

# u3a

# Sarum

## NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026 No 279



Learn



Laugh



Live

with Sarum u3a



## GROUPS PROGRAMME 2026-2027

**Everyone wishing to join a group or continue in a group must apply afresh each year in June. To join groups for reasons of fairness and insurance, you must be a member of the u3a.**

Members may apply for up to **5 groups** by emailing [b.johnston2015@outlook.com](mailto:b.johnston2015@outlook.com). Please make sure you put your name at the top of your email and list your chosen groups - group number and group name - in **order of priority**, one under the other. Alternatively, you can complete the Groups Application Form and send it to me in the post. If you send it to me in the post, please include a S.A.E. so I can return the processed form to you. Those who make their bids via email will receive an email to confirm which groups they have successfully applied for. **Please only apply for groups which you can attend on a regular basis.**

Groups marked **NPC** do not need to be included on your application form. **Please apply directly to the group leader to join any of these.** All phone numbers are 01722 numbers unless shown otherwise.

Any places remaining in groups will be publicised via our branch website and our August newsletter. You may apply direct to the group leader to join any of these groups once the lists have been published. You are also able to take up any vacant places in the other local branches once their application process is completed for their own members. Please view the Salisbury & District, Spire and Wilton u3a branch websites to view groups with vacancies at [salisburyu3a.org.uk](http://salisburyu3a.org.uk).

The **CLOSING DATE** for return of application forms or email bids is **30th JUNE 2026**. If sending your application form via post, please send with your S.A.E to **Bev Johnston, 335**

Devizes Road, Salisbury, Wilts, SP2 9JN or **by hand** at the monthly meeting at St Francis Church **on June 17.**

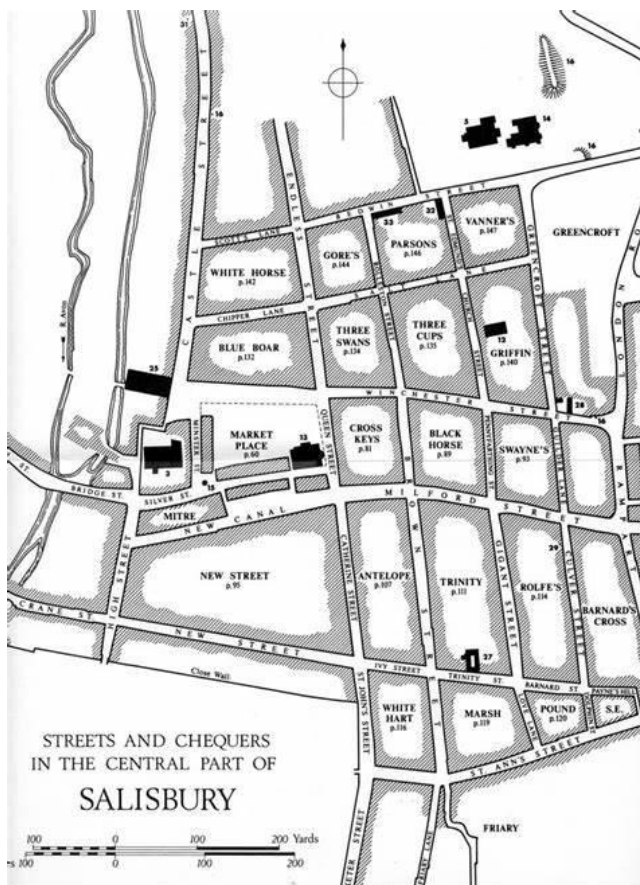
Applications by email are preferred but not essential. In order to prevent any misunderstandings, **NO telephone applications thank you.**

**If you think you haven't received your programme, please look in your spam box.**

Bev Johnston – Groups Co-ordinator



**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2026**  
**Jim Reid**  
**Chequered History – the naming of the streets in Salisbury**



A “personal” view about life on the dry hill of Sarisberie leads to why we moved to our present location and built a minster, surrounded by a city. What we inherited and what we created is followed by a notional walk round Salisbury’s Medieval City, looking at the meanings of the City’s Street names. No, you don’t have to walk! I have done the walking; you get to sit comfortably and look and listen!

After the “walk” we take a very brief look at how the city developed until the “day before” the railway came.



**Dates for your diary**

**July 15th - John Craig - Going to Blazes** – retired Chief Fire Officer. 'Going to Blazes' is a selection of amusing anecdotes from his 36-year career.

**August 19th - Bob Rogers – The Eagle has landed.** This talk features the country's leading Bird of Prey centre and gives an insight into the lives of those who work with some of nature's most charismatic creatures.



## Monthly Meetings

All the monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at St Francis Church, Castle Road. The Church is open from 9:30 where coffee and biscuits will be served from 10:00, before the guest speaker's talk begins at 10:30. Parking is available at the rear of the church or in a car park on the opposite side of the main road from the church.

Thank you to all those members who volunteer to serve refreshments at our monthly meetings.

If you can help with teas & coffees occasionally, please get in touch with Helen Burgess on 01980 629609 or 07989 650085.

