

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the June 2022 edition of the High Lane u3a newsletter. Once again, I'm pleased to say that we have lots of news to share. We have reports from recent monthly meetings, news from groups and a selection of interesting items from members and national office – all adding up to a bumper edition, as you will see! Hopefully we will have some members entering the national u3a Creative writing competition? See page 16 for details.

You will know we have a date in our diaries for the October social event – our second murder play. In the last edition of the newsletter, I made a plea for someone to play one of the male characters. So far, we have not found anyone willing to do this. So I'm asking again – [please can we have a volunteer.](#) Get in touch with me please. Just to remind you – the setting for the play is an Amateur Dramatics theatre. Your commitment will be the evening of the play itself plus a small number of meetings for rehearsals. I think we had three or four meetings last time. You don't need to learn lines as the actors read from their script. We all agreed that it was a fun thing to do.

The new Crime fiction reading group has recruited enough members to get started and the first meeting will be early this month. An auspicious time as June is National Crime Reading month! There are various reading/workshop events taking place across the country (see [here](#) for more details).

This edition of the newsletter is accompanied by the National Office bitesize newsletter for May. Most members receive the newsletter by email or read it on the website. We know that not all members can do this so there will be a few printed copies available at the monthly meeting for members without web access or email.

This is your newsletter. Please feel free to share some of your news, your interests, items you have found that you think would be of interest to other members, places you have visited, books you have read, films you have seen; your stories, anecdotes, photographs, recipes, limericks, jokes; the list is endless. I've said this a few times now – we'd love to hear from some of our new members.

The next issue will be July 2022 so please send your contributions to me by 30 June at newslettereditor@highlaneu3a.org.uk

Diane Saxon

The Hazel Grove never-ending roadworks continue! Thanks to Derek for the picture.



New water pipes for Hazel Grove!

21st ANNIVERSARY LUNCH

Tickets are still available for the Anniversary lunch on Wednesday 6 July 2022, 12.00 for 12.30 pm at the Deanwater Hotel. The guest speaker is Edwina Curry. The title of her talk is Living in interesting times. The cost of the lunch is £29.50. Tickets are available at monthly meetings or you can contact André.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

MAY MEETING: Family Secrets

Our speaker, Caroline Melliar-Smith gave an entertaining and interesting talk on how she has researched her own family history. First of all she warned us that it can prove an emotional experience, in fact quite harrowing at times. She cited the case of a sister of her mother's who was never talked about in the family. A healthy and happy young woman,...(from the photos found after her mother's death) it seems that she was ill after the birth of her first child with a mystery illness, most probably what we know of today as postnatal depression. She was committed to a lunatic asylum and spent the rest of her days in similar institutions until she died in her early 70s.

Sometimes you can get a nice surprise!! Caroline's husband was found to be a close relative of the pop star Gerry Marsden. Everyone likes a claim to fame!!

Various ways of finding information were suggested. If possible, get out and about and look at county archives and military records if appropriate. There is a wealth of information for the eager researcher. Finally, Caroline encouraged us to talk to our own children and grandchildren and pass on all the details we can about our own lives and memories of our forebears.

The talk went down well with the audience who were looking at the books and records which were on display and chatting to the speaker. Sue Harlin, leader of the Family History group invited anyone stimulated by the talk to join them.

Our next speaker, on June 8th, is Mike Storr, whose talk is entitled "Masters of Mirth".

Sheila Harrop

A look back at the previous meeting: Over here, and over paid?

Jan and I enjoyed the recent U3A talk by John Wallace about the American GIs in the UK during WW2. He included the mysterious disappearance of Glenn Miller on 15th Dec 1944 at night, when he was flying in a small plane from England to France. No remains were ever found of the plane or occupants. Glenn Miller was a well known and loved jazz musician, with his own famous "Glenn Miller Band", and he had "hitched a lift" in the plane to give a concert for the Allied troops in Paris.

