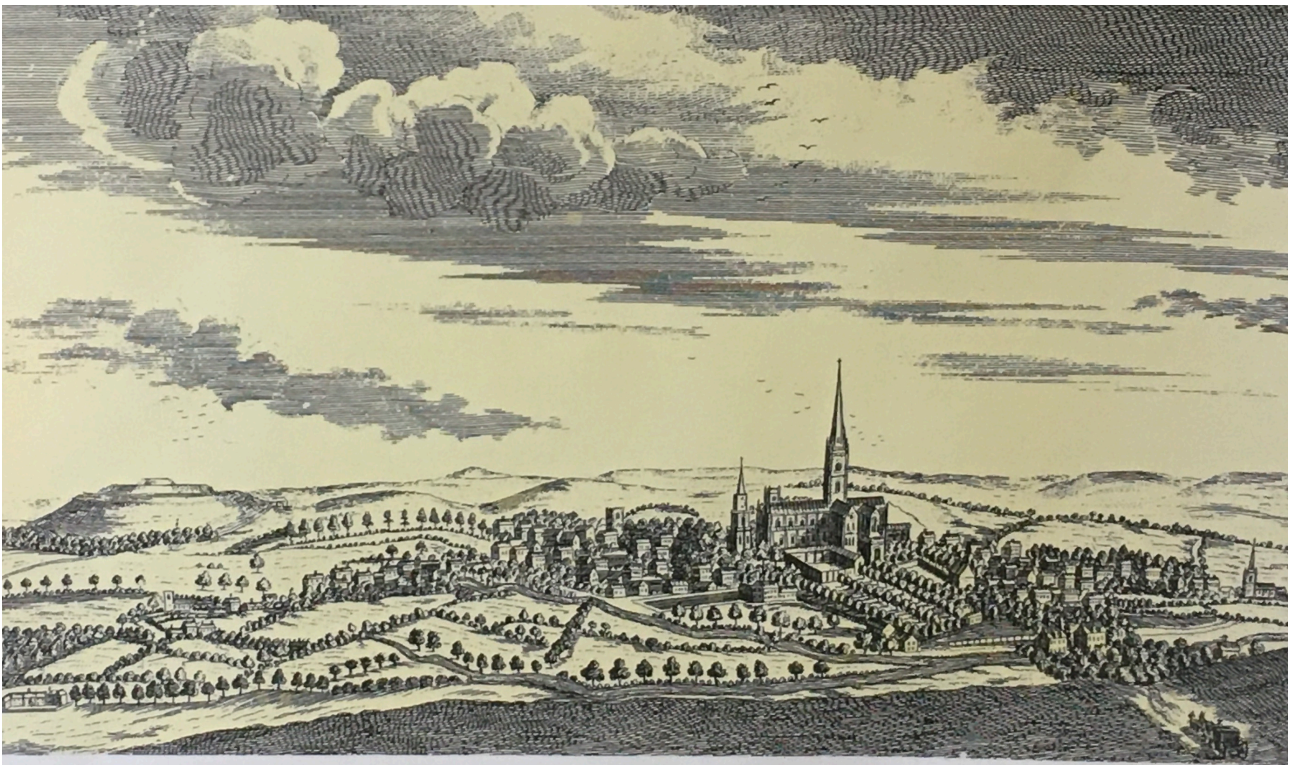


SPIRE u3a



NEWS SHEET 18



Pic spotted on display at Rose Cottage, West Harnham, dated 1723.

MONDAY MARCH 14
MONTHLY MEETING
Christopher Wren's London
from 10am
Harnham Memorial Hall

Chairman's Message

HELLO Everyone,
Weren't we lucky with the weather on Feb 14? The sunshine made our monthly meeting so much pleasanter and ensured we had a good turnout. You all looked thoroughly engaged with the activities and with one another. More importantly you took the opportunity to meet

Mick from the Bobby Van Trust and some of you wisely arranged for him to check out your home security, smoke alarms etc.

