

The Carrick Argus

Supporting Carrick u3a – sharing members' interests and news

Issue no 117

September 2026



Autumn at Perranporth

by Terry Davey

An entry for the 2025 Photography Competition

Contents

To go directly to a page, just click on the item below if you are using a desktop or laptop. If you use an iPad, touch an item in the list.

Contents	2
Editorial	3
Solar eclipse August 12th: Onset to maximum	4
Book Review: Ferguson's Gang	5
The San People	7
K pop in Kernow	8
Eating round & about	10
Humour	12
Day Trip to the Isles of Scilly	12
Reflecting on Bread	15
September's Riddle	18
Celebrity Conundrums	19
Creative writing: To have and have not	20
Adrian's pick of the month: Seascapes	22
Quiz	26
Picture Quiz: Oscar winners	27
David's Doodles	28
Four letter words	28
Quiz answers	29
Picture Quiz answers	30
Riddle answer	31
JRR Tolkien Conundrum answers	31
Doodle answers	31
Four letter words answers	31
Thoughts for the day	32
Carrick Argus: Contact details	33
Policy and guidelines for contributors	33

Editorial

I hope you've all had a lovely summer but I'm sure most of us will be grateful the temperatures have dropped a little. This is the first year we have had to invest in a fan, which did make life much more bearable. I can highly recommend them.

Many groups will be restarting this month after their summer break. Maybe it's time to try something new? With so many on offer here in Carrick, you're spoilt for choice, and if there is an area you would like to try that isn't yet available, why not see if others feel the same way? We used to have groups including wine appreciation, astronomy, opera and art history that sadly no longer run, is there anyone out there who would like to restart one of them? Just put an advert in the newsletter to find out what interest there is. September is a good month to start, we seem to be programmed into beginning something different after all those new school years, even if that is a long time ago!

September is going to be a busy month, with the **Group Leaders' Meeting** on the 3rd at **Kea**, invitations will be going out when Lesley returns from her latest travels. Then on the 19th we have the ever-popular **Quiz Night**, again at **Kea** with a 6.30 for 7pm start. Entry is £7.50. Get your team names and supper requests into vicechair@u3acarrick.org.uk as soon as possible please. Then the following week we have the **ceilidh**, with the Brim Ceilidh Band and their caller Kate from Ceilidh Cornwall, this will be at the **Perranwell Centre**. Tickets are £10, book your place today at the usual address, vicechair@u3acarrick.org.uk. **Please pay by BACS as the bank is now charging us for cash and cheque deposits.** If you don't use BACS, perhaps a friend could do it for you.

Don't forget the wide range of talks available free of charge given by the Third Age Trust. Full details are on their **website, u3a.org.uk**. September's selection includes: -

Tuesday 1 st	10am	NASA's Early Days
Friday 4 th	10am	Wild, edible autumn seeds
Monday 7 th	2pm	Danes before Normans, the Conquest before the Conquest
Friday 11 th	2pm	The evolving role of drones in our skies
Tuesday 15 th	2pm	Introduction to cryptic crosswords
Thursday 17 th	10am	Punk in the 1970s
Monday 21 st	2pm	Sleep and dreams
Tuesday 22 nd	2pm	A journey through the Galapagos
Thursday 24 th	2pm	Promoting brain health

All these and more are included in your membership of the u3a. They are free and delivered via **Zoom**. If you are not familiar with using Zoom then **Ric Reilly**, our digital lead, will be delighted to get you started.

Don't forget our **Members' Monthly Meeting** on **Thursday 17th** at **Kea**, 10 for a 10.30 start when Elaine Dyer, daughter of two of our members, will be talking to us about **Cornwall Hospice**. Some of you will know that Liz Linne, one of our social dancers, spent some time there earlier this summer and was full of praise for them and the work they do. A collection was held for the charity at her funeral.

Sue Hutt
Editor

Book Review: Ferguson's Gang

The remarkable story of the National Trust gangsters

by Polly Bagnall and Sally Beck, Published by NT Books, 2015

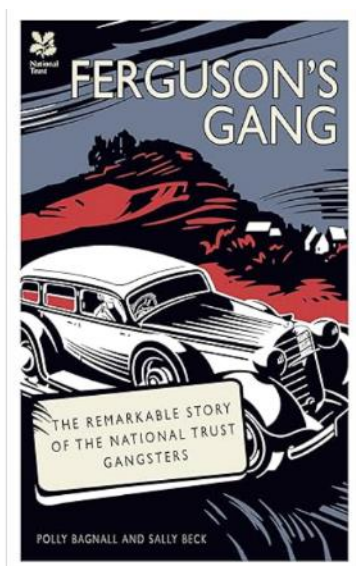
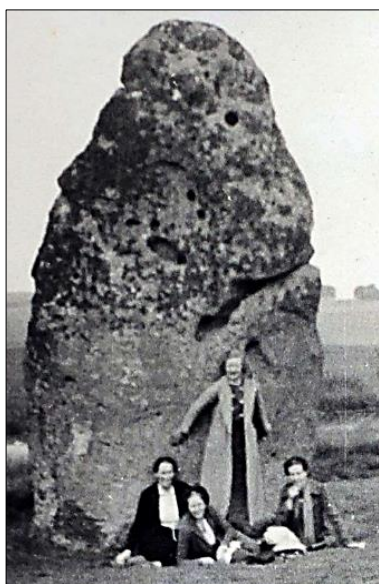


Image courtesy of Amazon Books

The National Trust Magazine of Spring 2008 contained an article called '**The Cloaked Crusaders**'. It described '*a mysterious masked band of philanthropists who had taken to making sudden and startling appearances at the NT's HQ with sacks of money and instructions directing the funds to particular causes. No one knew who the gang were, and their notoriety grew. The Press loved them due to their anonymity and dramatic delivery*'.



The Ferguson gang picnic by the Heel stone at Stonehenge 1937

Photo courtesy of English Heritage

Formed in 1927, by 1933 the Gang had got into its stride. They raised money and donated as much as they could personally to whichever appeal took their fancy, such as purchasing Salisbury Plain, thus saving Stonehenge for the nation.

