

# The Carrick Argus

*Supporting Carrick u3a – sharing members' interests and news*

Issue no 111

March 2026



*Reflecting on my walk*

*by Danny Hope*

*An entry for the 2025 Photography Competition*

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## Editorial

Well, what a busy year so far and we're only at the beginning. Thanks to all who came and supported our ceilidh, it was a very enjoyable evening and we will repeat the event in the autumn. Band and hall already booked, more details later.

**Dates for your diary: -**

### St Piran's Day

**Thursday 5th March**, 2pm, our Cornish Dancers are performing at the Princess Pavilion in Falmouth

### Quiz

**Saturday 14th March**, 6.30 for 7 pm start at Kea Community Centre. Please email [vicechair@u3acarrick.org.uk](mailto:vicechair@u3acarrick.org.uk) with your team's name and members, along with choice of supper, pasty or ploughman's. Entry £7.50. Please pay by BACS to the usual account.

### AGM

**Wednesday 15th April**, 10 for a 10.30am start at the Perranwell Centre. Nomination forms for committee should be sent to Gillian, [secretary@u3acarrick.org.uk](mailto:secretary@u3acarrick.org.uk) by **18th March** at the latest, along with a photo and brief résumé to Mark, [editor@u3acarrick.org.uk](mailto:editor@u3acarrick.org.uk) for inclusion in the newsletter.

### Open Morning

**Saturday 18th April**, 10 - 12noon at the Pendennis Community Centre in Falmouth. We are hoping that as many Group Leaders or their representatives as possible will be available for this major publicity event. Any offers of help on the day to welcome members of the public would be gratefully received. Please send your names to [vicechair@u3acarrick.org.uk](mailto:vicechair@u3acarrick.org.uk)

### Royal Cornwall Show

**Saturday 6th June** at Wadebridge. Join us for a wonderful day out at the hugely discounted price. Places are limited so please book early. [Full details on page 4](#)

### Truro Volunteers Day

**Sunday 21st June**, 1- 5pm on Lemon Quay. Our choir will be performing 3.30 - 4pm on the stage. Please come along to give them your support.

We look forward to seeing you at some or all of these events.

Sue Hutt  
Editor

## Royal Cornwall Show offer



The **Royal Cornwall Show** is the county's biggest annual event and has been a highlight of agricultural and social life since 1793. It claims to feature the best in entertainment, farming, shopping and competition, running for three days at the beginning of June.

Admission is £28 for an adult, discounted to £26 if bought in advance. This year **Carrick u3a** have been offered the chance to visit the show for **£16.50 on Saturday 6th June**. This includes transport by coach from local pick-up points, entry to the show, a pasty lunch (*meat and vegetarian options available, but not dairy or gluten free*), a reserved marquee for a rest during the day and refreshments before leaving. What a bargain! We took part in this when it was offered some years ago, and enjoyed it tremendously.



This year these tickets are limited to people living in certain postcodes. These are: -

PL22, PL23, PL24, PL25, PL26, PL30, PL31 and TR1, TR2, TR3, TR4, TR5, TR6, TR7, TR8, TR9.

If you live in one of these areas and would like to attend, please email [vicechair@u3acarrick.org.uk](mailto:vicechair@u3acarrick.org.uk) to be added to the list. You will need to include your postcode, choice of lunch and possible pick-up point. (*this is likely to be the closest village on a bus route*)

Places will only be booked once **payment** has been received **and** you have notified me.



Please pay by **BACS** as the banks now charge charities for all cash and cheque transactions. If you don't use BACS, perhaps a friend could book on your behalf. They will need to state who they are paying for. Payment by BACS also makes life easier for our treasurer to keep track of all our finances.

Tickets are limited and once they are gone no more will be allocated to us, so please let me know ASAP, and definitely by **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March** at the latest if you would like to go.

Sue Hutt

*Photos courtesy of the Royal Cornwall show*

## Eating out & about

As Chicken Masala is apparently high on the list of the UK's most popular foods, I decided that at least one visit this month would be to explore a recommended Indian restaurant. I admit to being reluctant to choose Indian food having scary childhood memories of dark Bradford streets flanked by mysterious Balti houses and shocking open abattoirs.

I was also completely ignorant about the regional gastronomic subtleties of this complex country and as everyone who has spent time there is adamant about the vast differences of local style and ingredients I was joined for this adventure by friends with some experience of Indian cuisine.

They enthusiastically recommended the **Seaview Inn** in **Falmouth**. A long-established hostelry it has a loyal local following as well as catering to appreciative tourists (*ecstatic Trip Adviser reviews*) and since its take-over last year by the Verdant Brewery, Indian food now appears on the menu: the saga of the Verdant Brewery is an article in itself and if you are interested in a success story check out their excellent website.



*Photo courtesy of Google images*

We arrived at 6 o'clock and tables with views over the harbour were already taken, so we chose a large table at the back of an already busy bar, ordered a small plate of bhaji to accompany the excellent Verdant Porter and perused the interesting menu created by Sham Mulji, an Indian of Gujarati descent, so authenticity guaranteed.

Choices were made of a large shared platter of Tandoor Mixed Sizzling Meats with raita and pickles, side dishes of Keema Saag of minced lamb and spinach, Keema Scotch egg, Matar Paneer with paneer cheese and ginger and copious naan breads. There was the inevitable wait while the food was freshly cooked, no problem in the cheerful atmosphere of this warm and cosy pub.



