

Newsletter

Hartlepool & District u3a

Issue 72, May 2023



Comments from the Chair

Small white; common blue; buff tailed. A strange introduction to the column some of you might think. The first two are butterflies and the last one is a bumble bee and while one swallow does not make a summer, the appearance of butterflies and bees in the garden undoubtedly heralds the arrival of spring. After several false starts the weather has changed for the better.

Due to a family commitment I had to miss the last general meeting so I hope you all enjoyed Bernard Hope's talk as the guest speaker. He is always good value for money. May's speaker will be Jeremy Hutchinson who will be entertaining us with a description of Kiplin Hall and the four families who have owned the property since it was built in the 1620s.

In June we will be having our AGM which will be followed by a fuddle and another event TBA nearer the time. I have already mentioned that we will lose three committee members as they have reached the end of their tenure, and so this is the time to step forward and fill in the gaps. You will be assured of a warm welcome if you decide to join the committee, and as we are an organisation that is run by the members for the members it will be good for all of you to play a part in the continued success of our u3a.

I look forward to seeing you at the next general meeting at St. Joseph's starting at 2 pm on Friday 5th May.

Take care everybody.

Roger

Potential New Interest Groups

Pauline Williamson

I am pleased to announce that there are several new Interest Groups in development. At our next monthly general meeting in May, there will be an opportunity for you to express an interest in one or more of the following groups:

- **Art Appreciation** which may involve visiting art galleries, discussing a particular artist's style or medium, discussing a painting or hosting a speaker.
- **Body, Mind and Spirit** will cover complementary therapies. Food as medicine, meditation, movement and self-help strategies including aromatherapy and quick pick me ups using pressure points and self-massage are some topics that will be covered.
- **Book Club** will be run on a time limited basis, probably just for 3 months over the summer period. This group will have a thematic approach and suggestions for themes could be books by a specific author or some children's classics could even be re-read.
- **Cycling** is a group where up to 10 bikes and helmets can be booked for perhaps a 2-hour slot once a month or as often as required. One member has already offered to lead this group and complete the Ride Leader Qualification course, but members are needed to make this group viable.
- **Family History** is awaiting a leader, but in the meantime, Pat has offered to help individual members on a 1-1 basis. You can contact her via her email or phone (details found on the website). One idea for the group could be visiting archives, now being held at Gray Museum in Clarence Road as well as possibly arranging speakers.
- **Gardening** could involve arranging visits to garden centres, visits to gardens of historic houses, visits to members' gardens with maybe a quiz. A talk could be arranged as well as presentations and demonstrations. But new leaders may have new ideas so watch and wait!
- **Music Appreciation** is a group that is ready to be re-established under a new leader who is a brand-new member. He has ideas so let's see what develops and support his efforts.

What Happens Next

1. If you are interested in being a member of any of the proposed Interest Groups then please e-mail me via our website or put your name down on the sheets that will be provided at May's monthly meeting.
2. All of the above groups have potential Group Leaders with the exception of Art and Family History. If any members are willing to take on the role of Group Leader for either of these two groups then please have a word with me at the May's general meeting or contact me by e-mail (via our website). Remember, a group can have multiple leaders so you may wish to discuss this with your friends.
3. If you have any ideas for new Interest Groups then please have a word with me at the May's general meeting or contact me by e-mail (via our website).

The Luncheon Group – Coronation Special

Jacky Armstrong

I am aware we haven't met for a long time. **I am arranging a Coronation Celebration Lunch at Hardwicke Hall Manor Hotel in Blackhall on Friday 19th May at 12.15 pm.**

The meal will be served to us at the table. The starters are about £5 and include Home Made Soup of the Day, Hardwicke Hall Pate and others.

The main course is £9.95 with a choice of Roast of the Day, Home Made Pie, Roasted Nut Roast or Herb Crusted Cod, and others all served with a selection of fresh vegetables.

Each dessert is £5.95 and includes cold desserts such as Trifle, Chocolate Fudge Cake, Dime Bar Pie, Cheesecake etc, each with fresh fruit and fresh cream. There will be a hot dessert on offer too. Tea or coffee is £3.50.

