

**Wyre Forest and District u3a**

**Newsletter**

**Winter**

**2025**

**learn**

**laugh**

**live**

## **Notes from the Chair**

Good morning, Members,

As we approach another year-end and a new one beckons, it can be an emotional time for some so let us all reflect on what has been and gone in 2025 and embrace with optimism, all that is yet to come in 2026.

I must begin by thanking my Committee for being there for all of us and who will guide this wonderful organisation through its next year under our superb theme: -

**LEARN** - We will enrich our lives by finding out “something from someone” or through a group, a nugget of knowledge we didn’t know, and as a consequence, a friendship may blossom.

**LAUGH** – I have experienced much fun meeting with members who bring their humour, hearts and souls along to their activities as well as with our many volunteers who enjoy being involved in the action and give their time and energy selflessly. My thanks to you all.

And

**LIVE** – It’s a wonderful word and made me realise throughout Christmas and New Year what u3a is all about!!

It is you, all 1,000+ members, who keep us together bringing your fun, friendship, caring, support and, indeed, love and care for each other when we meet at the wonderful activities which we all enjoy.

2026 is going to be an amazing year and we will grow our membership, our activities and volunteers. But what is most important is the hand of friendship to each other and to our community in the Wyre Forest and District.

On behalf of The Committee, I would like to wish you our very best wishes for this coming year and remember, we are all part of this wonderful organisation that cares about each and every one of us.

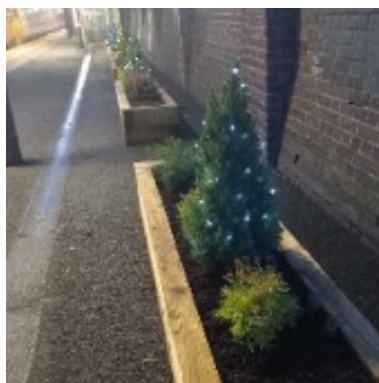
## Kidderminster Station Adopters—Sue Langley

As Kidderminster Station Adopters we were approached by Mel Pugh, a member of Staff in the Ticket Office, to see if we wanted to take part in some way in her planned Cake Sale, to raise funds for Kemp and St Richards Hospices.

So, on Saturday morning 13<sup>th</sup> December, 21 of us gathered alongside the cake stall and sang carols and Christmas songs for passengers passing through the station.

It was a busy morning and many who were waiting for trains sang along with us. Including a young girl who joined us, much to the delight of her mum and dad, to sing *Away in a Manger*.

*People were very generous too with their donations into our bucket and also with the applause they bestowed upon us for our efforts. It was a delightful start to the Christmas Festivities and the event raised £400.*



Our members, who had not seen them, admired the five fir trees we had planted earlier that week in the five new planters on Platform 1.

For the Christmas touch we decked them out with fairy lights, a subtle sight to behold as it gets towards dusk, but some kind, unknown soul also entered into the spirit of Christmas and enhanced what we had accomplished, by decorating them with tinsel.

The wider community had joined in, and we thank whoever carried out this most welcome gesture.

We will continue planting new shrubs in early spring but look out for the 1,000 tulip bulbs that will pop up to provide colour and we hope a smile to those passing through.



# Motos Aren't Just For Christmas!

A poem by Mary Foster

'Tis the week before Christmas,  
The excitement is rife  
We're heading down south for the time of our life. It's Turkey and Tinsel  
down in Torquay  
The Moto's are heading for fun by the sea. There'll be dining and  
dancing all over the joint And we're hoping that Roger won't disappoint

But it's not only Christmas that Moto's enjoy There are year round events  
led by 'Superman' Roy He and Pat work so hard and Nick and Ros too Find-  
ing lots of great things for the members to do There is skittles and bowl-  
ing, lunch at the pub, And dancing and games at Kiddy golf club. Then each  
Monday morning we meet at the Caff For chatting and friendship and a jolly  
good laugh.

For Moto is a lifeline for folks on their own Life can get lonely at  
home all alone.

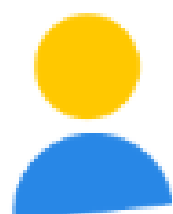
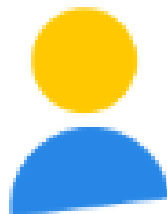
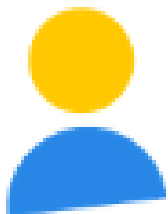
We've had to adapt to a change in our life When we've lost a loved one, a  
husband or wife We're all very thankful for our time spent together Just  
chatting with members whatever the weather We're all very grateful for  
our leader Roy Who brings us together and gives us all joy.

