



May 2017

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A Message from your Chairman, Rodger

Dear Members,

What!!?? This is not what I had planned for this year!! Quieter, more restful and some outings; but, hey ho, we never know what is around the corner!!

As this is my first time putting pen to paper, let me say a BIG THANK YOU to those on the Committee who have served us all well, some for many years, and now – hopefully – will be have some quieter, restful times and outings!!!!

This is new venture for me in U3A, I have been a speaker / demonstrator at meetings, but never the high office of Chair. So, I am still 'wet behind the ears' and 'trying to get my feet under the table', so to speak. Have spent some time with Committee members and will continue to do so for a long while, asking advice, getting suggestions, and seeing what the future may hold for us all as 'a group'.

Now, we can all welcome the new Committee!! Well, we have proposed and seconded them, and nobody –surprisingly – objected to me either. Let us ALL give them our support and backing, give them advice – even when they don't ask for it (it already has started!!!!), and let us see what we can do, and where we can go, as 'a group'.

Money has been received from The Co-op, as mentioned previously; the figure received by Barbara on behalf of the group is £4,584.03!!! The Committee will be looking at any 'strings attached' to this amazing amount, will seek guidance from you, 'the group', then, action will follow as to how the best way to utilise these funds for the benefit of the groups, as a whole. So please let either Colin Gee, our Treasurer or myself have your ideas .

Trips are planned, speakers booked, events being 'looked into'; 'the group' being asked AGAIN for ideas (I've been reading past Committee minutes also, past newsletters since 2013!!!!, which are available for YOU to read on our website), and, as we all know, our 'group', is 'run by the members for the members', so let's all get involved, enjoy ourselves together, and get our thinking caps on!!!! Suggestions are already coming in so, why not join in and 'be an active part of our group'??

"Communication is two-way and we have to know what members are saying and thinking." That's a direct quotation from the TAM magazine Spring 2017!!!!

Rodger

Rodger Smith

A request from one of our members please ; "If anyone knows where a member of our U3A can borrow a 8mm cine projector, so he can view some recently found reels, please contact Rodger Smith."

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.

BBC STUDIO VISIT On 26th April, 18 members of Paignton U3A visited the new BBC Studios at Plymouth which was opened a few months ago for a conducted tour after a £15m refit. Yes plenty of money where that came from. It was state of the art and the most up to date facility of any regional studio in the country. We were shown umpteen monitor screens where directors and producers sit to organize presenters to ensure split second timing. We were fortunate to chat with Justin in the Spotlight studio and have our pictures taken, trying to look intelligent. One of our group, Bob Russell, auditioned as a weather man, but sadly did not get the job [probably because he did not have a chance to go to 'make up' first]. Pam tried her hand at broadcasting on Radio Devon, but sadly did not discover which button to press. The reception we had was marvellous and they made us most welcome. Maybe we can organize more trips as they only allow 20 at a time. Colin Porter.

Free Event by Ageing Well, Torbay

Symposium of Ideas at Central Church, Tor Hill Road Torquay TQ2 5RF Saturday 6th May from 10a.m. to 5p.m. Join together for a free day of talks, workshops, stories, dancing, advice, arts & crafts. The no 12 bus stops right outside. Tel 01803 212638 or www.ageingwellfestival.com

SOMETHING DIFFERENT How about a visit to **TORBAY CREMATORIUM** to discover how it operates? A few people have shown an interest in a preview, and I promise that this will not be a one way ticket. We will count everybody out as well as in. It will not be gruesome I am told, and it will be external with a guide explaining what actually happens. I have yet to agree a date but it will be on a Saturday morning in June [probably 17th or 24th]. Not many experience getting out alive, so you will be quite unique and have something to talk about. Interested??? Contact colintippy@onetel.com to book a place.

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

I am considering organizing an **APPRAISAL OF ANTIQUES DAY** in October if there is enough interest. If you have items you wish to have valued or find out more about. Depending on the response, I proposed to invite some experts from Bearns Hampton and Littlewood of Exeter, probably the largest firm of auctioneers in this part of the world, to come and talk about our valuables. Details to follow. This is just an enquiry at this time to gauge interest. Please let me know. Colin Porter 698377. Or colintippy@onetel.com

Trips and Outings

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

COACH TRIP TO WELLS AND CHEDDAR GORGE FRIDAY 19th MAY. There are only 2 places left for this trip leaving Garfield Road at 09.00am or Sainsbury's Express Torquay Road at 09.05am or Preston Bus Shelter at 09.10am. Please do not be late as we do not know who is joining at which stop and cannot wait around. There will be time to get some lunch before moving on to Cheddar Gorge at 14.30. Returning Torbay about 6.30pm. Cost £16 per person which includes a one hour conducted tour of the Cathedral at mid-day. Some people have not yet paid and if the money is not received by our monthly meeting 9th May the seats may be reallocated. **Colin Porter 698377.**

HOLIDAY TO LINCOLN leaving 19th 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.

