

Cheddar Valley **news**

u3a

April / May 2021

Volume 27 Issue 2

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<https://u3asites.org.uk/cheddar-valley>



A view across part of the Cheddar Valley

Thanks to Geoff Bathe for the photograph

The Chairman's Chat

I want to start this chat by thanking Margaret and Geoff Farnie for all the work they did producing our Poetry Showcase, Sue Storrier and Sylvie Browne for compering and all the members who participated by choosing, writing and/or reading a fantastic selection of poems. I hope you caught them but if not, they are excellent and full details of how you can still watch them are elsewhere in the newsletter.



As I'm writing this, this morning the children have just started back to school, what a fantastic milestone. I hope I'm not being too optimistic when I say that it is the first step towards normality. The government's guidelines now clearly make room for our groups and events to restart in the months to come. By the time you read this, I expect that some groups of six will already have met outdoors, as long as the weather has not taken a turn for the worse, and things will progressively improve as time elapses. Have a look elsewhere in the newsletter for details from your own Group Leaders to find out what they are planning or, if they have not written anything yet, why not give them a call and share your thoughts.

However, meetings of larger events will not be possible before the end of June and so your committee is busy looking at a series of weekly Coffee Mornings, in locations with outdoor space, throughout July and August. This will give us an opportunity to rebuild our self confidence and reconnect before the autumn forces us back indoors. Further details will be in the next newsletter. We do not usually hold Speaker Meetings during July and August and so we plan to restart these in September; online speakers will still be available.

Our search for new committee members has been partly successful and you will see details on pages 15 to 17 of a Zoom EGM in early May to formally elect a new Secretary, Speaker Organiser and Membership Secretary. We do not propose to hold our AGM until we can all be together indoors, sometime in the autumn.

We're also thinking about recruitment. We lose around 40 members a year for various reasons but usually attract a similar number. However, during the last year, whilst some people have inevitably left, we have, not surprisingly, had few join. We are exploring the options for an Open Day in the autumn but hope that, with some judicious advertising, we may get some coming to the summer Coffee Mornings too.

I'm beginning to feel really positive again after being quite down through the winter and hope that I'll shortly have a volunteer to join me as Vice Chairman so we really can get U3A buzzing again.

Best wishes

John Morgan chaircvu3a@gmail.com

U3A Subscriptions/Renewals

Subscriptions paid for 2020/2021 will carry on until **April 2022** with no payment being due this year following the committee's decision to give members a free year in view of the pandemic.

However, if you pay your subscription with a standing payment from your bank please advise them NOT to make a payment this year.

Membership cards will not be replaced this year.
Current Membership cards are valid for a further year to 2022.

Please advise me if you have changed your address or email
or do not wish to continue as a member.

Margaret Woodliffe Membership Secretary

at margaretwoodliffe@gmail.com

Speaker Meetings

We are still relying on Mirthy Talks on the internet. Currently Mirthy is putting on one talk a week free. However, the Company only works a month in advance, and changes the times of the talks, as one specific time is not suitable for everyone. It could well be in future that the day will also change.

In view of this, members wishing to attend one of these talks will need to register for themselves, but the procedure is very easy:

- Go to: <https://mirthy.co.uk>
- Scroll down and you will see the talks on offer, and the times.
- You will need to register your interest in whichever talks you think might be interesting by clicking on the "Register for your FREE online talk!" button and filling out the form which appears.
- A day or so before the talk you will receive an e-mail giving you the link.

Often there are between 800 to 1000 attendees.

The talks are usually circulated via the Membership Secretary, but you will still need to register yourself in order to receive the link.

Plastic Bottle Top Recycling Update

Gill Davies is happy to continue to receive plastic bottle tops, bagged-up, at her house. Gill said:

"Thank you to members who save plastic bottle tops. From November to February about 3 kilos a month have been collected and taken to Beverley, East Yorkshire to be made into craft bowls.

I have found a Frome manufacturer who upcycles waste plastic to make storm board; as my visits to Yorkshire are less often now. Storm board is made into outdoor furniture, sheds and fencing.

I am happy to be the collection point but don't go to Frome often. Does anyone go to Frome regularly who could help with this?"

**Please do not leave any other items for recycling
- this is not fair to Gill.**

Coffee Mornings

At last, there's light at the end of the tunnel, and we are provisionally planning to meet up again for Coffee Mornings in July, maybe at a new venue. More details will appear in the June/July edition, when the future is more certain.

Until then, our Coffee Mornings will continue via Zoom on the fourth Thursday of each month from 10.30am. If you haven't joined us before, give it a try. See details in box below. If you would like any help on how to use Zoom, or would like a practice run, just drop me an email or phone me.

Barry Coppard Coffee Morning Co-ordinator

E-mail:

Zoom Coffee Mornings

Zoom Coffee Mornings are held on the 4th Thursday of the month at **10.30 am. The link is sent out a few days before.**

On the day members just need to click on the link to be admitted.



Thursday 22nd April

Thursday 27th May

Thursday 24th June

Thursday 22nd July
(if we are not yet able
to move to new format)

Group Liaison

Following the sad demise of Anne Clarke, Barbara Herring has now become Leader of the Singing For Pleasure Group. We are also sorry to note the recent death of another U3A member, Ros Garvie, a stalwart of the Quiz Group and a frequent Quizmaster for same.

The Computer Users Group Zoom has reverted to meeting on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Photography is now on the third Tuesday, led, now on a permanent basis, by Liz Fosbury. Philosophy is on the fourth Thursday morning: please see Group details at the back of this newsletter. The German Group will now meet every week, until Zoom-time ceases.

There is a proposal for a Model Railway Group (said model being built by David Woodliffe). No need for any great knowledge or expertise: the intention is just to welcome all those who like railway layouts. All will be assured of a warm welcome.

Unfortunately, our Les Francophiles Group has transferred itself to Winscombe U3A, without any warning or prior notification, so if somebody fancies becoming a Group Leader and re-igniting a similar Group for those keen on French culture...?

Ade Macrow Group Liaison Officer

E-mail: u3agroupliaisoncv@gmail.com



Otter in the snow

This photograph was taken by CVU3A member Eleanor Gardner. She had noticed otter spraint near the River Axe in Cross some days earlier, and when it snowed on Sunday 24th January she found this perfect otter footprint.