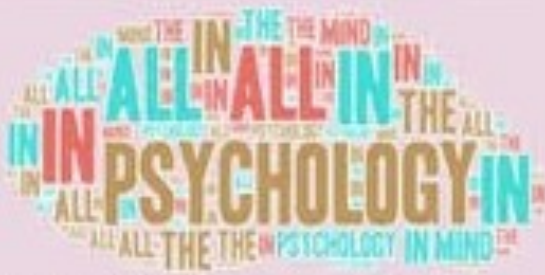
So who can be lonely with such a great bunch? We can go out for day  
trips and meet up for lunch. A listening ear is always out there  
Kind people and friends who really do care There's a very warm welcome  
for anyone new They soon get involved with the things that we do How  
lucky we are to be here today  
I know that wild horses won't keep us away!

We're coming to the end of the year twenty five  
There's been ups and some downs  
But we're glad we're alive.

Thank goodness for Moto, for Roy and for Pat You keep us all going,  
we're thankful for that. So come on you moto's be of good cheer  
Let's make '26 another great year.

I'm signing off now, let Christmas begin, And Happy Christmas wishes from  
me and from Tim





### All in the Mind

A conversational approach to exploring human behaviour.

Barry Walmsley

0788 158 1193

The 'All in the Mind' Group meets on the second Monday each month from 2.00 to 4.00pm in Franche Community Church.

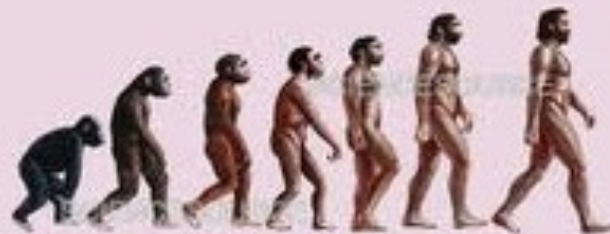
Next Monday (13th October) is our first meeting of the new academic year and our title will be 'Who are we, and how did we come to be like this?'

The main difference between us and all other animal species is the way we think, and Psychology is the Scientific study of how we think and behave. In this session we'll discuss the ways in which our unique way of thinking has brought us to where we are today.

If you think you might be interested in this sort of line of enquiry, why not come along and see if it's for you. Either email Barry at [All In The Mind group](mailto:All In The Mind group) or just turn up on the day.

We'd love to see you!

Barry



## Thought provoking statements

ONE MINUTE YOU'RE YOUNG AND FUN, THE NEXT YOU'RE TURNING DOWN THE RADIO IN THE CAR TO SEE BETTER

I CORRECT AUTOCORRECT MORE THAN AUTOCORRECT CORRECTS ME

NOTHING SAVES MONEY LIKE BEING ANTISOCIAL

**Quiz time** A few questions to get the mind working—answers on the final page but don't cheat.

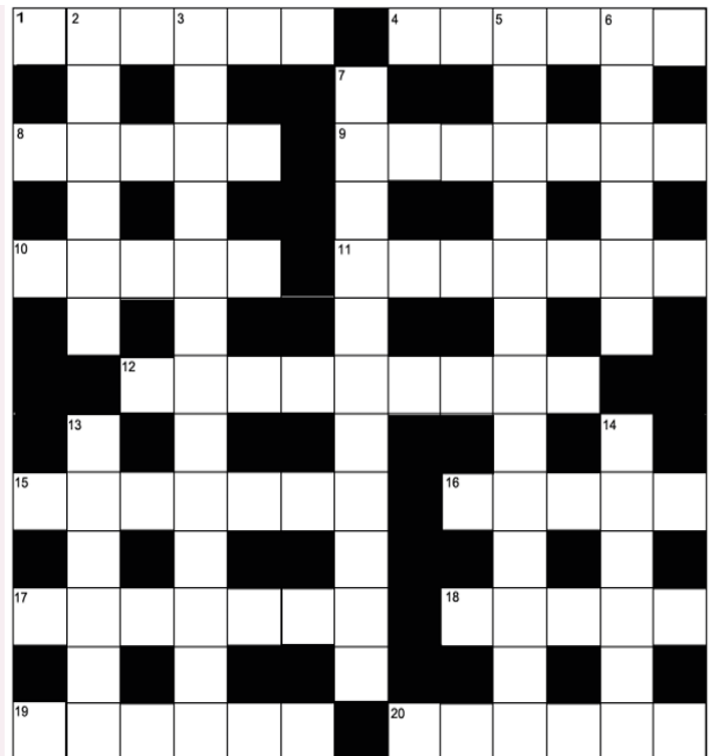
1. Where was Thomas Edward Lawrence, better known as Lawrence of Arabia born.
2. In 1910 it hosted it's first international match. Known then as the Cabbage Patch what did it become.
3. H.G.Wells book The War of the Worlds was published in 1897 where the earth was attacked by tripod like aliens. Now would you believe but it, one tripod still remains and can be seen in this Surrey town?
4. What is known, especially in the USA , as a boomer? Clue it's to do with the armed services.
5. The world's highest waterfall at 3212 feet or 979 meters is in which country?
6. Thomas Cook's first ever excursion took place in 1841 and was by rail. What station did it leave from?
7. What address is known as No. 1 London?
8. Why is Millau, in southern France in the Guinness Book of Records?
9. The University of Paris is better known by what name?
10. 'Come Outside' was the only number one hit for which performer and his female assistant who went on to become a well known actress?

