

MAKE CONTACT
MAKE FRIENDS
KEEP LEARNING

u3a4u

Spring 2022

u3a Lyme
Regis
learn, laugh, live



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Letter from the Chair

When I came forward in 2019 to help this u3a I actually only volunteered to do 'meet and greet' at the talks. I ended up as Chair and got more than I bargained for: a scam and a viral pandemic! It has been a challenge. At the last main meeting in March 2020 we were waiting for the pandemic to hit us. I very clearly remember looking around an extremely crowded, hot and airless room fearing the worst, wondering what was going to happen. Thankfully my fears were not realised.

The first Meet the Group Leaders event took place in February this year. It was good to see so many of the group leaders again after a break of two years. We now have 29 groups and activities functioning in various ways. The first in-person 'real life' talk since the start of lockdown is planned for April, and I very much look forward to welcoming people back. Various trips are also being arranged for 2022. We slowly move towards more 'normality', continuing to assess the Covid risk and take precautions as required.

The scam to which the group was subject highlighted the need for greater vigilance online and to have procedures in place to reduce financial risk. We have now finished writing the finance

policy, a copy of which is available on our website. Thanks go to Andy Taylor, one of our members, who has provided advice on the topic of fraud prevention.

I would like to thank all those who have supported me in my role as we have tried to 'keep things going'. It is much appreciated. I also thank all those across this u3a who have contributed in different ways in these difficult times. I have now come to the end of my 3-year term and, in line with the Constitution, need to stand down. This will take effect from the end of April. I will still be helping on the committee in some capacity and will provide any support required for a new person willing to take on the role. Mary Bohane has also resigned as Vice Chair as from the end of February and will continue on the committee as Membership Advisor. We also need someone to take responsibility for publicity and volunteers to help with refreshments at the meetings beginning in April. This organisation can only continue to be a success if people are willing to come forward to help. Thank you.

All the best to you all

Rachael Pope

Monthly Talks

The programme of Zoom presentations continued in January with a fascinating description of Polperro's social history as revealed by artists, delivered by David Tovey. In March, we were treated to a live, virtual tour of Mapperton House, 'the nation's finest manor house' according to *Country Life* magazine, parts of which were built in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. Now the home of the Earl and Countess of Sandwich, the Montagu family's collection of paintings add detail and colour to many notable historical events.

Then in April we shall return to in-person meetings in Woodmead Hall. The first talk will feature the Lyme-based Word Forest Organisation which helps to resource some major tree planting schemes in Africa, as a contribution to the local economies and climate change.

A varied array of speakers is lined up to continue the presentations throughout the summer, covering historical, geographic, artistic and practical topics. My appeal to the u3a's interest groups to nominate speakers or suggest subjects for talks has produced one proposal so far; I remain open to further suggestions!

The current plan is to return to Zoom presentations during the winter. In the meantime, please look out for details of each talk in the monthly newsletters.

Andrew Lightfoot, speaker-finder@lru3a.org

Reminders

Informal Drop-in

We meet at the Pilot Boat in Lyme Regis at 10.00am on the last Thursday of the month. For information, email Rachael Pope at chair@lru3a.org or phone 01297 445575. Alternatively, email Ann Fleet at trips@lru3a.org or phone 07761 68608. The Drop-in is open to everyone; if you want to come, just turn up! Tea and coffee will be £1.50 a cup.

Breakfast

The u3a Breakfast is on the first Saturday of the month at 9.30am at the Pilot Boat in Lyme Regis. The breakfast is open to everyone and again, if you want to come, just turn up. There are two breakfasts available: a smaller breakfast with one of everything (£7.50) and a larger breakfast with two of everything (£12.00). Tea and coffee will be £1.50 a cup. For more details contact Rachael Pope at chair@lru3a.org or phone 01297 445575.

Theatre Trips

Crewkerne, Lyme Regis and Bridport u3a's PROPOSED THEATRE TRIPS 2022

Northcott Theatre, Exeter

Wednesday May 25th at 7.30pm. English Touring Opera: *La Boheme* (Puccini).

Assuming a party of 35 – Tickets: £32, Coach: £11.