You can have as many or as few courses as you wish. Drinks, such as wines, tonics, beers etc are also available. A taxi to Blackhall with 23 taxis is £15 each way, from one address. Additional pickups are a little more.

If you would like to join us on this special occasion, please let me know. Each booking will need a £5 non-refundable deposit. Your final bill will be paid to Hardwicke Hall.

The last date to book is 13th May. You can pop your name and deposit into my home or give it to the Group Co-ordinator. I won't be doing the next one in 70 years' time, so grasp this opportunity of a good lunch in good company.

"The Coronation Luncheon event is open to all U3A members not just former members of the Luncheon Group. A provisional booking had been made for 20 places, so the first 20 members to make a deposit are guaranteed a place at the lunch. If numbers exceed 20, then it might be possible to increase the booking, but this cannot be guaranteed."

Where Do the Fast Children Play?



The *Photography for Fun Group* recently visited Swainby in the Hambleton District of North Yorkshire. Ray Elliston our Group Leader pointed out this sign to me. As I took the photograph, I was wondering, where do the fast children play?

Barry Liddle

A Visit to 'Middleton One Row'

Ray Elliston and Barry Liddle



Riverbank. (c) Barry Liddle



River Tees c) Ray Elliston

On a sunny Spring Day in early April the *Photography for Fun group* visited the village of Middleton One Row. This village was originally developed as a spa resort in the late 18th century with properties developed on one row overlooking the banks of the river Tees and surrounding countryside. On arrival we descended the very steep river bank, thankful for the walking poles we had with us, before walking a couple of miles taking photographs.



(c) Ray Elliston



(c) Ray Elliston

Soon after we arrived, Ray spotted an 'Orange Tip' butterfly. Not rare, but not that common either – particularly in British West Hartlepool. We followed it for a couple of hundred yards, but it proved so elusive that we were unable to take a photograph. A bit disheartened, we continued on our journey until we spotted another butterfly, but on this occasion we were unable to identify it. It was only when Ray returned home and had a chance to look at his guide that we discovered it to be fairly rare butterfly – called '*Comma - Polgonia c-album.*' Ray said these are not exactly his best photos as "the butterfly wasn't being very helpful" but we are all pleased he was able to obtain these two images.



(c) Ray Elliston

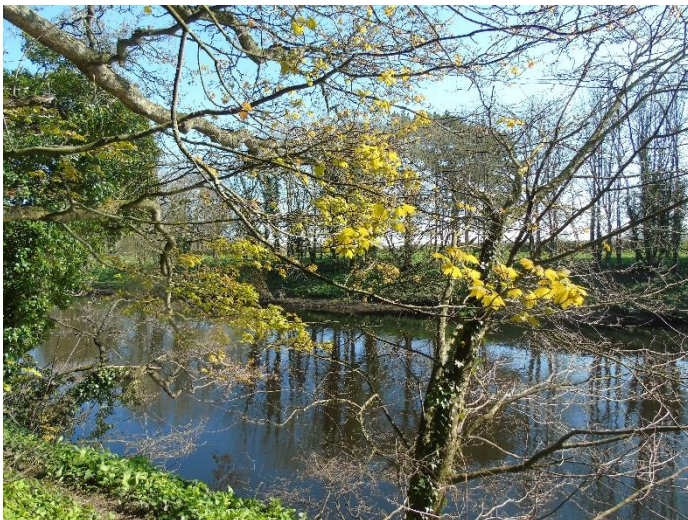
Butterflies were not the only objects in the sky above Middleton One Row. Every ten minutes or so an EasyJet took off from nearby Teesside International Airport and past directly over our heads, no doubt filled with local people on their Easter holidays.



(c) Ray Elliston



(c) Barry Liddle



(c) Barry Liddle

In addition to looking up to the sky for butterflies, birds and aeroplanes, we also looked down for wild flowers and signs of new spring growth.

In addition, we used our sense of smell to locate several large drifts of wild garlic!

We ended our visit with tea and cakes, sitting in the spring sunshine outside the village pub. Well, someone has to do it!

