



July/August 2015

www.paignton-u3a.co.uk

A Message from your Chairman

Dear Members

This will be the last newsletter until September. I hope you have all be enjoying the sunshine as well as the badly needed rain for the gardens. I planted a few sunflower seeds in the garden, they were not doing very well until the rain now they look as if they are on steroids amazing!

Wimbledon seems to have flown by and Andy Murray is in the semi-finals. It should be a great match, and of course the cricket seems to be going well in Cardiff. Perhaps not so much fun for those of you who are not interested. It will soon be over.

I had an interesting telephone call and an e-mail for a lady called Mel offering free laptop and tablets courses for all carers and over 55's. There are various dates available on a first come basis to be held in Paignton Library. It is funded by Comic Relief. The details will be on the notice board. I hope some of you will take up the offer, have fun, and learn.

The tickets are available for the Tea and Concert at the Redcliffe on 5th October. Cost £5.00.

I hope you all have a lovely summer break, whether here or with friends or family. Please check with your group leaders to see if you are meeting in August.

See you all rested and refreshed in September.

Barbara

Barbara Collins

ATG Card Offer

U3A members can purchase an ATG discount card for £25, a saving of £10 off the standard price which gives priority booking and discounts off theatre tickets at 38 venues across the UK. If interested, go to "Offers for U3A Members" in the members' area of The Third Age Trust website www.u3a.org.uk.

Trips & Outings & Events

BRITANNIA ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE DARTMOUTH on the 10th September at 2pm for a guided tour of the college and a cream tea. Could I please have your cheques for £15.00 made payable to Paignton U3A? Please would you have photo I.D. with you on the day, driving licence, passport or bus pass? If you have room in your car to give a lift, would you put your name and telephone number on the list and I will be in touch nearer the time? Barbara

SHAKESPEARE'S "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM" Underground at Kents Cavern 9 - 14 Nov

No seats! This is a promenade performance as theatre-goers are led around the caves by the actors. Show lasts about 70mins. The caves have an ambient temperature of 55 degrees Fahrenheit, so not cold. There will be a list near the notice board if anyone is interested. The cost is £16.00 and is limited to 40 persons per performance. Barbara

ISLE OF MAN HOLIDAY IN 2016

Hemmings Coaches have a holiday to the Isle of Man, sailing from Heysham and staying in Douglas at the Rutland Hotel. It is somewhere that I have always wanted to see. If anyone would like to join Ron and myself on the holiday that would be lovely. The dates are Wednesday 11th-Tuesday 17th May 2016. Cost is £485.00 per person with a single supplement of £65.00. per person. Something for you to think about. I will leave Hemmings brochure on the travel and trips table. **Barbara**

As a part of our 10th birthday year, **A CONCERT OF MUSIC AND VERSE AND AFTERNOON TEA** will be held at the Redcliffe Hotel with Richard Walsh at the pianoforte. The date of this is **Monday 5th October** at 1.45pm for a 2.15 start with tables of 8 people. The cost will be £5.00 per person and it will be a Paignton U3A members only event as the U3A is subsidising it. It will be open to all members on a first come, first served basis. Tickets will be available at the General meeting from Barbara.

SIDMOUTH FOR 2016 The date will be 23rd-27th February. I do not have the cost yet. Eight people have already put their names on the list. I will put details on the table near the notice board. Barbara

REPORT OF THE LIVERMEAD AND PRESTON U3A STUDY

A Study Day sounds very serious however having taken the opportunity to join Livermead and Preston U3A on their Wild Life Boat Trip it has changed my mind. What a wonderful Study Day it turned out to be. We boarded the boat at Paignton Harbour on a lovely sunny day and the sea was calm.

Nigel Smallbone immediately started his commentary on the formation of the cliffs at Roundham Head.

I have often heard the Peregrine Falcon chicks calling for their parents to bring food so it was great to see them standing on the rocks with a parent bird by their side.

We passed the extinct volcano at Waterside then moved slowly past the hidden coves and bays to Brixham.

From there we crossed the bay to Thatcher Rock a haven for so many sea birds, passing a seal, dolphin and jellyfish.

Nigel pointed out where gold could be found in the rocks at Daddy Hole. A quick look at the Arch in the cliff called London Bridge and then back to Paignton.

This is just a short resume to the Study Day as the commentary lasted over two hours.

Thank you to Livermead and Preston for inviting us to a perfect 'Study Day' Sue Lewton

REPORT OF THE PAIGNTON U3A TRAIN GROUP DAY TRIP.

I was so fortunate in being able to enjoy a second 'Study Day' in one week. I know it was not planned as such but it could well have carried the same label.

On the 19th June seven of us travelled on the Tarka Line to Barnstaple where we were greeted by the Town Crier who was dressed in Dickensian clothes, top hat, cane, white gloves etc.

We were told what an important town Barnstaple had been with tobacco passing through the port even more so than London hence it had five stations. This was due to the fact the merchants of the time had contracts directly with America sending locally made products of wool, pottery, and silver straight across the Atlantic Ocean and returning with tobacco.

