

# Newsletter

Hartlepool & District u3a  
Issue 102, November 2025



## Comments from the Chair

It was great to see such a great turnout at our last general meeting for Carrieanne Wilford's talk who gave us down-to-earth advice about scamming and how to take precautions to keep safe. Our next general meeting will be on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> of November when I will be giving a presentation on some well-known sayings and their not so well-known origins. Some of them go back as far as around 600 BC. That's even older than me!

On October 15<sup>th</sup> I attended the Third Age Trust's AGM on Zoom. This is a yearly event (there's a clue in the title!). TAT tell us what has been going on in our national organisation. 350 u3a took part in the voting process. It seems we are steadily growing in numbers and are striving to reach 500,000

members within the next few years. At the present time there are 1115 u3as in the UK although there are still vast numbers of people who have never heard of us. However, there is a growing awareness of our organisation through advertising at National level with Boom radio, Facebook and SAGA. LinkedIn will soon be added to this list.

We are doing quite well at a local level with numbers increasing every month. Our membership stands a healthy 123 at the present time. Not only do we have great speakers at our monthly meetings but an impressive number of interest groups which seem to grow exponentially due to splendid work by our two Group Coordinators and a growing number of members wanting to start new groups. A big thanks to all of you involved! Two new groups are Computers and a new Photography group. We are certainly spoilt for choice!

I hope to see you on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November. I can't promise you any fireworks but hope to see you then.

Meanwhile

Take care

Roger

## October Garden Group Outing Thorp Perrow Arboretum & Mammal Centre Liz Milbourn and Helen Eustace

For our October outing, the Garden Group joined with the Natural History Group for a visit to Thorp Perrow Arboretum and Mammal Centre – the most important arboretum in the North of England.



We were lucky with the weather, which stayed fine all day. The deciduous trees, especially the acers, were showing their glorious autumn colours.



We also enjoyed the Halloween decorations, watched an interesting bird of prey display and had fun interacting with the wallabies.



A few photos from the visit are included – many thanks to Paul Eustace, Myrna Archer, and Margaret Boddy for sharing them.

# Notice Board

## Dates for Your Diary

**October 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Stroll and Chat (New Interest Group).**

11am, car park at Seaton Carew near the Newburn Bridge.

For further information contact Helen Eustace.

**November 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Joint visit Garden Group, History and Art Appreciation.**

10.00am pickup at the Golden Lion. To Preston Park Museum and Walled Gardens.

For further information contact Liz Milbourn or Helen Eustace.

**November 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Archaeology and History.**

People's Centre 10.30am. A lecture by the friends of the Stockton and Darlington Railway

For further information contact Chris McLoughlin

**November 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Art Appreciation.**

Meet in Christ Church in the café and then visit the Hartlepool Art Club exhibition.

For further information contact Irene Archer or Andrea Reid

**December 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Garden Group.**

Christmas Meal. 12.30pm at the Raby Arms.

For further information contact Liz Milbourn or Helen Eustace

**December 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Archaeology and History.**

People's Centre 10.30am. Bernard Hope presents 'It's a wonderful Life' based on Dickens 'A Christmas carol'.

For further information contact Chris McLoughlin.

**December 19**

**u3a Christmas Meal.**

12.30pm. Indoor Bowls Club.

For further details contact Jacky Armstrong

Pauline Williamson & Helen Eustace. Group Co-ordinators



## Proposals for New Interest Groups.

**'Computers' and 'Photography' which will be run by Jan Jenner. If you are interested in putting your name down for either of these groups contact Jan Jenner or alternatively Pauline Williamson or Helen Eustace.**

## REGIONAL QUIZ

South Northumberland Regional Quiz, hosted by South Durham u3a will take place on Wednesday 26th November 2025, 2 pm - 5 pm at Hurworth Grange Community Centre, DL2 2BN. The entrance is £3 per person, 6 members per team.

There will be refreshments, prizes and fun.

If you are interested in this event, please contact John Campbell. A team from Hartlepool u3a was victorious last time and shared the prize of a tin of toffees!