Pick-ups: Bridport at 3.30pm, Lyme Regis at 3.50pm.

Theatre Royal, Plymouth

Thursday August 25th at 2.30pm. *Singing in the Rain*.

Assuming a party of 35 – Tickets: £38, Coach: £15.

Pick-ups: Bridport at 10.15am, Lyme Regis at 10.35am.

Arrive Plymouth by 12.30pm to allow time to find lunch or BYO.

Mayflower Theatre Southampton

Friday October 14th at 2.30pm. *The Lion King*.

Assuming a party of 35 – Tickets: £65 (cheapest available; it's very popular!), Coach: £14.

Pick-ups: Lyme Regis at 10.15am, Bridport at 10.35am.

Arrive Southampton in time to have lunch or BYO.

I have tickets on hold for all three shows but would encourage you to get back to me at theatretrips@lru3a.org as soon as you can to reserve seats. Payment will be required mid-April.

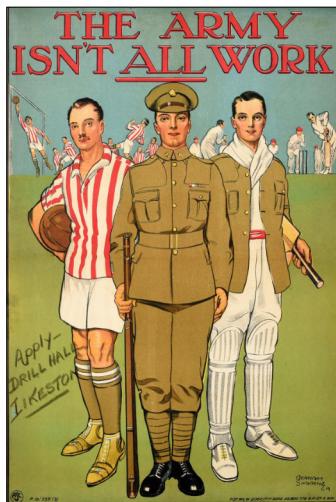
John Bartholomew

The 2021 Christmas Lunch

Despite reduced numbers due to worries surrounding the pandemic, a small group of u3a members met at the Pilot Boat for an enjoyable Christmas lunch.



History Group – The Use of Art in the First World War



August 1914

How do you persuade young men in the prime of their lives to enter into conflict with a chance they may be killed?

By persuading them it's a big adventure and encouraging rumours that it will be over in a few months.



1915 – 1918

How do you keep this enthusiasm going, even when news of casualties starts to come through and in the face of increasing scepticism about the war?

By appealing to people's sense of nationhood, defence of family and country, encouraging hatred of the enemy and even shaming men into joining up. Also, by now, the coffers are empty and there is a constant need to raise money.

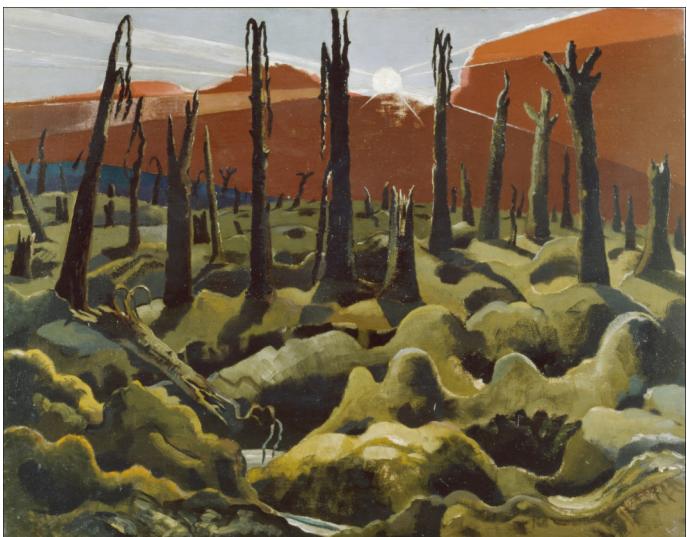
1918 onwards.

How do you record events for posterity?

Via the Official War Artists scheme and individual artists (often serving in the military), providing they don't show British soldiers being killed, maimed or disabled – at least not until the war is over. Only then were the horror and devastation fully shown, especially in the explicitly gruesome pictures by some German artists. And, of course, there are hundreds of war memorials and military cemeteries all over the world.

These questions formed the basis of an illustrated talk to the History Group, using posters, cartoons, postcards and paintings. Once a month, a member of the group chooses a subject to present to the rest of the group. Whether it's an exploration of a local piece of history (or building), or a historical event or place that interests the speaker, it encourages research and involvement to the benefit (hopefully) and edification of everyone involved.