My Cultural Life

Jacky Armstrong



(c) Jacky Armstrong

This month we find out about the cultural life of Jacky Armstrong. Jacky led the Craft Group for many years and more recently the Luncheon Group. She has frequently written articles on her family history for this Newsletter and has been a member of several Interest groups including Music Appreciation which she loved, Archaeology/History under the excellent direction of Chris McLoughlin and the Quiz Group.

My favourite home cooked meal

Any meal I cook I enjoy. When the children were small, they loved mince and dumplings, steak and kidney pudding, sausage and mash. All the things I loved as a child. 'Good wholesome food' as my dad would say. Now I mostly eat on my own and I have what I like, paying attention to my 5 a day. Occasionally, when I am busy, I invite Mr Marks & Mr Spencer to cook me a meal.

My fantasy restaurant meal

I don't mind. It's the company I like - not to eat but to eat with. I often chose something I have never had before.

My fantasy dinner party

I would love to eat with Marilyn Monroe and Napoleon, just the three of us. Hopefully the conversation would flow. Too many guests and often they end up talking amongst themselves, missing you out! I would like to know (confidentially) if Marilyn was a conquest of JFK. I love her sweetness and innocence and her looks. What a role model to today's youngsters, beauty without the added lips and tattoos. And Napoleon, well he was an ordinary young lad 'made good'. From his innocent youth to his power. Two people I have always had a fascination with.

My favourite album

I remember being woken by the Royal Marines Band which my father used to play on our wind-up gramophone. He had put extensions upstairs into our bedrooms. He would then bring us a cup of tea and shout 'wakey, wakey, the morning's fine'. (Yes, he was ex-army!) My first album was probably The Beatles which I got for my 21st birthday. I don't often play music but I do listen to Classic FM in the car, loving the music that reminds me of happy times, especially Limelight, Dad's favourite, Cavalier Rusticana my grandfather's favourite and my favourite, Greig.

My favourite memory of watching live music.

Any live music I love. I have been very fortunate to have had two wonderful husbands, who loved to go to live music shows. Anything from 60s groups, Dolly Parton, Howard Keele, Kenny G, classical music... And even more to come I hope.

My favourite film

I'm not very good at watching films. I can't sit still long enough! Calamity Jane with the beauty and vigour of Doris Day (and of course Howard Keel). Showboat for the good story with fantastic songs (and of course Howard). Some Like It Hot for an interpretation of a lady's band like no other (and of course Marilyn).

My favourite songwriter/composer

There is no contest here. It has to be Greig. At my second wedding, my two granddaughters played the piano. Juliet played Wedding Day at Troidhaugen. Michael and I had the pleasure of going to Greig's house, Troidhaugen, on a couple of occasions and hearing a piano concert there, looking on to the Lake that Greig looked on to when he wrote all his music. If you want magic go there (via Fred Olsen cruises).

My favourite TV comedy series

It has to be Keeping Up Appearances. I absolutely love it. The antics and superiority of Mrs Bucket (sorry *Booquay*) and wonderfully played by Patricia Routledge. And Richard and the absent and unseen Sheridan.... I could go on for ages. And yes, I used to put my milk bottle in the dishwasher, and yes, I do have a garden big enough for a pony....!

My favourite TV drama series

I rarely watch drama series as I haven't got the patience to sit long enough, each week, to watch it. I do love documentaries.

My favourite radio programme.

The radio is on all the time when I am at home, until I switch the TV on for House of Games. I love the skill of the contestants on Just a Minute and finding out about people on Desert Island Discs.

My favourite book

I don't have a favourite. I read for pleasure when I have finished the newspaper. Two books I loved are Desiree, about the young Napoleon meeting a family in Marseilles when he first comes to France. My second is Memoirs of a Geisha. I love, and am fascinated, about all things about Japan, especially Geishas and their formality and beauty and intrigue.

My guilty pleasure

I do not feel guilt, but my pleasure is travel. Every year of my life, I have been fortunate to have a holiday. From visiting relatives, to camping, to visiting exotic places, to cruising, to sharing a caravan, I have loved them all. Even better, is travelling with people who mean so much to you. The wonderful memories I have, of so many people and places, will be with me for ever. Roll on more (guilty) pleasures.