The dishes were artistically presented and memories of brown sludgy Balti were thankfully erased. All the dishes were delicious, especially the Keema Scotch egg with its bright soft yolk and sweet beetroot ketchup, but the star of the show was the platter of Tandoori mixed meats with excellent small lamb cutlets, moist chicken wings, lamb tikka and a few unfortunately overcooked meat pieces (*a small price to pay for the surprise of a genuine tandoor oven in a Cornish pub kitchen*). The naan breads were scorched crisp and fluffy, the raita and chutneys suitably punchy. This was elegant fare; I was converted.

For reasonably quiet dining choose to come Monday or Tuesday. It is hugely popular at the weekend. Check the website for kitchen opening times.

Small dishes available normal pub hours.

Small dishes and sides from £4 - £9

Mains from £14 - £28

It is many years since I last had lunch at the **Olive Grove Bistro**. At that time, it was tucked away in a run-down garden centre and was a modest family affair offering simple lunches and cream teas. Since then, the garden centre has disappeared beneath an ambitious array of small businesses housed in attractive new wooden units and surrounded by ample free parking, though it was good to see that despite the changes the quirky antique shop was still by the main entrance.



The Olive Grove Bistro has responded to the opportunity. It is now thriving with increased clientele and an interesting breakfast and lunch menu that emphasises healthy eating with a wide variety of breakfast and lunch dishes to balance the temptations of their extravagant homemade cakes.

Sited in a pleasantly decorated wooden shed the bistro has an open kitchen, where two cooks can be seen by the customers working swiftly and efficiently behind the counter, the service is brisk but friendly.

I opted for sweet potato falafel with salad, sour cream and coleslaw and my companion had the goat's cheese, walnut and beetroot salad. The grilled cheese came in two thick slices cut from an excellent quality goats cheese roll, though the beetroot was surprisingly and very disappointingly pickled rather than freshly boiled. My falafel was satisfactory and the salad colourful and fresh, though I couldn't find the promised sour cream. Both dishes were nicely presented though perhaps slightly overpriced. The Grove is obviously popular and when the weather gets better the outside area should provide a very pleasant place surrounded by trees for a leisurely lunch.



If you are out and about somewhere on A39 between **Falmouth** and **Truro** and looking for somewhere to eat then the Olive Grove Bistro at **Perranarworthal** would be a good choice.

Open daily from 9.0am - 4.0pm.

Cooked Breakfasts from £7.95- £15.95

Lunches from £12.95 - £16.95

Desserts from £7.50

Cream teas from £8.50

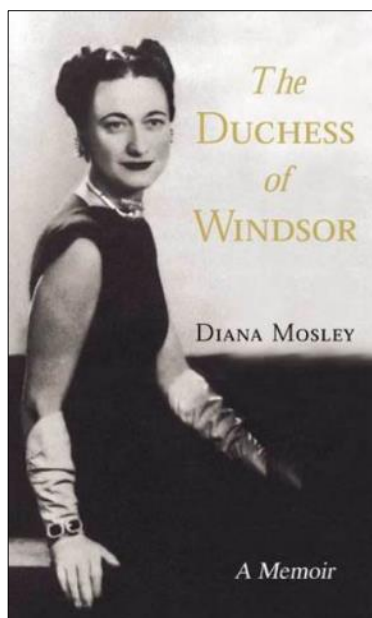
LW

*Other photos courtesy of LW*

## Book Review: The DUCHESS of WINDSOR

by **Diana Mosley**, published Sidgwick and Jackson, 1980

Following the publication of her autobiography in 1977, Diana wrote what I consider to be an excellent account of the life of **Wallis Simpson**, who became the Duchess of Windsor on her marriage to **Edward, Duke of Windsor** in June 1937.



*Image courtesy of AbeBooks*

Diana and her husband lived near them in France; they liked each other and got on well, according to Mary S. Lovell in her book 'The Sisters, the Saga of the Mitford family' (2001). *'Part of the reason lay in the fact that both couples suffered from a perpetual bad press, and that the lives of each, despite the happiness of a sound marriage, were tinged by the underlying waste of unfulfilled promise.'*

*Both Diana and Wallis had each devoted her life to supporting a man deprived of what he regarded as his destiny. Diana regarded the duke's treatment by the Royal Family as unfair: 'It was monstrous to stop him doing anything and then to put it about that he was frivolous and lazy'.*

Edward was invested as Prince of Wales in a 'pseudo-medieval ceremony' devised by **Lloyd George** at Caernarvon Castle in 1911. Lloyd George coached him to say a few words in Welsh and they became good friends. **Winston Churchill**, then Home Secretary, was at the ceremony and also admired Edward.

His father **King George** then sent Edward to France, where he became fluent in German. During the Great War he served in the Grenadiers. After the war the King sent him on a series of tours of the Empire, which made him a very popular figure. With his boyish good looks, he appeared vulnerable, but *'in fact he was quite tough, and he had the family obstinacy'*. He wrote that *'Crowds broke through the police lines and tried to tear the buttons off my coat'*.

As the years went by, the King and Queen were worried that *'a Protestant wife had to be found for him'*. Another concern was his *'democratic tendencies'*, which had been encouraged by going to Magdalen College, Oxford and serving in the Army. Both activities meant mixing with a much wider range of people than normal for royalty.

*'His parents disliked almost everything about their son; his clothes, his pastimes, his choice of friends and above all his popularity. Ordinary people adored him, as he combined the royal magic with the common touch.'*

Nor could his mother understand his liking for Americans and their country. *'When a newspaper reporter asked the prince whether if he fell in love with an American girl would he marry her, the laughter which greeted the question drowned the answer. It was 'yes.'*

Edward met Wallis in 1930, when he was 36 and she was 34. She and her husband Ernest Simpson were invited to a house-party in Leicestershire. Initially she refused, although she was dying to meet a man she'd heard so much about. However, Ernest was delighted and encouraged her to accept.

