

SPIRE u3a



IRREGULAR NEWS SHEET ELEVEN



Our SPIRE PICTURE
this month is by Alan
Frost (as seen from
Britford)

member of the
Photography Group.

**The zoom link for
the July meeting
and the best joke
are both at the
end on page 9**

Message from the Chairman

HELLO Everybody,

Another month, another newsletter, with lots to shout about.

I do hope you have all seen the YouTube film about Spire and our neighbouring u3as. It really does do a good job of advertising the combination of community, friendship, liveliness and breadth of talent that embodies our movement.

You won't be surprised that your committee have decided not to move the monthly meeting back to the hall yet. The rate of Covid 19 cases in Wiltshire is now rising steadily, government plans to return to normal have been stalled and so the rules for using the hall make getting together in person impractical. The good news is that we have another great speaker lined up for July. Sid Adcock, from Salisbury & District u3a, is inviting us to 'Meet me in St Louis.'

The committee have also been considering the best way to manage the next few months. Last years accounts have all been signed off, Jackie is planning the AGM, Group leaders are taking advantage of the good weather and the relaxation in restrictions to meet out of doors and the plan to relaunch in September is inching forwards.

On that note I would like to draw your attention to an item on page 7 of the summer edition of *Third Age Matters* - reopen, relaunch, recruit! These three R's apply in some measure to all of us not just the officers; we can all do it together.

Meanwhile, stay safe, everyone, and I will see you at our next zoom meeting on the 12th July at 10am. (Details on the last page.)

John Holt.

Wilfrid: What really irritates you?

Wendy: Nouns.

Wilfrid: Nouns?

Wendy: Yes, People, Places and Things.

Editorial

AS USUAL we started off with no great expectations from our June Tipple Time session but ended up being mightily entertained and impressed. Stuart kicked off by imitating the sounds of Wimbledon, Malcolm and Jo read us summer poems, Janet is considering taking up Nordic Walking, Peter left us wondering how he was going to eat that many homemade fairy cakes, Richard explained how he re-engineered a wind spinner, Pennie told us about the first (scented) rose in her new flowerbed, Mary R told us about her re-decorating projects while Mr R tried to convince us he had been hard at work on the computer at the time, Ayesha described the magical experience of 'Macbeth' in Rack Close, against a backdrop of green trees and birdsong, and t'other Mary told us about her walk on the beautiful Coombe Bissett Down; she got wet socks. Thank you all for what you bring to the party.

Thinking back to last year when that ghastly virus was raging through the older generations our younger friends and family kept their distance and stayed away for our sake. Keeping separate from the youngsters was hard.

But now it is our turn to help them keep safe while they wait for their vaccinations. Self-administering twice weekly lateral flow tests, as we start to meet in small groups or out of doors again, is something we can all do to say thank you to our young friends and grandchildren*.

Meanwhile, our Facebook presence is flourishing. There were ten posts this week, covering everything from advice for Wiltshire residents to Digital Imaging, from the Crusades to Cricket and from big bands to big quilts - Once you have logged into Facebook search for Spire u3a and join the conversation.

Learn, Laugh, Live,

Maureen E Frost

* If you have not started testing yourself yet, please do, I can assure you that by the time you have done it a few times you will have mastered the routine.

Counsellor: Your wife says you never buy her flowers. Is that true?

Him: to be honest, I never knew she sold flowers.



June 2 was u3a day. Many of you will now have seen the film we made jointly with our neighbouring u3a's. Perhaps you spotted yourself.

If you know someone who would enjoy joining Spire u3a please send them the link and encourage them to contact the Membership Secretary. It will be the best £10 they have ever spent.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rK4Q6olAork>

A few members also marked the occasion with a modest tea party. Next year will be a special anniversary for the u3a movement so how do you fancy a really BIG tea party - hopefully with no restrictions?

Just imagine a really good cup of tea with scones, jam and buns, a specially iced celebration cake, musical entertainment, banners and bunting in yellow and blue - if everyone plays a part and with a little bit of planning we could do that.



**I am so cross.
I can't remember how to write 1,1000, 51, 6 or 500 in Roman numerals.
IM LIVID.**

LEARN, LAUGH, LIVE

LIPREADING CLASSES

Places are available in Salisbury City Centre - starting in September.

No termly fees - just make a donation whenever you attend.

Joining a lipreading class is a significant step towards regaining confidence and identity after hearing loss. Even if you don't need a hearing aid yet, you are still welcome to join in.

Warning: it will be great fun (and the biscuits are yummy)!!!!

Email Caroline, the tutor, for more information or text her - please do not telephone as she will not hear you!

lipreadingtutor@gmail.com

and TEXT ONLY to 07877 468450



From Sam Loyd - Cyclopedia of puzzles, 1914.

The legend to this puzzle reads "Here is a class of a dozen boys, who, being called up to give their names were photographed by the instantaneous process just as each one was commencing to pronounce his own name. The twelve names were Oom, Alden, Eastman, Alfred, Arthur, Luke, Fletcher, Matthew, Theodore, Richard, Shirmer, and Hisswald. Now it would not seem possible to be able to give the correct name to each of the twelve boys, but if you practice the list over to each one, you will find it not a difficult task to locate the proper name for every one of the boys."



Charles Woodd, Convenor, Harnham Community Network, writes:

“Please spread the word - all are invited for coffee and a chat, every Saturday morning, 10 - 12, until further notice.

“We are particularly aiming to encourage people who may be reluctant to venture out after a year in lockdowns to come for a coffee and a chat. If you know of anyone who might like the opportunity, please invite them or bring them along.

“HARNHAM HARVEST TABLE will restart on Saturday morning, 17 July.”

