

DONCASTER



Registered Charity No. 1074577



February - March 2018

From the Chair



By the time you read these comments, the events of 2017 will be taking their place in history. I hope that family get-togethers over the Christmas period have given you lots of joy as well as up-to-date news and perhaps stirred memories of times past.

A full house in December at the Trades Club witnessed another successful Christmas Event, with a visiting local choir and our own members' panto production. There were some strong voices coming from our members in the community singing items. Do we have a budding Musical Director and/or accompanist who might like to set up a singing group? In 2018 it is hoped to start two new groups - Scottish Country Dancing and Playreading. More details can be found later in the newsletter.

The various DU3A groups, some of whom organized their own Christmas meals, will be looking forward to completing their 2017-18 schedules before the membership year comes to a conclusion at the end of March. I am pleased to say that our annual membership has moved beyond 350 as news of the activities of our organisation reaches the eyes and ears of more Doncastrians. We have put more emphasis this year on spreading the word through The Doncaster Free Press and various other local publications and it has begun to pay off.

We are also looking for new faces on the committee of twelve for 2018-19. Six members will be entering their second year of office, with the remaining positions needing to be filled. Our Constitution states that committee members are elected for an initial 2-year period, but they may subsequently offer themselves for re-election. We are asking for nominations for this next year to be submitted to the Secretary by March 1st so that details of nominees, along with the names of their proposer and seconder, can be published in the April/May newsletter (available at the March GM) in good time before voting takes place at the Annual General Meeting. The AGM this year is now taking place a month later than published on your membership cards. It will now be held on Monday 21 May 2018. In its place, in April 2018, Richard Bell will be talking about 'The Sand House'.

I hope the worst of the winter weather is behind us, and that the coming weeks will enable us to see a spring in our step as we look forward to lighter and brighter days, and some serious holiday planning. Wishing you health and happiness in 2018 and much fun and enjoyment in your U3A activities whatever they may be...

Best wishes.

George Kirk

WELCOME

A warm welcome to our new members:

**Peter Chubb, Maureen Forshaw, David Green, Janet Green,
Lynne Harrison, Ray Harrison, David McEwan, Elizabeth McEwan,
Marie Peck, Sue Wales, Elizabeth Williams.**

Sunday Lunch

GEORGIAN TEAROOMS - 28th January at 1.00 p.m.

Please gather in the restaurant before 12.45 p.m.

REGENT HOTEL - 25th February at 1.00 p.m.

Prices are: 2 courses: £12.50 3 courses: £14.50

Tea/Coffee extra

The menu will be available from Monday 12th until Sunday 18th February. Contact me to choose from the menu or to let me know if you are unable to attend this lunch.

EARL OF DONCASTER - 25th March at 1.00 p.m.

Prices are: 2 courses: £14.95 3 courses: £16.95

Tea/Coffee extra

Menu available from Monday 12th until Sunday 18th March. Please contact me to choose from this menu or to let me know if you cannot be present at this lunch.

Eileen Dickson

Tribute to Linda Burkinshaw

It is with great sadness that I have to tell you that Linda Burkinshaw, valued member and friend of Living History, lost her long battle with cancer in December. Linda worked hard alongside Betty Alexander to produce the group's first booklet, which was a great success, and spurred the group on to produce a second. She was an asset to the group and will be greatly missed.

Linda always had dignity and forbearance in the things she undertook and bravely showed the same traits in her struggle through the last months and days of her illness.

It was a privilege to work alongside her and be her friend. Our thoughts are with her family at this difficult time.

God Bless from Jess Parkinson and everyone at Living History.

Linda was also a member of the Writers and Theatre & Discussion groups.

GROUPS - UPDATES/NOTICES

◆◆◆ LOOKING AT ART ◆◆◆

Now meets at the Priory Place Methodist Chapel.

◆◆◆ DINING OUT ◆◆◆

The next meeting of the Dining Out group will take place at Villas Romana on Nether Hall Road on Tuesday February 13th at the usual time of 6.30 for 7pm. Menus are available online or can be seen by contacting Joan on Saturday mornings at the drop-in session at the Trades and Labour Club. Members wishing to attend should send their menu choices with a cheque made payable to DU3A no.2 account to Joan by **Tuesday 30th January**.

