



September 2022 Newsletter

Welcome back “to work” Ems Valley u3a’ers. Holidays are over – what is planned for your group? Please let the Editor know!

To start the September Newsletter in grand fashion, a special interview with Sheila Morris. As you probably know Sheila has in hospital lately but she is back! And what a story.....

Hello Sheila, can I first say how great it is to have you back in action after your fall and subsequent operation to repair the damage!

Well I am back, but not sure about “in action yet”. But I am fighting to get there, and I am now entering a period I am describing as “MY NEW LIFE!” (20 pills a day plus a glass of chardonnay to wash them down!)



When did you join our u3a?

It was during your Chairmanship, Alan, so it must have been in or around 2007.

What interest groups did you join?

Photography, a longstanding interest of mine, Birdwatching, Bridge, Travellers Tales, Wine appreciation – hence the Chardonnay, and Diana’s Out with your camera for the day!

You haven’t mentioned Mah Jong.....

Well that was my real success story! My good friend Mary Morris and I were both interested in Mah Jong but we did not know how to play it. We decided to attend a Chichester group and quickly learn the rudiments. In fact our teacher was so

impressed with our progress that she suggested that we started a group in Emsworth. We introduced it to Ems Valley u3a and we never looked back. It quickly progressed to two classes and at it’s height we had over fifty members playing. Mahjong groups 1 and 2 have merged and meet on the first three Thursdays of each month at the Westbourne Parish Church hall. It is a brilliant game!

Let us go back to earlier days Sheila? How you meet your husband?

My Barrie and I were childhood sweethearts! We married when I was nineteen. He trained as a ground engineer for BOAC. He was then sent all over the world and we mainly lived abroad. Turkey, Rome, Iran. Wherever he was posted we lived. I counted up the other day, I have had 42 different homes! I learnt Turkish when we spent a year there. I taught at universities – English Language – with just my O levels as a qualification. I clearly remember 60 young males aged 18 – 22 crowded into my classroom. It was an amazing life. We had six years in Iran when the Shah was in power. Ceylon, Japan, three postings to Australia – gosh I am nearly up to 42! When Barrie was 34, he changed from ground engineer to flight engineer because we did not want to send our children to boarding school even though BOAC would have paid for their schooling. So, rather than part with our kids, we settled back in UK - big life style change for me! We based ourselves at Camberley in Surrey. That started a new life and we were able to fly everywhere first class! Sometimes I even sat on the flight deck, no chance of that happening now! When I lived at Camberley, I could no longer teach because I did not have the UK qualifications so I worked in market research.

Tell us about your family?

We had a boy and a girl, and today I have five grandsons (all living in the Fleet area), and five great grandchildren with a sixth on the way! Very sadly, I lost my son two years ago when he died suddenly on his yacht in Grenada. That was a massive shock for me. But my grandchildren are all very good to me.



How did you keep in touch with home when you were living abroad at that time? My secret was my Christmas newsletter to friends and family. I made notes through the year and composed a newsletter every year which was my way of keeping in touch. We had some special friends in Chichester, and I sent them more frequent updates. When they died recently their children presented me with all of these letters – it was like living my life

all over again!

So, how did you come to Emsworth?

Well we had these friends at Chichester and one day I visited Emsworth and fell in love with it. We bought “The School” in Bridgefoot Path as a holiday home in 1982. But we hardly ever lived in it, as we still had the house at Camberley and then we bought a Yacht!

I was wondering when you were going to mention the Yacht!

Well, we had several actually, we graduated – we had 22, 27, 30 and finally 34 foot. Our 34 foot was our main love – it was a Najad, a Swedish designed boat and we spent 23 years sailing the World! Well, we started in Sweden and Norway, then Germany and Holland, through the Bay of Biscay to the Mediterranean taking in every island possible, then to Turkey and into the Black Sea. In the winter we would often have it taken out of the water and we lived on dry land – up a ladder – and into our boat! There were no Marinas in those days, we lived



on the jetties!

I was the navigator. I studied for my certificate and Barrie the master! It was a wonderful time in my life.