After the talk we spoke with John and explained that Jan's father had been a Lancaster bomber pilot during the latter part of the war. He used to tell people that he remembered the time when he was flying his Lancaster Bomber on return to England when he had to jettison his bombs in the English Channel, because the mission had been aborted that night. He said he had always wondered if one of his bombs had could have dropped onto Glenn Miller's plane, killing him, his pilot, and another officer!

The photo is of the crew. He is the handsome one third from the right!

We suspect the plane is not his Lancaster, as the nose doesn't like right for that we think.

However, he did fly a variety of planes.



The designated jettison area was clearly set out for the pilots, and other aircraft were warned to stay clear of that area, but was Glenn Miller's plane there by mistake? There has been a lot of speculation and investigation by many war historians interested in solving war mysteries like this. Some people claim that the flight paths of the 138 returning bombers and Glenn Miller's plane did not match, but others suggest the pilot of the small plane could have gone off course, perhaps knowingly, or by accident. There was bad weather that night, and heavy low cloud, so maybe he got lost, or was he trying to avoid the worst of the weather perhaps? Some say the timings of the two flights did not match, then others suggested the Americans had not adjusted their clocks from British Summer time to Winter time, so that could account for the apparent one hour timing discrepancy.

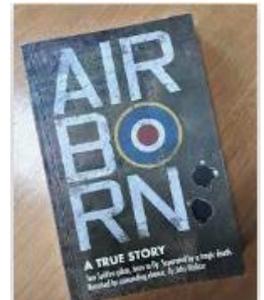
Following the death of Jan's father, and then later her mother, her dad's medals and Pilot's Logbooks were passed on to our grandson, currently training as an RAF Engineering Officer in the RAF, at Cranwell. The medals include the DFC (Distinguished Flying Cross), awarded to him when he was in the middle of his second tour of operations, at that time having made 45 sorties, and become a flight formation leader on daylight attacks.

We had the medals and his two logbooks at home at the time for safe keeping, so knowing that the disappearance happened on 15th Dec 1944, we checked the relevant logbook. It showed that he was in 115 Squadron, "B" flight, based at Witchford. The relevant line in the log book shows, in his hand writing at the time:-

Aircraft Type
 Year Month Date Type No. Pilot. Duty
 1944 Dec 15 Lancaster HK656 Self Crew Ops. Siegen. Recalled to Base

We copied the pages from the logbook to John, with some other articles written about this incident, and of course he was fascinated.

He thanked us for speaking to him at the meeting, and he was so interested in what we had told him that he went to his car and insisted on giving us a copy of a book, "Airborn, a true story", which he had written about two Spitfire Pilots, and wouldn't take any payment for it! When Jan's Dad was demobbed after the war, he went back to his previous job as a schoolteacher, and a few years later learnt to drive a car!!'



Jan and Gerry Chartres

Third Age Matters; u3a Magazine

The delayed Spring edition has now been mailed to subscribers. Among the usual items of u3a news and activities, there is a call from Esther Rantzen for a Minister for Older people to take up the causes espoused in the u3a movement. U3a Founder, Eric Midwinter, writes about the ethos of the movement as a cooperative self-help model 'everyone in u3a should be an involved member, not a customer being served'. He highlights the danger of a situation where those willing to take on responsibility for developing the local u3a become the very few and the others, the almost all, become the customers.



Not to forget news of what's going on at the national level, letters from members, holiday offers and much more. A subscription to the magazine is just £3 for six issues delivered to your door. Please get in touch with the Membership Secretary if you would like to subscribe.

GROUP NEWS

CURRENT AFFAIRS

We talked about the government doing a U-turn on the ban of BOGOF promotions. The crackdown on these promotions was part of a strategy to reduce obesity but due to the cost of living crisis it has been put back to October 23. The group agreed that such promotions could be useful to hard up families. This led on to food banks. Should people work more hours, is it lack of skills and whether help should come from windfall taxes on energy companies. We all agreed that the government should do something now rather than later to help the most needy.