Following on from the February meeting we had our first 'Coffee' event, ably pioneered by Enid. We have recruited some new members, some lapsed ones have returned and a number of new interest groups are emerging.

Furthermore, after some timely prompting from Christopher Browne we have made some progress with a recruiting leaflet. Our numbers have reduced very gradually over the years so I hope, when the leaflet is ready, you will all play a part in distributing it.

It is all happening for Spire u3a now - which is exactly as it should be as we start planning for the u3a Fortieth Anniversary.

Here's to Learning, Laughing, Living in 2022: Cheers!

John.

Editorial

DON'T you just love the picture, from 300 years ago, on p.1? Harnham *as we know it* is nowhere to be seen but every time I look at the picture I spot something different. Trees formed a noticeable feature of the landscape then: each one a reminder of the u3a Woodland Appeal [p.4] and of the need to plant trees for the planet.

Sarum St Martin is on the extreme right, St Edmunds church (where some of us met recently) hides behind the cathedral and Sarum St Thomas is in the middle. I think that is the church at Stratford sub Castle nestling under Old Sarum on the horizon and, unlike the old cathedral belltower, still very much in use. My favourite feature though is the horsedrawn carriage making for the old bridge.

Other photos, illustrating our activities in this edition come courtesy of our Chairman.

Thank you, John.

Read on for important reminders from our Treasurer, newsy reports and tidings of things to come.

Best wishes,

Maureen E Frost

Not all who wander are lost.

Important message from your Treasurer!

NEXT year's annual subscriptions are due for renewal on April 1st 2022 and will cover the 12 months to 31st March, 2023*. My, how time flies!

Announced at the last AGM, the annual fee has been increased to **£15, or £30 for couples**. It was also explained that the £1.50 entry fee - formerly charged for each monthly meeting attendance - *will be dispensed with entirely*. However, refreshments will continue to be provided as at previous meetings.

For those members who pay by standing order, **please action the increase with your bank now**. And whilst this is the preferred payment method, settlement by means of cheque or cash is still perfectly acceptable!

(*for those who have *renewed* their membership recently - this will last right up to March 31st 2023.)

Here's hoping to see you all again soon,

Stuart

ALL OUR OWN WORK

In our New Year edition we carried a query from Terry Waldron about the u3a Millennium Sundial in St Thomas's Square.

Mervyn Scammell recalls that it cost £800 and it was made by a Bristol craftsman, David Brown.

February Meeting



Terry Waldron has a chat with Mick from the Bobby Van

If you have had a free home security assessment from the Bobby Van do let us know how it went. To enquire about a security check on your home please call: 01225 256867

Retirement: the money's crap but the hours are great!

PLEASE GET THE HABIT - CHECK YOUR SPAMBOX & JUNK FOLDERS :- THERE MAY BE SOMETHING IMPORTANT FROM u3a LURKING THERE.

u3a learn, laugh, live

Bumper sticker: I am speeding because I have to get there before I forget where I am going.

LEARN, LAUGH, LIVE

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

1. DIG IN - Wessex Archaeology's Community Cafe 10.30am to 12noon at Salisbury Arts Centre, Bedwin Street, **Wednesdays 30th March** and **27th April**.

Expect a short talk and a chance to ask questions. Refreshments can be purchased from the Arts Centre Cafe. There is no entrance fee.

2. TALKS arranged by Harnham Community Network, of which Spire u3a is a member.

Wednesday 6th April: *The Trouble with Novichok*.

What happened when the world media descended on Salisbury? Matt Dean was leader of Salisbury City Council and tells all!

Wednesday 27th April Canon David Callard - *My Mad Moscow Adventure: to Red Square in a red London bus.*

Tickets £7-50 obtainable through the Parish Office.