Please do not send menu choices and cheques to Carol as she is currently convalescing following her recent illness.

Joan Condron

◆◆◆ WRITERS ◆◆◆

New dates for our group meetings are **25th January** and **8th and 22nd February**. Please check the venue for the **22nd February** meeting. Any potential new members should always contact me beforehand and I will be able to tell them what has been arranged.

Chris Short

◆◆◆ JAZZ APPRECIATION ◆◆◆

The next meeting is Thursday 18th January.

Colin Brown

◆◆◆ 2 FREE FIRST AID COURSES ◆◆◆

Fifteen DU3A members attended a two and a half hour first aid course provided by the Yorkshire Ambulance Service. We learned how to recognise when someone is having a stroke, how to help in the event of someone suffering cardiac arrest, and how to help someone who is choking. The course was very informative. We will be running this course again on 17th April 2018. If you would like to attend, please contact Beryl Kellett. Please note, places are limited to 20 people and will be given on a strict first come first served basis.

We have also been contacted by the Red Cross who are offering to deliver a First Aid course specifically for the over-65s entitled "Slips, Trips and Falls". This course also covers diabetes and how to help a stroke victim. We do not have a date for this course yet but are hoping to run it in the Spring. Again, please contact Beryl Kellett if you are interested.

Beryl Kellett

◆◆◆ 2 NEW GROUPS - LAUNCH ◆◆◆

Fancy trying something new with DU3A? We have 2 new groups launching in the next few weeks - if you would like to express an interest, or get more information, please contact geofftagg@hotmail.com.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING (SCD)

This has nothing to do with kilts and swords (that is Highland Dancing). SCD is a relatively gentle form of dance - and very sociable, plenty of fun and laughter. The dancing is in groups ("sets"), so you can come alone, or with friends or partners. We are fortunate to have a teacher who already takes a class in Doncaster, where all the attenders are U3A ages (ranging from 60-83), so she knows how to pitch the level for us beginners, and not the most agile! Classes will start on [Friday January 26th](#), and run weekly during school term times. The location is the Baptist Chapel Hall, opposite the Catholic Church, on Chequer Road. The time will be 10 a.m. to 11.45 a.m., on Friday mornings. The cost will be £3 per session. No special dress is needed, although wearing soft flat shoes would be preferable.

PLAYREADING

Perhaps you enjoy plays at the theatre, or on television - or even just fancy reading some plays? No homework or planning is needed. We simply turn up with enough copies of the play, and read it out loud. I have been a member of Rotherham U3A play-reading group for the last 12 months and it is remarkably engaging and enjoyable. The group will be limited to 12 members so that each member can have a go at reading a part in each play. Meetings will be monthly to begin with, maybe moving to fortnightly if members wish. Once we have enough members, we can agree the location and timing of meetings. Cost will probably be £1 (to cover the cost of hiring the books), plus any venue costs.

Geoff Tagg

Forthcoming General Meetings

- 19th February: Neil McGregor: **'Doncaster in Art'**
19th March: Michael Davidson Paine: **'What the Butler Saw'**
16 April: Richard Bell: **'The Sand House'**
21 May: **AGM**

Mondegreens: see page 8 (article about our November GM)

• **'Ticket to Ride'** by the Beatles. Actual lyrics: **She's got a ticket to ride....**
Mondegreen: **She's got a tic in her eye....**

• **'Don't it make my brown eyes blue'** by Crystal Gayle. Actual lyrics: **Don't it make my brown eyes blue.....**
Mondegreen: **Doughnuts make my brown eyes blue....**

Christmas Meals



Card Making Christmas lunch

at Woods Tea Rooms
27th November 2017

Janet Evans





The DU3A Christmas lunch

at the Regent Hotel on 6th December. 31 people attended. The food was delicious and the waiting staff pleasant and efficient. It made for a very pleasurable experience.

Joan Condron



Criminology Christmas Lunch

Criminology Xmas Lunch was held at the Regent Hotel on the 11th December. A really good turnout, with 43 people attending (some were friends and family). A really good time was had by everyone. There was a short cabaret break by a comedian (Pete Gospel). Everyone was in stitches (good enough for a return performance next year I think). The food was excellent as always. Plenty of raffle prizes to be won.