Jacky Armstrong

## The Month of November

Compiled by Barry Liddle

- **Origin of the word November.** In Old English the month is called *Nouember*, but the name seems to be derived from the Latin word *Novem* meaning 'nine' (being originally the ninth month of the Roman year).
- **National events in the UK in November** include Bonfire Night on November 5<sup>th</sup>, Remembrance Sunday on 9<sup>th</sup> November and Armistice Day on November 11<sup>th</sup>.
- **Selected World Events Remembered in November.** The publication of Charles Darwin's 'On the Origin of Species' (1859); the end of World War I (1918); the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb (1922); the beginning of the Nuremberg War Trails (1945); the assassination of President Kennedy (1963); and the establishment of the European Union via the Maastricht Treaty (1993).

Source Oxford Languages/ Google.

## Who am I?

1 I was born in Yorkshire on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 1931.

2 I weighed 14b 1oz at birth.

3 I played cricket from a very young age, but my school playing career was interrupted for 2 years when I was seriously injured by a cricket ball hitting my groin.

4 I played my first game of cricket for the Yorkshire first team in 1949, opening the bowling in both innings.

5 I was awarded my county cap in 1951 and in 1952 was elected 'Young Cricketer of the Year' by the Cricket Writers' Club.

6 I played my first game for England in 1952 against India.

7 For many years I regularly opened the bowling for England with Brian Statham

8 I became the first bowler to take 300 wickets in a test career.

9 Prime Minister Harold Wilson, himself from Yorkshire, jokingly called me the "Greatest Living Yorkshireman".

10 After cricket I had a long career on radio and television as a cricket commentator.

Answer on Page 13

Compiled by Barry Liddle

Source: Wikipedia

## Name That Place.

Compiled by Barry Liddle.

1. A major City in England.
2. In the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, it was known as a 'City of a Thousand Trades.'
3. Joseph and Neville Chamberlain were two prominent Politicians.
4. The city was known for many years for automotive manufacturing.
5. The Bull Ring Shopping centre was an icon of 1960s urban development.
6. The city has a Premier League Football Team.

Answer on Page 13

## My Word of the Month:

### Doppelganger

Simply put, a doppelganger is someone who looks like you but is not related to you.

Fortunately, I've never seen my doppelganger(s) in the flesh, but I have seen on several occasions doppelgangers of people I know. I've even spoken to a few.

I was however once mistaken by several TV and print journalists for Graham Kelly- the former secretary of the Football League and Chief Executive of the Football Association. I was working for Birmingham City Council at the time and I arrived by car at the front steps of Sheffield Town Hall to attend a local government meeting. Unbeknown to me, there was another much more important meeting taking place that day concerning the formation of the Premier league. This latter meeting attracted a large number of press members and as I stepped out of the car, I was immediately surrounded by TV cameras who followed me to the entrance of the building -only later did I realise they had mistaken me for my doppelganger - Graham Kelly.

Barry Liddle

## Gardening Group Programme

**Next Garden Group Outing – Preston Park Thursday November 6th, leaving from the Golden Lion at 10 am, returning at 2pm.**

Our visit will again be a joint one, this time with the *Natural History Group* and the *Art & Appreciation Group*. We'll be heading to Preston Park, which has recently undergone major renovation. There's a new exhibition space, a refurbished café, and the beautifully restored walled garden. Unfortunately, there are now no places left on this trip, it has proved very popular. Both minibuses are full, but you could always go on your own and meet us there. The museum entry fee is £8.

### **December Garden Group Meeting – Christmas Lunch 🎄**

Our December meeting will be our **Christmas Lunch** on:

📅 **Thursday 4th December at 12:30pm**

📍 **Venue:** The Raby Arms

Please let us know as soon as possible if you'd like to attend so we can confirm numbers. Once *The Raby Arms Christmas Menu* is available, we'll circulate it and collect deposits along with your menu choices.

