



Chair's Remarks

Well, it's late October as I write this newsletter. Like me, do you wonder where the year has gone? Is it because we U3A'ers lead busy lives that time goes so quickly? I had the privilege to hear Eric Midwinter talk at the London Region AGM recently. Now in his ninth decade, he was one of the founders of U3A 36 years ago. He remains inspiring, encouraging and original. He claims U3A is a top class, first rate model for third age education and if we agree with Finland that "education is joy", then U3A certainly does provide joy by the bucketful. More about his ideas in my report for the AGM which is at 1.30pm on 5 Nov, just before our speaker at 2pm.

Kingston U3A membership has over 1,100 members and we continue to gain new members at a steady rate. We have two new members' meetings planned for 12 and 22 Nov. I'd like to thank those members who contribute to the smooth running and the growth of our U3A; for the group leaders whose contribution is the backbone of our organisation; for the folk who make the tea every month at our monthly meetings; and for the newsletter distribution team who make sure you all receive your newsletter. There are many more. We exist through teamwork, "not a few doing everything and a lot doing nothing" to quote the learned Eric Midwinter again.

continued overleaf

Monthly Meetings

Held at the United Reformed Church, Eden Street, Kingston

Open to members only, these are usually held on the first Monday of the month at 2 pm. If this falls on a Bank Holiday, the meeting will take place on the following Monday.

3 December: Royal Christmas by Siobhan Clark. This talk explores Christmas at court from the middle ages to the present day and how the royals have influenced our own celebrations.

7 January: The New Year starts with the **quiz**. Please arrive in good time as we have to make a prompt start at 2pm. We are limited to the numbers we can accommodate around the tables so we'll operate a first come, first served system.

4 February: We are very pleased to welcome an excellent speaker, Colin Wiggins, who was recently on the staff of the National Gallery and has spoken at study days there for the U3A. His topic is **Rembrandt's Women**. Not to be missed!

A very special thank you to Pam Durkie who is stepping down as editor after many years in post. This is Pam's last newsletter. Although many people contribute to the final production, the editor has overall responsibility for the newsletter. Susan Hinchcliffe who manages the e-bulletin has very kindly agreed to take over from Pam in the New Year. Thank you, Susan.

Best wishes for a splendid winter of busy and joyful learning!

Jeni Ester

Group News

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

We would like to remind group leaders that they should always keep emergency contact numbers for people in their group, and that it is a good idea to leave a copy of registers and contact details with another member of the group. We do have problems when a group leader suddenly becomes ill. There are forms available.

Contact: Shirley Miller 8940 8573 or shirley.miller4@btinternet.com.

JOHN LEWIS COMMUNITY HUB

We have been invited to make use of the John Lewis Community Room, which is on the 3rd floor of the store. It is a large room, with table and chairs for meetings and four large sofas for more relaxed events.

There is a coffee machine and water is available. Best of all, it is free of charge.

Contact: lene.wood@johnlewis.co.uk

OPERA

Paul Storm-Larsen hopes to start this group in January and those on his list will be notified.

SINGING FOR FUN

This choir is giving an informal concert on Friday 14th December in the Mayo Hall, United Reformed Church at 10.45 am for 11.00 am start. All welcome.

JAZZ REMINDERS

This new group starts in October on Fridays at 2.00 pm.

Contact: Evelyn Donaldson 8973 0901 or edonaldson47@gmail.com.

MOTO 5

This new group in New Malden has vacancies. It meets on the 1st Tuesday in the month at 10.30 am. Members should bring along some ideas for possible activities.

Contact: Rosemary Matters: 8949 3556 or rosemarymatters@hotmail.co.uk

WORLD HISTORY: 18th CENTURY

This established group will resume in January.

Contact: Sandra Cook: 3258 5067 or sandra.cook@btinternet.com

Possible New Groups

COOK BOOK CLUB

This new group will meet in the Surbiton area on the 2nd Wednesday in the month at 2.00 pm, starting January. The content of the group will depend on what members want.

Perhaps even cookery.

Contact: Gill Pickup: 8399 3271 or gillpickup@waitrose.com

WRITING FOR CHILDREN

This new group will meet on the 2nd Wednesday in the month in the Surbiton area.