Joyce Clarke



Reports from General Meetings

November: 1,000 Years of the English Language.

Malcolm Johnson gave us a most enlightening talk on the history of our language starting at 1066 and describing the language at 100 year intervals up to present times plus possible future developments.

Those who were present may recall the mention of mondegreens. A mondegreen (also sometimes spelled 'mondagreen') is the accidental mishearing of a phrase in a poem, or song in such a way that it acquires a new, and usually humorous meaning. The original poem included the lines: "They have slain the Earl o' Moray, And layd him on the green". This was misheard as "They hae slain the Earl Amurray, And Lady Mondegreen". Scattered around the newsletter are a few more mondegreens, some of which you may recognise.

B Thompson

December:

Ladies who love to Sing



The 'Ladies who love to sing', accompanied on the keyboard by their conductor, presented us with an eclectic programme of songs covering several decades. The use of harmony, unison and counterpoint singing created a warm atmosphere.

Wendy Hattrell manned the computer, making sure that the words of the songs for community singing were well displayed on the screen.



Pantomania!



What a great bunch of people we got together for this year's Pantomime.

I was quite uncertain about how we would get on, with so few people coming forward to take part and to some extent I had to write the script around the people we had.

After the success of last year's "Little Old Granny Riding Hood" Diane and I decided that this year we would give it a rest. However when we were approached and asked to produce something for this year I forgot all that, foolishly agreed and came up with a plot for "Oldilocks"

After the initial casting and rewriting we all got together and started to work it through bit by bit. Always open to suggestions we did manage to adapt things as we went along, including some brilliant gags and suggestions made by members of the group.

One problem I did find was that of reproducing on stage what I originally imagined when I wrote it! For example, the more observant in the audience will have noticed the abundance of chairs that appeared on the stage for the last scene. This became necessary when we realised that the script demanded that the cast should each fall to the floor as a spell was cast on them one by one. Unfortunately I had failed to foresee that most of the cast were of an age where falling on the floor was a major difficulty and that even if they did manage to get down, it was still impossible for most of the cast to get up again unaided.....hence the chairs!



In the event though the hours and hours of rehearsals and props, set and costume making were rewarded by an unforgettable performance that was well appreciated by cast and audience alike.



I must say a big thank-you to everyone who took part and helped us with the show.

Chris Woolven.

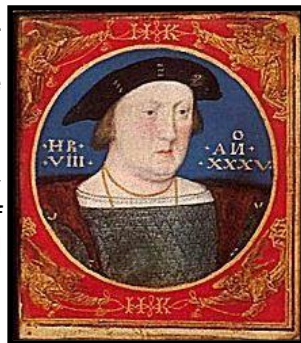
Looking at Art Group - Miniatures

On 1st December, in the new venue at Priory Place, the Looking at Art group met to discuss **miniature paintings**.

Miniatures were first painted to decorate hand-written books. 'Miniature' comes from the Latin word 'miniare' which means colour with red lead – a practice used for capital letters.

From the 1460s hand-written books had to compete with printed books.

At first miniaturists used watercolours to paint on vellum. These first appeared in the 1520s at the English and French courts. Earliest examples were painted by the French artist **JEAN CLOUET** and the English artist **LUCAS HORENBOUT**.



Portrait miniature of Henry VIII, 1525-26, by Lucas Horenbout, from a charter in the Fitzwilliam Museum.

Miniatures were useful to the Monarchy. Wealthy Elizabethan subjects began to wear her image as a sign of loyalty, at a time when Protestant England was threatened by Catholic Spain.

NICHOLAS HILLIARD and **ISAAC OLIVER** produced many miniatures during the reign of James the First in the 1600s. The first British artist to paint on ivory was **Bernard Lens**, about 1707. Ivory began to replace vellum.

Until the 1760s most miniaturists had no professional training. Many were not even full time e.g. **Luke Sullivan** was an engineer and **Thomas Frye** ran a porcelain factory.

In the early 18th century miniaturists experimented with ways to make it easier to paint ivory with watercolour. These included roughening the ivory, degreasing it or making the paint thicker.