The Gang was primarily made up of five women, led by **Margaret (Peggy) Pollard**, nee Gladstone. They were all highly educated and well-connected. Peggy taught herself Sanskrit at 16, won a scholarship to Cambridge at 17, and became the first female student there to gain a Double First in Oriental languages. As women were only awarded titular degrees at that time, she didn't receive her doctorate and degree until 1952.

Peggy excelled at languages all her life, teaching herself Russian and Cornish, and she was later appointed a **Bard of the Cornish Gorsedd**. She invented their name, Ferguson's Gang, but never revealed whether 'Ferguson' was real or imagined.

Before WW2 they raised £4,500 for the NT. One of them, named Sister Angela, recalled '*We were in our 20s and it was fun. We cared about helping to save England and wanted to be involved in something of permanent value. The NT was the obvious recipient for our schemes as it keeps its properties for the nation for ever*'.

The group's aim to protect rural England was inspired by the architect **Sir Clough Williams-Ellis**. His book, 'England and the Octopus', written in 1928, was '*an impassioned plea against the onslaught of unchecked urban development in the 1920s.*' He described London as an octopus, spreading its tentacles across the countryside.

In 1937 the Gang stayed at **Portmeirion**, in north Wales. **Williams-Ellis** had begun building this utopian Italianate-style village in 1925 to achieve harmony between old and new architecture. Set on a beautiful estuary near **Porthmadog**, he called the village '*a Folly, a home for fallen buildings*'. This was a literal description, as he salvaged much of his materials from demolished stately homes. He continued working on it for decades, until his death in 1978. We visited it several times and loved it, although at first, I didn't realise it wasn't a normal village!

Peggy attended one of his lectures and they exchanged many letters. There's a lovely photo of them in the book, with Peggy wearing her blue Cornish Bard dress and Williams-Ellis in his trade-mark canary-yellow stockings!

Thanks to the Gang's efforts the amount of land owned by the NT increased rapidly in 1930s. It included large stretches of the Cornish coast, such as **Rosemullion Head** near **Falmouth** and **Mayon Cliffs** near **Land's End**. After visiting the Cliffs Peggy wrote a poem, from which this verse is taken:

*Save me Castle, me old Cliff Castle,
Take it safe to the National Trus'!
Save me barrow, me old Ring Barrow;
Save us all from the Octopus!*

In 1928 Peggy married Frank Pollard and they spent their honeymoon at the Tregenna Castle Hotel in **St Ives**. Three years later they settled in **St Mawes**; she paid £300 for a stone and slate cottage in The Rope Walk, receiving a discount because its greenhouse had blown away in a gale!

In 1947 the couple moved to a tiny miner's cottage in **Richmond Hill, Truro**, where Frank lived upstairs whilst Peggy lived downstairs. In later life she converted to Catholicism and in 1973 she built the modern-style RC church in Truro called '**Our Lady of the Portal and St Piran**'. The authors of this book comment that '*she was never against progress, just the destruction of the past*'.

Simon Jenkins, the Chairman of the NT from 2008 to 2014, said '*Ferguson's Gang act as a reminder to us today that conservation needs to be fun. They rose to fame through their theatrical stunts. The need for such anarchic activism was less necessary after WW2 when conservation legislation was rolled out nationally, but the Trust lost some of its most colourful characters.*'

Despite the gang's efforts to support the NT there remains plenty of work for it to do, preserving more of the countryside and coastline as well as buildings. Many people follow in the gang's footsteps, for example on 3 February 2026 it was announced that £330,000 had been raised in donations in just 60 days, to buy land surrounding the famous **Cerne Abbas Giant**. This will improve access to the site, already owned by the NT, and prevent anyone building around it.

Sue Amer

The San People

Whilst living in Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa, I would hike in the Drakensberg Mountains with the Mountain Hiking Group. We would hike all day, then spend 2 nights in a cave, listening to the baboons barking and staring in wonder at the amazing star-studded African sky.



Both photos courtesy of Jackie Grant

After one of these hikes, I was inspired to write this poem.

THE SAN PEOPLE

*Elands cave, high up in the Drakensberg mountains
Where the San people danced and sang;
And the Shamans went into trance and crossed the bridge to the Spirit world
Where they became one with the animals
And once out of trance, they would paint the rocks
To describe where they had been and what they had seen.*

*Elands cave, where the water cascades over the edge
And the sunlight shines onto the wet rocks,
Glistening in the hot sun;
Where the paintings envelope one with their bright colours and exquisite artistry
And invite you to try interpret their meaning.
This is a 'spiritual' experience*

*One is not merely looking at paintings on a rock,
But feeling the simplicity of these special people's lifestyle
Where they took only what they needed,
Danced and sang, and lived in perfect harmony with nature.
Hunter, Gatherer, now long gone,
We feel your spirit, we hear your song*

Jackie Grant

K pop in Kernow

K Pop cruised into Kernow in early August appearing at the Hall for Cornwall. Your local u3a K Pop fan was in attendance, thus raising the average age of the audience by a few years. I was almost certainly the oldest in the audience! My fellow fans were largely pre teenager and young teenage girls escorted by their mums, the occasional grannies and dads. I guess older teens go to the real **BTS** / **Black Pink** concerts as I did at Wembley last summer.

Not surprisingly, hearing aids had to be turned down as young female high-pitched voices dominated the pre-show conversations. Spotting their friends in the audience was the main activity at this point, fuelled by an abundance of Diet Coke, Haribo and crisps. The early start of 7pm with 2 hours, including the interval of 20 minutes, meant that sleep patterns would hopefully not be too disrupted.

Some anime costumes were evident amongst the pre-teeners along with a few Band branded T shirts (mainly BTS). The majority wore glitter tops and skirts with painted faces and carried glow sticks / swords or badminton racket like hearts that lit up and flashed throughout the concert.



