



# u3a Shepton Mallet Newsletter July - August 2025

## WELCOME



*Bunnies at Collett Park Day  
How many bunnies can you see? (Answer on later page)*

## Editor's Notes

Editor: Tina King, [harribest@yahoo.com](mailto:harribest@yahoo.com)  
Co-Editor: Jim Morrison [jimbo.morrison@sky.com](mailto:jimbo.morrison@sky.com)

Hoping you find this newsletter, informative, fun, useful and interesting.

The newsletter is currently being produced every 2 months.

Inputs to the next newsletter are welcome from all, especially those that showcase u3a group activities.

Please email articles, information, photos etc... as soon as possible to both the editor and co-editor above and before the input **deadline of the 20th August 2025**.

## Useful Links









The Shepton Mallet u3a website can be accessed with this link, <https://sheptonmalletu3a.org.uk/> or with this QR Code >.....>



Past and current newsletters are available on the u3a webpage under SMu3aNews and can be accessed with this link, <https://sheptonmalletu3a.org.uk/newsletters/> or with this QR Code

Note: Printed copies of the Newsletter are also available to purchase at Speaker meetings or from the Chair.

## Shepton Mallet u3a Committee

| POSITION            | NAME             | EMAIL  | ELECTED                |   |
|---------------------|------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| Chair & Outings     | Janet Sherwin    | <a href="mailto:sherwinj@outlook.com">sherwinj@outlook.com</a><br>PHONE 01749 344627 | 01/10/2021             |  |
| Groups              | Barbie Bradbury  | <a href="mailto:smu3agrpscoord@gmail.com">smu3agrpscoord@gmail.com</a>               | Co-opted<br>02/04/2025 |  |
| Secretary           | Carole Mullender | <a href="mailto:cmullender56@yahoo.co.uk">cmullender56@yahoo.co.uk</a>               | 01/10/2022             |  |
| Treasurer           | Jane Burman      | <a href="mailto:jane.burman@btinternet.com">jane.burman@btinternet.com</a>           | 01/06/2018             |  |
| News Editor         | Tina King        | <a href="mailto:harribest@yahoo.com">harribest@yahoo.com</a>                         | 30/11/2023             |  |
| Membership          | Josh Hartley     | <a href="mailto:joshhartley08@gmail.com">joshhartley08@gmail.com</a>                 | Co-opted<br>21/11/2024 |  |
| Vice-Chair          | Sue Dickerson    | <a href="mailto:sue.dickerson@outlook.com">sue.dickerson@outlook.com</a>             | 23/03/2023             |  |
| Speakers            | Jane Morrison    | <a href="mailto:janec.morrison@sky.com">janec.morrison@sky.com</a>                   | 01/10/2022             |  |
| Health & Safety Rep | Paul Roberts     | <a href="mailto:paulroberts@gmx.us">paulroberts@gmx.us</a>                           | Co-opted<br>21/11/2024 |  |
| Committee           | Liz Nash         | <a href="mailto:lizeenash@hotmail.com">lizeenash@hotmail.com</a>                     | 01/05/2017             |  |

I smile because I don't know what is going on!

## From the Chair



Dear members,

Halfway through the year already and aren't we doing well?! Membership up to 190 and so much going on. We've had participation in Collett Park Day with lots of interest shown, a super trip to Seaton and Forde Abbey, two very successful speaker meetings, skittles and fish 'n' chip lunches, new groups starting up and existing ones flourishing. The table tennis club have a lovely new table, partly thanks to our bring-and-buy sale, but also to a very generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous. I am so proud of our u3a!

I had to go to Southampton recently and I was struck by how much more traffic and general population density there is once you get past Salisbury (IF you can get past Salisbury...it was murder!) Coming back I was so thankful that I live here. I find as I get older, my appreciation of the countryside, birdsong, music, peace and security grows. When you're young you take so much for granted. I am very conscious now of the need to make the most of every day!

So please, everyone, make the most of your u3a membership and join in as much as you can. Book for a Zoom lecture ([Link to the national u3a website](#)), offer to help with a group or a meeting, even....start a new group?

Particular thanks are due to Tina and Jim for struggling with the bolshie printer we bought. It kept going wrong and they spent hours trying to make it work. It has now been repaired again and has, I hope, produced some copies of this edition of the SMu3a newsletter. I also want to thank Barbie Bradbury for her brilliant and energetic start as Groups Coordinator. Most impressive and we are thrilled to have her.

