



December 2016

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A Message from your Chairman, Barbara

Dear Members,

Christmas is nearly upon us. This year has just flown by. Ron and I were thinking of moving home but we have since changed our minds and instead are putting our house back to one large home. We are now living on a building site and the real work will start in January. Walls have come down, ceilings need re-plastering with new bay windows and doors. The Christmas decorations will be put up and the dust will be ignored rather like Quentin Crisp. Friends are coming for Christmas and after a couple of G and T's I really will not notice the mess.

At our December meeting Peter Baffles will be entertaining us with his sleight of hand, and for one morning only our Ukulele Group will be playing. I hope as many of you as possible will come.

I sincerely hope your all have a Merry Christmas, I know for some of you it can be a time full of memories, sometimes sad.

Have a lovely Christmas, wishing everyone a Very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Barbara

Kind regards

Barbara

Barbara Collins

We will hold BOOKSWAPs at General meetings in March, June and September to include JIGSAWs.

2017 U3A diaries will be available at the General meeting for £2 each.

We are looking for someone to act as co-ordinator for Holidays and Mini-breaks. This is not too onerous a task as we generally only have two trips a year. Colin will continue to organise Day Trips. If anyone can assist, please contact Barbara on 669238.

Trips & Outings & Events

A Study Morning starting at 10.15am will be held on **Friday 17th MARCH 2017** at the Redcliffe Hotel with talks on "Brunel in Torbay" and "Name-calling in Elizabethan Devon". More details later.

As a matter of courtesy, please will anyone who has booked a day trip or holiday let the organiser know if you are unable to come as soon as possible.

HOLIDAY SPRING BREAK

4 day Cornwall Tour with Bennett Coach Travel £230pp

Leaving **Friday 31st March 2017** for 3 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast at the 3* Queens Hotel, Penzance, sea view rooms guaranteed.

Friday: Stop at Truro to enjoy a stroll round the city, visit the cathedral or enjoy a spot of lunch.

Saturday: Visit Land's End and St Ives. (Additional charges may apply to some attractions)

Sunday: Visit Port Isaac (Doc Martin location) and Padstow.

Monday: Travel home via the Barbican, Plymouth for a tour of Plymouth Gin (included) and chance to stroll around the Barbican & The Hoe.

Several members have booked for this trip so if you wish to come too, then e-mail Kate on kate@computerhotline.co.uk or Tel 01803 267527 asap. Deposit of £50 payable by Tuesday 13th December.

Possible 5 day holiday to Lincolnshire September 2017 with Majestic Premier Holidays £249.99 (£60 single supplement).

Expressions of interest are invited for a 4 night holiday (Monday to Friday) staying at the 4* Urban Hotel in Grantham. Excellent food and leisure club with indoor pool, sauna, steam room & fitness centre; entertainment on two nights. Note that the hotel does not have a lift & rooms are on both ground and first floors.

Include are all coach travel, dinner, bed & breakfast, en-suite rooms, excursions to Burghley House (Tudor mansion with gardens laid out by Capability Brown, guided walking tour of Stamford (considered England's finest town with 600 listed buildings, museum & Steam Brewery) & the Marsh villages, Lincoln City & Canal cruise (castle, Magna Carta, cathedral, cobbled streets), Boston, Spalding & Springfields Festival Gardens with outlet shopping.

Majestic are offering four dates in September and a decision will be made when numbers known.

Contact Colin on 698377 or sign the list at the meeting.

Afternoon Tea and Bed & Full English Breakfast, at the 5* Waldorf Hotel, London 2017:

Join Cindy on Sunday 3rd December 2017 for a trip to London for afternoon tea with a variety of sandwich fillings on different breads, scones, delicate pastries, with a selection of teas & infusions. Arrive at the Hotel for afternoon tea, with free time to sight see or take in a show if available. Stay at the Hotel overnight and after breakfast a bit of Christmas Shopping, before leaving London around 2-30pm.

All this for £159pp with a single supplement of £60 – so find a friend to share your room with for just that one night!!

More information contact Cindy Ball on 01803 411046 before 15th November 2016 so the coach & hotel can be booked.

