



January 2013

www.paignton-u3a.co.uk

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President **Sally Grafton**

A Message from our Chairman

A Happy New Year to everyone!

There is one thing we can predict. There will be no need for drought precautions in 2013 but umbrellas are still a must have. We can't control the weather but we can do our best to enjoy an interesting and busy year.

It is up to all of us to pull together and to ensure that we continue with our current interests whilst seeking new initiatives and challenges.

The latest new ideas for groups have been Steam Trains, Astronomy and Badminton.

St Andrews Community Hall is marked out for Badminton so all we need now is someone to lead a group.

Taking a new look at films we have agreed to take part with The Damaris Trust who provide resources for community groups who go to the cinema together. To make the most of the film experience the information pack includes delicious food and drink recipes and engaging quizzes all themed around the film and suitable for use before or after your trip to the cinema.

The current film is The Life of PI which was released on the 20th December and is in the Apollo Cinema until 10th January nightly at 19.00 hrs and it is now showing in Newton Abbot.

If you are interested in any of the above ideas please speak to myself or Carole Giffen the Groups Co-ordinator. Barbara Collins as Trips and Travel Coordinator has a list of events for you. See the diary but remember that deadlines for payment must be met to ensure that the events happen otherwise members will be disappointed if things are cancelled.

The First Monday of the month meetings at St. Andrews Community Centre will start again on the 4th February 2013 doors open at 2.pm. Sally Jubbs is giving a talk on Conserving Precious Textiles and introducing us to some more unusual craft skills. The topic should interest anyone interested in any form of art.

This year we will be running a continuous Diary of meetings and events in the newsletter so please keep up to date by referring to it. See DIARY DATES and TRIPS AND OUTINGS

Sue.

Anode Food Bank

I'd like to start off the new year with a bumper box of tins and packets of food for Anode to distribute to the needy. Please remember to bring along a pack or two of a staple food for our box which will be waiting for your donations at the meeting next Tuesday.

John Battison

DIARY DATES

General Meetings 11.00 am at the Palace Hotel, Esplanade Road.

At our next General Meeting on 8th January our Speaker will be Julie Turner with a subject 'The Lives and Loves of a Store Detective' which promises to be very entertaining.

On 12th February one of our members, Janet Brunt, will be giving a very interesting talk entitled 'One Woman, a Harem and a Thousand Cows'!

Social Meetings 2.00 pm at St. Andrews Community Hall, Esplanade Road.

As our Chairman has said in her Message we have now established a monthly social/informal meeting at St. Andrews Hall with the speaker on 4th February being Sally Jubb.

These meetings on the first Monday monthly can be topical structured or very informal and will normally only have a short lead in time compared with the speakers at our General Meetings who are booked a year ahead.

At least twice in the next year the first Monday will also be a Bank Holiday. Because our membership is mainly retired the committee would like to know whether we ignore the fact it is a Bank Holiday and treat it as an ordinary Monday. Feedback essential for this decision so please make comments to our chairman or any committee member.

Social Meeting 21st December.

A big "THANKYOU!" to all who got involved at the Social Afternoon.

To Jo who provided the music, Ann and her team who decorated the space and Liz who lead the kitchen team. To the Members who gave a presentation....well done and thank you . Rita Wood

Multiple Sclerosis Society

Hi Everyone.

Do you all know how the Waitrose Supermarkets Charity Collection works ? With every purchase at the till, large or small, you are given a green plastic coin. You can then choose which of the three **local** charities to give it to. There is a large plastic box, divided in three with a description of each choice for your coin.

I asked Waitrose recently how South West MS. Society could apply to take part & I'm delighted to tell you that we are one of the three for the month of January. So please help support this great opportunity by shopping at Waitrose Plainmoor, Torquay, even if it is just for milk, papers or bread. Thank you for taking part.

Bob Spurlock. MS. South West, Branch.

GROUPS

GROUP LEADERS

A Group Leaders meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 30th January, 10 to 12 noon at the Paignton Club. This will be followed by a free buffet lunch. Carole Giffen will be contacting all the leaders and Deputies.

MAH-JONG

Next meeting will be 15th January at 21, Southfield Avenue as normal.

CYCLING GROUP

After a long break, due mainly to the wet summer in 2012, we are hoping for better weather in 2013 and to re-start our cycling group. This takes place on the morning of the 4th Tuesday of the month. We take fairly flat routes, preferably off-road; our favourites are in Totnes and along the canal path in Exeter. We don't travel too far and try to include a coffee stop and finish with a pub lunch, although this is not compulsory!

Our group would not appeal to the Bradley Wiggins or Victoria Pendletons of Paignton, but the exercise is enjoyable and sociable. If anyone would like to retrieve their bicycles from the back of the shed, dust off the cobwebs and have a try, they would be very welcome (preferably wearing a cycling helmet).

Please contact Carole Logan.

CARDS/BOARD GAMES

Next session is on 17th January.

COFFEE MORNING

At the Redcliffe Hotel on 25th January. Judy Punshon arranges both of these meetings

SPANISH

Carole Giffen has received a good response to her beginners course and is trying to find a suitable time (usually early evening) and date to start. There are still places available if you are interested.

CREATIVE WRITING

Next meeting will be 21st January.

GENEALOGY

No meeting in January.

QUIZ GROUP

The quiz group meeting on Friday January 18th 2013 will be at Preston Conservative Club 2.00pm - 4.00pm. Cost will be £1.00 (levied by & payable to Preston Club)

Pay for your own drink at the bar. Any problems or information ring Rosemary Roach on 01803 550787.