We discussed the State Opening of Parliament. Prince Charles came in for a lot of criticism. Some in the group thought he looked ludicrous adorned with an overpowering number of medals. One member said there wasn't space left on his military uniform for one more medal. Some in the group supported him because of the good work he does but most of us thought he looked O.T.T. and that the clobber should have been left in the cupboard.

We skipped over the VARDY V ROONEY case. We quickly came to the conclusion and agreed with the real housewives of Cheshire that they need their heads banging together and that their hotshot lawyers must be laughing all the way to the bank.

We covered Northern Ireland and The Assembly Election. Sinn Fein celebrated victory but D.U.P. warns over Northern Ireland Protocol. The assembly cannot sit because they have refused to join the new administration until the government addresses the post Brexit Trade Border. Boris Johnson now accepts that the problem is because of the Brexit deal which he signed but apparently didn't understand. One member asked, why is there always trouble in Northern Ireland. The conclusion was that until there is a united Ireland nothing will work and that we should pull out & leave them to it but agreed that this will never happen.

It was a good afternoon, plenty of laughs, some good-hearted banter, a few sparks and Margaret's delicious cake.

Betty Smith

CHURCHES AND PUBS

Wednesday 4th May was the date of the first Churches and Pubs since December 2019. It was a wet morning when 32 people set off for St. James the Great Church in Gawsworth. Usually there is a member of the Church who gives a talk but the person who was going to do it sadly died the week before so it was the Rector, the reverend Colin Wilson who stepped in. He apologised for not being able to give the talk that we were expecting but he was able to talk about certain aspects of the Church interspersed with humorous anecdotes about his life and family dogs.

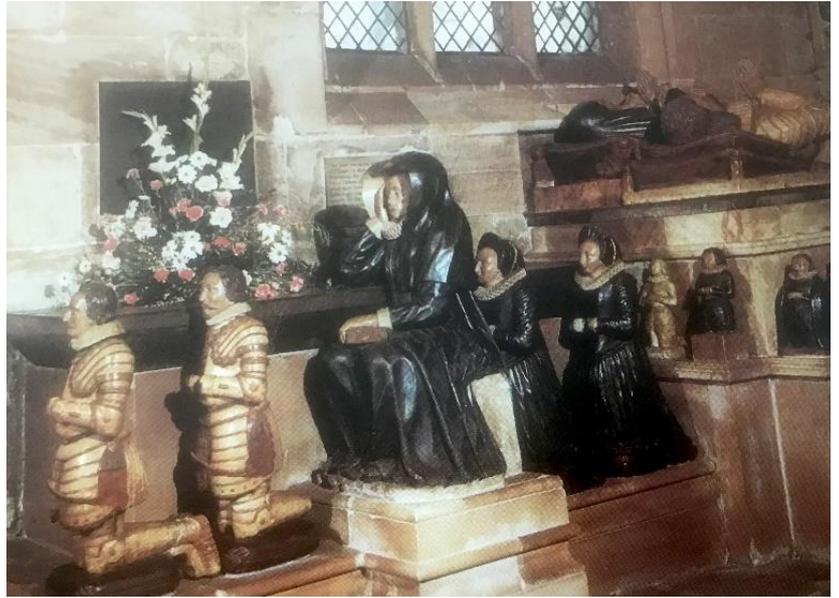


Previously a Norman Chapel stood on this site. The walls of the nave at Gawsworth St James were built of limestone in 1430 and the chancel and tower of pink sandstone in 1480. The splendid nave roof, barrel beam in design at Gawsworth Church is unique in this Diocese, is over five hundred years old and shows traces of its original brilliant colouring and gilt. The chancel roof is arch camber beam in construction and has rare panelled sections with tie beams. This was never painted but this and the nave roof are of exceptional beauty of design and in excellent condition.