Forthcoming General Meetings

General Meetings 2nd Tuesday monthly 11.00 a.m. with coffee from 10.15a.m at the Redcliffe Hotel, Marine Drive

13 December Peter Baffles Magic Show and a recital by our newly formed Ukulele group.

10 January 2017 Glassblowing at Cockington

14 February 2017 Oliver Heaviside (a self-taught English electrical engineer, mathematician, and physicist who changed the face of telecommunications who died in 1925 and is buried in Paignton) by our own member Ken Faulkner

14 March 2017 Ladies of Laughter

Groups' News

GROUP LEADERS' LUNCH

The next Group Leaders' Lunch will be held on the morning of Wednesday 25th January 2017 at Jasmyn House. Coffee at 10am for a 10.30 am start. Further details will be given by Carole Giffen nearer the time.

NEW GROUP – Armchair Explorers?

We were wondering if there is any interest in having a short series of meetings exploring different countries/regions ie their food, language, history, politics, religion, sights etc. Nothing too demanding with perhaps a meal at the end. Barbara has said she may be willing to do Italy and I could do India. The idea is to cover anything we wanted to in 4 to 6 sessions so that there is no long term commitment by either the group leader or those attending. Other ideas are USA, Eastern Europe (Romania, Poland, Russia) France, Spain, South America. If you are interested or could even lead a mini series of meetings, please contact Kate on kate@computerhotline.co.uk or Tel 01803 267527.

BRIDGE GROUP

The Bridge Group lunch is on Friday 16th December at the Paignton Club. 12.30 - 1.00pm. There will be bridge before in the Garden Room. Arrive in time for coffee at 10.00 am to start playing at 10.30am. There will be no bridge from 19th December until Tuesday 10th January 2017.

Tuesday Bridge Group. The time of the meeting has changed, with immediate effect. Please arrive at 7.00.p.m. to start playing at 7.15p.m. Barbara Collins

BUS PASS GROUP

The bus pass group has been running quite successfully for the last year, the time has come for all good things to come to an end. I believe we have visited most places within a day's journey. The bus timetable has been revised for the X46 making journeys a little more difficult.

Thank you everyone who joined in the adventure. Barbara Collins

LUNCHEON CLUB

On Wednesday 14th December, the lunch will be at the Devonshire Hotel, Parkhill Road, Torquay. There is parking and a bus service (No. 62) from the Strand to the Hotel. This event will cost £18 as this is a three course meal, followed by afternoon entertainment, with tea/coffee and mince pies before leaving. Hope you can join us.

If you wish to attend any of these venues please contact Cindy on 01803 411046.

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

Quite an interesting meeting this month, 19 entries for the contest, with some very close voting resulting in James Cairns being voted into top spot and joint second with his shots of the sailing boat on a river and the shot of a horse and trap and a modern rickshaw side by side, I have probably described the vehicles wrong if you would like to see the photographs please open the attached PDF file, Brian Tucker also made it to the joint second with his amusing shot of the dogs in a small push pram.

After a short break for coffee and a sticky bun we were treated to a short talk by John Battison describing the days before we had digital cameras and Photoshop when the films and prints were processed chemically and cameras did not do the thinking for us.

There will not be a meeting in December I'm sure we will have other things on our minds, January contest theme will be your best photos taken in 2016, and the February theme will be "RED".

I don't believe I'm saying this so early but I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Keep snapping, Ron

SKITTLES

There will no skittles in December as it is too near Christmas. For January there will be a change of venue. It will be at Preston Conservative Club. More details in the January newsletter. Barbara

TRAIN ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

The next meeting of the Train Group will be on Friday 20th January, at The Shoreline Restaurant, Eastern Esplanade (behind the VUE cinema) from 10.am. to 12 noon. I received no interest for a follow-on, group anniversary lunch, so it will now just be a normal group meeting at the Shoreline. David tel. 666293.

WALKING GROUP

It was a lovely sunny day for the November walk around Berry Head which was led by Linda Nuttall.

Please note that there will not be an organised walk in December.