ACROSS

1. A close and affectionate embrace (6)
4. Any of several grapevines that produce sweet white grapes (6)
8. A greyish brown colour (5)
9. Act between parties with a view to reconciling differences (7)
10. A British imperial capacity measure equal to 2 pints (5)
11. Device used to make different pieces of apparatus compatible (7)
12. Produced in rapid time (9)
15. Financial assistance in time of need (7)
16. Normal (5)
17. A city in central Florida (7)
18. Grinding tooth at the back of the jaw (5)
19. Even though; although; notwithstanding (6)
20. Roman emperor (6)

DOWN

2. A giant planet with a ring of ice particles (6)
3. Door you go through to do 7 down (9-4)
5. Route or action leading to disaster 8-5)
6. Professional writer (6)
7. The act of passengers and crew getting aboard a ship or plane (11)
13. Fuel used to run internal combustion engines (6)



Answers elsewhere in the newsletter

## Walking for Fitness Group

**The Walking for Fitness Group** had a spot of good luck when they headed for the woods at Trimpey for their Christmas walk from Arley... it had stopped raining; the grey clouds began lifting, the sky got bluer as we walked and the mud not as bad as prophesied after all the rain we had endured. And to boot, we got a close up encounter with a Severn Valley Steam train as it trundled passed us, passengers waving. **That's timing!**

We celebrated with a mince pie by the reservoir as we admired the Gannets and then enjoyed a tot of mulled wine in a cosy 'open sided bar' just made for our tippie interlude... an old hay shed in the middle of Eyemore Wood 📍

**We know how to live (and laugh and have fun)!! Sue Langley**



1. "Call me Ishmael"
2. "Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again"
3. "All children, except one, grow up."
4. Not quite a first line but close enough. "A human from planet Earth was one of them, though as our story opens he no more knows his destiny than a tea leaf knows the history of the East India Company."
5. "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife."
6. "There was me, that is Alex, and my three droogs, that is Pete, Georgie and Dim and we sat in the Korova milkbar trying to make up our rassoodocks what to do with the evening."
7. "I have never begun a novel with more misgiving."
8. "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair."
9. "When a day that you happen to know is Wednesday starts off by sounding like Sunday, there is something seriously wrong somewhere."
10. "It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen."

**Can you name these well known or maybe not so well known books and their authors. Answers on page 21**

## Woolcraft and Natter Group

Hartlebury WI organised a Christmas Tree festival at the village church, St James.  
This took place on the fifth and sixth of December.

Our Woolcraft and Natter group decided that they would like to enter a tree on behalf of your u3a.

The group spent weeks producing decorations for the tree. These were aimed at, the "Crafting for Communities" project a locally based group of crafters which produces items that are needed every month, and the Shoe box appeal, (cr2ee) which the group supports.

There were decorative baubles, stars, octopuses, soldiers, Christmas trees, scrunchie balls, santas, angels, wriggly worms and an amazing angel and even some knitted tinsel!

A total of twenty five trees were entered and our u3a tree was voted into fifth place by the three hundred visitors over the course of the two days.

The event raised a total of £2800!

Well done to Wyre Forest u3a Woolcraft and Natter group.

Some of the patterns they used for their project are available on their webpage, take a look and have a go for yourself or join them.

The 3rd Tuesday of the month at Willow Community Room from 2 til 4.

Next one is Tuesday January 20th 2026



## Baking tips with thanks to Caroline O'C

### **GRATED APPLE SPONGE CAKE** – makes 8 to 10 slices

Prep Time: 20 minutes & Cook Time: 40 minutes

There's something beautifully homely about an apple sponge, the kind of cake that smells like autumn the moment it comes out of the oven. Grating the apples means they melt right into the sponge, keeping it moist and giving just a whisper of tartness beneath the sweetness.

#### INGREDIENTS

175g of softened unsalted butter:

175g of golden caster sugar

3 medium eggs

200g of self raising flour

50g of ground almonds

250g of apples, peeled and grated – see tips below

The finely grated lemon zest of 1 lemon

1 teaspoon of ground cinnamon

30g of almond flakes for topping

#### METHOD

Preheat the oven to 180°C (fan).

Grease and line a 20cm / 8 inch round cake tin.

Cream together the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy.

Beat in the eggs one at a time, adding a spoonful of flour with each to prevent curdling.

Fold in the remaining flour, ground almonds, lemon zest and cinnamon.

Gently fold through the grated apples, making sure they are evenly distributed.

Spoon the mixture into the prepared tin and smooth the top.

Scatter over the flaked almonds.

Bake for 35 to 40 minutes, or until golden and springy to the touch. A skewer should come out clean. Cool slightly in the tin before transferring to a wire rack. Serve warm or cold.

#### TIPS

Use eating apples like Cox or Braeburn for natural sweetness, or Bramley apples if you prefer a tangier sponge. A pinch of mixed spice or nutmeg adds extra autumn warmth.