Further information: harnhamcommunity@gmail.com or 07900 815605

Coffee and Chat

**Parish Hall Field,
Lower St**

Every Saturday

10 am - 12 noon

ALL WELCOME



THE INTEREST GROUPS

WALKING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Eight members met up on 10th June for a walk which started in Breamore and followed a route up through Woodgreen, where we paused on the Common for refreshments - the road up through the village to the Common is quite steep towards the top and we were glad of a break in the shade of a large sprawling oak tree on a warm day. The walk continued further up to Densome where we turned off the road on to a path which took us through an avenue of rhododendrons to Hale and finally across three fields to my home in Woodfalls.

We were pleased to be joined by two non-walking partners and one ex-walker for a snack lunch and a wander round our garden. It was a slightly longer walk than usual but I think/hope everyone enjoyed the day!

Another walk is planned for Thursday 15th July, and I will circulate the details very shortly.

Colin Seago

RECORDERS

Note for **Recorder Group players** - pun intended - our **July** session via Zoom will be held on **Wednesday 21st at 14.00**. As usual I will e-mail the programme. We will then break for the summer, re-commencing on **Wednesday September 22nd**. I would hope face-to-face by then but who knows?

Stuart Robson

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81822250908?pwd=YTRWVGp3cHBXTHNIWS9DL3V4UkR2dz09>

Meeting ID: 818 2225 0908

Passcode: 473269

POETRY READING

Five of us had a very pleasant Zoom meeting yesterday reading about "All creatures great and small".

Our next meeting will be on July 22nd - which is one week later than normal because someone was unable to do the third Thursday. Also this will be after July 19th when we are supposed to get our freedom back! We hope, therefore, to be able to meet at Jo and Malcolm's house!? The subject will be "Places".

I will be in touch to confirm date, time and place in due course.

All the best,

Beryl Paton

beryl.paton@outlook.com

CROQUET

Croquet for u3a Members at Hamptworth Croquet Club, Hamptworth Road, Salisbury, SP5 2DU

10.00 to 13.00 Mondays, 12th, 19th, 26th July. 2nd, 9th and 16th August 2021.

Cost: £3 a session. (£2 if a member has their own mallet)

No experience necessary. Members should contact Eric before a session. Each session will be limited to 12 members at a time. Members should wear comfortable light clothing

flat bottom shoes or trainers. Slacks rather than dresses for ladies. A rain jacket would be useful to cope with a light shower. Otherwise all equipment will be provided at the club. For those new to the game some elementary instruction will be given on basic technic and rules. The aim will be to start playing fun games in singles and ad-hoc doubles. Hamptworth Croquet Club has a nice club house, where drinks and food can be purchased. There is car parking available on site. Come and enjoy some mild exercise and the ambience of a friendly outdoor setting that is relatively covid safe.

Eric Crowter

ericcrowter63@gmail.com Mobile: 07538783041



CANASTA

We have been enjoying our games of Canasta. We have two sets of rules going within the group. Some of us have been experimenting with the other set. One member cannot join us currently as she is in quarantine.

Christine Hill

**Who led the Israelites through the semi-permeable membrane?
Osmoses!**

GEOLOGY

The **Geology Group's next session** will be held on the third Tuesday - as always - that's **July 20th, from 10.00**. Please note the intention is to use in the garden at No. 20 Clair Road as we are permitted to assemble outside with up to 30 persons. Details to follow via e-mail.

Then we will have a break in August, re-assembling on **Tuesday September 21st**. Hopefully by then we will be able to meet indoors as normal, but if numbers are still limited to 6 indoors, we will have to meet via Zoom.

Stuart Robson

FRIDAY MORNING GROUPS

An account of the last Digital Imaging Plus meeting can be found on Spire u3a Facebook. For more information on the Photography Groups, or Onward, please see the website or contact Peter Read.

bluerram@gmail.com

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88192422036?pwd=aGJDNnc1UzFGVCtkbVdwWWQrTzVydz09>

Meeting ID: 881 9242 2036

Passcode: 785226

TIPPLE TIME

Tipple Time is not strictly an Interest Group because it is open to everyone and focusses on a different subject each month. Even if other groups 'open up' as restrictions are lifted Tipple Time will still be offered on zoom for a few more months.

Knowing that I used to volunteer at a dry house, my family thinks it is hilarious whenever Tipple Time is mentioned. My son in law took the photo below at Collingbourne Ducis. My sister quotes Alan Bennet's story about his parents who announced that they had finally found an alcoholic drink that they liked - Bitter Lemon.

You do not have to be a heavy boozer to join us. It is the other aspects of pub life that we try to recreate - the company, the companionship and listening to one another's stories. The topic we have picked for July is **Summer Holidays** and even if you join in without a particular holiday in mind by the time you have heard a few other anecdotes something is sure to come to you.

New and recent members of Spire will be especially welcome.

Maureen E Frost



And finally, spotted in the *Church Times Gazette*:
The old colonel died at the age of 95. When he was 90 the vicar called on him to offer congratulations and to ask the secret of his longevity.
'I take a walk each day and do my exercises but it's the gunpowder that keeps me going, Padre. Two teaspoonsful on my Weetabix each morning.'
And so, five years later, the old man died - and left a big hole in the crematorium.

ZOOM LINKS

MONTHLY MEETING with Sid Adcock

Meet me in St Louis

Monday July 12th from 10am



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89280275252?pwd=ejNzd2dFOXl0WnZOSXVicU5tK3Rxdz09>

Meeting ID: 892 8027 5252

Passcode: 992811

TIPPLE TIME

Tipple Time - the sociable way to end the week - open to all.

Friday July 16th at 6pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86725675768?pwd=RjMxRGhvQ0pzYUd4NjhHT1hYNmV6UT09>

Meeting ID: 867 2567 5768

Passcode: 430899

Our topic for conversation this time will be *Summer holidays*



