



Waterpump Shutterbugs

u3a learn, laugh and live  
Ross-on-Wye & District  
[u3asites.org.uk/ross](http://u3asites.org.uk/ross)



## ***A Word from the Chairman***

Well, despite a pretty rainy start to our Spring weather I hope you can all see from some quite beautiful photographs in this newsletter that we are privileged to live in a quite magically attractive area, and whilst the geo-political world whirls disturbingly around us, being a member of this vibrant branch of the u3a is still a jolly good way of staying calm and enjoying one's (usually) later years!

There is of course some ulterior motive in my possibly over-enthusiastic PR message and that is that it's the time of year for the annual renewal of the u3a membership. I understand that renewals have indeed been coming in thick and fast. However, bearing in mind that there are many people who freely give up time and effort to keep things going, and the fact that we have managed not to increase the cost of membership (not a statement one hears very much these days) I hope all of you feel we are a worthwhile expense and those who have not yet done so will forward their subscription promptly!

Our AGM is fast approaching and we still need to find both a new Treasurer and a new Outings Secretary – both vital posts to keep the show on the road. Anybody interested PLEASE get in touch so we can at least acquaint you with what is involved.

Groups continue to flourish and great strides are being made in introducing the exciting mysteries of playing Pickleball, so if there are more of you who might like to give this burgeoning sport a try, please make contact with us. Attempts at setting up new groups for Wine Appreciation and Astronomy have not been too successful however, but if there are members out there who are interested please also do not hesitate to make contact. (No, it is probably not a good idea to combine the two into one group...)

*William*

**Email: [u3a.ross.chair@gmail.com](mailto:u3a.ross.chair@gmail.com)**

# COMMITTEE NEWS

## Committee

Chair and Cotswold Link - William Lyons  
Vice-chair and Front of House - Mark Eardley  
Secretary - Anne Pye  
Treasurer - Alan Pitts  
Membership Secretary - Heather Whitehouse  
Beacon Administrator - Caroline Miller  
Groups Secretary - Marilyn Reynolds  
Publicist and Speakers Secretary - Catherine Silver  
Outings Secretary - Jane Ryland

## Co-opted onto Committee

Website - Jim Christie  
Newsletter - Saleha Way  
Deputy Groups Secretary - Judith Mackie

## *Situations vacant*

**Treasurer:** *We are urgently looking for someone to fill the role of Treasurer. The current incumbent, Alan Pitts, has kept the u3a finances running smoothly for more than three years and has gone well past his term. No experience in finance or accounting required. To find out more please get in touch with Alan on **07876 491511** or email **treasurer.rossu3a@outlook.com***

**Outings Organiser:** *Jane Ryland, our indefatigable Outings Organiser, is also stepping down after three years of arranging trips to exciting places for members. If you're interested in taking on the role, contact Jane at **jane.ryland16@gmail.com** or u3a Chairman William Lyons at **u3a.ross.chair@gmail.com***

*We need your help to keep our u3a running.*

## GIFT AID: EXTRA TAX RELIEF FOR US AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU

For some time now all donations by individuals to charities have been tax free. The Government Gift Aid scheme allows charities like ours to claim back the tax that you have paid on your subscriptions and donations to Ross u3a.

With your agreement we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 that you give us, effectively increasing the value of your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you. It makes a very important addition to our income and means that we can keep our subscriptions as low as possible.

There are rules for Gift Aid of course. First, you must be a UK taxpayer and have paid income or capital gains tax during the year. Second, the amount of tax you pay must be at least equal to the value of all the Gift Aid that charities will claim on your donations during the year. Many of our members have already agreed to Gift Aid, which makes a significant contribution to our funds.

# GROUP NEWS

Since January 2024 we have set up the following new groups.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> **Crime Book group** is now up and running and meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. If you are interested contact [sally.beswick@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sally.beswick@hotmail.co.uk) for more details.

There are also a few people on the waiting list for a general book group so if you would prefer this then contact [judith@mackiehome.co.uk](mailto:judith@mackiehome.co.uk) for more details.

A 3<sup>rd</sup> **Photography group** meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday and still has vacancies. Contact [jacehlen@hotmail.com](mailto:jacehlen@hotmail.com) for more details.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> **Genealogy group** is now meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 10.30. If you are interested in finding out a bit more about your family history then this might be the group for you. Contact [judith@mackiehome.co.uk](mailto:judith@mackiehome.co.uk) for more details.

**Pickleball** is now up and running and meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month at Ross Tennis Club. For more details contact Lesley Lyons on 01989 769931. If you are unfamiliar with pickleball it is a fun and social sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong and is played with a paddle and a plastic ball with holes. It can be played as singles or doubles, and is suitable for people of all ages and skill levels.