*'The first weekend with the Simpsons at Fort Belvedere, Edward's home, was a great success'. Wallis liked the relaxed atmosphere and Edward's simple tastes. She thought him very attractive, though not as tall as she'd expected. The Simpsons were invited there several times in 1933 and the friendship between Wallis and Edward gradually developed. She encouraged him to talk about his work and he replied, 'You're the only woman who has ever been interested in my job.'*

Wallis was always natural with him, which made a refreshing change. She was his type of woman, small and thin, and always beautifully dressed. He admired her efficiency and the trouble she took about details, as well as her jokes. *'He fell deeply, obsessively and permanently in love with her until the day he died in 1972.'* In her memoirs Wallis said she thought it was her *'directness, independence of spirit and sense of humour'* which attracted him.

Edward had always been kept busy as Prince of Wales and after he was proclaimed King in January 1936, he was even busier. However, the weekends at the Fort continued and by 1934 Edward had made up his mind to marry her. American newspapers carried stories of the romance, but English ones observed a blackout. Wallis was sent press cuttings from America and began to wonder how it would all end. *'There were undoubtedly moments when she would have been more than relieved to be able to step down from the impossible pedestal upon which the King had set her.'*

Edward was warned that the end of the press silence in England could mean the resignation of the Government. *'He told Wallis, 'If the Government is opposed to our marriage, then I am prepared to go.' This alarmed her and she implored him not to be impetuous. She was really frightened and felt the trap closing.'* She wanted to leave England, but he persuaded her to stay.

Edward put her under enormous pressure. In **Anna Sebba's** biography of Wallis she says he even threatened to commit suicide if Wallis left him.

By the time of the Abdication in December 1936 Edward was 42 and Wallis had known him for just six years. Although she loved him too, *'she had not wanted to marry the King of England or to be the cause of his abdication. She told a friend that 'I never wanted this marriage.' Yet she made up her mind that as far as lay in her power she would make the duke happy; it would be her life's work from now on.'*

Wallis and Ernest were divorced in May 1937. She and Edward were married a month later at a chateau near Tours in France. *'English officialdom hoped that by ignoring him he would cease to exist'*.



**Wallis & Edward**

*Image courtesy of History.com*

During WW2 Edward became Governor of the Bahamas and Wallis excelled, as always, as a hostess. After Pearl Harbour the American tourists stopped, and they were replaced by survivors from ships torpedoed by U-boats. As head of the Red Cross, Wallis and her team were kept busy. Due to her hard work, she was popular with everyone, especially the troops, which dismayed some of the authorities in England.

After the war the couple settled in the Bois de Boulogne in a house belonging to the French Government. *'They paid a nominal rent and stayed there for the rest of their lives. Wallis preferred France to England as they had plenty of friends. Her ideal was to live in France and visit America from time to time; this became the pattern of their life. It is useless to pretend, as some of the biographers do, that the duke was a sad exile.'*

Their short visits to England suited Wallis, as living there would have meant paying enormous taxes; the French never taxed them.

They bought and converted an old mill 25 miles from Paris where Edward made an English garden. It was a place they both loved, and they entertained many friends at weekends. *'It was the first house that had belonged to them in all their married life.'*

As the years passed, Edward's love and need for Wallis grew, increasing the strain on her. As Duff Cooper once said to her, *'You have all the disadvantages of royalty and none of its advantages.'* Yet she coped very well, and their post-war life was very happy.

Edward remained a folk legend in the land of his birth. When they were interviewed on TV by **Kenneth Harris** the programme had an audience of 12 million.

As Edward's health gradually declined Wallis wrote, *'There is nothing to be said for growing old.'* He had smoked all his life and developed cancer of the throat. He died in May 1972, aged 77. His body was flown back to England, followed two days later by Wallis, who was invited to stay at Buckingham Palace. 60,000 people went to Windsor to pay their respects to the King who had reigned for 11 months.

The final chapter of Diana's book is titled Summing Up. *'The Duke of Windsor had 35 happy years with the Duchess. He is not forgotten, and neither is she. Perhaps it is over-optimistic to say that all ended very well, but that is how it seems.'*

Despite Edward's wishes, Wallis was never granted the royal title of HRH. She died in 1986 after a long period of illness. Her funeral took place at St George's Chapel Windsor and she was laid to rest next to the Duke at Frogmore.

Sue Amer

## The Ukrainian Cross in Mylor



It has been estimated that around 11 million people were displaced after the end of the Second World War in 1945. These included political prisoners released from German concentration camps, German prisoners of war captured by the Red Army and people escaping the Communist regime imposed on countries bordering present day Russia and then part of the former USSR.

These included around 2 million Ukrainians, some of whom were repatriated whilst others settled in Western Europe, including Britain. They were accommodated in camps, officially designated as hostels, mainly in the south of the UK. Some of these been prisoner of war camps, others were former military buildings. Many men had served in the Polish army, whilst others had served in the Galicia division and were moved from Italy to Britain.

The British government also actively recruited refugees from Eastern Europe to relieve the labour shortages caused by the heavy loss of life in the war under a Voluntary Workers Scheme. From 1946 those who came to Cornwall were employed mainly in agriculture, fishing and mining. Some were housed in a hostel between Mylor Bridge and Restronguet Barton in what had been an anti-aircraft base.

The Ukrainians lived there for around a year before finding permanent accommodation in the area. Before leaving they built a stone cross near the site of the camp to serve as a reminder of their gratitude to the people of Mylor for the warm welcome they had received on their arrival.

In 2008 there was a service of rededication at the cross, attended by some of the grandchildren of those Ukrainians who had been welcomed by the villagers of Mylor 70 years before. I have written before in the Argus about the millions of Cornish men and women who have been forced to leave their homeland in search of work across the globe. One hopes they were welcomed as the Ukrainians were welcomed here.



