908477339, or
Jan on: 07773241940



Let's
play
Canasta!



(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

For further details please contact::

VAL - Email: v.bancroft@sky.com Mobile: 07850833846

Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974

VARIOUS CRAFTS

Choose your craft, have a go.



Lots available, beginners or
experienced

Meets last Tuesday each month at
1.30pm at Jeans house.

For further details please contact Jean Purvis: 01268 692017

Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974

NEWS & INFORMATION

FRIDAY MEMBERS MEETING SPEAKERS LIST MAY TO JULY 2023

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

-oOo-

JULY 21st JOANNE LARNER
**Her talk is titled Understanding hand
writing**

Her talk is meant as a light-hearted introduction to *handwriting* analysis and is excellent fun – there will also be a chance to analyse your own and others' ...

AIN'T OLD AGE GREAT!



SILLYNESS

"One of the shortest wills ever written: 'Being of sound mind, I spent all the money.' — Arthur Bland"

"Shout out to the people that don't know what the opposite of in is!"

How is the moon like dentures?

Both come out at night.



Plenty of people will turn 40 this year.

And they'll whine and moan about it.

Because that's what old people do.

"In the hardware store, a clerk asked, 'Can I help you find anything?' 'How about my misspent youth,' I joked my husband. The clerk shot back, 'We keep that in the back, between world peace and winning lottery tickets.' — Leslie McRobie, Lee"

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



For further details please contact Jan: djthorne060@btinternet.com
Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974

CROCHET & KNITTING



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

For further details please contact Margaret: 01268 698490 or margaret_routledge@hotmail.com
Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974

DINING CLUB



**PLEASE CONTACT THE
GROUP CONVENORS FOR
FUTURE DINING
BOOKINGS**

For further details please contact:

Frances: francesmbarbour@yahoo.co.uk, by text on 07881 522311 or phone 01268 693673

Jeanette: andyturner47@hotmail.com or 01268 757493

Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974

YES I'LL MARRY YOU MY DEAR

A poem by Pam Ayres

Yes, I'll marry you, my dear.
And here's the reason why.
So I can push you out of bed,
When the baby starts to cry.
And if we hear a knocking,
And it's creepy and it's late,
I hand you the torch, you see,
And you investigate.

Yes I'll marry you, my dear,
You may not apprehend it,
But when the tumble-drier goes
It's you that has to mend it.
You have to face the neighbour
Should our labrador attack him,
And if a drunkard fondles me
It's you that has to whack him.

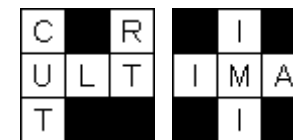
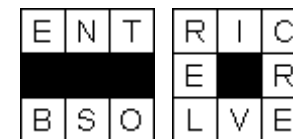
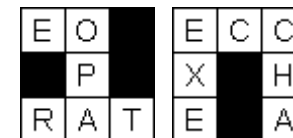
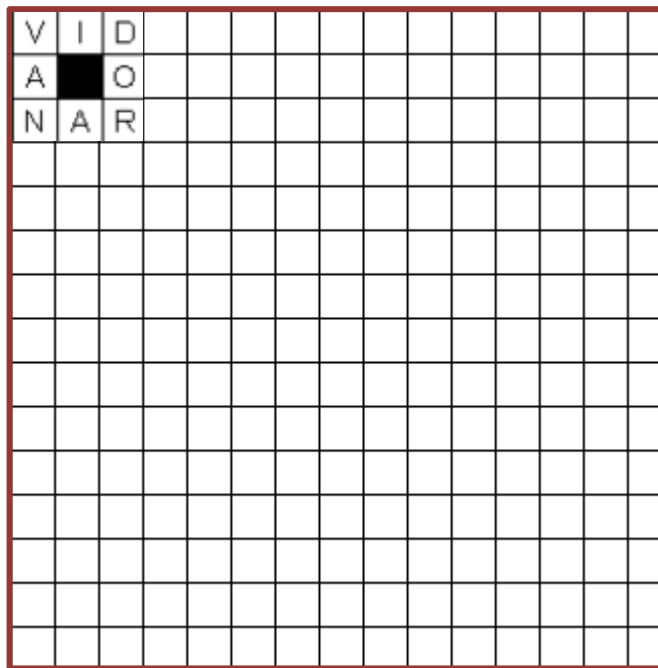
Yes, I'll marry you, my dear,
You're virile and you're lean,
My house is like a pigsty
You can help to keep it clean.
That little sexy dinner
Which you served by candlelight,
As I just do chipolatas,
You can cook it every night!!!