Photo courtesy of Graham Moseley

With a ten second countdown to the start, the high-pitched voices soared higher than my pension forecasts, temporarily breaching the upper limits of the local decibel meter I suspect. Almost immediately, there was enough energy on the stage to power the National Grid. Seven international girls of the tribute band **Strategy** were eventually joined by five guys and together they blended song and dance routines from NewJeans, Katseye, BTS, Itzy, Stary Kids, Twice, Jung Kook, Le Serrafim, and Blackpink (*a favourite of King Charles*). Perhaps time for a *'YouTube'* search folks!

The harmonies fitted together like a well-made jigsaw with vocal control astonishing, given the amount of dancing taking place. Indeed, singing and dancing simultaneously seemed entirely normal to them and entirely impossible to me. There was enough energy to make me consider a gym membership. And the choreography was tighter than a jam jar lid with movement as precise as an Olympic synchronised swimming team.

Meanwhile the audience happily sang along to each number and the rapidly changing configurations. Audience participation intensified when given the chance to learn a Korean phrase or a dance routine for which a couple of members won free branded teddy bears.

The mix of pop, R&B, rock and rap continued in the second half with greater coordination than most committee meetings and more costume changes than a village pantomime. Light-sticks waved in every direction like a highly organised glow-worm convention.

Clearly, K Pop has captured the hearts and minds of the young of Kernow. Why? It's music you can enjoy with anyone, and it's a reminder that great entertainment transcends generations. This concert was a joyous celebration of music, movement and youthful energy. K Pop feels and sounds like a safe space for kids. It was an evening that was impossible not to enjoy. Indeed, this was far better wholesome entertainment than the Eurovision Song Contest! So, next time K Pop comes to Kernow, take your grandchildren!

Graham Moseley

Eating round & about

At this moment of writing the frighteningly dry hot summer seems destined to continue, so I fancy a change this month - To sample the delights of places for snacks, tapas and cream teas rather than a full-scale meal, a venue where you can linger for drinks if the atmosphere or locality is particularly interesting.

And Falmouth- a town that offers a myriad opportunities for coffee and cakes, cocktails and takeaways is a good place to begin.

Somewhere new to **Falmouth** is '**Glas**'. Overlooking one of the best views of the harbour and the picturesque village of Flushing, it's a small bar and eatery that promises to become one of the most popular summer venues in Falmouth. In Edwardian days it had been a town council toilet and shelter for fishermen but had degenerated into a seedy hideaway and a dumping ground for old surf boards. Then early this year it was acquired by a local family, gutted and transformed into a smart open bar serving local brews, draught wine and cocktails, with dad cooking snacks on the outside BBQ.

Nestled beside the **Royal Cornwall Yacht Club** on a grassy slope hidden from the road it's the perfect spot to meet friends for a lazy afternoon or for evening drinks. We went on a sunny day and settled on the grass with comfy chairs to enjoy a leisurely half litre carafe of wine and plates of nibbles.



The atmosphere was jolly, lots of young people, families and mature couples enjoying the splendid view. With the sun shining it was perfect. Don't expect fine dining, **Simon Penna**, the proud paterfamilias, cooks whatever is brought in that day - whether it is a catch of local prawns (*they soon disappear*) or sausages and vegetables, so be prepared for pot luck. It all feels friendly, fun and rather cool, but for this you pay premium price - a litre of vin ordinaire will cost you £34! and the BBQ dishes though tasty are basic.

Wines by carafe £17 & £34
 Drought beers
 Coffee
 Small BBQ plates £15 - £20

A very different venue is **The Lodge** in Falmouth's **Kimberly Park**. Totally traditional and all the better for it, it is part of the old park keeper's lodge that has been extended to create a social space with many uses.



The cafe is run by enthusiastic and friendly young folk, the coffee is excellent and the loose-leaf tea comes in a teapot (*wonderful - no teabag*) and can be topped up as often as you wish. The cakes and scones are homemade and deservedly popular - there is a brisk trade in takeaways, and there is a choice of sandwiches. Unfortunately, the 'toasty' I chose (*roast veg*) was meagre with no cheese - perhaps that's unusual, I'm willing to be overruled as most reviews are complimentary about the food.

The cafe is such an important adjunct to this beautifully maintained park that I'm reluctant to suggest any change, but a better range of dishes could turn this modest coffee shop into a 'must lunch' venue and the staff seem more than capable of coping with an increase in custom.

Meanwhile it is delightful to have good old-fashioned tea, cakes and a tree shaded seating area to enjoy after admiring the landscaping and glorious flowers of this local amenity.

The Lodge Coffee Shop
 Kimberley Park
 Falmouth
 Open: 9am - 3.30pm weekdays & 9am - 4.30pm weekends

LW

Photos courtesy of LW

Humour

Outdoor Activity books for your reading list

Gone Sailing	by Alla Bord
The Long Walk	by Tyre d' Feat
In the Net	by I.S Corde
On the Green	by Ho Lin Wun
Out!	by U.M Pyre
Big Hitter	by Itza Sicks
The Fifth Set	by Tye Braker
Hoop and Mallet	by C.R O'Kaye
Tales from the Riverside	by Anne Glerr
Hunter's Quarry: A murder story	by Y. Lee Focks

and after all that exercise

Good Health by **U.R Welle**

Wendy Franklin

Day Trip to the Isles of Scilly

For anyone who has never been to the Isles of Scilly, the cost of £35 for a day return ticket aboard the Scillonian III, in its last season, with reductions for locals, is well worth considering. It does involve an early start, as the boat departs from **Penzance** at 9am and passengers need to be there at least 30 minutes beforehand. Parking was easy at the harbour car park, with just a short 5-minute walk to the quay. The cost was £11 for 24 hours and plenty of spaces were available.

We arrived at 7.50am, parked the car and strolled along to the embarkation point. To our surprise there were already several dozen people queueing, as we found out later this was to ensure a seat outside and to get the chance of seeing dolphins who regularly come out to play around the ship. The disadvantages of this are the very uncomfortable wooden seats, the inside seating being far more pleasant for a three-hour trip. Snacks are available to purchase but many people brought their own.



With only 3½ hours before the return trip, there is not time to venture as far as Tresco, so we wandered round **Hugh Town** until we found a delightful bay with the stunning **Porthcressa beach**.