This cake keeps well for 3 days in an airtight tin, and is lovely served warm with cream or custard. Perfect for an afternoon tea spread or as a comforting pudding

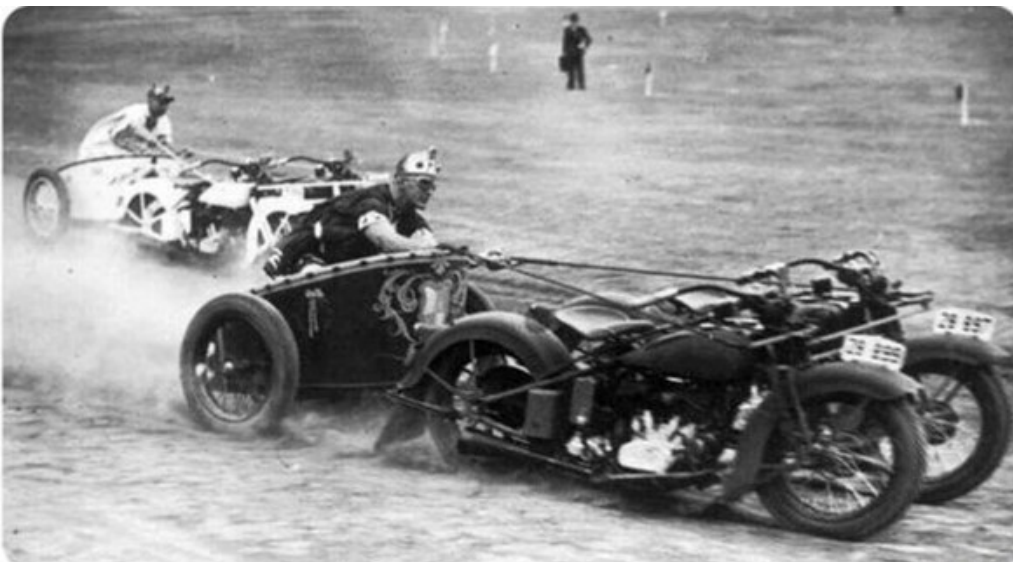


## Pauline James

Here are a couple of photographs from the group when David Morgan gave a talk on the history of the National Garden Scheme. He is the Worcestershire representative for the NGS.



## Australian style chariot racing



Apparently nothing ever cool happened in the 1930's. Especially in Australia.

This was Chariot Racing with a difference, it was Australian style.

At least they didn't have Kangaroos pulling the chariots.

## Extracts from letters received at the Food Office - regarding extra milk during food rationing 1940-1950

1. Please send me a form for cheap milk, as I am expecting mother.
2. Please send me a form for a supply of cheap milk for having babies at reduced rates.
3. I posted the form by mistake before my child was filled in properly.
4. I have a baby 10 months old, thanking you for same.
5. Will you please send me a form for cheap milk, I have a baby 2 months old & I didn't know anything about it until a friend told me.
6. I had intended coming to the office today, but I had five children this morning.
7. I have one child nearly 2 years of age. Am looking forward to an increase in November. Hoping this meets with your approval.
8. I have one baby 2 years old fed entirely on cows and another 4 months old.
9. Will I be able to have milk for my baby, as my husband finishes his job as night watchman next Tuesday.
10. I cannot get sick pay. I have 6 children, tell me why this is.
11. Sorry I have been so long filling in the form, but I have been in bed with my baby nearly 2 weeks and I didn't know it was running out until the milkman told me.
12. This is my eighth child, what are you going to do about it.
13. Mrs. B. has no clothes, has not had any for a year and the clergy have been visiting her.
14. In reply to your letter, I have already cohabited with your officials without any result.
15. I am glad to say, my husband who was reported missing is now dead.
16. I am forwarding my marriage certificate and two children one of which you will see is a mistake.
17. Unless I get my husbands money I will be forced to live an immortal life.
18. Please find out if my husband is dead, as the man I am living with will do nothing until he is sure
19. I have no children as my husband is a bus driver and works night and day.
20. In accordance with your instructions I have given birth to twins in the enclosed envelope.
21. Milk is wanted and father is unable to supply it.

With thanks to Elaine Youngjohns.

## The Travel Group spends a few days in Bournemouth

The travel group went on its last outing of the year in October with a trip to sunny Bournemouth. It did not seem a very auspicious start with a warning of gales and heavy rain but although the journey down was certainly wet upon arrival at our hotel the sun decided to appear. The hotel was situated at the head of a cul-de-sac and a short walk took you to a park with cliff top views over the beach and pier. Public transport on the south coast is very good and for this reason the committee had decided not to include a day out as part of the trip. This worked well and every one made good use of their concessionary bus pass.

Buses were clean and modern with on board screens and announcements letting you know what the next stop was.

One very popular route was from Bournemouth to Swanage on an open top double decker called the Purbeck Breezer. With a bus stop close to the hotel and with the sun shining this was a great day out. Leaving Bournemouth behind the bus travelled along the harbour side of the ever so slightly posh area of Sandbanks, then via a chain operated car/bus ferry across the mouth of Poole harbour to the Isle of Purbeck, on to Studland, and then to Swanage.