Keep enjoying the summer!

Janet

I bought a book called 'How to solve 50% of your problems'.  
So I bought two.



## From the Groups Coordinator

As many of you may know since taking on my new role, I am trying to visit all our Interest Groups in order to introduce myself and become familiar as to how all the different groups are run.

So far, I've popped into 8 of our Interest Groups. I have met many more members and been welcomed by one and all. Thank you.

The following may give you an idea of just how interesting, inclusive and fun our u3a is to be a part of.



It goes without saying that our **Creations Group** creates things! Twice a month members are encouraged to make something that they have maybe not tried before e.g. glass painting, jewellery designing, mandala art, quilling, origami the list goes on! It's not all about sticking and glueing but having fun whilst learning something new.

At **Strollers** we had a delightful potter around Kilver Court. A little oasis in the midst of Shepton. Whilst there we listened to the bird song and by using the Merlin Bird app were able to quickly identify them. You may like to try this app as it's free, easy to use as well as informative.

One Saturday morning I joined our **Solo Group** for a cuppa and a chat. My, what a sociable group! You'll have lots of regular cuppas, Sunday roasts and afternoon teas to enjoy if you join this group!

When I visited our **Table Tennis Group** I politely declined to 'have a go' to save their and my embarrassment. I have great admiration for our players as they are quick footed, have great coordination and are able to keep their eyes on the ball. The laughter in the hall was quite infectious. This group certainly enjoy themselves!

The **Collectables group** also enjoy themselves by sharing, with each other, their knowledge and interest in items they own. On my visit the theme was 'pairs'. A pair of beautifully cared for and boxed child's leather, Startrite first buckled shoes were brought along. Do you remember this type of shoe? By using the 'circle to search' feature on her phone a member was able to value the items that were shared, just for interest.

At Doultling Village Hall I met our painters in **Art Group**. All the members in this informal group choose their own preferred style of art and media. They were very encouraging and supportive of each other's works including my attempts! They occasionally arrange for a visiting artist to come along which I'm sure is enjoyable and informative.

Our **Play Reading Group** is really popular and I could see why when I popped along. Sufficient play scripts are ordered for each member enabling everyone to join in with a role. We definitely have some talented folk in this Interest Group! What fun!

**Woolcraft** is also very popular and enjoyable. They knit and natter whilst making, primarily, items for charities. One patient member took on the challenge of teaching me, a non-knitter, to knit! Everyone was in 'stitches' of laughter as the sentence "I think, Barbie, that something may have happened here" was repeated a few times. I know tension is important when knitting and I was tense. Even more laughter arose when I thought I knitted Gammon stitch- apparently, it's Garter stitch!

All in all our Interest Groups are fully embracing the u3a's core values of "Learn, Laugh, Live"- and of course, having fun! What a great u3a!

*Barbie Bradbury*

Before they invented drawing boards, what did they go back to?

# NEWS AND VIEWS

## u3a Eye National Photo Competition

The u3a Eye current topic is looking for your best and most interesting photos on the theme of 'Fresh'.

**The deadline for photo submissions is 12pm on Thursday 24th July 2025.**

u3a Eye link is here: [www.u3a.org.uk/learning/learning-activities/u3a-eye](http://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/learning-activities/u3a-eye)

Current Entry Link is here: <https://u3auk.wufoo.com/forms/qzos7n202bqgm7/>

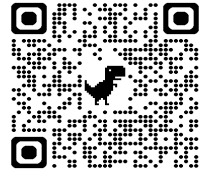


Photo Entry

Janet Sherwin

## Embroidery Group

Hi everybody, do you enjoy stitching whether it's cross stitch, free embroidery, crewel work, anything that involves needle and thread? The embroidery group meet on the second Wednesday of the month at The Shrubbery Hotel 10 am to 12 midday. Looking forward to meeting you .

Contact: Doreen Killah [doreenkillah@gmail.com](mailto:doreenkillah@gmail.com) for info.



## New Groups

I have been talking to some of our members about starting a Gamers Interest Group for those who like to play eg Scrabble, Mahjong, Boggle, Uno etc. Maybe once a month with refreshments at a local venue. What do you think? Could this be of interest to you?

