



June 2017

www.paignton-u3a.co.uk

A Message from your Chairman, Rodger

Dear Members,

What a first month!!! Who suggested 'quiet and restful'??

Holidays, hospital, hosting groups and meetings, happy and sadder times, what an induction!!

Let's not forget those less fortunate than ourselves, 'gone but not forgotten', others with life-changing injuries; we may never understand humanity, but we can encourage each other in our group in a smaller way when members suffer and show that we do care but, sometimes in life, developments are not always happy or what we expect. Let the committee know IN CONFIDENCE if you know ANY member who maybe in a similar situation.

Last month I asked for suggestions from our group, and S L O W L Y some are being given; have YOU sent your suggestion/comment to the committee yet??? No good sitting back and then saying, 'what is going on here.....'!!! New groups have been suggested, new venues being checked over, but, have you any suggestions for new groups, speakers, speakers' topics, outings, holidays (local and long distance), days out, know any local artists that we could invite to an event.... What have YOU got in your mind???? Let us know, PLEASE!!

What's coming up locally??? Well THAT could depend on YOU!

JUNE??? Oh yes, the 8th!!! Sculpture Trail and Exhibition at Cockington, Torbay Horticultural show at Torre Abbey on 21st, trawler racing at Brixham on 17th, Occombe Beer festival 16th & 17th, (be careful now!!), Babbacombe Fayre 21st, Berry Head Bat Walks 23rd, Paignton half-marathon 25th (whose joining in??), Rose garden open day at Cockington 27th, lastly, open day at BRNC Dartmouth on July 8th. There is a lot going on in the bay so let's join together and enjoy some of these events. Let others know what you are doing, and invite someone else – maybe someone new – to join you!!

So come on you 'U3A'ers', let enjoy what we have got and share what we can and help each other to 'live, learn and laugh'.

This month we welcome Dr Richard Rawlins as our speaker. Did a little snoop on website!!!! Should be a very interesting talk!! Have a quick snoop yourself – and see what you think, before he comes!!

Rodger

Rodger Smith

Sarah Malcolm has kindly agreed to provide a "Listening Ear" for members of Paignton U3A. If anyone needs to talk in confidence about their problems, Sarah is only a phone call away and she will try to signpost you to sources of help. Contact Sarah on 01803 698554.

Events, Trips, Holidays and Outings

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.

CREMATORIUM VISIT Unfortunately this has been postponed as they are short staffed at present and unable to cope with living bodies at the present time. Colin will follow it up in the autumn after the summer rush maybe.

Monday 3rd July Only 6 places remaining for a talk by the **Harbourmaster and tour by boat of Dartmouth Port**. Please see Carole Haggett (Tel: 01803 555304) or Colin Porter (Tel: 01803 698377) for availability and details.

Wednesday 12th July 10.30am Visit to the Science Department of Torquay Boys Grammar School to have an **illustrated talk about Astronomy**, by the Head of Department, with a visit to their observatory to see their 14inch Celestron Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope. Limited to 25 places. Please book quickly. First come first served basis. Colin Porter Tel: 01803 698377 or E-mail:colintippy@onetel.com

ALL ABOARD THE DART PRINCESS on Friday 15th September for a two hour Sunset Cruise with commentary on history, houses and happenings along the coast from Thatcher Rock to Brixham concluding with sight of the spectacular lights of Torbay. Highly recommended. This is a most enjoyable trip with many amazing things to discover and learn about our bay. Tickets special price only £7.50 [Paid in advance please] Departs Paignton Harbour 6pm. Please sign list at general meeting if you wish to join this joint event with Torbay U3A.

HOLIDAY TO LINCOLN leaving Monday 18th September. If you have booked for this and paid a deposit to Majestic Tours please pick up a letter addressed to you at this month's general meeting if you have not already done so. Contact Colin Porter Tel: 01803 698377 Email: colintippy@onetel.com

As 2016 winners, Paignton U3A will be hosting the **ANNUAL INTER-U3A QUIZ** this year on **Monday 2nd October** at 10am at the Redcliffe Hotel. Teams of four. More details later from Carol Owens.