It is sad that many fleeing war and persecution today are being demonised by certain sections of our society. History shows that they have much to contribute; welcoming and caring for the stranger forms an important part of the Christian and indeed other faiths. As human beings we need to be kind to each other; hatred and division do not solve society's problems but working together, building strong links and respect for different cultures enhances all our lives.

Sue Hutt

*Both photos courtesy of The Cornish Bird*

[ref.historicengland.com](http://ref.historicengland.com)  
[Cornishbirdblog.com](http://Cornishbirdblog.com)

## Competition time



Following on from **David Westby's** very successful contributions to the Argus, (we know through reader feedback how much you have enjoyed them) we are pleased to announce a competition.

As an extra incentive to get those little grey cells going, David will kindly donate an original sketch to the winner.

So, if you can devise or identify any **'Suggestions for recommended reading'** along the lines of David's previous contributions, any **'Riddles'** or any **'Play on words'** that could be illustrated, please send them to [carrickargus2017@gmail.com](mailto:carrickargus2017@gmail.com).

You are very welcome to submit any number of your ideas; David will choose the best and we will print a selection of the other submissions.

## Roche, its Rock & St Michael's Chapel

**Roche** (pronounced Roach) is a small Cornish village with a population of around 4,000, whose name means "*Homestead of the Rock*" (Tregarrek in Cornish). The village is dominated by a striking 66ft-tall granite outcrop known as Roche Rock, a spectacular geological formation created by ancient volcanic activity tens of thousands of years ago. Perched atop this dramatic rock formation are the ruins of **St. Michael's Chapel**, a medieval hermitage that has become intertwined with Cornish legend and folklore.



### Origins of the Chapel

The chapel was constructed in 1409 by the **Tregarrick** family, who owned the manor where the rock formations stood. Built from locally quarried granite, the two-story structure represents a remarkable feat of medieval engineering, as it hugs the natural topography of the outcrop and incorporates the rock itself as an intrinsic part of its design. The ground floor once provided accommodation for a chaplain, while the upper level housed a small chapel dedicated to Saint Michael.

### Religious Significance and Pilgrimage

Like **St. Michael's Mount**, Roche Rock is believed to have been a site of pilgrimage during medieval times. A beacon would be lit on its heights to guide weary travellers across the lonely moors to this remote place of worship. The chapel's windows, which still frame views of the surrounding clay country, feature finely carved mouldings, as do the doorways. Historical records indicate that additional buildings once stood on the rock but have long since disappeared.



### Legends and Later History

The chapel became associated with numerous Cornish legends, most notably the story of the hermit Ogrin who allegedly gave shelter to the star-crossed lovers **Tristan and Isolde** as they fled **King Mark's** wrath. The 12th-century poet Beroul, who wrote one of the earliest versions of this romantic tale, appears to have intimate knowledge of the Cornish landscape, and his description of Ogrin's chapel bears a striking resemblance to Roche Rock. Another legend tells of a leper who inhabited the chapel, possibly **Sir John Tregarrick** himself, the last member of the family to occupy the site. According to tradition, his daughter waited on him and drew water from a nearby well that was said to ebb and flow.

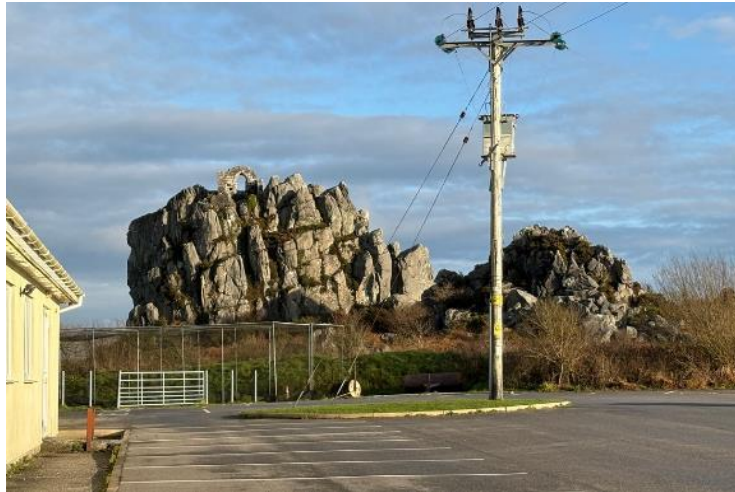
### Present Day

The chapel, now roofless and floorless, can still be accessed today via rusty ladders, though historian William Hals noted in the 18th century that a stone-built flight of stairs once led to the doorway before being dismantled and reused in the village. The ruins remain a striking landmark on the Cornish landscape, their weathered walls testimony to centuries of history, legend, and devotion.

### The Rock and Me

Having driven past the Roche exit off the A30 twice a week for 28 years while working away from Cornwall, I am embarrassed to say I did not '*discover*' the rock until a year ago when visiting friends staying in Roche.

If you just want to see the Rock with a coffee to boot, take the Roche turn from the A30 and park at Roche's Sports and Social Complex on Trezaise Road (PL26 8EP). From the car park you get this stunning view of the sheer cliff on the west side of the Rock.



If you are more adventurous there is a path up to the Rock from the Carbis road, and if you're even more adventurous, I would recommend **iwalk** Cornwall's 4 mile amble through the Roche countryside starting from the Sports and Social Complex finishing with a close up of or even a clamber over the Rock. This was the Five Bananas' walk on 2<sup>nd</sup> January, and you'll find a host of pictures on our Facebook page.

