

**TUESDAY 1ST JULY 3PM
Speaker
MICHAEL MALAGHAN**

Michael is making a return visit and this time his talk is ***CAN YOU HEAR ME AT THE BACK*** which is all about his adventures and experiences as a public speaker, gained at almost 400 schools and adult organisations. Once again, the focus is very much on the funnier side and what went wrong!

Michael's working career in writing started as a journalist in local newspapers and having short stories published in Best, Me, Chat, Take-a-Break and Woman's Realm magazines. Recently he has returned to this and has had many stories published in Woman's Weekly. His writing also led him to being a children's television scriptwriter with the BBC and ITV and finally as a novelist.

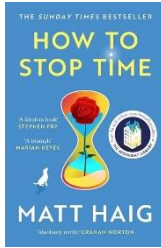
Michael has been giving talks to u3a's, WI's and many other types of groups for around 10 years and, whilst he has enjoyed it very much, he is soon to retire, and Blackmoor Vale u3a is one of the final talks he will give.



The Friday Morning Book Group

How do you feel about change? Some love it and some find it sad too. After about 20 years of leading the group Jean Lindley hung up her u3a Library Card in preparation for a house move. The group are very happy that we don't have to say goodbye to Jean just yet and she still comes to the group and is just free of the responsibility of organising, collecting and returning the books to Millie at Milborne Port Library. Massive thanks to Jean for all she has done to make the Book Group such an enjoyable monthly event.

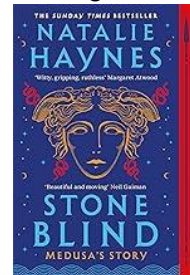
There's been another change! This time to the place we meet. The closure of the Tippling Philosopher has meant we've needed to find a new home for the Group. We've test driven several venues and now meet at Dikes (William's Café) in Stalbridge. We've been warmly welcomed to the café and have even enjoyed book talk with people working in the café!



Some things don't change though. Members of the Group take it in turns to choose the book of the month, which means we have been able to enjoy and chat about books that we may not have chosen ourselves. The most recent have been Matt's Haig's *How to Stop Time*. The book is based on the idea that some people never age and can live for hundreds of years. Most of us enjoyed this book, but some wished the story had included more about Shakespeare's time.

We're currently reading *Stone Blind* by Natalie Haynes and looking forward in the next few months to reading *Conclave* by Richard Harris and *Clear* by Carys Davies

For more information about the Friday Morning Book Group (which thinking about it, sounds like a book title) – please get in touch with Lydia on Lydia.1cranbrookcottage@gmail.com



GARDEN VISITS

We have had a good early summer so far with our thriving garden group. As usual, the monthly coffee mornings are still very well attended, the last one in early June was kindly hosted by Hilary (Smith) as I was away and Brita was unwell.

- Our last two trips were as follows:
MAY - Wincombe Park (near Shaftesbury), where 15 members attended.
JUNE - The Old School House, Sutton Waldron - where 13 members attended.
- The next trip later in July will be a private visit to:
The Old Rectory, Manston (near Sturminster Newton).
Hopefully, this will appeal to members, especially as this a private tour, followed by the usual tea and cakes!



The next monthly coffee morning will be on Mon 7th July at 1100, at the usual venue - Dikes, Stalbridge. We do still have one space free within our group, if anyone is interested. You would be made very welcome.

Janice Nast



Get more out of the u3a on line

Go on the website to find out -u3a.org.uk

First register (don't forget to save name and password)

Then just log in and go to - Get Involved

1. Click U3a Friends and give your email address.

Then every month an email with updates will come with
what's on – online all for free.

2 Choose from the wealth of subject networks, geology, crafts and chess to
name a few.

3. Book free talks in July include: -

Turner's paintings

Artificial intelligence

Laughter yoga

Puzzle solving with Pascal's triangle - I shall book this.

There is something for everyone

Future events

(CAN BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

All talks and meetings are held in
Henstridge Village Hall from 2.15pm

September 9th
Open Afternoon

November 4th
Matthew Scott
'Being a Fireman'

2026

Speakers confirmed so far

January 6th
David Bailey
'Wildlife Photography'

July 7th
James Taylor
'Careless Talk Costs Lives'



Your Committee 2025-6

Chair Vice Chair	Susan Kidd Martin White	skiddsbvu3a@gmail.com Martinwhite898@gmail.com
Secretary	Martin White	Martinwhite898@gmail.com
Membership Secretary	Gill Westall Alison Shilling	bvmembership@outlook.com
Treasurer	Judy Penfold	Jood58@gmail.com
Publicity	Susan Kidd	Skiddsbvu3a@gmail.com 01963 362107
Creative Director	Judy Penfold	Jood58@gmail.com
Speaker Secretary (temporary)	Hilary Smith	Hilarysmith967@gmail.com
Groups Coordinator	Barry Russell	Barry.russell42@tiscali.co.uk
Committee Member	vacant	

Group contacts

Walking Group, Tuesday	Richard Kidd	richardakidd64@gmail.com
Walking Group, Wednesday		
Friday Morning Reading Group	Lydia Avery	Lydia.1cranbrookcottage@gmail.com
Bridge	Howard Warden	Warden444@btinternet.com
Garden Visits	Jan Nast	Janice.nast@gmail.com

GENERAL MEETINGS

Are usually held in Henstridge Village Hall from 2.15pm on the first Tuesday of alternate months.

Members £2.00 Visitors 3.00

All our general meetings are publicised in the online Blackmore Vale magazine, local Facebook pages, websites and magazines. Posters are circulated to public places in Stalbridge, Henstridge, Wincanton, Templecombe and Milborne Port.

Venue hire

Please remember when making bookings that each group is self-funding, therefore, if there are any costs involved, a suitable fee should be charged to attendees to cover these costs. **Also, a copy of the invoice and receipt is required to be sent to the Treasurer each month to be entered into the main accounts.**

Privacy Policy

Please be assured that we will never pass on your details to third parties without explicit consent from you and that we will never share your details with any company or charity for marketing purposes.

The contents of this newsletter are provided by the members for the members and is produced at no cost to the members.