Chain ferry across the mouth of Pool harbour



Swanage

Swanage is a very pleasant seaside town with a nice promenade, cafes, pier and steam railway among its many attractions. Many members decided that a day seeing the attractions in Bournemouth was a good idea. The hotel is situated on Durley Chime and a walk down a twisty path soon leads you onto the beach and beach pathway. Then another short walk brought you to the pier and then onto the town centre



A walk through the Victorian gardens brings you to the main shopping area and on this Sunday they had a street market with a variety of stalls selling 'street food' together with other stalls selling arts and craft items.

It is becoming a bit of a tradition that a group of members go to see a show at the local theatre and this time was no exception, a Johnny Cash tribute act. With a coach not available Margaret Nicholls did a grand job in organising a fleet of taxis to take 30 members to see the evening show.

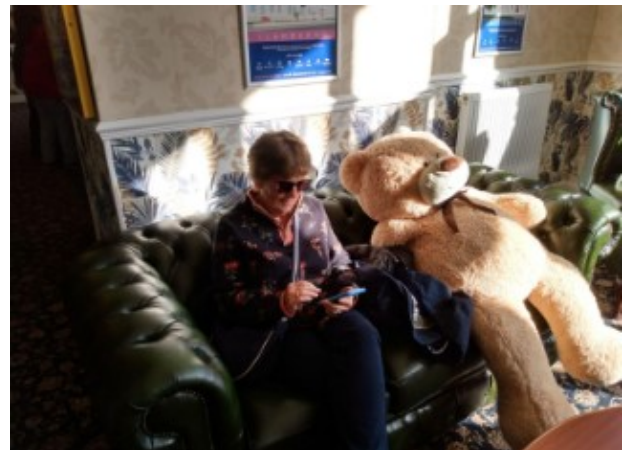


Bournemouth sea front



Victorian Gardens in Bournemouth

Another bus trip saw members off to Poole with its working/leisure harbour. This offered the opportunity to take a boat tour around the harbour or visit Brownsea Island. Poole harbour is the second largest natural harbour in the world after Sidney and although large is actually very shallow. Well marked shipping lanes allow access for the larger cross channel ferries, commercial ships and leisure craft etc



A visit to the Poole pottery shop was interesting but the prices were on the rather high side.

Other members spent the day at Brownsea Island. This is the largest island in Poole harbour, it is owned by the National Trust and is where the scouting movement began in Britain in 1907. Part of the island is run by the Dorset Wildlife Trust. It is also home to the red squirrel with numerous of these little animals being spotted by our members.

This report is mainly how Pam and myself spent our time at Bournemouth, but with so many other attractions in the area our group was spread far and wide during another excellent travel group trip.

## The Amblers joined the Strollers

Amblers joined Strollers for a celebration of 20 years of U3A, at the lakeside cabin at Bodenham Arboretum, on 10th of December. It was a very enjoyable event starting at 10:30am, we had a chance to walk through the Arboretum followed by lunch. A good time was enjoyed by all, thank you U3A.

Pauline Pitchford



# Strollers Photographs with thanks to Shelia Munden



<b>New group</b>	<b>The Railway Film Club</b>
<b>Where</b>	<b>Franche Community Church</b>
<b>When</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, 2-4pm</b>
<b>Starting</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>
<b>Group leader</b>	<b>Tony Haylock</b>

The idea of this group is for myself and hopefully many others to show their photographs and videos to a like-minded group. My interest is particularly British steam engines and for the first meeting I will show slides of my trainspotting, gricing and being with the SVR.

I have at least two colleagues who will be able to give a talk / presentation of their experiences and I would hope that more members would be able to tell their story.

As usual this meeting is for u3a members, there will be a nominal charge to cover room hire & tea/coffee/biscuits.

If you would like to join me and haven't already dropped me a line please do so at [tony\\_haylock@hotmail.com](mailto:tony_haylock@hotmail.com)



## The Gospelities with Jill Judson



## A new book by u3a member Wilson Wall entitled *The Orchid Hunters*



Scientist and Author Wilson Wall has just had published by Crowood Press *The Orchid Hunters* (ISBN

9780719845635 [www.crowood.com](http://www.crowood.com)).

This tells the story of the explorers and horticulturalists who went out in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries searching for rare and valuable orchids. The pinnacle of orchid hunting activity was in the nineteenth century when prices for individual plants reached astonishing levels. Such were the profits that could be made that many of the orchid hunters were directly employed by orchid nurseries. These were most often trained gardeners and horticulturalists who had a yearning to see for themselves where the plants they nurtured came from.