The Pannier was thriving with people and we only saw two unoccupied shops. Apparently the current business consortium followed in their predecessors footsteps and were determined they would not let the town centre decline when the superstores arrived, and it has certainly paid off.

Thankyou David for your intricate planning, the day went like clockwork even having priority when crossing the road as the Town Crier raised his cane.

I am now looking forward to visiting the Babbacombe Cliff Railway and listening to the talk from the Chairman John Ayers. Sue Lewton

Forthcoming General Meetings

General Meetings 2nd Tuesday monthly 11.00 a.m. with coffee from 10.15a.m.

Meetings are at the Redcliffe Hotel, Marine Drive, Paignton.

14th July One of our members Catherine Deytrikh-Smith will give a talk entitled "When East meets West". There will also be time for you to meet friends and catch up with their news and to look at displays from various Arts and Crafts groups.

August No General Meeting

8th September John Risdon has produced a talk titled 'Visitor from France' to commemorate the bicentenary of Napoleon Bonaparte's visit to the waters of Torbay in 1815. It is a brilliant story to both tell and hear.

13th October Humorous Verse Gloria Thorne

10th November The Sequel David Snelling

8th December Coffee and Mince Pies and special guest!

10th December (TBC) Christmas Lunch At The Livermead Cliff Hotel

Groups' News

Some groups will be stopping in July and August and will reconvene in September but other will continue throughout the summer. Please check with the group leader.

New POETRY FOR FUN GROUP

Would you be interested in a poetry group? We meet on the 3rd Friday. Contact Mona Gee on 552055 or email colandmo@btinternet.com.

BOOK CLUB

At July's meeting we discussed "We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves" by Karen Joy Fowler. This novel was short-listed for the 2014 Booker Prize and most of us could understand why because it is an absorbing, thought-provoking and well-constructed book. The theme could be said to be the interactions which occur in family life, but there is a very significant difference in this family which the narrator, Rosemary, tells us about. This was not to everyone's taste, but after a wide ranging discussion we gave it a high score of 8/10.

The book chosen for reading over the summer is "The Luminaries" by Eleanor Catton which we will discuss in September.

New members are very welcome to join us. Marie Handiside

BREAKFAST CLUB

Fourteen members enjoyed another good hearty breakfast at Chandlers Restaurant Torbay Road Paignton, on Friday 3rd July. Breakfast for August will be on Friday 7th August 2015 at 9-30am at Lily's Restaurant & Tea Room, Torquay Road, Paignton, (almost opposite the 'Post Office'). If you would like to join us please ring the organiser John Ball on Paignton 01803 411046 so that he can inform the restaurant of the numbers expected. Hope to see you there!

BUS PASS GROUP

Our September outing will be to Tavistock on Saturday 26th as this will be Market Day.

KNIT N NATTER

Members please note that there will be no meetings of our group in July and August. Brenda Russell

MAH JONGG GROUP

Members please note that there will be no meetings of our group in July and August. John Battison

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

I was a bit concerned about the low number of photographs entered for the June Coleton Fishacre competition, but I needn't have worried as over the weekend the pictures flooded in and we finished up with a really excellent batch of photographs.

Steve Benkel's excellent shot showing one of the ponds on the estate with the little duck house was voted 1st; Rose Robbins' great shot of the outside dining area was voted into joint second spot along with the photograph of the house by Chris Merry.

I will be sending them to be put on Paignton U3A's website (www.paignton-u3a.co.uk) and I will be putting them on my web page under Paignton U3A contest (www.ronaldcollins.co.uk)

Following a request from one of the group members we had a masterclass on sharpening photographs in Adobe Elements and a brief bit about how to remove flares from a photograph using selection adjustments and the levels tool.

July's competition theme is Animal World and the September theme is air displays.

Just a reminder that there will not be a meeting of the photographic group in August.

Keep snapping Ron

TRAIN GROUP

From feedback received, the Tarka Line Barnstaple Trip with Guided Tour by the Town Crier, was a success. Our Next Trip is on Friday 17th July, to the Babbacombe Cliff Railway, with a personal, in-depth, guided tour by their Chairman John Ayres. We have been instructed to be at the Top Station by 08.45 sharp. As the early bus connections are very poor, it is advisable to use a car, or car-share in this instance. I have to let the railway know how many members will be visiting, due to the confines of this trip. Therefore, it would be much appreciated if members could let me know immediately if they will be joining us on the day. A full Trip Itinerary has been sent by usual email.

The SDR steam & Sea Trout trip in August (Chew & choo-choo) is currently under revision, and may be postponed to 12th September, due to special carriage requirements at Nappers Halt; I will keep you all posted by email as usual.