A ZOOM WITH A U(3A)

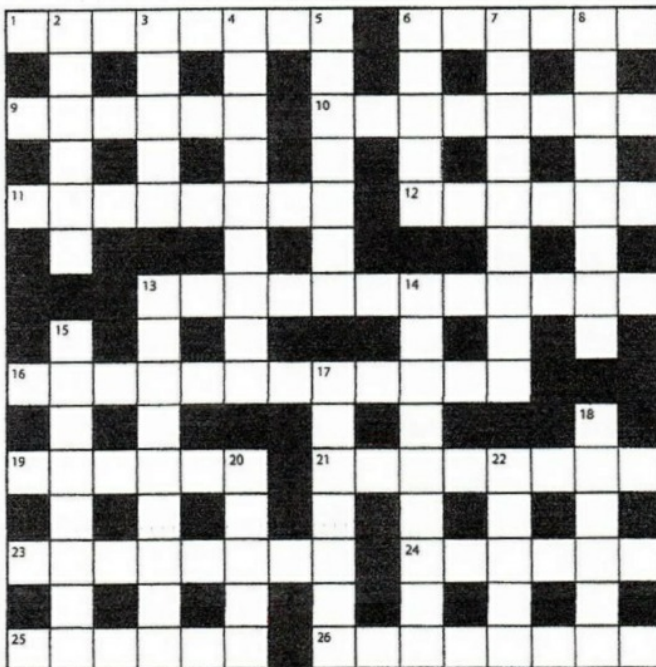
The updated and amended list of Cheddar Valley U3A Groups continuing via Zoom is as below.

Should you know of any others or are aware of any changes, please let me know.

Ade Macrow Group Liaison Officer

TIMETABLE OF ZOOM GROUP MEETINGS

2nd & 4th	Monday	10.00 am	Computer Users
3rd	Tuesday	10.00 am	Photography
2nd	Tuesday	10.00 am	Craft Group
4th	Tuesday	2.00 pm	Craft Group
2nd/4th	Tuesday	10.00 am	Charlamos En Espanol
2nd	Tuesday	2.00 pm	Industrial History
Weekly	Wednesday	10.00 am	German
2nd	Wednesday	2.00 pm	Quiz Group
1st	Thursday	10.30 am	Great Lives
4th	Thursday	10.00 am	Philosophy
4th	Thursday	10.30 am	Coffee Morning
2nd	Friday	10.30 am	Reading Group 3
3rd	Friday	9.30 am	Patchwork



ACROSS

- 1. Within (8)
- 6. Mixed up (6)
- 9. Culvert (6)
- 10. Type of flower (8)
- 11. Parodies (8)
- 12. Small door or gate (6)
- 13. Does ruin a hut (anag) (12)
- 16. Turmoil in tan (anag) (12)
- 19. Virtually (6)
- 21. Obtuse (8)
- 23. Inhabitant (8)
- 24. American state (6)
- 25. Presented (6)
- 26. Dried tobacco leaves (8)

DOWN

- 2. Nothing (6)
- 3. Access (5)
- 4. Shining brightly (9)
- 5. Go back to (7)
- 6. Concede (5)
- 7. Guidance (9)
- 8. Amend eel (anag) (8)
- 13. Disconcerting (9)
- 14. Type of paper (9)
- 15. Window type (8)
- 17. Foolish (7)
- 18. Infest (6)
- 20. Submit (5)
- 22. Shouts (5)

*Thanks to Barry Ede for creating
this crossword.*

Solution is on page 45.

Day Trippers' Group

Day Trips 2021

The light at the end of the tunnel is beginning to glimmer, but you don't need your sunglasses just yet.

Our first day trip to **Cardiff or St Fagans** was arranged for 22nd April but we have been informed that no coaches will be accepted for the time being. However, we have managed to rearrange the plans for this year and we sincerely hope you will support us as much as you have done in the past few years.

The rearranged dates are:-

Wednesday 30th June 2021:

Arlington Court and Carriage Museum (National Trust) or Barnstaple. We will be leaving at 09.05 am from the bus stop at the bottom of Tweentown and the seats will be £18.25 per person including a tip. An application form is included in this newsletter, on page 11.

Wednesday 18th August 2021:

Cardiff or St Fagans Museum. Departure at 09.05 am from the bus stop at the bottom of Tweentown and the seats will be £16 per person including a tip.

Thursday 14th October 2021:

Windsor. Departure at 09.05 am from the bus stop at the bottom of Tweentown and the seats will be £19.75 including a tip.

Wednesday 1st December 2021:

Birmingham Christmas Markets and Craft Fare. Departure (you've guessed it!) at 09.05 am from the bus stop at the bottom of Tweentown and the seats will be £17.40 per person including a tip.

Please note that despite a substantial increase in fuel costs Mary has managed to keep prices down. Well done Mary.

If you have any queries please contact Margaret Woodliffe or Mary Evans

Holiday 2022

I'm sure you won't be surprised that, despite Shirley's best efforts, we have been unable to rearrange the holiday to North Wales for September this year. However, after discussions with Bakers Dolphin we have been able to re-book for the week beginning 23rd May 2022. As soon as we have full details of the holiday, as previously advised, we will contact those of you who booked their holiday to Kent (remember?) and those who haven't reclaimed their deposit, will be first in line for next May. Shirley will be in touch in due course. Please contact Shirley Vincent if you have any queries.

Let's all hope for a better future and the Day Trippers' Group will continue to thrive in CVU3A!

Roger Coe

National u3a Day 2nd June 2021

Cheddar Valley u3a is spreading the word amongst our friends and neighbours to let them know we are open, out and about and busy enjoying life again.

We are having displays in Cheddar Library and Tweentown telephone box during the month of June to coincide with the National u3a Day on 2nd June 2021.

The displays will show items created by or used by our different groups to give a snapshot of our activities. Let everyone know we are open to new members and enjoying our many diverse activities. Look forward to picking up from where we left off and to creating new opportunities to share what we have been up to during the last year.

Last year was sunshine and showers, this year we are going over the rainbow to the pot of gold.

Sue Davey

CHEDDAR VALLEY DAY TRIPPERS



ARLINGTON COURT & CARRIAGE MUSEUM or BARNSTAPLE Wednesday 30th June 2021

The cost of this trip is £18.25 per person including tip

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHEQUE PAYABLE TO:

CHEDDAR VALLEY U3A SOCIAL FUND

**To book a seat please send completed form together with your
cheque to: Margaret Woodliffe at**

email: margaretwoodliffe@gmail.com

Full Name:

Mobile No:(for emergency contact on the day)

Address:

.....

Membership No: Tel No:

Email:

(If you do not have an email address please enclose a stamped
addressed envelope)

I would like to be picked up at: (please indicate):

Bus Stop Bottom of Tweentown Axbridge Town Hall

Departure times will be advised later

Arlington..... or Barnstaple..... (Please indicate) NT mem..Y /N

Payment enclosed Cheque £

Please note that should you wish to cancel your seat once the coach is
booked, no refunds can be given unless a replacement can be found.

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there is a form on the other side.

SHOWCASE POETRY

The third & final Showcase Poetry session will be shown, via a Zoom meeting, on Friday 16th April at 2.00 pm.

Here are the YouTube links to the two 30 minute Showcase Poetry videos that were shown on Thursday 25th February.

Showcase Poetry video Session 1 part 1:
<https://youtu.be/Hr64crtjZi8>

Showcase Poetry video Session 1 part 2:
<https://youtu.be/IPmv5XREDrs>

Here are the YouTube links for the Showcase Poetry Session 2 from Wednesday 17th March

Showcase Poetry Session 2 part 1
<https://youtu.be/Cuqe-UloLOM>

Showcase Poetry Session 2 part 2
<https://youtu.be/JCF1cwq4Ksw>

All the poems, plus one or two extras, are in an illustrated booklet, printed by St Andrew's Press, Wells. These will be free to members who request one.