**Liz Milbourn and Helen Eustace**

### Interesting Autumn Leaves. (c) Barry Liddle



Photographs taken at Thorpe Thewles

## What's in a Name.

Some examples of famous people (often Royals) who may have had difficulty in remembering their full name when young:

- Edward VIII, later known as the Duke of Windsor was given seven first names- **Edward Albert Christian Andrew Patrick David**
- King Charles was named **Charles Philip Arthur George** in the music room at Buckingham Palace by the Archbishop of Canterbury.
- Former Prime Minister Boris Johnson was named **Alexander Boris de Pfell Johnson.**
- Princess Michael of Kent's full name is **Marie-Christine Agnes Hedwig Ida von Reibnitz**
- Born on 30 Nov 1874 at Blenheim Palace our war-time Prime Minister was named **Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill.**
- 'Paddy' Ashdown, former leader of the Liberal Democrats full name is **Jeremy John Durham Ashdown.**
- Oscar winning actor Daniel Day- Lewis is in fact **Daniel Michael Blake Day-Lewis.**
- George Osborn former Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer and now newspaper editor, his full name is **George Gideon Oliver Osborne.**
- Zac Goldsmith, life peer, journalist and former Minister of State was born **Frank Zacharias Robin Goldsmith**
- Michael Heseltine, former businessman and Deputy Prime Minister was given the name **Michael Ray Dibdin Heseltine**
- Tolkien was a famous writer, best known for The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings. His full name is **John Ronald Reuel Tolkien.**
- Norman St John-Stevas a former Conservative Minister, author and barrister was noted for his unusual name, but his full name is even more catholic **Norman Antony Francis St. John-Stevas**
- The record -breaking Grammy award-winning singer Adele, was given the name **Adele Laurie Blue Adkins**
- C S Lewis, a famous British writer, literary scholar and Anglican lay theologian was christened **Clive Staples Lewis**
- The great British painter, printmaker and watercolourist William Turner was born **Joseph Mallord William Turner**

**Barry Liddle**

*Sources Google/ Wikipedia*



## Pondering Life's Little Choices

Cliff Cordiner

Hartlepool u3a Treasurer

### **Full English or Cereal & Toast?**

Full English on holiday, otherwise I only have time for tea and cereal

### **Holiday abroad or Staycation?**

Abroad. So much of the world to explore and so little time.

### **Dog or Cat?**

Man's best friend

### **Christmas Day or Boxing Day?**

Boxing day

### **Wine or Beer?**

Beer, but it depends on the occasion

### **Beatles or Rolling Stones?**

Beatles

### **Meat or Lentils?**

Meat

### **Dr Who or Star Trek?**

Dr Who. It's a timey wimey thing.

### **Cappuccino or Espresso?**

Cappuccino with chocolate sprinkled on top

### **Night in or Night Out?**

What's a night out?

### **Coronation Street or Eastenders?**

I've never seen either.

### **Football or Rugby?**

Football

### **Cheese & Onion or Salt & Vinegar crisps?**

Cheese 'n' Onion

### **Shopping or Anything Else?**

Anything else

### **Garlic or No Garlic.**

Garlic. It helps keep the vampires away.

### **Pudding or Cheese & Biscuits?**

I am a cheese addict, so no contest.

### **Cash or Card**

Card. Safer and more convenient.

### **Whisky or Gin & Tonic?**

Liquid sunshine.

### **Night Owl or Lark?**

Night owl

### **White or Brown Bread?**

Malted brown wholemeal with seeds. White has no taste

### **The Flintstones or Noggin the Nog**

Yabba dabba doo. Has to be Fred and Barney

### **Ketchup or Brown Sauce?**

Brown for a perfect pie

### **Morris Minor or Ford Anglia**

I loved the shape of the old "Angle Box".

### **Tripe & Onions or Liver & Onions**

Liver and Onions with mash.

### **Darts or Snooker**

Game of throws for me!

### **Sherry or Cocktail.**

Brandy sour. Great on a hot summer day.

### **Social Media or No Social Media**

I can't live without social media. It's the only way to find out what is going on these days.

### **Avocado on Toast or Beans on Toast.**

Beans topped with cheese.

### **Mods or Rockers?**

Mods. Loved the Who and Quadrophenia.

### **Crossword Puzzles or Sudoku?**

Sudoku. I always preferred numbers to words.

