

Dawlish U3A



Monthly Newsletter – July 2019

You can view this newsletter and much more on our website: <http://u3a.dawlish.info/reports-and-newsletters>

Dear Members

Much has happened this month.

We were given a wonderful talk at the monthly meeting by Felicity Harper, Archivist at Powderham Castle. She kept us enthralled with the history of the Courtenneys.

There may be a new U3A branch opening in Teignmouth. As we have many members and groups who live and meet in Teignmouth we want to make it clear that Dawlish Branch will be carrying on business as normal and all will be able to enjoy and benefit from the groups we have here. We will hope to work closely with the new U3A to ensure a vibrant U3A provision. We will continue to support our new and existing Teignmouth members and remind them that it is possible to hold membership of more than one U3A (with a reduced joining fee for subsequent U3A's joined).

Our committee are working really well together and we have many exciting ideas for increasing membership and enlarging the number of groups we have (at present about 20). We are a vibrant and forward looking U3A and want to extend the U3A so that many more can enjoy its evident benefits.

Barrie Hamill

To contact me: chairman@u3adawlish.info or 01626 682895

To contact our secretary: steve.angove@btinternet.com or 01626 862486

Convenors Tea and Scones

Don't forget Convenors, the management committee's invitation on Monday August 19th at the Methodist Hall, Brunswick Place, Dawlish, with what Enid Blyton and her Famous Five would call – "Lashings of cream and jam". Hope to see you there - Richard

News from Interest Groups

Bookworms



August is a departure from our usual book choice. We will be reading *Eats, Shoots and Leaves*, the zero tolerance approach to punctuation by Lynne Truss. An interesting choice, but sometimes we have to move out of our comfort zone and try something new, so I think a lively discussion can be anticipated.

For more information, contact Barbara at bookworms@u3a.dawlish.info

Lunch Club

www.U3Adawlish.info

Patricia Angove, Editor, Dawlish U3A newsletter



Lunch Club on the **Friday August 16th**. Will try and book at The Ship, Cockwood.
Will confirm when I know numbers for booking.

For further information, contact Tracey at luncheon@u3a.dawlish.info

Here, There and Everywhere



AUGUST - Monday 12th Historic Dockyard, Plymouth - 10am from Dawlish Community Transport Office. Teignmouth pickup point: East Cliff car/coach park at 10.20am. **Wednesday 21st** Luncheon on the River Exe **Thursday 22nd** HTE Coffee morning, Open Daw 10.30 – 11.00am.

SEPTEMBER - This will be your **last** opportunity to enjoy a lunch in the River Exe cafe' until it re-opens next year. I am taking bookings now and will finalise details at the Coffee morning (see below) when attendee numbers are known.

Thursday 5th HTE Coffee morning, Open Daw 10.30-11am.

Please Note; HTE Activity (except for the cafe' trip) will be suspended until October.

October - Dartmoor Outing, including: Gin Distillery, Widecombe, Jay's Grave, Princetown (prison museum) £10.00 per person (transport only).

Contact Andy Pluck for further information on 01626 865765 or hte@u3a.dawlish.info.

Art Appreciation



At our July meeting, we discussed a video on the remarkable life and work of the Mexican artist Frida Karlo. At our next meeting at **2pm on Monday 12th August**, John will give a presentation on the Russian artist Ilya Yefimovich Repin (1844-1930). He is less well-known in this country but is highly regarded for his powerful depiction of peasants and everyday Russian life, as well as a portraitist of many of the major cultural and political figures of late 19th and early 20th century Russia. The meeting will be at 8 High House Close, Dawlish. Please note that our September meeting will be at 2pm on Monday 2nd September, a week earlier than the normal date. Chris will be sharing his enthusiasm on the art of the Weimar Republic 1918-33.

For further details contact Lynne on 01626 867257 or contact her at art@u3a.dawlish.info

Creative Writing



The next meeting of the Creative writing group will be **Monday 26th August** 2019 at 10.30am Edens Court in Teignmouth. Please note this is a bank holiday but we decided to go ahead.