To order a poetry book contact:

Margaret Farnie

Origins of Showcase Poetry 2021

There have been many appreciative comments from a wide range of members about the Showcase Poetry sessions.

Margaret Farnie has provided these comments about how the event came about:

"Come the end of November I had one poem which Val Webb and I thought was not entirely appropriate to the sentiment of the Christmas Presentation but was worthy of presenting to the rest of the membership, and so the germ of an idea took shape in my mind. I planned to consult with the Poetry Group Leaders as to the way forward, and as the newsletter deadline was upon me put out the idea for members' original poems or poems they liked and would be willing to share.

Now Cheddar members are not always willing to volunteer, and at the beginning of January I still had only one poem, so assumed the idea would quietly disappear. How wrong I was, within two or three days the flood gates opened, and there were over 20 poems, 15 of them original poems from our members. The final result was three sessions showing the poetry and a booklet with all the original poems.

My thanks to those who shared their poetry, the volunteers who read and recorded it, and Cesca Cavendar and Glenys Runciman, Poetry Group Leaders, for their cooperation, help and advice."

Margaret Farnie



Cheddar Valley U3A

Registered Charity: 1040522

Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting

To nominate and appoint

Committee Members

To be held on

Friday 7th May 2021 at 9.45 am

via Zoom



Extraordinary General Meeting

Friday 7th May 2021 9.45 am

Via Zoom

AGENDA

Present

1. Apologies
2. Appointment of Committee Members



Nomination Form for Cheddar Valley U3A Committee Member

IMPORTANT REMINDER

An EGM will take place on Friday 7th May 2021 at 09.45 am via Zoom.

There will be vacancies for Committee Members: Vice Chairman, Publicity and Membership Secretary plus Committee Member without portfolio for 2021/2022. Anyone interested in joining the Committee can contact any current member who will be pleased to outline the role/duties involved. The smooth running of our U3A depends upon the voluntary efforts made by members so please give this your serious consideration.

NOMINATION PAPER FOR CVU3A COMMITTEE 2020/2021

*Vice Chairman/ Membership Secretary/ Publicity/ Committee Member

*(delete where appropriate)

Nominee (please print name)

Proposer

Nominee's signature

Please return to Sue Davey by 1st May 2021 via the email
or hard copy to any committee member,
or post to .

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there is a form on the other side.

LOOKING BACK

Our next dip into the Cheddar Valley U3A archive sees a step forward of fifteen months, featuring the Vol. 2, No. 4 edition of July/August 1994.



As can be seen, the A5 booklet size was the preferred format, having been introduced after the very first newsletter of February the preceding year. With its "reflected" News design and two-sided border, this was the first issue to boast a genuine front cover design, rather than variations of the U3A logo.

Clip art illustrations were also introduced within, to break up the text of the sixteen stapled pages. There were fifteen Groups, including Music Appreciation, led by Jean Debois. This Group had a very packed programme, with works by Albinoni, Bach, Saint Saens, Grieg, Elgar and Handel being listened to and critiqued.

"The more things change, the more things stay the same" is a well-worn adage. Proving this was the Chairman's Chat (then entitled From The Chair) where Derek Weaver had appealed for more members to volunteer for various Committee roles but, to date, had received no applications. A fact that will bring a wry, knowing smile to many of us, especially our present esteemed Chairman, John Morgan.

Frank Villiers had showcased three famous examples of *The Art Of Being Wrong*, such as Decca's Dick Rowe spurning the chance of signing The Beatles, with the observation "guitar groups are on the way out". The issue also carried an advertisement for Woodbury Insurance Brokers.

Requests for further Groups covering such topics and pastimes as chess, backgammon, canasta, mah jong and current events had also been received by Programme Organiser Daphne Outhwaite. The Events Diary itself had swollen to an impressive 25 activities for the two months ahead. Interesting to note that destinations ranged from the Cotswolds to Sand Bay and many points in-between.

Ade Macrow

SPEAKER REVIEWS

"Body Language"

The first Mirthy talk Alan Jones gave us was about the body. His talk on 21st January was on body language, which according to Alan speaks louder than words. We don't learn it, it's not written down, we decipher it subconsciously and animals are very good at it. Women are better at reading body language than men having sixteen areas of the brain devoted to it whilst men have only six. The most successful silent film stars used the art well.

Hands and arms across the body frequently reveal how comfortable a person is in a certain situation, do they need to protect themselves? Those who have authority or rank probably don't and may show this by placing their hands behind the back. This is something men in the royal family, like Prince Charles, frequently do. It is interesting to note though, that when about to give a speech Charles will straighten his tie or play with his cuff links whilst walking to the podium. Reassurance he looks OK gives a sense of security. Men who like to flirt will dress in bright colours displaying themselves a bit peacock-like: "Look at me and see how beautiful I am". To demonstrate this Alan, smiling broadly, showed us the inside of his jacket festooned with flashing lights.

Thumbs and fingers can be used to display what we think of something: thumbs up, we like it, thumbs down, particularly if you were a gladiator, not good. Likewise head nodding or shaking signifying to us "I am listening", "yes" or "no". However, we should be careful when picking up this sort of signal as in some cultures they can be taken to mean the opposite of our interpretations. Handshakes can be very revealing. Watch a politician shaking hands with another government leader, the trick is to make sure your hand is uppermost. President Trump on meeting Putin was on the wrong side of the Russian to have the upper hand but rescued the situation by then putting a second hand over Putin's. Trump, Macron and Trudeau will all tend to back tap. Men will tend to touch the back or shoulder in a friendly gesture, but women tend to touch hands or forearms.

Our faces of course enable people to read much without us speaking.

There are at least a quarter of a million facial expressions but gestures involving touching the face can be very revealing. Touching the nose, blinking or touching the eyes can be an indicator that we are lying. Both Presidents Nixon and Clinton fell foul of this fact during important interviews. Mask wearing during the Covid crisis has hindered our ability to read facial expressions, but a lot can still be learned from the eyes.

Finally Alan spoke about personal space and what happens when people feel their personal space is being invaded. Kettling by police and confinement in close proximity with others not by choice can provoke aggression. So what space do we need? Twelve feet with strangers, 4 feet for business, social 2 to 4 feet, family 1 to 2 feet and with partners six inches.

Will we all be watching each other more closely when we finally are allowed to meet? I wonder.

Sheila Eastland

"Zeppelin Ship of Dreams"

I was born in 1940 and have a memory as a young child seeing a barrage balloon and being told about Zeppelins so was interested in David Skillen's talk, *Zeppelin Ship of Dreams*. After hearing the talk perhaps the word unfulfilled also has a place in the title. A method of transport which often used hydrogen, a flammable gas, contained in bags to keep it aloft was in hindsight an accident waiting to happen.