Barrie had taken early retirement and we sailed for 23 years. When we returned from the Med, we took the mast off and sent it home, and then sailed back through the inland waterways of France. We had an amazing time! We even managed to win two rallies, arranged by “Yachting World”. Barrie sadly died when he was 71 in 2007, and it was very fortunate that I had a home to come back to in Emsworth.

So this is when you joined our u3a?

Yes, it was brilliant for me because I knew no one in Emsworth. Suddenly, through u3a, I knew everybody!

Did you have any other hobbies?

I have always done cross stitch embroidery, and you can see a few examples around the walls. At the moment I am doing a massive cabbage for a friend.

You have always been a supporter of mine in ‘Wine Appreciation One’ . The two photos above were taken on wine trips.

Yes, and I have been on all of your lovely wine trips – we had such fun. Although I prefer white wine, I well remember visiting SHIRAZ in Iran a long time ago. We were so taken by this town that Barrie and I decided to call our house in Camberley ‘Shiraz’ and every yacht we bought was named ‘Shiraz’! Funny, because I don’t like Shiraz wine!

I came on the very first wine trip to Rioja. I knew no one but you arranged for me to share a cabin on the cruise to Bilbao with Josephine Durant. I woke her up in the middle of the night looking for an elastic stocking and we spent the rest of that night drinking tea and chatting. She is now my best friend!

Sheila, we cannot end this interview without mentioning ‘Emsworth in Bloom’ How did that start?

Well, I was in Chichester and admiring all of their lovely hanging baskets and I asked a shopkeeper if they contributed to the expense. No, she said, the council pay for it all. I returned to Emsworth that day and photographed our four flower troughs all filled to the brim with WEEDS! So, I started a campaign and managed to get the ERA to contribute and then Winchester Council gave us a grant. Many other people helped and now we have many displays planted winter and summer. We have managed to install 15 new displays in recent years.

It certainly is a credit to you and your helpers, Emsworth looks much more attractive because of them. You have had a most interesting life, I can’t believe what you have done! We always end the interview with you being cast away to a desert island with the Bible, the complete works of Shakespeare and a great big picture of all your Ems Valley u3a friends! You are allowed to request one other thing, what will that be?

My Mobility Scooter and my supply of Chardonnay! Thankyou! And can I just say - I have been round the world but LIVING IN EMSWORTH is the BEST THING OF ALL!

September Reunion Dinner for Wine One!

Memories of a remarkable wine trip to the Languedoc in June 2011 will come flooding back for sixty members and



their guests on 26th September! On that occasion we coached down through the length of France, including crossing the spectacular Millau Viaduct, only completed in 2004, which spanned the gorge valley of the Tarn. Why did we use Woods coaches of Bognor, because of the horrible experience the previous year when we had our flight cancelled at NO NOTICE by Easijet!

So, on Monday 26th September, the Emsworth Sailing Club will host our 10 year anniversary celebration! (Well, it is eleven years 'cos of Covid!)

Traditional dishes of the Languedoc will be served, Clapassade, a slowly simmered dish of Lamb, honey, olives and star anise, preceded by Bourride, their white fish stew with Aioli! The 'Jeff Thatcher Blockbuster' film of that trip will be shown prior to the Cannes Festival. It may be eleven years ago and our hair may have been a different colour then but we shall surely bask in those memories. The pictures show the only time we have ever been hosted with a tasting actually in the vineyard. This time on a hill looking out over the Mediterranean and sipping Picpoul de Pinet!

Alan Borrow



All change at Camera workshop Outings

Diana Driver has passed the running of this group to William Saywell. Diana started this group many years ago and has been ever active as the grid pictures show!



Canary Wharf



Open House London



Kew gardens



Natural History Museum London



Brick Lane London



4 Teas Havant



Portsmouth Cathedral



Winkworth Aboretum



Witterings



Tangmere



Halnaker windmill



Stoke Wood



Arundel Wetlands centre



Queen Elizabeth Country Park



Haying - slow shutter speed



Diana, see pic below, sends this 'end of an era' report:

Monday 25th July was the last day for me as leader of the Camera Workshop Group. The outing took us to Halnaker Tunnel and up and up to Halnaker Windmill. In the past we have visited many venues but more recently we have been restricted to local outings due to restrictions imposed because of Covid. Memorable visits have included Glasgow, Brick Lane, famous for its changing graffiti, and Zedel's Art Deco Restaurant, and Paddington Canal basin, all in London. We studied Brutalist Architecture on the South Bank, shapes in Tate Modern On another occasion we visited City Hall near Tower Bridge and designed by Norman Foster. The aim has been to cover as many different genre as possible.