Rather incongruously, there was a huge cruise ship moored off Hugh Town, but no sign of the hundreds of tourists who must have been sailing on it.



After enquiring at the information office, we found what was allegedly the best walk on **St Mary's**, along the garrison walls. The island had been fortified in the 16th century to protect it from attacks by the French and its defences were strengthened at various times throughout history. The **Star Castle**, built in 1593 following the Spanish Armada by mapmaker **Robert Adams**, is in the centre, with the walls being in the shape of a star. Gun batteries are situated at regular intervals and would have allowed guns to be fired at different angles.



The Telegraph Tower, constructed in 1814, was intended to serve as an Admiralty Telegraph Station, but was closed two years later and reverted to the ownership of the [Duke of Leeds](#). In 1831 it was taken over by the coastguards and in 1898 [Guglielmo Marconi](#) heard wireless signals at the tower coming from [Porthcurno](#), 30 miles away. It was later used by Radio Scilly for broadcasting.

Other points of interest are Bant's Carn Burial Chamber, Halangy Down Ancient Village, Giant's Castle, an Iron Age castle and Harry's Walls, the remains of an unfinished artillery castle on a hilltop north east of Hugh Town. It is possible to hire golf buggies to get around but as St Mary's only covers an area of 2.54 square miles which includes four small islands connected to it at low tide, this seemed an unnecessary indulgence.



We were back on the quayside by 3.30pm for the return trip, enjoying the very calm sea and trying to spot places we recognised along the south coast of the mainland. The day was complete with a visit to the award-winning Fraser's fish and chip shop on the promenade in [Penzance](#). The queue to get in was testament to its well-deserved popularity and set us up nicely for the 45-minute drive home.

Sue Hutt

All photos courtesy of Sue Hutt

Reflecting on Bread

BREAD - a dietary staple that often reflects the psyche of those who bake and eat it.

The character of individual people, regions, cities, villages and even nations are often mirrored by this typical basic. Let's look at a few examples -



1. The **French baguette** - elegant, crisply smart on the outside, an inevitable presence on every French breakfast table. It is a daily convention, there is rarely a deviation from the norm, it confirms the consistency of French superiority. It is fresh and delicious and copied everywhere that befits the product of a nation that has in the past been the international arbiter and leader of fashion. Its creation coincided with a moment in history when bread was by law made available to rich and poor alike - A gesture of revolutionary equality that was felt all over the courts of Europe, it's tube-like shape supposedly formed by its ability to be conveniently slipped into the packs of Napoleon's troops. However, it can't claim any moral fibre as it is fluffy and light when broken open. Is my Francophobia showing?



2. **Italian Focaccia** - Immediately attractive with its dimpled golden-brown surface, its cheerful hint of decadence, tempting, luxurious - it mirrors the holiday version of Italian life. But there is another type of bread that reflects more accurately the canny peasant communities of much of rural Italy -



3. **Tuscan bread** - the bread of the isolated villages of the Alpi Apuane -

It is very particular; the loaves made from strong hard flour and baked unfettered by tins in glowing wood fired ovens. The shape is a haphazard oval, the crust a craggy gold and the bottom black with ash. When tapped the loaves resound like oak doors. Country folk only do one baking a week so their bread must be able to withstand mould, it simply dries slightly as the days pass and there are many ingenious recipes for using the hard but still good loaves. This robust staple can break the jaws of unwary strangers, but once the taste has been acquired it inspires fanatical devotion, all other bread seems feeble by comparison and it has become the stuff of parables and poems, every bite a grapple with history.

No salt is added as this attracts moisture and spoils the keeping qualities of the bread, its useful life is remarkably long, which interestingly mirrors the sturdy inhabitants of these mountain eyries who frequently live to over 100.



4. The **Chapati** - spare, thin and fit for purpose. A product of necessity and limited ingredients that adequately fulfils its role as the support for richer ingredients. And that certainly sounds like a description of India's layered society - a description of social inequality, the poor supporting the rich, another example of the bread of a nation mirroring the people who eat it.



5. The **Burger Bun** - What a difference! soft and squidgy, it offers no resistance to over indulgence, it positively encourages the consumption of mass-produced meat with all the trimmings. It is easy to hold, easy to bite, needs minimum mastication and almost melts in the mouth. It has a terrifying list of additives to ensure a long shelf life and is probably the most convenient convenience food available. The complete concoction, the beefburger, has become the most popular single item of food throughout the whole world, due more to clever marketing rather than gastronomic skills. It has produced an overweight nation and if you are feeling particularly jaundiced you could argue that the burger bun mirrors the mentality of some of the populace of the continent who invented it (*though I know there are countless exceptions*). Let it be a cautionary tale - we are well on the way to mirroring our friends across the Atlantic.

Can I find more examples? The tough rye bread of Germany? The 'boy scout' damper of Australia.....



German Rye Bread

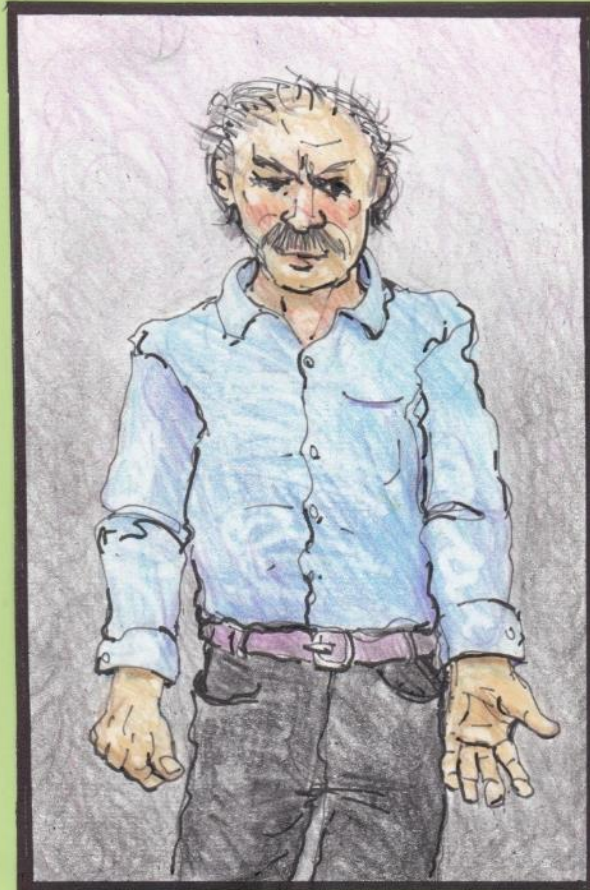


'Bush cooked' Damper

Do they reflect the character of their originators? You decide.