Come and join the u3a Committee.
Why not do something great for the members and yourself
Chris Cordiner.

Members of the u3a committee have a maximum tenure before they must step down. This helps keep things fresh. It also means we need a constant flow of volunteers willing to join the committee. A number of our current members will need to step down soon. The committee must have all the officer roles filled in order to continue. Why not come and join us.

What is a committee member?

A committee member is part of a team which helps to manage Hartlepool and District u3a. Each team member represents our members to ensure that all members benefit from our organisation.

What does a committee member do?

- Attend a committee meeting each month. This last about 2 hours.
- Learn new skills such as digital skills, organising events, supporting members, attending a working party. You will also develop the skills you already have as well as passing on your expertise to others.
- We work together as a team supporting each other, so you are not on your own.
- You can boost your self-esteem and have a feeling of achievement and self-worth as you help our u3a remain vibrant and active. Every idea and comment is treated with respect. Maybe you are desperate to share some ideas. Now, is the time to do this! LEARN and VOLUNTEER.
- The u3a is a learning co-operative of equals. Those who teach shall also learn and those who learn shall also teach.
- Enjoy yourself!

Don't want to commit immediately? No problem as we have strategies to help you think about it.

- Have an initial chat about the role.
- Shadow one or more of the committee members
- Observe a committee meeting. Share your ideas, concerns and ask questions.
- If you decide to join the committee, you can be co-opted which means you would be nominated for election at the following AGM
- Not sure about having a role? That's fine. It could be that after a while as a committee member that you can see yourself in a particular role using your skills to benefit our members.

Contact us via the website or come and have a chat at one of our monthly meetings. We look forward to hearing from you.

'World Laughter Day' – First Sunday in May

Barry Liddle

'World Laughter Day' (WLD) will be celebrated on the first Sunday in May – and just in case you are wondering, this is not a belated Aprils Fools' Day joke.

According to Wikipedia "World Laughter Day was established in 1998 and the first celebration was on 10 May 1998, in Mumbai, India, arranged by Dr. Madan Kataria, founder of the worldwide Laughter Yoga movement."

Wikipedia goes on to explain that "Dr. Kataria, a family doctor in India, was inspired to start the Laughter Yoga movement in part by the facial feedback hypothesis, which postulates that a person's facial expressions can have an effect on their emotions."

Each May, WLD is celebrated by gatherings of people in public places with the sole purpose of laughing. I'm not suggesting that we turn our U3A General Meeting in May into a 'laughathon,' but a few more chuckles over a cup of tea at the end of the meeting could be most beneficial.

Singers and Songs to Make You Laugh

Barry Liddle

To get you in the mood for World Laughter Day, these are some of my favourite comedy singers and songs (roughly in chronological order), which I guarantee will put a smile on your face. Why not seek them out on YouTube?

First up is **Arthur Askey**, a diminutive comedian with distinctive horn-rimmed glasses, he is best remembered for his improvised humour and memorable catch phrases, such as "Hello playmates!", "I thank you" (pronounced "Ay-thang-yaw") and "Before your very eyes". I have fond memories of him singing his trademark song *Busy Bee*, with accompanying hand gestures. The first few lines being:

*Oh, what a glorious thing to be
A healthy, grown-up, buzzy-buzzy bee
Whiling away the passing hours
Pinching all the pollen from the cauliflowers...*

George Formby, a working-class son of Lancashire, became famous through his comedy films of the 1930s and 1940s and live performances (catch phrases '*I'm coughing better tonight*' and '*Turned Out Nice Again*') in which he would sing songs accompanied by his trusty ukulele or banjolele. During WWII he performed in front of millions of service personnel as a member of ENSA. He made hundreds of recordings during his career, including his slightly risqué trademark song '*When I'm Cleaning Windows*':

*You've heard about my capers when windows I've to clean
Now I'd like to tell you of a few more things I've seen
I've seen Miss Thompson in her flat take off her shoes, her coat and hat
I've seen her take off more than that, when I'm cleaning windows.*

Pearl Carr and Teddy Johnson are next on my list, singing the traditional nursery song "There's a Hole in My Bucket" based on a protracted dialogue between two characters, Henry and Liza, about a leaky bucket. It was frequently played on the Light Programme when I was youngster and has remained a lifelong favourite. The first few lines give a good impression of the song:

*There's a hole in my bucket, dear Liza, dear Liza,
There's a hole in my bucket, dear Liza, a hole.
Then mend it, dear Henry, dear Henry, dear Henry,
Then mend it, dear Henry, dear Henry, mend it.*

Bernard Cribbins was a celebrated actor and singer whose career spanned more than seven decades. During the 1960s, Bernard became known for his successful novelty records, including my two favourites - "The Hole in the Ground" and "Right Said Fred". The former was one Noël Coward's choices when he was a guest on BBC Radio's Desert Island Discs, and the latter, 'Right Said Fred,' later inspired a band of the same name, who had their own comic hit with 'I'm Too Sexy ..for my shirt'. Here are a few memorable lines from 'The Hole in the Ground':

*Don't dig there, dig it elsewhere.
You're digging it round and it ought to be square.
The shape of it's wrong, it's much too long,
And you can't put a hole where a hole don't belong*

In the 1970s **David Bowie** was the epitome of 1970s Glam Rock with albums such as 'The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust' and 'Aladdin Sane'. He was hugely popular and controversial in equal measure and yet he first came to public notice with a novelty record called 'The Laughing Gnome' which was released on 14th April 1967. The record is based on a conversation between Bowie and a Gnome, whose sped-up high pitched voice delivers several puns on the word gnome. Here is part of the chorus to jog your memory:

*Ha ha ha, hee hee hee
"I'm a laughing gnome and you don't catch me"*

Monty Python's Flying Circus was a cult comedy sketch show from the 1970s and featured the comedic talents of Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle and Terry Jones. Their sketch show features several memorable comedy songs, but the one I remember best is the 'Lumberjack Song,'

*I'm a lumberjack and I'm OK
I sleep all night and I work all day
He's a lumberjack and he's OK
He sleeps all night and he works all day*

Finally, I'd like to give a special mention to **Joyce Grenfell** who wrote comic songs but is best remembered for her monologues. I refer you to YouTube, to listen to a particular favourite of mine, which was often played on the radio, and is called 'Nursery School'.

Sources: Wikipedia

The Fisher of Dreams

Naburn Swing Bridge on the old York-Selby Railway Line

Wendy Borthwick



(c) Wendy Borthwick

The Fisher of Dreams came to my attention via a photograph showing a four-metre-high sculpture constructed from galvanized steel rods and perched on the end of Naburn Swing Bridge or as the locals sometimes refer to it as the Fisherman's Bridge.

Why was the sculpture there, what is its significance? As part of the Millennium Celebrations, local artist Pete Rogers won a competition to design a sculpture to sit on the bridge in the place where the old control cabin had perched over the rail tracks and from where the movement of the bridge was controlled. A signalman who surveyed the railway from the control cabin would, when a train was approaching set the big

crank shaft powered by a hydraulic engine in a room below the bridge in motion to align the rail track so allowing the train to cross.

Perhaps we could say the sculpture is nostalgia for times past and even times present. A fisherman with a rod and line sits where the old control cabin used to be. A bike lies on the ground behind the fisherman and a friendly dog appears to have joined the scene. Dangling on the end of the fishing line is what is thought to be a model of the Flying Scotsman. It is a typical fisherman scene; waiting patiently for that snatch on the line, perhaps using the peace and quiet to reflect back to more prosperous fishing and hoping that the present moment may surpass even previous enviable catches.



(c) Wendy Borthwick

Naburn Swing Bridge was designed by Thomas Elliot in 1870 a well-established engineer and contemporary of George and Robert Stephenson. North Eastern Railway (NER) were looking to build a faster link between London and York (nothing changes even with today's mindset for faster and more efficient travel) by proposing a new main line via Selby, which was estimated to shave 10.5 miles and eleven minutes travel time but it would mean having to cross the river Ouse. Plans went ahead with the proviso that the new bridge at Naburn would not impede the commercial water-based trade between Hull and York, therefore the design was for a crossing that could be opened to allow the flow of river traffic.