Celebrating 40 years of the u3a movement in the UK :-



Plant-a-Tree Project

AS has already been publicised, all three of the Salisbury u3as are combining their efforts to raise £650 for the purchase of a 100-tree copse, to be planted in the Brecon Beacons. Currently the total, including Spire's contribution of nearly £40, stands at just over £490.

The scheme will remain open for donations - large or small, there is no fixed sum - right up to the end of this month. So for those members wishing to ensure our goal is met, please contribute via our treasurer. And to Spire members who have already donated, please accept our thanks. Stuart Robson, Spire Treasurer, will be pleased to accept financial contributions at the meeting on **March 14**.

Let's go on a jolly

For over a century, Bristol has been at the forefront of aeronautical and space technology, breaking boundaries to create the fastest, the biggest and the highest.

Aerospace Bristol entertains visitors with stories of human endeavour, individual genius and *ordinary people achieving extraordinary things*.

❖ More information on March 14 or from
holtjohn813@gmail.com



Trust u3a

Trust u3a is offering a number of new interest groups:

Laughter Yoga - <https://u3asites.org.uk/trustu3a/page/118209>

Recorder beginners and new recorder challenges -
<https://u3asites.org.uk/trustu3a/page/119017>

Russian for Beginners - <https://u3asites.org.uk/trustu3a/page/119617>

Words, Rhythm and Rhyme - <https://u3asites.org.uk/trustu3a/page/11833>

Write Creative Fiction 2 - <https://u3asites.org.uk/trustu3a/page/118814>

❖ All Spire members can join Trust U3A for the reduced fee £5, through the website.

THE INTEREST GROUPS

Recorder Group Re-launch!

Those members attending our last hybrid session - that is, held both face-to-face and via Zoom - will recall that a decision was made to temporarily cease our activities, but to review the possibility of re-commencing face-to-face sessions this April. I am therefore issuing an invitation to all members, both old and new, to meet up for the re-launch session on the afternoon of **Wednesday April 20th**, from 14.00 hrs. Details to follow re. the playlist, which will feature some old favourites plus at least one new piece.

Stuart



COFFEE COMPANIONS

The inaugural meeting saw 17 of us, men and women, gather at the Arts Centre in February. On foot, by bike, in cars and by bus we came. A number of tables were set aside for us, we were well looked after by the staff, discussed informally u3a matters in common and generally had a jolly time.

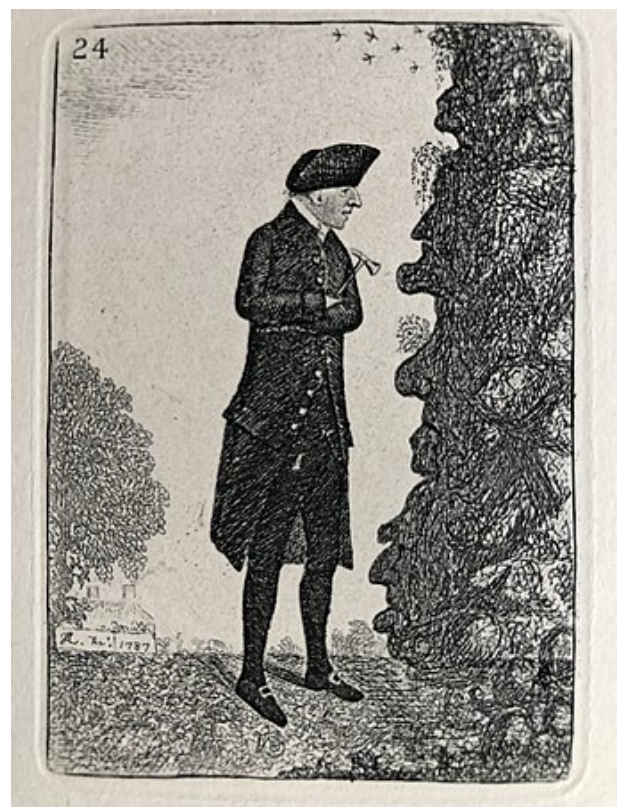
Enid is still researching further suitable venues; sampling coffee & cake on our behalf. The April get-together will be on Saturday 9 at Thomas's Church. We will be returning to the Arts Centre on **Tuesday March 15 at 10.30am**. Look for the sign-up sheets in the black folder on March 14 or contact Enid to assure your place.