**Cribbage** group meets every Thursday at the White Lion, Wilton from 2-4pm. Please contact Suzie Kemp on 01989 566998 for more information. Suzie says that beginners are more than welcome, as once someone plays Cribbage, they will be hooked and come back week after week.

We also have people on waiting lists for the following groups:

William Lyons is hoping to set up an Astronomy group and needs a few more people to make the group viable. Please get in touch with William on 07743 123903 if you think you would be interested.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> Craft group

Poetry Reading

Wine Appreciation

2<sup>nd</sup> French group

2<sup>nd</sup> Spanish Beginner's group

If you are interested in any of the following then please get in touch with [judith@mackiehome.co.uk](mailto:judith@mackiehome.co.uk) and we can add your name to the waiting list. If there are sufficient people we can set up another group.

All group information is available on the website, as well as at the end of this newsletter.

**Marilyn Reynolds**  
**Groups Secretary**  
[incaamba@gmail.com](mailto:incaamba@gmail.com)

**Judith Mackie**  
**Deputy Group Secretary**  
[judith@mackiehome.co.uk](mailto:judith@mackiehome.co.uk)

## Diary update: Ross Science and Technology Group talks, 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 2pm

April 8: "James Webb Telescope" — 3 parts by Frank Bowden

1. The History Behind the Decision To Develop The Telescope
2. The Design and Construction of the Telescope
3. A Selection Of The Discoveries Made By The Telescope

May 13: "Fractals" — by Bob Carter

June 10: "Why does  $E=mc^2$ " — by Norman Pomfret

July 8 : "The Earth's Core" — by Colin Gearon

August 12: "Cosmology 2" — by Colin Gearon

**Venue** Larruperz Centre Music Room, which is immediately to the right inside the entrance.

# CLIMATE



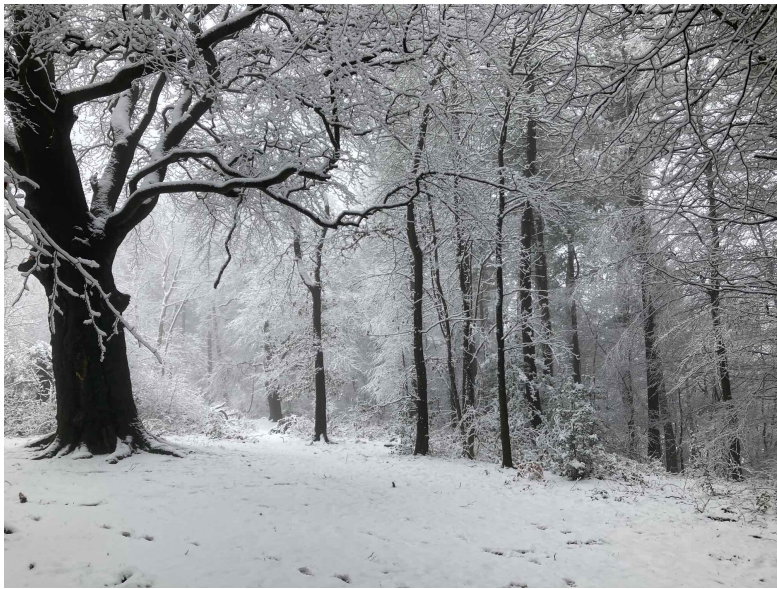
## Appreciating the beauty of our wild weather

The weather has been wild with rain, snow and yet the warmest February on record. But it also brings into focus the beauty of nature.

The flooded area by the River Wye in Ross was a sight to behold: the church spire reflecting in the overflow; the bandstand standing in a lake, birds and dogs enjoying themselves — scenes captured by some members of the u3a's Waterpump Shutterbugs.

Welcoming March was an overnight snowfall that made a pretty picture of the urban landscape and transformed the





woods in the Forest of Dean, into a winter wonderland.

The sudden sharp dip in temperatures, however, did not seem to have damaged the early spring blooms that had been brought out by the warm winter.

Walkers feasting their eyes on the wild daffodils in Dymock Woods already flowering in early February, returned after the snow to find fields and fields of the blooms gaily tossing their heads by the muddy tracks.

Spring has seen a slow start but soon the bare trees will turn luminous green and more buds will blossom and burst into glorious displays of colour. It will be time for a new landscape.



Flood photos by Waterpump Shutterbugs, others by Jane Thomson and Saleha Way

## WEATHER TRIVIA

### **What is the hottest temperature ever recorded on Earth?**

The official highest recorded temperature is 56.7°C (134°F), which was measured on 10 July 1913 at Greenland Ranch, Death Valley, California, USA. In the UK, the highest temperature recorded was 40.3C in Coningsby, Lincolnshire during an unprecedented heatwave in July 2022.