The first hot air balloon flight took place in France in 1783. It was eighty years later on a visit to the USA that Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin, a Lieutenant in the Prussian army, encountered Balloonist John Steiner, and made his first ascent. Many years later he attributed his thinking about dirigible-lighter-than-air craft to this experience. It was not until 1891, after his resignation from the army at the age of 52, that he started to pursue his idea of many years to design an air ship, using a large rigidly framed outer envelope containing a number of separate gas bags.

After many changes of design and setbacks in funding in 1900 the LZ 1, (Led Zeppelin), made its first flight lasting 20 minutes over Lake Constance in southern Germany. It was damaged on landing, repaired

and made two more flights that year. However, Zeppelin ran out of funds and it was not until November 1905 with help from The King of Wurttemberg, Prussia, and by mortgaging his wife's estates that the LZ 2 flew for the first time. After several mishaps and engine failure it was dismantled. The LZ 3, the same size but much modified, flew several times, successfully reaching a speed of 36 mph. The German government accepted its successors L4 and L5 into military service. Between 1910 and 1914 enthusiasm developed within Germany for the commercial use of passenger carrying craft. Some 1,600 flights carried 37,250 passengers without accident in marked contrast to those designed for military use. Count Zeppelin died in 1917; his firm, Luftschiffbau Zeppelin (LD), continued in business. Following the outbreak of war in 1914 dirigibles were used by Germany for surveillance but it was quickly discovered that the craft could be easily shot down so this was discontinued, though long flights by the German military from Bulgaria to North Africa for transportation of arms were taken with varying degrees of success.

During the 1920's work continued on designs for large passenger carrying craft which would carry passengers with controls and passenger space in a Gondola type construction suspended under the gas filled balloons. They were originally designed to use helium, heavier than hydrogen, but non-flammable. At this time the USA possessed a monopoly on the production of helium and Congress banned its export in 1925 in an effort to conserve helium for the use in their navy airships. LD was now led by Hugo Eckner, who expecting the ban would be lifted, modified designs to use both hydrogen, (much more flammable), and helium. The ban was not lifted and construction of the two most famous Airships LZ129, Hindenburg, and LZ130, Graf Zeppelin 11, went ahead using hydrogen only, with fatal results. The German airship industry had never experienced accidental fires in craft using hydrogen so the switch caused little concern. LD ran out of money in 1933 early in the Hindenburg development and were forced to deal with the Nazi Party resulting in the display of a Swastika on the tail fins of the craft.

What was Great Britain doing at this time? Like the Germans they were also building large luxury passenger carrying airships, the R100 and the R101. The latter was to be built by a government funded team, (The Royal Airship Works), which included Barnes Wallis, at Cardington airfield in Bedfordshire. The R100 was the first to fly and was a

commercial enterprise built by Vickers at Howden near York and was 219 metres long. Luxury abounded, furnishings included Axminster carpets, and bone china was in use in the dining room. Unlike the German ships accommodation was contained within the airship envelope on three decks not in a gondola beneath. Bottom was crews accommodation, above 18, four-berth cabins, a lounge which doubled as the dining room with viewing galleries either side and a kitchen. Top deck contained 14 two-berth cabins and also had a viewing gallery round it. There was also, on the lower deck, would you believe, a smoking room!

The first passenger carrying flight of the R100 on 29th July 1930 was a triumph: tying up to a mooring mast just outside Montreal 78 hours later having flown 3,300 miles at an average speed of 42 miles per hour. During a 12 day stay millions of people came to see it and the ship made a 24 hour trip to Toronto and the Niagara Falls. The return trip on 13th August took just 57 and a half hours. There was rivalry between the private Vickers firm and the state Royal Airship Works, capitalism versus socialism. R101 was designed to fly regular routes to India and was a prestige project for the Ramsay MacDonald Government. Late in development it had to be lengthened to 223 metres by inserting two more huge gasbags when it was realised that it would not have enough fuel carrying capacity between stops over the Arabian desert. The materials used for the structure were not the lightest available and also the very luxuriant fitting out of accommodation a major cause of weight. Because of the success of the R100 flight an airworthy certificate was somewhat hurriedly issued for R101 and plans for the first voyage to India went ahead despite many misgivings. It was at that time the largest flying craft in the world. On the evening of 4th October R101 with 40 passengers left Cardington grossly overloaded, Lord Thompson the Air Minister is said to have brought a ton of luggage aboard. As a consequence ballast had to be jettisoned to enable the craft to gain height. The weather was bad overnight and the craft not easy to control, it crashed at Beauvais in France the next morning. Only six people survived the crash and resultant fire which left only part of the metal structure visible. The R100 never flew again and eventually was sold as scrap for £600.00. Cardington was mothballed until 1938 when it became the principal barrage balloon training centre for the R.A.F.

The 245 metre giant that was Hindenburg made her maiden flight in

March 1936 but before the start of her passenger carrying career was used for propaganda purposes by the Nazi Government. In her first year of service she made 7 round trips to Rio de Janeiro and 10 round trips to New York City covering 191,583 miles, carrying 2,798 passengers, transporting 160 tons of freight and mail. Following refurbishment over the winter, on 3rd May Hindenburg, with 36 passengers and 61 crew on board, set out bound for New York. As it was preparing to dock at Lakenhurst mooring mast it was possibly caught by the wind, and touching the mast it burst into flames killing 35 of those on board. Miraculously 23 passengers and 39 crew survived.

The Graf Zeppelin was completed and made her first flight in September 1928. After 1938 it was not used as a passenger carrier but it did make thirty further flights, mainly on spy missions for the Luftwaffe. I understand it too was scrapped and the materials used towards Germany's war effort.

I have included some facts not in David's talk and this review is somewhat longer than usual. I hope you have found it interesting.

Sheila Eastland

U3A Members' Link Leaflet

Third Age Trust has started a new initiative aimed at sharing good ideas between members of different U3As across the country. It is all described in the leaflet on the next four pages.

All members with e-mail will have received a link to a colour version, sent out by the Membership Secretary on 20th February 2021.

Note from the Editor

The Committee decided to include the black and white version in this newsletter for those without e-mail access. However because the national u3a produced it as an A4 leaflet in grey and white, shrinking it to A5 to fit this Newsletter rendered it unreadable. Therefore I have copied it into a form that matches the A5 format, in the usual font size.



U3A Member Link

Your regional Trustees and Team are here to support you. We know that despite everyone's best efforts, things have been challenging for many of us and there are times we may need some extra support.

This leaflet has advice, links, tips and resources to help keep us all connected, active and learning together. Whether we connect online or face to face (rules allowing) when the lockdown eases or a blend of the two, we hope the ideas in this leaflet support us in growing a strong movement. No member should be left behind so please keep in touch with your regional trustee and team www.u3a.org.uk/board. You can find all the resources in this leaflet at www.u3a.org.uk/member-link

Stay safe and well and we look forward to talking with many of you in the coming months.

Support for u3a Members

Connecting Offline:

Telephone Trees – One to one phone calls from dedicated members. You can see how Newcastle u3a used telephone trees to support its members on our blog Sources.

Phone In Conferencing – You don't have to be online to join in zoom – you can call in.