In 1768 a group of London based artists established the Royal Academy of Art. At the Academy's annual exhibition of miniatures, miniaturists displayed their work in a room crowded with large oil paintings. Many younger artists took up miniature painting offering clients keepsakes for their loved ones. Most came to London to find work but **Thomas Hazlehurst** found a lucrative market in his home town of Liverpool.



Portrait miniature of A Young Man Leaning Against a Tree Among Roses, possibly Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex (1566-1601), by Nicholas Hilliard, 1585-95. (Victoria and Albert Museum, London)

In 1785 three miniaturists independently made the six-month voyage to India. They set up business in Madras and Calcutta, although they needed permission from the East India Company who effectively ran these areas.

With many miniaturists based in India, the exchange of such portraits between India and England became cheap and easy. They could be posted or carried home by friends or relatives.

Inevitably, with the arrival of photography in the first half of the century, the art of miniatures went into decline. This was especially noticeable at subsequent Royal Academy summer exhibitions, where miniaturists had been very prominent. It was ironic that many miniaturists were forced to make a living colour-tinting black and white photographs.

In 1904 King Edward VII granted the Society of Miniaturists the Royal Charter. To highlight the society's growing importance, a President's Jewel was commissioned. This was a large silver chain of office (designed and made by Alfred Pock) which is still worn by current Presidents.



Catherine de Medici by Francois Clouet (son of Jean Clouet). Watercolour on vellum.

Today, the patron of the Royal Society of Miniature Paintings is the Prince of Wales.

Jean Graville King

MAY I RECOMMEND:- Doncaster Little Theatre.

For great value entertainment you can't beat the Little Theatre Friday Cabarets. They are usually held every two weeks and commence in 2018 on the 2nd February.

The format is right up the street for many of our members (7 or 8 are already regular attenders). They run from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. with an interval midway. There is a different act in each half with the compere Robert adding a couple of numbers of his own. A Welshman with a great voice typically doing 'Rat Pack' numbers. The Christmas Cabaret featured a Rod Stewart tribute and a young singer trying to get into West End musicals. Their numbers had people dancing in the aisles. The show was wound up with Robert and his wife (also a singer) giving us a very seasonal 'White Christmas'. With drink and mince pies it was a great start to the Christmas season.



At £6.00 the shows are great value (£5.00 if booked in advance).

Mike Bowser

'Mondegreen continued:

- **'Purple Haze'** by Jimi Hendrix. Actual lyrics: 'Scuse me while I kiss the sky....
Mondegreen: 'Scuse me while I kiss this guy...
- **'Smoke on the Water'** by Deep Purple. Actual lyrics: **Smoke on the water, fire in the sky.....** Mondegreen: **Slow walking Walter, the fire engine guy.....**

History Group

Members of the History group were royally entertained by Andrea and Roger Offord regarding the Doncaster Waites musical group. The group play renaissance musical instruments. These are a far cry from today's instruments. Many originated during the renaissance period, being variations or improvements on previous instruments.

As in modern times, instruments were classified as brass, string, percussion and woodwind.

As early as the 13th century there was a division of instruments into **haut** (loud/shrill outdoor instruments) and **bas** (quieter more intimate instruments).

However, only two groups of instruments could play freely in both types of ensembles – the cornet and sackbut and the tabor and tambourine.



Serpent

At the start of the 16th century, instruments were considered to be less important than voices. They were used for dances and to accompany vocal music.

BRASS

Brass instruments in the renaissance period were traditionally played by professionals. Some of the more common brass instruments were:-

Slide trumpet - Similar to today's trombone except that, instead of a section of the body sliding, only a small part of the body near the mouth-piece slid, and the mouthpiece itself was stationary. Also, the body was S-shaped and rather unwieldy and only suitable for slow dance music for which it was commonly used.

Cornett - Made of wood in several sizes – the largest called the serpent.

Trumpet - Made in different sizes. Commonly used by the military and the announcement of royalty.

STRINGS

Viol - 15th century with 6 strings. Usually played with a bow

Lyre - Similar to a small harp. Used with a plectrum. Various number of strings from 4, 7 or 10. Played with the right hand. The left hand silenced the notes that were not desired. Newer lyres were modified to be played with a bow.

