

# Tiverton u3a Newsletter

learn, laugh, live

Volume 10 Issue 8

## July/August 2025



### GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 24th JULY 2025  
10.00 for 10.30am

This month our speaker will be Sally Smith

**“Magnificent Women and Flying Machines”**

Journalist and writer, Sally has spent a lifetime involved in women's aviation and was awarded the Royal Aeronautical Society's Women in Aviation award in December 2024

She will have her books for sale after her talk

Tea coffee and biscuits, will be served before the meeting starts  
Please try and return your cups when you have finished with them

Moorhayes Community Centre Lea Road Tiverton EX16 6SU

And for our next meeting.....

Thursday 28th August

Rob Springthorpe and his Blood Bike

giving us an insight to the work of South West Blood Bikes

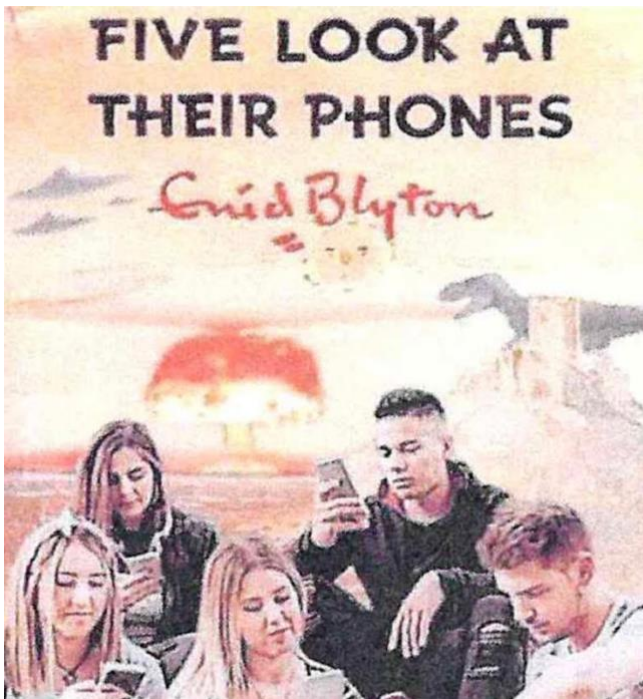
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**Tiverton u3a welcomes three new members this month**

**Doreen Burton**

**Henri and Abdullah Ali Ahmad**



'Excuse me, are you going to be filling the bird feeder soon? They wanted me to ask'



**Alternative definitions:**

**Flabbergasted.** Appalled by discovering how much weight one has gained.

**Negligent.** Absentmindedly answering the door when wearing only a nightgown.

**Lymph.** To walk with a lisp.

**Flatulence.** Emergency vehicle that picks up someone who has been run over by a steamroller.

**Balderdash.** A rapidly receding hairline.

**A Curriculum for Home Education:**

**RELIGION:** "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."

**METEOROLOGY:** "This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."

**MEDICAL SCIENCE:** "If you keep on crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way."

**ADVANCED GYMNASTICS:** "Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"

**BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION :** "Stop acting like your father!"

**LOGIC:** " Because I said so, that's why."

**ANTICIPATION:** "Just wait until I get you home."

**RECEIVING:** "You are going to get it from your father when you get home!"

# FROM THE COMMITTEE

## June Meeting - Cyber Crime

Our June Meeting was treated to a brilliant and illuminating talk in both content and delivery by Mick Harrison, Cyber Protect Officer with Devon and Cornwall Police. The purpose of this presentation was to raise awareness about the growth of cyber crime and what measures that we, as individuals, might take to protect ourselves. The messages were later reinforced by a follow-up email sent to members entitled "Top Tips", which comprised 12 basic recommendations. It is not intended to repeat the list here but, if anyone has not seen it, please request the email version from Fergus McGilp or paper version from me. Although the subject was considered appropriate for a group of "mature" individuals, the talk demonstrated that no age group was immune to the wiles of cyber criminals.