Members of the Group have commented that one of the most successful outings locally was to West Dean gardens, as they were advised to use a tripod and not to keep moving but to concentrate on one area.

Different aspects of photography have been covered and the seeing eye encouraged.

The Group will continue to run with William Saywell leading so if you would like to join do contact him.



Letter from Spain.....

Past member Jayne Harmer writes:

Thank you for the newsletter, it was lovely to see the photos and read the news, we belong to Moraira-Teulada U3A. We had a Jubilee party with a hog roast for 270 people, we helped set up and organise, there was live music and it was in a wooded park, so under the trees. We were asked to run a bar at the local town hall for charity. There was a concert for Ukraine and there's no bar at the town hall so we had to set up one on trestle tables only wine, beer, soft drinks. We weren't allowed to charge as there's no license so donations were suggested 2.50 a drink. The first drink was free, that was Cava. Then in the interval of the concert, Mike and I operated the bar and in 30 minutes we took 845 euros, which went to the Ukraine charity, people were very generous!

It's so hot here at the moment averaging 40 deg. There are fires around and you can smell the smoke, like bonfires. I think most of them are under control they were about 10kms away.

Mike had his 80th in March, as did Richard in July! Time goes by so quickly.

Lovely to hear from Jayne and Mike, sounds as though they are as busy as ever! Ed.

Words of Wisdom from John Reynold's friends in N.Z.

Who's Running the World?

Biden, Putin and Xi were arguing on Who's in charge of the world? 🌐

US, Russia or China?

Without any conclusion, they turned to "Narendra Modi", the Indian Prime Minister and asked him

Who's in Charge of the World?

Modi replied: *All I know is:*

1. Google CEO is an Indian.
2. Microsoft CEO is an Indian.
3. Adobe CEO is an Indian.
4. IBM CEO is an Indian
5. TWITTER CEO is an Indian
6. Net App CEO is an Indian.
7. MasterCard CEO is an Indian.
8. DBS CEO is an Indian.
9. Novartis CEO is an Indian.
10. Diageo CEO is an Indian.
11. SanDis CEO is an Indian.
12. Harman CEO is an Indian.
13. Micron CEO is an Indian.
14. Palo Alto Networks CEO is an Indian.
15. Reckitt Benckiser CEO is an Indian.
16. IBM CEO is an Indian.
17. Britain's Chancellor is an Indian.
18. Britain's Home Secretary is an Indian.
19. Britain's next Prime Minister will be an Indian
20. Ireland's last Prime Minister was an Indian....
and the American Vice President is Indian.

So who's running the World?

Ann Sims send the latest EMS VALLEY u3a Diary.

The first page refers to Mon – Tues – Wed meetings.

The Second Page is for Thurs – Fri meetings.

Please note that personal contact details are now omitted, but you can access these via the web site.

EMS VALLEY U3A MONTHLY PLANNER as at September 2022

Meetings are normally held from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon or from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. If you wish to attend a particular group, you must please first check with the Group Leader/Host/Coordinator.