Finally, a confession but not an apology, credit for this article with minimal editing goes to **Perplexity AI**. I just asked '*Please write me an article on Roche, its rock and the chapel on the rock, focusing on its history*'. Yes, I am polite to AI just as I say '*thank you*' to cash machines.

Ric Reilly

*All photos courtesy of Ric Reilly*

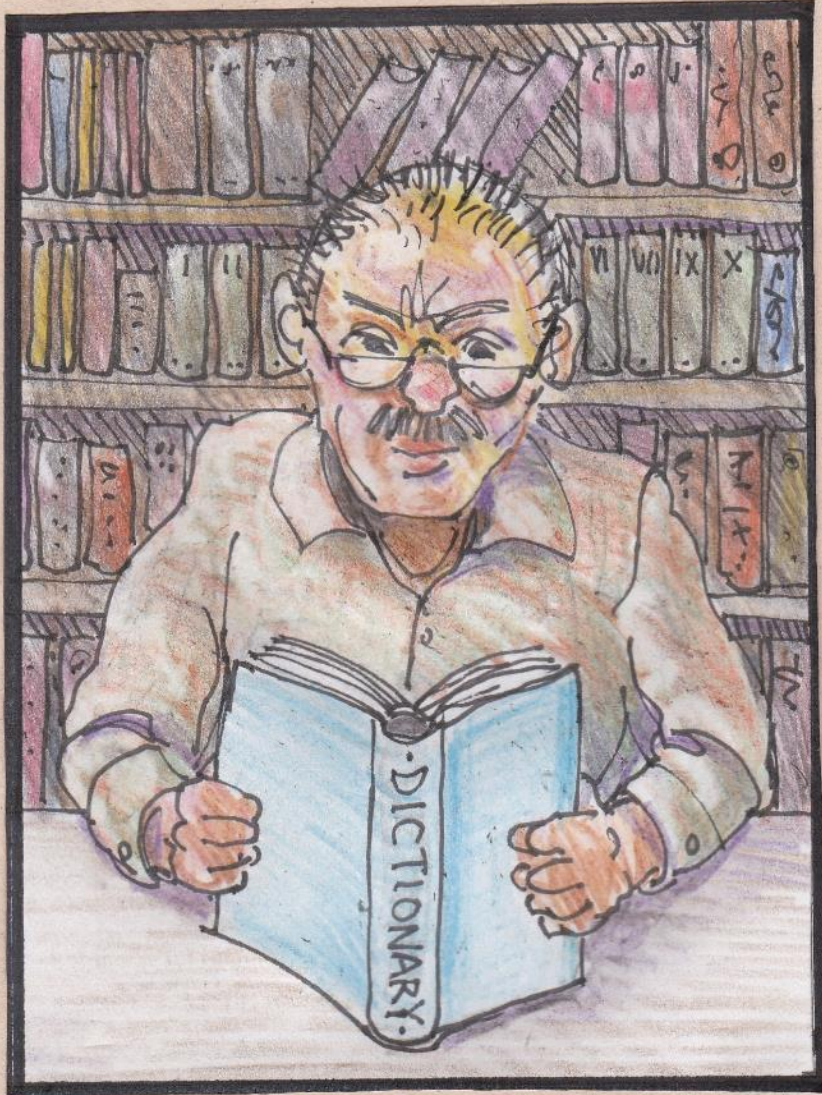
*Ref: Cornwall.co; wikipedia; cornishbirdblog; explorecornwall; celticglory; themodernantiquarian; anthonyjwaller; bald explorer; solosophie.*



**St Michael's Mount** before **Storm Goretti** felled many of the trees

*Image courtesy of Explore beautiful Cornwall*

## Riddle of the month



What English word has  
three consecutive double letters?

David Westby

[Answer on page 24](#)

## Creative writing: Winter in the Apennines

In late February Catholic countries all around the world have a last riotous fling before the privations of Lent. Carnevale, which literally means 'farewell to meat' is a chance to lighten the bleakness of winter with street parades, masked balls and fabulous costumes. The most notorious are the Mardi-Gras of Rio and the Maschera of Venice, but the carnival at Viareggio is famous throughout Italy for its colossal papier-mache tableaux of fantastic figures and savagely exaggerated political caricatures. The lavishly designed floats or 'carri' are ingeniously articulated with motors and pulleys and the massive figures flail their grotesque arms and legs in the air as they journey slowly around the town. Visitors flood in to see the parades and the sculptors who make the carri are highly respected artists who spend a large part of the year creating these marvels, working in the huge hangers that stand on the northern edge of town. Fellini loved these exuberant fantasies and often used them in his own cinematic extravaganzas.

Every year we would make the journey from our home in the isolated village of Vallico Sotto over the mountain for the festival. Much of the humour was lost on us but the spectacle was universal, the atmosphere always cheerful and irreverent, the humour of the floats derisive and lewd. Politicians and the Pope, film stars and sportsmen lampooned and ridiculed, the misdemeanours of the past year paraded before the crowds to be greeted with laughter and scorn.

The winds can blow cold off the white mountains of Carrara that form a 6,000ft backdrop to this stretch of Mediterranean coast, but for Carnevale the streets are packed with people and roadside braziers exude a comforting warmth. There are inviting smells of roasting chestnuts, porchetta and sizzling cecina pancakes and pans of steaming mulled wine send a spicy perfume into the air. The municipal orange trees that border the streets are full of golden fruit, a strange sight in the midst of winter that adds a decorous charm to the celebration of anarchy and misrule. Their bitter-sweetness is used to make a comforting hot punch in which we would copiously indulge before reluctantly returning to our austere hilltop home.