Yvonne Renouf



Archaeology Group

The Archaeology Group has continued to meet on Zoom with recent presentations about Iron Age hillforts, dating methods and Iron Age burial practices. We are hoping to start holding our monthly meetings in person from March and will be moving to the first Wednesday of the month at 3pm (instead of the first Friday). We have also been going boldly forth to visit more local Iron Age

hillforts. In July 2021 we visited one of the smaller and lesser known forts at North Poorton (near Mapperton) on which there is virtually no information. However we were rewarded with spectacular views across Dorset from the top and a splendid lunch at Mapperton Gardens. As a group it also helped us to really appreciate the huge variation in the size of these hillforts.



On a chilly but bright October morning we set out to visit Abbotsbury Castle and Eggardon Hill. Although a relatively small hillfort, Abbotsbury (above) does afford spectacular views over Chesil Beach and Lyme Bay. Only very limited excavation work has been carried out here but it suggested Abbotsbury was built in two phases and contained at least 10 roundhouses (Iron Age dwellings).

Maggie Davidson

Walking Group 1

The story of the holiday that nearly didn't happen, three times!

For a number of years Group 1 has had a springtime walking break in various Shearings hotels. For March 2020 I organised a 3-day weekend break to Lynton but the first lockdown put paid to that, much to the disappointment of the 22 who had booked. This was then rebooked for March 2021. Wrong again. Shearings went into administration in May 2020 still holding the money that we had paid for the March 2020 holiday. After an awful lot of to- and fro-ing with credit card companies and the administrator the money was eventually returned in November 2020.

The rebooked break for March 2021 had fewer walkers as some were not as optimistic as I was! But we all know what happened in the spring of 2021: lockdown all over again. Fortunately we were able to rebook for November 2021, by which time the numbers were down to 6.

This time the holiday could go ahead, staying in Lynton. As we were in need of a break, it was booked as a 4-night, mid-week holiday, with the promise of one circular walk from Lynmouth to Watersmeet and Rockford. The other walk was onto Exmoor and the Doone Valley. However, events contrived to put paid to us staying in Lynton as, one week before the holiday, we all got a call from Shearings to say they were closing the Valley of Rocks Hotel in Lynton until just before Christmas due to a shortage of bookings! They had, however, rebooked us into their hotel in Ilfracombe. Not the



Verity, a sculpture by Damien Hirst, stands at the entrance to Ilfracombe harbour.
Photo by Rachael Pope.

end of the world. At least we could actually get away, which we did, third time lucky.

It did mean a rethink on the walks to keep them reasonably local to Ilfracombe. One walk took in part of the SW Coast path heading west, lots of up and downs, though with tremendous views, inland and round back home. Our second walk took us from Woolacombe, again west along the sand burrows towards Baggy Point and Croyde Bay and return. This left one day for sightseeing or shopping. Four of us took a bus into Barnstaple and the other two explored Ilfracombe, taking in the museum and harbour with the unique statue, *Verity*.

There will be no Group walk this year but, who knows, we may resurrect the Lynton walk for 2023.

Jim Moseley



Walkers at Lynton, maybe
for us in 2023?
Photo by John Marriage

Groups

Brief details of each group is given below. These are divided into five categories for ease of looking up what interests you: Exercise, Knowledge, Languages, Skills, and Social. The final table lists activity by day, where day is known.

It would be great if we could have a few more groups to make up for the drop in numbers that has occurred during the pandemic. Anyone who thinks that they may wish to run a group to share their interest, curiosity or passion in any area is invited to contact Mark Gillams on groups@lru3a.org for a chat.

