



*March 2017*

[www.paignton-u3a.co.uk](http://www.paignton-u3a.co.uk)

*Truth is a very rare and precious commodity. We must be sparing in its use.  
C P Scott. Contributed by Bob Russell*

***A Message from your Chairman, Barbara***

Dear Members,

This has been a very eventful week, the family moved in over last weekend, the builders moved out and the house resembles a refugee camp. Things are improving slowly.

It is now time for the election of Officers and Members of the National Executive Committee of the Third Age Trust 2017. If any members are interested I have all the relevant details.

Diana Holdsworth has been our South West representative for the last three years. She has worked tirelessly to promote the South West to the National Executive in London who in the past think that the South West stops at Bristol. Diana has tried very hard to arrange workshops and conferences in the S.W. with some success and I hope the new Trustee will continue working hard to bring events near to us rather than in the large cities. I would like to thank Diana on your behalf for all her hard work and thousands of miles she has driven. Now she can put her feet up and enjoy the many things she hasn't had time for over the past three years.

There is another important election coming up in April for a new committee of our U3A. I will be standing down as chairman also Colin Gee, Steve Ward, Carol Giffen, Jackie Martin and Maureen Tudor. If you would like to stand for the committee please have your nomination forms duly signed and bring with you next Tuesday.

Please don't forget our Study Morning on 17th March. Coffee at 10.00. a.m. ready to start at 10.30. a.m. I will bring the tickets to the meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you all next Tuesday

*Barbara*

Barbara Collins

**We sadly advise of the death of Peter Grafton. His funeral will be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 2.45pm at Exeter Crematorium with tea at the Devon Hotel, Matford. Family flowers only. Sally has requested that mourners wear brightly coloured neckties or scarves.**

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 21<sup>st</sup> March (please print your name as well as signing the form).

## ***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.**

**A Study Morning** starting at 10am will be held on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Three National Summer Schools** will be held as usual in Cirencester, Gloucestershire (14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> August and 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> September) and Newport, Shropshire (17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> July).

Topics covered will be Cryptic Crosswords for Beginners, France, Globalisation, History of the Workhouse, Literature- Elizabeth Gaskell, Maths, Recorder Ensemble Playing, Sexuality in the Ancient World, Creative Writing- Erotic Genre, Garden History, Latin in Context, Literature- Dickens & Great Expectations, Music before the Microchip, Exploring English Poetry 1900-1920 Shakespeare, Singing for Pleasure La Belle Epoque France 1890-1914, , Creative Writing for Radio, Drama, Exploring English, Law ?& Order in Anglo-Saxon England Roots of Popular Music, Opera, Spanish, Russian Revolution. Costs are £299 per person, full-board in single en-suite accommodation. More details on the National U3A website. If any Paignton U3A member wishes to attend, the committee has agreed that it is willing to offer a grant to defray some costs.

## **TRIPS AND OUTINGS**

Organiser Colin Porter e-mail colintippy@onetel.com. 1 Brockhurst Park. Marldon TQ3 1LB

**VISIT TO BBC South West and BBC Radio Devon Studios**, Broadcasting House, Seymour Road, Mannamead, PLYMOUTH PL3 5BD **WEDNESDAY 26th APRIL**. By Car Share [suggested donation of £3 per person to driver] There are only 20 places available and will be on a first come basis. Please sign list ASAP and indicate if you would be willing to offer any empty car seats. Leaving Paignton 10.30am returning by 6pm.

**COACH TRIP TO CHEDDAR AND WELLS FRIDAY 19TH MAY** There are only about 14 places left for this trip leaving Garfield Road at 08.30am or Sainsbury's Express Torquay Road at 08.40am or Preston Bus Shelter at 08.45am. Cost £16 per person which includes a conducted tour of the Cathedral. Returning Torbay about 6.30pm. If you have not already done so, please sign list if you would like to join us. You might like to take a packed lunch or there will be plenty of restaurants if preferred.

**IMPORTANT. Would everyone who has booked please let Barbara or myself have a cheque for £16 per person [payable to Paignton U3A] before final booking date of April 12th [these can be post-dated if you so wish. No cancellations after this please. Colin Porter 698377.**

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

So far thirty 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.

**This has been booked and places must be confirmed with a £50 deposit cheque Payable to Majestic Holidays to me by April 12th at the latest please. There is room for a few more if you sign the list quickly.** I will be sending names and deposits directly to Majestic and they will make contact directly and confirm the booking.

**Would everyone who has signed list please pick up a letter addressed to them?**

Please note: This is NOT a U3A exclusive holiday and bookings are as individuals via the travel company. Contact Colin on 698377 or sign the list at the general meeting.

## ***Forthcoming General Meetings***

General Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 March 2017            'TRUST ME I'M A VOLUNTEER' Brenda Loosemore  
Another entertaining talk recounting some of her experiences in dealing with the public.

### **Book and Jigsaw Puzzle Swap**

**There will be two tables for your paperbacks and puzzles to swap on the balcony near the notice boards. Any items not taken please take back with you.**

## ***Groups' News***

### **ARMCHAIR EXPLORERS**

The next meeting of the Group will be on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 10am when we will have a session on Sri Lanka and Buddhism. This will be last one on the topic of the Indian subcontinent. Any future meetings will be led by someone else but I am happy to act as co-ordinator to let people know of meetings. 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](mailto:kate@computerhotline.co.uk) or Tel 01803 267527.

