



February 2017

www.paignton-u3a.co.uk

A Message from your Chairman, Barbara

Dear Members,

At last there seems to be a glimmer of hope that Spring is on its way; the daffodils are coming out along the Green in Paignton and there are snowdrops and crocuses out in Cockington. I really feel it has been a rather cold winter. It is very noticeable that the evenings are getting lighter which makes everyone start to want to do things.

My sympathies to all who have been suffering from this ghastly bug that has been doing the rounds. Coughs, runny noses, headaches and shivering. I thought I had escaped, but no, it has been three weeks and still not firing on all cylinders.

Your committee has decided (this sounds rather like the Wheel Tappers and Shunters Club) that groups who hire rooms to hold their meetings will no longer have to find all the money to pay for the room hire from 1st March. We have unanimously agreed to pay up to £20.00 per month for each group who hires rooms. This should take most groups out of having to ask members for extra cash if numbers fall off and run the risk of folding and it might stimulate new groups to form. The members of these groups will still have to pay for their refreshments. The group leaders will need to have the account sent to our Treasurer Colin Gee for payment.

There are still tickets available for the Study Morning on Friday 17th March at the Redcliffe Hotel. Please collect from Ron or Barbara at the meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you all next Tuesday

Barbara

Barbara Collins

If anyone knows of a member who is ill or in hospital, please let Brenda Russell know (tel 01803 521544 after 10.30am) and a Get Well card will be sent.

It is always good to have new committee members with fresh ideas to run any club. The ethos of the U3A is very much self-help and a willingness to participate fully. Several committee members wish to relinquish their responsibilities in April after several years sterling work so we are looking for new members of the committee to take on the general running of your U3A or to volunteer to take on more specific roles eg as Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Audio-Visual, Groups' Co-ordinator, Trips & Holidays Organiser etc. If anyone can assist, please contact Barbara on 669238 or the appropriate committee member to find out what is involved. Nominations are needed by 14 March (please print your name as well as signing the form.)

Trips & Outings & Events

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.

OLIVER! performed by students of Torquay Boys and Girls Grammar Schools on 1st, 2nd and 3rd March.

If you have already booked seats for **Friday 3 March**, please pay Colin Porter by Thursday 16th February and collect your ticket from him (£8 by cheque payable to Paignton U3A or cash)

If you have not booked and would like to attend, please purchase your ticket directly from the school.

If you choose Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, performances, the tickets are only £6

Contact Colin on 698377

SOCIAL with SKITTLES on THURSDAY 16 March 6-9pm

Cindy & John have tickets available for this event at Paignton Bowling Club, Queens Park Rd, Paignton (next to the old cinema) at £2. Come and enjoy an evening of socialising with a game of skittles. Bar available. Members, their family and guests welcome. Contact 01803 411046 or ask John & Cindy at the general meeting.

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" by Ian Handford and "Name Calling in Elizabethan Devon" by Todd Gray.

Ian is Chairman of Torbay Civic Society who are responsible for erecting and siting the blue plaques in our area, however they do much more than this. The plaques may be the physical evidence of their work, but the Society was set up to promote and stimulate public consciousness and appreciation of the beauty, history and character of Torbay and its surroundings. There are several blue plaques at locations associated with Brunel including the Hookhills Viaduct.

Born in New England, USA, Dr Todd Gray is a historian based at Exeter University. He famously claimed that the Cornish Pasty was in fact invented in Devon in about 1460 which not only caused consternation in Cornwall, but was remarked upon as far away as China! Todd was been awarded an MBE in the 2014 Queen's New Year's Honours list as retiring Chairman of the Friends of Devon's Archives and for services to Devon's heritage. His talk will be based on his recent book "Strumpets and Ninnycocks - Name Calling in Devon, 1540 -1640".

Tickets (free) are available for Paignton U3A members from Barbara at the general meeting or tel 669238.

COACH OUTING planned for FRIDAY 19th MAY to Cheddar Gorge in the morning and on to Wells Cathedral in the afternoon for a guided tour of this really beautiful building in the smallest city in England Price £16.

This trip will depend on sufficient numbers to make it viable. Please sign list quickly if you are interested and a £5 deposit will be required next month please [cheques payable Paignton U3A] Colin Porter 698377.

5 day holiday to Lincolnshire 18th -22nd September 2017 with Majestic Premier Holidays (brochure page 66) £249.99 (£60 single supplement).

So far ten people have expressed an interest in 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.

Included 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.

I need a £50 deposit by March 15th please [payable to Majestic Holidays.] I will be sending names and deposits directly to Majestic and they will make contact directly and confirm the booking. Colin Porter 698377.

Please note: This is NOT a U3A exclusive holiday and bookings are as individuals via the travel company. Most people so far have asked for single rooms and these are usually quite limited. Last opportunity to add your names to the list this month, before it is submitted. Contact Colin on 698377 or sign the list at the general meeting.

Forthcoming General Meetings

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

Several new members have commented that we are not as welcoming as was hoped and no-one says hello. Whilst this must be a two-way process, please spare a thought for the more timid persons who often have plucked up the courage to go out and attend our meetings on their own. The committee has also asked members to desist from saving seats for their late arriving friends as this also gives an unfriendly vibe when told "You can't sit there".