Contact: Jean Farrell 8715 5399 or jeanvfarrell@hotmail.com

INFORMAL SINGING GROUP

Maureen Hasirci would like to form a small singing group in the Surbiton area, which would concentrate on "The Great American Songbook" i.e songs by Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern etc. A keyboard player would be most welcome. (A Yamaha keyboard is available).

Contact: Maureen Hasirci 8241 4421 or mhasirci48@gmail.com .

UKELELE GROUP

Many U3As have a ukelele group and we should have one too.

Contact: Christine Evans: 8224 1985 or christineevans2@aol.com

WALKS

We would appreciate more volunteers to organise short walks, as these are so popular.

Contact : Shirley Miller: 8940 8573 or groupcoordinator@kingstonu3a.org.uk



Jewish London

Wednesday 23 January 2019

Jewish people came to London during Roman times and have been part of the capital's story for 2,000 years. This visit traces the Jewish presence in the city and East End visiting the UK's oldest synagogue and the Jewish Museum.

We meet our guide in the City for

morning coffee followed by a short coach tour taking us to Bevis Marks, our oldest and most splendid synagogue, built when Sir Christopher Wren was building his city churches nearby. It was built inside a courtyard because synagogues were not permitted to open onto public streets. It is fascinating to contrast 17th century church and synagogue buildings.

From here we walk to Spitalfields (approx. half a mile), a hub of Jewish life in the 19th and 20th centuries, picking out visible reminders of a vibrant past. We shall stop at the old fruit and vegetable market which offers a wide choice of cafes and pubs where we can take lunch, as well as a range of interesting shops and market stalls.

In the afternoon, we take the coach to Camden Town to visit the Jewish Museum which includes a recreation of the Jewish East End and the Milk St. mikveh, the ritual bath used by women after childbirth.

There is a cafe on site where we can buy tea before heading home at 4.45pm.

Date: Wednesday, 23 January 2019

Cost: £41.00pp (to include coach, coffee on arrival, services of a guide and tips)

Meeting Point/Departure Time:

8.45am High Street, Kingston upon Thames, opposite the Rose Theatre 9.00am Telephone Exchange bus stop, Ewell Road, Surbiton

If you wish to join this visit, please complete the application form and send it, together with your cheque, made payable to Kingston U3A GAS, to:

Sheila Evans, apt.8, Maple Leaf House, Surbiton, KT6 4AG, Tel. 3602 6245 or 0750 437 8293.

If you do not give an email address, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Banqueting House

Friday 15 February 2019

Come into the Banqueting House for a special tour of this amazing space and experience the royal drama and splendour of this often over-looked palace which sits at the heart of Whitehall.

Inigo Jones's masterpiece of classical architecture was commissioned by James 1 as the venue for masques, receptions and entertainments and was completed in 1622. Inigo Jones decided to create a building which looked like a piece of ancient Rome transposed to Whitehall and it marks the beginning of a revolution in British architecture.

Inside you will see the magnificent ceiling painting by Sir Peter Paul Rubens which is the only one surviving



in-situ. Often cited as being from a golden age of painting, the ceiling

would have been one of the last sights of King Charles 1 before his execution outside on the pavement of Whitehall.

Our guide, Siobhan Clarke, is based at Hampton Court Palace and is an HRP Guide Lecturer and, coincidentally, the speaker at our December Monthly Meeting. Her tour will give us a fantastic opportunity to learn about architecture, art, constitutional history and the human-interest story of an ill-fated king. It will take the form of a sit-down lecture with Q&A, then a circuit of the hall to look at the paintings in detail.

After meeting at Waterloo we will take the Jubilee Line to Westminster then walk to the Red Lion in Parliament Street where we will have tea or coffee and biscuits. This historic pub is decorated to resemble a Victorian gin palace and there is a steep flight of stairs to the Dining Room. We will then continue to Banqueting House where our guide will meet us at 11.15am. The tour will last approximately 90 minutes.

Date: Friday 15 February 2019

Cost: £14.30 per person including coffee and biscuits, entrance, tour fee and tip.

(Historic Royal Palaces members £9.90. You must have your valid membership card with you.)

Meeting Point/Departure Time: Waterloo Station opposite Platform 1 at 10.05am

If you would like to join this outing please complete the enclosed application form (one for each household or individual) and send it, together with your cheque for £14.30 per person to:

Claire Bletcher, 17, Lower Green Road, Esher, KT10 8HE, Tel: 020 8398 7107

If you do not give an email address please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. If you give your email address, all information will be sent by email, including any changes to timings so please check your emails regularly.