### **What is the coldest day on record?**

The world's coldest temperature record, of -89.2°C on 21 July 1983, is held by the Vostok weather station in Antarctica. **In the UK**, the record is held by Scotland, twice, with -27.2C in Braemar in 1982 and Altnaharra in 1995.

### **What is the wettest place in the world?**

Sorry, it's not Wales. According to Guinness World Records, the place with the highest average annual rainfall is the village of Mawsynram in northeastern India, which gets 11,871mm of rain a year. Its proximity to the Bay of Bengal is a significant factor. (Cardiff, in comparison, receives just 1,150mm).

# COMMEMORATIONS

## Quaint and quirky Easter traditions around the world

Easter, which marks the resurrection of Jesus Christ, is also celebrated with various rituals around the world. Some are prominently religious but many are just fun traditions for the family and community, mostly involving eggs, the long-held symbol of life and rebirth.

In the UK we tend to celebrate the four-day weekend with Easter egg hunts, chocolate treats and hot cross buns. And what better way to spend a bank holiday than watching Morris dancing!

In Germany, there's the egg dance, an Easter (*Ostern*) tradition that dates back to medieval times. Eggs are set on the ground and people dance around them while trying not to damage them. In some instances to make the game more challenging the dancers are blindfolded.

Another popular custom is the *Osterbaum* or Easter Tree, in which painted egg shells and ornamental ones are hung on trees, branches or twigs.

Papua New Guinea has a similar Easter tree tradition. But instead of eggs, the trees at the front of churches are decorated with sticks of cigarettes. These are handed out after the service.

In France, church bells stop ringing around Easter, or *Paques*, in homage to the death of Christ. Legend has it that on Maundy Thursday, the bells flee to Rome where the Pope blesses them. The bells then fly back to France loaded with Easter eggs, which they drop off into gardens. On Easter Sunday, the bells will ring again, a cue for the children to go out hunting for these eggs.

In the French city of Bessieres, members of the Giant Omelette Brotherhood make a 15,000-egg omelette every Easter, which they then serve to the thousands of spectators. According to legend, Napoleon Bonaparte so enjoyed an egg omelette in Bessieres that he ordered a giant version be made for his army. So popular is the omelette festival since it began 50 years ago that it has spread to other locations around the world including Louisiana, Quebec and Argentina.

In the US, an Easter Egg Roll is held every year for children under 13 on the lawn at the White House. The event dates back to 1878 when President Rutherford B opened the White House grounds to the public on Easter Monday.

While the rest of the world hunts for Easter eggs, or rolls them, residents in Otago in New Zealand go for the real thing in their Great Easter Bunny Hunt, using guns to rid farmlands of these invasive pests. More than 10,000 rabbits meet their maker each year at the hands of some 500 hunters vying for the coveted trophy and the NZ\$3,500 (about £1,600) prize money.



Photo: John Way

Easter procession in Montejaque, Spain

In more Catholic countries, however, Easter is a prominently religious affair. In Spain, Easter, known as *Pascua*, is observed during the Holy Week or *Semana Santa*. Almost every village, town and city celebrate with processions bearing elaborately decorated statues of the Virgin Mary, Jesus, or saints. Some are especially well known for their uniqueness and beauty, and have received the International Tourist Interest designation.

In the Philippines some devout Catholics have taken to the practice of self-crucifixion and self-flagellation at Easter. They believe it helps purify them and cleanse them of the sins of the world. The Roman Catholic Church is not keen on the idea and has been actively trying to discourage this practice, without much success.

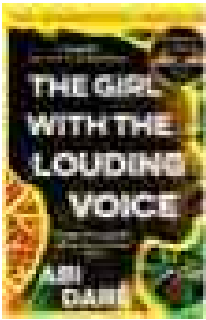
Photo: petrOly



An Easter tree in Germany



## Touching story of hope and human endeavour



Abi Daré is a Nigerian born author who moved to Great Britain to study law. She was keen to improve her written English and undertook an MA in Creative Writing at Birbeck. It was here she submitted her first version of 'The Girl with the Louding Voice', gaining a distinction. The book was finally published in 2020 and has been nominated for several awards.

The book is set in Nigeria in 2014 and although it is a work of fiction it reflects the experiences of many young women around the world. It tells the story of Adunni, who dreams of getting an education despite facing many challenges. Following the death of her mother when she was 14, her hopes for an education are severely curtailed. Her father decides to sell her to be the third wife of a local man eager to have a son. This course of action sets into motion a series of events that threaten to silence her and her dreams. After escaping to Lagos she is forced into slave labour and cruelty. But while these misfortunes might silence her voice for a while they cannot mute her and she realises that she must find her voice — a louding voice — which will give her the platform to speak for herself, decide her own fate and educate other girls similar to herself and thus improve their life chances. With the help of Kofi, the chef in the house and Miss Tia, a friend of Big Madam, the owner of the house, Adunni is able to realise her dreams.