FOR FULL INFORMATION ABOUT ANY OF OUR GROUPS, AND TO CONTACT THE GROUP LEADER, PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE:

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

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Week 1	a.m.	Family History for Beginners	Petanque 10.45 Line Dancing 11.00 – 12.00	Rambling French (Conversational) Advanced and Intermediate 9.30 – 1.00

	p.m.	Photography Spanish Beginners 2.30 – 4.30 Book Group 4	Book Group 2 Pilates 2.00 – 3.00	Ancient Greece Crafts 12.00 – 2.00 Wine Group 5 4.30 – 6.30
Week 2	a.m.	Camera Workshops Zoom meeting - 9.30	Gardens Line Dancing 11.00 – 12.00	Croquet Group 1 10.00 – 12.00 April to October Pubs and Churches
	p.m.	Drawing Board Games Spanish Beginners 2.30 – 4.30	Family History Jazz Appreciation Italian Beginners 2.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m. Pilates 2.00 – 3.00 Play Reading Group 2	
	Evening	FILM at Emsworth Community Centre		
Week 3	a.m.		Petanque 10.45 Line Dancing 11.00 – 12.00	French (Conversational) Advanced and Intermediate 9.30 – 1.00 Wednesday Lunch Lunchtime
	p.m.	Cycling For Fun Spanish Beginners 2.30 – 4.30 Book Group 3	Wine Appreciation Group 1 Pilates 2.00 – 3.00 Wine Appreciation Group 3 3.00 – 5.00	Wine Appreciation Group 2
	Evening	Travellers' Tales 7.30 pm (winter)	Wine Appreciation Group 4 7.30 -9.30	
Week 4	a.m.	Roman History Camera Workshops – Field Trips	Line Dancing 11.00 – 12.00	Croquet Group 2 10.00 – 12.00 April to October
	p.m.	Spanish Beginners 2.30 – 4.30	Brick Business Play Reading Group 1 Italian Beginners Pilates 2.00 – 3.00	Singing For Fun

SUNDAY LUNCH FOR SOLOS - second Sunday at 12.30 p.m.

The following Groups do not have regular meeting times:

THEATRE VISITS
DAY TRIPPERS
MODEL RAILWAYS
T.R.U.G.S. (The Really Useful Group)

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		THURSDAY	FRIDAY
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Week 1	a.m.	French (Mixed Ability)	Spanish Intermediate 09.30-11.30 Bridge Pilates/Yoga 12.15-1.15
	p.m.	Science & Technology Mah Jong 3.00 - 5.00	Local History
Week 2	a.m.	Music Appreciation Birds & Wildlife 9.30 a.m. start	Discussion Bridge
	p.m.	Mah Jong 3.00-5.00 Book Group 1	
Week 3	a.m.	French (Mixed Ability)	Spanish Intermediate 9.30 - 11.30 Bridge
	p.m.	Mah Jong 3.00 – 5.00	
Week 4	a.m.		Art Appreciation Bridge
	p.m.	MONTHLY MEETING EMSWORTH BAPTIST CHURCH 2.00 pm	

ELLIE TURNBULL - THEATRE GROUP WRITES:

I am really pleased to let you know that Maureen Falloon has now taken over running this group. She will be booking CFT winter season in the not too distant future and is exploring other ideas.

I have enjoyed running this group and the theatre visits but it is time for some fresh ideas.

I will still be going to the theatre with the group and look forward to seeing you there.

If you are no longer interested in belonging to this group please let me know so I can remove you from the data base. Best Wishes **Ellie**

Thank you Ellie from us all – Crazy for you was just “CRAZY” and I can’t wait to go again! ED.

The plane had just suffered a particularly hard landing! The airline had a policy which required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile, and give them a 'Thanks for flying our airline.' Finally, everyone had alighted except for a little old lady walking with a cane.

She said, 'Sir, do you mind if I ask you a question?'

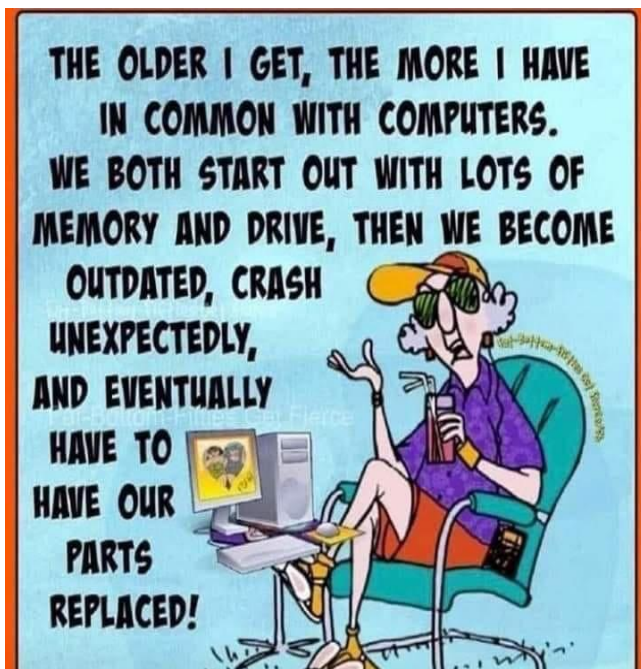
'Why, no, Ma'am,' said the pilot. 'What is it?'