The Walking Group will be holding the annual planning meeting in Paignton on the morning of Wednesday, 18th January, 2017 at the Shoreline Cafe on Paignton seafront starting prompt at 10 30 am. Everyone is invited to come along and help put together an interesting schedule of walks for the year ahead....2017. Regards Jim Cairns

Contributions from our members

Sometimes it DOES take a Rocket Scientist!! (true story)..

Scientists at Rolls Royce built a gun specifically to launch dead chickens at the windshields of airliners and military jets all travelling at maximum velocity. The idea is to simulate the frequent incidents of collisions with airborne fowl to test the strength of the windshields.

American engineers heard about the gun and were eager to test it on the windshields of their new high speed trains. Arrangements were made, and a gun was sent to the American engineers. When the gun was fired, the engineers stood shocked as the chicken shot out of the barrel, crashed into the shatterproof shield, smashed it to smithereens, blasted through the control console, snapped the engineer's back-rest in two and embedded itself in the back wall of the cabin like an arrow shot from a bow.

The horrified Yanks sent Rolls Royce the disastrous results of the experiment, along with the designs of the windshield and begged the British scientists for suggestions.

Rolls Royce responded with a one-line memo: "Defrost the chicken."

Ken Faulkner

Your Committee for 2016 to 2017

Chairman – Barbara Collins	Tel: 01803 669238	Email: barbara@bes1.co.uk
Vice Chair & Groups' Co-ordinator – Carole Giffen	Tel: 01803 391614	Email: carolegif@yahoo.co.uk
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Secretary – Jackie Martin	Tel: 01803 607314	Email: 1martin@talktalk.net
Membership Secretary – Cindy Ball	Tel: 01803 411046	Email: cindy1945@hotmail.co.uk
Speakers & Trips Secretary – Colin Porter	Tel: 01803 698377	Email: colintippy@onetel.com
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Publicity Officer – David Hudson	Tel: 01803 666293	Email: halbutt@gmail.com
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Committee member – Dina Williams	Tel: 01803 906349	E-mail: catcrazy47@gmail.com
Committee member – Maureen Tudor	Tel: 01803 665475	E-mail: maureen.tudor@sky.com
Newsletter Editor – Kate Parsons	Tel: 01803 267527	Email: kate@computerhotline.co.uk

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd January 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 or another committee member know?

PAIGNTON U3A DETAILS OF GROUPS

Activity	When	M	T	W	TH	F	Time	Location	Organiser/s	Phone
Art	3rd				X		10am/noon	Jasmyn House, Midvale Road	Wendy Leishman	522407
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		2-15/4.30pm	Paignton Club, The Esplanade	Barbara Collins & Mike Jeffs	669238 606053
Bridge -Intermediate	Weekly		X				7-15/9-30	Paignton Club, The Esplanade	Barbara Collins & Mike Jeffs	669238 606053
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
Gardening	2nd	X					10-15/12 noon	Various	Barbara Collins	669238
Genealogy	1st			X			10am/noon		Carole Giffen	391614
Knit & Natter	4th			X			2pm/4pm	Jasmyn House, Midvale Road	Brenda Russell	521544
Local History	1st	X					10-30/noon	Various	Diana Holdsworth	557578
Luncheon Club	2nd			X				Various	Cindy Ball	411046
Mah Jongg (afternoon)	2nd			X			2.30/4.30	Park Hotel, Esplanade	John Battison	690592
Mah Jongg (evening)	3rd		X				7pm/9pm	Members Home	Pam Bushby	550229
Music Appreciation	3rd				X		10am/noon	Park Hotel, Esplanade	Colin Porter	698377
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								Temporarily suspended		
Poetry for Fun	3rd					X	2-30/4-30pm	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
Skittles	3rd	X					5.30pm	Parkers Arms	Barbara Collins	669238
Table Tennis	1st & 3rd		X				2pm/4pm	Preston Con Club	Eugene Cox	525079
Train Enthusiasts	3rd					X	10am/noon	Various	David Hudson	666293
Ukelele for Beginners	1st & 3rd			X			2pm/3pm	Lupton House	John Morgan	844363
Walking Group	3rd			X			am	Various	Norma Ellis	405517
Wine Tasting 1	1st					X	8-10pm	Various	Marie Handyside	845336

(Subject to change -please check with group leader)