I loved Adunni. She suffered so much loss and found herself in many terrible situations — ones that a 14-year-old should never be subjected to, in fact would be difficult for anyone to deal with. It was at times hard to come to grips with the fact that this story is set in the 21st century and not the 19th. The book creates a wealth of emotions from anger, frustration and disbelief to one of hope, determination and resilience. Through the development of her character you grow to love Adunni's passion, humour and strength.

The entire story is told in broken English. Initially I thought this might annoy me but I quickly fell into the rhythm and grew to enjoy it.

*"Everybody in the whole world be speaking different. We all be speaking different because we all are having different growing-up life, but we can all be understanding each other if we just take the time to listen well."*

*"My mama say education will give me a voice. I want more than just a voice, I want a louding voice. I want to enter a room and people will hear me even before I open my mouth to be speaking. I want to live in this life and help many people so that when I grow old and die, I will still be living through the people I am helping."*

Another aspect of the book that I really liked was the reference to 'The Book of Nigerian Facts' — a book Adunni found in the library of the large mansion. This is a real book and for me it is this link to facts that reinforce the plight of the lives of many Nigerians. Nigeria is one of the world's largest producers of crude oil in the world. Yet millions live in acute poverty with many living on less than \$2 a day. In the second half of the book Abi Daré starts each chapter with a fact taken from this book and cleverly weaves it into the story.

At times a difficult book to read but Adunni's humour and personality draws you in and shows you that no matter the situation there is always joy to be found. Together with her resilience and determination you begin to feel her passion for wanting an education so that she can find her voice — a louding voice.



Some members of Book Group 2 at a recent meeting: from left Gail Spolton, Heather Whitehouse, Judith Mackie, Wendy Wheeldon, Felicity Hearn and Ann Johnson

# SPEAKERS' CORNER



## The rise and fall of Victorian pleasure piers

*"I do like to be beside the seaside..."*

Nigel Metcalfe certainly put his audience in the mood with this delightful ditty chorus for his recent Ross u3a talk: Piers of the Realm — A History of Seaside Pleasure Piers in England and Wales. And the nuggets he imparted kept the audience amused and enraptured to the end.

For example, did you know that the postal address for Clacton Pier in Essex is No. 1, North Sea? Or that there is an annual Pier of the Year Award presented by the National Piers Society — of which Nigel is a member?

The pier has always been very much a British icon, with more than 100 dotting the coastline during their golden age in the Victorian era. Of these, 63 are still around although not all of them accessible, and the rest lost to storms, fire or plain neglect.

Victorian piers were privately financed speculative projects, paid for by entrance tolls as the entrepreneurs sought to cash in on the rising number of holidaymakers as the rail networks grew. 'Steam packets' were already the rage and the first piers were built primarily as landing stages for these visitors who needed a more dignified way to get ashore. Until then, they had to use a small boat or be carried by a porter piggyback through the waves.

Photo: David McA



Clevedon Pier, Britain's only Grade 1-listed pier

Brighton Museums



Monochrome photographic postcard, showing the old Chain Pier in Brighton

stages for these visitors who needed a more dignified way to get ashore. Until then, they had to use a small boat or be carried by a porter piggyback through the waves.

Pleasure piers soon became staple structures at seaside resorts with more and more people walking on them for health and recreation. Attractions on the piers rapidly expanded to include pavilions and theatres with live shows and entertainment. Arcades became regular features.

Nigel also listed some of the pioneers in the pier industry. Most eminent was Eugenius Birch, famous for the screw pile method of pier-building, a concept invented by the blind Irish engineer Alexander Mitchell. Birch designed and oversaw the construction of 14 piers, including Brighton West (destroyed by fire in 2003), seen as his finest.

Another notable designer was Sir James Brunlees, who used the unusual water-jetting system to build Southport Pier and was also responsible for the piers at Llandudno and Rhyl.

John Kent designed Ryde Pier, Britain's oldest. It was his only pier, and opened in 1814.

Captain Sir Samuel Brown was the force behind Brighton's famed Royal Suspension Chain Pier. He had earlier worked on the chain piers across the Tweed and at Leith on the Firth of Forth.

Writer and Poet Laureate Sir John Betjeman, was the first honorary president of the National Piers Society, a charity founded in 1979 dedicated to promoting and sustaining interest in the preservation and continued enjoyment of seaside piers. Since 1996 the society has presented an annual Pier of the Year Award, as voted by the society's members. Southend Pier won in 2023. Past winners have included Clevedon, Llandudno, Cromer and Worthing.

