

The Viral Times

Issue 7 19-06-20 (Published by Bourne U3A WEB : - <https://u3asites.org.uk/bourne/home>)



These pictures were the entries in the Photography Challenge "Souvenir"

From the Newsletter Editor

I hope you all enjoyed the last issue, if you have any comments please let me have them. Thanks again to all who volunteered their time to distribute hard copies to those members without e-mail.

I appreciate any and all contributions for this newsletter so please don't be shy. Put your 4 pennyworth in (to paul.smith2000@talktalk.net) and let us know what you are doing to cope with this really difficult situation. I would like to put out a request for some more contributions as I am beginning to run out of copy. I still have a few quiz questions and funnies but "more serious" contributions are a bit thin on the ground so please let me have anything you would like to contribute.

A Photography Challenge?

The challenge was to take photos on the subject of "Souvenir". 6 Entries were received (thanks to all of you) and selected as the best 3 were those above from Diane Hinchliffe, Dave Pask and Diedre Carter. **Please note the revised date for "Summertime"**

The new challenge is " Summertime " (entries by 29-6-20)

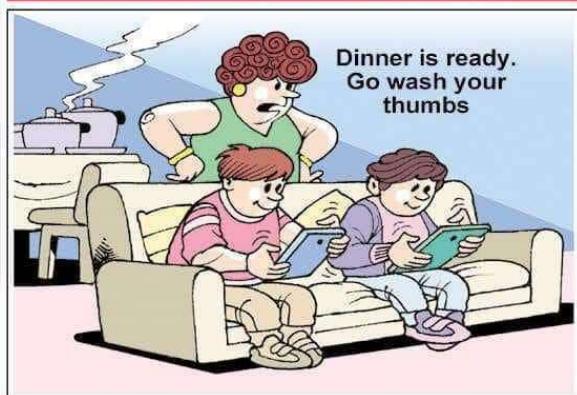
The next challenge is " Sky " (entries by 13-7-20)

Entries to :- vasmroberts@gmail.com

A little bit of humour

iToons

Sunil Agarwal & Ajit Ninan



11

I'M JUST POPPING TO THE
NON-ESSENTIAL SHOPS...
CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING
WE DON'T NEED?



I understand some people had difficulties reading the book titles, if you have the pdf file open on your computer you can use CTRL + to increase the size of the page on screen (CTRL – reduces the size) hope this helps. This also works with web pages as well.

From the Poetry Group

The Road Not Taken

Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
and sorry I could not travel both
and be one traveler, long I stood
and looked down one as far as I could
to where it bent in the undergrowth;

then took the other, as just as fair,
and having perhaps the better claim
because it was grassy and wanted wear,
though as for that the passing there
had worn them really about the same,

and both that morning equally lay
in leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
somewhere ages and ages hence:
two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
I took the one less traveled by,
and that has made all the difference.

Robert Frost (1874-1963) was an American poet who spent some of his formative poetic years in England. He was much-loved, and is the only poet to receive the Pulitzer Prize four times. His influences included Robert Graves, Rupert Brooke, Thomas Hardy, W. B. Yeates and John Keats. In his turn he influenced Seamus Heaney and Edward Thomas. 'The Road Not Taken' is a favourite English poem, occupying position forty-seven in the BBC's 'The Nation's Favourite Poems'. Most U3A-ers will know it well, but it always repays quiet re-reading - on how many events in our own lives can we look back and say 'I wonder what would difference it would have made if I'd taken the other road?'

How are you keeping yourself occupied ?

Some notes on how some groups are dealing with the current situation.

ZOOM MEETINGS

Just before 7 p.m. on Friday 9th June, ten members of Bourne U3A, all clutching glasses of wine, gathered together in the waiting room for the meeting to begin. Nearly two hours later, we drew the meeting to a close with an agreement to hold another meeting in a month's time.

As befits law-abiding citizens, we did not break any lock down rules. We were of course, holding a zoom meeting where we all stayed in our own homes and communicated with one another via our computer screens. I should add that although the meeting was virtual as opposed to the normal face-to-face variety, everybody's glass of wine was the genuine article!!

Being a wine appreciation group, we were of course interested in hearing about the different varieties chosen by everyone. More importantly as it turned out, the meeting provided an opportunity for everyone to share their lockdown experiences. Something particularly appreciated by those of our group whose personal circumstances has meant that they are confined in their own homes more or less permanently for the time being.

In all honesty, we were somewhat apprehensive beforehand about our meeting. We need not have worried. Everything worked out well. We enjoyed the social contact with one another and even learnt something about different wines! We recommend this to all other U3A groups. Give it a go and you won't be disappointed.

All you have to do is to agree a time and date with your members and then ask our Chairman, Malcolm Scrivens: tel. 01778 426483 to set up the meeting at no cost to your group.

The U3A Play Reading Group, has come up with a novel (see what I did there 😊) way of helping to keep the group united. Our group leader suggested that we all tune in each week & listen to a play on Radio 4, then share our views and opinions. I thought this was such a great idea, but obviously no substitute for the Real Thing, where we take it in turn to host, have coffee & a chat, then enjoy reading from a selection of plays which Chris sources for us.