Lute - This generally refers to any stringed instrument specifically from the family of European lutes.

Irish Harp - also named Clarsach in Scottish Gaelic. Since the Middle Ages to this day it is Ireland's national symbol. Played by plucking. Its size can vary from one that can be played on one's lap to a full size harp that has to be placed on the floor.

Hurdy Gurdy (also known as the wheel fiddle) in which the strings are sounded by a wheel which the strings pass over. It has a



Hurdy Gurdy

distinctive sound mainly because its 'drone strings' provide a constant pitch similar to the sound of bagpipes.

PERCUSSION

Some renaissance percussion instruments include the triangle, the Jew's harp, the tambourine, recorder and various types of drums.

WOODWIND

These instruments produce sounds by means of a vibrating column of air within the pipes. Holes along the pipe allow the player to control the column of air, and pitch.

Woodwind instruments include the reed pipe, hornpipe, bagpipes and transverse flute among others.

The session was greatly enhanced since Andrea and Roger allowed the group to handle the instruments, and they gave a short musical demonstration of the sounds of all the various instruments.



Reed pipe



Horn pipes

Jean Graville-King

Strollers

It was a bright but cold November morning when the Strollers met for the last walk of the year from the Crown at Barnburgh. We walked into the village and looked at an old red phone box which is now a library, well stocked with books



on shelves that you borrow and return on trust. We started the steady climb up to Barnburgh Cliff when we were passed by another group of walkers, and on speaking to them they were a group from Stocksbridge U3A! The view from the cliff

was quite spectacular and you could see for miles towards Sheffield and the Peak District. We then started our descent back to the Crown but had to negotiate a load of fluorescent tubes that had been 'fly tipped' across the lane. Thanks, Sue for reporting this. We then walked back down to the warm and welcome carvery where two large tables had been reserved for us. Thank-you Ron.

A full list of walks for 2018 can be found on the DU3A website.

Looking forward to seeing you all again soon.

Allen and Brenda Whittaker



A 78 year old woman wrote this to her bank

The bank manager thought it was amusing enough to have it published in The Times.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my cheque with which I endeavoured to pay my plumber last month.

By my calculations, three 'nanoseconds' must have elapsed between his presenting the cheque and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honour it. I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my Pension, an arrangement which, I admit, has been in place for only eight years.

You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account £30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank.

My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways.

I noticed that whereas I personally attend to your telephone calls and letters, when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become.

From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person.

My mortgage and loan payments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank by cheque, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate.

Be aware that it is an offence under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope.

Please find attached an Application Contact Status which require your chosen employee to complete.

I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative. Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Solicitor, and the mandatory details of his/ her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof.

In due course, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me. I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modelled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service.

As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Let me level the playing field even further. When you call me, press buttons as follows:

- 1 To make an appointment to see me.
- 2 To query a missing payment.
- 3 To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.
- 4 To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping.
- 5 To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.

- 6 To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home.
- 7 To leave a message on my computer (a password to access my computer is required. A password will be communicated to you at a later date to the Authorized Contact.)
- 8 To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through 8
- 9 To make a general complaint or inquiry, the contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement.

May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous, New Year.

Your Humble Client

(Remember: This was written by a 78 year old woman)
 Submitted by Peter Gospel

Member News

Betty Alexander, in the company of fellow trustees, meeting her Royal Highness Princess Anne on the occasion of the opening of the DONCASTER BOROUGH CAB Office in Oct. 2017.



Panto rehearsal with a difference: Celebrating Jean Graville-King's 80th birthday.

Mondegreen continued:

- **'Forever in Blue Jeans'** by Neil Sedaka. Actual lyrics: **forever in blue jeans**..... Mondegreen: **Reverend blue jeans**.....
- **'Killing me Softly'** by Roberta Flack. Actual lyrics: **strumming my fate with his fingers**.... Mondegreen: **stuffing my face with his fingers**
- **'Smoke on the Water'** by Deep Purple. Actual lyrics: **Smoke on the water, fire in the sky**..... Mondegreen: **Slow walking Walter, the fire engine guy**.....