Guildford Cathedral and Abbot's Hospital

Thursday 14 March 2019

Join us for a day out by coach to Guildford. We arrive at the Cathedral for coffee before we take our guided tour, and return to their restaurant for a one-course lunch with coffee afterwards. In the afternoon we travel to central Guildford for a tour of Abbot's Hospital, before heading for home at around 4.30.

The Cathedral is a Grade 2* listed building, and is commonly known as "the people's Cathedral" in recognition of the personal connections individuals have with the site, from involvement in its construction to purchasing a brick for half a crown to enable its completion. It is the latest cathedral in the Church of England to be consecrated (1961).



Abbot's Hospital was founded in 1619 by George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury (born and educated in Guildford and a translator of the King James Bible) to provide accommodation for local elderly people. Today this Grade 1 listed Jacobean building offers self-contained town centre housing for 26 residents. Much of the building remains unchanged and many original features are still in place. Our guided tour reveals 17th century stained glass in the Chapel, original furniture in the panelled Common Hall, wonderful architecture and beautifully maintained courtyard gardens.

Please note that this trip is not suitable for wheelchairs. There are a few stairs on each tour, but also opportunities to sit down and listen to the guide. When we leave the Hospital we shall rejoin the coach at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre car park, a downhill walk of about 20 minutes.

Date: Thursday 14 March 2019

Cost: £35.00 per person, including coach, both tours, morning coffee, lunch and tips.

Meeting Point/Departure time:

8.45am – High Street, Kingston, opposite the Rose Theatre.

9.00am – Ewell Road, Surbiton, 'Telephone Exchange' bus stop.

If you would like to join this outing, please complete the enclosed application form (one for each household or individual) and send it, together with your cheque, payable to Kingston U3A (GAS) to: Barbara Leach, 10, Seymour Gardens, Surbiton, KT5 8QE. Telephone: 8390 7738.

If you do not give an email address, then include a stamped addressed envelope.

If you give your email address all information will be sent by email, including any changes to timings, so please check your emails regularly.

A Walk On And Off Strand

In March next year John King has kindly agreed to lead another walk in Central London. You may think that you know this area, why going for a walk? Well, John will surprise you and show you hidden secrets you did not expect. Watch this space!! Full details and the application form will be in the next Newsletter

Heritage and Art of Holland

Thursday 27 June to

Monday 1 July 2019

We board an executive coach at our designated pick-up points with our Tour Manager and travel to Dover for the P&O Ferries Channel crossing to Calais. We then continue approx. 130 miles to The Hague and the 4* Marriott Hotel for a 4-night stay on half board.

The next morning we visit the Panorama Mesdag, a cylindrical painting over 14 metres high and 120 metres in circumference. Depicting the vista of the sea, the dunes and Scheveningen village, this is the largest painting in The Netherlands. It was painted by Hendrik Willem Mesdag, the most famous painter at The Hague School.

After spending some time at leisure in The Hague we visit the world famous

miniature city of Madurodam with a remarkable selection of Dutch monuments and landmarks rebuilt on a scale of 1:25.

On arrival in Amsterdam on day 3 we enjoy an included boat trip to admire some of the city's architecture from the picturesque canals. We visit the Rijksmuseum for a guided tour of this world-renowned art collection, the most famous of which is Rembrandt's 'The Night Watch', it also includes many



Dutch Old Masters like Jan Steen, Frans Hals and Vermeer. As well as paintings the collection includes sculptures, clocks, Delft Blue, porcelain and Asian and Oriental art.

We begin day 4 with some time at leisure in Leiden and then continue to Zaanse Schans, an old hamlet on the banks of the river Zaan with characteristic wooden houses, small bridges, tradesmen's workshops and historic windmills.

In the morning of day 5 we visit the Koninklijke Porceleyne Fles in Delft. This – the Royal Delft – is the only remaining factory of the 32 earthenware factories that were established in Delft in the 17th Century. We take a guided tour through the history of Blue Delft and Royal Delft and its development and production process. We see a master

painter at work, visit the dining room of Vermeer and the Dutch Royal Family Chamber, the museum with antique Delft pieces, the historical courtyard and visit the factory. The showroom has a comprehensive collection of handpainted Delft Blue by Royal Delft, as well as an extensive selection of Dutch earthenware and souvenirs.