The drive over the mountains was heart stoppingly spectacular. The narrow road wound round cliffs and valleys, landslides on one side, sheer drops on the other. Blind bends were a drama with the appearance of a speeding Ferrari, an overloaded mule or an intransigent lorry, inevitably driven by a farmer who refused to reverse....

It would be dark before we thankfully reached the safety of home. The fire long dead and cold but quickly revived with new kindling. A casserole would be waiting in the ancient gas stove and the exquisite scent of rabbit braising in the local vino nero would soon fill the kitchen. Sometimes as we closed the great wooden shutters against the encroaching frost, we glimpsed snowflakes drifting in the garden. There is a hesitation of dread with the thought of enforced isolation, unpassable tracks, no way to the village, the silence of snow. An emptying cantina.

The fire spits a burning shard onto the terracotta floor. The whitewashed walls are bright with paintings, we locate the BBC world service with its comforting sound of English words, check the cantina for wine, water and food. I rinse the last fresh green chard - no more in the garden, but tonight we eat well. Let tomorrow look after itself.

Leonie Whitton

## Adrian's pick of the month: Lit by a window







**All photos courtesy of  
u3a Carrick Photography group**

## Humour

This month's first selection of recommended reading about **TRANSPORT** is by British car enthusiast **Minnie Driver**.

1. **A visit to the Petrol Station** by **Phil Arup**
2. **Hot Wiring** by **Nick Carrs** Illustrated by **Joy Ryder**
3. **The Sedan Chair** by **Carrie Walker**
4. **Transportation in the Middle Ages** by **Orson Carte**
5. **After the ship wreck** by **Rhoda Shaw**
6. **Running to catch the last bus** by **Justin Thyme**
7. **Motoring in the winter months** by **Andy Frieze**

Secondly, a selection relating to **FINANCE**, has been compiled by financial advisor **M.T. Perce**.

1. **Deep in Debt** by **Owen A. Lott**
2. **Easy Money** by **Robyn Banks**
3. **Money for the poor** by **Robin D. Rich**
4. **Just been Fired?** by **Anita Job**
5. **Buy two of everything** by **Justin Case**
7. **Giving to worthy causes** by **Charity Case**
8. **Never out of debt** by **Owen Moore**
9. **Charity from above** by **Grace Anne Favore**
10. **The luck of the draw** by **Jack Potts**



David Westby

## Quiz

### Food and drink

1. What is the main ingredient in hummus?
2. Which country drinks the most coffee per capita?
3. What is the world's best-selling stout beer?
4. What is the most expensive spice by weight?
5. Which country is credited with inventing ice cream?
6. Which country is the largest exporter of bananas?
7. Which fruit is grenadine made from?
8. What do you add to a croque monsieur to make a croque madame?
9. What does IPA stand for?
10. Which are the top 2 selling spices in the world?

### Surprising facts

1. Which animal can't vomit and sleeps standing up?
2. Which country invented French fries?
3. Which birds can sleep in flight?
4. Which US President had 2 grizzly bears?
5. Which animal's milk is pink?
6. Which creature has blue blood and 3 hearts?
7. Which mammals lay eggs?
8. How many bones are in the human ear?
9. Which country banned time travel in films?
10. What was bubble wrap originally invented for?

### Animals and birds

1. What is a group of crows called?
2. What is the world's fastest bird?
3. What is the loudest creature in the world?
4. Which animal has the longest tongue?
5. Which is the only mammal that can truly fly?
6. Which animal has the most powerful bite?
7. What is a group of pandas called?
8. Which insect travels in swarms and devours vegetation?
9. How many eyes does a honeybee have?
10. What is a Flemish giant?
11. Where is a shrimp's heart located?
12. Which is the tallest species of penguin?
13. How many bones does a shark have?
14. Which is the heaviest species of monkey?
15. What is the largest bird in the world?

[Answers on page 26](#)

## Picture Quiz: Garden Flowers



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



13



14



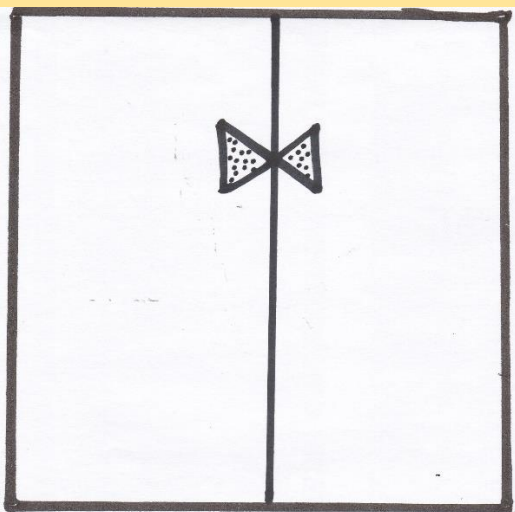
15



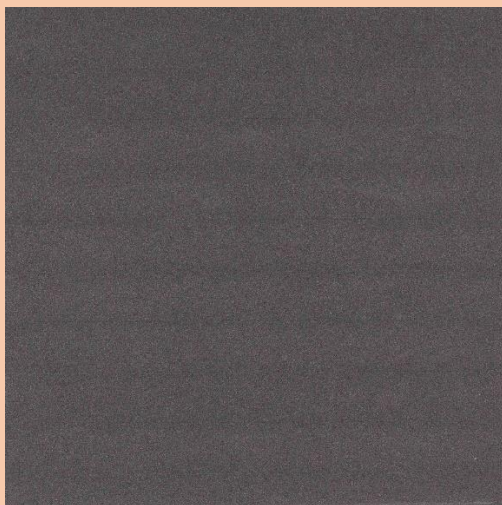
16

[Answers on page 27](#)