SALEHA WAY

### Some fascinating facts

**Ryde Pier** on the Isle of Wight is Britain's oldest surviving pier, opening in **1814**. In its early days **Ryde Pier Co** employed a sweeper to clear up after sheep and other livestock had traversed the pier.

**Southend Pier (1830)** in Essex is the world's longest pleasure pier at 1.34 miles while **Burnham-on-Sea Pier (1914)** in Somerset is Britain's shortest seaside pier at 117 feet.

**Clevedon Pier (1869)** on the Bristol Channel is Britain's only Grade 1-listed pier and described by John Betjeman as "the most beautiful pier in England".

**Clacton Pier (1871)** has the best postal address of any pier: No. 1, North Sea.

**WWII** was disastrous for piers on the south and east coasts, many of which were breached to prevent their use as landing stages for invading Germans.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> Century the North Sea was known as the German Ocean. When a new bridge was built near **Saltburn Pier (1869)** in Cleveland, WWII graffiti was found on the old bridge welcoming Hitler's troops in the event of an invasion.





## Anglo-Saxons – invaders or settlers?

The U3a's monthly talk in January at the Larruperz Centre saw good attendance of members. The speaker was local history expert Alex Knight, who talked about how the Anglo-Saxons came to

Gloucestershire and Herefordshire.

He said it was easy to become an expert in this Dark Ages subject, as there is so little direct evidence. There are virtually no contemporary written accounts of what happened and very little local archaeological evidence. This is in marked contrast to the preceding Roman period. Furthermore, the written sources that contemporary historians use require some interpretation as the few texts were written by monks hundreds of years later, and they, of course, saw everything through a religious prism.

What did happen? The Anglo-Saxon Chronicles talk about an almost apocalyptic era when pagan invaders from the continent came and massacred and dispossessed the native Christian Celtic speaking Britons. Alex wondered how true this could be given that archaeological continuously inhabited sites in the eastern counties of England, where the Anglo-Saxons first settled, show no evidence of townships burnt to the ground. Settlements appear to have continued without dramatic interruptions.

Perhaps it was less a story of forced population displacement but more one of profound cultural shift whereby the natives, whoever they were, continued their lives much as before but over time adopted Anglo-Saxon dress, social norms and most importantly language. Certainly the process took time but its effects have been very long lasting

The complex patchwork of warlordships and petty kingdoms gradually coalesced into the regions we are familiar with today. The boundary between England and Wales that runs through the middle of the river Wye from Chepstow to beyond Monmouth has been in place since the 900s.

And of course, the English language reigns supreme.



## The making of the Antiques Roadshow

Robert Arley, ex-producer and director of the BBC's Antiques Roadshow, gave the U3A talk in February, again a well attended meeting

in front of an appreciative audience.

Speaking without any audio-visual aids and actively involving the audience, he explained the effort and organisation that goes into producing the programme. This starts with how to make a short film introduction about the venue and surrounding area that makes it interesting and attractive to people who know nothing about the area, while being sensitive to local sensibilities.

He said of the 2,000 objects brought by members of the public on the day, 20 are selected for possible inclusion in the programme. One of the most important and, to me, surprising factors was whether the panel of experts knew what the object was and could talk about it. The experts don't know everything – which is not necessarily how it appears on the television.

Robert emphasised the organic nature of the show and how people use their three minutes with the expert. Everyone is seen and most feel it is worth the wait to be able to go home with new knowledge about their antique.

If they agree, owners of the objects chosen are given a few hours to think about where, when and how they got the object, while the experts get to check up on their knowledge of the object. These days an e-photo sent to backroom staff or colleagues at Sotheby's can do the trick. Then the cameras roll.

Then comes the time spent in the editing suite, which usually takes weeks. Many decisions are made: the best order to feature the antique pieces; how much explanation from the expert is sufficient; how best to show the owner's reactions – often surprise at the valuations is overblown since the more valuable objects would have had a rough valuation for insurance.

The objective is to produce 57 minutes and 30 seconds of high class television.