How about - A Quiz Group? A Gardening Group?

What are your interests? What would you like to do? Maybe you can offer our members a short course on a subject that you would be willing to share?

**Please do get in touch with me with your thoughts and suggestions.**

Barbie [SMu3agrpscoord@gmail.com](mailto:SMu3agrpscoord@gmail.com)

## It's All In The Genes Group (new group)

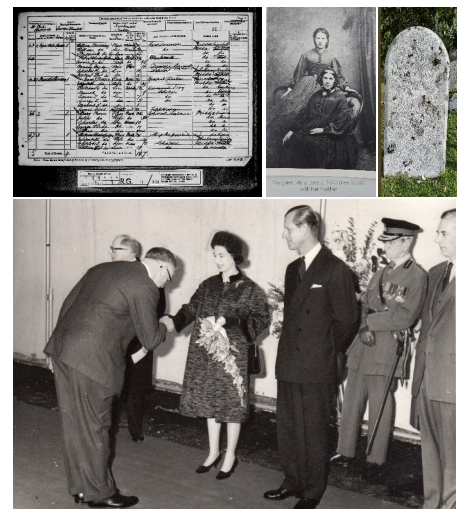
A regular group of Family History detectives building trees and finding stories and tales.

Collaborative research, sharing tips, knowledge and skills - helping each other to build Family Trees.

Who are we and where do we come from? Together we hope to find out!

The next meeting is Friday 25th July 10.30 in the Brasserie.

Group Coordinator: Jane M ([janec.morrison@sky.com](mailto:janec.morrison@sky.com))



Did you hear about the guy who drank invisible ink?  
He's in the hospital waiting to be seen.

# NEWS AND VIEWS Cont...

## Railway Group ([new group](#))

Earlier in April it was decided to form a railway group.

At our first meeting a general discussion outlined the general aims and objectives of the group. It was decided not to be just a let's go ride on a train somewhere but to have a wide remit that covered looking at everything to do with railways.

Our first outing on the 28 May we visited the Avon Valley Railway at Bitton. We were accompanied by a previous director of the company who gave us a very informative tour of all the workings of the railway from it's first conception. The history of the line the engineering works and it's future plans. It was excellent.



So what next. More branch line visits I am sure . The railway museum at Swindon. A guest speaker from network rail now the railways are to be bought back into public ownership . Flying Scotsman is visiting the West Somerset Railway in June and July. Personally I would like to ride the whole Shinkansen network in Japan.

If you remember the railways pre Dr. Beeching with fond affection join us .

The picture is of us at Avon valley railway.

Please contact Paul Roberts ([paulroberts@gmx.us](mailto:paulroberts@gmx.us)) if you are interested.

## COLLETT PARK DAY Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup>



Shepton Mallet u3a stall had a good turn out at Collett Park Day.

The weather was kind and it was a lovely day. Rain held off until towards the end when the Gazebo kept us dry.

Spurred on by Barbie our members had produced a lot of rabbits, they seemed to keep multiplying, we had baskets full

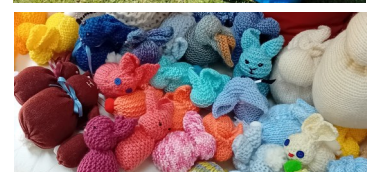
of them. They were all handed out during Collett Park day and brought lovely smiles to so many children. Thank you all for your efforts.

We told visitors about our u3a and signed up some new members, and many others showed interest and took away leaflets, information and of course rabbits.

Thank you to the volunteers that manned the u3a stall during the course of the day.

A very successful day.

*Jim Morrison*



*A small selection of the rabbits.*

What is a factory that makes OK products?  
A satisfactory.



# NEWS AND VIEWS cont...

## Outing - A Visit to Oakham Treasures at Portbury

Would anyone fancy a visit to Oakham Treasures at Portbury, west of Bristol on 13th August?

Oakham Treasures is one of the largest privately owned museums of retail and farming history in the UK.

You will be fascinated by the vast and unique collection of memorabilia from the last century. There really is something for everybody, from the thousands of items in the historic stores, to the impressive display of vintage tractors and farm equipment.

The trip is £30 each. A feast of nostalgia with a nice café. What's not to like?