After our P&O Ferries Channel crossing from Calais to Dover we continue back to our original pick-up points.

Dates: 27 June – 1 July 2019

Cost: From £ 759.00 – includes 4 nights HB accommodation, all excursions, some entrance fees, professional Tour Manager throughout, P&O Ferries Channel crossings, Executive Coach, local accommodation tax.

Single room supplement: £ 129.00

If you would like to join this holiday please complete the enclosed application form and send it together with a stamped addressed envelope (not too small, please) to Gisela Zuercher-Feiss, 37, The Byeways, Surbiton KT5 8HT – Tel. No. 020 8399 4990

U3Aology

Ireni Esler and I attended the U3A London Region AGM on 15 October. We were treated to an excellent talk by Eric Midwinter and here is a summary adapted from the AGM minutes and our notes.

Eric divided his talk into two sections: the first section, which he named **The Vision**, described the UK political,

economic, educational and demographic scenario of the late '70s/early '80s. He highlighted some of the inspirational thoughts and events that led to the establishment of the U3A in 1981 by Michael Young (who had developed the Open University), Peter Laslett and himself. Peter Laslett had categorised the 4 'ages' of life, and hence the 'Third Age'. Unlike the French model, established a decade earlier, U3A in the UK had developed independently of existing universities.

Independent U3As sprang up rapidly, based on popular democracy without a sense of hierarchy, but it was soon recognised that an umbrella body was necessary to provide some support for the development of local groups and momentum for the movement nationally. This was called the 'Third Age Trust' in the expectation that other organisations for older people would develop under the same body. This did not happen, and Eric accepts that the names 'University of the Third Age' and 'Third Age Trust' are not now ideal, leading to misunderstanding. However, there is now significant brand awareness in the media and elsewhere, including in a detective novel shown to him by his wife, (in the novel, a walking group from Bath U3A found the body!) and he advises us to keep the names. In addition, the cost of changing some 1000 U3A names with the Charity Commission and HMRC and other official bodies would be prohibitive.

In the second section, described as **The Mission**, Eric sensed a change in the UK from being one of the most 'volunteered' societies to one that is now largely centralised and bureaucratic. He cautioned that U3A

must not become a service business or deteriorate into teacher/student mode. Members should do things, not committees! Education should be a joy with shared learning. He optimistically retains his faith in the skills and knowledge of older people to remain Active Citizens. He is delighted that the U3A movement in the UK now has over 400,000 members in over 1000 U3As.

Linda Foreman

Wine Appreciation Group

The Wine Appreciation group, which I lead, had some initial difficulty arranging its first meeting, as it was nearly impossible to find a Friday evening when we were all available so, with the agreement of all the members, a Saturday evening was chosen instead. It was also agreed that the group would meet in the home of various members, on pre-agreed days of the week, depending on members' availability.



During our first meeting we explored the Chardonnay grape together with the appropriate meats and cheeses which pair well with the different types of Chardonnays as well as with a Chablis Premier Cru. That evening

worked out at just £10 per head between the 8 of us.

More recently, on 16 October we explored wine made with Malbec grapes from different countries and even had a Blanc de Malbec. We also had some wonderful food pairings which we thoroughly enjoyed. Again as there were 8 of us the cost was only £10 per head.

Our aim is to explore single grape wines first, so that we have a good knowledge of their appearance, aroma, taste and aftertaste. We also take some time during the evening to see how the food pairings enhance the wine and vice versa and even what really does not go with that wine and what that experience is like.

The members of the group are very keen to encourage new people with an interest in learning (after all that is the idea behind the U3A groups) more about different wines, more specifically the different grapes and how the terroir affects the grape variety and how the various vineyards around the world present them to us.

We use charts to help us with learning what flavours we are looking for and also to record what we, individually, think of certain wines. We encourage questions and the sharing of knowledge. We are committed to improving our knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the wines of the world.

On 15 November we will be meeting at yet another member's house to learn about the Pinot Noir grape and enjoy the wine and food pairing. Being one of the hardest grapes to grow and thus producing more expensive wine, it is

likely that the price for that evening will be much more than the usual £10 per head.

If you are interested in joining the Wine Appreciation Group please do feel free to contact me:

PascaleStrudwick@kingstonu3a.org.uk

Central Surrey Study Days at the Menuhin Hall

Study days are open at the Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon, starting at 9.30am with registration and normally running from 10am to 4pm. The fee, including coffee or tea and biscuits, is £10 for members and £12 for guests. Attendees should bring a packed lunch.