ARTICLES BY SIMON SILVER

### Monthly talks at the Larruperz Centre, 2.30pm

**April 15: Bob Higgie**

*Waterworks Museum Hereford*

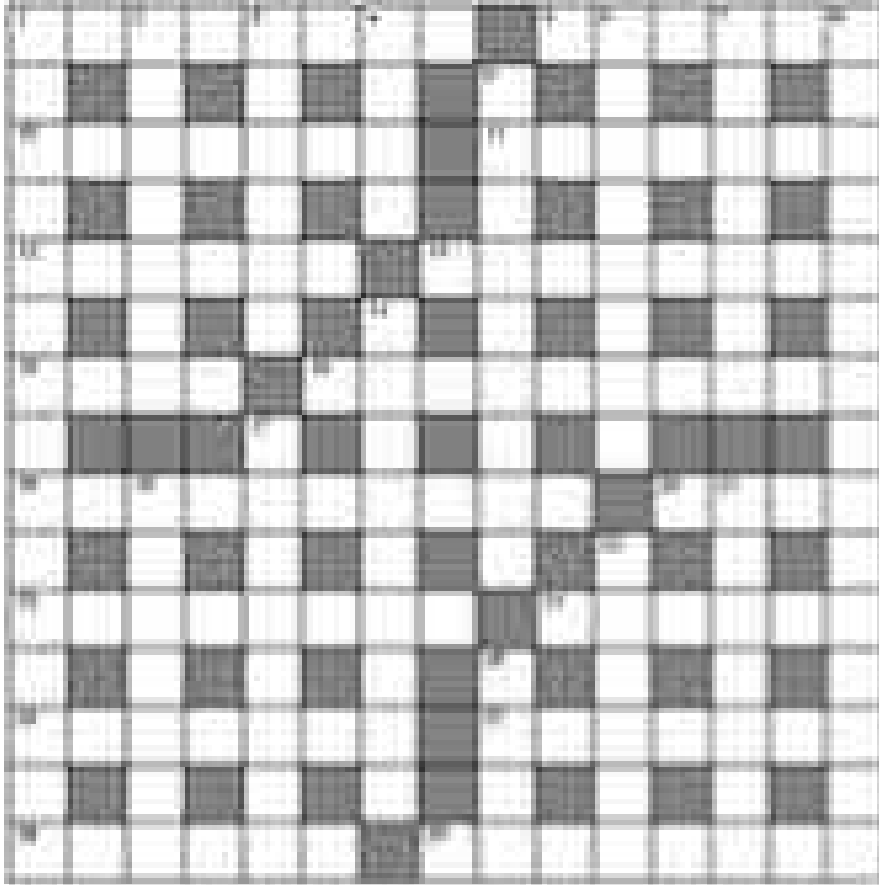
**May 20: Graham O'Connell**

*Beyond the Garden Gate*

**June 17: Dr Jean Emberley**

*Forensic pathology – using pollen to solve crimes*

# CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



## Across

1. Veins impeded by 1 down (8)
5. Leap season (6)
10. Frying pan for soulless skill set (7)
11. Sealing resealed for written matter (7)
12. Music composed from hydrogenated reef (6)
13. Speed over heathland in Devon NP (8)
15. Refusal from Putin (4)
16. Re-centered, reworked discouragement (10)
18. Geometric trade route? (10)
20. Fasten shorebird (4)
23. Diamond choices for tools (3,5)
24. Steer around north east for wood finishing (6)
26. Three cereals make up cocked hat! (7)
27. 20 across habitat - damp soil and even (7)
28. Note reversed for enzyme! (6)
29. Assign to and rework for binding substances (8)

## Down

1. Narcotics derived from Rostov revisited help to raise blood pressure (15)
2. Cockney Ray's home for rootstock! (7)
3. Nab dog's necklace (6)
4. Teas brewed to satisfy hunger (4)
6. Pierce flat (8)
7. Growing abnormally into flesh (7)
8. Egotist retrains to handle stomach complaint (15)
9. Abel gazes over pervert (6,3)
14. Getting out of bed and calling into question? (9)
17. Tetanoid developed as cure (8)
19. Peninsula cardinal lost from Russian wasteland (7)
21. Sews and irritates (7)
22. Overcast and heavy-weighted (6)
25. Superior face (4)

Answers on Page 11

# FORAGING

**Spring delight: Foraging for wild edibles is a fun and rewarding way to connect with nature and get a taste of the local flora. In spring, the UK is home to a variety of delicious and nutritious plants and that can be found growing in forests and fields.**



Wild garlic is a flavourful herb that grows in shady woods and along streams. Its leaves, flowers, and bulbs are all edible and have a delicate garlic flavour. To identify it, look for long, pointed leaves that smell strongly of garlic when crushed.

Stinging nettle is a nutritious plant that is often seen as a pesky weed, but it can be turned into a delicious and healthy dish. The leaves and stems contain vitamins A, C, and K, iron and calcium. To identify it, look for its distinctive jagged-edged leaves and tiny, stinging hairs.



Chickweed is a sweet and tender plant that grows in sunny or partially shaded areas. Its leaves and stems are edible and have a mild, slightly nutty flavour. To identify it, look for small, white flowers and opposite leaves that are about 1cm long.



Wild strawberries are smaller than the cultivated varieties, but they have a sweeter and more intense flavour. They grow in sunny or partially shaded areas and have three leaves and white flowers with five petals. To identify them, look for small red fruits growing on the ground.