Visit to Donna Nook

The Lincolnshire coast line is one of four breeding grounds of the British population of grey seals. Grey seals have been breeding along the coast here since 1970 and it is of international importance. For most of the year the seals, mostly the cows, are at sea, however, the ranger at the site did say that many of the bulls will stay isolated for longer on the sandbanks there waiting for the winter and the cows to return. Visitors flock to Donna Nook during November and December to observe the birth of the pups. The web-site maintains a daily diary of the births so no-one need be disappointed .

Pups are born with white fur coats and suckle for between two and three weeks. The mothers then leaves them. Cows will then mate and leave the beach. Pups grow quickly but have many dangers:

- Starvation
- Abandonment
- Infection
- Drowning



by Terry Gunnill

Having read the website diary and seen that there were over 500 bulls, 1,000 cows and 1,608 pups, I must confess, having not been to Donna Nook previously, I was expecting an audible and pungent fragrance as my introduction to brown seals. On our visit to the coast I was pleasantly surprised at the lack of smell and noise. That's not to say there weren't any sounds. There were distinctive sounds of babies calling mum, the sound that said 'get off my patch', a rather fetching mating call and a dramatic 'you're too close to my baby' call.

Though it is nature in the raw, when two bulls claim the same female or the male encroaches on the female and pup territory, it's well worth the visit. Pups are literally all over the beach - some very white and others in varying beautiful shades and designs. There are new born pups and pups obviously waiting for the urge to leave the beach to feed to manifest itself. I defy anyone not to fall in love with the doe-eyed pups.

A good visit (just make sure your list for the bus is correct – can't help being blonde some days). Good pathways by the coast - nice cup of tea. Wrap up warm and enjoy.

Vanessa Whaley

(See the 'For the Love of Nature' page on the DU3A website for many more photos)



by Nora Boyle



by Geoff Norcliffe

Tenpin Bowling

Well here we are enjoying our last tenpin bowling of 2017. Our winners were Pat & Geoff. It was only the second time Pat had joined us so well done that lady!!

All but two went along after to The Cheswold for a meal and a good old chin wag. If anyone would like to come and give it a go you are very welcome to come and join us.

Linda Hitchman



Mondegreen continued:

- **'Every time you go away'** by Paul Young. Actual lyrics: **Every time you go away you take a piece of me with you.....**
Mondegreen: Every time you go away you take a piece of meat with you.....
- **'You don't bring me flowers any more'** by Neil Sedaka. Actual lyrics: **You hardly talk to me anymore, when I come through the door at the end of the day.....** Mondegreen: You hardly talk to me anymore, when I Kung Fu the door at the end of the day....
- **'Bad Moon Rising'** by Creedence Clearwater Revival. Actual lyrics: **There's a bad moon on the rise** Mondegreen: There's a bathroom on the right... or There's a baboon on the rise....
- **'If She Would Have Been Faithful'** by Chicago. Actual lyrics: **If she would have been faithful....** Mondegreen: If she would have been paid for.....
- **'She's got Betty Davis eyes'** by Kim Carnes. Actual lyrics: **She's got Bette Davis eyes....** Mondegreen: She's got better days, besides!

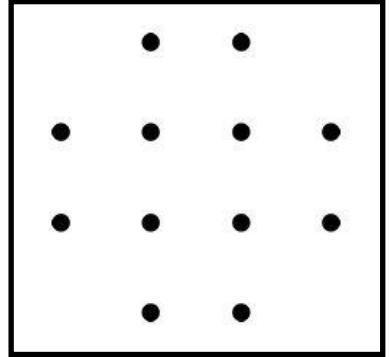
Also: He's Got the Whole World in His Pants, *and* When a Man Loves a Walnut.

PUZZLE PAGE

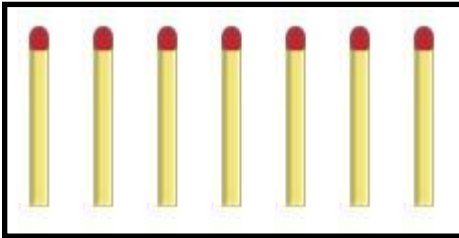


Can you connect (go through) the nine stars by using only **FOUR straight** lines? The series of lines must be in a continuous movement without "lifting your pencil" (each new line starts where the previous line finishes).