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 'TRUST ME I'M A VOLUNTEER' Brenda Loosemore
Another entertaining talk recounting some of her experiences in dealing with the public.

Groups' News

NEW GROUP – Armchair Explorers

Several people have said they would like to join the pop-up Armchairs Explorers Group. We held our first meeting on Friday 3rd February but this was poorly attended due to various reasons. The next meeting will be on Saturday 18th February in Torquay when we will explore India's religions with another meeting on Sri Lanka/Buddhism if there is sufficient interest. If you will like to come or just be on the mailing list for future meetings where we might explore Tobago, Australia, Malaysia, Italy & Spain, please contact Kate on kate@computerhotline.co.uk or Tel 01803 267527.

BREAKFAST CLUB

CHANGE OF VENUE:

Friday 3rd March 2017 we will meet at the Isaac Merritt, Torquay Road, Paignton.

In order that those attending can use buses if required, the meeting will commence at 10am. If interested in joining us please contact the organiser John Ball on 01803 411046 so that the venues can be advised about numbers. Thanks.

LUNCHEON CLUB

Wednesday 15th March 2017 we will be meeting at the Harvester, Esplanade, Paignton. Please note the date as it is not on the usual day of the month.

If interested in joining us please contact the organiser Cindy Ball on 01803 411046 so that the venues can be advised about numbers and where appropriate menu choices obtained. Thanks.

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

After a short break we once again met at Ron and Barbara's making our way past the building site that was once a ground floor flat. We met in the lounge to look at this month's competition entries on the theme of Best Photograph taken in 2016. Just squeaking into first place was Bob Tame's excellent landscape, followed by 3 photos which all shared the points for second place Martin Betts' shot of the bobbins he took while on a visit to Cold Harbour Mill, Brian Tucker's rather sad looking lion, and Stephen Benkle's study of the back lit teasels. I will attach the photos to the February Newsletter.

After we had the usual discussion about this month's entries and of course the compulsory break for coffee and Barbara's homemade cakes and scones we had a presentation on some Photoshop actions on enhancing a photograph.

February's theme is "RED" and the theme for March is "PERSPECTIVE".

January's winners will be as usual on the notice board at the February meeting, and Paignton's U3A website. Also a little reminder that all the entries and winners can also be viewed on the Ron's website ronaldcollins.co.uk. Keep snapping Ron Collins

POETRY FOR FUN

There will be no meeting in February.

QUIZ GROUP

Thank you all for your patience last month over the change of room. Hope to see you on the 17th February in Room 13 again. Carol

SKITTLES

The next Skittles evening will be on Monday 20th February at Preston Conservative Club at 5.30p.m. Everyone welcome do come along and have some fun. Contact Barbara 01803 669238 or email barbara@bes1.co.uk

TRAIN GROUP

The next meeting of the Train Group will be on Friday 17th February at 10.30 for a railway film show at a group member's home in Paignton. Spaces are limited, so if you were not at our last meeting 20th January at The Shoreline and would like to join us, please let me know, I shall also be at the next U3A general meeting on 14th Feb at The Redcliffe Hotel

The Train Group Meeting for Friday 17th March will be part of the Paignton U3A Study Morning at 10.15 at the Redcliffe Hotel. This will be a talk on "Brunel in Torbay" by Ian Handford, chairman of the Torbay Civic Society. If any Paignton U3A train group member would like to attend this talk, please let me know as I have requested a few tickets for this event.

Due to my health, I would like to hear from any Paignton U3A member (gentleman or lady) who may be interested in details of possibly taking over as leader of the group, even if it was only for this year. You

don't need to be a railway buff interested in every rivet, just willing to attend our outings and ensure the group enjoys trips out. In the event that no one comes forward by April 1st then sadly the group may have to close. David tel. 666293 email: halbutt @ gmail.com

WALKING GROUP

A new Programme of walks for 2017 was finalised at our annual planning meeting in January. A copy of this schedule will be displayed on the Notice Board soon.

On the 15th February, 2017 Audrey Wilcox will be the leader for our "Snowdrop Walk" from Shinners Bridge to Staverton. This is a comfortable roundtrip walk of nearly 3 miles and we are planning a sandwich lunch break at Staverton Church.

We will meet at Paignton Bus Station at 10 05am or at the Cider Press for a 11 00am start.

Please ring Audrey on 01803 540237 before 9 00 am on the day if you intend to join the walk.

Regards Jim Cairns

WALK & LUNCH GROUP

Monday 13th Feb 2017 We meet and start walking from outside Churston Court at 10.30.

I will take you towards Elbury Cove using a woodland walk and returning to Churston Court for lunch. In all cases remember to wear good walking shoes and appropriate clothing for the time of year. On our luncheon walks could you please confirm before the weekend if you intend to join us so I can make the booking. For more info please call Stan 07732015457

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
Treasurer – Colin Gee	Tel: 01803 552055	Email: colandmo@btinternet.com
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
Audio Visual – Steve Ward	Tel: 01803 403484	E-mail: mands_dolphin@hotmail.com
Publicity Officer – David Hudson	Tel: 01803 666293	Email: halbutt@gmail.com
Committee member – Brenda Russell	Tel: 01803 521544	
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 7th March 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
Armchair Explorers	Variable							Variable	Kate Parsons	267527
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	Paignton Library	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
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	Preston Conservative Club	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
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)