## Fancy a day out in Warwick by coach?

**WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2026**

Leaving Brintons Park Sutton Road, Kidderminster. Pick up by the Twigs Plant Nursery Coach leaves at 9.20am so arriving a bit earlier. Arriving Warwick around 10.30am and leaving Warwick at 4pm and returning to Brintons Park. We aim to be in Warwick about 5½ hours

The General History Group are having a private hire 34 seater coach with Whittles for a day in Warwick. We started with a minibus but had to go big because it was so popular!

There are a few spaces left.

So, whether you want to mooch and shop or also join the visit to the wonderful medieval hospital there are two possibilities:

- **A day out only £15.00 to cover the transport and driver only**

**OR**

- **A day out with a Heritage Tour of The Historic Tudor Lord Leycester Hospital £24.50 this includes the coach, driver, general entry including the garden, buildings including chapel with William Morris window, café and a private tour lasting around an hour**

Places are on a first come first serve basis and will not be confirmed until payment received. **Cancellation will not be refundable unless we can resell your place**

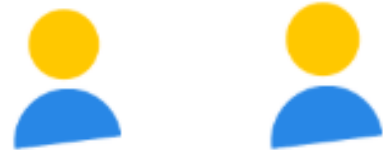
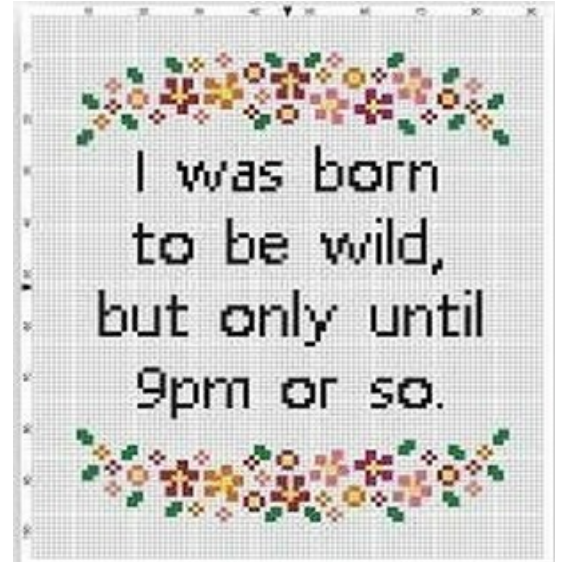
Please contact: Caroline O'Callaghan Group Leader for information on [caroline.ocallaghan66@gmail.com](mailto:caroline.ocallaghan66@gmail.com)



## Quizzing—4—All

Anniversary lunch enjoyed at the Kidderminster Golf Club.

Janice Evans—group leader.



## Board Games Group

Anniversary Celebrations for the Board Games group on behalf of Sue Taylor.



### Sayings of famous people

George Bernard Shaw sent a note to Winston Churchill regarding his latest stage production. 'Have reserved two tickets for opening night. Come and bring a friend, if you have one'. Churchill replied: 'Impossible to come to first night. Will come to second night, if you have one'.

## U3a 20th. Anniversary Celebrations held jointly for three groups.

These three groups comprise. The Pleasure of Classical Music, The Film Club and The Enjoyment of Opera and Operetta. To celebrate the 20th. Anniversary of the Wyre Forest u3a we enjoyed an excellent afternoon in the cinema room at Berrington Court. We were serenaded beautifully by that brilliant singer Paul Berick. In between Paul's singing humorous film clips were shown on the cinema screen including old adverts and extracts from old comedy TV shows. The restaurant staff at Berrington Court provided an great buffet and the bar was open for drinks. Among the comments was 'Can we do this every year!'

So a great way to celebrate the 20th. Anniversary of our u3a.

Ralph



Even a frog likes to keep the rain off itself!



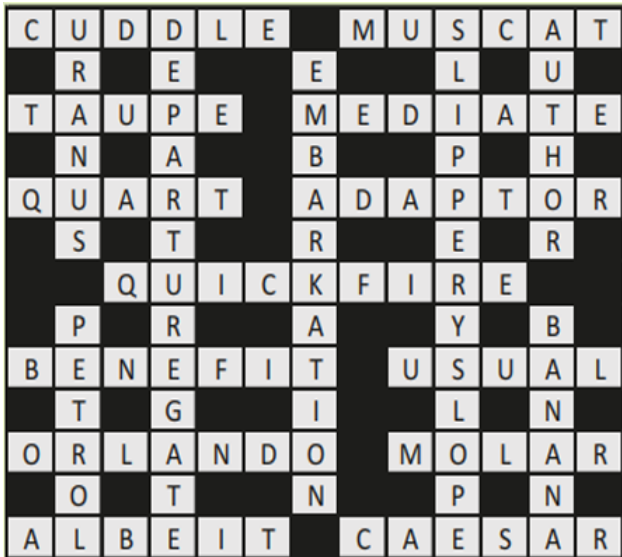
Do I need a perm as well!

It happens even in the best of circles!

A radio telescope thought they were getting radio signals from outer space and spent hours trying to decipher them. This went on for weeks if not months and they were no nearer to solving the mystery. Obviously the team needed to eat and it eventually transpired that one of their staff would from time to time prepare a meal in the observatories kitchen and every time the microwave was turned on these odd signals would occur.