EXERCISE

Exercise	Day	Time	Place	Contact
Badminton	Monday	5.00pm	The Hub, Lyme Regis	groups@lru3a.org
Chi Gung (Qigong)	Tuesday	5.30pm	St Michael's Church Hall, Lyme Regis	Dave Edwards, 07717 457180
Fencing	TBD	TBD	TBD	groups@lru3a.org
Scottish Dancing	Monday		Woodbury Community Hall	David, 01460 65981
Short Tennis	Thursday	2.00pm	Musbury Village Hall	Jill, 07775 256722
Table Tennis	Thursday	p.m.	Baptist Church Hall, Lyme Regis	Brian Watson, 01297 32060
Tennis	Tuesday	10.00am	Charmouth Tennis Club	Joyce Beadle, 01297 442279
Walking 1	Alternate Mondays	10.00am	Various locations	Sue Wilson via groups@lru3a.org
Walking 2	Alternate Mondays	10.00am	Uplyme Village Hall	Marion Richardson, 01297 33824
Walking-Strollers				New leader required. groups@lru3a.org

KNOWLEDGE

Subject	Day	Time	Place	Contact
Archaeology	1st Wednesday	3.00pm		Maggie Davidson via groups@lru3a.org
Book Group	1st Monday	p.m.	Members' homes	groups@lru3a.org
Current Affairs	3rd Tuesday	10.30am	Members' homes	Gilbert Bland, 07754 545590
History	TBD	TBD	TBD	Paul Hancock via groups@lru3a.org
Literature	2nd Thursday	2.00pm	Members' homes	Frances Barter, francesbarter@francesbarter.plus.com
Memoir writing	Alternate Wednesdays	10.00 am	Guildhall	Jackie Lloyd, 01297 443516
Play reading	Alternate Mondays	2.00pm	Members' homes	Frances Barter, francesbarter@francesbarter.plus.com
Poetry				David Ruffle, davidruffle@hotmail.com
Rare Book Group	1st Friday, alternate months	7.30pm	65 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	Bob Speer, 01297 445815 (day) / 01297 443653 (evenings)
Religion and Ethics				New leader required, groups@lru3a.org
Science and Technology	3rd Friday (excl. August & December)	10.00am	Woodmead Hall, Lyme Regis	webmaster@lru3a.org

LANGUAGES

Language	Day	Time	Place	Contact
French Conversation	Alternate Tuesdays	10.00am	Members' homes	Maggie Allison, 01297 443983 / Keith Robson, 01297 442183
French Experience	Thursday	10.00am	Members' homes	Christopher Robinson, 01297 552064, robinsonchristopherdavid@gmail.com
French for Fun	Alternate Tuesdays	10.00am	Members' homes	Kay Luckraft, 01297 599416
German	Alternate Tuesdays	2.30pm	Members' homes	Kay Luckraft, 01297 599416
Italian Conversation	1st & 3rd Thursdays		Kilmington	Allen Swannell, 01297 443003
Italian Intermediate	Alternate Mondays	10.00am	Whitchurch Canonicorum	Allen Swannell, 01297 443003
Spanish Conversation	2nd & 4th Mondays	10.00am	Members' homes	Wendy Howard, 01297 445195

SKILLS

Skill	Day	Time	Place	Contact
Art and Crafts				Jayne Avery on 07743 095919
Creative Writing				New leader required. groups@lru3a.org
Digital Photography				groups@lru3a.org
Making Music	Alternate Wednesdays		Morecombe lake Village Hall	Rob Walker, 01297 444811
Meditation	2nd & 4th Tuesday		Member's home, Lyme Regis	Jo Smith-Oliver, via groups@lru3a.org
Seafront gardens			Lyme Regis	Merry Bolton on 01297 443334

SOCIAL

Event	Day	Time	Place	Contact
Board Games	2nd & 4th Thursday	10.00am	Abbeyfield, Lyme Regis	Wendy Alexander on 01297 445152
Breakfast	1st Saturday	9.30am	Pilot Boat, Lyme Regis	Rachael Pope, 01297 445575
Canasta	2nd & 4th Fridays	2.15pm	Charmouth Library Meeting room	Valerie Penn, 01297 560717
Garden Lovers	No fixed day		Various gardens near Lyme Regis	Mary Bohane, 01297 444566
Informal Drop-in	Last Thursday	10.00am	Pilot Boat, Lyme Regis	Rachael Pope, 01297 445575 / Ann Fleet, 01297 442651
Jazz Appreciation – Live!				Heather Britton, 07802 797427
Plant sharing				Laura Noel, 07702 131710
Sunday Lunch Club 1	Sunday			Linda Green, 01460 220356
Sunday Lunch Club 2	Sunday			New leader required groups@lru3a.org