APPRAISAL OF ANTIQUES DAY on Wednesday 1st November followed by lunch at South Devon College Horizons restaurant [cost approx. £7.50. 2 courses] Experts from Exeter's top firm of auctioneers, Bearn, Hampton and Littlewood will be available to value and talk about your valuables from 10am in the College Restaurant on the 1st Floor. If you wish to submit items, please register now by signing list at general meeting. Nearer the time they may require photographs to enable some research to be done. Hopefully several people will wish to take part and will appreciate finding more about their possessions. There will be an opportunity to arrange for items to be auctioned later if so requested. Details can be obtained on the day. Colin Porter 698377 or E-mail: colintippy@onetel.com

WORDS and MUSIC CONCERT. An afternoon of entertainment in the restaurant of the Redcliffe Hotel on **Wednesday 15th November** to start at 2.30pm. We are planning to have several performers on the theme of "All for Love" with love songs, music, verse and amusing readings which will last about one hour followed by tea.

Cost will be £5 per person to include a cream tea and tickets will be available from 1st September. The ticket price has been subsidised using funds from the Paignton U3A Social Account which is separate from the U3A Charity Account and initially will be available to Paignton U3A members only. Contact Barbara Collins on 01803 669238 or E-mail: barbara@bes1.co.uk

Coach trip to THE CORNWALL GARDEN SOCIETY SPRING FLOWER SHOW at BOCONNOC and LOOE. Sunday 8th April 2018. *"At the heart of the show will be the exuberant display of the competitive classes, with the camellias, daffodils, rhododendrons and ornamental shrubs and trees guaranteeing a brilliantly colourful spectacle of the highest quality. With over 100 trade stands, show gardens and gardening experts on hand there is plenty for visitors to see, do and buy. Entry includes admission to Boconnoc Gardens, Lostwithiel."* Tickets will be available from early January for £20. Contact Cindy Ball on Tel: 01803 411046 Email: cindy1945@hotmail.co.uk

Forthcoming General Meetings

General Meetings 2nd Tuesday monthly 11.00 a.m.

Coffee from 10.15a.m at the Redcliffe Hotel, Marine Drive, Paignton

13th June Dr Richard Rawlins GMC Doctor at Sea

Dr Rawlings was a ship's surgeon and will entertain us with anecdotes about his time at sea.

See <http://www.bythedart.co.uk/living-in-dartmouth/people/richard-rawlins,-retired-surgeon,-author-and-magician/>

11th July Colin Vosper Maritime Shortcuts

A history of canals in the West Country, telling of the amazing endeavours of engineers to dig canals including the Grand Western Canal and the Bude Canal. Colin will also be telling us a little about the Suez and the Panama, which have recently celebrated the opening of extensive improvements of the widening and deepening of these world famous waterways.

The Art Group will be displaying a selection of their work.

8th August Summertime Entertainment with Steve Laister, a multi award winning comedian. Steve's mind is a dictionary of comedy as there is no subject he doesn't know a joke about. No two shows are the same with Steve as he adapts his show to suit his audience and has performed across the country, in major hotels, theatres and corporate events plus some of the major cruise lines. Industry professionals have likened facets of his style to Bob Monkhouse, Peter Sellers and Ronnie Barker with his ability to perform a selection of characters within his show. He is talented, versatile and an all-round performer.

Groups' News

The next copy deadlines for the newsletter are Wed 5th July and Wed 6th September 2017 as there will not be a newsletter sent in August.

ARMCHAIR EXPLORERS

Barbara has kindly agreed to host/lead the next Armchair Explorers adventure on Italy at her home at 12 Logan Road Paignton TQ3 2AZ. The next meeting will be on Saturday 10th June at 10.30am Please let Barbara know if whether you will be there on 01803 669238 barbara@bes1.co.uk or contact Kate on kate@computerhotline.co.uk or Tel 01803 267527.

BREAKFAST CLUB

We meet, normally on the first Friday of the month about 10am to enjoy a local 'breakfast' and have plenty of chat. If you would like to join us please contact the organiser John Ball on 01803 411046, as places have to be reserved at the venues, which are normally located in Paignton town centre area.