Scarlet Elf Cup mushrooms are a delicate and flavourful species that grows specifically on decaying willow. They have a distinctive scarlet red cup-like shape and grow on the ground or on fallen wood. To identify them, look for their bright red colour and smooth texture.

## Try this out: Wild garlic pesto

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup wild garlic leaves
- 1/2 cup freshly grated parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup toasted pine nuts
- 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

### Instructions:

1. Wash the wild garlic leaves and remove any tough stems.
2. In a food processor, combine the wild garlic leaves, parmesan cheese, and toasted pine nuts.
3. With the motor running, slowly pour in the olive oil until a smooth pesto forms.
4. Season with salt and pepper to taste

SOURCE: [TOTALLYWILDUK.CO.UK](http://TOTALLYWILDUK.CO.UK)

## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD ANSWERS

### Across

1. Varicose, 5. Spring, 10. Skillet, 11. Linages, 12. Choral, 13. Dartmoor, 15. Nyet, 16. Deterrence, 18. Triangular, 20. Knot, 23. Ice Picks, 24. Veneer, 26. Tricorn, 27. Mudflat, 28. Rennet, 29. Agonists

### Down

1. Vasoconstrictor, 2. Rhizome, 3. Collar, 4. Sate, 6. Puncture, 7. Ingrown, 8. Gastroenteritis, 6. Sleaze bag, 14. Debunking, 17. Antidote, 19. Iberian, 21. Needles, 22. Leaden, 25. Smug