## Quiz time answers from page 5.

1. Tremadoc, Caernarvonshire, Wales.
2. Twickenham Rugby Union Football stadium.
3. Woking.
4. Nuclear submarine.
5. Venezuela.
6. Leicester.
7. Apsley House, it is the London townhouse of the Dukes of Wellington at Hyde Park Corner.
8. Millau Viaduct, it was till quite recently the tallest bridge in the world, now been outdone by China.
9. The Sorbonne.
10. Mike Sarne and Wendy Richard.



Answers to the first line of well known novels on page 6

1. "Call me Ishmael" - Herman Melville—Moby Dick (1851)
2. "Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again" - Daphne du Maurier—Rebecca
3. "All children, except one, grow up." - J.M. Barrie - Peter Pan
4. Not quite a first line but close enough. "A human from planet Earth was one of them, though as our story opens he no more knows his destiny than a tea leaf knows the history of the East India Company." - The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy—Douglas Adams
5. "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife." - Jane Austin - Pride and Prejudice.
6. "There was me, that is Alex, and my three droogs, that is Pete, Georgie and Dim and we sat in the Korova milkbar trying to make up our rassoodocks what to do with the evening." - Antony Burgess—Clockwork Orange.
7. "I have never begun a novel with more misgiving." - W. Somerset Maugham—The Razor's Edge
8. "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair." - Charles Dickens—A Tale of Two Cities
9. "When a day that you happen to know is Wednesday starts off by sounding like Sunday, there is something seriously wrong somewhere." - John Wyndam —The Day of the Triffids
10. "It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking 13" George Orwell—1984

A Vision of Wonderfulness (lyrics)

by

Joy M Rooney,

2025-08-28

**Chorus:**

Galapagos, twenty-five years from now  
Galapagos Conservation Trust, GCT  
Gives us a Vision of Wonderfulness

**Verse 1**

GCT for many years fought  
Great Acceleration nought  
Plastic, chemical pollution excluded  
All stakeholders included.

**Chorus**

**Verse 2**

Giant tortoises upland pools wallow  
Blue Footed Boobies on rocks swallow  
Marine Iguanas sea eating algae  
Darwin's Finches maintaining vitality.

**Chorus**

**Verse 3**

Galapagos Sea Lions agile and vast  
Penguins in the sea flying fast  
Flightless Cormorants deep diving for eels  
Magnificent Frigatebirds skim and steal.

**Chorus**

**Verse 4**

Daisy Trees conserved to flourish  
Lava cactus soil nourish  
Galapagos Croton providing food  
Palo Sancto Tree lifting mood.

**Chorus**

**Verse 5**

Thousands of endemic species there  
Animals, plants, fungi fare  
Single celled tinies discovered  
Galapagos CT will have uttered.

**Chorus.**

# A Vision of Wonderfulness

## Galapagos

Joy M Rooney

Gal - ap - a - gos twenty - five years from now.

4 Gal - ap - a - gos Con - ser - vat - ion Trust, G C T,

7 Gives us a Vis - ion of Won - der - ful - ness.

10 G C T for ma - ny yea - rs fought.  
Gi - ant Tor - toises up - land po - ols wallow.  
Galap - agos Sea Lions ag - ile an - d vast.  
Dai - sy Trees con - ser - ved to flouish.  
12 Thou - sands of en - dem - ic spec - ies there.

Great Acc - el - er - at - ion nought.  
Blue - footed Boo - bies on rocks swallow.  
Pen - guins in the sea flying fast.  
La - va Cac - tus so - il nourish.  
14 An - i - mals, plants, fun - gi fare.

Plas - ti - c, chemi - cal pollu - tion excluded.  
Marine Ig - u - an - as sea eating algae.  
Flight - less Cormor - ants deepdiving for eels.  
Gala - pa - gos Cro - ton provid - ing food.  
16 Single - cell - ed tin - ies dis - cov - ered.

All sta - ke - hold - ers in - clu - ded.  
Dar - win - 's Finc - hes maintain - ing vitality.  
Magni - fi - cent Frigate - birds skim and steal.  
Pa - lo Sanc - to Tree lift - ing mood.  
Gala - pa - gos C T will have uttered.

Chorus was composed by Joy M Rooney and tune is Monkland by Wilkes a famous hymn (out of copyright). It might easily be harmonised or scored for a number of different instruments to play.