The little old lady said, 'Did we land, or were we shot down?'

A tortoise was

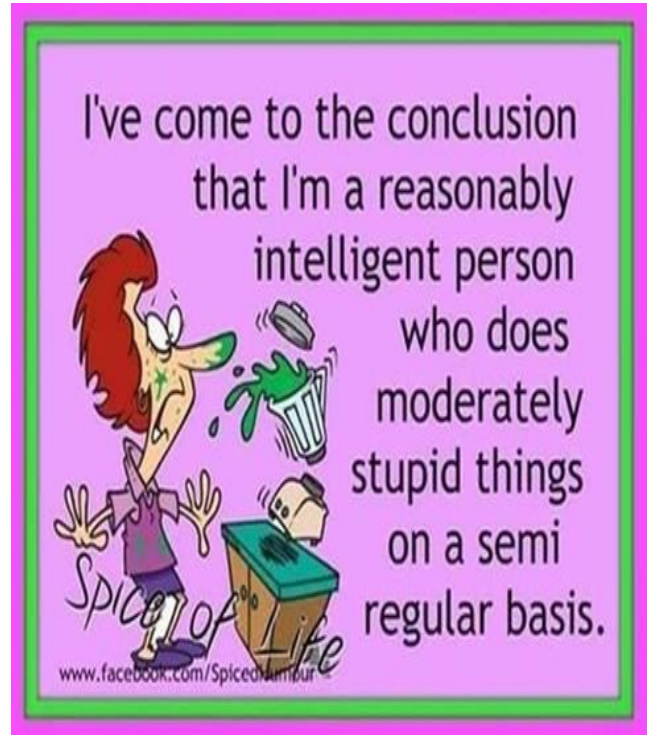
walking through an underpass when he was set upon by a group of snails.

At the police interview after the assault, the Officer asked what had happened. The tortoise replied "I don't know, Officer, it all happened so quickly."





Geez Grandma! It's not that hard! Go into Settings... select wi-fi... Select it! Tap it with your finger... OMG any finger!! Grrrrrrr



Legend says the husband was waiting in the car for his wife to get ready



Historians in Ireland have discovered what they believe to be the headstone of the worlds oldest ever living man.

He was 193 and his name was Miles from Dublin



**Stop Press
See below for the Emsworth show!**

29th August 2022

Surely, there has never been such a successful EMSWORTH SHOW!
The sun shone, the crowds descended, the main rink was buzzing, the stalls were alive, u3a members enjoyed themselves and reptiles were kept in hand!



Congratulations to the SHOW COMMITTEE





DID YOU KNOW?

HUGS THAT LAST OVER 20 SECONDS RELEASES CHEMICALS IN YOUR BODY CALLED "OXYTOCIN" THAT MAKES YOU TRUST SOMEONE MORE.



@KKNOWLEDGE

DID YOU KNOW?

IF THE HUMAN EYE WAS A DIGITAL CAMERA, IT WOULD HAVE 576 MEGAPIXELS.



@KKNOWLEDGE

DID YOU KNOW?

BANANA IS A HAPPY FRUIT. EATING JUST ONE CAN HELP YOU RELIEVE IRRITABLE EMOTIONS, ANGER OR DEPRESSION.



@KKNOWLEDGE

DID YOU KNOW?

Barcelona, is the only city in the world that has been awarded a Royal Gold Medal for architecture from the Royal Institute of British Architects.

All contributions for the next newsletter please to:

alanborrow@virginmedia.com