Leonie Whitton
All Photos courtesy of google images

September's Riddle

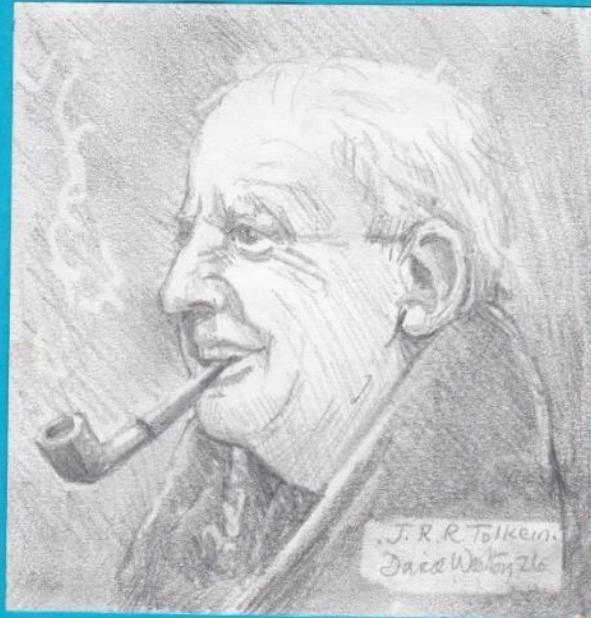


What can you hold in your right hand,
but never in your left hand?

David Westby

[Answer on page 31](#)

Celebrity Conundrums



1.
Voiceless it cries, Wingless flutters,
Toothless bites, Mouthless mutters.

2.
Alive without breath, As cold as death;
Never thirsty, ever drinking,
All in mail, never clinking.

J.R.R. Tolkien

David Westby

[Answers to both conundrums on page 31](#)

Creative writing: To have and have not

When she heard the imperious rat-tat-tat on the knocker Jane Brigham wiped her hands on the drying-up cloth and slipped off her apron before moving to answer it, only to find that her husband had got there before her and was already shaking hands with her brother-in-law. *'Take 'em into the front, Bill,'* she instructed, *'the back room's not fit to be seen!'* And let battle commence, she thought to herself.

Number 5 Raglan Terrace was in its usual state of comfortable disarray; Jane had determined not to make any special effort just on account of a visit from Edith and George, and in any case four children made immaculate housekeeping near-impossible without the kind of regimentation that neither she nor Bill had any taste for. Earlier in their marriage she had tried to accommodate to Edith's critical appraisals of her domestic skills, but when she received Bill's increasingly caustic assessments of his in-laws social attitudes (*'petty-minded snobs'*) she had thankfully relaxed into her native easy-going manner. After lighting the gas under the kettle, she entered the front room. *'Tea'll be along in a minute,'* she informed them.

As usual, George had occupied one of the easy chairs next to the fire, the gold watch-chain spanning his ample waistcoat glinting in the intervals of sunshine that pierced the March clouds. Bill sat opposite, leaving the large but worn leather settee for the two women.

'Smoke?' offered George, exposing the gilt interior of his silver cigarette case.

Bill shook his head, *'I'll stick to the pipe, thanks.'*

George lit up. *'So, have you thought over what I said?'*

'About?'

'About the job of course!'

'Ah. Didn't think you were serious. Anyway, no thanks; I'm quite happy with what I've got.'

'You can't really mean you want to spend the rest of your life on your tools, doing what you're told, making money for somebody else? I'm giving you an opportunity to be your own boss.'

Bill laughed. *'Aye. Under you.'*

The kettle began to whistle, and Jane rose to make the tea. *We women might as well not exist as far as he's concerned,* she thought, *how does Edith put up with it?* But she knew the answer; her sister's marriage was just another advantageous bargain that George had struck, a very presentable wife for social occasions (their more intimate life Jane tried not to think about) in exchange for – at the bottom of it – money and all that it could buy.

'I'll just let it mash,' she told them as she re-entered the room.

George turned to her. *'You can see the sense in it, can't you Jane?'* he said with what he imagined was a winning smile. *'Apart from anything else, there looks like being another war soon, and if there is, we're going to have all the trade we can handle – and we're already doing work for the Army, so our business will count as essential war work, a reserved occupation. Don't forget - Bill might be called up if he stays where he is now.'*

Bill reached out to put a lump of coal onto the fire, glancing sideways at Jane as he did so.

'I'll just pour the tea,' she said and went out, knowing that the interruption would discomfort George.

Returning with the tray, she saw that George was looking irritated and Bill was filling his pipe.

'Biscuits, anybody?' she enquired.

'No Jane; sit down!' snapped Edith, *'this is important!'*

Jane smiled, thinking to herself, *Now, now, Edith – I'm not your little sister any more, don't forget!*

Aloud, she said, *'Well of course it is; but so are other things, for me – like a happy husband and family'.*

'Huh. Won't be so happy if he finds himself in a sailor suit again, will he?' George sneered.

Jane smiled. *'You're not looking far enough ahead, George. If a war does come it'll be with Germany, and it'll be a big one. This country will need all the shipbuilding capacity we've got and more. And that'll include boat building, because we'll need craft like harbour defence launches, inshore minesweepers and a dozen other types. So, Bill will be busy enough with 'essential war work', thank you very much; he doesn't need your protection half as much as you need his skills.'*

George looked scornfully at her. *'What can you know about all that?'*

'A lot, George. I live with a man who eats and sleeps small craft. I'm not stupid, and I keep my ears open; and believe it or not, he talks to me about it!' Out of the corner of her eye, she saw Bill trying to hide a grin, and felt Edith's angry frown.