Next meetings: Friday 7th July at The Isaac Meritt (Wetherspoons), Torquay Road, Paignton.
Friday 4th August at Grand Central, Torbay Road, Paignton.

GARDENING

The next meeting of the Gardening Group will be on Monday, 12 June at Fermoy's Garden Centre, Totnes Road, Ipplepen. We shall be meeting at 10.30am for coffee in the conservatory section of the cafe followed by a talk at 11.00am by Peter on 'Roses and Clematis'. As this is an open meeting, members may bring friends along.

Please note in your diary that the July meeting will be on Monday 31 July at 2.00pm when we will be visiting 'Squirrels', a private garden in Barton Road, Torquay. There will be a charge of £6 per person to include a cream tea. This is a delightful garden and well worth a visit. If you intend to be there, will you please let me have your £6, either at the Group Meeting on 12 June or at the General Meeting on 13 June, as she will need to let them know the numbers attending. NB There will be no Gardening Group Meeting on Monday, 10 July. **Kate Parsons**

LUNCHEON CLUB

We meet normally on the second Wednesday of the month at various venues in the Bay, about 12 noon for 12-30pm where we enjoy the hospitality of the venue and good meals. Should you wish to join us please contact the organiser Cindy Ball on 01803 411046, as places (and sometimes menu choices) have to be pre-booked.

Next meetings: Wednesday 14th June at The Palace Hotel, Esplanade, Paignton.
Wednesday 12th July at Churston Golf Club, Brixham Road, Churston.
Wednesday 9th August at The Hare and Hounds, Newton Road, Kingskerswell.
Wednesday 12th Sept at Pier Point, Torbay Road, TORQUAY, (near Princess Theatre).

All these venues have a bus service nearby with a short level walk.

POETRY GROUP

Jean Benskin and I are interested in leading a NEW poetry group and would like to know how many members would like to join it. We would choose topics or poets for each session in turn. We would start the group in September if there is sufficient interest. If you would like more details please contact Jean, jeanbenskin@outlook.com 550239, or me, mhandyside@talktalk.net 845336. We would have a meeting to

discuss the best time to hold the meetings in the month and also the venue. We would be very pleased to get a good response. **Marie Handyside**

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

A really healthy turn out this month. Our front room was crowded - mind you I'm not complaining. I've been running this group since 2011. I had to look it up on the register and one or two of the original members still come. They must be gluttons for punishment, but I think it is Barbara's baking which really brings them in.

May's theme for the competitions was "Close Up Nature". We had a bumper number of entries making selecting a winner very difficult, but in the end James Cairns' very colourful Dragonfly was chosen, Stephen Benkel's Swans' Nest complete with cygnets and an egg made it into the second spot; there was a tie for the third spot, both photographs being taken by Martin Betts one of a Heron in a Tree and the other of an Owl. The winners can be viewed as usual on my web page and also on Paignton's U3A website as well.

After a short break for refreshment it had been suggested at last month's meeting a "Before and After" workshop would be interesting and one of the group's members emailed me a picture he had taken of a group of people challenging me to improve it. Well you can't let go, after replacing a rather bland sky, increasing saturations, contrast and other parameters the picture had certainly changed, whether it was an improvement was of course down to the viewer's personal preferences.

June's theme for the competition is "Street Photography" and the July Meeting's theme is "Oldway" .
Keep snapping **Ron Collins**

QUIZ

The quiz group outing has been confirmed for Friday September 15th. Further information will be available at the June and July quiz meetings and at the monthly coffee morning. If you wish to attend please make sure that you have signed up not later than 21 July. The next quiz date is June 16th at Paignton Library, 1400hrs. **Carol Owens**

SKITTLES

Skittles is on Monday 19th May at 5.30.p.m. at Preston Conservative Club. All welcome come and join us, it is great fun. Sorry for the mix up in May due to the club having a brand new skittle lane installed and no-one thought to let me know! Contact **Barbara Collins** on 01803 669238 or just come along.

Wednesday WALKING GROUP

Due to the poor weather, the walk around Stoke Gabriel last month was cancelled.

