

Heybridge U3A

News Sheet No 3

April 2021

Your Committee

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Archive

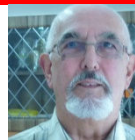
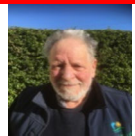
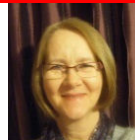
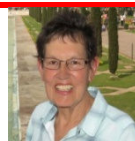

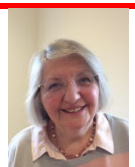



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Registered charity number 1160360

Zoom Main Meeting April 9th 2.00 pm

Check your email for the link to the Zoom meeting.

The Committee agreed to proceed with the AGM on 11th June by Zoom in view of the Covid restrictions.

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NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Chairman's report for April 2021 News letter.

Well, I suppose March was a little better than February, but with rain, chilly winds, and very little sun and shine, so what little time we can legally spend outside with one other was curtailed to some extent by Mother nature, but hey ho! April may just be a little better; we live in hope on so many fronts these days don't we.

A reminder for those who may be considering restarting their groups outside, you must complete the necessary risk assessment forms and submit them to the committee for approval, prior to commencement.

In recent weeks I have received two text/SMS messages purporting to be from Royal Mail, please if you receive similar treat with extreme caution.

Two examples of the type of messages going round are.

1/Your Royal mail parcel is awaiting delivery, please confirm the settlement of 1.99(GBP)on the following link.

2/ Royal Mail: Your package has a £1.99 shipping fee, to pay this now visit- then the link- your package will be returned to sender if unpaid.

Under no circumstances click on this link which would connect you to a legitimate-seeming website, then asks for personal details, including your bank details so that the payment can be taken.

The only time Royal mail would ask customers to make a payment by email/SMS is in instances where a customs fee is due. In such cases, they would also leave a grey card telling customer that there's a fee to pay before they can release the item.

This would apply either to an international customs fee or to a surcharge for an underpaid item. This card may arrive later than the email or SMS

I must thank and praise our secretary Linda for all the Sterling work and time she has, and is putting into holding Zoom meetings and practise sessions for any groups wishing to get going on zoom, what a trooper. I had the privilege of unseen observance as she took the new morphing Yoga and Well-being group through their paces, the time, energy, patience and unflagging support to all was commendable, she must be using Ever Ready Energy batteries to keep her going.

The AGM in June is fast approaching; I won't repeat last month's message but would refer you to the March newsletter. Please give this matter a lot of thought and consideration.

Meanwhile take advantage of what restrictions are relaxed and follow carefully those that are not.

Stay safe and healthy

Norman Cumming, Chairman.

From the Editor

The design of the Heybridge U3A News Sheet, and the reports that it contains, is a full-page layout of 15 pages in a large font. Information about the Committee Members and their reports can be found in the first few pages. A fun quiz can be found on Page 12 with answers on page 13. The next News sheet will be in May so send items by last Saturday in April 2021. I am very grateful to all the people who send material for inclusion. Have you anything to say? Please send it to me and I will include it.

Geoff Hadley editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Membership Secretary

The Committee has decided to delay the AGM and membership renewal till June 2021 so there is no need to complete another form or make any payment till then. Anyone who has still not renewed their membership for 2020/21 can do so for £10 and will be a paid up member until June. If you wish to renew your membership, download the enrolment form from the website or email me to be sent one. Let me know if you have no printing facilities as I could post one to you. You need to complete the form and post it back to me (address is on the form) with a cheque for £10. Dual Members pay £13. Or you could do a Bank Transfer just email or ring me for the account details.

You must give your name as reference or we will not know it is you who has paid.

For this year at least I will still need you to complete a form, and this must be posted to me.

Philippa Moody membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

Interest Group Co-Ordinator Report

Here we are another month gone but that bit closer to getting out and seeing each other. Hopefully some of our groups will be able to resume later this year and I can't wait! All we need now is the sun to warm our gardens. By now most of us will have had at least the first vaccine so should feel happier to meet up with others outside. We have just moved (locally) and we don't have far to walk to get magnificent views across the river directly looking across at Maldon, it's really beautiful. I think this last year we have learned to take the time to enjoy all the things we usually take for granted. Stay safe everyone till we get together again.

Hilary Furniaux groupsco-ordinator@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

Monthly Meeting Speaker Programme

Last month our speaker was Annamaria Dall'Anese, a Blue Badge London Guide. Her subject was The Theme of Change in relation to 'The Jewels of London's Museums and Art Galleries. Her talk included artefacts from The British Museum, National Gallery, Natural History Museum, The Crystal Palace and the V and A Museum.

Annamaria started with Turner's painting The Fighting Temeraire, then a self-portrait of Turner as a young artist.

She told us the histories of The Rosetta Stone and of an Egyptian parchment 'The Book of the Dead of Hunefer' which are both kept at the British Museum. Annamaria explained all about the symbolism in the painting 'The Ambassadors' by Hans Holbein.

She included the design and building of The Crystal Palace by Joseph Paxton for The Great Exhibition of 1851. It was considered an architectural innovation.

From here we moved on to the two largest skeletons in The Natural History Museum. Dippy the Diplodocus and the Blue Whale.

Most of these things our members knew of already but probably haven't visited for a long time. Perhaps it's whetted our appetite to revisit them when life returns to normal.

On Friday 9th April our speaker, via Zoom is James Taylor – British Humour in the Forgotten Art of Picture Postcards 1840 - 1950

On Friday 14th May our speaker, via Zoom is Jason Middleton – The History of Jewellery

On Friday 11th June it will be our AGM, via Zoom

Hope to see you there.

Jan Brown speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

Zooming with the u3a

A year ago we would never have thought that we would be unable to get together for our convivial meetings, whether it be the main meeting at Plantation hall or group meetings of various sorts. As it seems still a long way off before we can do resume most of our activities, it makes sense to do whatever we can to keep in touch and use the means that are available, such as Zoom, WhatsApp messaging, email and anything else you can come up with. It may not be ideal, but surely better than nothing.

Looking forward to the April meeting, we would love more to join us. If anyone would like to have a trial run on Zoom, or feel they need more practice, please email me on secretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk to let me know and I will set up a session or give one-to-one help over the phone to iron out any technical difficulties - it's easy when you know how. A few people join without video if they don't have a camera on their laptop, some have a camera plugged in or use headphones. Any group can have a Zoom meeting set up for them if you contact me, and it can be run via the Heybridge U3A Zoom account so you don't need to worry about doing it yourself. The Photography group are dab hands at this and as well as sharing photos and expertise there always seems to be a bit of light-hearted banter.

Linda Etherton

Sharing your lockdown projects

We had the pleasure of seeing how Chris Rose created his Bench called Arthur at one of the Zoom meetings, so I wonder what projects other members have been getting up to? Have you re-designed part of your garden, grown some wonderful vegetables, planted a tree? Are you a keen knitter or constantly doing crochet? Maybe like me you have made birthday cards (because you weren't going out to the supermarket) or perhaps painting for the sheer pleasure of it. Maybe you discovered a new craft that has benefited your wellbeing, or completed a mammoth jigsaw puzzle. Have you re-cycled something to make a new useful or decorative item? Whatever has kept you going, it would be wonderful to hear from you, preferably with a photograph, so that we can share what everyone has been up to. The aim is to have a virtual gallery to show, perhaps at the AGM, or include in the News Sheet.

Please email me, telephone if technology escapes you or even WhatsApp to your CoG to be passed on and share what you have done.

Linda Etherton

Publicity

The National u3a day is to go ahead on 2nd June although we will still have restrictions on socialising at that time. Linda and I attended a Zoom meeting with representatives from most of the other Maldon Cluster u3as to decide how we would participate. It was agreed that we should try for as much publicity as possible through social media and the traditional forms of media – the press; local radio etc.. However, at best we will still be limited to 30 people meeting outside and no-one thought that it would be an appropriate use of resources to plan for any outdoor festivities. In the meantime, do tell a friend about our u3a. Remember, it's *your* organisation. Please help us return to a vibrant u3a with lots of people participating in our activities and as many members as possible helping to organise things. Lockdown might have made us into couch potatoes but who wants to stay that way! When I stand down from the committee in June we will need someone to take over as Minutes Secretary. You do not need to actually be on the committee to do this job, just attend the committee meetings, write up the Minutes and send them to the Secretary for distribution.

No one has yet come forward to take on the Publicity Officer Job from me either (I wrote about it last month.) Could you help with one of these roles? Please get in touch.

AP

GROUP REPORTS

Bird Watching

Spring is coming Grebes are dancing again and black headed gulls have got black heads again. The big rafts of ducks and geese have all split up and gone rushing off to every nook and cranny for a bit of 'nookie'! Keep your eyes open, everything is on the move. The bird watching group should have been meeting on Friday 26th March but things don't start to unlock until 29th March. We are going out as a group on the 1st April

In the meantime the next 'end of month' meeting will be 30th April.

(symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk or jill.mcgregor@btinternet.com)

Discussion Coffee Morning Group

Welcome to spring, I think. I have been invited for my second jab so I will be pleased to get that out of the way and hope that all of us who have opted for the jabs will soon be feeling just a little easier after having both.

The weather will still be unpredictable for a while but we will have to make the most of the good sunny days to get out if we can, whether it's in the garden or for a walk.

Highlight for this week will be putting my car in for its MOT (and hoping it passes). Stay healthy and safe everyone Margaret Brown

Family History

During lockdown I joined the Genealogy Worldwide group on Facebook. It's basically people needing help in solving a problem, or simply asking for advice. Anyone can chip in to help. Among the helpers are a few professionals who give their services free.

I do sometimes attempt to help, but I never seem to match the speed of others providing the answer.

After 50 years of Family History I'm still discovering interesting and surprising information.

Re-registering a birth.

If the biological parents of a child born out of wedlock subsequently marry, and even if the father is on the birth certificate, they are legally required to re-register the birth thereby making the offspring legitimate. This only applies to the biological parents marrying, not if they marry other people.

Before this 1926 Re-registering Act, an illegitimate child had *no* rights where inheriting an estate was concerned. Even if they had lived their entire lives with the parents, and a legal will was in their favour, they still could not become the heirs.

The law progressed slightly in 1987 with the Family Law Reform act, removing (for legal purposes only) the divide between legitimate and illegitimate.

Although this 1926 law is now partially redundant, the re-registering is still technically valid, and could be enforced even today.

The oldest recorded 'child' re-registered, was a 40 year old man!

Workhouses.

Finding a birth that took place in a workhouse I immediately assume, homeless and destitute, but that wasn't always the case. Some workhouses had clean well equipped hospitals with qualified staff.

Quite often if a new, soon to be mother felt apprehensive or nervous, the local workhouse would, for a small charge, provide better care than the local 'midwife', and less than the hospitals of that time (no NHS), thus providing a safer birth. Never judge a book by its cover!

The prefix Step.

Prior to the 1900's where a re-marriage involving a widow or widower took place, the prefix 'step' referring to the children or parents was unheard of. The prefix 'law' was used instead. In a way it makes sense, that after marrying a widow or widower the children then (by law) became theirs.

The prefix 'step' seems to have appeared mid 1930's.

This scenario actually happened to me with an 1881 census record, where the head of the house had married a widow. The 11 year old son was down as son-in-law and the 6 year old daughter was daughter-in-law. I lodged a complaint to the website that either the transcription or the enumerator's record was incorrect.

I never received a reply. A light bulb went off after reading this on the Genealogy help group website.

You're just never too old to learn! Take care. Jean Rogers

French Conversation

Pourquoi le 1er Avril?



In the UK, April 1st is April Fools' Day, when it's customary to play jokes on family and friends and call them 'April Fool'. In France, it's similar. Paper fish are attached to people's backs without them realising. When the prank is discovered, the perpetrator shouts **<Poisson d'avril>** (April fish).

The most likely origin of 1st April in France goes back to the reign of Charles IX who, in 1564, decided to reform the calendar so that the French year began at Christmas or Easter or, in some regions, on 25th March. However, as many people either had difficulty in adopting the new calendar or were unaware that the date had changed, they continued to offer presents and tips on April 1st. They became the target of pranksters, who made fun of them by offering joke presents and calling them a **<Poisson d'avril>** and, voilà - a new French tradition was born.

Why a Poisson d'avril? There are several hypotheses. One suggests that fish in April are a symbol of Lent, when it is permitted only to eat fish. Another asserts that fish represent Pisces, the sign of the poisson, which is the last sign of winter. From the start of the 20th century, people sent cards illustrated with little fish, wishing each other love, friendship and good fortune.

Nowadays, pranksters pin small paper fish and the words **<poisson d'avril>** to the backs of people walking by, which causes much laughter. **Jenny Parker**

History talks on Zoom

Limebrook and Blackwater u3a's are inviting Heybridge members interested in history to join them for their talks.

As Limebrook u3a are using outside speakers there is a charge of £3.00 per talk. Just email Mike Stringer at mike.stringer19@btinternet.com for the details.

There is no charge for Blackwater talks just email me at speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk and I will email you the Zoom link

Programme of talks

13th April 2.00 History of Meccano and Hornby (Blackwater)

Thursday 22nd April @ 10.30 am. "Mrs Beeton - the original Superwoman" by Margaret Mills. Hailed as a Domestic Goddess of the 19th century who turned household management into a military operation, some people have since questioned whether she was all she appeared to be. This talk also considers her husband, Sam Beeton, who was also well-known in his field. Were they the 19th century equivalent of a 'power couple'? (Limebrook)

Tuesday 18th May @ 10.30am. "In the wake of the Mayflower" by Cathy Shelbourne. Over 25 million of us apparently are descended from those who set sail from Plymouth in 1620 on board The Mayflower, bound for a new life in the New World. In this year after the 400th anniversary, we look at the voyage itself and the expedition's legacy. We will also have the opportunity to discuss any links with us in Maldon, few may be aware that the Mayflower's captain is believed to have hailed from our town! (Limebrook)

Tuesday 15th June @ 10.30am. "Entertainment in Wartime Britain" by Mike Brown. A look at how the entertainment industry fared during the War, when the lights were going out across Europe. Did our theatres close, like they have during the pandemic, or did life go on? (Limebrook)

Jan Brown



We have reached the end of the alphabet with this month's list of tracks celebrating X, Y and Z! As you may imagine, it wasn't the longest of lists, and there were some new names on it such as Xenakis, Xyndas, Zach and Zemlinsky.

However we also included works played on the xylophone and zither, and by Yo Yo Ma, cellist, and a Chinese American female conductor called Xian Zhang.

This may be the last list of music links for a while as after the marathon of the alphabet I feel I need a rest! Though if any of the group members would like to circulate a list of their favourite music then I will be happy to write a report on that.

Philippa Moody

Needlecraft Group Report

This month our group have been quite busy. A baby blanket has been knitted with a crocheted edge, a couple of mug holders have been crocheted, 3 sets of dolly clothes have been knitted using up odd bits of wool and mismatched buttons, the quilt is still in the making as are the granny crochet squares and lastly some lace making. Quite an achievement from a small group!

Hilary Furniaux

Painting 2

I have another story for you for those who might not have seen this in the press on 25th February. A Van Gogh drawing once stolen by the Nazis may fetch a record £7 Million at Auction. This sketch La Mousme is one of eight being sold to beat possible tax changes. The collection could raise £16 Million at Christie's in March.

This particular picture of a young woman was bought by a banker in 1920. He fled Europe in WW2 but the sketch was stolen from his house in Holland in 1940 by the Nazi but returned to the family in 1956, then sold to an Art dealer in 1983. LaMousme is a copy of his oil painting in the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC. The sale also includes 3 other paintings, one a Freud valued at £1.7 Million.

For copyright reasons I cannot show my copy of the press report but if you are interested I will have it with me at the next Main meeting for you to see. I am looking forward to seeing you all again, could be June or July. Watch this space

Barbara Barbrook

Papercraft Group

Two of our 3 members have been sorting their craft rooms this month so production has been very limited. One just because and the other because she moved house – and realised just how much craft stash she had!!! However I have been making a card for my brother. With Easter on the horizon we shall all be starting our cards and chocolate egg holders very soon.

Lesley Woonton

Petanque Group

Well, we finally had our first game of Petanque in the Maldon Prom. And what a joy it was to be able to get out and play, as well as seeing friends again. The weather was lovely and sunny; we couldn't have picked a better day to play after being shut in for 3 months of lockdown.

We are all so looking forward now to be able to carry on, and hopefully the weather will be kind to us as well. Thank you everyone for your continued support to me throughout this past year.

Moirá

Photography Group

March 2021 Meeting

We held another very successful Zoom meeting on 4th March our eleventh so far with 14 members and 2 guests participating.

We started the meeting by watching a slide show of the photos taken by our members during the month. The subject for the month's assignment being "Photographs where the subject starts with the letters "O, P and Q". There was a wide range of photos. As each member commented on their photos various comments were made with other items in the photo starting with the same letter being pointed out.



Owl by Pat Newman Pencils by Jill McGregor

If anyone is interested in joining our group and participating in our assignments please contact me.
Norman Grove

Scrabble Group

In the puzzle last month I asked you which of the letters of one of these words could be added or 'hooked' onto the beginning or end of one of the others to make a valid word. If you use **HEAD** you can make **BOOTH**, **EAGER**, **PASTA** and **TYPED**.

B₃ O₁ O₁ T₁

T₁ Y₄ P₃ E₁

H₄ E₁ A₁ D₂

A₁ G₂ E₁ R₁

P₃ A₁ S₁ T₁

Sometimes in a game of Scrabble you can make a word from the 7 letters on your rack: here's an anagram for you. What 7-letter word can you make? If you were able to play this as the first word on the board, you would add up the score for each letter, multiply by 2 then add 50 points for playing all your tiles!

S₁ C₃ A₁ U₁ R₁ E₁ D₂

No prizes, but this is actually an obscure word in its own right: who knows?
Linda Etherton

Walking Group

Well, good news at last, albeit not yet. Obviously we shall all be carefully watching the updates from the Government, but it is currently looking like we may be able to resume walking by June. As our regular walks happen on the second Thursday of the month we may miss out on the May walk. As we get nearer to the dates mentioned firm decisions can be made. Obviously, there are many groups in the U3A all itching to start again but it may be that we can make our first walk in May if we can postpone it to the third Thursday. It is still too far ahead to make any real arrangements and I shall be writing to everyone on my list as and when restriction requirements become more definite. Hopefully we have all had at least our first jab and the second one for those in the first two cohorts should have their second one by the end of April. The light at the end of the tunnel is burner brighter each week. See you all later this year..

Linda Wells.

Yoga and Wellbeing Group

We have made such good progress with our tuition on Zoom that we can begin our planned fortnightly discussion meetings using this facility.

Our first discussion group is **2pm Wednesday 14th April 2021**. It is planned to finish at 3pm.

A brief discussion recently on Mindfulness made us realise the importance this has to our own and our family's health. With the publication "Mindfulness for Health" we are planning to discuss this subject in greater depth.

Our following Zoom meeting date is **2pm Wednesday 28th April 2021 then 12th May**.

Please contact me if you would like to join our group or require further information.

Gloria Bomford Group COG

Rumblings

Time, Luck, and Observation.

Do I go birdwatching? No. I do watch birds though. Working the fields all my adult life I've observed Nature, many birds but much more besides. Luck, right time and place, but also of being alert and observant. Does the Lycra clad cyclist barrelling along see more than the road ahead? Certainly not motorists behind, or the twitcher, see the adder slither off the sea wall a few yards ahead, or a grass snake swimming the lake?

"Nowt so queer as folk" Grandpa would say as he settled on a park bench to watch people; a fantastic pastime. How about waves coming onto shore, all different but with a rhythmic sound.

Much is mundane but occasionally— — — —.

Moving a straw bale wall and uncovering a hedgehog nest, mum and four very young babies, still pink and with white, soft, bendy quills, moved them and didn't tell the gamekeeper. The scream of a leveret is blood curdlingly human. I had caught it (poacher fashion, no traps) to move it to a safer location. Then the woman of a certain age in Tesco, hair style and colour a replica of the badger I'd followed down the road. Seen wild red squirrels too, both in England. A foggy Nov. morn on a lake, I saw the reflection of a passing cloud, but no, hundreds of eels in a shoal swimming nearly vertical just below the surface. Others have seen the phenomenon elsewhere, but why??

Birds over the years have provided some happy interludes, though not the several earfuls of gull poo! Been lucky enough to see a golden eagle, merlin, hen harrier, a white red kite at a feeding station, the fluorescent flash of golden oriel and the drab colouring of a corncrake, but the apex of right place and time was mallard ducklings taking that leap of faith off a 6m plus high barn roof onto a concrete yard—splud,splud,splud, not 3m away from me,10 of them and they all survived to head off with mum.

About 40years ago we were invaded by ladybirds. "Twas unpleasant", you could see clouds of them flying in, they smothered you, and they bit you too. The aphids survived though.

There is much more out there too, tors, dales, mountains and streams, many formed by water action, glacier, and simple water erosion or just look at the channels of the saltines. I'll let you find where and what pingoland is, and I've walk through it!

One miracle of nature tops the lot though, being there and watching the birth of my daughter.

Peter

April Quiz

1. In the 1966 spaghetti western, who played a) the Good b) the Bad c) the Ugly?
2. Which actors played Tom and Barbara Good in 'The Good Life'?
3. Spa town in Germany's Black Forest, famous for its thermal baths
4. Parable told by Jesus in Luke chapter 10
5. The action of making an ugly face.
6. US television comedy character played by America Ferrera
7. Actors who sang the 1960 comedy song 'Goodness Gracious Me'
8. Founder of the Boy Scout Movement in the early 20th century
9. Wife of Henry VIII considered to be ugly and called the 'Flanders Mare'
10. Racket game played with a shuttlecock.
11. Group Captain Douglas, flying ace in WW2
12. British mammal which lives in a sett.
13. Burl Ives sang this song in Disney's 1963 film 'Summer Magic'
14. 'Glorious' seat of the Duke of Richmond in West Sussex
15. Citrus fruit which is a cross between a grapefruit, orange and tangerine
16. Baron Hardup was their father!
17. 'Looking for Mr ' a 1977 film starring Richard Gere and Diane Keaton
18. 'Goodbye ' is a 2017 film about the life of author A.A. Milne
19. Which range of bath and shower products is derived from horse chestnuts.
20. In which cities are these 'saintly' squares? a) Saint Peter's b) Saint Mark's c) Saint Wenceslas?

Do you use Facebook? Why not join the Heybridge U3A group.

We now have our own group on Facebook. Our Facebook group is a closed one; Philippa is the administrator who acts as the gate-keeper. Please see her report for more details. The Facebook group will supplement the news-sheet, not replace it.

Essex Fraud Alert

If you, or someone you know, is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud, please call Essex Police on 101.

Report fraud or attempted fraud by contacting Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

Barry Linton of Thorpe Bay u3a and an Association Committee Member is involved with the Essex Police working as a volunteer within the Fraud and Scam Protection Team, particularly those scams that may target older people. He is a fully recognised speaker on Cybercrime protection by Essex Police.

With Essex Police support he maintains a Fraud Alert web page on the Thorpe Bay u3a website. A link to this can be found on the Association of Essex u3as website. Visit the site and click on Fraud Alerts button and this will take you to information on this and a link to Thorpe Bay website. <https://u3asites.org.uk/thorpebay/page/107669>

Janice Business Secretary

Answers

1.a) Clint Eastwood b)Lee Van Cleef c)Eli Wallach 2.Richard Briers and Felicity Kendal 3.Baden-Baden 4.The Good Samaritan 5.gurning 6.Ugly Betty 7.Peter Sellers & Sophia Loren 8.Baden-Powell 9.Anne of Cleves 10.badminton 11.Bader 12.badger 13.Ugly Bug Ball 14.Goodwood 15.ugli 16. Ugly sisters 17.Goodbar 18.Christopher Robin 19. Badedas 20. a)Rome b)Venice c)Prague

A bit of fun!



On July 20th 1969, as commander of the Apollo 11 lunar module, Neil Armstrong was the first person to set foot on the moon. His first words after stepping on the moon, "that's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind," were televised to earth and heard by millions. But, just before he re-entered the lander, he made the remark "good luck, Mr. Gorsky. NASA

thought it was a casual remark concerning some rival soviet cosmonaut. However, upon checking, there was no Gorsky in either the Russian or American space programs. Over the years, people questioned Armstrong as to what the 'good luck, Mr. Gorsky' statement meant, but Armstrong always just smiled. On July 5, 1995, in Tampa Bay, Florida, while answering questions following a speech, a reporter brought up the 26-year-old question about Mr. Gorsky. This time he finally responded, his Mr. Gorsky had just died, so Neil Armstrong felt he could now answer the question. Here is the answer: "who was Mr. Gorsky". In 1938, when he was a kid in a small mid-western town, he was playing baseball with a friend in the backyard. His friend hit the ball, which landed in his neighbour's yard by their bedroom window. His neighbours were Mr. And Mrs. Gorsky. As he leaned down to pick up the ball, young Armstrong heard Mrs. Gorsky shouting at Mr. Gorsky, "sex! You want sex?! You'll get sex when the kid next door walks on the moon!" It broke the place up. Neil Armstrong's family confirmed that this is a true story.



A thief in Paris planned to steal some paintings from The Louvre. He planned it well and got past security, stole the paintings and made it safely to his van. However he was soon captured when the van ran out of gas. When I asked how he could mastermind such a crime and then make such an obvious error, he replied 'I stole the paintings as I had no **Monet** to buy **Degas** to make the **Van Gogh**'. He challenged me to have '**De Gaulle** to


print this. I figured I had nothing **Toulouse**.

Vagaries of the English Language

At a movie theatre, which arm rest is yours?
Why is there a 'd' in fridge, but not in refrigerator?
Who knew what time it was when the first clock was made?
Ironical that the word funeral starts with FUN?
How come Lipstick doesn't do what it says?
If money doesn't grow on trees, how come Banks have Branches?
If a Vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a Humanitarian eat?
How do you get off a non-stop Flight?
Why is it called Rush Hour when traffic moves at its slowest then?

Let's Give Thanks To Those Brave Volunteers -Don't Despair

That day will come when once again we will have fun!
We'll come out of stagnation when we've all had our second vaccination!



There'll be no more need to 'Zoom' There will be real people inside the room.
We'll go shopping with our trolley and pick and choose – oh how jolly!
No more getting up early for that DPD drop - Once we can go inside the shop!
We'll get to see a real GP at last and hopefully 'phone consultations will be in the past.
They'll be no need to mask up and hide our smile. We'll walk and talk with those not seen all this while.
We'll go on that trip that we had planned and swim in the sea and sit on the sand.
So let us give thanks to those brave volunteers, who took part in drug trials despite all the fears.
And to all those behind the Covid jab, both inside and outside the Development Lab!

Poem by Myra Wasserman