





## The Newsletter for bundless and Bristol Group

# Edition 5 Christmas 2020

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## Welcome to the Christmas 2020 edition of the Boundless Bath and Bristol Group Newsletter

Whilst compiling this newsletter, and as we exit our second Corona virus lockdown, still experiencing some degree of restriction it is unfortunate that we continue to be unable to meet in person for our regular club nights and the activities we all so much enjoy.

However with the recent announcement that a vaccine has been approved for use, there does appear to be a glimmer of light at the end of a long and difficult tunnel.

To help keep our spirits high during this Christmas season your Bath and Bristol Group Committee have produced this newsletter. Hopefully it enables us to stay in touch and includes some content to keep you amused during this time.

Please read through the articles written by your committee and also enjoy the jokes and puzzles included.

A timely reminder:-

Remember the UK Government instructions:-



#### Paul's Humorous Quote of the Season

'A lovely thing about Christmas 2020 is that it's compulsory, like a thunderstorm, and we all go through it together.'



#### A Seasonal message from our Chairman - Bernie Simmons



"Dear All

Well, when we all met at our February Club Night, little did we know that that was the last time we would be getting together in 2020!

Without dwelling on the grave nature of this year's events of which we all only too aware, I have been reflecting on what I have particularly missed- and high up on my list is our Group's monthly get togethers and occasional day trips. I have always appreciated the friendship and broadening of interests that involvement in the Group brings, but having that experience taken away has brought it all into sharp focus.

Having said all that, the recent news on vaccinations (despite the fact that most of you are far too young to be at the front of the queue.....!) has allowed that, despite a difficult few winter months ahead of us, we can be optimistic that by early spring life could be well on the way back to a measure of normality. This should result in our Group putting on as full a programme as possible in 2021, including re-arranging some of the events that had been planned for this year- so look out for news from our local circulars and newsletter, and in the magazine.

In the meantime, I hope that you and your families have coped as well as possible in this difficult year and wish you all the very best for Christmas and the New Year-I look forward to seeing you before too long.

Best Wishes

Bernie"









I once had a set of batteries for Christmas with a note on the front – 'Toys not included'!

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Following the end of the second national lockdown it has been decided that model villages can now reopen.

Provided that all inhabitants stay at least two inches apart!



## Our Secretary David Chappell has compiled this seasonal quiz.

## All of the questions and some of the answers contain the word

#### 'WINTER'



- 1. The Christmas carol `In the bleak midwinter` is based on a poem by which English poet?
- 2. Peter O'toole starred as which king of England in the 1968 movie 'A lion in winter'?
- 3. In `Game of Thrones` which house has the motto `winter is coming?
- 4. What was David Essex's 'winter' hit in 1983?
- 5. Which British skater won the gold medal in figure skating at the 1976 winter Olympics?
- 6. In which auditorium has every British prime minister since WW2 addressed a party conference?
- 7. At the winter solstice in the northern hemisphere which line of latitude is the sun directly over?
- 8. In which of Shakespeare's plays does the line 'now is the winter of our discontent' appear?
- 9. Who had a UK top ten hit in 1969 with `winter world of love?
- 10. Mrs de Winter, the first wife of Max de Winter, is the title character of which novel?
- 11. In which land is it `always winter but never Christmas`?
- 12. The second movie in the Captain America franchise has what subtitle?

Answers can be found at the end of this newsletter



## A little snippet from Committee member John and June Wakeman which happened since the last newsletter......

'The most excitement was a while ago when we had a film crew's helicopter filming in the field near us by Box Tunnel.

We were told it was a crime film for TV. Can't remember if the previous episodes were on TV this year or last but they were filmed in and around Bath.

It starred Jason Watkins and we think it was called McDonald and Dobbs.'





#### An anecdotal message from committee member Mike Millward

'Well here we are in December already having endured the long periods of lockdown with only one major project accomplished - the clearing of the under stairs area. No autobiography written, house not painted and kitchen not re-fitted! The 'to do' list remains long.