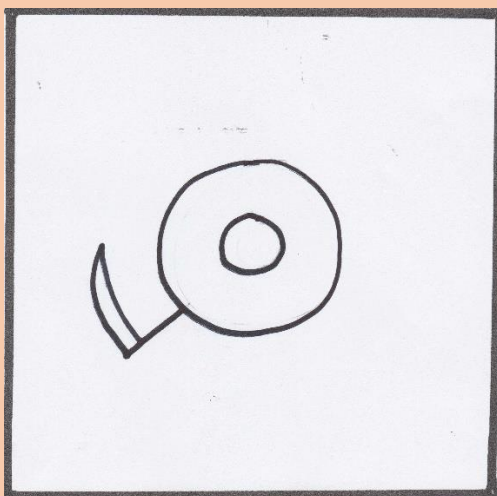
## David's Doodles



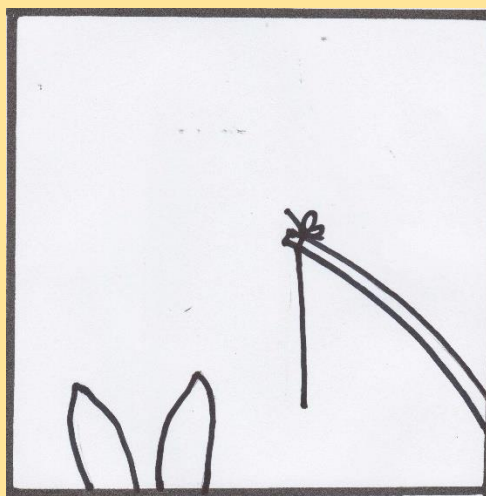
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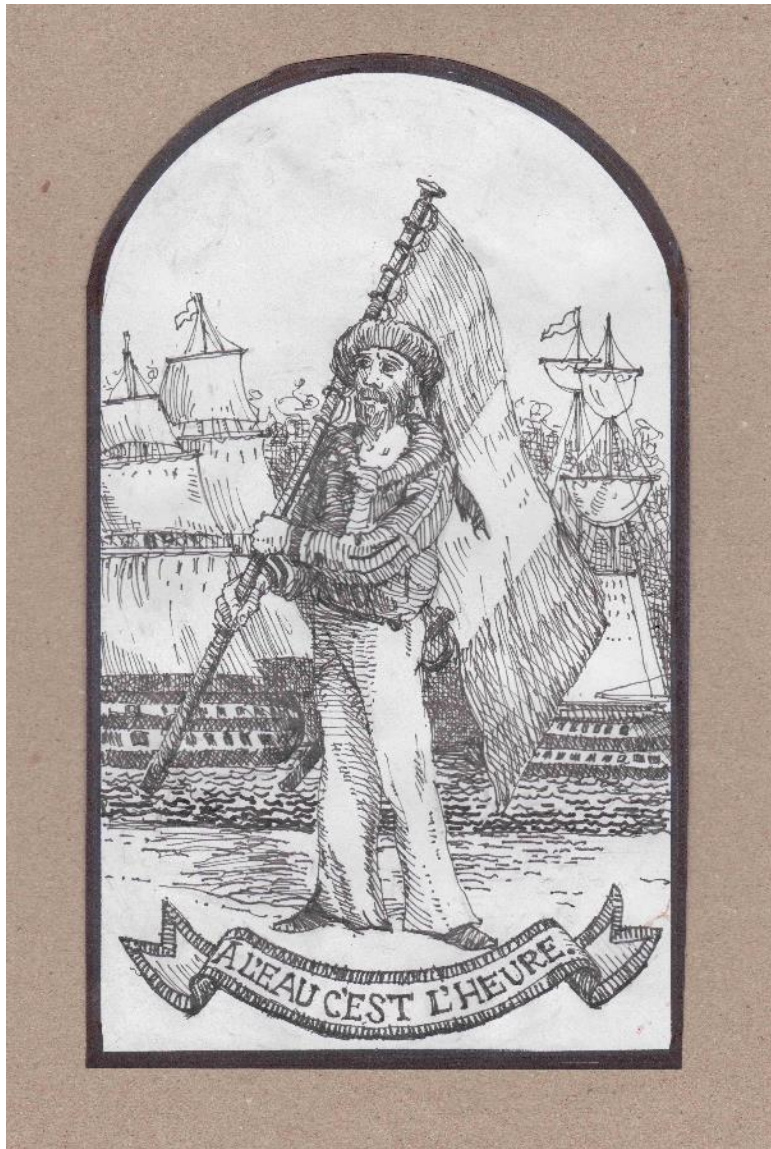
David Westby

[Answers on page 25](#)

## Riddle answer

The English word with 3 consecutive double letters is **Bookkeeper**

## More Humour: Franglais, history in a picture



**Motto of the French Navy Circa 1826**

Re-imaged by David Westby 2026

*To appreciate the humour, you might need to read the Motto out loud a couple of times*

## Droodle answers

1. A gift wrapped stick of spaghetti.
2. A Black cat in the cellar at midnight with the lights off.
3. A Mexican with scythe
4. A Donkey that has just eaten a carrot

David Westby

## Quiz answers

### Food and drink

1. What is the main ingredient in hummus? **Chickpeas**
2. Which country drinks the most coffee per capita? **Finland**
3. What is the world's bestselling stout beer? **Guinness**
4. What is the most expensive spice by weight? **Saffron**
5. Which country is credited with inventing ice cream? **China**
6. Which country is the largest exporter of bananas? **Ecuador**
7. Which fruit is grenadine made from? **Pomegranate**
8. What do you add to a croque monsieur to make a croque madame? **A fried egg**
9. What does IPA stand for? **Indian Pale Ale**
10. Which are the top 2 selling spices in the world? **Pepper & Mustard**