Thanks Helen



## Churches & pubs 1

### Wednesday 13th May



Thirteen of us visited the Church of St Mary and St Bartholomew at Cranborne. We first had coffee at the splendid garden centre before visiting the church. We had a very interesting talk by the Rev Agnus Mayhew concentrating more on religious aspects including a short service that we don't normally have. We were shown traces of 13thC murals and stained glass windows dating between Norman times and the present day.



There were also especially fine wood carvings throughout the church including the Rood screen

carved by a previous rector. Finally, we had a lovely meal at the Sheaf of Arrows in the pretty village.

Ann Smith



## Sounds Fishy to Me

Only one of these answers to each question is correct. But which one!!

1. Before it was considered a condiment, ketchup was sold as what?  
a. A cure for Diarrhoea   b. A Laxative   c. A cough Medicine
  
2. The Greeks and Romans used which material as a bandage?  
a. Silk from the silk worm   b. Spiderwebs   c. Laurel leaves

\*\*\*\* *Answers are at the end of this Newsletter* \*\*\*\*





## The Premier Tasters Wine Appreciation group

Our recent meeting was on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June with 7 members present sampling 5 bottles of wine. The theme for the night was “4.5 star rating (and above) out of 5”. All wines were from Tesco.

Our first wine was Blaumeister Liebfraumilch – Germany – 9.5% costing £3.65 and had an average tasting score of 7.21. Next was La P'tite Pierre – France – 10.5% costing £6.50 and has a tasting score of 6.35. Our final white was Marques De Los Sancos Rioja Blanco – Spain – 11.5% costing £6.50 and the tasting score was 6.14.

Onto the reds. The first was Diablo Dark Red Blend – Chile – 13.5% costing £11.00 and had a high tasting score of 8.85. The final red was Aprimondo Appassimento – Italy – 14.5% costing £10.00. This wine had 4.9 / 5 stars from 35 reviews on the Tesco website. Our scoring gave this 8.71 / 10 on the evening.

Another great evening tasting great wines with great company. Our thanks go to Tony for hosting the evening.

Tony Fortes



## Visits - a day trip out

A coach trip provided by Great Days Out coach company is proposed to The National Gallery and The National Portrait Gallery (both free admission) on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July. To keep the cost to a minimum we are looking for 20 people with a pick-up point at London Park and Ride at 9am. The cost for the trip will £30 per person. For more information, contact Maureen Pardy - [mpardy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mpardy@hotmail.co.uk)



## THE WOODFORD VALLEY

HAVE A FEW OPEN GARDENS ON JUNE 21st from 12--5pm

THIS IS IN AID OF THE SALISBURY HOSPICE  
WHICH IS FUNDED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.  
DELICIOUS TEAS AVAILABLE. PLEASE COME AND ENJOY THE LOVELY  
VALLEY.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

## Call my Bluff

Answer from last month – A Bouffage is a noun referring to a highly enjoyable, satisfying meal

Which of these three is the true definition

### **Pandiculation**

A full-body, satisfying stretch and yawn you do right when you wake up or after a long nap.

Moving in a counter-clockwise direction or going the "wrong way" - an action historically associated with bad luck in folklore.

A word that means to cause confusion, or to be thoroughly perplexed and flustered.

Answer in next month's Newsletter



## 4 - 5 miles walk

### Bournemouth on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May



This was an extra walk, shorter than usual for a different kind of experience. A small group took the X3 bus to Boscombe and walked down Boscombe Chine to the pier. We walked along Undercliff Drive, past Bournemouth Pier, up along West Cliff Promenade and back along West Undercliff Promenade. We spotted the famous goats on the east cliff, and some beautiful clumps of 'seaside daisy' (Erigeron Glaucus), which appears to thrive there. Then to Harry Ramsden's for excellent fish and chips!



## Our next walk

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Please meet in the car park of the Hook and Glove pub, Farley, SP5 1AB at 9:45 for a 10:00 start.

This is a 4.5 mile circular walk on good tracks and woodland paths very unlikely to be muddy. There are two stiles at the end of the walk in the village, which can be avoided if necessary.

Please email me before Friday 19<sup>th</sup> if you wish to join the walk. If you would like to stay for lunch, I will then send you the menu so that you can choose your food. I will need to let the pub know your choice before Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

Thank you, Alison. [alij.payne@live.co.uk](mailto:alij.payne@live.co.uk)



## Membership Secretary's Note

We welcome the following new members who have joined in the last month: Helen Douglas, John Kenny, Jill Schell and Margaret Sinden.

You can contact me as always about any membership matters via the Contact page on the Sarum u3a website or by phone to 07887 350032.



## NEW GROUP 2026-27

The "Language and Languages" Group will meet on 4th Tuesday mornings from September 2026. Members will be invited to share information and ideas on any related topic which interests them, such as origins, child development, dyslexia, connection between language and thought, sign language etc. etc. An online summary of Steven Pinker's "The Language Instinct" (2015 edition) could be a good starting point, but we can also amuse ourselves with puns, slang and the use of language by Donald Trump and in programmes such as 'The Traitors'. More details in the Sarum U3A list of Groups. Jean Lunnon.



## Important information

If you change your address, phone number or email address, please let the Membership Secretary know immediately. ([sarumu3amembers@gmail.com](mailto:sarumu3amembers@gmail.com)) In the case of an email change please also let Tony Fortes know (Newsletter Editor – [tony53shins@gmail.com](mailto:tony53shins@gmail.com)). If I have an old email address, I cannot send you the latest newsletter!



## Calling Group Leaders

Could group leaders please send me, for inclusion into the newsletter, a couple of sentences about what your group has been doing during the month. I think it would be a good idea to let other members know what is going on in the various groups that we have in the Sarum branch.

Tony Fortes - Newsletter Editor – [tony53shins@gmail.com](mailto:tony53shins@gmail.com)





## Recommendations

Have you been to a fantastic restaurant or a nice cosy pub and come away really satisfied with the food and service? Or enjoyed a visit to a museum, a show or an exhibition, or even someone that has done work for you, then please share your experiences with the rest of our members via this newsletter.

This months' recommendation comes from the Premier Tasters wine appreciation group. Diablo dark red blend from Chile – 13.5% brought at Tesco costing £11 was one of the wines we sampled and had an average tasting score of 8.85/10. Everyone agreed that this wine was the best of the evening with comments like “Deep, silky and full bodied” “Smooth, with hints of dark berry and dark chocolate” “Fabulous. Soft and fruity”. Wait for the 25% offer on 6 wines and buy yourself a fantastic tasting red wine.



## 3-4 Mile walkers

Our next walk will be on Thursday 2nd July in The New Forest. Please meet at Millyford Bridge Car Park, Grid Reference SU267078. Take the Lyndhurst Road past Bolderwood car park then Millyford Bridge car park is approximately 3 miles on the left. New Forest car park charges are now in force. For further directions please ring/Email Brenda or Mike.

The walk is approximately 3.25 miles, and to celebrate 2 years of us walking, we will call at Acres Down Tea Shop at the halfway point for tea/coffee and cake. Cost £6 minimum. There are no stiles and it will be on forest tracks and some rougher paths, including one steep hill (after we have had our tea and cake!). It could be muddy if we have wet weather beforehand.

Please meet at 9.45 for a 10.00 start and dress for the weather. Once again, remember to bring your emergency contact details.

Please let Mike or Brenda know if you will be joining the walk.

Email [mjtalbot@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mjtalbot@hotmail.co.uk) Phone 07857 679260

## April report

### 3-4 mile walkers



Our circular June walk dodged most of the showers and once more delighted us with the views, flora and fauna. The walk began at The Livery Gate, Bentley Wood near Farley, continued through Hound Wood, back to Bentley Wood. Swallows dived across the top of the field of barley, skylarks and song thrushes sang. Orchids bloomed. It was a beautiful walk, followed by a very good lunch at The Hook and Glove Farley.





### Calling for action photos from your groups

Gordon Pardy is requesting group leaders to email him any action photographs (not people standing around looking at the camera!) from their groups for the Sarum u3a website (please make sure that all people in the photograph have given their permission).



### Interesting Facts

The first advert on Channel 5 TV was for Chanel No. 5

The quinine in tonic water is effective against malaria, as long as you drink 300 gin and tonics every day.

“To be arrested by the White Sergeant” is 17<sup>th</sup> century slang for being hauled out of a tavern by his wife.

Posting a letter from London to Edinburgh in 1818 cost as much as the then average daily wage.

\*\*\* Try to incorporate at least one of the facts into conversation \*\*\*\*



## NOTICE OF A HISTORY STUDY DAY FOR SARUM U3A



“WHAT WENT BEFORE”  
MAPPING LOCAL HISTORY, 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY TO THE 1960’S  
An interactive talk and study session by Hadrian Cook  
SALISBURY MUSEUM  
14<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2026 10.30 TO 2.30PM  
Light refreshments tea and coffee provided  
All for £22 per person

For further information and to book a place:  
Apply to Malcolm Burrows email:  
[mfburrows100@gmail.com](mailto:mfburrows100@gmail.com)





## The new Sarum u3a Website

We have a new website! It complements the Newsletter and is packed with everything you need to know about what's happening in Sarum u3a.

There's a Welcome page explaining who we are, what we do, what it costs, where we meet and how to join us. (But you know that already, being members.) There are pages on Groups, Monthly Meetings, Visits, Members of the Committee, and some useful Links. It is, of course, your website, so I'd be delighted to receive images or text to supplement what's already on there.

So, please take a look. Type into your search engine Sarum u3a.

Gordon Pardy [gkparady@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gkparady@hotmail.co.uk)



## Answers to this months' Sounds Fishy to Me

1. A cure for Diarrhoea
2. Spiderwebs



Deadline for the July issue will be Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July. I will welcome any reports from our Groups illustrating what they are doing. Also, any pictures on ongoing activities will be welcome. But could senders ensure that all people appearing in pictures are agreeable for their image to appear in the Newsletter.

Tony Fortes - Sarum u3a Newsletter Editor 07890672105 [tony53shins@gmail.com](mailto:tony53shins@gmail.com)