The church is entire Perpendicular in style. The plan of the church consists of a tower at the west end, a wide three bay nave without aisles, a south porch and a chancel divided from the nave by a screen. The Chancel screen occupies the site of the original Rood screen In the Chancel are four tombs of members of the Fitton (Fytton) family. The oldest is an altar tomb to Francis Fytton dated 1608. On the top of the tomb is his recumbent bearded effigy and beneath him is a skeleton. Opposite is the monument to Dame Alice Fitton who died around 1626. In front of her seated effigy are effigies of her two sons kneeling, and behind her are figures of her two daughters, also kneeling.

Adjacent is the tomb of Sir Edward Fitton, 1st baronet, and his wife Anne, who died in 1619 and 1644 respectively. In front of the tomb are the kneeling figures of their three sons and seven daughters. One of the daughters was Mary, a maid of honour to Queen Elizabeth 1 and a candidate for the 'Dark Lady' of Shakespeare's sonnets. The fourth tomb is to the memory of Sir Edward Fitton, 2nd baronet, who died in 1643, and his first wife Jane. One member of our group had ancestors going back to the



Fitton family who were buried in the Churchyard. The Churchyard stone cross in front of the South Porch has carvings of animal grotesques representing the expulsion of evil spirits. The graveyard was covered in bluebells and white bells and looked lovely.

According to the vicar, the black and white house in the photo opposite the church is empty. I think a lot of us thought it was the vicarage. It is owned by John Caudwell's ex-wife and she received it in her divorce settlement. She now lives in a better house in the Prestbury area. John Caudwell owned Phones4U. Her divorce was 20 years ago so how long it's been empty I have no idea. He isn't very wealthy - only 1.6 billion.



We then moved on for lunch to the Harrington Arms just down the road. The Harrington Arms is a unique traditional pub offering a collection of small cosy rooms, still the same as when it was converted from being a farmhouse in 1710. It is set in a wonderfully scenic part of the Cheshire countryside. The food was superb and a good day was had by all.

Thanks to Les for the photos and the comment from the vicar. Well done Paul.

Barbara Kenneth

BALLROOM DANCING

The ballroom dancing group moved into summer mode of just one dance a month, appropriately just before the jubilee. As well as the traditional ballroom and Latin dances, we tried a couple of line dances- to Achy Breaky Heart and Fireball - and three sequence dances - Bossa Nova 66, Sweetheart, and "hot from the press" a Platinum Waltz.

We're always ready to welcome new couples, who will soon feel at home. We learn much from each other, with some guidance - perhaps amateurish, but enthusiastic!

Walter Mason

CINEMA

Downton: a new era

This film, which brings the Crawley family back to the screen really is delightful. As you may know it takes most of the family to the South of France, leaving Mary to deal with film makers at Downton itself. No more spoiler alerts but it has love interest, suitably restrained, drama and hatches, matches and despatches. There was gentle humour in spades. It's a "Feel Good Film" par excellence.

Highly recommended. I look forward to watching it again on TV at Christmas for many years to come.

Sheila Harrop

THEATRE

Dial M for Murder

The Garrick's recent play is a version of the 1954 Hitchcock movie of the same name. which starred Grace Kelly and Ray Milland. The small cast were all good and it was an enjoyable evening. A convoluted tale of an ex-tennis pro who coerces someone he was at school with to kill his wife because she has been having an affair. The attempt goes wrong, and the would-be killer ends up stabbed by the wife with a pair of scissors. She is arrested for murder and sentenced to hang. The play ends some months later when the husband concocts a story to explain how his wife couldn't have killed the man and ends up incriminating himself. He is duly arrested and led away.

GARDENING

The year is well into its stride now, and many plants (and weeds, too, alas!) are growing fast. Our group had two visits in May, to members' gardens. First to Chris F., where she has packed in lots of flowers in a smallish space well displayed on the tiered rear garden. Tulips well to the fore.

Second, we went to Kate's cottage garden, blessed by good weather, with several areas to explore – all attractive – and the added bonus of a neighbour's garden to view as well. Lastly, some pictures from the group leader, so that those who visited earlier in the year can see how the soggy garden seen in March has been transformed.