WhatsApp - Talk on the phone with other members using WhatsApp groups. Find out more.

WhyPay? – Offers a free telephone conference service for the price of a telephone call. Visit our how to guidance.

Buddy Up with those online – Members can join others who have internet connections. Why not Volunteer to be a Buddy in your region? Contact your Trustee.

Penfriends – Write regularly to other members by post in your u3a or across u3as.

Round robin Letters – Write a letter – send it to a member who will add a bit and pass it to a member who will do the same. The chain will grow.

Print and Post – A newsletter to someone not online. Sign up to National Newsletter which has a bitesize version to print and post.

Helpline – u3a has partnered with Independent Age Helpline for confidential guidance on care & support, money, benefits and health. Freephone line on 0800 319 678

ClickSilver - Provides telephone mentors to support people to get online

Connecting Online:

National learning programme - Join one of our many initiatives, competitions or challenges – creative, history, maths, crafts and so much more. Find out more.

Subject Advisers – Get in touch with our Subject Advisers for their advice and ideas on interest groups.

Events and Talks – We have so many interesting Talks and Events.

Find out about online platforms Online Workshops and Tutorials. Sign up for Zoom Tutorials or book bespoke workshops to help with running your u3a.

Digital Eagles – Access to Barclays Digital Wings tutorials for ‘How to session on digital skills and information’. Use code ‘U3A’

National Newsletter – Keep up to date with what’s going on across the movement – Sign up to receive it directly to your email every month.

Sources - Our u3a blog has interesting articles to read from across the movement. Why not send us an article about what you are doing and learning in lockdown? Sources

Trust u3a - Join Trust u3a – for access to online learning groups.

Research and Shared Learning – Find out more including the High Street Project.

Time on your hands?

Join in the conversation on our Social Media – Join us on Twitter, Instagram or Facebook and find out what the movement and wider community are talking about.

Or why not join Keeping In Touch or our forums? – Join the conversation on our closed Facebook group Keeping In Touch or the digital forums

u3a Radio Podcast – Listen to our radio podcast every month to hear stories from across the movement.

Volunteer to give a Talk? – Why not volunteer to be a speaker and give a talk? info@u3a.org.uk

Contact us – The Third Age Trust is always here for you. Contact us with any issues. info@u3a.org.uk 0208 466 6139

Support for u3as

Keeping Going

Visit Support for u3as tab on our website to find help on:

Advice on AGMs; u3a Covid Advice; Diversity and Inclusion; Book yourself or your committee onto a Zoom tutorial; Finance; Recruitment; Insurance Update; Network Update; My Regional Team; Find out how Beacon can help you run your u3a. Some of these are behind your password protected area of the website

Engaging with Members

Branded Resources – Go to our brand centre for resources and materials for your u3a.

Hybrid ideas – Ideas on alternative ways of running groups and meetings.

u3a Day – Join in with u3a Day on 2 June 2021. You can find out more on our website or join our Facebook page.

Newsletters – Using postal or online newsletters to members is an engaging way to keep in touch. You can sign up to the national newsletter to find out what's going on across the movement.

Bulletins – Read our bulletins full of ideas to keep learning.

Sharing Skills:

Buddy u3as – Join with other u3as for talks, tech support, sharing interest groups and more ideas on keeping learning.

Share tips to recruit new members – See our comprehensive resources to help you reach out to people who would benefit from the u3a on our blog Sources.

Join your Network – Find out more about your local u3anetworks.

Contact us – Keep in touch with the Third Age Trust about great ideas you would like to share.

Address: u3a156 Blackfriars Road London, UK SE1 8EN

Contact the National Office: Tel: 020 8466 6139

Email: info@u3a.org.uk

twitter.com/u3a_uk

facebook.com/u3auk



COMMUNITY NEWS

This Community News section of the Newsletter includes short specific items of local interest or about people and places which are indirectly linked to the Cheddar Valley U3A.

Cheddar Library Update

Somerset Libraries are delighted to confirm that from Monday 8th March, in line with Coronavirus National Lockdown government guidance, limited library services will be available from more Somerset libraries. Opening hours are currently restricted to mornings only and vary depending on the library. Cheddar Library is open from 10 am to 1 pm on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

You can visit a library to collect and borrow pre-ordered items, or to use the People's Network computer services for essential purposes.

Library membership gives you access from home to a huge range of free online content, including 1000's of e-books, e-audiobooks, e-magazines, e-newspapers, e-comics and e-graphic novels – all free of charge.

Another Note from the Editor:

On the next two pages is my rendition of Green Wedmore's appeal for recipes for their Wedmore "Close To Home" Cookbook.

The original flyer is printed mostly in light green and light pink in a faint font called "Veteran Typewriter" (no, I didn't know it existed either...) which did not transfer in legible form to this format.

All the information is included overleaf, apart from the samples of the cover and inside pages. The font is "Bookman Old Style" to retain the old-fashioned look.

WEDMORE'S
"CLOSE TO HOME"
COOKBOOK

Green Wedmore is creating a cookbook to support and celebrate local food producers and food shops. Funds from sales will all be ploughed back into village community projects.

Would you like to supply a recipe and help us create Wedmore's "Close to Home" Cookbook?

If so, we need the following from you:

A recipe based on foods produced locally, found in our kitchen gardens and hedgerows, from local farms and local food shops.

The aim is for each recipe to be accountable for as close to zero food miles as possible!

IF YOU CAN HELP...

.....see next page.....

Please follow the instructions below when putting together and supplying your recipe:

- Please present it within a Word document as a list of ingredients followed by numbered cooking instructions.
- If you would like to, please include a very brief note about the background to your recipe choice. If there is space we will use it.
- Ensure that ingredients, method and any accompanying note takes up no more than a half page of A5 when using 12pt font.
- Indicate if the dish is vegetarian, vegan, gluten or dairy-free.
- Starters, main courses, puds, breads, cakes, biscuits, jams, chutneys, country wines, cordials etc... all welcome!
- If you would like to, please provide a landscape, high resolution jpeg image of the prepared dish. If there is space, we can use it to enhance the presentation!
- Please note, Green Wedmore reserves the right to make minor adjustments to the text of any recipes where appropriate.
- Please send your recipes to dahopkins@aol.com
- Deadline to be considered for inclusion: April 30th 2021.

Please call David Hopkins on 07984 924432
if you have any questions.

Group News

This section of the Newsletter brings you news of what our various groups have been doing recently. Not every group has an entry in every newsletter, but all established groups and group leaders are shown in the tables on pages 46 to 49.

Classic Films Group

At last, it looks as if we are slowly emerging from the lockdown and social groups may be able to meet up again later in the year.

I joined the U3A Classic Films Group because my husband doesn't like films - he doesn't like fiction in any form really. Our television only shows golf, cricket, some quiz programmes and anything to do with trains. I, on the other hand really like films, especially those that tell a story rather than the shoot-em-up variety.

There are marvellous offerings every day on several television channels, and I'm sure many of you take advantage of the chance to watch some of them.