You can find out more about Oakham Treasures by visiting their website:  
<https://www.oakhamtreasures.co.uk/>

Please contact me if you are interested.



Janet Sherwin ([sherwinj@outlook.com](mailto:sherwinj@outlook.com))

## Skittles at The Horseshoe Inn, Bowlish

Upcoming Skittles dates:

Wednesday 23rd July, 20th August - The Horseshoe Inn, Bowlish,  
Shepton Mallet BA4 5JG

Skittles is open to all Shepton u3a Members and the Horseshoe Inn opens especially for us to play and have a light bite lunch. It is very sociable with no particular skill needed just enthusiasm and a sense of fun. Come and have a go!

Look out for the invitation email at the beginning of the month and then book your place!  
(Places are limited to 18 maximum)

Jane Morrison



## For Sale / Free

A slot for an item that you don't need anymore and that you think may benefit others.

### **Highchair (Free):**

We have a wooden highchair no longer required as grandchildren have grown out of it.

**Free** to a good home. The highchair folds down to a lower level.

Malcolm & Liz. Contact by email - [lizandmalcolm.weeks@gmail.com](mailto:lizandmalcolm.weeks@gmail.com)



"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new." -- Albert Einstein

# NEWS AND VIEWS cont...

## Ladies Wot Lunch

Well, someone had to do it, so three of your u3a members have risen to the challenge to test out different places to lunch and report our findings to you. Hard work, I know, but we'll do anything for you.



Our first 'trial' was the **Wraxall Vineyard**. In a beautiful setting with a fabulous view, we chose from a select menu a variety of dishes to share - a charcuterie and cheese platter, hispi cabbage (yum), burnt cabbage (so much nicer than it sounds), marinated anchovies (very tasty), sourdough bread and fries. With excellent service and many explanations, the food was delightful. We ordered a tasting set of wines to share and we finished with coffee on the



terrace. It will come as no surprise that our plates were empty. This was not a cheap lunch and at £30 a head it was definitely a special occasion event, but I thoroughly enjoyed my visit and would certainly recommend it.

Please seek further opinions from my partners in crime, Sue Lord and Clare Champion.

*Tina King*

## U3a Pear Tree Plaque Refurbishment



Some of you may have noticed that the u3a pear tree plaque, placed in Collett Park on 9th December 2022 (to commemorate the 40th anniversary of u3a) had become very weathered, difficult to read and was looking very sorry for itself.

Janet Sherwin highlighted this and a refurbishment of the plaque was instigated.

The plaque and it's post were removed from Collett Park and a thorough refurbishment was undertaken.

Despite looking so weathered the wood used was a lovely piece of hardwood. Sanding, redoing the lettering and applying numerous coats of protective wood oil and it is as good as new!

The metal post was also cleaned and repainted. This should keep it looking good for many years to come.

An annual check and recoat, if needed, will be carried out.

*Jim Morrison*



What3words Location: [///massaged.bath.question](https://www.what3words.com/?q=//massaged.bath.question)

Outside a Hotel: "Help! We need inn-experienced people."



# Meet The People

## Jane Morrison

I should think that most members in our u3a know Jane. Her lively and positive approach to everything in her life is well reflected in all that she does for the u3a. She is the face of the Speakers and a force to be reckoned with on the committee.

She was born in Stockwell, the oldest of three. Her twin baby brothers were a huge disappointment to Jane - she was waiting for a sister! Growing up in Wimbledon, mum Beryl was a foster mum and Jane's career with children clearly stems from this. She qualified as a nanny and after a brief stint in Canada, worked in hospital paediatric wards and schools. She met Jim (VIP!), a quality assurance engineer and they moved to Shepton thirty eight years ago! Their two children, Samuel and Nathan, knew their mum as a child minder, a Tupperware lady, a belly dancer, a masseuse and a key figure in the county Children's Associations.



Jane joined the u3a in 2021 - she wanted her newly arrived mum to have the opportunity to meet new people and soon found herself fully involved. As said, she organises the ever popular Speaker Meetings and the equally popular Skittles group. She is part of the Collectables Group, the Long Walking events and the new Genes group. She was instrumental in setting up the art exhibition held in Create8 and the making of the Snowdrop pennant. If you want something done ask a busy person, ask Jane.