Walter Mason

GERMAN

Many thanks to Mary Berry for hosting our fortnightly meetings at her house. Because of the Bank Holiday our next meeting will be on June 10th, followed by the 24th. As usual we share stimulating conversations about current affairs and life in general, followed by reading our book which gives us a great deal to think about.

Marlene Brookes

READING

We meet on the first Monday of the month to discuss our latest choice. At our last meeting we discussed Kazuo Ishiguru's latest book: KLARA AND THE SUN, a futuristic story told from the point of view of a lifelike robot, an AF (artificial friend), sold from a store to be a companion to a lonely teenager in a dystopian world of the future. This was an unusual choice for the group but it provided us with a great deal to discuss and think about.

We next meet on Monday, June 6th when we will be discussing WHEN TIME STOPPED by Ariana Neumann which tells the true story of a daughter's quest to find out about her father's past.

Please contact me if you are interested in joining the group.

Marlene Brookes

KURLING

The Kurling group has been bought another set of stones so we can accommodate more people. There will be no Kurling at the June meeting but we will meet after July's meeting.

If anyone is interested in joining the Kurling group please let me know by email.

Thanks

Paul

PHOTOGRAPHY

This month's competition was Funny Signs

Winning photographs were:

1st. Nothing happened here – Jeff



Joint second: Wise words – Derek and Enter if you dare – Jeff



Thanks for all your entries. Well done everybody.
The topic for next month is 'Hobbies'.

Why not come and join us?

Jeff Robinson

QUIZZING

Quiz group members met on their usual date of the fourth Thursday in May for their session of very enjoyable brain torture. We thought Betty's quiz last month was tough but this one devised by Pat was arguably even tougher.

Try these from Pat's quiz. Answers on page 18.

1. In which county would you find Glamis castle?
2. What is Vivaldi's first name?
3. How many French open titles has Nadal won (as of 1 June 2022)?
4. Which country banned Alice in Wonderland in 1931?
5. Which football team is nicknamed The Gas?
6. In which year did Manchester host the Commonwealth games?
7. Who was the first president of the Royal Society?
8. How many faces does an icosahedron have?
9. Of which country is the Galapagos islands a province?
10. Which book was the musical Half a Sixpence based on?

New quizzers are welcome. Please contact me if you would like to join us.

Diane Saxon

CRIME FICTION READING

The focus of the first meeting of this new group will be our current book, A Silent Death by Peter May, and a discussion as to how we want to run the group. It occurs to me that this group could operate as a hybrid group with members who prefer not to physically meet contributing their views electronically.



If you are interested in this group, please contact me for details.

Diane Saxon

TRAVEL

KENT June 12th– 17th

Coach will depart from Alderdale Drive at 9am.
Further information following the June Meeting. Please meet in the small hall.



RHINE CRUISE August 9th–16th

Further information at July meeting.
Departure time from Manchester Airport is currently 6am.

IRELAND September 4th–8th

Flight from Manchester Airport to Cork. Benners Hotel Tralee
To include visits to Blarney Castle, Valentia Island, Killarney National Park, Muckross House etc.

LINCOLN October 14th–16th

Half board at Holiday Inn Lincoln. Approx. £360 including entrance fees.

DAY VISITS

LIVERPOOL July 20th.

Tour of Liverpool Cathedrals. Afternoon free.
£17 for 30 people £20 for 25.

BOLSOVER CASTLE August 27th

Medieval Jousting Event Approx. £28

SAMLESBURY HALL December 9th.

Tour of hall and Christmas Lunch

We are already thinking about next year's programme. If you have any ideas, please let us know.

WALKING

HIDDEN WOODS OF HYDE

Wednesday 27th May saw 15 walkers enjoy a lovely, varied walk from Lower Higham Visitor Centre on the slopes of Werneth Low.