Geology for Beginners

Meeting as always on third Tuesdays, our next session is scheduled for **March 15th**, from 10.00 to 12 noon. We will conclude last month's study of the life of James Hutton with a look at the Rock Cycle, followed by some practical work. Reminder to follow nearer the time. Details also to follow re. meeting on **Tuesday April 19th**. This will be an outside visit/field trip, so do please make a diary note now!

Stuart

Kay's caricature of James Hutton studying the "faces" of rock (1787).



LUNCH BUNCH

In February Lunch Bunch met at the Wig and Quill, took full advantage of reduced prices for meal deals, and emerged satisfied.

The March lunch will entail an earlier start in order to catch the bus to Bournemouth Catering College.

judyfiveoaks@outlook.com

If we are not meant to have midnight snacks, why is there a light in the fridge?

OBC

Occasional Book Club met face to face for the first time during the February Monthly Meeting. We swapped our copies of Quick Reads, talked about the genres we preferred, shared our favourite ways of sourcing books and arranged to meet again on **Tuesday 8th March at 4pm**: 3 Burford Avenue.

As a Group Member of Wiltshire Libraries, OBC can borrow sets of books for 6 weeks. OBC has also been offered a proof set of *The Little Wartime Library*, by Kate Thompson, from the publishers, through our links with the Reading Agency.

GARDEN GANG

The NGS has now published details of gardens open this year and we have also been invited to visit, or picnic, in some of our member's plots this summer. Watch this space for details.

ARTS & CRAFTS

With eight people now signed up this group is definitely viable. The informal meeting on February 14 saw a number of people enjoying one another's company and learning to crochet. So crochet will definitely be on the list of activities along with patchwork and bunting making.



SCRABBLE

It has been decided to hold Scrabble here (19 Constable Way, Harnham) on 1st Thursday each month anyone can turn up to start at 2.30pm. I have several sets, books etc so no need for anyone to bring anything. Regards

Jill Tilley

MEMBERS meeting indoors are respectfully reminded to follow public health guidance to avoid the spread of viruses. Please assure your Group Leader that you are fully vaccinated and have had a recent negative Rapid Lateral Flow test.

If you are meeting in a private home please remember that each person should contribute 50p, or more, every time they attend. Hosts are encouraged to deduct the costs for refreshments and periodically pass on any excess to the Treasurer. Any member of the interest group can manage this; it does not have to be the Group Leader.

- To arrange a zoom session at short notice please telephone the Spire License Holder: 01722 330107

Interest Group Leaders - please submit items for the next edition as soon as you have something ready, thank you.

SOMETHING TO DO

Jot & Tittle

PERUSE the occasional newsletter with a local and historical bias; it is always a curious read. The latest edition No 84 carries fascinating items on Helen Matilda Radnor, Lyse Doucet's forbears, the oldest known sentence in English and De Vaux House. It even refers to BBC Radio 4 as the Home Service.