*Mike Warren*

The meeting, and the buffet lunch, which followed it, was attended by Nesta Natrass, one of the founder members of Tiverton U3A. Nesta has sent the following email:

*Just to say that I appreciated very much being asked to join in the Tiverton U3A Celebrations yesterday at Moorhayes, it stirred many memories for me.*

*I found the whole event very interesting, the people present very friendly towards me , the lunch was excellent and the speaker very good in his subject.  
He would have held my attention for much longer 35 years ago when my brain-box was in a much more receptive condition!*

*I enjoyed listening though!! I did retain just a very little of the information that he passed on.  
I'd like to send my personal thanks for your article on how the U3A began in France and eventually arrived in Tiverton - and a few local people with inquisitive minds picked up the challenge.  
The lunch itself was very, very nice and a credit to all who helped to make it so. Thank You.*

*I wish you all continuing success for Tiverton u3a in the years ahead. Thank you sincerely for letting me share in your 35th Birthday.  
Nesta Natrass*

## U3A Online Learning Events

Several members have recommended u3a Online Learning Events. They're free via Zoom and cover a wide range of subjects.

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

## Charge for Monthly Meetings

Due to the ongoing fees for the room hire at Moorhayes, the need to purchase new technical equipment and the increasing cost of recruiting speakers, the Committee have reluctantly decided to reintroduce a small charge for monthly meetings. A **contribution of £2.00** will be required on entry, from the October meeting. Cash will be preferred.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will continue to be free of charge.

# GROUP REPORTS

Unless they have specifically requested otherwise, group coordinators contact details have been omitted on the newsletter page of the website, as this is a public document. However, they can be found in the “members only” section of the website, which needs a password, already provided to members. - *Nigel*



## Always Write Coordinator: Heather Bingham

At June’s meeting we had some fun with words we like and those we just love to hate! With more than a million words in our language – and that number grows each year – there are so many ‘favourites’ to choose from. Petrichor was one choice because it sounds almost magical, certainly exotic, and yet it’s a simple smell most of us love – that earthy scent produced when rain falls on

warm, dry soil on a sunny, summer’s day.

When we looked at, shall we say, less pleasant vocabulary, all sorts of oddities emerged (some of which I’m definitely keeping to myself!); in fact, everything from *addled* to *zit* ... And, additionally, there are those words/phrases which are over-used, such as: *amazing*; *nice*; *actually*; *bad* and *absolutely*; and then those we would like to banish forever (unless they suit a character’s language, of course!), such as:

**‘So, like, no disrespect and I’m not gonna lie but going forward, it is what it is and basically, it’s my bad! Aah Bless!’**

Words we liked the sound of were easier to work with and each of us wrote a poem or a paragraph using 10 (or more) words from our ‘attractive’ list which included: gossamer; halcyon; murmuring; serendipity; celestial; verdant; honey; melody; enchant and cherish.

We also discovered some new words we really liked the sound of, especially: *moonglade* and *spoonrift*. What do they mean? Well, they both have links with water!

In July we’ll be looking at what our June take away topics produced from: “Superstition” OR “A stranger”.  
- *Heather*



## Cryptic Crosswords Coordinator: Graeme Cozens

The cryptic crossword is included in the newsletter as usual. Hope you like it!

If you would be interested in honing your solving skills, please note that I shall be running another of my popular

workshops in September, if there is demand. Please drop me an email if you would be interested:  
Graeme. [COZENSG@YAHOO.CO.UK](mailto:COZENSG@YAHOO.CO.UK)



## Croquet Coordinator: Wendy Bond

Our croquet enthusiasts continue to meet weekly for our fun afternoon playing croquet. We always welcome new members, no experience needed. Equipment is available. Sessions cost £5 and we meet at Heathcoat Cricket Club Tuesday afternoons 2 to 4.30pm.