Flushed with anger, George was on his feet. *'Come on Edith, we're wasting our time here!'*

'But you haven't had your tea!' Jane protested sweetly.

'Damn the tea,' shouted George, and made for the door.

Edith swung to face her sister; *'How could you!'* she hissed.

Jane smiled at her. *'Well, Edith – it's quite easy if you try!'*

The front door banged shut; Jane and Bill looked at each other, and burst out laughing.

u3a Carrick member writing as Warren Thorpe



Courtesy of Facebook

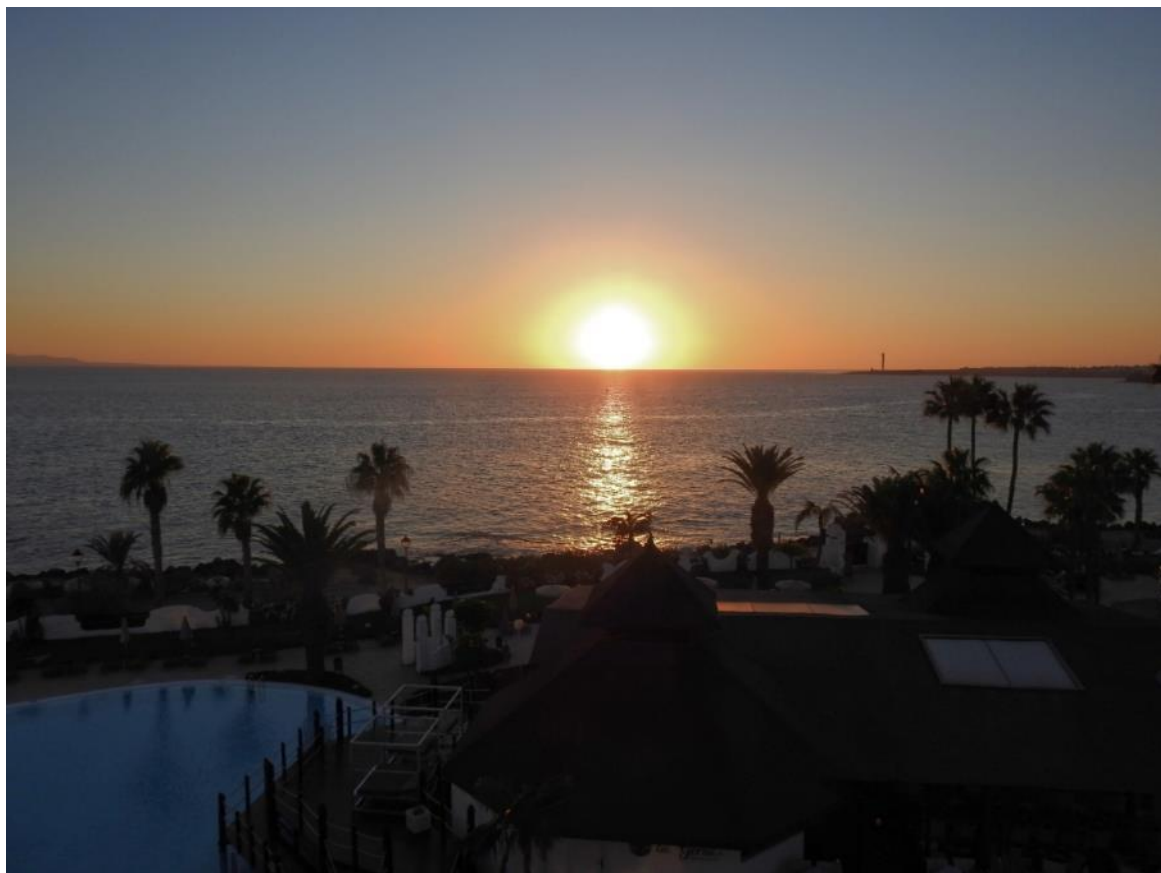
Adrian's pick of the month: Seascapes







All images courtesy of u3a Carrick photography group



Quiz

History- When did the following occur?

1. First Penny Black issued
2. Death of Queen Victoria
3. Official opening of Channel tunnel
4. The sealing of the Magna Carta
5. Act of Union between Scotland and England
6. First Jacobite rebellion
7. South Sea Bubble
8. Equal voting rights for women and men in UK
9. First steam powered passenger railway opened in UK
10. Great Plague of London
11. Arrival of Spanish Armada
12. Release of first Beatles song
13. Creation of Domesday Book
14. Start of the English Civil War
15. Sinking of the Titanic

Music

1. Who wrote La Traviata?
2. Who represented Great Britain at the 2025 Eurovision?
3. Which drummer preceded Ringo Starr in the Beatles?
4. Where was Beethoven born?
5. What was the first hit for The Beach Boys?
6. When and from where did reggae originate?
7. Who wrote The Sound of Silence?
8. What was Freddie Mercury's birth name?
9. Which singer is known as J Lo?
10. What was Jimi Hendrix's only top 40 hit?

Sport

1. In which sport would you find the Curtis Cup?
2. Who won the FIFA World Cup in 2014?
3. How many miles in a marathon?
4. In Ten Pin bowling, what is a turkey?
5. Who is the most decorated Olympian?
6. Which woman has won the most 'Grand Slam' Tennis titles?
7. In darts, what is the highest score from single dart?
8. Who was the first Olympic gymnast to score 10?
9. Where do Burnley FC play their home games?
10. Who is the most successful British male track athlete?