Find it at <https://www.jot-and-tittle.com>



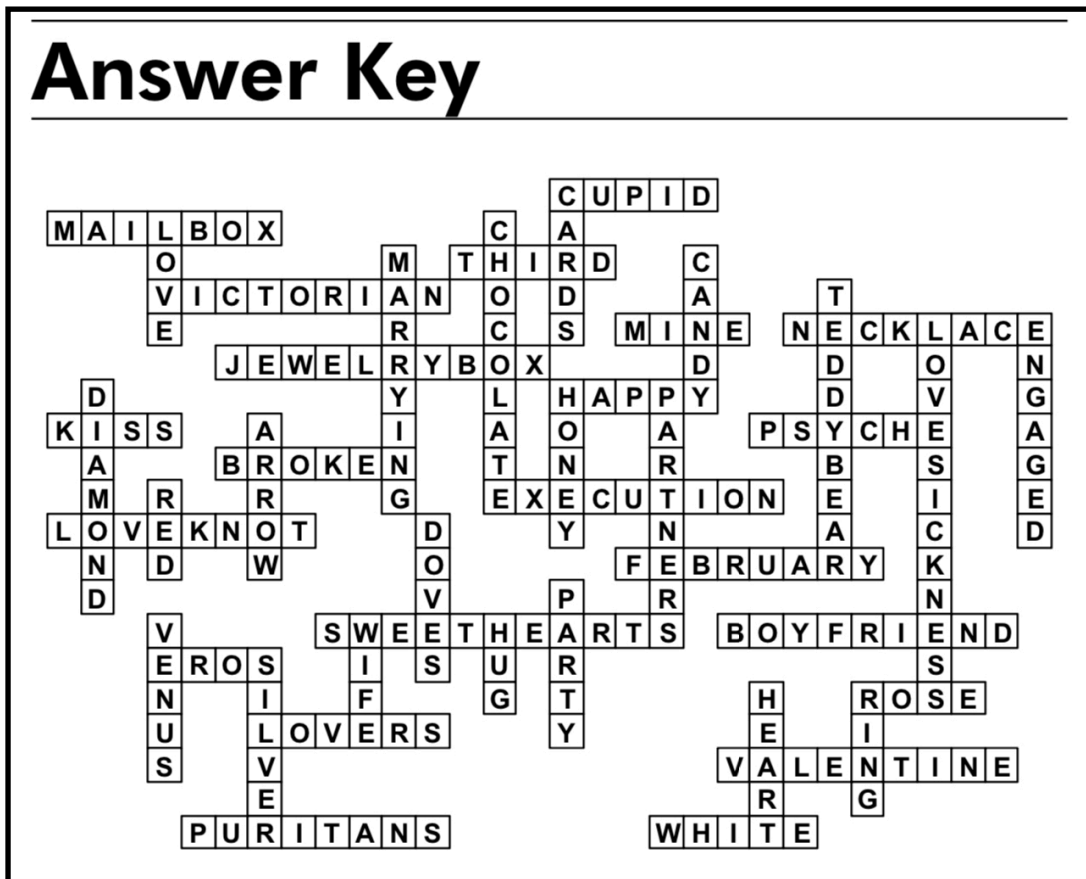
Silver Social with Salisbury Pluckers at the Arts Centre

Tuesday 5 April 4pm to 5.30pm at Salisbury Arts Centre (doors open at 3.30pm)

An afternoon of music with local ukulele group the Salisbury Pluckers. The café will be open serving hot drinks and cake, with a special discount deal for ticket holders. Tickets £5, must be booked in advance [not through u3a].

If you need assistance booking or have access requirements like needing a seat in the wheelchair box, or step free access please contact the Ticket Sales team by phone 01722 320 333 Tuesday - Saturday between 10am and 3pm, email ticketsales@wiltshirecreative.co.uk or visit the box office at Salisbury Arts Centre Tuesday - Saturday between 10am and 3pm.

Valentine's Day Crossword



Never regret a day in your life. Good days give happiness, bad days give experience, the worst days give lessons and the best days give memories.

DATES

Monthly Meetings - Harnham Memorial Hall - doors open at 10am

Monday 14 March: Bob Ayres - Christopher Wren's London

Monday 11 April: Terri Robinson - Australia

*Any plans for this weekend?
Triathlon.*

*Wow. Swim, cycle, run?
No, book, bath, nap.*

Tipple Time - Friday 18 March 6pm

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

Meeting ID: 867 2567 5768

Passcode: 430899

Our theme this month is musical - a favourite tune, the first pop record you bought, a song you heard as a child or one you skipped to in the playground.