### **DOG WALKING**

I have decided to retire from leading the Dog Walking Group as from this week. Sue Lewton

### **GARDENING**

The next meeting will be on Monday 13 March at Caroline's Kitchen, Churston Farm Shop, Dartmouth Road at 10.15am. John Harvey will be giving a talk on 'Ideas for the Spring Garden' which will also include a few references to propagation.

Barbara has stepped down as Group Leader due to her many other commitments within the U3A and at home. We would like to thank her for all her time, hard work and dedication on behalf of the Group and are pleased that she will continue to be a member. Kate has agreed to take over the Group leadership and you can contact her at [kate@computerhotline.co.uk](mailto:kate@computerhotline.co.uk) or 07870 359706. Jo Hall will continue to do the secretarial 'bits' in the background!

We now have 26 members of the Group which may be an issue when visiting members' homes. We can discuss this at the next meeting on Monday. Just a reminder that if you are unable to attend a meeting, would you please let either Kate or Jo know that you won't be there.

### **KNIT AND NATTER**

Thank you to all the members of the Knit & Natter group for being such loyal supporters. Janette, thank you for taking it over; I hope you enjoy running it as much as I did. Brenda Russell

## **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.

## **MAH JONGG**

Members please note: March is another 'odd month' in that the Mah Jongg afternoon falls in the week before the general meeting. Hope to see you there. John Battison

## **PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP**

We held the first meeting in our new venue this month, not very far from our old meeting place just one floor below, still a lot to do yet but slowly coming together.

We opened with the judging of this month's competition on the theme of "RED", James Cairns was voted into first place with colour popping an old red telephone box into a black and white picture; next three joint second place photos are all on a floral theme with Brian Tucker having one photo and Martin Betts getting the remaining two.

While Barbara was organising some coffee and sticky buns we viewed a short video on cropping pictures to hopefully to show them off at their best.

After the short break for refreshments there was a PowerPoint presentation on the dial modes on modern digital cameras.

Next month's competition theme is "Perspective" and April's theme is "Circles".

The winning photos can be viewed on my website "[ronaldcollins.co.uk](http://ronaldcollins.co.uk)" also on the Paignton U3A website and as usual they will be on the notice board at the March General Meeting.

Keep snapping Ron Collins

## **SKITTLES**

Everyone welcome for a fun game of skittles at the Preston Conservative Club on Monday 20th March at 5.30p.m.

Contact Barbara 01803 669238 or email [barbara@bes1.co.uk](mailto:barbara@bes1.co.uk)

## **TRAIN GROUP**

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](mailto:halbutt@gmail.com)

## **Wednesday WALKING GROUP**

On the 15th February, Audrey led the walk to Staverton to see the 'Snowdrops'. We were not disappointed. See attached photo.

Andrzej Dembinski will lead the walk around Cockington on the 15th March, 2017. We will meet at the Lich Gate on Old Mill Lane at 10 30 am and the walk towards Cockington Court will take us via the Lakes, Game Keepers Cottage, Manscombe Woods, and the bridleway to the village. The walk will be between 2 and 3 miles long with some ups and downs.

Please ring Andrzej on 01803 269843 before 9 00 am on the day if you intend to join the walk.

Best Wishes

Jim Cairns

## **Friday WALK & LUNCH GROUP**

We next meet Friday 7th April at Steps Bridge which is near Dunsford on the River Teign. Because this is one of the further walks, we will start walking at 11.00am. I do recommend car share, if in doubt please call or text me.

The walk is led by Connie and Sue. The route will be from Steps Bridge along the river to Clifford Bridge and back. Along the way you will enjoy fine and interesting wild flowers and woodland. The 3mls walk is almost level, but care is needed where tree roots are exposed. Please bring good foot wear and clothing to suit the weather at the time.

Should you intend joining us, please call or text to say you are coming, before the day so we do not set off without you. For more info please call Stan 07732015457

## ***Your Committee for 2016 to 2017***

Chairman– <b>Barbara Collins</b>	Tel: 01803 669238	Email: barbara@bes1.co.uk
Vice Chair & Groups' Co-ordinator – <b>Carole Giffen</b>	Tel: 01803 391614	Email: carolegiff@yahoo.co.uk
Treasurer – <b>Colin Gee</b>	Tel: 01803 552055	Email: colandmo@btinternet.com
Secretary – <b>Jackie Martin</b>	Tel: 01803 607314	Email: 1martin@talktalk.net
Membership Secretary – <b>Cindy Ball</b>	Tel: 01803 411046	Email: cindy1945@hotmail.co.uk
Speakers & Trips Secretary – <b>Colin Porter</b>	Tel: 01803 698377	Email: colintippy@onetel.com
Audio Visual – <b>Steve Ward</b>	Tel: 01803 403484	E-mail: mands_dolphin@hotmail.com
Publicity Officer – <b>David Hudson</b>	Tel: 01803 666293	Email: halbutt@gmail.com
Committee member – <b>Brenda Russell</b>	Tel: 01803 521544	
Committee member- <b>Maureen Tudor</b>	Tel: 01803 665475	E-mail: maureen.tudor@sky.com
Newsletter Editor – <b>Kate Parsons</b>	Tel: 01803 267527	Email: kate@computerhotline.co.uk

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 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
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
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
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)