I gather from Sandra that only 7 turned up for one meeting this month and the heat of the day

made them decide not to play. Please remember that on 29<sup>th</sup> July our start time will be 2.30 as there is a cricket camp booked that day. Also no meeting on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August but hope to see you on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> instead.

Having been approached by Wellington U3A I gather there is some interest from our group in having a match with them. Is someone willing to coordinate this please? We do need to proceed with this invite soon otherwise the season will be over. Contact me and I can give you the Wellington contact.

Please contact me [wendycbond@btinternet.com](mailto:wendycbond@btinternet.com) - Wendy



## Economics Coordinator: Mike Barlow

We were hosted by Eunice and had our usual lively discussions lead by John about the **state of the economy** - without a great deal of good news to celebrate. Inflation is gradually reducing but growth is pretty non existent and unemployment is slowly increasing with fewer job openings. An interesting point was that trade

with the EU has been declining since 2010, eg before Brexit.

Tony K then lead us through some ideas on **Productivity** showing that improvements in productivity have slower down in the UK from about 3% per annum up to the year 2008 to about 0.3% since then. The UK is now 4th in the league table of G7 countries.

Mike B went through the key points of the recent **Spending Review** and summarised it as full of good intentions but needs steady implementation to deliver the promised benefits.

Our next meeting will be at 10am on Wed 6th Aug and again will be hosted by Eunice.

Contact [mikeandsue.barlow@gmail.com](mailto:mikeandsue.barlow@gmail.com) if you'd like to join us. ~ Mike Barlow



## Gardens Coordinator: Margaret Chumbley

At the beginning of July we visited Hestercombe which as usual did not disappoint. A great

example of Lutyens' work, still looking great despite the challenging weather conditions we are all experiencing. Major changes are taking place in the house, with it being made into more of a museum focusing on the



Portman family who owned Hestercombe until 1951 and made it what we see today.

Our next visit will be to Nynehead Court at the end of July. - *Margaret*



## **German Conversation Coordinator: John Smith.**

After our final meeting of this term earlier this month, we now have a well-earned rest to recharge our batteries ready to go again in September.

At our last meeting, we celebrated with a selection of Germanic goodies including, salami, smoked cheese, pretzels and "Berliner" doughnuts washed down with a glass of Riesling. Some of you may recall that

JFKennedy when in West Germany in Berlin in 1963 said in a famous speech "Ich bin ein Berliner" (I am a Berliner). I do not think he was claiming to be a doughnut!

I hope that our group might appeal to more members. Some knowledge of German is an advantage but not essential and allowances are made for those (like me) who are not fluent. If you are interested but just want to learn more about the group before taking the plunge, please do not hesitate to contact me. - *John*



## **Going Places Coordinators: John O'Connor Tony Lowe, Chris Steele**

### **Combe Martin Silver Mine**

We are planning a visit to the Combe Martin Silver mine on August 7th. The website for the Silver Mine is [www.combemartinmines.co.uk/](http://www.combemartinmines.co.uk/). Due to health and safety issues, the mine

tour will be above ground only. There will be a talk about Silver mining in North Devon. This event is free, but a donation to the mine society is encouraged. This trip will be a car share event.

### **Heritage Days**

Additionally, to coincide with the Heritage Days festival we are planning a visit to Arlington Court. This event will take place on Sunday 21st September, and will be free. Arlington Court is home to the National carriage collection and is well worth visiting. Suggest members meet outside the carriage collection at 2:30pm and will be self-led tour format. There are normally staff on hand, if you have any questions. This trip will be very informal, car shares to be organised between members. I will be emailing the membership to establish who will be going a little nearer the time, - *John*

### **Mayflower Water Treatment Works**

Our visit is confirmed for Wednesday 15th October. If you haven't already applied and would like to join this trip, please get in touch as soon as possible – Tony [lowe.tony@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lowe.tony@yahoo.co.uk)

### **SS Great Britain and Bristol Harbourside**

Postponed until next spring



**Trad Jazz**  
**Coordinator:**  
**Mike Barlow**

**You all need to get out more !** There have been another couple of excellent sessions of live music in the area. **Spirit of the Blues** including

the indomitable Julia Titus (pictured here), Mike Denham and Steve Graham recalled the great Bessie Smith when they played at the Magelake Hall. **Nick Ward's Jelly Roll Quartet** revived many of Jelly Roll Morton's pieces playing at the Jubilee Hall. - *Angie*



The offerings for the next month are as follows:

\* **Wed 13th Aug Pete Lay's Gambit Jazzmen** at the Jubilee Hall in Langford Budville

\* **Wed 20th Aug Gordon's Algiers Strutters** at the Magelake Hall in Uffculme

\* Regular **free Sunday lunchtime** sessions on the Quay in Exeter during the summer

Details of future sessions are on our webpage

Let me know if you need more information. [mikeandsue.barlow@gmail.com](mailto:mikeandsue.barlow@gmail.com)  
 ~ *Mike Barlow*



**Line Dancing**  
**Coordinator:**  
**Mich Bowers**

We were lucky for the last session - the weather had cooled slightly. We did however, keep to the more 'relaxing' dances.- not that we jump about a lot at the best of times.....

Next session is Monday 28th July, to be followed by a 'rest' for August, resuming on September 8th, usual time and place.

Y'all have a good time. - *Mich*



**Local Theatre**  
**Coordinator:**  
**Betty Thrall**

The next block booking is Tiverton Operatic production of "THE WEDDING SINGER " - 7.30 pm New Hal. Tickets £11 each can be paid by cash or card to the Treasurer or cheque made payable to Tiverton u3a., There will be a form to put your names on at this monthly meeting.

**SYNOPSIS**

Its a story about a Wedding Singer who sings at wedding venues. He is also about to get married, but something goes wrong. There is an attraction between him and a waitress who

is also engaged to an up-and-coming business tycoon. The story centres on the unfolding relationship between them. There are other sub stories about other characters within the group. Please do support this talented and successful group and enjoy a musical evening .

Willow Tree Dance & Theatre Arts next production is Beauty and the Beast. I hope to do a block Booking for Thursday October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Look out for more details on line and in the August / September newsletter and a list to sign at the monthly meeting if you are interested .

- Betty 01884 242998 (please say u3a before your name when asked by call minder )



## Photography

Coordinator:  
Roger Gunn

We will be taking our customary summer break, so the next meeting will be at 10am on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October. Venue to be decided at a later date. Focus for that meeting will be anything that you snap during the summer.



## Photography 2

Coordinator:  
Charlie Duke

This month we had a dual theme of macro (close ups) and clouds. There were lots of good images of flower heads, leaves and insects, including an amazing one of a bee frozen in flight. Others were moths, butterflies, ladybirds, ants and flies, some showing an incredible amount of detail.

Similarly, there were a wide variety of cloud types

and shapes, despite the many blue skies of late, including a few of dark storm clouds.

We are taking an opposite approach next month, the theme being "far, far away". This should allow us to be inventive with subjects and also try some telephoto shooting.

We have room for one more member to join our friendly group. Please contact **Charlie on 07703 483697.**



## Railway Group

Coordinator:  
Jose Kimber

Our last meeting was at my house, and there were only three of us as the other three regulars were away. We watched some more of the Britain at War series DVDs.

I have had to cancel the July meeting because of a hospital appointment, so

our next meeting will be the August one on Friday 22 August at 10.30am, at my house, when we will be watching more of the war DVDs.

On 18 September Tiverton Museum is holding a "Behind the Scenes" tour with a railway theme, and a couple of us are planning to attend. If you would like to join us please purchase your ticket via the Museum website and let me know you will be coming.

Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings, if you are not already a member of the group and not on my contact list, please contact me for the details if you are interested in attending any of our meetings. – Jose



## Ramblers Coordinator: Jenny Bedford

Our ramble this month, led by Penny, took 10 of us up to Blackborough for a walk of around 4.5 miles. Meeting at the Rhododendron/Knowles woods carpark the walk followed a route through the woods to Blackborough Common before going down through Newcombe Common, Downlands, Plantations and returning via Forest Glade.

The well trodden paths, still littered with last autumn's leaves, meandered through woodlands with an abundance of large ferns and gnarled moss covered roots. There were signs of early fungi both real and, surprisingly, a beautifully carved wooden one.

On the day of our recce, we tried and failed to locate Garnsey's Tower, a relic of the whetstone mining industry that Blackborough was famous for primarily from the 17th to the 19th centuries. So imagine how elated we were when the 2 Phils (Ackers & Stone), not to be beaten, were determined to find it. And find it they did. The tower has an interesting history, which can be explored online, if you wish to know more.

After a brief refreshment stop and a chat with a lady dog walker (5 boisterous canines in tow) we made our way back along grassy paths to rejoin the woods and back to the carpark.



Thank you, Penny, for a lovely walk. - *Jan Proud*

The next ramble is on **12th August**, starting at **10.00am** and will be led by Angie.

Park in Kentisbeare village hall car park EX15 9BY. Grid reference ST 06880803  
What3words ///firelight.timidly.sparks. A ramble in the countryside around Kentisbeare. A straightforward and mostly flat walk, full of interest and variety. Lots of views, lakes and waterfowl. Through fields and on quiet roads. 4.2 miles. A few gates, one stile. Lunch in the Wyndham Arms, who will need to know numbers beforehand. Therefore, contact Angie by 5th August if you wish to stay for lunch [angelacheshire55@gmail.com](mailto:angelacheshire55@gmail.com)



## Skittles Coordinator: Janet Loader

We meet again in October. Please contact Janet on 01884 252116 if you would like to learn more. - *Janet Loader*



**Snooker**  
**Coordinator:**  
**John Anderson**

A small, social group catering for all levels of Snooker ability (up to "average"!).

Our normal meeting dates at Halberton Village Hall are the 1st and 3rd Friday each month. Our start time is 3.30pm.

Conveniently, buses from Tiverton stop at

the door, so you can use your bus-pass to get there. I am a keyholder for opening up, so give me a ring beforehand if you would like to join in and have a game or two.

- John. Tel: 07947 000757



**WALK and TALK**

**Strollers and Twalkers**  
**Coordinator:**  
**Chris Mumford**

**TWALKERS** - These walks are out in the countryside, generally within 10 miles of Tiverton. The maximum distance is no more than 3.6 miles and take no more than 90 minutes. The venue changes weekly.

**STROLLERS** - Venue changes monthly for a gentle walk lasting no more than 60 minutes

around the streets of Tiverton.

For more details and a programme, please contact Chris Mumford:

[chris.mumford21@gmail.com](mailto:chris.mumford21@gmail.com)



**Short Tennis**  
**Coordinator**  
**Diane Lewis**

The newly formed Short Tennis group continues to meet at Uplowman Village Hall every Friday morning from 10 - 11.30 am. We have a small band of enthusiastic players but would welcome others who would like to join us and have the option to extend to a 2 hour session if demand

required it. Currently we charge £2.50 per session to cover Hall hire and refreshments.

If anyone is interested in finding out more then please contact Di Lewis on 01884 821329 or 07713 311616.



**Short Trek**  
**Coordinator:**  
**Phil Akers**

**The June Short Trek** was ably led by Tony Lowe who took us on a tour of the wider National Trust estate at Arlington



Court, near Barnstaple. A dozen enthusiastic trekkers covered just over 7 miles and over 800 feet of elevation gain. It was a fine day with sunshine, but not too hot. We were taken across fields and through woodland and along the side of the River Yeo. We took in the man-made lake, went in the bird hide and had lunch in the shade overlooking the delightful lily pond, watching the coots and moorhens chugging around the pond and swallows swooping on the water and drinking on the wing.

The debrief and re-hydration took place at the Old Station House Inn at Blackmore Gate where we almost broke the record (and the bench) for the number of people sat at a pub bench.

It was a great day out Tony, thank you very much. - *Phil*



**July's Short Trek** will start at **10 am. From Magelake Hall in Uffculme (EX 15 3DP).**

The 7-mile walk will follow the course of the winding River Culm nearly to Hunkin Wood then turning up Ratsash Lane for some road walking to Craddock and Lowmoor Farm where we follow a track and fields then another track to Pilemoor. We then take the lane to Northcott farm, subsequently picking up two local footpaths to Woodhayes Barton, where we cross a bridge to walk back along the River Culm. When we arrive back at Hunkin Wood, we retrace our outward route in a slightly different way and ,if it's pouring with rain, via the road.

Bring a picnic lunch and there is the possibility of a debrief at the Ostler Arms in the village centre, 2 Commercial Road, Uffculme. - *Jenny*

**The Ben Mayo Memorial Walk** – Looking ahead, the Short Trek on Friday 22nd August will start from Alderman's Barrow on Exmoor and will be a fairly gentle downhill linear walk of around 7.3 miles to Horner. On the route we will pass the newly erected finger post dedicated to Ben Mayo and financed by donations from group members. The plan is to have cars parked at Horner to ferry walkers back to their cars at the start point.

Further details will follow via myself and Gordon Cleaver.

- *Phil Akers*



## Table Tennis

**Coordinators:**

**Katherine Green**

**Lorne Loxterkamp**

The group meets every Monday, except Bank Holidays, from 10am to 12 noon at Sunningmead Community Centre. We have four tables and generally play doubles to ensure that everyone gets as many games as possible. Currently new members are welcome, but spaces are limited. We endeavour to help those with less experience of the game, but unfortunately, we are unable to

accommodate complete beginners. Anyone interested in joining the group should contact Katherine and Lorne.



**Thinking Allowed**  
**Coordinator:**  
**Eunice Hinds**

We were generously hosted by Mike Warren to discuss: *Displaced Persons: what are the implications for our society and what is the appropriate response?*

Roger Stickland facilitated a discussion, which after a brief look at the statistics focused on the philosophical issues covering the Liberal Paradox. We considered David Miller's book "Strangers in our midst: the political philosophy of immigration" which argues

the right of states to control their borders while acknowledging moral obligations to refugees and the importance of integrating immigrants into society.

Our next meeting will be at 2pm on September 18th when we will discuss "There'll always be an England" Is patriotism an outdated concept? – Eunice. [EuniceHinds@gmail.com](mailto:EuniceHinds@gmail.com)



**Thursday Lunch**  
**Coordinator:**  
**Angie Cheshire**

On one of the hottest days of the year, nineteen members of the group attended the lunch at the 300-year-old Culm Valley Inn, in Culmstock situated in a delightful setting next to the river. The pub is charming with lots of character, and we had a warm welcome from

Michelle and her team. We had to pre-order our food but it was served promptly and despite concerns by some about the lack of choice the food was plentiful and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.



Our next lunch is at Exmoor White Horse Inn. An email has been sent to members about directions there and pre-ordering. Be sure to contact Julie and Peter with your choices. - Angie

Contact: [juliemloving@gmail.com](mailto:juliemloving@gmail.com) [peterloving@icloud.com](mailto:peterloving@icloud.com) 07974 725372 07836 210056



**Trekking**  
**Coordinator:**  
**Gordon Cleaver**

**The July Trek**

Fourteen trekkers enjoyed a lovely trek on Exmoor in early July. An undulating 10 mile route was brilliantly led by Roger Gunn. Starting from Dunkery Gate the first part of the trek took us downhill past Langham Wood to Spangate Cross. This first mile or two was steep downhill so we soon realised that Roger had a lovely uphill finish in store for us, he really does like to

spoil us ...ha! We continued along Spangate Lane until we reached Ford Lane where we had our banana break. It was such a hot day that frequent water stops were necessary along our route.

Onwards then to Wootton Courtenay, a picturesque and really interesting little village. Lovely scenery all around us as we continued to Brockwell and onto Luccombe (known as Locumbe in the 1086 Domesday book). An uphill section next as we made our way to Webbers Post, part of the Holnicote estate where we stopped for our packed lunch. Lots of seating in a clearing was a perfect place to recharge before our final ascent. It was such a glorious clear day that we were treated to far-reaching views of Selworthy, Minehead and Bossington.

Our final leg started as we suspected uphill to Dunkery Beacon. A pretty tough route but we ensured we had frequent stops to look behind us as there were terrific views across to Wales, one of those days where you felt you could almost touch it. Dunkery Beacon was a very welcome sight and a great place to regroup. Apart from Dartmoor, at 1700 feet this is the highest point in Southern England. Several trekkers decided that having made such an effort to get here that they would scramble up the remaining few feet of the stone beacon itself and sit astride the top, no mean feat for trekkers in their 60's, 70's and 80's. From the Beacon we could see our vehicles in the car park below so a little downhill completed our circular walk. Apart from a trekker or two who needed to get back to catch on TV more British players lose at Wimbledon the remainder had a debrief at the Anchor Inn at Exebridge. Cold drinks in the beer garden beside the river was a great way to finish off a lovely trek. - Kelvin



### August Long Trek

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2025 – 10.00 AM. Starting from Stantyway Farm Parking Area, Near Otterton The August Trek will be led by Gordon.

Starting from Stantyway Parking Area (Grid SY089 848) on the outskirts of Otterton we will then head upwards through Ladram to join the South West Coast Path . We then turn south west and follow the Coast Path over Brandy Head then down to the River Otter. We then explore the new River Otter wetlands nature reserve before hitting the beach at Budleigh Salterton .It is then up the River Otter to Clamour Bridge and across Colliver Lane to get back to the cars. In all a trek of about 10 miles on good surfaced tracks with some splendid sea views.

**Please let me know if you are planning to come on this Trek or you are interested in joining the Trekking Group, please contact Gordon. - 01884 242563 grcleaver54@gmail.com**



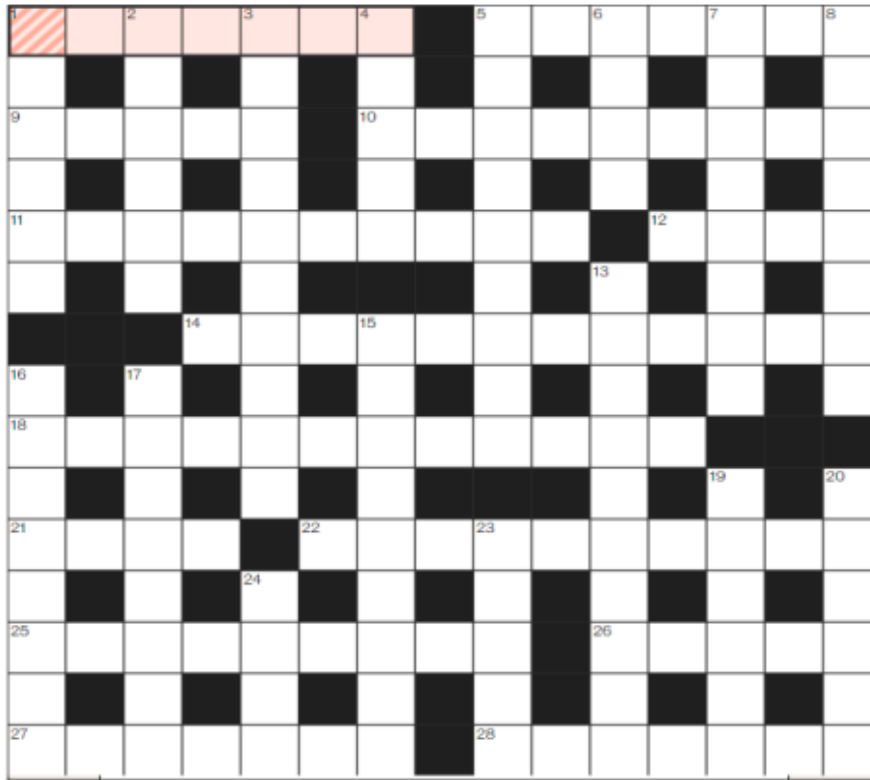
Our venture to the Tom Copley at Spreyton took us to countryside that some members who have lived in Devon nearly all their life had not seen or been to before so for them and others it was a pleasant trip. The Tom Copley was a good-looking venue inside and out. What we did not realise was that on a Wednesday it is a set two course menu for £15