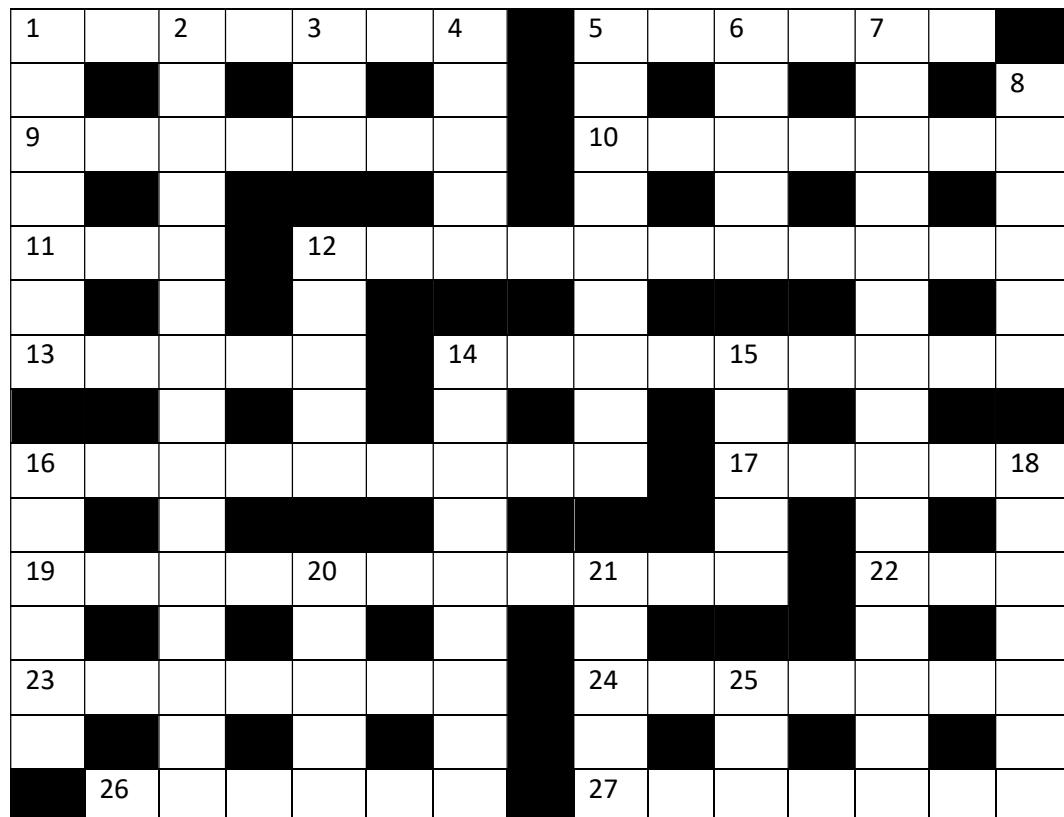
Another "class substitute" is my weekly Slimming World group, which used to meet in the Darby & Joan Hall. Now we "meet" virtually on Zoom, (something I'd never heard of) where we can chat, share triumphs & "slips", discuss recipes & foodie ideas & generally support each other. Our consultant Lesley works tirelessly, keeping in touch with us all via the amazing technology at our disposal and keeps us entertained with daily challenges (optional participation) Slimmers join classes for the support & camaraderie, we all know it goes Pete Tong when we're left to our own devices, so this new way of meeting is a lifeline.

The Quiz

Answers to the “Vegetable” quiz

1. Leeks. 2. Mangetout. 3. Rhubarb. 4. Tomato soup, Roast beef, Blueberry Pie. 5. Plums 6. Red Romaine Lettuce. 7. Cauliflower. 8. Potato. 9. Four Strawberries. 10. Swede.

And now for the new something a little different! Your comments on this idea would be appreciated. This is a cryptic crossword, I also have both a general knowledge & combined crosswords available, what are your preferences please let me know.



ACROSS

1. The French Republican has non-U visitor - the fattest? (7)
5. Andrew, say, no Scottish returned to sea (6)
9. One French common is not eco-friendly (7)
10. Politician coal miner may have taken this B Vitamin (7)
11. Roald loses heart, but finds a pulse! (3)
12. Endless night music gains friend during the night (11)
13. Reality leads decapitated nurse, being

DOWN

1. US city below is clean (7)
2. Privates (Ants?) have good digestion! (7,8)
3. Ogle European, you once (3)
4. Pick-me-up aimed at compiler, losing a thousand (5)
5. A naughty, criminally cruel skin sore (1,3,5)
6. United Nations withdraws from 9, quite inexperienced (5)
7. Breezily unashamed (6,9)

- uncommon (5)
14. Skipper's at home here, home with pack of cards (4-5)
16. 'Frere Goat' is mixed-up Frenchman! (4-5)
17. Tree overheard on coast (5)
19. Revisiting deaf, newspaper has headless fruit, providing colourless fabric (5,6)
22. A party causes ruckus (3)
23. Hurry once to fourth dimension, ready to move (3,4)
24. To begin with, Alan's company goes on consuming this? (7)
26. Climb to find a silver coin (6)
27. Noble rank, when gem is cut by monk (7)
8. Protein (two-directional) and writer swallow two unknowns (6)
12. Boldness? Yes. Confused? Never! (5)
14. Put off man from surfactant (9)
15. Worn by sister over and over again (5)
16. Five in one, yet five or more in a score! (6)
18. Headgear nearly has a swelling on bandit (7)
20. Cubes boxing in Easterner produce a thaw (2-3)
21. React strangely, seeing this box (5)
25. Vehicle remains when a van leaves train (3) swelling on bandit (7)

Answers & more questions in the next issue!