[Answers on page 29](#)

Picture Quiz: Oscar winners



1



2



3



4



5



6



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14



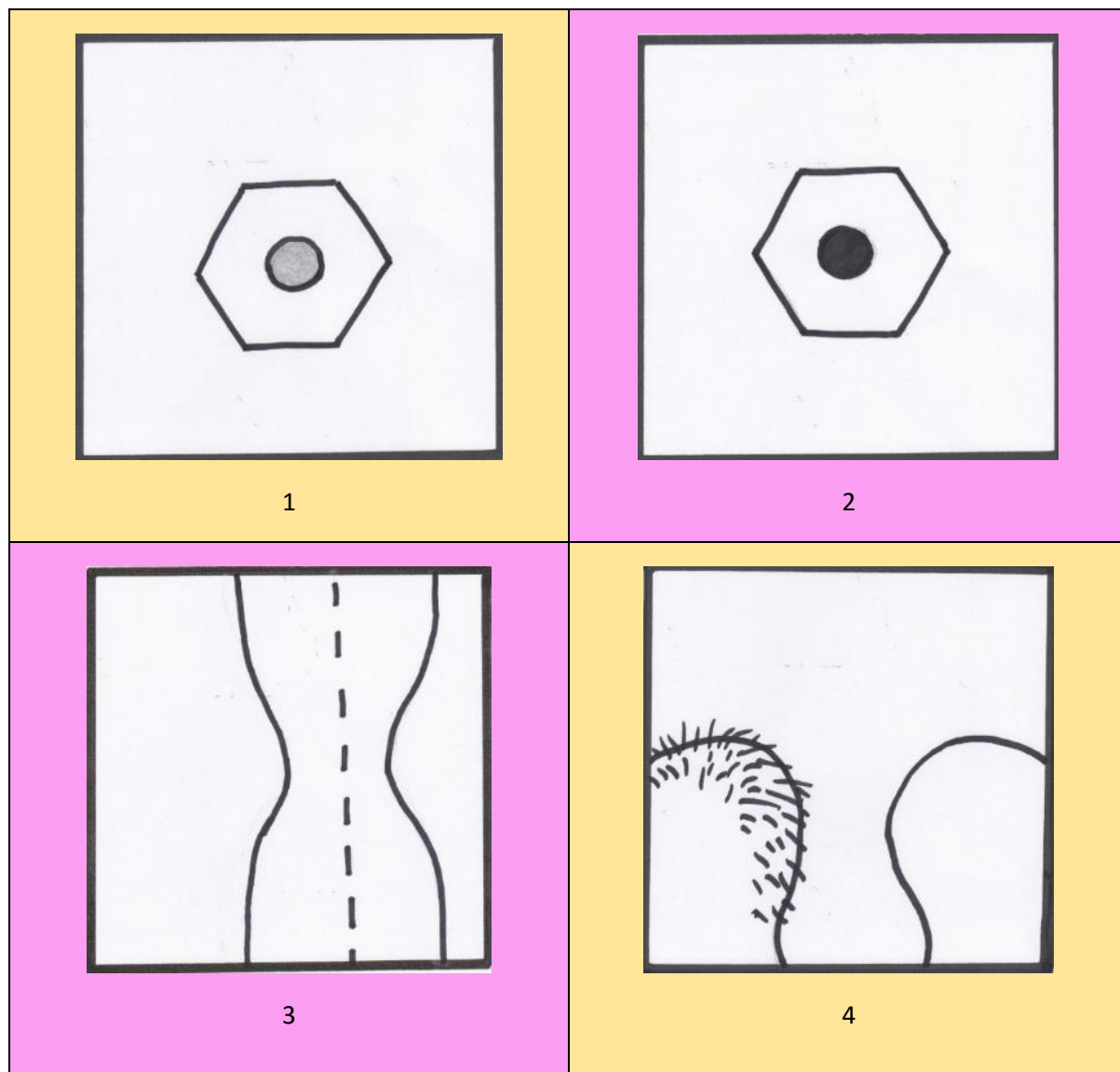
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16

[Answers on page 30](#)

David's Doodles



Four letter words

1. Which **four**, four letter words can you make with the letters; **LSAE**?
2. Which **five**, four letter words can you make with the letters; **RSTA**?
3. Which **six**, four letter words can you make with the letters; **PTSO**?

Additional question: Can you find something sweet in the **ARGUS**?

David Westby

[Answers on page 31](#)

Quiz answers

History- When did the following occur?

- | | |
|---|------|
| 1. First Penny Black issued | 1840 |
| 2. Death of Queen Victoria | 1901 |
| 3. Official opening of Channel tunnel | 1994 |
| 4. The sealing of the Magna Carta | 1215 |
| 5. Act of Union between Scotland and England | 1707 |
| 6. First Jacobite rebellion | 1715 |
| 7. South Sea Bubble | 1720 |
| 8. Equal voting rights for women and men in UK | 1928 |
| 9. First steam powered passenger railway opened in UK | 1825 |
| 10. Great Plague of London | 1665 |
| 11. Arrival of Spanish Armada | 1588 |
| 12. Release of first Beatles song | 1962 |
| 13. Creation of Domesday Book | 1086 |
| 14. Start of the English Civil War | 1642 |
| 15. Sinking of the Titanic | 1912 |

Music

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Who wrote La Traviata? | Verdi |
| 2. Who represented Great Britain at the 2025 Eurovision? | Remember Monday |
| 3. Which drummer preceded Ringo Starr in the Beatles? | Pete Best |
| 4. Where was Beethoven born? | Bonn, Germany |
| 5. What was the first hit for The Beach Boys? | Surfin' Safari |
| 6. When and from where did reggae originate? | Jamaica, 1960s |
| 7. Who wrote The Sound of Silence? | Paul Simon |
| 8. What was Freddie Mercury's birth name? | Farrokh Bulsara |
| 9. Which singer is known as J Lo? | Jennifer Lopez |
| 10. What was Jimi Hendrix's only top 40 hit? | All Along the Watchtower |

Sport

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. In which sport would you find the Curtis Cup? | Golf |
| 2. Who won the FIFA World Cup in 2014? | Germany |
| 3. How many miles in a marathon? | 26.2 |
| 4. In Ten Pin bowling, what is a turkey? | 3 consecutive strikes |
| 5. Who is the most decorated Olympian? | Michael Phelps |
| 6. Which woman has won the most 'Grand Slam' Tennis titles? | Serena Williams |
| 7. In darts, what is the highest score from single dart? | 60 |
| 8. Who was the first Olympic gymnast to score 10? | Nadia Comaneci |
| 9. Where do Burnley FC play their home games? | Turf Moor |
| 10. Who is the most successful British male track athlete? | Mo Farah |

Picture Quiz answers



Michael B Jordan



Sean Penn



Clark Gable



Spencer Tracy



Will Smith



Rami Malik



Daniel Day Lewis



Laurence Olivier



Maggie Smith



Meryl Streep



Sally Field



Jodie Foster



Renee Zellweger



Liza Minelli



Halle Berry



Whoopi Goldberg



Riddle answer

What can you hold in your right hand but never in your left hand?