If and when Boris gives the OK, I suggest that this group, like many others, will wish to recuperate during the coming summer, and therefore I think it best to return to enjoying classic films together in September 2021. I'll give full details of times and venue in the August/September newsletter, and in the meantime I'll be keeping my fingers crossed.

Helen Batt

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### **U3A Computer Users Group**

As we are now slowly coming out of lockdown, I am in the process of realigning our meetings with the U3A monthly calendar to make sure when we have physical meetings again we don't conflict with other U3A Groups.

We will therefore revert the CUG 10 to 12noon morning meetings, Zoom



and after, to our original second Monday of the month. I am happy to continue to offer the second meeting on the 4th Monday of the month until circumstances change. I have confirmed that there are no conflicts with other U3A groups.

Accordingly the revised dates for our meetings, effective immediately, will be:

April 12th & 26th; May 10th & 24th;  
June 14th & 28th; July 12th & 26th.

**Bryan Smith**

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Day Trippers' Group

Details of the Day Trippers' outings are on page 9.

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## **Great Lives Group**

The Great Lives Group has continued to meet monthly with thirteen members on the books and around ten joining each session.

In February Heather Davey led us as we explored *Bess of Hardwick*, an amazing woman for her time. She started life as a member of a family who, whilst not poor, were on the lower rungs of the aristocracy but by a judicious series of marriages, to older, titled men, she climbed the social ladder to become one of the most renowned women of the Elizabethan Age.



On the way she built Hardwick Hall and Chatsworth and was a confidant of both Elizabeth I and Mary Queen of Scots, all without losing her head! Perhaps her greatest achievement was in ensuring the survival of her dynasty in such a way that she is an ancestor of our own Queen, Elizabeth II. Definitely a Great Life.

March's choice, made and led by Melanie David, was a man, *Admiral Sir Robert Fitzroy*. Blessed with a wealthy background and the patronage of a number of senior naval officers, he nevertheless had to overcome the lifelong burden of considerable swings of mood, possibly what we would call bi-polar today, to achieve all he did.



In his early career, he visited the southern tip of South America on a surveying expedition and collected three natives who he brought back to England “to educate them” intending to return them as missionaries at a later date. For the return trip, having been appointed captain of *The Beagle*, he identified the need to have a companion to guard against the isolation of command which had led a number of similar officers to take their own life. By luck, his search brought him in contact with the young Charles Darwin who joined him on the voyage and became a friend for life. Fitzroy then went on to become the Governor of a fledgling New Zealand before an appointment as head of the forerunner to the Meteorological Office. In this latter post he coined the term “Weather Forecast” and developed both the systems and equipment necessary to keep seamen safe from unexpected storms. Again, another Great Life, albeit a troubled one.

In April we're listening to and discussing the life of Octavia Hill, one of the founders of the National Trust. Who knows what we'll find? Why not join us? Contact me for more details.

**John Morgan**

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## **History Group**

Throughout last year we kept in touch monthly by email, with members submitting information on topics relevant to our study of the 1830-40 decade.

In the New Year with no sign of normal meetings resuming, we decided to try Zoom and have had two successful meetings attended by all our members. We have chosen a new subject and are now considering influential women, including less well-known personalities. This month Mark gave an interesting presentation and talk on Boudicca, which encouraged us to revise our knowledge of Roman Britain. We hope to look at Hilda of Whitby next month and continue with personalities from the Middle Ages.

**Heather Davey**

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## **Patchwork Group**

It's always nice getting something in the post isn't it? Early in the new year each member of our group received two photos of quilts from the 2019 Festival of Quilts, in the post. Everyone was asked to think about the quilt pictures they'd been sent, in terms of what they liked or what they'd change about the quilts. The photos prompted lots of discussion points; it was great to talk about the different methods of construction, the age and background of some of the quilts, colour choices and block arrangements. We were each, inevitably, drawn to quilts in our own comfort zone but some of the pictures gave us all food for thought.

February's meeting, using the CVU3A Zoom license instead of our usual freebie forty minutes, gave us a great opportunity to look, at length, at the process and possibilities of kaleidoscope quilts (see next page for examples).

Here are two kaleidoscope quilts shown during our February meeting. One hand pieced, the other machined; creating fabulous effects. Each one is made from repeat lengths of a single piece of fabric. Simply cut, layer, pin, cut and sew them all back together again.



*Thanks to Wendy Booth-Boyd for these photographs of her quilts.*



For the first time, in a long time, we didn't get cut off in our prime or half-way through a sentence and actually got to say a proper goodbye. Thanks to John Morgan for setting it all up for us and talking me through the process so clearly. The extra good news is that our numbers are ever expanding... we're now a nice round number of ten!

**Wendy Booth-Boyd**

## **Poetry Group**

We continue to keep in touch by phone and email and our monthly Newsletter which always includes some poems. Some of our group have taken part in the Poetry Showcase which has been put together by Margaret and Geoff Farnie. Most of the poems were written and read by members of our U3A. This is in three parts the first of which was shown in February, and the second in March. The third part will be shown on Friday 16th April. The Youtube links to the first two sessions are given on page 13.

**Glenys Runciman**

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Reading Groups

All of the Reading Groups' Reports are at the end of the Group News section, on pages 38 to 44.

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## **Scottish Dancing**

Despite not having been able to dance since March 2020, enthusiasm for the group does not appear to have waned. On a recent Zoom chat, twelve of us were able to discuss plans for restarting and settled on 8th September as the right time to do this. We agreed to stick with Wednesday mornings. What is clear is that we are all very much out of practice and will need to begin again with the basics. So, if you fancy giving Scottish Dancing a go, keep your eyes open for further announcements, this would be the ideal time to start.

**John Morgan**

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Reading Group 2

We have continued to keep in touch with phone calls and monthly reports on a variety of books we have been reading, which Glenys circulates via e-mail and I deliver to those without computers.

Detective novels and murder mysteries appear to be most popular. These include Elly Griffiths' series featuring her forensic archaeologist Dr Ruth Galloway, The "Shetland" series written by Anne Cleves, and Robert Goddard's thrillers including *Long Time Coming*, amongst others e.g. *Night Train to Memphis*, a Vicky Bliss mystery by Elizabeth Peters, and *The Vault* by Peter Lovesey.

For a change, a fascinating autobiography by Brenda Blethyn who has a way with words and a sense of humour and fun.

Elizabeth has gone back to PG Wodehouse and his short stories and Richard Gordon's "Doctor" books. Other authors include Jodie Picoult and Jo Jo Moyes.

A good selection and as long as we keep on reading and enjoy, that is the main thing in these unusual times. Here's to the coming summer when we can hopefully meet again and enjoy each other's company as well as our books.

Keep well everybody!

Pat Panchaud



Reading Group 3

"The Garden House" by Marcia Willet

In January we had our first Zoom meeting and February saw us reviewing a book most of us read on Kindle or Tablets as library sets are not available. Marcia Willet is not an author we had read before but were interested because her book, *The Garden House*, is set in Devon and Cornwall. The novel did not meet with universal approval. Some really disliked it though two of us felt it was a nice escape from Covid, lockdown and wet weather. Although we all agreed that we would not seek to delve further into Marcia's many other books. Fans of this author describe

reading her books as "like putting on a comfortable pair of slippers", certainly comfortable was a word used in our discussion. "A group of middle class characters leading a comfortable existence bearing no relationship to the lives so many people lead", was one comment.