The bridge was designed with two wrought-iron bowstring spans, one 108 feet long and one 180 feet in length with a supporting pillar where the two spans met. It was the longer portion of the bridge that moved and it was kept open to allow for river traffic. It was a tremendous

feat of engineering and I can only refer you to Wikipedia to find a photograph to allow a full appreciation of the concept and design etc.

Suffice to say the bridge is no longer in use. The line remained part of the busy East Coast Main Line (even escaping the Dr Beeching cuts in the 1960's) until 1983 when it closed due to the opening of the Wistow Mine part of the Selby Coalfield. As the railway line ran right over the mine there were fears that activity beneath the ground would cause subsidence so the railway line was moved west and the part between York and Selby closed down with the track bed now occupied by Route 65 of Sustrans National Cycle Network and is also part of the Orbital Route round York.

My Photograph Album: A Holiday of a Lifetime. Bill Horsley



The Peterhof Palace is a series of wonderful palaces and gardens located in Saint Petersburg, Russia. They were commissioned by Peter the Great in direct response to Louis XIV's Palace of Versailles and over time have become known as "The Russian Versailles". The Peterhof Palace is recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Whilst on a holiday of a lifetime some time ago, I was fortunate to be able to capture the grandeur of the buildings & grounds in these photographs.



Springing into life

waves cascading
exuberantly
over breakwater
abetted by NE breeze
nature providing
oceanic pyrotechnics.

sole goldfinch lands on feeder
stunning vibrant colours
glorious
unperturbed by human
standing in doorway
mere feet away
a charm of goldfinches
now appear at feeder
take their fill
man-made time
stands still
absorb the beauty
goldfinches replete
depart
time restarts



move on to
kittiwakes nesting site
unused
derelict
during winter months
kittiwakes returning
for breeding season
first arrivals
advanced party
appeared
next day another
then another
reminiscent of visitors
to Underhill
from another world
today colony filling rapidly
best seats already taken
kittiwakes spot human arrival
voice either their pleasure
or displeasure
either way
note acknowledgement
move on.
natural beauty
of life
touching one's soul.

Roger Say

Signs of Spring

Barry Liddle





(c) Ray Elliston

The First Film I Saw Clearly.

In 1964 aged 9, I was taken to see an optician in Church Street. A couple of weeks later I received my first pair of spectacles and to test them out, I was taken the same day to see the film Zulu. We sat upstairs and I was amazed to see everything so clearly. It also helped that the film was a classic.

Saturday Morning Cinema

From about the age of 9, me and my friends from the Central Estate used to take the bus to 'West' on Saturday mornings to go to the 'pictures' to see a programme of cartoons and serials specifically for children – I think it was called the 'cinema club'.

The serials nearly always ended with a cowboy on a horse about to fall over a cliff – obviously designed to bring you back the following week, when he would miraculously be saved. Part of the Saturday morning ritual was to suck on a fruit flavoured 'Jubbly' whilst watching the films. For those who don't know, a 'Jubbly' is a pyramid shaped frozen ice (technically a tetrahedron). We would bite-off one corner and suck the juice out and then eat the ice by gradually pushing it out of the package – which was made from some kind of waxed card and very smooth on the inside. The cinema could get quite raucous at times, and towards the end of the morning it was common to see half-frozen 'Jubblys' being hurled from the back of the cinema towards the front rows and often vice versa. A sort of juvenile trench warfare, jubblys for hand grenades!

The Time I Joined a Film Club.

As a new undergraduate at Kingston Polytechnic in 1974, I attended the 'freshers' week' and joined several student societies. One of the best turned out to be the 'Film Club' which screened some really great American films from the early 1970s every Friday teatime (always preceded by a Tom and Jerry Cartoon). When the film ended it was the perfect time to decamp to the Student Union Bar for a bottle or two of Newcastle Amber Ale!

The Time I saw 'Jaws' at a Cinema in Putney.

At the fresher's week I also joined the Rugby Club. One afternoon we gathered at the main campus only to find our match had been cancelled. So we ended up in Putney to see the film Jaws – which was getting rave reviews at the time. I will always remember the moment when Jaws sprang from the water, everyone in the darkened cinema sprang backwards in their seats in total surprise – Busby Berkeley couldn't have choreographed it any better.