Answer. **Your left hand.**

JRR Tolkien Conundrum answers

1. 'Voiceless it cries, Wingless flutters,
Toothless bites, Mouthless mutters.'

Answer: **The Wind**

2. 'Alive without breath, as cold as death;
Never thirsty, ever drinking,
All in mail, never clinking'

Answer: **A Fish**

Droodle answers

1. **4H pencil.** 2. **4B pencil.** 3. **Road narrows.** 4. **Hair today, gone tomorrow.**

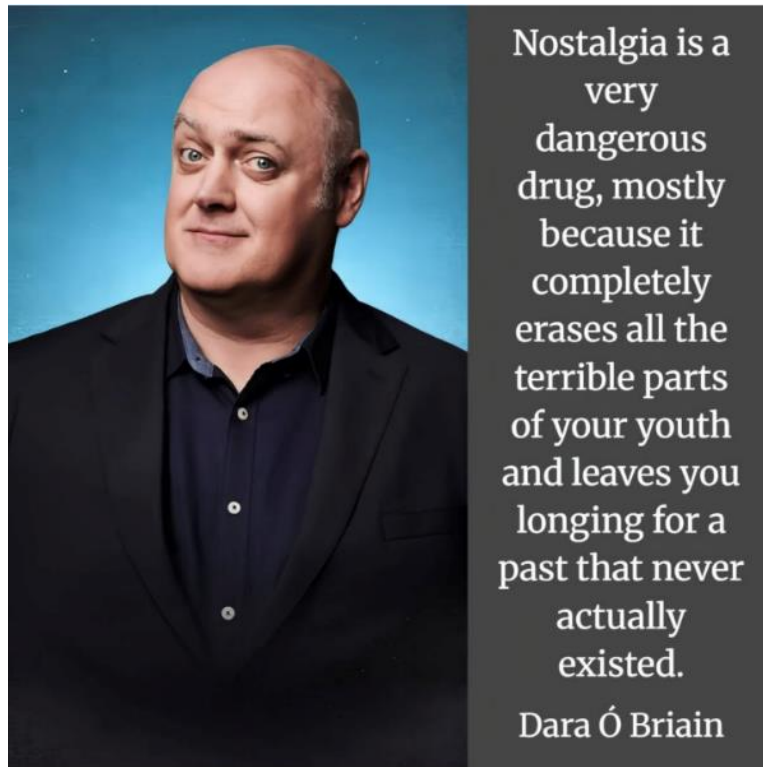
Four letter words answers

1. 4 words from the letters LSAE
2. 5 words from the letters RSTA
3. 6 words from the letters PTOS

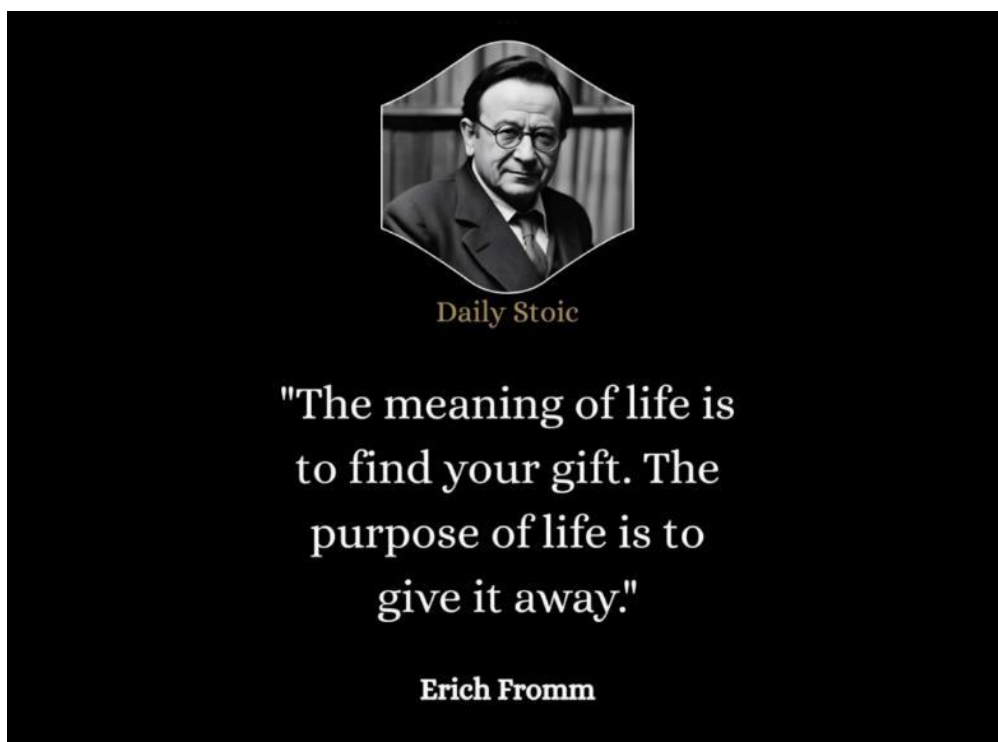
ALES, SEAL, LASE, SALE.
ARTS, STAR, TARS, RATS, TSAR.
POST, POTS, STOP, TOPS, SPOT, OPTS

Additional question: **SUGAR** is an anagram of ARGUS

Thoughts for the day



Courtesy of Facebook



Courtesy of the Daily Stoic & 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

Deadline for next issue – Saturday 26th September 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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