

## Welcome to our January Interest Groups Online News Extra.

We hope this will be a great way to keep in touch and keep learning by sharing ideas with each other.

### The Fall of the Leaf (859)

Martin Peerson (c1571-1651)

$\text{♩} = 110$

The musical score is written for four parts: Descant, Treble, Tenor, and Bass. The time signature is 4/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 110. The Descant part is in the treble clef and features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Treble part is in the treble clef and features a series of quarter notes. The Tenor part is in the treble clef and features a series of quarter notes. The Bass part is in the bass clef and features a series of quarter notes.

Peter from the Recorder group rearranged this song for his group to play together. Read more about his group further down the news extra.

Hello members,

Here we are at the beginning of a new year – 2023. I welcome hearing directly from members – tell me something about what you have learned in a meeting. I recently attended a meeting where I was reminded it's 50 years since the Apollo 17 mission to the moon – time flies by doesn't it. Stories from your groups would be most welcome, plus of course a photo to illustrate your words – the icing on the cake of a digital news item.

No doubt many of you celebrated Burn's night on the 25<sup>th</sup>, getting together with family and friends for Haggis, Tatties and Neeps – I hope you enjoyed.

**Helen, Editor of the Interest Groups Online News Extra**

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# Group News

Do any of these groups interest you? join via the [Interest Groups Online website](#)

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## Countdown to COP

Ours is a successful group, with over 60 members – and growing. Instigated by the Countdown to COP group, u3a members met in London with students to work out how best to talk with people from other generations about climate justice. Discussions took place around barriers to dialogue and a set of suggested solutions emerged – during this year we will be working to produce a 'How To' guide for u3as interested in setting up intergenerational dialogue.



Solar Panels,  
courtesy of Pexels at Pixabay

Group Leaders, Brenda and Lorna

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Group leader Peter

## Recorders Intermediate Group

The basic technical problem of a Zoom recorder group is sound delay. I play the music using Muscore music notation software, each person is muted so will hear the music and their playing, but no-one else. Members like my arrangements and my choice of music, and this method has the advantage that people are welcome to play which ever part they want. Also, no-one hears their mistakes! Between pieces, I encourage people to unmute and give me some feedback, otherwise I'm left guessing. We've had many enjoyable sessions.

Group Leader, Peter

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## Learn Creative Writing

Want to have a go at writing fiction, or to polish your skills? We have vacancies on both of our fiction groups. Why not join us for a couple of hours each month for good company, interesting exercises, and helpful comments, aimed at helping you produce prose to be proud of. All genres catered for – so come on all you budding Agatha Christies, Terry Pratchetts and Barbara Cartlands!

Sandra, Creative & Nonfiction Writing Group  
Leader

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## Military History

Members have presented subjects covering conflicts from different periods of time and from various parts of the globe.

Presentations are followed by a discussion; there is no compulsion for members to make presentations. New members are welcome, no qualifications are required except an enthusiasm for military history.

This month, the Military History meeting went global with guests joining from Quebec (they got up at 5am) and New Zealand (he stayed up to midnight). Find more information about Harry's group and how to join on the [online noticeboard](#).



Group Leader, Harry

Group Leader, Harry

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Read longer versions of some of these articles [on the Interest Groups Online noticeboard](#)

There are places available in all the groups featured this month, plus others like **Armchair Archaeology**, **Talking Art & Law for Fun**. Join via the [Interest Groups Online website](#)

### Tips on how to solve Cryptic Crossword Clues

#### ANAGRAM CLUES

An anagram is a word (or words) that, when rearranged, forms a different word or phrase. For example **swore** is an anagram of **worse**.

The clue includes a pointer suggesting some sort of movement to tell you it's an anagram.

Common pointers include: about, upset, another way, moving, troubled. There are many pointers and you'll never learn them all.

In the examples below, the meaning of the answers are highlighted (i.e., the solver should be looking for a synonym of the words in bold).

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#### Example 1

Ms Reagan is upset by the **executives** (8)

Managers – the answer, managers, is an anagram of Ms Reagan, the anagram pointer being 'upset'.  
'Executives' is the meaning of the answer.

#### Example 2

**Cook** a chop another way (5)

Poach – the answer is an anagram of 'a chop', the anagram pointer being 'another way'.

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#### Question 1

Times when things look different (6)

#### Question 2

Birds observed in slow motion (4)

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See the answers plus find the usual mini-quiz on the [IGO noticeboard](#)

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## Update from Group Leaders Meeting

Group leaders gathered on 19th January. Ideas and tips were shared, plus leaders were asked to regularly review their group details and waiting lists – to ensure maximum opportunities for all.

**All members** are encouraged to check the [online noticeboard](#) regularly for new developments and ideas for making the most of your IGO membership. The noticeboard is where you will find our **survey for New Groups** – please take the time to share your views and help us to grow IGO.

Catherine, IGO Groups Coordinator

If you want to find out more about becoming an IGO group leader – get in touch by emailing [interestgroupsonline@u3a.org.uk](mailto:interestgroupsonline@u3a.org.uk)

## Conversations with: Ann, a member of the Recorder Group



*We would love to hear about your experience with IGO – share it with us by emailing [interestgroupsonline@u3a.org.uk](mailto:interestgroupsonline@u3a.org.uk)*

"Interest Groups Online is a brilliant way to take part in so many interesting groups from the comfort of your own home. It's very Covid, cough and cold virus secure which is another benefit! I've joined several groups including photography, creative writing and Peter's recorder group which I am enjoying immensely. We play some super music arranged by Peter from before and after the 17C via zoom. Although we are all muted, we can hear the music from Peter's computer and play along. We can use whichever recorder we want to and if we make a mistake no one knows! It's encouraged me to find some recorder players in my area and we will get together in the New Year and play Peter's arrangements. Great fun! Interest Groups Online is brilliant!"

What would you like to see in the next news extra? Do you have a story or photo of your group you'd like to share with the wider Interest Groups Online community?

Get in touch by emailing [interestgroupsonline@u3a.org.uk](mailto:interestgroupsonline@u3a.org.uk)

For more u3a news from across the movement, sign up to the **u3a newsletter**