It's you who has to work the drill
And put up curtain track,
And when I've got PMT, it's you
who gets the flak,
I do see great advantages,
But none of them for you,
And so, before you see the light,
I DO, I DO, I DO!!



GRID-JIG

See if you can re-assemble all the pieces by filling in the letters and blocks into the correct positions in the grid. The result will be a symmetrical 15x15 crossword. One 3x3 piece has already been entered.



SOLUTION PAGE 22



ARE YOU SITTING COMFORTABLY?



ONE TIRED DOG

An older, tired-looking dog, wandered into my garden one day. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of.

He calmly came over to me and I gave him a few pats on his head. Then he followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep.



And our later, he went to the door and I let him out.

The next day he was back... greeted me in my garden, walked inside, and resumed his spot in the hall, and again slept for about an hour. This continued off and on for several weeks.

Curious, I decided to pin a note to his collar which read:

"I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful, sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap."

The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar:



"He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3, and he's trying to catch up on his sleep.

Can I come with him tomorrow?"

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



For further details please contact: Jan & Dennis: djthorne060@btinternet.com
Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974



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**



Please contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 91974 **TO PUT YOUR NAME DOWN TO ATTEND ONE OF THE SESSIONS.**



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)

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. A look at some Canvey pubs, including 2 no longer with us, their history and stories.

Further meetings this year are 25th July, 22nd August, 19th September, 17th October, 14th November and 12th December. All these are still available if you want one of the slots and I still haven't had any suggestions for topics you want me to do, so please think hard, as I definitely need them.

SOCIAL AND FAMILY HISTORY GROUP FEEDBACK

I gave the Local History a go and wow it was really good The topic was The Great Flood which went beyond the usual history of the flood, but covered how it happened and affected the sea defences. It was really interesting to hear from the start of the storm, with cross winds etc and you could see how this all happened so quickly. Quite an eyeopener!!

Together with a detailed handout and literature available it was really interesting,

Now looking forward to the Canvey Pubs Here and Gone on the 27th June.

Cheers, Gill Goldsmith

For further details please contact Paul: paulbancroft800@gmail.com or 01268 681917

Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974

FUNNY QUOTES

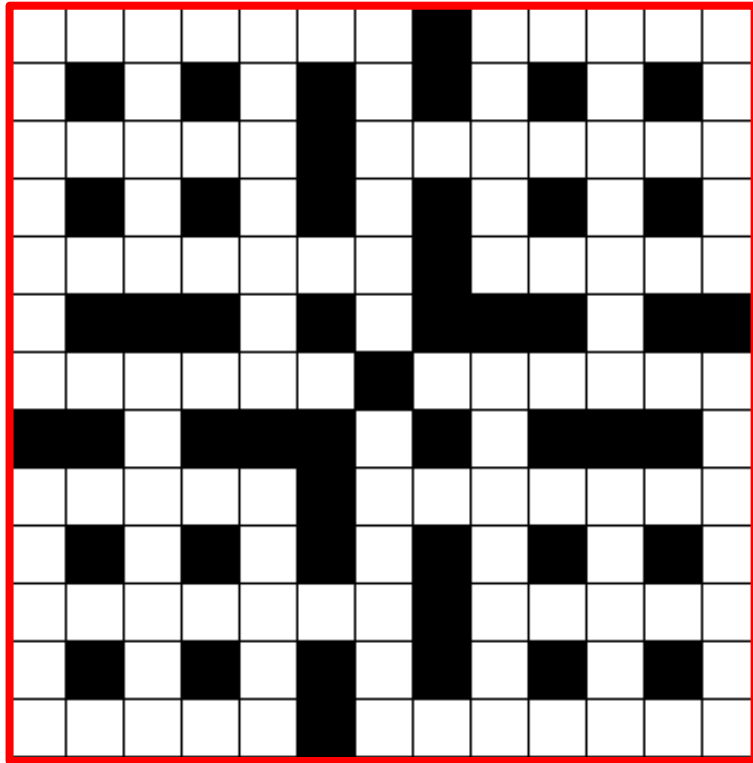


1. I'm not superstitious, just a little stitious!
2. I'm sick of following my dreams, man. I'm just going to ask where they're going and hook up with 'em later.
3. My mother always used to say: The older you get, the better you get, unless you're a banana.
4. Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way when you criticize them, you are a mile away from them and you have their shoes.
5. Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence in society.
6. Before you marry a person, you should first make them use a computer with slow Internet to see who they really are.
7. I love being married. It's so great to find that one special person you want to annoy for the rest of your life.
8. I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them,
9. Never follow anyone else's path. Unless you're in the woods and you're lost and you see a path. Then by all means follow that path.
10. Insomnia sharpens your math skills because you spend all night calculating how much sleep you'll get if you're able to fall asleep right now.

WORD FIT



Can you fit the words correctly into the grid?



5 LETTER WORDS

- AISLE
- CABIN
- CYCLE
- EASEL
- EDICT
- ENTER
- NADIR
- OASIS
- SLICE
- STEEL
- TASTE

7 LETTER WORDS

- ABSENCE
- AMNESIA
- ANSWERS
- CITADEL
- CONTACT
- DETESTS
- HABITAT
- IGNEOUS
- LATERAL
- MAESTRO
- MUSCLES
- THEOREM

6 LETTER WORDS

- ORACLE
- SCHEME
- SCYLLA
- WIZARD

SOLUTIONSPAGE 22



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.

For further details please contact Jim: jamesmartin.U3A@talktalk.net or contact John on 07771997069, johnclarke259@googlemail.com Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974

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.



Please contact the Group Convenor Sylvie for more information: sylvieviewright@hotmail.co.uk or 01268 683223 Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974



MINION MOMENTS

I DON'T LIKE TO CALL IT REVENGE... RETURNING THE FAVOR SOUNDS NICER.



I don't have to worry about getting kidnapped. They would bring me back in less than an hour!



Thousands of years ago, cats were worshipped as gods. Cats have never forgotten this.



Minions Quotes and Jokes





THEATRE

CHRISTMAS THEATRE EVENT

TUESDAY 12th DECEMBER

BRICK LANE MUSIC HALL- JINGLE BELLS

Festive lunch and variety show

Price is £78.00

which includes coach to and from the venue.

Deposits now being taken.

Please contact the Group Convenor Sylvie for more information:
 sylvieright@hotmail.co.uk or 01268 683223
 Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 691974



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.

For further details please contact Dave and Sue: Sue and Dave Sutton – 01268 692786 or 07714 450891; davidalansutton@talktalk.net
 Or contact Linda, our Groups Co-ordinator, on 07787409238 or 01268 91974

FUN STUFF

SUDOKU

The object is to insert the numbers in the boxes to satisfy only one condition: each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 through 9 exactly once. What could be simpler?

2	4		1					
			2			5		9
	1			5		3		
7	2	4		6				
			8		7			
				9		1	2	7
		7		8			3	
8		1			2			
					5		6	8

1



2



	4			3	5		7
9		8					4
			6				
6			7	2			8
8				1			3
1			9	8			4
				7			
	6				8		5
4		9	5			2	

SOLUTIONS PAGE 22