The route descended gradually through the ancient village of Gee Cross, until 90 years ago the main road from Stockport to Glossop and Yorkshire, and along hidden valleys to within 1/2 mile of Hyde Town Hall. Then it looped round on a former railway line, skirted another hidden valley, and used the green lane through Godley Green, back towards Werneth Low.

Happily, the stiff climb through the woods has been much improved for walkers, and soon we were on the very pleasant contouring path towards the superb viewpoint of Idle Hill. Then it was all easy going along Werneth Low Road, with lots to see on the way, before turning down to the imposing war memorial, and back to the visitor centre.

It had been a mere 4.5 miles, taken at a leisurely pace, with snippets of local history, and a few personal reminiscences from the walk leader, born in neighbouring Dukinfield; but it received many favourable comments about the surprising attractiveness of the walk.

A few showers hardly affected us, as we had coffee under a wide bridge and lunched in a sheltered gully.



The viewfinder by the memorial gave a welcome topical link to the platinum anniversary, with an inscribed plaque commemorating the coronation of Queen Elizabeth 2nd. The only downside was the locally advertised intention to build over 2000 houses in the pleasant green area of Godley Green, which will impact massively on the view from Werneth Low, and affect the footpaths by wooded valleys in the area – progress?

Walter Mason

Walkers – or of course other members – may be interested in a u3a backpack – new to the u3a shop! capacity 38 litre, cost £19. There are also water bottles, caps and beanies and rugs and much more; there is quite a nice tote bag. See

<https://u3abrand.org.uk/catalogue/category/merchandise-publicity?page=1>



NEWS FROM u3a NATIONAL OFFICE

This is a selection of the upcoming events. Book without delay if you are interested.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>



Discovering Japan – Part 2

Hilary Jones, Chair of Flintshire u3a, presents her experiences when visiting family in Japan

Tues 21st June at 10am

Free – Online via Zoom



'What will it really take to deal with climate change?'

Renowned academic, Mike Berners-Lee, hosts an open meeting with a talk and Q&A

Friday 24th June at 10am

Free – Online via Zoom



Secret History: Deciphering Disinformation

Journalist Steven Davis tells the untold truths of these shocking cover-ups

Thurs 14th July at 2pm

Free – Online via Zoom



Artificial Intelligence

Join Leigh Edwards, Subject Adviser for Science, to discover the tech behind AI

Fri 1st July at 10am

Free – Online via Zoom



Derek Jarman's Garden

This is the story of how Derek Jarman created his amazing garden – a talk by Peter Webb.

Friday 8th July at 2pm

Free – Online via Zoom



Book Groups Discussion Forum – 2nd meeting

Get together with other book group leaders to talk about how to run your group.

Friday 22nd July at 2pm

Free – Online via Zoom

A Creative Writing Challenge

The u3a Creative Writing Competition is open for the third year as we search for the best u3a short story. The u3a creative writing competition is in partnership with Bloomsbury and searches for the best short story written by a u3a member.

The theme for 2022 is "Opening(s)" and submissions close on **16 June 2022**. Your story must be your own, individual, original work, in English, a maximum of 1500 words, and not submitted anywhere else. Entries should be submitted in Word format.

We will be supplying copies of the Writers' and Artists' Yearbook 2022 to the 12 top entries. In addition, the winner will see their story published in Third Age Matters magazine, which reaches over a quarter of a million households, with a bespoke illustration to accompany it. The winner will see their story in print and will receive a framed copy of their story as it appears in the magazine.

Details and rules can be found here <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes/creative-writing-2022>

The NORTH WEST SUMMER SCHOOL 2022 is taking place in August. Details were in the May edition of the newsletter.

u3a SUBJECT NETWORKS

Subject networks provide a platform for u3a members to connect and come together around their interests. They are an opportunity to share ideas and resources, build relationships and access more learning opportunities around the subject. Whether you attend an interest group in that subject or not, there are many benefits to joining a national u3a subject network.

The u3a Chess Network now has an online u3a chess league bringing together nearly 200 members; the u3a Climate Change Network regularly meets on Zoom where group leaders share their approaches, successes and challenges; and members of the u3a Cycling Network share their u3a's favourite routes.