My Night of Cosmic Cinema.

Towards the end of my time at Kingston Poly, I attended an evening of art films under the title: 'A Night of Cosmic Cinema'. Most of the films were Avant- garde and easily forgettable. However, the last film has remained in my memory. It began with a couple in a rowing boat on a lake. The camera then zoomed out so that we saw the boat as a small speck on the water, then we saw the lake and surrounding region, then the country, then the continent, then the world in the blackness of spaces. The camera then zoomed back through each level until we were back with the couple in the boat. Thinking that was the end, we were about to leave when the whole process repeated itself -although you didn't know that at the time. We left after two showings, realising the film was on a loop and would continue until no one remained. There were still plenty of people sat there when we left. For me, this moment marked the end of the 1970s hippy period.

My View of 2001: A Space Odyssey.

In 1977 I took up a research post at Leicester Polytechnic. One evening I found myself without anything to do, so I decided to see the film '2001: A Space Odyssey' which was showing that night in the main lecture theatre. Unfortunately, as this was a last-minute decision, all the tickets had been sold. However, the organisers took pity on me and allowed me to watch the film from behind the big screen. So I saw a great film, but in reverse!

The Time I Saw 'The Wall' by Pink Floyd.

In the early 1980s I was living and working in Exeter, when one rainy afternoon I decided to see an early matinee of the film 'The Wall' based on the music of Pink Floyd. I bought my ticket and sat in the middle of the theatre. The lady selling ice cream and snacks appeared during the adverts and the trailers for up-coming films and then the main film started. After a few minutes, I looked around and was surprised to discover I was the only person in the theatre!

The Time I saw 'Four Weddings and a Funeral'.

In the early 1990s I was working for Birmingham City Council and living in Northfield in south-west Birmingham. On Saturday afternoons I often used to walk via the Longbridge car factory to the cinema at Great Park in Rubery. One day I set off to see the Film 'Four Weddings and a Funeral' but after the 50-minute walk, my memory failed me and much to the amusement of the cinema staff, I asked for a ticket to see ' Four Marriages and a Death'!

On the following couple of pages I've put together a fun quiz based on popular films at the cinema. It's a multiple-choice quiz, so you are always in with a good chance of picking the correct answer. Have a go and see how you get on. The answers will be in a separate document which accompanies this Newsletter. Good Luck!

Films for Fun Quiz

Compiled by Barry Liddle

1 In which film did Michael Caine famously say: *"You're only supposed to blow the bloody doors off!"*. Was it:

- a) The Welsh Job
- b) The Spanish Job
- c) The Italian Job
- d) The Odd Job

2 Who played Mary's best friend Bert with a distinctly 'dodgy' cockney accent in the 1964 film 'Mary Poppins'?

- a) Danny Kay
- b) Dick Van Dyke
- c) Jerry Lewis
- d) Jack Lemmon

3 I am a South African actor and comedian whose career encompassed radio, television, stage and screen. But I'm best known for the 'Carry On' film series. Who am I?

- a) Sid James
- b) Jim Dale
- c) Charles Hawtrey
- d) Kenneth Williams

4 In which Film did the lead character say *'My mama always said life was like a box of chocolates. ...*

- a) In the Heat of the Night
- b) Forrest Gump
- c) Easter Parade
- d) The Long, Hot Summer

5 Who played Captain Von Trapp in The Sound of Music?

- a) Rex Harrison
- b) Christopher Plummer
- c) Danny Kay
- d) Chris Hemsworth

6 *"Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn"* is the last line spoken by the character Rhett Butler in which film?

- a) Love on the Run
- b) Call of the Wild
- c) Cat on a Hot Tin Roof
- d) Gone with the Wind

7 'The Cruel Sea' is a 1953 British war film based on the best-selling 1951 novel of the same name, who was the author?

- a) Nicholas Monsarrat
- b) Graham Greene
- c) Noel Coward
- d) Douglas Reeman

8 In the film Love Story released in 1970, who played the lead character of Jenny?

- a) Ali MacGraw
- b) Candice Bergen
- c) Faye Dunaway
- d) Liv Ullmann

9 I was a leading actor who said the famous line *'I could have been a Contender'* in the film 'On the Waterfront'? Who am I?