Her three grandchildren - Oscar, Zac and Everleigh - are her pride and joy, and her interests include meeting new people, visiting new places in the caravan, anything dance related and looking at other people's houses!

Why the u3a? It gives opportunities to meet all sorts of people and try out new things; it can change your perception and broaden your horizons. Jane feels strongly that the image and purpose of the u3a needs careful consideration and this goes hand in hand with her view of Shepton, the real need for a community centre (with parking!) for groups, activities, concerts, meetings, exhibitions to enhance the lives of the people of Shepton Mallet.

Jane is a delightful, thoughtful person, brimming with ideas and energy and it is a privilege to know her.

*Tina King*

## A Personal View IMAGINE (Lennon)

...Imagine there's no countries  
It isn't hard to do  
Nothing to kill or die for  
And no religion too

Imagine all the people  
Living life in peace  
You may say I'm a dreamer  
But I'm not the only one

I hope someday you'll join us  
And the world will be as one

Enough said

*Tina King*

What did the Buffalo say when he left his kid?  
Bison.

# 5th June 2025 Speaker Meeting

## A Guide to Wells Cathedral

We were treated to a fascinating talk on Wells Cathedral by Sylvia Ingham, who worked there as a guide for many years. The first church was built on land given by King Ina in 703 AD. A rebuild started in 1175 and took 50 years, though most of the present building is 14th – 15th century. It used to be brightly painted inside and out but the Reformation in the 16th century put paid to that and there was much renovation during the Victorian period, including the Great Scrape to get rid of paint and carbon deposits from candles.



*Sylvia and the Wells Cathedral*

Wells has the first completely gothic cathedral in the country. The unique scissor arches were added when the central tower was built in the 14th century, to spread the weight, as the cathedral has no foundations!

The pulpit was mainly used for political proclamations, not preaching.

The font is the oldest item and came from the original church. The choir and lady chapel are the oldest parts of the building. The magnificent east window has Mary dressed in green rather than the usual blue, because blue glass was very expensive!

To provide some colour after the Scrape, cushions and tapestries were made. One shows King Alfred signing the Treaty of Wedmore in 878 AD.

A very interesting feature is the misericords in the choir. These little folding half-seats were for the men to lean on during the long services, and are carved with all sorts of people and animals. The carpenters could really let themselves go with these!

The famous clock here and the one in Salisbury cathedral were made by the same man and it is believed that the Wells clock face is the oldest in the world. It is a 24-hour clock, shows minutes and moon phases, and has the charming carousel above it.

These are just some of the things Sylvia told us about. There is a huge amount to see there so do go and explore for yourself. Admission tickets cost £15 and include re-entry for 12 months from date of purchase.

### Cake and plant sale

The sale was very successful with plenty of donations. We raised over £100 so the table tennis group were able to go ahead and order their new table. Thank you very much to all who contributed and/or bought something!



*Sylvia & Eddie  
at the sale table*

*Janet Sherwin*

Q: What do lawyers wear to court?  
A: Lawsuits!

## Quiz

- 1 - Which of these has the most Legs?  
**A SEVEN BALD EAGLES B FIVE SPOTTY DOGS C THREE HAIRY SPIDERS**
- 2 - If you were singing 'Happy Birthday' to someone named Happy, how many times would you sing the word 'Happy'?
- 3 - If day 1 is January 1st, in which month of the year is day 100?
- 4 - Which of these is the odd one out?  
**A MUM B DAD C KID D NAN**
- 5 - Which of these words can you not turn into the name of a country by changing the first letter?  
**A Logo B While C Petal D Trance**
- 6 - Unscramble this pair to make two rhyming words: DONWER & DERUNTH
- 7 - If Rhode Island has 4, California has 3 and Ohio has 2, which one of these has 1?  
**A MISSISSIPPI B FLORIDA C NEW YORK**
- 8 - Jack turned 17 yesterday and he'll turn 18 this year, what date is his birthday?
- 9 - If 1=A, 2=B, 3=C etc, what word is spelt by the sum  $17 + 21 + 9 + 22 + 5 + 18$  ?
- 10 - If Anwar is 5, Jennifer is 8 and Sarah is 3, what is Victoria?
- 11 - What number replaces the question mark in this sequence? 1 2 3 4 5 8 7 16 9 ?
- 12 - What English word is pronounced the same even after you have removed 4 of its 5 letters?