More subject networks are being developed across u3a all the time both with and without the support of the u3a national office. If you want to help bring members together around a subject you are passionate about then please get in touch with u3a National Office



[Chess](#)



[Climate Change](#)



[Crown Green Bowling](#)



[Cycling](#)



[Science](#)



[Geology](#)

The next Science network meeting is Tuesday 26 July at 10.30am. These meetings are science-based learning events with three presentations.

The booking page is here <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/u3a-science-network-40th-anniversary-meeting-tickets-338825224367>

SCAMS AND WHAT TO DO

Members have reported a variety of recent scams, including text messages purporting to be from a family member and asking for money, scam email messages with links that look genuine but take you to the scammer's site and the usual telephone calls about illegal activity on your line etc etc. Les has found some useful advice on what to do if you think you are being scammed. Thanks to Les for this advice.

Telephone calls

If you think someone is trying to trick you into handing over money or personal details...

...Stop, hang up and call 159 to speak directly to your bank.

Last year criminal gangs stole over £470m by pretending to be your bank or other service provider.

159 is the memorable, secure number that connects you directly to your bank if you think you're being scammed.

159 works in the same way as 101 for the police or 111 for the NHS. It's the number you can trust to get you through to your bank, every time.

159 will **never** call you. **Only a fraudster** will object to you calling 159.

Report a text message you think is a scam

Most phone providers are part of a scheme that allows customers to report suspicious text messages for free by forwarding it to **7726**. If you forward a text to **7726**, your provider can investigate the origin of the text and arrange to block or ban the sender, if it's found to be malicious.

For Email Scams:

Forward your email to report.phishing@gov.uk - <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/phishing-scams/report-scam-email>

Avoid clicking on any links and delete the email from your mailbox.

Quiz answers

1. Angus
2. Antonio
3. 13 – maybe another one soon!
4. China – other countries also banned the book for various reasons including promoting drug use and sex
5. Bristol Rovers – from the gasworks next to their former home, Eastville Stadium
6. July/August 2002
7. Joshua Reynolds
8. 20 – equilateral triangles
9. Ecuador
10. Kipps by H G Wells

AND FINALLY ...

It's good to see that our limericks are still appearing from time to time. Thanks to Mavis for these.

Nicholas Round from Gnosall
Decided to make a large snowball
He rolled and he rolled
And became very cold
Then thawed out with beer in his local

There was a young lady called Sam
Who really was quite a good ham
At the Gatehouse she played
And a Dame she was made
So we ended up calling her "Ma'am"

Limericks were also in the press recently. A couple of weeks ago, Mick Hodgkin, the Times Puzzles editor, asked readers to write a limerick on the theme of 'my favourite Times puzzle(s)'. As well as compiling crosswords, he writes limericks and has written two history books in limerick form under his nom de plume, Mick Twister'. Here are a couple of the winning limericks.

It's strange but certainly true
A crossword is tricky to do
Not to diminish
The occasional finish
But often I haven't a clue.
Christopher Springham, London

With sudoku I feel such a fool;
Were my brain cells left back at school?
It's quite apodictic:
Avoid Jumbo Cryptic!
O tempora? Now that's rather cool.
Geoffrey Bourne-Taylor, Oxfordshire

And some u3a themed!

As u3a gets back on track
It's true that some groups, members lack
We'd like to reassure you
That groups old and new
Are waiting to welcome you back!

There was a fine fellow called James
Joined our Kurling group to play games
He won lots of ends
And made many new friends
But couldn't remember their names!

Why not have a go at a limerick? The Editor will be happy to receive your efforts.

And some more imponderables

What is an occasional table the remainder of the time?

Why is a doctor's surgery called a practice?

Why do people say "It's always in the last place you look"? It will always be in the last place you look.

What was the best thing before sliced bread?

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

How is it possible to have a civil war?

Why is an open door called ajar?

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour?