



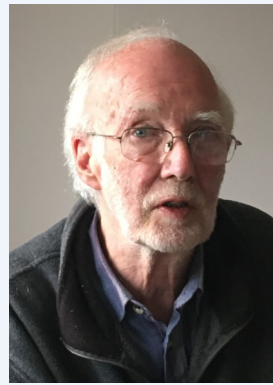
Your 2017/18 Committee elected at the AGM on Thursday 11th May



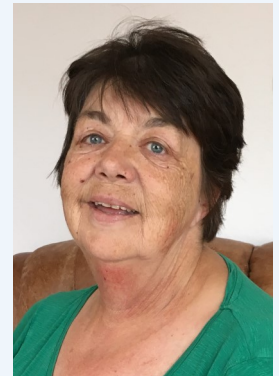
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chair@purbecku3a.org.uk



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Web Support
Bob Day

● *Membership Matters*

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2017/18

Membership subscriptions for the 12 months commencing 1st September 2017 are now due. Please may we encourage you to renew your membership in the next few weeks.

The Annual Subscription remains unchanged at £16 per annum, per member.

If you wish to receive Third Age Matters (5 magazines by post p.a.) the cost is £2.40 for the year, and a U3A Pocket Diary remains at £2.00 each if collected, £2.75 by post.

Once you have renewed you will receive an email from me or Patrick Webb (Treasurer) acknowledging receipt.

You will keep your present membership number.

For members with on-line banking, the simplest way to renew is by BACS. Make a payment to Purbeck U3A A/C No. 72007648, sort code 60-22-45. After you have paid, please notify us by means of a confirmatory email of the total amount and date paid, member(s) names and any other information/feedback you would like relayed to your committee.

Address your email to subscribe@purbecku3a.org.uk

Patrick and I will be at meeting points on 22 June to receive any cheques. Otherwise please complete the 2017-2018 subscription form which you will find on the website and send it with your remittance to

Gill Calvin Thomas, Membership Secretary,

1 Hill View Road, Swanage, BH19 2QU Tel. [01929 423303](tel:01929423303).

Many thanks,

Gill Calvin Thomas

Registered Charity No 1075342



Gardening Group

GARDENING GROUP PLANT SALE

The Plant Sale held at Meeting Points last week was very successful.

We raised £224.00 !

Thank you to everyone who supported us. This year's charity is the Fund for an Admiral Dementia Nurse for Purbeck. The cheque will be presented in Swanage to the people working so hard to make this happen.

The Gardening Group is a lively bunch and you don't have to be experts to join us. Come and see what we do. The next meeting is Monday 19th June Stoborough Village Hall.

Contact Chris - gardening@purbecku3a.org.uk

Chris Bonanni



History Group

The History Group meet fortnightly on Fridays from 10:00 - 11:30 in Wareham Library

Self-lead. Our various talks range from local to world history. In past terms we have had talks on General Slim, the Silk roads, the American War of Independence and Nell Gwyn. We always welcome outside occasional speakers so if anyone has a topic that may be of interest please contact us. We can pay expenses or rustle up the odd bottle of wine in appreciation.



Creative Writing

The Creative Writing Group meet on Tuesdays from 1:45 - 3:45 on a monthly basis in member's houses (there is always room for one or two more aspiring writers!).

- *News From the Groups*



Nordic Walking Group

The U3A Nordic Walking Group continues to thrive and there are currently 20 members with walks on the first and third Fridays starting at 10am in a variety of locations in the Isle of Purbeck, lasting 1.5-2 hours.

The walks are led by members of the group on a rota.

Those wishing to join the group should first complete training sessions organised and taught by a NWUK certified Instructor.

Enquiries should please be made through Ian Vaughan Arbuckle, secretary to the group ([07533 208833](tel:07533208833) or ian@iva.co.uk)



In Swanage we are fortunate to have the second Purbeck Nordic Walking Festival to be held 15-17 September.

It's based in Swanage, but there are walks all over Purbeck and special workshops on all facets of Nordic Walking.

Members of the U3A group are strongly encouraged sign up, support and participate in the festival.

Other U3A groups have been sent invitations to the festival and we hope to hold a special U3A walk on both the Thursday before and Monday after the festival!

Here are a couple of photos from a recent coastal walk in Kimmeridge - thanks to 2 of our members.

John Challis [07966 500820](tel:07966500820) or john@jchallis.plus.com (Group Chair)

John Challis





Archaeology Group

The Archaeology group which meets at Harmans Cross Village Hall now has more than 70 members - a sociable and fun loving crowd that welcomes new comers. We love learning but it's not all serious stuff.

We haven't got our hands dirty this year but our visiting speakers have given us plenty to think about in the world of Archaeology. From Prehistoric Purbeck, Orkney, and Wiltshire, to Roman settlements in Dorset, to the development of roads and industry in this county and more recently, the archaeology of Corfe, we've learned so much.



In April Pam White from the NT at Corfe Castle took us on an amazing two mile archaeological walk from the Visitor Centre around the village, over the common and back to the start via the ruins of West Mill.

Pam's knowledge is encyclopaedic. New discoveries are made all the time and everybody learned something new about the area and it's history.





Our last meeting this term is on **Friday 23 June** from 10am to 12am when Gordon Le Pard will be talking to us about Dorset Churches. Gordon, a marine archaeologist who worked for DCC, is an interesting, enthusiastic and entertaining speaker.