**(Answers on a later page)**

## WRITING FOR FUN

### The Light at the End of the Tunnel

We Can Nearly See “the Light at the End of the Tunnel.” It has taken months to get this far through gale force winds, thunderstorms but also glorious warm sunshine. It has taken meticulous planning and sleepless nights on the way so not far to go now.

We just have a few more challenging hurdles to endure. Will we make it on time? We stop and the pilot arrives and checks “Meanders”. Is she too high or too wide? We keep our fingers crossed. We clad ourselves in colourful waterproofs from head to foot and turn the lights on our hard hats. Finally we set off and see, “the light at the end of the tunnel”, one of the wonders of the world. It is very, very dark and quite creepy like a cave and it takes a few minutes for the eyes to adjust to the darkness. It is a scary tunnel. It is hard to navigate with the low roof and bits sticking out. Then ice cold water pours down from the roof and takes us by surprise. We travel very slowly and we still can't see the light at the end of the tunnel.

I make hot drinks to warm us up. It is so fascinating it is hard to realise we have been travelling for an hour. We finally round a bend and there in the distance is a small light from outside. It still takes another hour before “The light at The End of the Tunnel” takes us out into the sunshine.

An unforgettable trip.

**(This was a trip on our boat “Meanders” through the Standedge Tunnel on the Huddersfield narrow canal, starting at Diggle and ending at Marsden.)**

© **Barbara Turner**  
**October 2024**

Why is it that the first thing we try to do after killing a pig is to cure it?



# Walking Group

## South Cadbury /Corton Denham 5th May 2025

This 6 mile walk was along the scarps and vales of South Somerset. It started from the signed car park at the base of Cadbury Castle in South Cadbury.

The walk had an earlier start time of 9.45 to allow for the walk's distance and arrival time for lunch at the Sparkford Inn in Sparkford.



The walk was across fields, along tracks and down roads. We negotiated two stiles, various gates and a walk-over protected electric fence.

There was one, steep, road ascent of a quarter of a mile from Whitcombe up to The Beacon and one steep, grassy descent from there into Corton Denham village.

*Walk Leaders - Andrew & Julia*

# Walking Group

## Downside Abbey 19th May 2025



A group of 13 set off from Downside Abbey for our latest 5 mile walk.

This abbey is a Grade I listed building and home to a Catholic school.

We started by walking through wild flower meadows before passing Chilcompton primary school and then onto the embankment of the disused former railway line at Chilcompton.

We crossed the River Somer, which rises here over a stone bridge and on up past the watercress beds.

Crossing several fields we reached the Iron Age hill fort and began our final descent via the playing fields of the abbey to return to our start point of the abbey and visitor centre.



*Walk Leaders - Jenny and Eric*

What's the difference between a Hippo and a Zippo?  
One is really heavy and the other is a little lighter.

## Walking Group Tytherington – 16th June 2025

The walk was around Marston and Trudoxhill hill.

It was a nice easy walk that started at Tytherington Leisure centre/retreat centre, which had plenty of parking at the back. Members noticed that there is a café there but unfortunately it is closed on Mondays.



The first part of the walk was through newly done gates and a clearly marked pathway. There were a few fields, and some road walking.

There were no steep climbs which was nice. There were a few stiles to negotiate. We finished the walk across fields behind Marston house.

The walk was followed by lunch at the Waggon & Horses.

*Walk Leaders - Andrew & Julia*

## Shorter Walking Group Binegar – 19th June 2025

A group of us enjoyed a short walk through Binegar.

Here is a photo of us totally stumped! LOL.



*Janet Sherwin*

## Woolcraft Group

Val teaching Barbie how to knit!

Everyone was in 'stitches' of laughter!

*Pamela Mitchell*



In a Restaurant window: "Don't stand there and be hungry, come in and get fed up."

## U3a Speaker Meetings

First Thursday of each month at the Salvation Army Hall, Shepton Mallet.

10 til 12noon.

£3 members and £4 non members

Why not get some friends together and come along to your u3a's monthly meeting for some fascinating presentations over the coming months. See you there!



**3rd July - How to Research the History of Your House** with Somerset Archive and Local Studies.

This talk covers some of the main sources available for house history research in the archives and suggests what information may be found in these sources.