**Group list October 2025**

<b>Group Name</b>	<b>Group Leader</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Status</b>
Absolute Beginners Guitar	Dave Bagnall	Music	Full
Adventure	Penny Smith	Sport and Exercise	Active
All In The Mind	Barry Walmsley	Science	Active
Amblers	Pauline Pitchford	Sport and Exercise	Active
Art	Pauline James	Arts	Active
Art Appreciation	Elaine Yates	Arts	Active
Backgammon	Gilbert Parker	Card and Board Games	Active
Badminton (Thursday)	Rosemary Jones	Sport and Exercise	Active
Badminton (Wednesday)	Howard Morgan	Sport and Exercise	Full
Ballroom and Latin Dance Practice	Sue Langley	Sport and Exercise	Active
Bird Watching	Ted Pochribniak	Science, Social	Active
Board Games	Sue Taylor	Card and Board Games	Waiting List
Book Reading 1	Peter Gallagher	English Language and Literature	Waiting List
Book Reading 2	Tim Coombs	English Language and Literature	Waiting List
Bridge	Paul Lewis	Card and Board Games	Active
Craft	Sheila Munden	Crafts	Active
Creative Textiles	Gail Tutcher	Crafts	Waiting List
Creative Writing	Gabrielle Mapp	English Language and Literature	Active
Cribbage	Jean Laidler	Card and Board Games	Active
Dancing	Sue Langley	Sport and Exercise	Active
Digital Photography	Beryl Buckley	Arts	Active
Enjoying Operetta and Opera	Ralph Bramley	Theatre	Active
Friday Film Club	Ralph Bramley	Theatre	Active
Friday Night at The Rose	Rosemary Jones	Social	Active
Game For A Laugh	Nick Underwood	Social	Active
Garden Visits	Janice Evans	Science	Active
Genealogy	Beryl Buckley	Humanities	Active
General History	Caroline O Callaghan	History	Active
German Conversation	Ken Bell	Foreign Language and Literature	Active
Gospelite Singers	Jill Judson	Music	Active
Guitar Club	Stephen Rosendale	Music	Active
Handbell Ringing	Liz Struckett	Music	Active
History	Elaine Yates	History	Active
Industrial History	Sue Cutler	History	Active

<b>Group Name</b>	<b>Group Leader</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Status</b>
Jam Session	Martin Delahay	Music	Active
Kidderminster Station Adoption	Tony Haylock	General	Active
Local and Social History	Cathryn Plain	History	Active
Mah Jong (Friday)	Diana Gray	Card and Board Games	Active
Mah Jong (Thursday)	Dawn Cooper	Card and Board Games	Active
Members On Their Own	Roy Leigh	Social	Active
Military History	Dennis Plant	History	Active
Moral Maze	Sally Howes	Humanities	Active
Petanque	Howard Morgan	Sport and Exercise	Waiting List
Pickleball	John Cooper	Sport and Exercise	Active
Poetry for Pleasure	Beryl Greenwood	English Language and Literature	Active
Quizzing-4-All	Janice Evans	Social	Active
Quizzing-4-Fun Online	Janice Evans	Social	Active
Retro Rappers	Barry Walmsley	Music	Active
Rhyme and Reason	Sue Marsden	English Language and Literature	Active
Satellite Singers	Elaine Yates	Music	Active
Science & Technology In Society	Barry Walmsley	Science	Active
Scrabble & Rummikub	Ann Hill	Card and Board Games	Active
Short Mat Bowls	Terry Turner	Sport	Waiting List
Simply Photography	Steve Archer	Arts	Active
Songs of the Seven Seas	Steve Underwood	Music	Active
Spanish Conversation	Anne Williams	Foreign Language and Literature	Active
Story Telling	Elaine Yates	English Language and Literature	Active
Strollers	Sheila Munden	Sport and Exercise	Active
Table Tennis	David Hudson	Sport and Exercise	Active
The Science of Life (Friday)	Sue Langley	Humanities	Full
The Science of Life (Tuesday)	Sue Langley	Humanities	Active
Theatre	Julia Boultle	Social	Active
Travel	Ros James	Social	Active
Ukulele Baptist	Martin Delahay	Music	Active
Ukulele Willow	Martin Delahay	Music	Active
Understand the Economy	Michael Loftus	Humanities	Active
Walking for Fitness	Sue Langley	Sport and Exercise	Active
Website Support	Sandra Phillips	Science and Technology	Active
What a Performance	John Watkins	Music	Waiting List
WoolCraft and Natter	Sandra Phillips	Crafts, Social	Active

## Finding out about joining groups.

Go on our website.

Look at the groups menu.

View the groups.

When making enquires click “group email” send an email asking to join.

If you have problems using internet. Join us at the Monday Monthly Meeting

Theses are held the third Monday of every month 2.00 till 4.00pm. Harriers Social and Supporters Club  
Stadium Close, Hoo Road, Kidderminster, DY10 1NB

There you can chat to the membership secretary and other committee members in the chat area, by the tea and coffee tables.

**Disclaimer:** WFu3a makes every effort to ensure that the information published in this newsletter is accurate. However, we cannot accept any liability for the accuracy or content. Everyone who relies on this information does so at their own risk.

Any enquiries regarding this newsletter, or if you wish to have an article published in the next issue, please email [Ralph Bramley / Newsletter Editor](mailto:Ralph.Bramley@WyreForestU3A.org.uk) or phone 07756 636529 .

[www.wyreforest.u3asite.uk](http://www.wyreforest.u3asite.uk) Registered Charity No. 1149774