### **Indian Takeaway or Chinese Takeaway?**

Indian. I love the blend of spices, although they are a long way from the real thing.

### **Strictly Come Dancing or Bangers and Cash?**

Bangers and Cash. I'd love to have a go.

### **Brunch or Afternoon Tea?**

Brunch. Not a fan of cakes and pastries.

### **Regular Exercise or No Exercise?**

Captain Serotonin always gives you a lift and I love the buzz.

### **Is your glass half full or half empty?**

It depends on whose round it is.

**A Modern Love Scene**

The scene is set  
Dusk has descended  
Clouds drifting by  
Serene zephyr wind  
Strokes the drifting waves  
Young couple  
Sitting on bench  
Perfectly placed  
To absorb the beauty  
Of this magical scene  
Lost in the moment  
But wait . . .  
Not whispering  
Sweet endearments  
Nor gazing adoringly  
Into each other's eyes  
Just gazing  
At their phones  
Totally unaware  
Of the glory  
Enfolding around them  
Far above  
Cupid shakes his head  
Stifles a groan  
Picks up his bow  
Moves on

**Roger Say**



# The World of Movies and Movie Stars Quiz

Compiled by Barry Liddle

**Q1 Who was the female star in the musicals 'The Wizard of OZ', 'Meet Me in St. Louis' and 'Easter Parade'?**

- a) Liza Minnelli
- b) Judy Garland
- c) Ginger Rogers

**Q2 Who played the role of Rick Blaine in the classic 1942 film 'Casablanca'?**

- a) Humphrey Bogart
- b) Peter Lorre
- c) Claude Rains

**Q3 What was the name of the mafia family featured in the 'Godfather' films?**

- a) Cacioppo
- b) Calderoni
- c) Corleone

**Q4 Which actor played the fictional agent Ethan Hunt in eight 'Mission: Impossible' films?**

- a) Tom Cruise
- b) Matt Damon
- c) Harrison Ford

**Q5 What was the name of the two gangs in the American musical 'West Side Story'?**

- a) Jets and Blades
- b) Jets and Ricos
- c) Jets and Sharks

**Q6 In the popular film 'The Shawshank Redemption', which actor played the banker sentenced to life for the murders of his wife and her lover, despite his claims of innocence?**

- a) Morgan Freeman
- b) Tom Hanks
- c) Tim Robbins

**Q7 The film 'The Old Man and the Sea' was based on a novel by which author?**

- a) F Scott Fitzgerald
- b) Ernest Hemingway
- c) John Steinbeck

**Q8 'The Plank' is a nearly silent 1969 British slapstick comedy film. Who starred in the film, wrote the script and directed the film?**

- a) Jimmy Edwards
- b) Spike Milligan
- c) Eric Sykes

**Q9 Which actress had an early career success in the 1953 film Niagara in which she played a femme fatale scheming to murder her husband?**

- a) Kim Novak
- b) Jayne Mansfield
- c) Marilyn Monroe

**Q10 Who won the Academy Award for Best Director for the films 'Schindler's List' and 'Saving Private Ryan'?**

- a) Robert Altman
- b) Francis Ford Coppola
- c) Steven Spielberg

**Q11 What was the name of a 1975 American psychological comedy- drama starring Jack Nicholson as a patient in a mental institution.**

- a) Dog Day Afternoon
- b) One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest
- c) Punishment Park

**Q12 In which film does the lead character 'Popeye' Doyle appear?**

- a) Mutiny on the Bounty
- b) Pirates of the Caribbean
- c) The French Connection

**Q13 In the film Zulu, which actor played the role of Reverend Otto Witt a Swedish missionary based at Rorke's Drift?**

- a) Richard Burton
- b) Hugh Griffith
- c) Jack Hawkins

**Q14 Apollo 13 is a 1995 American docudrama film. Who was the director?**

- a) Brad Bird
- b) Tim Burton
- c) Ron Howard

**Q15 Who played the male lead in the film 'Love Story'?**

- a) Harrison Ford
- b) Dustin Hoffman
- c) Ryan O'Neil

**Q16 'Reach for the Sky' is a 1956 British biographical film about aviator Douglas Bader. Which actor played him in the film?**