**7th August - Happy Landings Animal Shelter.**

Since 1983, Happy Landings has rescued, rehomed and cared for abandoned, abused, and neglected animals. Come along and hear about their work and volunteering/rehoming opportunities.



**4th September - Life on the Waterways of Britain.**

Kevin Little's tales from the waterways of Britain. How he was drunk in charge of his boat on the Foxton flight, an engine failed on the Thames near Tower Bridge, he broke down on the course at Henley Regatta, and the joys of taking a cat for a cruise on the Kennet and Avon Canal.!



**2nd October - Night of a 1000 Stars. Exmoor Dark Skies.**

Jo Richardson joins us once again, this time to tell us about the starry night sky over Exmoor. Dark Skies are important not just for observing stars and the Universe but also for wildlife and human health. Jo encourages people to think about the effects of light pollution but also to inspire them with the beauty of Exmoor both on the ground and in the skies.

*Jane Morrison*

**Front Cover Bunnies Answer:** 17 bunnies (5 in the Gazebo)

### Quiz Answers:

1 - **C** THREE HAIRY SPIDERS

**Explanation:** Eagles = 14, Dogs = 20, Spiders = 24

2 - 5

3 - April

4 - **C** KID

**Explanation** = The word 'Kid' is not a Palindrome

5 - **C** - Petal

**Explanation** - Togo, Chile & France

6 - Wonder & Thunder

7 - **A** - MISSISSIPPI

**Explanation** = It's the number of distinct vowels. R:4, C:3, O:2, M:1

8 - December 31st

9 - Quiver

10 - 6

**Explanation** = The number refers to the position of the letter R in the name

11 - 32

**Explanation** = There are two intertwined sequences: odd numbers separated by even numbers that double each time

12 - Queue

**Explanation** = Remove 'ueue' and saying the letter Q still pronounces the word Queue.

Ham and eggs. A day's work for a chicken, a lifetime commitment for a pig.



# SHEPTON MALLET u3a MONTHLY ACTIVITIES TABLE 2025

|             | 1 <sup>st</sup> Week   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Week   | 4 <sup>th</sup> Week   |
|-------------|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Mon</b>  | <b>Walking</b> -Various locations 10am – 1pm approx.<br>Jon & Mary Boston  | <b>Art</b> - Doultling Village Hall.<br>2 till 4pm<br>Graham Cooper   | <b>Walking</b> -Various locations 10am – 1pm approx.<br>Jon & Mary Boston<br><b>Woolcraft</b> – Coordinator's Home 2pm<br>Pam Mitchell   | <b>Art</b> - Doultling Village Hall.<br>2 till 4pm<br>Graham Cooper<br><b>Writing For Fun</b><br>Una McKillen home 10.30 am  |
| <b>Tues</b> | <b>Bridge</b><br>Doultling village hall<br>2 - 4:30pm<br>Ian Jarmaine<br>Linda Dytham<br><b>Table Tennis</b> Paul Street Rooms<br>2pm<br>Carole Mullender<br><b>Book Group</b> 10.30am<br>The Shrubbery<br>Janis Thomson<br><b>Photography</b><br>Binegar Memorial Hall or Zoom. 14:00<br>John Law<br><b>Creations</b><br>2pm Tina's House | <b>Bridge</b><br>Doultling village hall<br>2 - 4:30pm<br>Ian Jarmaine<br>Linda Dytham<br><b>Table Tennis</b> Paul Street Rooms<br>2pm<br>Carole Mullender<br><b>Needlecraft</b> - 2pm<br>Liz Weeks' home<br><b>Collectables</b><br>The Shrubbery 10.30 am<br>Liz Nash | <b>Bridge</b><br>Doultling village hall<br>2 - 4:30pm<br>Ian Jarmaine<br>Linda Dytham<br><b>Table Tennis</b> Paul Street Rooms<br>2pm<br>Carole Mullender<br><b>Creations</b><br>2pm<br>Tina's House | <b>Bridge</b><br>Doultling village hall<br>2 – 4.30pm<br>Ian Jarmaine<br>Linda Dytham<br><b>Table Tennis</b> Paul Street Rooms<br>2pm<br>Carole Mullender<br><b>Needlecraft</b> - 2pm<br>Liz Weeks' home |
| <b>Wed</b>  | <b>Short Tennis</b><br>Wells Leisure Centre<br>3.30 – 4.30 pm<br>Eric Wehrfritz  | <b>Short Tennis</b><br>Wells Leisure Centre<br>3.30 – 4.30 pm<br>Eric Wehrfritz<br><b>Play-reading</b><br>10-12 am Janet Sherwin's home<br><b>Embroidery Group</b><br>The Shrubbery<br>10am<br>Doreen Killah  | <b>Short Tennis</b><br>Wells Leisure Centre<br>3.30 – 4.30 pm<br>Eric Wehrfritz  | <b>Short Tennis</b><br>Wells Leisure Centre<br>3.30 – 4.30 pm<br>Eric Wehrfritz  |
| <b>Thur</b> | <b>Coffee/Speaker Meeting</b><br>- Salvation Army Hall 10 till 12<br>Jane Morrison<br><b>French</b><br>2pm<br>Jane Burman's home   | <b>Coffee at Dobbies</b> 10.30 am   | <b>Coffee at Dobbies</b> 10.30 am<br><b>Shorter Walks</b> – Various<br>Jenny Wehrfritz<br><b>Strollers</b> – Various.<br>Josh Hartley<br><b>French</b> 2pm Jane Burman's home                        | <b>Coffee at The Brasserie</b><br>10.30 am   |
| <b>Fri</b>  | <b>Table Tennis</b><br>2pm<br>Paul St Rooms<br>Carole Mullender  | <b>Table Tennis</b><br>2pm<br>Paul St Rooms<br>Carole Mullender   | <b>Table Tennis</b> as before 2pm<br>Carole Mullender<br><b>Munch Club</b><br>- Various<br>Sue Dickerson   | <b>Table Tennis</b> as before 2pm<br>Carole Mullender<br><b>Singing for Pleasure</b><br>10.30-12.00<br>Salvation Army Hall<br>Tina King  |

