



## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you All!

I hope you've finished all the shopping and preparations for Christmas and are sitting reading this with a festive drink, and another mince pie! Members have had a jolly time this month, with our Christmas Party, Magical Christmas Monthly Meeting and Christmassy gatherings with fellow members in Groups. In this Christmas Card edition of the Newsletter we bring you pictures of some of the festivities. Maybe you can spot yourself in them? I am in quite a few! Best Wishes, John & your Committee  
Thank you to Shirley, who has written this poem for us to share with you.

🎄 Christmas Time 🎄

*Christmas Time is Special*

*And as the days slip by*

*The festivities come ever nearer*

*Through the darkening winter sky.*

*Our thoughts will turn to usual things*

*- Like gifts & decorations*

*The family plans – the fancy foods*

*The days of celebration.*

*Christmas is togetherness – relatives & friends*

*Renewing old acquaintances – with Christmas cards to send.*

*But, as we're wrapped within the warmth*

*That special season brings*

*Let's spare a thought for others – who do not have these things.*

*Those far afield who cannot share – special days that mean so much,*

*Families who are separated – who cannot keep in touch.*

*Throughout this world of Conflict –*

*may there be ONE moment to recall*

*When fighting stops – and there's Peace on earth*

*And Goodwill – to one and all.*

## The Christmas Party!



There was eating and drinking .....



There were games .....



Giant Pass the Parcel



Very silly Christmas Bingo

There was of course a quiz, a raffle and there were prizes .....



**The Quiz**

If you didn't come to the party, but would like to try the quiz over Christmas, it's on the last page of the Newsletter. No prizes I'm afraid, but I'm sure you'll enjoy it!

**And finally singing and Dancing!**



Thank you to our Committee, who as ever, are happy to make fools of themselves, and all of those members who helped to make the party a success. Particular thanks go to DJ Phil for organising all the music.

Most of all, thank you to our wonderful Vice Chair, Hilary, who organised the party, and really threw herself into the spirit of it all!

## The December Monthly Meeting

This year we were entertained by amazing magician and illusionist Colin Phillips. He's a member of the Magic Circle, and the President of the Associated Wizards of the South.



Like most magicians, Colin encouraged volunteers to join in. First on stage was of course your chair!

Then he moved on to the audience ...



With a little help from the audience, cards transferred across the stage



And in this trick Sue ended up with a five pound note!



How did he do it? Whether it was knowing what someone was thinking, or making things disappear, Colin certainly kept us all guessing!



And thanks to our magical speaker secretary for finding him!



Then it was drinks and mince pies. Thanks again to all those who do refreshments at our meetings, and once again to Hilary for organising everything.



## Groups' Christmas Meals

Lots of you are waiting until January for your get togethers. Please send in photos and they can cheer us all up in those months after Christmas.



The Committee and partners had dinner at South Lawn Hotel. We hold our meetings there, as do many groups and we are grateful for them continuing support.

The Lunch Club enjoyed a Christmas lunch at the Royal Lynton Yacht Club, organised by Sandra and David Allpress.



The Explorers had a wonderful lunch at the Oaks in Highcliffe, organised by Jim Bunting. Here they are relaxing and discussing where they will explore in the year ahead!

Dates for your  
Diary

Monthly Meetings  
at 2pm

Tuesday  
January 2nd  
Philip St Lawrence

Saturday 27th  
Kurling

Games Afternoons  
Sundays  
February 4th  
March 3rd

All in the The  
Bridge, Milford on  
Sea's Community  
Centre.

The **January** meeting sees the return of Philip St Lawrence. Philip enthralled us in February with his talk on the Cuba crisis. This time his talk is:

“Edward, Wallis and Operation Willi” Philip presents his latest talk on the story of Edward and Mrs Simpson. Using the very latest revelations this is the fascinating story of how Hitler came to manipulate Edward and Wallis during their stay in Lisbon. Just how close did they come to changing the course of history - and one amazing WHAT IF?

### **Kurling Event with fish & chip supper**

**Saturday 27th January 5 - 9pm**

at the Bridge, MoS Community Centre

Join us for a very sociable evening that Frances and Terry are once again organising for us. If you haven't been before, don't worry, there's no ice involved and it's very easy to play. If you want to, you can even play it sitting in a chair.



And by popular request, we are having fish and chips!

### **Tickets are £14.00 each**

You can book your place in one of two ways:

Directly with Frances and Terry at the January monthly meeting. You can pay by cash if you wish.

Or you can book a place by sending an email to [milfordonseas@gmail.com](mailto:milfordonseas@gmail.com) and pay by using bank transfer to the Milford on Sea u3a bank account,

Sort code: 30-99-50 Account number 47989968, using your membership number as reference.

Please send articles and photos for the next Newsletter to [jenny@whitleyonseas.net](mailto:jenny@whitleyonseas.net) or [milfordonseas@gmail.com](mailto:milfordonseas@gmail.com)

[www.u3asites.org.uk/milfordonseas](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/milfordonseas)





🎄🎁🎄🎁🎄🎁 Milford on Sea u3a Christmas Trivia Quiz 2023 🎄🎁🎄🎁🎄🎁

1. What item is traditionally hidden in a Christmas pudding?	
2. In the first ever commercially produced Christmas card, children are pictured drinking a surprising festive beverage – what is it?	
3. In Tudor times, single women believed eating a festive treat would help them find a husband – what treat was it?	
4. Which way are you meant to stir your mincemeat, Christmas cake and Christmas pudding for good luck?	
5. What is normally served as a pudding on Christmas Day in Scotland?	
6. Which fruit is traditionally put in a Christmas stocking?	
7. In total how many Christmas gifts are given in the Christmas carol The 12 Days of Christmas?	
8. Which Queen song has been Christmas number one twice?	
9. How many 'la's' follow the 'fa' in the chorus of Deck the Halls?	
10. In the song 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas' the carollers won't leave until they get what?	
11. Which of Shakespeare's plays was written as a Christmas gift for Elizabeth I?	
12. What beverage company is credited with changing the colour of Santa's suit from green to red when he first started appearing in their advertising from 1931?	
13. What staple Christmas Day table item was invented by an East End Baker in 1847 and what was his name?	
14. What date in January should all your Christmas decorations come down by?	