The story centres round Eleanor, (Els), fresh out of university and Julia, a local TV personality, unknown to each other but both loved Martin, who died suddenly from sepsis. We follow their attempts to come to terms with what has happened, Els, as his daughter and Julia as his secret lover of many years. Family relationships are strained for most of the many characters involved in the plot, something we discovered seems to be at the heart of most of Willett's books. As the story of Els' budding romance with Will, her stepbrother, unfolds and the mystery of coded text messages on her father's mobile, (from Julia), is explored we are taken on a tour around Devon with place names mentioned at every possible opportunity. Was she paid to do this, one member wondered?

This was an easy read which certainly did not challenge, there was no real depth to the characters, with a contrived plot. We felt it an example of formula writing which so many successful writers seem to adopt. Having said that, I have been inspired to visit The Garden House garden, which does exist, when we can eventually travel again. Our next read, *Nightingale Point*, looks to be a very different offering.

"Nightingale Point" by Luan Goldie

Our March book gained unanimous approval, *Nightingale Point* by Luan Goldie was short-listed for the Booker in 2020 and won the Women's Prize for Fiction in the same year. As the novel begins we are confronted by the reality of life in a London tower block community. It is a hot bank holiday, Malachi is finding it hard to study, Tristram, his brother is smoking weed, Mary, a Filipino nurse and their friend, is preparing to go to work, Elvis a young man with learning difficulties is being helped to get his lunch by his rather indifferent carer. Pamela, Malachi's girlfriend, has been locked in their flat by her racially prejudiced father who disapproves of the relationship. He's off to the bookies nearby. The morning moves on, a disaster unfolds, from this moment on for all the residents of Nightingale Point, their friends and families, life will never be the same.

The description of what happens immediately after the accident are vivid and horrifying. The chaos and disbelief of those experiencing it certainly

had this reader holding her breath. The story follows the survivors over the next five years. How they cope with injury, bereavement, guilt, love and kindness is well conveyed. Race, politics and mental health issues are also sensitively handled. This is not a "happy ever after book" and consequently not an easy read, although because the writing is so good it was easy to read.

The characters came to life on the page, particularly Elvis. This plant loving lumbering giant with a need for order and a place to live that he loves won all our hearts. Some of us felt the end was a bit too tidy and would have liked to have known what happened to some of the lesser characters.

The novel was started before the Grenfell Tower fire and does, I think, give us some idea of what the residents must have experienced. The author has said that the novel is a tribute to those whose fight to rebuild their lives continues.

This is a book we would recommend to others.

Sheila Eastland

Reading Group 4

"Confession With Blue Horses" by Sophie Hardach

All families have secrets of one sort or another, but Ella Valentin's family are burdened with the aftermath of a failed attempt to escape East Germany in 1987. Twenty years later Ella takes the slender clues from her childhood memory and sets out to find her long lost little brother in the now westernized Berlin.

Her search leads her through the maze of a city transformed by new buildings and new ideas. The equally labyrinthine archives left by the East German secret police help Ella to uncover the reality behind the shifting and uncertain memories of a time when her family was happy and complete. Along the way she finds a reluctance to stir up wounds from the past as well as unexpected help.

Sophie Hardach's novel is unsentimental in its revelations of the pain caused by decades of control by the Stasi. Ella has to find the strength

to accept, forgive and let go of the things she believed to be true in her past. Hardach creates a strong sense of place and time. The two faces of Berlin, the city of secrets and fear, and new Berlin where an Englishman can work cataloguing the Stasi interrogations, give an insightful window on to a period of recent history.

Our group generally enjoyed this book and appreciated the quality of the writing although it was a case of “really like it” for some and “just all right” for others. Definitely worth a try.

"The Leopard" by Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa

This novel is about a decadent and dying aristocracy set in Sicily in the 1860's when Garibaldi has overthrown the monarchy in Naples and subsequently is largely responsible for the unification of Italy.

The author, Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa (1896-1957) who was born in Palermo, was the last Prince of Lampedusa and this book was published after his death in 1958. The main character in the story is Don Fabrizio, Prince of Salina, modelled on the author's grandfather. Don Fabrizio rules over thousands of acres and hundreds of people; he is tall, compelling, handsome, an excellent shot and horseman and a womaniser, who has to come to terms with the changes coming about in Sicily. His other great passion is studying the stars and he often contemplates them for solace. He is known as “The Leopard” because of his coat of arms.

The novel revolves around the Prince's family with his son, five daughters and favourite nephew and their privileged but crumbling life whilst also maintaining their Catholic devotions.

With evocative language Lampedusa's book is widely regarded as a 20th century masterpiece. Our group had mixed reviews – some of us liked it very much but others found the story difficult to get into and rather pretentious.

Sue Gudgeon



Reading Group 5

The group is meeting once a month on Zoom which is keeping us connected. Over the last two months a considerable amount of books have been read, and are described below by members of our group.

Geoff Farnie:

Guns, Germs and Steel: A short history of everybody for the last 13,000 years by Jarad Diamond

It is the winner of the 1998 Rhone Poulenc Science Book Prize. It covers the development of societies from small tribal units to huge highly organised ones, and how they developed so differently in different parts of the globe. It asks such questions as why European society developed in such a way that the Spanish were able to conquer the Incas, and why didn't the Inca society develop in such a way that it was the Incas who came across and conquered Spain.

There is a fascinating chapter on pandemics and the relationship between population density both of people and animals that demonstrates quite clearly that not only is our current pandemic not unique, but that it is almost inevitable.

It's an insight into human nature which we see everyday in many parts of the world on TV.

My second book was a complete contrast to the first, a Jack Reacher novel by Lee Child, a sort of James Bond with more bodies. A very easy read and interestingly another look at the dark side of human nature.

Tina Forsey:

A Single Swallow by Zhang Ling

On the day Emperor Hirohito announces Japan's surrender in 1945 three men make a pact. After their deaths, each year on the anniversary of the surrender, their souls would return to the Chinese village of their younger days. Seventy years later their pledge is fulfilled and they all finally meet up. There is the American Missionary, the Gunner's mate and the local Chinese soldier. Each one has been touched by a Chinese girl known as Swallow and the book tells how she affected their lives,

and what happened to each of them until their deaths. Beautifully told, it tells of the horrors of the war but also the lives of people involved in it.

The Wild Silence by Raynor Winn, author of *The Salt Path*

After travelling the Salt Path Raynor and Moth return back to four walls. Moth is studying for a degree, Raynor finds life difficult with little money and watching her husband's illness progress after seeming better on the walking adventure. She writes the story of their walking adventures as a birthday present for Moth and finally finds a publisher for it. She encourages Moth to do another walk, to join with friends this time and they walk and wild camp in Iceland. Beautiful descriptions of the scenery and the difficulties they experience in Iceland as the winter begins.