On Wednesday, 21st June, Jim Cairns will be taking us for an easy round trip walk of 3 miles from Churston to Brixham via Fishcombe Cove. We are planning to meet at 10 30 am in the car park at Churston Manor (was Churston Court Inn). We have permission to park there or you can use No 12 bus and walk through the village. As we will all part-return on the bus, don't forget your Bus Pass!

Also ring Jim on 01803 293754 before 9 00 am on the day if you intend to join the walk.
C U then. **Jim Cairns**

Your Committee for 2017 to 2018

Chairman— Rodger Smith	Tel: 01803 391966	Email:drodgersmith@outlook.com
Vice Chair - Carol Owens	Tel 01803 551237	Email: nanadance19@yahoo.com
Treasurer – Colin Gee	Tel: 01803 552055	Email: colandmo@btinternet.com
Secretary – Kate Parsons	Tel: 01803 267527	Email: kate@computerhotline.co.uk
Membership Secretary – Cindy Ball	Tel: 01803 411046	Email: cindy1945@hotmail.co.uk
Groups' Co-ordinator – Rosemary Shuffell	Tel: 01803 842601	Email: rose.shuffell@gmail.com
Speakers Secretary – Colin Porter	Tel: 01803 698377	Email: colintippy@onetel.com
Trips /Holidays Co-ordinator– Colin Porter	Tel: 01803 698377	Email: colintippy@onetel.com
Audio Visual – John Mathews	Tel: 01803 267469	Email: johnmathews52@yahoo.com
Publicity Officer – David Hudson	Tel: 01803 666293	Email: halbutt@gmail.com
Committee member- Sheila Wenman	Tel: 01803 844162	Email: sheilawen@btinternet.com
Newsletter Editor – Kate Parsons	Tel: 01803 267527	Email: kate@computerhotline.co.uk

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 4th July at 10.30am at the Park Hotel Paignton. If members have any issues that they would like brought to the committee's attention, please can they let a committee member know?

The committee is still looking to co-opt someone who will be able to take over the Treasurer's role in April 2018 when Colin Gee must retire as he has been Treasurer for the maximum term of six years. Ideally this person should "shadow" Colin prior to taking over and start their own system of book-keeping etc from February 2018. If you feel able to help please contact Colin for an informal chat.

A submission from one of our members, Ken Faulkner.

Sarah was in the fertilized egg business. She had several hundred young pullets and ten roosters to fertilize the eggs. She kept records and any rooster not performing went into the soup pot and was replaced. This took a lot of time, so she bought some tiny bells and attached them to her roosters. Each bell had a different tone, so she could tell from a distance which rooster was performing. Now, she could sit on the porch and fill out an efficiency report by just listening to the bells.

Sarah's favourite rooster, old Butch, was a very fine specimen but, this morning she noticed old Butch's bell hadn't rung at all! When she went to investigate, she saw the other roosters were busy chasing pullets, bells-a-ringing, but the pullets hearing the roosters coming, would run for cover. To Sarah's amazement, old Butch had his bell in his beak, so it couldn't ring. He'd sneak up on a pullet, do his job, and walk on to the next one. Sarah was so proud of old Butch, she entered him in a show and he became an overnight sensation among the judges.

The result was the judges not only awarded old Butch the "No Bell Peace Prize" they also awarded him the "Pulletsurprise" as well. Clearly old Butch was a politician in the making. Who else but a politician could figure out how to win two of the most coveted awards on our planet by being the best at sneaking up on the unsuspecting populace and screwing them when they weren't paying attention?

I hope you vote carefully in the election. You can't always hear the bells.

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
Gardening	2nd	X					10-15/12 noon	Various	Kate Parsons	267527
Genealogy	1st			X			10am/noon		Carole Giffen	391614
Knit & Natter	4th			X			2pm/4pm	Jasmyn House, Midvale Road	Janette Smith	391966
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
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
Walking Group	3rd			X			am	Various	Norma Ellis	405517
Walking Group	1st					X	am	Various	'Stan' Stanislaus	07732015457
Wine Tasting 1	1st					X	8-10pm	Various	Marie Handyside	845336

(Subject to change -please check with group leader)