Prior booking is necessary and forms are available at the monthly meetings or from the Surrey Network site: www.u3asites.org.uk/surreyu3anetwork

Friday 15 February 2019

Philosophy in a Day!

Presented by Marianne Talbot of Oxford University.

Friday 15 March 2019

Medieval Times - the Bayeux Tapestry and its historical background

Presented by Imogen Corrigan, Lecturer for the Arts Society

Friday 12 April

The Aztec - the Eagle Warriors of the Sun

Presented by Maria Chester, Subject Advisor on American Archaeology

Friday 17 May

People and Places of Surrey

Presented by speakers from Guildford Cathedral, the Watts Gallery, the Lewis Carroll Society and Surrey History Centre

Holiday in Slovenia

On Wednesday 26 September 2018 twenty-five intrepid KU3A travellers boarded a coach in the Kingston/Surbiton area at a civilised hour - 9.40am - on a chilly but clear sunny day for the journey to Gatwick Airport. If you have been there lately you will know that an enormous amount of walking was required before eventually we boarded the plane to Ljubljana/Slovenia - a short flight - under 2 hours. On arrival we were greeted by our guide for the week - Blaz Dominic, a well-built, smiling young man with a "Kingston U3A" placard. He escorted us to our coach and to our hotel in Bled. En route Blaz gave us - in perfect English - interesting information on Slovenia including the fact that just about everyone of the 2,000 000 Slovenians speaks English as learning English is compulsory very early on in their school life. He also mentioned that there was a little market near the hotel and a bigger one which was very popular just a short distance away. We were all delighted. It turned out that he meant "a small supermarket and a larger one".

The centrally located 4* Best Western Plus Lovec hotel was very clean and the staff friendly and obliging. The food, which was served as a help-yourself buffet was very varied and Slovenian style, so we could be as greedy or abstemious as we liked and enjoy different dishes. The choice of fresh fruit was excellent and the desserts/cakes (Bled Cake!) guaranteed to put on the pounds. However, the activities of the second day ensured that this was

unlikely. There were 99 steps up to the 17th Century Church of the Assumption on Bled Island which we reached by a Pletna boat seating 12/15 people and rowed from the back by a strong young man, standing up, with a complicated rhythmic motion. We then visited Bled Castle, more steps, up and up we went. The views were tremendous helped by the glorious sunshine. The small town of Bled is in a hollow surrounded by mountains and trees and contains the only natural lake in the country. As Blaz informed us, Slovenia is one sixth the size of the UK with one sixtieth of the population and he continuously made us laugh with his well-judged sense of humour.

The next day found us in the Postojna Caves, one of the world's largest cave systems formed millions of years ago by the Pivka River – 115m deep and 24km long. They were first opened to the public in the early 19th century and are accessed by a 10 minute train ride into the cave, then a 'one-hour-walk' up and down and around through amazingly huge and really awe-inspiring stalagmites and stalactites, and then a train ride out again. The walk is sometimes a haul up inclines but there are strong railings.

The caves are also home to the endemic Olm, an aquatic salamander in the Proteida family, the only exclusively cave-dwelling chordate species found in Europe. It eats, sleeps and breeds underwater and can survive up to ten years without food. The Germans used the caves during the war to store petrol but the Slovenians knew of another entrance and blew it up. To finish the day we drove to Lipica the home of the Lipizzaner horses famous in Vienna but bred in Slovenia.

Saturday was Market day in the capital Ljubjuana and the smell of fruit and vegetables was all-pervading. The main square was full of activities for children, even a blow-up pool for canoes. We had a guided tour of the Baroque Old Town with Art Nouveau mansions. During a period when the flag (which has red, blue and white horizontal stripes) was forbidden, some Slovenians built houses with exteriors in pale red, blue and white. A shop, the equivalent of Harrods, was worth a visit to see the amazing interior – very expensive. There were numerous outdoor cafes for coffee and cake or beer and a toasty, and full of local people. We had such wonderful weather too! Some of our members said that they would quite like to live there.