Joan:

Mad, Bad and Dangerous to Know: The Autobiography by Ranulph Fiennes

This relates the triumphs and the tragedies of a life lived on the limits of human endeavour and is recounted with compelling honesty and passion by Sir Ranulph in his best selling autobiography. It is a mixture of love about his first wife and adventure, courage and determination, stamina and madness to achieve his goals. A gripping and compelling tale.

Joan also participated in reading a study book related to Lent: **Saying Yes to Life by Ruth Valero**.

This is a study book used throughout Lent with considerable emphasis on The Book of Genesis, relating themes of light, water, land and the seasons, creatures and humans, Sabbath, rest and resurrection. Ethical and social concerns. Very thought provoking.

Chris White:

Murder at the Mill by M.B. Shaw An Iris Grey Mystery

Iris arrives at Mill Cottage, her marriage is falling apart. The Wetherbys have commissioned Iris to paint a portrait of Dominic, a celebrated crime writer. The youngest member of the Wetherby family finds a body in the

pond near the mill on Christmas Day!

Dead If You Don't by Peter James

This book has Mafia connections. Kip Brown's son is kidnapped at a football match! A fast moving story with lots of twists and turns.

The Man With No Face by Peter May

Journalist Neil Bannerman is in Brussels when two British men are found murdered. It was witnessed by one of the men's autistic daughters. An easy read.

Margaret Earle:

The Symposium by Muriel Spark. She is a Scottish writer well known for *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*.

This is a tale about a dinner party where tragic and comic things happen as stipulated in Plato's Symposium. These things happen especially in the environment of Margaret, one of the guests, she is convinced she can bring them about and, when events happen without her interference she cries out, "It should not have happened till Sunday!". A delight to read, beautiful language, short and obtainable from the library.

Mary:

I am in the process of finishing **The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman** of Pointless fame.

The story is based in a retirement village and four unlikely residents get together to form the group. They meet once a week to investigate unsolved murders. A brutal killing takes place on site and they find themselves solving a live case! They are all pushing 80 but that doesn't stop them. Can they catch the killer before it's too late? Wait and see.

So far it is beautifully scripted in short humorous chapters with wonderful observational powers of human life.

Mary Evans on behalf of Chris White

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS

1. Interior
6. Addled
9. Gutter
10. Valerian
11. Charades
12. Wicket
13. Unauthorised
16. Malnutrition
19. Nearly
21. Ignorant
23. Resident
24. Kansas
25. Staged
26. Canaster

DOWN

2. Nought
3. Enter
4. Irradiant
5. Revisit
6. Allow
7. Direction
8. Enameled
13. Unnerving
14. Onionskin
15. Casement
17. Idiotic
18. Invade
20. Yield
22. Rants

Special Interest Groups

Art	Patchwork
Ballroom & Latin Dance	Philosophy
Boules	Photography
Bridge (Tuesday)	Photography: Digital
Bridge (Wednesday)	Poetry
Canasta	Poetry 2
Card Playing	Quiz Group
Cardaholics (Greetings Cards)	Reading Group 1
Crafte	Reading Group 2
Classic Films Group	Reading Group 3
Computer: Apple Devices Group	Reading Group 4
Computer: Computer Users	Reading Group 5
Day Trippers' Group	Rock Music
French: French Conversation	Rummikub
French: Les Hesitants	Scottish Country Dancing
French: Simple	Scrabble
German	Singing for Pleasure
Great Lives	Solos
Handbell Ringing	Spanish: Charlemos En Espanol
History: History	Stained Glass
History: Industrial History	Table Tennis
Italian Self-help	Tai Chi Original
Jigsaw Exchange Group	Tai Chi Beginners
Lace-making	Walking: Easy Walking
Mah-jong	Walking: Gentle Short (Proposed)
	Walking: Original
	Woodcarving

Group Meetings Timetable

Group	Week	Leader
MONDAY MORNING		
Computer Users	2nd & 4th	
Rummikub	Weekly	
Solos	1st	
MONDAY AFTERNOON		
Boules	Weekly	
Canasta	2nd & 4th	
Classic Films Group	1st	
Italian Self-Help	2nd, 4th & 5th	
MONDAY EVENING		
Woodcarving	Weekly	
TUESDAY MORNING		
French: Les Hesitants	Fortnightly	
History	2nd	
Lace-making	Weekly	
Photography	3rd	
Poetry Group 2	1st	
Reading Group 2	4th	
Spanish: Charlamos en Espanol	2nd & 4th	
TUESDAY AFTERNOON		
Bridge (Tuesday)	Weekly	
Crafte	2nd & 4th	
Singing for Pleasure	1st & 3rd	
Table Tennis	Weekly	

Group	Week	Leader
WEDNESDAY MORNING		
French: Conversation	2nd & 4th	
French: Simple	1st & 3rd	
German	Weekly	
Poetry	3rd	
Reading Group 1	1st	
Reading Group 4	4th	
Scottish Country Dancing	Weekly	
Easy Walking	2nd	
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON		
Bridge (Wednesday)	Weekly	
Card Playing	4th	
Industrial History	1st	
Quiz Group	2nd	
THURSDAY MORNING		
Coffee Morning 10.00 am	3rd	At Cheddar Village Hall
Cardaholics - Experienced	2nd (All Day)	
Great Lives	1st	
Handbell Ringing	1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th	
Philosophy	4th	
Tai Chi Beginners	Weekly (Term Time only)	

Group	Week	Leader
THURSDAY AFTERNOON Speaker Meeting 2.00 pm Cardaholics - Beginners Photography: Digital Rock Group THURSDAY EVENING Stained Glass	1st 4th 2nd 2nd, 3rd & 4th Weekly	At Cheddar Village Hall
FRIDAY MORNING Art Mah-jong Patchwork Reading Group 3 Tai Chi Original FRIDAY AFTERNOON Ballroom & Latin Dance Reading Group 5 Scrabble	4th 2nd & 4th 3rd 2nd Weekly 2nd, 3rd & 4th Last Friday 2nd & 4th	
NO FIXED DAY Apple Devices Group Day Trippers' Group Walking: Original	By arrangement See page 9	

Submission of material for our next issue

Submissions for our June / July 2021 edition
should be sent to:

Sue Bathe,

cheddar.u3anews@yahoo.co.uk

DEADLINE: Friday 14th May

I will acknowledge all e-mail communications.
If you do not receive an acknowledgement in a reasonable time,
you must assume it has not been received,
and use another method to contact me.



Please use identifying words in the subject line of your e-mail, and in the title of any attached files,
e.g. Group name and month of report, such as "Drama Group November report", and not just "Notes from November" or "U3A Article".

If possible please send in your articles and reports by e-mail.
The information can be in the body of the e-mail itself,
or be as an attachment in a common format,
such as Word, Open Office, or as a pdf.
(Please do **not** send anything as **.pages**, I cannot open it.)

Photographs of your groups and group activities
are also always welcome (as jpgs please).
Please always state who took the photograph.