At the July meeting we decided to write about the funeral of someone (you decide) from the viewpoint of one – or two - of the people attending. A few names were distributed with suggested relationship to the deceased, but other ideas can be used. You choose whether it's a 'dry' or 'alcoholic' funeral tea/wake. We look forward to hearing your pieces

We meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 10.30am at Edens Court, Teignmouth.

Email creativewriting@u3a.dawlish.info or ask at the monthly meeting

Play Reading

www.U3Adawlish.info

Patricia Angove, Editor, Dawlish U3A newsletter



We will take a break for August and hope to reconvene on **Tuesday 17th September** at 1.30pm at Edens Court Teignmouth.

The plays we read are chosen from a selection provided by the Library service, now called 'Libraries Unlimited', from Exeter. We try to choose something with the right number of characters for the group and not too long.

Please come along and enjoy a couple of hours of escape from the real world.

Email playreading@u3a.dawlish.info or ask at the monthly meeting for contact details

Badminton



We are continuing our weekly badminton session throughout August. We meet every Monday at 5pm at the Dawlish Leisure Centre where we play for an hour, with rests between games. Come and have a go, you never know, this is something you may have a real talent for and just enjoy hitting a shuttlecock over a net. You might even enjoy the company and the banter. All are welcome even if you've never played before.

For more information please contact Patricia at badminton@u3a.dawlish.info

Strollers



Thursday August 8th Meet up 1.45pm by bus stop on Dawlish/Teignmouth Rd opposite Minidab i.e. thatched B&B. From Dawlish catch 1.30pm number 2 Newton Abbot bus from bus shelter by Dawlish railway line and from Teignmouth catch number 22 Dawlish Warren bus at 1.26 pm from stop by WH Smiths. The walk will be along Love Lane then downhill through Mules Park and Eastcliff to Teignmouth Seafont

Thursday September 12th Meet up at Smugglers Inn on Dawlish/Teignmouth Rd From Dawlish (same bus as last month) i.e. number 2 Newton Abbot bus at 1.30pm From Teignmouth (same bus as last month) i.e. number 22 Dawlish Warren bus at 1.26pm Walk will be back along footpaths and coast to Dawlish

For further information, contact Jean on 01626 779140 or strollers@u3a.dawlish.info

French Conversation

Our next meeting will be on the **1st August** on the theme "The value of childrens literature now and within our time" Who hasn't read Noddy? Lynne Vick has agreed to host the meeting.

Unfortunately, our convenor, Jill Dixon, is currently in hospital recovering from an operation. We send our good wishes to Jill for a full and speedy recovery.

Due to holidays, visitors and appointments etc. we may be unable to meet in August after the 1st but we are hoping to resume in September.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact me (Steve) at wine@u3a.dawlish.info (temporary email address)

Wine Appreciation

www.U3Adawlish.info

Patricia Angove, Editor, Dawlish U3A newsletter



We are growing in numbers and currently stand at 14. Our last meeting focussed on the wines of Northern Italy. Surprisingly the best value wine was a Barbera from the Asti region, obtainable from Lidl for just £4.99!

Our next meeting is on **Friday 2nd August**, this time we are trying a later time of 6.30pm. The theme is South American wines from lesser known counties. Ray Wood will be hosting this.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact me (Steve) at wine@u3a.dawlish.info

Gardens and Gateaux



We visited local gardens in July.

High Garden was perfect for a walk on a sunny summer's day, it is set in about 5 acres and in many ways is a display garden, just great for plant lovers.

The deep double herbaceous borders were most impressive, being about 70 metres in length!

We helped ourselves to delicious homemade cakes and tea, then sat in the shade of trees, absolutely delightful. As a bonus the nursery is excellent, having numerous plants/trees for sale at reasonable prices.

Squirrels in Torquay was a one off!

Showing what can be done in a relatively small garden, with passion and attention to detail. There were many tender plants including bananas, tree fern, lantanas and oleanders. Also vast collections of fuchsia, abutilons, bougainvilleas and numerous varieties of clematis. The owner was telling us that he has created a micro climate where peach trees, figs and kiwis thrive. Certainly the peaches looked delicious. Overall a very colourful and memorable garden.

Many of our group are on holiday or have family to stay during August. We will post any future garden visits on the 'Gardens & Gateaux' website.