The earlier sunny weather made it slightly more bearable and in the autumn we managed to celebrate Kath's milestone birthday with the immediate family (max 6) which unfortunately meant no grandchildren included.

I do the shopping and like someone once said "I can resist everything except temptation". Unfortunately I may have put the odd bag or two of chocolate nuts in the basket which appears to have resulted in me possibly gaining the odd ounce or two (really!!?).'

I recently read this notice. – I hope it wasn't aimed at me!

Weight Watchers will meet at 7pm in the church hall. Please use the large double doors at the side entrance!

#### A piece of nostalgia...... before social distancing..... from Pat and Margaret Butler.

'This is what we used to get up to - in the days before 'petrol rationing' (who remembers that??)

We would organise day events for Saturdays or Sundays. The events were Treasure Hunts; Autotests and Rallys.

For the Treasure Hunt we would all meet up somewhere (a car park or similar) we would be given our set of clues and at a given signal. Off we would go. The clues could be to identify a particular landmark on the route – incidentally we would be given a route so we didn't get lost (well, not very often). Having completed all the clues we would try to finish up at 'opening time' in a pub – having previously arranged it with the landlord – of course. The checking would be done by the event organiser and a winner declared. Some Hunts entailed actually picking up some items or a flower/weed.

The Autotests were great fun and generally took place on a flat field or if possible a large car par (with permission) and on one occasion we used a runway on a disused airfield. The idea here was to design some obstacles for the hapless member motorist to drive around. One example was a 'slalom' of traffic cones (home made by members of the committee) which you had to drive around – no, not that simple as you had to have on your bonnet a plastic cup full of water – not to be spilt. Once through the slalom the water remaining was measured and points awarded/deducted.

Earlier Autotests were arranged as 'timed events' but we decided that this tended to spoil the fun so we scrapped timing and just awarded penalties.

The Rallys were, of course, timed. Some were Daylight and some were Evening. These tended to bring out the keen members – but there was still room for beginners to take part. You needed a navigator for these events and a lot of fun was had. It was great to reach the correct 'checkpoint' at the correct time – you really felt good.

So if anyone wants to restart some of these events we will be happy to share some of our experiences.'

Try your hand at this Word search, over a coffee and mince pie.....

| Р | S | S | Ε | L | D | N | U | 0 | В | D | Ε | Ι | L |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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CHRISTMAS TREE
DECORATIONS
HOLLY
BATH AND BRISTOL
BOUNDLESS
KING HEROD
PANTOMIME
CRACKERS
BETHLEHEM
MINCE PIES
MYRRH
CANDY CANE
SLEIGH
PLUM PUDDING
RUDOLPH

Answers can be found at the end of this newsletter

Let me see if I've got this Santa business correct. You say he wears a beard, has no discernible source of income and flies to cities all over the world under cover of darkness?

You sure he isn't just laundering illegal drug money?

And lastly:-

The editor and all of the Bath and Bristol Group Committee wish you all a very happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

**Stay Safe** 











## **Solutions**

### **Dave's Winter Quiz**

- 1. Christina Rossetti
- 2. King Henry 11
- 3. House Stark
- 4. A Winter's Tale
- 5. John Curry
- 6. Blackpool Winter Gardens
- 7. Tropic of Capricorn
- 8. Richard 111
- 9. Englebert Humperdinck
- 10. Rebecca
- 11. Narnia
- 12. The Winter Solider

#### Paul's Word Search

| Ρ | S | S | Е | L | D | N | U | 0 | В | D | Ε | I | L |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| R | T | H | M | Υ | R | R | H | U | I | H | В | H | I |
| E | Α | 0 | Α | P | С | 0 | M | S | E | N | G | N | R |
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| G | E | R | D | 0 | R | Ε | Н | G | N | Ι | K | P | Α |
| E | C | Α | N | D | Υ | С | Α | N | E | Ι | 0 | Н | В |