Day	Activity
Monday	Badminton; Book Group; Italian Intermediate; Play reading; Scottish Dancing; Spanish; Walking Groups 1 & 2
Tuesday	Chi Gung (Qigong); Current Affairs; French Conversation; French for Fun; German; Meditation; Tennis
Wednesday	Archaeology; Making Music; Memoir Writing
Thursday	Board Games; French Experience; Informal Drop-in; Italian Conversation; Literature; Short Tennis; Table Tennis
Friday	Canasta; Rare Book Group; Science and Technology
Saturday	Breakfast
Sunday	Lunch Club

In the News ...

Some interesting items about Lyme Regis and Charmouth that made the newspapers in former times.

April 1922

Thought was being given to acquiring an obsolete cruiser for the purpose of sinking the same outside the breakwater, the 'breakwater of loose Portland stone having become more or less ineffective owing to several of the stones being displaced by the sea. Apparently the Admiralty was intending to offer obsolete vessels for disposal by competitive tender. The hulls of the *Apollo* and the *Andromache* were offered to the council for the price of £2,400 each, with a 10% reduction if both were purchased. The price was, however, beyond the Council's means.

June 1872

A horse and waggon belonging to a gentleman from Chard were descending a hill at Lyme Regis when the animal bolted, rushing at a rapid pace down Broad Street and eventually killing itself when it collided with the front wall of a local residence. The waggon was also noted as being 'considerably damaged'. No mention is made of the fate of the driver!

October 1822

Visitors to Lyme would apparently be 'gratified' to learn that the trustees of the turnpike road had taken up the whole of the pitching in the carriageway leading through the town and had had the 'hills lowered' (!). The inhabitants were now paving the footways of the 'healthy and picturesque watering-place' with Purbeck stone. A new line of road had also been sketched out from Charmouth to Hunter's Lodge, and levels taken. The whole line between these places would be 'trotting ground' and the distance shortened.

February 1772

A petition from Lyme Regis was presented to the House of Commons requesting relief from the land-tax to which the borough was subject. When the tax had been 4s (20p) in the Pound, the borough had been charged 6s (30p). The town had since 'decayed above one-third' and the subsequent poverty made it impossible to pay so heavy a tax. Despite some support the petition was turned down, mostly for the reason that giving relief would encourage other petitions of the same kind! It would seem taxes have never been equitable!

Sudoku Puzzles

Fill in the numbers 1-9 once in every row, every column, and every 3x3 box.

Easy grid

7	9		3	6				
			7			4		5
	1					6	7	
				1		8		7
	4	7		9		5	2	
3		1		5				
	8	3					6	
9		5			6			
				3	8		5	4

Moderate difficulty

		4			1	8	6	
		3			8			5
1			7	5				4
	5	7				6	3	
		1				9		
		6	1		2		4	
	4				3	7		
	6		2		7			
			9					

Quiz

So how well do you know Dorset? Here's a quick quiz to test your knowledge of our beautiful county.

1. Which Dorset church has the heaviest peal of 8 bells in the world?
2. Which river runs by Sturminster Newton?
3. Where did the stone for the Cenotaph in Whitehall come from?
4. Who wrote a collection of poetry called *Poems of Rural Life in the Dorset Dialect*?
5. Why is Brownsea Island important to the scouting movement?
6. Which luxury boat builder was founded in 1969 in Poole harbour?
7. Where is the oldest post box in the UK that is still in use?
8. Which Lyme resident, a friend of Mary Anning and Fellow of the Royal Society, painted *Duria Antiquior - A More Ancient Dorset*?
9. What is the name of the largest onshore oil field in Western Europe?
10. What is the “Dorset Naga”?

Answers pp25-26

A Recipe for Springtime

Spring is almost upon us and it brings with it lots of seasonal delights to enjoy. Asparagus season traditionally starts on St George's Day (23rd April) but you may find it in the shops earlier depending on the weather conditions. Here's an asparagus recipe you might like to try once the days start to lengthen and the warm sunshine returns.