Please contact me if you need a lift or more information. Janet 01626 867721 or email gardens@u3a.dawlish.info

Discussion



Discussion group **Monday 12th August 10.30am** on Education, being held at Carole's house in Dawlish.

For venue and any further information contact Barbara on discussion@u3a.dawlish.info

History



At our last meeting, Barbara gave us a fascinating insight into Eleanor of Aquitaine's life. We will hear more about her at our August meeting on **15th August** as usual 2.00pm at our house.

For information please contact Richard at history@u3a.dawlish.info

Watercolour Painting Group

www.U3Adawlish.info

Patricia Angove, Editor, Dawlish U3A newsletter

We now seem well establish as a happy and supportive group. We have splashed our way through 'washes' and are now moving on to 'perspective'. Some of us are painting individually, but others share a relevant picture or work sheet.

Further details from watercolour_painting@u3a.dawlish.info

Coffee and Chat

The next Coffee & Chat will be on **Thursday August 22nd** at 10.30am. Cafe No 1 bottom of Queen Street.

For more information, contact Tracy at coffeeandchat@u3a.dawlish.info

Scrabble



This small group meets in friendly competition but would welcome newcomers to join us.

For more details please contact George at scrabble@U3A.dawlish.info

Literature



Our book this month was "A Spool of Blue Thread" by Anne Tyler, an author well known to some of our members but new to others. It is a family saga telling the story of the Whitshanks, an American family in Baltimore. The matriarch is Abby, who thinks her family, husband and four grown-up children, are perfect but we discover, as in most families, they are full of quirks, secrets, opinions and history. We follow their story through from one generation to the next, though anachronistically which was interesting, their ups and downs and how they deal with them.

The book produced a really lively discussion about families who, although mostly loving, have their own idiosyncrasies to deal with.

A good introduction to the author being the first for some of us and a book we all thought well worth reading.

Our next book is "The Hundred Year Old Man who Jumped out of the Window and Disappeared" Sounds lively and a good summer read (already known by some of us but happy to read again as it is funny!).

There is no meeting in August and our next will be on **Friday 20th September**.

For further information please see our website literature@u3a.dawlish.info

Psychology



Our July meeting on 'Nutrition and Mental Health' gave lots of food for thought!

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 25th September** when we will look at 'The Psychology of the photograph'.

For further information, contact Steve on psychology@u3a.dawlish.info

Simple Science (formerly known as Gadgets and Gizmos)

www.U3Adawlish.info

Patricia Angove, Editor, Dawlish U3A newsletter



This month's meeting had an excellent presentation by Dave Pickton on - What life is like aboard the International Space Station, complete with some of the astronauts food for us to sample.

Simple Science will not be having a meeting in August, so the next meeting will be at **10:00 on 12th September** at 13 Coryton Close, Dawlish, EX7 9DT. The subject will be "Scientific Experiments associated with ISS".

For further information, please contact Jack Whitehead at simplescience@u3a.dawlish.info

Spanish



There is no meeting in August but the Spanish Group will meet on **Tuesday 30th July**, and after that on **Tuesday 3rd September**.

For further information contact Ray on spanish@u3a.dawlish.info

Great Lives



If you would like to join us, please contact the convener at great_lives@U3A.dawlish.info

UGBOOKE HOUSE The following link gives information about visiting the house and Garden, which has some fine specimen trees (but is otherwise not exceptional.)

<http://www.ugbrooke.co.uk/planning-your-visit/opening-hours-and-prices/>

We would like to make up a group of about 20 for a group guided visit to this most interesting house. With a group of 20 we would get close enough for them to give us a Private Guided Tour, more particularly directed to our interests in the history. There are many fine paintings by the likes of Peter Lely; it would be interesting hearing who they represented and the context. We are thinking about a Sunday afternoon, so as not to impact on any other U3A activities? With no monthly meeting taking place in August, this would be a good time to arrange a visit. If interested please contact me, Barrie (email and telephone number on first page) so that we can get up to a maximum 25 people together. I will be taking names on a first come first served basis so please don't delay. Once enough people have shown interest we will go ahead and book.