- a) Jack Hawkins
- b) Kenneth More
- c) David Niven

**Q17 'Arthur' is a 1981 American romantic comedy film. Which British comedian played the role of Arthur?**

- a) Peter Cook
- b) Billy Connolly
- c) Dudley Moore

**Q18 Which actor played the role of Colonel Nicholson in the film 'The Bridge on the River Kwai'.**

- a) Alec Guinness
- b) Jack Hawkins
- c) Laurence Olivier

**Q19 Who was the female star of the film 'Breakfast at Tiffany's'?**

- a) Audrey Hepburn
- b) Marilyn Monroe
- c) Debby Reynolds

**Q20 Who directed Clint Eastwood in a trilogy of so called 'Spaghetti Westerns'?**

- a) Federico Fellini
- b) Sergio Leone
- c) Luchino Visconti

Answers on page 13

# Directory

## Committee Members for 2025/26

### Chair, Speaker Finder & Web Admin.

Roger Say

### Vice Chair–

Paul Eustace

### Business Secretary –

Wendy Borthwick

### Treasurer –

Cliff Cordiner

### Membership Secretary –

Andrea Reid

### Beacon Admin.

Pauline Williamson

### Group Co-ordinators

Pauline Williamson & Helen Eustace.

### Minutes Secretary

Paul Eustace

### Committee –

Keith Alder.

## Interest Group Leaders

**Archaeology/History Group:** Chris McLoughlin.

**Art Appreciation:** Co-Leaders: Irene Archer, Andrea Reid.

**Backgammon Group** Ann Gardiner

**Bridge:** Phil Jefferies.

**Chess Group:** Roger Say.

**Coffee & Chat** Jacky Armstrong

**\*Computers** Jan Jenner (**Proposed New Group**)

**Creative Writing Group:** Roger Say.

**Family History:** Co- Leaders: Jacky Armstrong, Pat Rutter.

**Fun with Fabrics:** Ann Say

**Gardens and Gardening:** Co-Leaders: Liz Milbourn and Helen Eustace

**Lawn Bowls:** Ray Elliston.

**Music:** Vacant

**Natural History Group:** Co- Leaders: Irene Archer, Margaret Andrews and Beryl Turnbull.

**\*Photography** Jan Jenner (**Proposed New Group**)

**Photography for Fun Group:** Ray Elliston.

**Quiz Team:** John Campbell.

**Reading Group:** Andrea Reid

**Shibashi Exercise Group:** Marjorie Reynolds.

**Tuesday Book Club:** Mary Waldmeyer

**Walking Group:** Keith Alder

## Roles of Non- Committee Members

### Newsletter Editor-

Barry Liddle

**Who am I?** -Answer: 'Fiery' Fred Trueman

**Name That Place** -Answer: Birmingham

## The World of Movies and Movie Stars Quiz

### Answers

**Q1** b) Judy Garland; **Q2** a) Humphrey Bogart; **Q3** c) Corleone; **Q4** a) Tom Cruise; **Q5**

c) Jets and Sharks; **Q6** c) Tim Robbins; **Q7** b) Ernest Hemingway; **Q8** c) Eric Sykes; **Q9**

c) Marilyn Monroe; **Q10** c) Steven Spielberg; **Q11** b) One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest;

**Q12** c) The French Connection; **Q13** c) Jack Hawkins; **Q14** c) Ron Howard; **Q15** c) Ryan O'Neil; **Q16** b) Kenneth

More; **Q17** c) Dudley Moore; **Q18** a) Alec Guinness; **Q19** a) Audrey Hepburn; **Q20** b) Sergio Leone.

## Copy Wanted for This Newsletter

Articles, Short Stories, Interesting Photographs (with captions), Limericks & Poems.

Items for the Newsletter's 'Notice Board' are also welcomed.

All contributions to the next Newsletter are most welcome.

Copy deadline for the next issue is 20 November 2025.

**Barry Liddle, Newsletter Editor**