WARM ROAST ASPARAGUS SALAD

Serves 4

Ingredients

500g plump asparagus

4 ripe tomatoes

12 thin rashers of streaky bacon

16 small potatoes, preferably Jersey Royals

3 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil

2 tbsp red wine vinegar

1 tsp clear honey

1 tsp Dijon mustard

Sea salt and black pepper

100g packet rocket or baby spinach leaves

Method

Preheat the oven to 200°C/Gas 6/fan 180°C.

Snap off the woody ends of the asparagus and discard. Arrange the asparagus in a single layer on a baking tray with sides. Cut the tomatoes in half widthways, nestle them in with the asparagus, season with sea salt and black pepper and drizzle with 1 tbsp of olive oil. Roll each bacon rasher into a tight roll (if large, first cut in half crosswise), and arrange in the tray. Drizzle the bacon rolls with the honey and bake for 20 minutes until the tomatoes are soft and the bacon is crisp.

In the meantime, boil the potatoes until tender. Whisk the vinegar, 2 tbsp olive oil, mustard, some sea salt and pepper in a large bowl until blended. Toss the rocket or spinach leaves in half of the dressing, and arrange on a large serving platter.

Drain the potatoes and cut in half. Gently toss them in the rest of the dressing, and arrange on the platter with the asparagus. Tuck in the tomatoes and bacon.

This can be served on its own as a light lunch or as a side salad with salmon or chicken.

Short Story

FREEDOM DAY*Jane Littler*

The temperate, dark and comforting cavern that had been home for a long time was inextricably beginning to change. Floating soundlessly in a sea of warmth, listening to the rhythmic sounds that enveloped him had been his whole world. Dancing the eternal dance of time yet tethered like a tiny astronaut to the mother ship. Often he would feel reassuring pressure on the outside of his cave and the soothing vibrations that calmed him. Sometimes, if he listened intently, he could hear harmonious singing and music. He thought of the Sirens that sang to Odysseus but that was another lifetime. He remembered this was only a temporary resting place and the more he remembered, the more he had to become reconciled to the epic journey that inevitably lay ahead. Not the journey of Odysseus the Wanderer returning to Ithaca after the Trojan War, but a journey that was equally as perilous and one that he had done many times before.

Previous lives came fluttering back like half-imagined dreams, each as fragile as a butterfly's wing. The fragrance of old roses, of musk and sandalwood, outdoor fires and aromatic wood smoke, pungent spices and the sour smell of sweat. The heady infusion of cedar and pine. The salty freshness of the bay and briny rock pools. The sickly sweet scent of the dyeing rooms. The heavy, hot air filled with the fragrance of thyme and marjoram. The smell of newly cut hay. The hard, metallic whiff of the machine workshop. The stench of rotting corpses and the acrid smell of the plague pits. The rank smell of goat meat cooking over hot charcoal.

Sounds of the bazaar, a city street, the barking of a dog, the crying of a baby, the whine of gulls, the swish of a scythe, the peal of bells, the call to prayer. The low hum of bees on a summer's day. An owl's

screech in the dead of night. The clash of sword on sword. The howl of the wolves in the forest. The heavy clomp of boots on stone. The rustle of mice in the barn. The ack-ack of the machine guns. Leather on willow and distant, gentle clapping. The crashing of the waves as the wreckers set to work. The hypnotic drone of the cotton looms. Fervent whisperings in the dark. The tinkling of ghungroos on slim, dark ankles. But above all, the pulsing, repetitive beat of the human heart.

Images of smiling faces: a black woman in a duku; another, paler, in a white bonnet; an old woman with sad, kind eyes. The collage of nearly forgotten impressions was overwhelming. A red dusty track under a big African sun. The wet, stinking trenches strewn with human detritus. The wine-dark sea. Apples in the orchard, half-rotted, maggot-filled. Empty fields, crops burnt to the ground. A black and white photo of a baby in a pram. Rosy-fingered dawn. A meadow bank filled with corncockles, cow parsley, lady's smock, cranesbill, scabious, ragged robin, swaying in the breeze. An empty classroom with a solitary child. A girl looking up with despair in her eyes. A girl looking up with love in her eyes. Ice frozen inside a windowpane. A frosted spider's web spun like gossamer. Poking a dead snake with a stick.

