



Dawlish and District U3A Newsletter

April 2020 Issue 2

Editor's note

How are you? Hope you are not climbing the walls yet and have plenty to do to keep you occupied.

There are some helpful, interesting articles in this weeks newsletter.

Please keep your articles, stories, letters coming in, you never know how helpful they might be to someone else and we do have to support each other during this crisis.

I am surprised how busy my street has become, we are spending our time gardening, a task that has needed to be done ever since we moved into the house. We are in our garden every afternoon and are constantly hearing cheery hellos from people out taking their constitutional. If we do have a little chat we stand quite a few feet apart which can be a little difficult if they are hard of hearing, so we've learnt to speak up. It's so nice to speak to people we've never spoken to or even seen walking along our street before. It is also good to have so many encouraging comments about how the garden is shaping up, makes the back ache less painful.

Keep sending in contributions to this weekly Dawlish and District U3A Newsletter.

Stay safe - Patricia

April News - Week 2

Zooooooooooooooooom

Some of the committee touched base last Thursday via zoom. Some of you may ask what is zoom. Well **Zoom** is one of the leaders in modern enterprise video communications with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, chat and webinars . You can have a one to one with somebody for as long as you want but if you are three or more (up to a 100) you have a time of 45 minutes for free.

During this time, I was wondering if anyone would like to have a weekly sort of coffee and chat via zoom so that we can catch up with each other. This may not suit everyone but please let me know if you would like to join in.

You can contact me at gfcarey@outlook.com and the app is easy to download at zoom.us '

Graham

Watercolour Painting

Richard emailed some worksheets, one was a teapot and the other a boat on water. On the two mornings our group usually meets per month we will attempt to copy or follow these worksheets and then to photograph them and send them out to each other - again a new challenge!

Hello Patricia. I am not sure if this could be of interest to anyone but I thought about a little exercise we could do to keep our minds working!

Unscramble words 😊

Time yourselves & see how quickly you can unscramble the following words:

notveelisi

uagrenim

cetidal

gneocuarnetem

tretnlwese

Yinturveis

wolrfe

nehlagi

capetien

fropserso

And to finish, one in Spanish as I belong to the Spanish U3A group!

jatracab

Kind regards - Hélène

Culture

I have searched the internet for various constructive/educational/cultural sites to watch during our enforced isolation and it won't surprise any one to hear that there is a wealth of material to be enjoyed. Some sites charge or offer a free month's membership.

Here are some that I have found:
MARQUEE TV <https://www.marquee.tv/>

This site combines material from some of the leading international Arts Companies, such as:

Royal Shakespeare Company Bolshoi Ballet

Royal Opera House Glyndebourne and others.

There is a wide variety of items to choose from. Some are well known classics but there are also lesser known companies and short pieces to explain or elaborate on other productions.

At the moment they are showing the four productions of The Oscar Wilde Season, earlier this year.

You can get a month's free trial but we have opted for a year's membership at a reduced rate of £70 (How much does it cost to go the Theatre, especially for the World's top artists?)

I have only toyed around with it so far but it looks really good

THE NATIONAL THEATRE
www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/nt-at-home
seems to be streaming plays on Youtube on Thursdays. On April 2nd to 9th you can get "One Man, Two Guvnors," starring James Cordon. We saw it a couple of months ago and it will give you a really good night's entertainment.

World famous Art Galleries and Museums offer a lot as well, but I haven't investigated them yet. I will do so and when I have more information, I will distribute it.

Richard Warburton, Groups' Coordinator

Veronica

There is a small pernicious weed that grows in my courtyard garden. Its pretty blue flower is not yet out today, Palm Sunday. This is the Sunday before Easter when Christians commemorate the triumphal ride of Jesus into Jerusalem on a donkey, curiously one of the few facts that we know about Jesus that is probably historically accurate.

I'm prevented this year, due to the outbreak of coronavirus from attending church to receive a palm cross; but I've made my own from my long-suffering spider plant.

Throughout the centuries the Speedwell plant, whose name means 'Speed-thee-well' was believed to bring health and good luck to travellers.

There is a wholly unsubstantiated legend that a woman of Jerusalem, called Veronica, out of compassion, wiped the face of Jesus, on his way to the crucifixion. Although never canonised, it was such a popular legend that St. Veronica is remembered on 12th July.



What more natural then, that when it came to the scientific classification of plants, that the Speedwell, part of a large family of the Scrophularia, named as medicinal remedies for Scrophula (an old name for a form of tuberculosis)— should also receive the generic name of Veronica.

George Lipscomb

Not so Trivial

Like many other people we have been getting to grips with online communications tools for keeping in touch with friends and relations. Our WhatsApp accounts have gone into overdrive and we've had a go at using Zoom for video 'meetings'. This weekend we used our Amazon Alexa devices to play Trivial Pursuit with our son and his family who live in the Midlands. We propped Alexa up on our dining table and her camera was just about able to cover the board. Unfortunately the boys beat the girls but we had fun playing. We've set ourselves the challenge of finding other games that we can play at a distance.

Dave and Miggie Pickton