Sunday - Oh good, time for a lie-in! OH NO, 7.45am departure - temperature outside 6°C - for a 2 hour-drive to Isola on the Adriatic coast. Fortunately the coach was air conditioned and the temperature outside rose by the minute to 26°C. From Isola we had a 2 hour boat ride, just for us, stopping off for refreshments and then disembarking in Portoroz which has a large marina. Plenty of rich people there! We continued by coach to the medieval town of Piran with its colourful buildings and marina for a short guided walking tour and then free time to explore and have lunch.

Monday was our last day and time to enjoy a relaxed breakfast. We had until 11am to vacate our rooms and then free time until 5.30pm. Some of us took private transport (a mini bus and a Mercedes car – what luxury! - organised by Blaz) up through small hamlets to the Vintnor Gorge. The 13m high waterfall, Sum, had been known about for many years but the gorge was discovered in

1891 and opened to the public in 1893. Yet another very inspiring natural area for painters but it is open only during the summer because of its rocky terrain. Back for a late extended lunch and the weather turned on us with a light drizzle, and as we waited for our plane we could see the rain was heavy. Blaz suggested that the sky was preparing us for our English weather!

Back in England our Banstead Coach was waiting at Gatwick and the weather was mild. Home rather late via a welcome black cab from the drop off point in Surbiton, ready for a cup of tea before collapsing on our own familiar beds. A truly memorable holiday!!

Rosemary Gout

A New Newsletter Editor

This is my last newsletter as editor. Over the years – yes, it has been that long! - I have enjoyed overseeing the change from a black and white publication with few photos, to a full-colour one with plenty of images. Sadly, despite my many pleas, there have been remarkably few offerings from you, the members. So, on that subject I have to say a big ‘thank you’ to Mike Wilson who not only puts together the newsletter ready for printing, but has proved invaluable in sourcing images to illustrate the articles. Of course, the newsletter is a team effort, so thanks must also go to everyone else involved in the production and dispatch of our newsletters; Linda Foreman and Jane Hoyland for making sure we have all the right names and addresses and for sending out the email version of the newsletter; and Ann Phillips and Brigid Crew who do a fantastic job of getting

the newsletters posted out to you on time.

I know my successor will welcome contributions from our members, be it news, articles or photographs illustrating the many activities you enjoy as groups, on outings or overseas holidays. We now have well over 1,000 members the majority of whom must have a camera phone, so do put it to use and take some shots of your next outing or group activity and surprise the next editor with your submissions! She is Susan Hinchsliffe who is currently responsible for the bi-monthly, email updates between newsletters that many of you receive. I know she would love to hear from you so email her at newsletter@kingstonu3a.org.uk

Pam Durkie



The newest Group Leader for French conversation, Pascale Strudwick, organised a champagne tea for the other French Group Leaders so that they could not only get to know each other, but share and compare their ways of working. The tea was voted a huge success! Pictured are, from left to right: Marlene Critcher, Rowan Astbury, Pascale Strudwick and Andree Langdon-Nossent.

The Sea

The sea comes in with a suck and a swish
As gentle a rhythm as you could wish
The sea comes in with a hum and a hiss
It slides up the sand like a lover's caress
The sea comes in with a slip and a sigh
As it mirrors the azure in the sky
The sea comes in with a gush and a gurgle
And gently laps over some unseen hurdle
The sea comes in with a drip and a dribble
It surrounds your toes and takes a nibble
The sea comes in all of a shimmer
The sand turns hot and begins to simmer
The sea comes in quietly with a tremble
The waves break on the beach then reassemble
The sea comes in gently like the drone of a bee
As you laze on the beach drinking your tea
The sea comes in as you dreamily stare
Lying back in your striped deck chair
The sea comes in with a breeze from the west
And cools the skin on your exposed white breast

The sea comes in; the air stiffened to a breeze
Sat on the chair, there's a draught round your knees
The sea comes in and the sky turns blue/grey
The barometer's dropping whatever you say
The sea comes in; the clouds mist over the sun
The sand is dampened with clouds on the run
The sea comes in but the tempo has lifted
Its purpose has changed its intention has shifted
The sea comes in with the waves getting bigger
They're rolling in faster and increasing their vigour
The sea comes in with a thud and a thump
Lands on the shore with a crash and a crump
The sea comes in with a whine and a howl
The wind makes the sea a monster most fowl
The sea comes in with the foam boiling so much
You'd think it was hot but it's cold to the touch

But when the storm's passed and peace is restored
The sea comes in with a suck and a swish
As gentle a rhythm as you could wish

Robin Clarke