How many squares can be made by joining 4 of the points in the grid on the right? They can be any size and orientation,

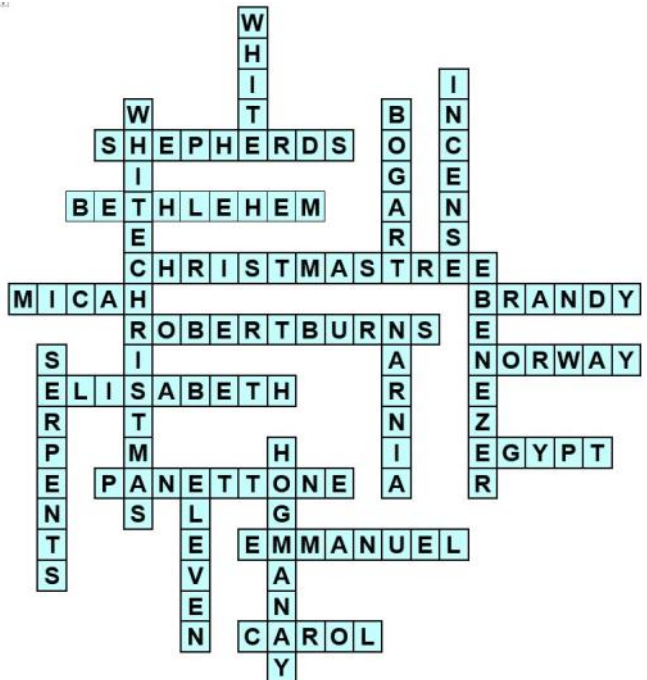


How many squares of the **same size** can be made with the seven matchsticks shown on the left (perfect squares only, not rectangles)?



Solution to December/January's puzzle

Apologies for the spelling of Elisabeth (American). I hope this did not spoil the crossword.





Welcome to the February/March culture page

Just a few ideas for up and coming things you may like to do.

Cast

Thursday 8th to Saturday 10th February – **Noel Coward's Private Lives**

Thursday 1st to Saturday 3rd March – John Godber's **Up & Under**

Friday 16th March – **Big Girls Don't Cry – Frankie Valli tribute**

Call 01302 303959 or visit www.castindoncaster.com

Sheffield Lyceum

Tuesday 6th to Saturday 10th February – **Beautiful** – Carole King musical

Tuesday 27th February to Saturday 17th March – **Mamma Mia**

Tuesday 20th March to Saturday 7th April – **Seven Brides for Seven Brothers**

Call 0114 2496000 or visit www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk

Sheffield City Hall

Thursday 1st February – **Madama Butterfly**

Sunday 25th February – **Anton & Erin – Broadway to Hollywood**

Call 0114 2789789 or visit - www.sheffieldcityhall.co.uk

Trinity Art Centre – Gainsborough

Saturday 17th February – **No Finer Life – A Land Girl's tale**

Call 01427 686655 or visit www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/trinity-art-centre

Rotherham Civic Theatre

Friday 9th February – Jimmy Osmond – **Moon River & Me**

Tuesday 20th to Saturday 24th February – **Whistle Down the Wind (musical)**

Saturday 3rd March – **The Carpenter's Story**

Call - 01709 823621 or visit www.rotherhamtheatres.co.uk

Vue Doncaster

Tuesday 27th March - **Messiah** from Bristol Old Vic

Wednesday 14th February – RSC live – **Twelfth Night**

Released 2nd March – **Winchester: The house that ghosts built** (fact based)

Visit – <https://www.myvue.com/cinema/doncaster/whats-on> for all listings

Hope you find something you like.

Jess Parkinson

Not

*You are not your age,
Nor the size of clothes you wear,
You are not a weight,
Or the colour of your hair.
You are not your name,
Or the dimples in your cheeks,
You are all the books you read,
And all the words you speak.
You are your croaky morning voice,
And the smiles you try to hide,
You're the sweetness in your laughter,
And every tear you've cried.
You're the songs you sing so loudly,
When you know you're all alone,
You're the places that you've been to,
And the one that you call home.
You're the things that you believe in,
And the people that you love,
You're the photos in your bedroom,
And the future you dream of.
You're made of so much beauty,
But it seems that you forgot,
When you decided that you were defined,
By all the things you're not.*

Erin Hansen

Virtual U3A membership offers new challenges, new opportunities and new friends.