If you have an interest in Archaeology or fancy finding out a bit more about the group why not come along to our meeting on the 23rd?

All we ask is £1.50 contribution to the speaker's fee and that you email me to let me know you are coming so we put out enough chairs.

We'll be pleased to see you and if you enjoy it you may even want to join us next year!

This is my last meeting as Group leader before I hand over to Mary Buck. Mary and I have been working together for three years to keep the group going and I know she will be a brilliant and hard working leader next year.

Connie Beasley

archy@purbecku3a.org.uk



Dorset Abbeys & Churches

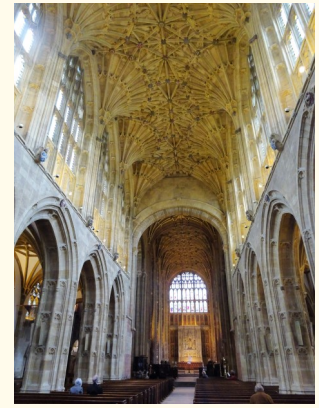
After successful visits last year to Country Houses we wanted to develop the theme of architecture and local history to Dorset Abbeys and Churches.

Jim Humberstone, the course tutor, provided much of the background to the buildings with particular reference to comparative styles of Roman, Norman and perpendicular gothic building methods which they all, in some measure, shared. The guides in all places visited were able to infill with local knowledge of the monastic influences and reference to the dissolution of the Abbeys / monasteries in the 16th Century.



We could not have chosen a better start than **Milton Abbey**.

Not just a magnificent setting, deep in a valley and surrounded by wooded hills, but with its wonderful Capability Brown landscape, must be one of this country's absolute gems. Apart from the ancient abbey founded by King Alfred's grandson, we were allowed access to the Mansion and mused how a one time owner moved a whole town down the road so he might have an uninterrupted view.



Sherborne Abbey founded by the Kings of Wessex, and later occupied by Benedictine monks was equally fascinating. Originally headed by a bishop (king's patronage) but later downgraded when he moved to Salisbury. Two Saxon kings are buried in the Abbey. There was a real atmosphere of a church well used, renowned for its choir, its music and great peel of eight bells. Arriving early we had the extra delight of listening to an organ recital. So many interesting things to see, in particular the earliest English great fan-vaulted roof – arguably the finest in the country, and the medieval misericords in the quire.



Closest to home **Wimborne Minster** like Milton and Sherborne had Saxon origins. Originally founded as a nunnery under an abbess (Cuthberga). Its success gave rise to a monastery also under her control. King Alfred's brother, Ethelred, is buried here. Not quite so visually pleasing as the others, but it still has its moments in history. It suffered greatly from Danish attacks in 10th Century.

The library exhibiting some of the earliest mass printing was the first public library (1686). It later became chained so that it provided free access providing the townspeople were shopkeepers and other better class of persons!



Christchurch Priory situated at the confluence of the rivers Avon & Stour which can be seen from the topmost vantage point of the tower, slowly meandering into the harbour. Unparallel views if you can make the 147 steps.

Built in a Romanesque style it is the longest church in the country. Many exciting features such as the pendant vaulting, windows, the reredos and the oldest misericords beautifully carved with religious and not so religious themes.

Jim and I are now looking at perhaps a few trips to investigate some of the ecclesiastical ruins within a close proximity.

Perhaps Shaftsbury, Bindon, Forde and Abbotsbury may be worth a visit.

Many thanks to those who used their cars that made the visits possible

Nick Greenwood

● *Around Purbeck*



National Trust

Friday June 16th 10.00 - 4.00 June

Toby Hoad, Greenwood Workshop, will be giving a 'riven shingle' workshop in the Outer Bailey of Corfe Castle. Riven shingles are still used as wooden roof tiles and we have a record of King John's roofers ordering 8,000 for the castle!

If you would like to see an age old craft that links so directly with life in the castle, please come along on 16th June.

Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd July

Artisan volunteers and tutors from the Burngate Stone Carving Centre at Langton Matravers will be in the castle demonstrating skills and crafts that would have been part of everyday castle life. You will be able to try your hand at stone carving, daubing the wattle and making clay tiles as well as exploring our timber frame Masons' Lodge and carpenters' workshop.

Saturday 1st July Nancy Grace will be holding a workshop to identify some of the archaeological finds we have collected from the castle the last few years.



The Tank Museum is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our award winning Education Team. Our popular education service welcomes 6,000 pupils to the Museum each year. The team of Education Volunteers deliver workshops and activities to pupils from a range of ages and educational backgrounds.

Subject specialist knowledge is not essential and full training will be given. An interest in 20th century history or science and engineering is desirable.

Travel expenses are paid up to £15 per journey.

For more information and to apply visit <http://www.tankmuseum.org/support-us/volunteers>

Or contact Claire Cooper, Education Officer, on [01929 405 096 ext. 216](tel:01929405096) or email education@tankmuseum.org

The World's best display of moving armour, 24-25 June 2017.

Tickets are still available now.

Click here for more information: <http://tankmuseum.org/whats-on/events/bovevt53277>

- *Meeting Points*



- *Membership*

A very warm welcome to our new members who have joined us since the previous Bulletin in April 2017

Frances Chapman, Wool

Anne Laugharne, Wareham

Doreen Stacey, Wareham

Maureen Moore, Highcliffe

Terry Moore, Highcliffe

Please send us your copy in WORD for the SEPTEMBER BULLETIN by 1st September

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