With regard to trip No.35, on Friday 18th September, The West Somerset Steam Railway to Minehead, and Lynton & Lynmouth Explorer Day Out (*plus the optional Funicular water-powered Cliff Railway*) as all steam Explorer tickets of £22 each have to be booked and paid for in advance (*plus an optional Cream Tea of £5.50*) would all members who intend joining us on this trip, please let me know by Friday 17th July latest. A full Trip Itinerary has been sent out by usual email. David tel: 666293

WALKING GROUP

The July walk will be a favourite walk from Marldon to Berry Pomeroy castle. There are a couple of short steep parts for which a stick would be useful, also for the field gateways which, if there has been recent rain, can be a mud bath. Otherwise it is mainly fairly level. There is a good cafe at the castle and a grassy area which is suitable for picnics. As the walk takes just over an hour each way, I suggest just a coffee stop at the castle.

Meet on 15th July at the free car park opposite The Church House Inn in Marldon at 10.30. Bring a snack or eat at the cafe. We should be back by 1 o'clock.

Walking boots or stout, gripping shoes are advised. It might be a good idea to wear long trousers rather than shorts. Please ring me by 9am on 15th if you will be coming. Norma Ellis 405517, 07758 859 061

Contribution from our members

Woman to friend:

“My husband retired last week, but he likes to keep busy. Yesterday he re-arranged my kitchen.”

“But didn't you stop him?”

“Oh no. When he'd finished I went and re-arranged his garage.” Ken Faulkner

Your Committee for 2015 to 2016

President – **Sally Grafton**

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Chairman– **Barbara Collins**

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The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 1st September at 10.30am at Jasmyn House, Midvale Rd, Paignton. If members have any issues that they would like brought to the committee's attention, please can they let Barbara know?

PAIGNTON U3A DETAILS OF GROUPS

Activity	When	M	T	W	TH	F	Time	Location	Organiser/s	Phone
Art	2nd				X		2pm/4pm	Jasmyrn House, Midvale Road	Wendy Leishman	522407
Ballet	Weekly					X	10am/11am	Torbay School of Dance, Totnes Road	Sarah Hope	556928
Book Club	1st				X		10-30/noon		Marion Whiter	403323
Breakfast Club	1st					X	9.30am	Various	John Ball	411046
Bridge -Beginners & Improvers	Weekly				X		2-30/4pm	Paignton Club, The Esplanade	Mary Ward & Mike Jeffs	403484 606053
Bridge -Intermediate	Weekly		X				7-30/9-30	Paignton Club, The Esplanade	Mary Ward & Mike Jeffs	403484 606053
Bus Pass Group	4th					X	Various	Various	Barbara Collins	669238
Coffee Morning	4th	X					10-30/noon	Redcliffe Hotel, Marine Dr	Judy Punshon	843780
Creative Writing	3rd	X					10am/noon	Members Home	Carole Giffen	391614
Dining Out	Last				X			Various	Jeanette Taylor	557450
Discussion Group 1	4th	X					2pm/4pm	Members Home	Audrey Kibby	666321
Discussion Group 2	4th	X					2-15/4-15pm	Members Home	Colin Porter	698377
Dog Walking	Weekly			X			10am/12-30		Sue Lewton	557040
Dress Making	2nd & 4th			X			7pm/9pm	Members Home	Pam Bushby	550229
Gardening	2nd	X					10-15/12-15	Various	Barbara Collins	669238
Genealogy	1st			X			10am/noon		Carole Giffen	391614
Knit & Natter	4th			X			2pm/4pm	Jasmyrn House, Midvale Road	Brenda Russell	521544
Local History	1st	X					10-30/noon	Various	Diana Holdsworth	557578
Mah Jongg	3rd		X				7-30/9-30pm	Members Home	John Battison	690592
Music	3rd				X		10am/noon	Park Hotel, Esplanade		
Patchwork	4th		X				10am/noon	Members Home	Norma Cox	525079
Photography	3rd		X				10am/noon	Members Home	Ron Collins	669238
Pins & Needles	3rd	X					10-30/12-30	Members Home	Jean Turnbull	403569
Play Reading	4th					X	2pm/4pm	Members Home	Wendy Penning	267734
NEW! Poetry for Fun	3rd					X		Members Home	Mona Gee	552055
Quiz	3rd					X	2pm/4pm	Paignton Library	Carol Owens	551237
Rummicub 1	3rd			X			7pm/9pm	Members Home	Sheila Biggs	524559
Rummicub 2	3rd			X			7pm/9pm	Members Home	Pam Bushby	550229
Rummicub 3 & 4	2nd & 3rd	X					2-00/4pm	Members Home	Gill Bowie	845116
Scrabble	2nd			X			2pm/4-30	Members Home	Elizabeth Mills	557215
Shakespeare	4th				X		10am	Members Home	Diana Holdsworth	557578
Skittles	3rd	X					5.30pm	Parkers Arms	Barbara Collins	669238
Spanish Conversation	Ad Hoc						6-8 wk-crse	Members Home	Carole Giffen	391614
Table Tennis	1st		X				2pm/4pm	Preston Con Club	Eugene Cox	525079
Train Enthusiasts	3rd					X	10am/noon	Various	David Hudson	666293
Walking Group	3rd			X			am	Various	Norma Ellis	405517
Walking with L&P U3A	1st					X			Stan	550740
Wine Tasting	1st					X	8-10pm	Various	Marie Handyside	845336

(Subject to change -please check with group leader)