What is the Virtual U3A?

The Virtual University of the Third Age (vU3A) is the only U3A existing solely on the internet. vU3A has its home on a private members only website.

What is our aim?

Our aim is to create an online U3A which adheres to the principles and participative learning as practised by U3As throughout the UK. U3As are democratic, self-funded, self-managed organisations. We draw upon the knowledge, skills and experience of our members to organise our interest group pages.

Who can join vU3A?

Anybody can join vU3A including people who are working part-time. An important target group for vU3A is older people who are isolated either geographically, through illness or perhaps because of personal commitments (carers, for example).

What computer skills are needed?

You will need to be able to:

- Use a mouse or touchpad or keyboard;
- Receive and send emails;
- Find your way around the internet;
- Save and retrieve files.

The idea behind these requirements is to allow members to communicate effectively with one another and to collaborate on projects of shared interest. Technical help is always available.

What are you interested in?

Art, Music, Geography, History, Literature, Photography, Science, Technology, Social Sciences, Discussion Groups.

We have around 2,000 pages, accessible by all members, covering a wide variety of topics and interests.

Want to find out how vU3A works?

Go to our public website: <https://vu3a.org> where there is further information and you will also be able to sign up for our free monthly newsletter.

Questions and Queries?

Please contact:

Linda Clark, Chairman - vU3A

Email: vu3aenquiries@gmail.com

Virtual U3A (vU3A)

Clouds Community Counselling Service

Clouds CCS are delighted to announce a funding award from Awards for All to continue the Bereavement Support Groups in 2018 and to trial two Family Support Groups. Clouds CCS has also been chosen to receive funding from the Co-operative Community Fund in a year's time. Doncaster Freemasons have kindly donated £500 towards the provision of a Young Peoples' Counsellor and we are looking for more help with this very worthwhile project where so many of the Young People need help.

Clouds CCS are also looking for two responsible people to sit on the Board who meet 6-weekly. Please do offer your skills and help.

Client Line 07962907053

www.cloudscounsellingservices.com

CONTACTING GROUP LEADERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

In addition to the telephone numbers below, most Group Leaders can be contacted by clicking on the Blue Bird on their group page on the DU3A website.

Go to: <https://u3asites.org.uk/doncaster> then click on the 'GROUP' tab. Go to the bottom of the group page and click on the group that you require. Click on the Blue Bird in the top right-hand corner and a form will open for you to write your message.

Committee members can also be contacted via the DU3A website by opening the 'Contact' page and then selecting the appropriate member.

Contact Numbers

DU3A Committee Members

Chair:	George Kirk	
Vice Chair:	Wendy Hattrell	
Secretary :	Beryl Kellett	
Treasurer :	John Parkinson:	
Membership	Jill Laming	
Secretary:		
Group Co-ordinators	Diane Williams John Wheeler	
Welfare:	Carole Lewis	
Newsletter Editor :	Bridget Thompson	bthompsonu3a@btinternet.com
Website Manager :	Bridget Thompson	
Volunteers:	Mike Bowser:	
Publicity:	Mark Frost	

Prego Café

We would like to thank our friends at the Prego Café for their help over the past years. Not only is the tea, coffee and food excellent, but the free use of the upstairs room for meetings has been a great help to many of our groups. If you haven't been there yet, give it a try!

Monks Printers

We are grateful to Monks the Printers for their help in printing this newsletter.

DU3A Website

<https://u3asites.org.uk/doncaster>

Visit the DU3A website for information about all the current interest groups, latest news/notices, membership information, meetings, social events, monthly calendars and newsletters, help/advice links, links to regional and national u3a and more.....

Deadline

Thank-you to all the members who have sent articles for this issue. Articles for the April/May newsletter need to be received by **Monday 26th February.**

Please send news of group activities, articles, photographs, etc. to du3anewsletterbmt@btinternet.com