Forthcoming General Meetings

General Meetings 2nd Tuesday monthly 11.00 a.m.

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

9th May Norman Maudsley Trekking the Great Wall of China & Terracotta Warriors

13th June Dr Richard Rawlings Doctor at Sea

11th July Colin Vosper Maritime Shortcuts

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

ARMCHAIR EXPLORERS

Barbara has kindly agreed to host /lead the next Armchair Explorers meeting on Italy at her home at 12 Logan Avenue Paignton TQ3 2AZ.

It will be on Saturday 20th May at 10.30am starting with a bit about Italy's history, most probably starting with the influence of Venice and the Doge and a little about the unification. Subsequent meetings may cover a journey through Italy with photos map etc. Barbara says "I don't want it to be heavy and perhaps whoever comes will have favourite places to share." She envisages that there will be 3 to 4 sessions taking place in May and June. 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 the town centre area.

NEXT MEETING: will be at The Grand Central, Torbay Road, Paignton. Friday 2nd June 2017. 10am.

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 (sometimes menu choices) have to be pre-booked.

NEXT MEETING; will be at the Belgrave Sands Hotel, Belgrave Road, Torquay, Wednesday 10th May 2017 and June's meeting will be on the 14th at The Palace Hotel, Esplanade, Paignton.

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

Not so crowded in our front room this month as three of the regular group members for various reasons could not make the meeting.

The contest this month theme was Circles. There was one outstanding winner taken by Martin Betts of the rather rusty underside of Paignton Pier, but it was very close for the second spot, being contested by three photographs, a very interesting entry which turned out to be car headlights, another of Martin Betts shot of the 'Heritage Trawler Vigilance' and Stephen Benkel's 'Swan creating Ripples'. The theme for May's competition is "Close Up Nature" with June's on the theme of "Street Photography".

After a short break for refreshments and a discussion on this month's entries we had a bit of fun using the Photoshop filter "Liquify" which allows alterations to the photograph which can change a picture of a person to a caricature or make very minor alterations to improve a portraiture. If you would like to see what else this filter can do go to Youtube and search for Photoshop Liquify. Keep snapping **Ron Collins**

SKITTLES

Skittles is on Monday 15th May at 5.30.p.m. at Preston Conservative Club. All welcome come and join us, it is great fun. Contact **Barbara Collins** on 01803 669238 or just come along

TRAIN GROUP

Following my recent illness and after careful consideration, I have reluctantly decided to withdraw as leader of the group after four years, in which time we had over thirty educational trips out. After several requests, as no member came forward to take over from me as leader, the Train Group will close as from 1st June 2017. Should someone be interested to start a similar group in the future, I will be only too pleased to give any advice if required. I would like to thank all those members who helped to make the group possible with their continued support over the years. **David Hudson** tel. 666293
email: halbutt@gmail.com

Wednesday WALKING GROUP

The Group enjoyed a lovely morning for last month's "Bluebell Walk" up to Ocombe Farm for coffee and a well-earned break before heading back via Preston Downs.

On Wednesday 17th May, 2017, Clive Asher will be taking us for a 2 hour walk around the sights in Stoke Gabriel. We are planning to meet at the bus stop at the corner of Paignton Road and Aish Road at 10 30 am. Please check the current timetable if planning to use the local bus. Parking is allowed on the roadside on Aish Road. If you need transport, phone Jim Cairns on 01803 293754 and he will try to arrange.

Also ring Clive on 01803 782815 before 9 00 a.m. on the day if you intend to join the walk.

Jim Cairns

Your Committee for 2017 to 2018

Chairman— Rodger Smith	Tel: 01803 391966	Email:drodgersmith@outlook.com
Vice Chair – Colin Porter	Tel: 01803 698377	Email: colintippy@onetel.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 – TBA		
Speakers Secretary – Colin Porter	Tel: 01803 698377	Email: colintippy@onetel.com
Trips Co-ordinator— Colin Porter	Tel: 01803 698377	Email: colintippy@onetel.com
Holidays Co-ordinator - TBA		
Audio Visual – John Mathews	Tel: 01803 267469	Email: johnmathews52@yahoo.com
Publicity Officer – David Hudson	Tel: 01803 666293	Email: halbutt@gmail.com
Committee member – Rosemary Shuffell	Tel: 01803 842601	Email: rose.shuffell@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 6th June 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 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 Rodger Smith for an informal chat.

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)