## Additional Groups/Events with variable timings/locations:-

|                                |               |                                      |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Railway Group</b> -         | Paul Roberts  | - various meetings and outings       |
| <b>It's All In The Genes</b> - | Jane Morrison | - ancestry for all                   |
| <b>Skittles</b> -              | Jane Morrison | - food and fun                       |
| <b>Events/Visits/Outings</b> - | Janet Sherwin | - various, lunches, cinema, days out |
| <b>Solos Group</b> -           | Janet Murray  | - events for those on their own.     |

All groups & activities are organised & run by Shepton Mallet u3a members.

Please see our website for details. [www.sheptonmalletu3a.org.uk](http://www.sheptonmalletu3a.org.uk)

Acupuncture:  
a jab well done.



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**u3a**

## A Reminder of The Three Principles of u3a

### The Third Age Principle

- a) Membership of a U3A is open to all in their third age, which is defined not by a particular age but by a period in life in which full time employment has ceased.
- b) Members promote the values of lifelong learning and the positive attributes of belonging to a U3A.
- c) Members should do all they can to ensure that people wanting to join a U3A can do so.

### The Self-help Learning Principle

- a) Members form interest groups covering as wide a range of topics and activities as they desire; by the members, for the members.
- b) No qualifications are sought or offered. Learning is for its own sake, with enjoyment being the prime motive, not qualifications or awards.
- c) There is no distinction between the learners and the teachers; they are all U3A members.

### The Mutual Aid Principle

- a) Each U3A is a mutual aid organisation, operationally independent but a member of The Third Age Trust, which requires adherence to the guiding principles of the U3A Movement.
- b) No payments are made to members for services rendered to any U3A.
- c) Each U3A is self-funded with membership subscriptions and costs kept as low as possible.
- d) Outside financial assistance should only be sought if it does not imperil the integrity of the U3A movement

## Insurance Reminder

Members of Shepton Mallet u3a are reminded that the Trust arranges Third Party Liability and Product Liability Insurance on behalf of the affiliated u3as. The cost of this is included in the annual subscription fee that SMu3a pays to the Trust. It should be noted that there is no personal accident insurance included in this arrangement. Members of SMu3a join in activities at their own risk and, should they feel they wish to be covered for personal accidents or personal property, it is necessary for them to make their own private arrangements.

"The secret of success is to know something nobody else knows." -- Aristotle Onassis