but unfortunately had its limitations. On inquiring about the al carte menu, we were initially informed that there was only the set menu available, however on discussing this with the owner she agreed to offer the A La Carte to those that wanted it as we were the first to arrive which still gave them time to adjust their preparation. The food came extremely quickly considering half of us went for the full menu.

Our next Venue for the 6th of August is more local at the Redwood Inn, Uplowman. However, its years since we have been there, but reviews show to be positive.

If you did not attend the Tom Copley, you would not have put your name down so if you wish to attend, please contact me ASAP. - Trevor

Cryptic Crossword #48: August 2025 (Solution at the end of this newsletter)



**Across**

- 1 Model cosmetics founder gets a degree (7)
- 5 All too easy to be deprived if you mess up sole in the garden (4,3)
- 9 Hello! Cumberbatch has a stand-in tonight (5)
- 10 Pop group – getting old – signals for first aid treatment (9)
- 11 A chasm and a watercourse make a warm current (4,6)
- 12 In the courtroom it is overlooked (4)
- 14 What a game bird uses to see spring flowers (9-3)
- 18 Hurrah, captains, you're supporting the teams (12)
- 21 Some reunited troops (4)
- 22 To reach an acceptable standard please become half decent (4,6)
- 25 She was unsurpassed as a paragon of classical acting (4,5)
- 26 African onions contain a body of authoritative rules and texts (5)
- 27 Par? Side messed up and led to deep unhappiness (7)
- 28 Attractive shrubbery over and somewhat airy (7)

**Down**

- 1 Quick, cloudburst due, leg it to shelter (6)
- 2 Croc culture embodies knowledge of the paranormal (6)
- 3 At the moment our old circle creates a feeling (10)
- 4 A medic hesitates to make fossilised resin (5)
- 5 Reach out to demonstrate friendship (4,1,4)
- 6 The indication of damage is found in crashed cars (4)
- 7 One dump I dismantled was used by a drugs ring (5,3)
- 8 Move up, bound by rope, hand in hand (8)
- 13 Before starting the hunt, drink, tighten tail tack, then whip horse up (7,3)
- 15 (see 20)
- 16 Live choir on the radio daughter received (8)
- 17 The Eclipser can make an Athenian statesman (8)
- 19 Parts of Kazakhstan, Zanzibar etc feature in poetry (6)
- 20 & 15 down Alcoholic dessert from cognac and Sir Fleming's baptismal (6,9)
- 23 Initial, staunch protestors in total division (5)
- 24 Woodhouse, not PG but literary (4)

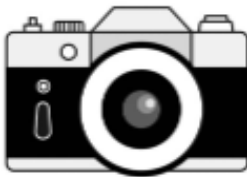
Groups not reporting this month are shown below. Coordinators details can be found on the web page



**Mahjongg**  
Co|rdinator:  
Celia Hicks



**Folk Dancing**  
Coordinators:  
John & Hazel Ridd



**Exploring  
Photography**  
Coordinator:  
Philip Skinner



**Board Games**  
Coordinator:  
Dawn Ferguson

Cryptic Crossword #48: August 2025