Separated only by the thin uterine wall, two worlds were soon to be united. The trickle of tepid amniotic fluid seeped down the legs of the heavily pregnant woman. Inside the cave, the sea of warmth that had offered protection and safety began to slowly leach away and he knew that the time was nearing. He could feel himself being gently pushed downwards by an unseen force that was taking control of everything.

The pregnant woman patted her swollen belly, muttering terms of endearments to her unborn baby as she called to her husband to get her bag. She had lived this moment so many times in her imagination, partly with excitement but also with trepidation. She

felt such overwhelming love for her unborn child that the thought of anything going wrong was something too terrible to contemplate. Yet, sometimes, she thought that if she imagined the worst, it was like a protective talisman and would never happen. Walking slowly to the car, supported by her partner, she instinctively doubled over as she felt the first contraction tear through her body. And so it began.

Over the hours that followed he was battered this way and that, like an empty bottle caught on a rip tide, each time trying to make it to the shore but being buffeted back out to sea. He remembered how it had been in previous times and knew that he had to make his escape and swim as though his life and the life of his unknown mother depended on it. But it was tiring, and frightening. Instinctively he made one more lunge as the tunnel suddenly seemed to widen and he found himself slowly being forced through the narrow gap. Straddling the internal and external worlds, he was caught in limbo and then suddenly the world of darkness was filled with the harsh light of the delivery suite and he had to keep blinking to adjust. The cold air encircled him like arctic breath. Careful hands pulled the rest of him into this alien environment as he felt the cord that had supported him for so long being cut away. For a second he felt unanchored, in limbo, rudderless, a mini-cosmonaut set adrift. Automatically, he took a large gulp of air and with a gasp and a shudder lurched into a new life and became an independent being.

He was placed on warm skin and smelt the familiar smell of the mother whose body had protected him for so long. Gazing down at her newborn baby, she was filled with an elation that was euphoric. The battle was over and had been won. The pain that had wracked her body for hours slipped away. Looking into her baby's eyes, she was overwhelmed with joy and relief. She said aloud, "Well, my darling, you look as though you have been here before. What a wise little face you have for one so new."

He tried to smile up at her but realised that he was helpless. Never mind, there would be time to tell her about all his previous lives and what it had felt like to be a part of her, and then not part of her, on this his birth day, his day of freedom. Then he remembered. He remembered that this would all be forgotten. With every day that passed his memory of previous lives would become dimmed and his birth would be the stuff that dreams are made of. Occasionally there would be that sense of *déjà vu*, a street half-remembered, a familiar house, a half-recognised face. The smell of old roses, the sound of the call to prayer, a red dusty track under a large African sun. The song of the Sirens. Sometimes a feeling of comfort, sometimes one of fear and dread. Until by the time he could talk, nearly all recollections would have almost disappeared, until another life beckoned and the book of memories could be revisited and added to once again.

Answers to the quiz

1. The Abbey Church of St Mary the Virgin (Sherborne Abbey)
2. River Stour
3. Portland
4. William Barnes
5. The first scout camp was held there in 1907
6. Sunseeker
7. Holwell (1853)
8. Henry de la Beche
9. Wytch Farm - Isle of Purbeck
10. A chilli pepper which claims to be one of the world's hottest.

Answers to the Sudoku Puzzles

Easy

7	9	4	3	6	5	2	1	8
2	3	6	7	8	1	4	9	5
5	1	8	4	2	9	6	7	3
6	5	9	2	1	4	8	3	7
8	4	7	6	9	3	5	2	1
3	2	1	8	5	7	9	4	6
4	8	3	5	7	2	1	6	9
9	7	5	1	4	6	3	8	2
1	6	2	9	3	8	7	5	4

Moderate

5	7	4	3	2	1	8	6	9
6	2	3	4	9	8	1	7	5
1	8	9	7	5	6	3	2	4
2	5	7	8	4	9	6	3	1
4	3	1	6	7	5	9	8	2
8	9	6	1	3	2	5	4	7
9	4	2	5	8	3	7	1	6
3	6	5	2	1	7	4	9	8
7	1	8	9	6	4	2	5	3

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