# ROSS u3a GROUPS

Highlighted groups have space

GROUP	CO-ORDINATOR	TELEPHONE	MEETING TIMES	EMAIL ADDRESS
Ancient & Med History	Frank Bowden	01989 567125	3rd Thurs 2pm	frankbowden25@gmail.com
Armchair Opera	Alan Stringer	01989 562792	2nd & 4th Tues 12pm	alan.stringer26@outlook.com
Art	Margaret Hay	01989 763564	1st & 3rd Fri 2-4pm	m.hay008@btinternet.com
Art 2	Lynda Mower	07771 760052	2nd and 4th Thurs 10am	lynda.mower@btinternet.com
Book	Ginny James	01531 821904	3rd Wed 11am	vljames1909@gmail.com
Book 2	Judith Mackie	07766 134956	4th Thurs 10am	judith@mackiehome.co.uk
Bridge	Rochelle Nash	01989 563195	4th Tues 2:30pm	nash_rochelle@yahoo.co.uk
Canasta	Pat Milnes	01989 762028	2nd Wed 2pm (starts Jan 10)	patmilnes49@gmail.com
Chess	Dave Tomlin	01989 720455	1st & 3rd Thurs 10.30am	gorsleydave@outlook.com
Crafts	Joyce Meyer	01989 568607	Alternate Thurs 10am	sandiecotterell@gmail.com
Creating Your Life Story 1	Jane Travers	01989 562308	1st Thurs 10am	bjaneww@aol.com
Creating Your Life Story 2	Jane Travers	01989 562308	2nd Tues 10am	bjaneww@aol.com
Creating Your Life Story 3	Jane Travers	01989 562308	3rd Thurs 10am	bjaneww@aol.com
Creating Your Life Story Men	Jane Travers	01989 562308	2nd Wed 10-11.30am	bjaneww@aol.com
Crewel	Caroline Miller	07947 065247	2nd & 4th Mon 2-4pm	up7ailsa11@gmail.com
Cribbage	Suzie Kemp	07721 988125	1st & 3rd Thurs	witchiepoo_007@yahoo.com
Crime Book	Sandie Cotterell	01989 763546	2nd Tues 2pm	sandiecotterell@gmail.com
Crime Book 2	Sally Beswick	07808 183911	3rd Thursday 10.30am	sally.beswick@hotmail.co.uk
Cryptic Crosswords	Phil Angus	01989 562455	1st Thurs 10am-12pm	pandsangus@gmail.com
Current Affairs 1	David Mason	01989 762022	1st Fri 11am	djmasonross@gmail.com
Current Affairs 2	Michael Wood	01989 769836	2nd Fri 10am	enawood1@gmail.com
Current Affairs 3	Mary Alam	01989 567009	4th Mon 2.30pm	marycalam@gmail.com
French Revisited	Elizabeth Holleis	01989 565352	Mon 10am-12pm	keholleis@gmail.com
French Conversation	Jon Stern	01989 577020	1st & 3rd Tues 2-4pm	jon.stern.kimpton@gmail.com
Gardening	David Thomson	01989 762949	2nd Tues 2pm	dthr95jz@gmail.com
Gardening 2	Maggie/Ken Jones	01989 568780	2nd Tues (starts Jan 23)	collcost@yahoo.co.uk
Genealogy	Di Taylor	07425 154730	3rd Fri 11am-1pm	zpundit@yahoo.com
Genealogy 2	Judith Mackie	07766 134956	3rd Tuesday, 10.30am	judith@mackiehome.co.uk
Geology & Landscape	Tim Barrett	01989 567906	1st Fri 10am	trbarrett@btinternet.com
History of Science	Brian King	01989 769736	3rd Fri 10am	margaretfrances@hotmail.co.uk
Jewellery-making	Nola Bates	01989 610150	1st & 3rd Thurs 10.30am/2pm	nolabates1@gmail.com
Keep Fit	Rae Duffield	07971 968469	Wed 11.30am	glasym@hotmail.com
Line dancing	Hilary Smart	01989 762383	1st & 3rd Wed 2pm	hilarysmart@ymail.com
Local History 1	Belinda Legge	07964 821930	1st Tues 10.30am	belinda@richardnet.co.uk
Local History 2	Diane English	07845 088497	3rd Thurs 2pm (starts Jan18)	di.english13@gmail.com
Mah Jong	Jane Collins	07887 768485	1st & 3rd Fri 10.15am	janelouisecollins@gmail.com
Mini Bridge	Roy Milnes	01989 762028	1st & 3rd Thurs 10am-12pm	roy5.milnes@gmail.com
Modern World History	Brian King	01989 769736	4th Wed 2pm	margaretfrances@hotmail.co.uk
Nature	Catriona Pearson	01989 769425	1st Mon 10.30am	catriona64@gmail.com
Philosophy	Brian King	01989 769736	1st Tues 2pm	margaretfrances@hotmail.co.uk
Photography	John Ryland	07752 661390	2nd Tues 10am	jryland42@gmail.com
Photography 2	Andrew Mackie	01989 750860	2nd Wed 10.30am	andrew@mackiehome.co.uk
Photography 3	Jac Ehlen	07968 351629	3rd Wednesday 10.30-12.30	jacehlen@hotmail.com
Pickleball	Lesley Lyons	01989 769931	1st and 3rd Friday	gilmourlesley@yahoo.co.uk
Play Reading	Anne Summers	01989 218432	1st & 3rd Tues 2pm	annemesummers@gmail.com
Pub Walks	Dixie Collins	07789 474091	2nd Fri 10am	dixie4028@gmail.com
Pub Walks 2	Carol Carney	01989 780787	1st Fri (starts Feb 2)	carolcarney001@gmail.com
Quiz	Mike Travers	01989 562308	4th Mon 10am-12pm	miketrovers1@hotmail.com
Rock Music	Mike Goff	01594 862640	2nd Tues evening	mikejgoff@outlook.com
Rummikub for Fun	Sandie Cotterell	01989 763546	1st & 3rd Tues 10am	sandiecotterell@gmail.com
Rummikub 2	Sandie Cotterell	01989 763546	2nd & 4th Wed 2pm	sandiecotterell@gmail.com
Science & Technology	David Colenso	07857 940143	2nd Mon 2-4pm	davecolenso@yahoo.com
Scrabble	Nola Bates	01989 610150	2nd & 4th Wed 2pm	nolabates1@gmail.com
SOLO	Caroline Miller	01989 569903	Wed 10.30am	up7ailsa11@gmail.com
Spanish Intermediate	Diana Wood	01989 562355	Mon 10.30-11.30am	diwood407@gmail.com
Spanish Beginners	Marilyn Reynolds	01989 564830	2nd & 4th Tues 10am-12pm	incaamba@gmail.com
Table Tennis	Keith Westwood	01989 562697	2nd & 4th Mon 2-3.30pm	kw@keithwestwood.plus.com
Table Tennis 2	Catriona Pearson	01989 569425	1st & 3rd Thurs 2-3.30pm	catriona64@gmail.com
Tai Chi	Jane Travers	01989 562308	Thurs 2pm	bjaneww@aol.com
Theatre	Fiona Leathart	01989 565271	1st Thurs 3pm	leathart.holly@gmail.com
Walking	Vivienne Nutt	07812 826155	2nd Mon 9.30am	vivnutt@hotmail.co.uk
Whist	Rochelle Nash	01989 563195	1st Thurs 2:30pm	nash_rochelle@yahoo.co.uk
Writing for Pleasure	Marianne Wright	01989 762949	2nd Thurs 2pm	wrightmarianne9@gmail.com
Writing for Pleasure 2	Lynda Roger	01989 561045	2nd Thurs 2.30pm	lynda.rodger@hotmail.com
Yoga	Marilyn Reynolds	01989 564830	Wed 11am	incaamba@gmail.com