### Surprising facts

1. Which animal can't vomit and sleeps standing up? **Horse**
2. Which country invented French fries? **Belgium**
3. Which birds can sleep in flight? **Frigatebirds, Swifts, Great Snipe**
4. Which US President had 2 grizzly bears? **Thomas Jefferson**
5. Which animal's milk is pink? **Hippopotamus**
6. Which creature has blue blood and 3 hearts? **Octopus**
7. Which mammals lay eggs? **Platypus, Echidna**
8. How many bones are in the human ear? **3**
9. Which country banned time travel in films? **China**
10. What was bubble wrap originally invented for? **Wallpaper**

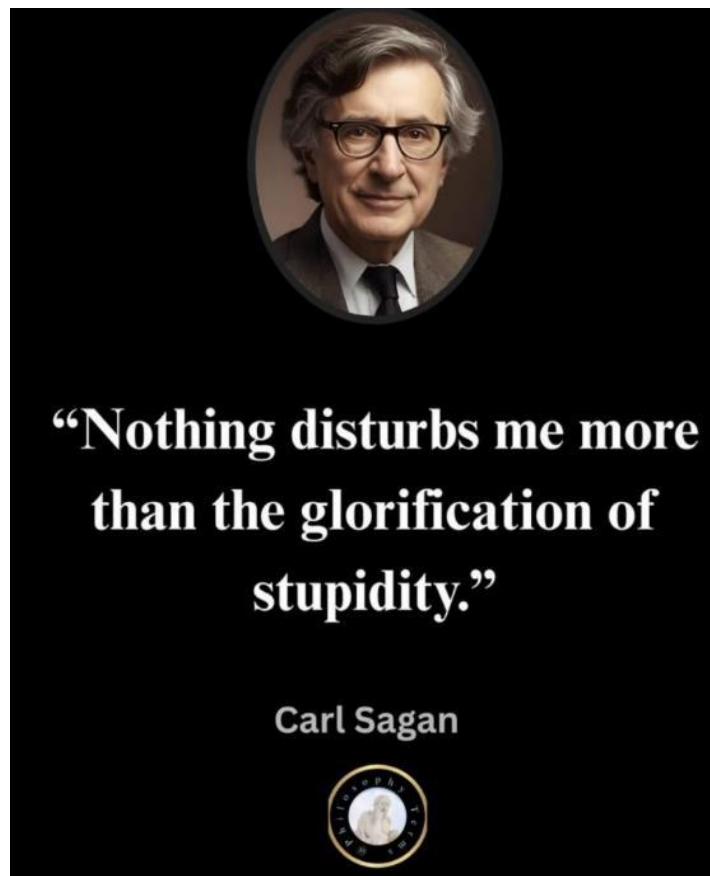
### Animals and birds

1. What is a group of crows called? **A murder**
2. What is the world's fastest bird? **Peregrine falcon**
3. What is the loudest creature in the world? **Sperm whale**
4. Which animal has the longest tongue? **Blue whale**
5. Which is the only mammal that can truly fly? **Bat**
6. Which animal has the most powerful bite? **Saltwater crocodile**
7. What is a group of pandas called? **An embarrassment**
8. Which insect travels in swarms and devours vegetation? **Locust**
9. How many eyes does a honeybee have? **5**
10. What is a Flemish giant? **Rabbit**
11. Where is a shrimp's heart located? **In its head**
12. Which is the tallest species of penguin? **Emperor**
13. How many bones does a shark have? **None**
14. Which is the heaviest species of monkey? **Mandrill**
15. What is the largest bird in the world? **Ostrich**

## Picture Quiz answers

 <p>A close-up photograph of a spherical cluster of small, bell-shaped purple flowers on a green stem.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a vertical stem with several bell-shaped purple flowers, characteristic of a foxglove.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a large, multi-petaled flower with a gradient of colors from yellow to dark red.</p>	 <p>A photograph of several bright pink flowers with dark red centers.</p>
 <p>A photograph of a tall, upright stem with several large, blue, bell-shaped flowers.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a single purple iris flower with three large petals and a yellow and white center.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a dense cluster of small, bright purple flowers.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a yellow flower with a dark brown center, characteristic of a Black-eyed Susan.</p>
 <p>A photograph of a long, drooping raceme of small, purple flowers.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a cluster of small, purple flowers with white centers.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a single white flower with a dark purple center.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a large, bright red flower with a dark center, characteristic of a poppy.</p>
 <p>A photograph of a cluster of bright yellow and orange flowers.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a single yellow flower with a dark center.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a purple flower with long, drooping stems and small, bell-shaped flowers.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a pink flower with a dark center and a textured, almost papery appearance.</p>

## Thoughts for the day



If you're not careful, the newspapers will have you hating the people who are being oppressed and loving the people who are doing the oppressing.

—Malcolm X



*Courtesy of Philosophy Terms & Facebook*

## Carrick Argus: Contact details

We look forward to receiving your letters and any other contributions you may like to offer such as quizzes, articles, and short stories by email to [carrickargus2017@gmail.com](mailto:carrickargus2017@gmail.com)

**Deadline for next issue – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

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- 2) The topics of your contributions should be restricted to those likely to be of interest to members of u3as. But see 6 below.
- 3) Apart from obvious typing errors, your contribution will never be altered or cut without first being returned to you for your agreement. That includes punctuation.
- 4) Contributions must show name of contributor; contact details their choice. A contributor may instead select a pen name, but if so, their own name will be supplied to any reader who asks for it.
- 5) A contribution that is critical of an identifiable individual will not be published. But see 6 below.
- 6) If contributing, you should regard yourself as responsible for factual accuracy. Opinions are your own.

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