The Best Seller

By "Janet Dowse".

John loaded Microsoft Word. The foundations of a blockbuster were in his head – and he knew it.

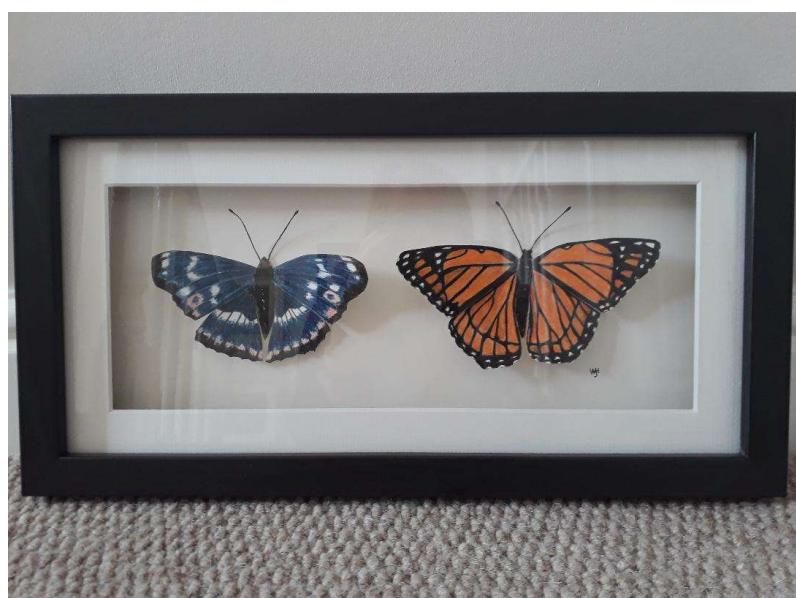
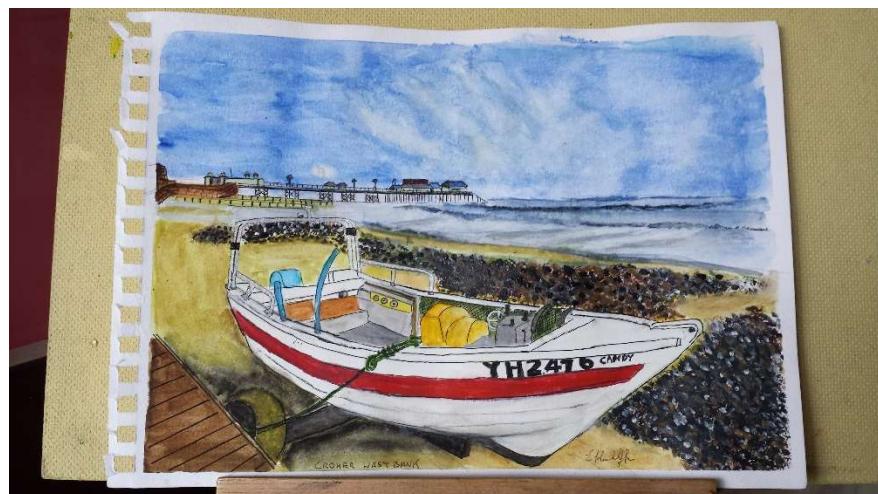
Click: New. Click: Blank Document. Click: Create.

Don't flunk this. Tell his story as it's been told to you. Don't worry about whether it's true. Just remember that its value is in its impact not its veracity. Cut to the essential meaning of his life. Say who he was in his own words, 'I am'.

John hesitated as he struggled for the opening line. And then it came. His fingers rattled over the keyboard: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word...

From the Drawing & Art Group

The route through the Corvid lockdown for U3A members has been frightening and sometimes very lonely. The Drawing and Art Group have stayed in touch as much as possible by the members sending me regular emails with their news and photographs of their art produced during this horrible period. Some members have been really productive whilst others less so, a sure sign of how this pandemic has affected us all in different ways. I then put these photographs and news items into a weekly newsletter. In an attempt to get back to some sort of normality we had an outdoor socially distanced get together on the Wellhead this week. Of course not all members could take part due to them being shielded but hopefully this will ease in the coming weeks. We now intend to have a regular, weather permitting, sketch and chat session each week for those who can and want to attend. I have attached a photo of this event.



Any more budding artists out there? Give it a go & when you have finished email it to me (petergillatt@sky.com) for inclusion in the next U3A bulletin.