TRIPS and OUTINGS

Barbara has agreed to be our co-ordinator for all sorts of trips and outings and we are grateful to her for assuming this additional responsibility.

However she can only fully fill this role if members put forward ideas and proposals.

Our Chairman drew attention to this in the November Newsletter particularly referring to the October 'Out and About' meeting. There are many suggestions but we do need people to carry these out. At the moment we would like to see one of our members put forward a suggestion then carry it forward on a 'one off' basis. If half-a-dozen members came forward then we would have a programme. Yippee!!!

Back to the present and an update from Barbara.

Short break to Sidmouth 24th to 28th February.

Sufficient numbers have paid their deposits to make a house party. If anyone else is interested they must contact me by Wednesday this week.

To recap the details. The full board cost is £190 with a deposit cheque for £50 made payable to [Kingswood & Devoran Hotel](#). I need to know whether the type of room you would like is double, twin, single or sea view or balcony where there is a supplement of £4 pppn on sea view or balcony or a small double used as a single.

Theatre Trips.

Warhorse at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth on Thursday, 10th October, 2013 at 7.30 pm. These seats are in the upper circle and are like gold dust. The cost will be £42.00 including transport by Bob the Bus. All those who have signed up to go should give me their cheques, payable to Paignton U3A, at the meeting on Tuesday because there is a waiting list for the seats.

Starlight Express At the Princess Theatre, Torquay on Wednesday, 23rd January at 2.30 pm. I have reserved seats at the amazing price of £20.00 in the stalls. Again I must have your cheques payable to Paignton U3A in my hand this week.

9 to 5 The Dolly Parton Musical At the Princess Theatre, Torquay on Thursday, 21st February at 7.30pm. Tickets are £24.50 in the stalls. Once again there is a lot of interest so please get your cheques, payable to Paignton U3A, to me as soon as possible.

More dates to think about. At the Princess Theatre.

Pricilla Queen of the Desert on 29th April at 7.30 pm in the stalls. Price £24.50

Swan Lake on Ice Wednesday 15th May matinee price £17.50.

I have tried to get the best prices available hence some matinees or evenings.
With so many cheques coming my way please write on the back which show(s) they are for.
Any questions please contact me Barbara Collins on 669238 or email barbara@bes1.co.uk

AGM

Make sure you have pencilled into your diary our AGM on 12th March at the Redcliffe Hotel.

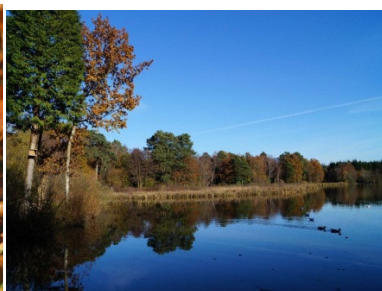
PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

With a smaller group this month, possibly due to the approaching festivities and the winter bugs, this month's theme of Autumn produced some really excellent photographs, full of colour and vitality. The group members had difficulty in choosing a winner, and in fact they were unable to select an overall winner, so we have a 3 way tie. These are Bob Tames excellent study of a squirrel and water shot, along with Norma Hasham's landscape.

Our January theme is still life, and Winter being the theme for the February Meeting.



Bob Thame



Bob Thame



Norma Hasham

A brief update from Muffin

This is really a warning. I have been very poorly for a few days, I think it started just after my human and me had a walk on the beach towards Hollicombe. As you know it has been raining a lot and I think I must have picked up something rather nasty on the beach and it poisoned my system. I am now on the road to making a full recovery but I would like to caution my doggy friends about walking on the beach shortly after a heavy rain.

Muffin

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Most members are probably not aware that when our U3A was established in 2006 it was agreed that an annual photographic record would be kept of each year's activities.

Somehow 2006 was recorded but nothing since.

The 2006 photo album pictures which depicted all types of U3A activities were selected by a small group, including Sally Grafton, and the album was produced by John Battison. The album is in the care of Sally from where it has surfaced.

Sally spoke with me recently and asked whether it would be possible to re-open the album and compile a record for 2007 onwards.

This matter was considered by the Committee at their last meeting and it was agreed to comply with Sally's request.

We now need to compile records of photos held or prints offered so we can see how many records are available.

I have offered to collate any information given to me which could include event programmes as well as pictures. In order to limit individual costs please let me know what you have to offer and possibly just let me have paper photo copies of your material.

It is important that any material offered should have your name and contact number and be dated for when it was taken/used.

Establishment of these records is not expected to be quick or easy but everyone who can come forward with material will be welcomed.

The 2006 Album will be available to see at the meeting on Tuesday.

Brian Tucker, 01803 845933 email btucker64@hotmail.co.uk

John Battison has once again put pen to paper.

“I had an interesting experience over the Xmas holiday. As you well know, some of us have been known to have had an occasional brush with the authorities on our way home from a social session over the years. I had been out for an evening with friends and had a couple of beers and then some rather nice red wine.

Knowing full well I was probably slightly over the limit, I did something I've never done before . I took a taxi home. Sure enough, I came to a police road block but, since it was a cab, they waved it past. I arrived home safely without incident, which was a real surprise, since I have never driven a taxi before and now I'm not sure where I got it or what to do with it now that it's in my garage.”!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

John

EDITORS NOTE

Please send all contributions to Brian Tucker, 8 Galmpton Farm Close, Galmpton, TQ5 0NP or email to btucker64@hotmail.co.uk or by telephone on 01803 845933. Copy should reach me by the Thursday before the next General Meeting