- a) Montgomery Clift
- b) Marlon Brando
- c) George Raft
- d) James Cagney

10 Who conceived the idea of the musical 'West Side Story, which became a landmark film?'

- a) Leonard Bernstein
- b) Jerome Robbins
- c) Stephen Sondheim
- d) Max Goberman

11 What was the real name of the film star John Wayne?

- a) Jim Morrison
- b) Marion Morrison
- c) Chuck Morrison
- d) William Morrison

12 Which famous actress played Sister Luke in 'The Nun's Story' (1959)?

- a) Joan Bennett
- b) Katharine Hepburn
- c) Audrey Hepburn
- d) Lauren Bacall

13 In the film Casablanca, who played the role of Rick Blaine?

- a) Peter Lorre
- b) Humphrey Bogart
- c) Claude Rains
- d) Sydney Greenstreet

14 The British film 'Kes' follows the story of Billy, who comes from a poor working-class family but discovers his own worth when he adopts a:

- a) Pigeon
- b) Kestrel
- c) Sparrowhawk
- d) Rabbit

15 *Brief Encounter* is a 1945 British romantic drama film directed by David Lean from a screenplay by Noël Coward, but who were the two-leading stars?

- a) Celia Johnson & Robert Donat
- b) Peggy Ashcroft & Trevor Howard
- c) Peggy Ashcroft & Robert Donat
- d) Celia Johnson & Trevor Howard

16 In the cult film 'Flash Gordon, which British actor coined the catch phrase "GORDON'S ALIVE?!"

- a) Alan Rickman
- b) Ian McKellen
- c) Brian Blessed
- d) Billy Connolly

17 In which film did Raquel Welch become an instant sex symbol by emerging from the sea in a skimpy fur bikini?

- a) One Million Years BC
- b) Planet of the Apes
- c) Rise of the Planet of the Apes
- d) The Land That Time Forgot

18 Which Director is credited with pioneering 'Spaghetti Westerns'?

- a) John Ford
- b) Sergio Leone
- c) Sam Peckinpah
- d) Anthony Mann

19 In which film does Dorothy follow the 'Yellow Brick Road'?

- a) Over the Rainbow
- b) The Wizard of Oz
- c) Cinderella
- d) Fantasia

20 In which film did a British actor - direct, produce and star alongside Marilyn Monroe?

- a) Bus Stop
- b) How to Marry a Millionaire
- c) The Prince and the Showgirl
- d) Some Like It Hot

Directory

List of Committee Members for 2023

Chair –

Roger Say

Vice Chair–

Wendy Borthwick

Secretary –

Phil Jefferies

Treasurer –

Cliff Cordiner

Membership Secretary –

Wendy Borthwick

Group Co-ordinator –

Pauline Williamson

Minutes Secretary –

Linda Sargent

I.T. Support (Website and Beacon) –

Phil Jefferies

Committee – Keith Alder; Irene Archer

Don Taylor.

Non- Committee Members

Newsletter Editor-

Barry Liddle

Interest Group Leaders

- **Archaeology/History Group.** Chris McLoughlin.
- **Board Games.** Irene Williams.
- **Bowls:** Ray Elliston.
- **Bridge:** Phil Jefferies.
- **Chess Group.** Roger Say.
- **Creative Writing Group.** Roger Say.
- **Family History**
- **Film Group.** Contact Phil Jefferies.
- **Fun with Fabrics.** Ann Say
- **Natural History Group.** Group Leader role shared.
- **Photography for Fun Group.** Ray Elliston.
- **Quiz Team** John Campbell.
- **Reading Group** Andrea Reid
- **Shibashi Exercise Group.** Marjorie Reynolds.
- **'View to Vue'.** Roger Say.
- **Walking Group.** Keith Alder

Copy Wanted for This Newsletter

Articles, Short Stories, Interesting Photographs (with captions), Limericks & Poems.

All contributions to the next Newsletter are most welcome.

Copy deadline for the next issue is 20 May 2023.

Barry Liddle, Newsletter Editor