



Dawlish and District U3A Newsletter

June 2020 Issue 2

Chair's mid month chatter

So how are you fairing and how are you feeling with the present situation we are all facing? What are you impatient with? What is keeping you sane? On the whole the members of the Dawlish and District group are doing quite well with many actually quite content with their lot.

However we must feel sad at the closed and less frequented high streets, wondering how many businesses will weather the financial fall out. The economy in the South West is very vulnerable.

I realise that as a group we are in a very privileged position, not primarily dependent on work for an income, living in a beautiful place, used to finding creative ways to enjoy our free time and blessed with the curiosity for life long learning.

As a U3A group we are striving to keep things afloat and your committee is continuing to meet monthly; presently via zoom. The big question for us all is what will the U3A look like after we get back to normality? Yes, life will get back to normal - but it will be a 'new normal'.

Some of our groups are using zoom to good effect and how about the ones you are involved with? Is there any way you could somehow touch base even if it is not face to face at the moment.

Last week was an opportunity to show our appreciation to **volunteers** across the UK for the time given to help others

and I would like to thank you all for what you do. There are so many volunteering stories out there and it's been so encouraging to realise how Dawlish has pulled together. Here's a story and with this I end:

A retired farmer became very bored and decided to open a private medical clinic. He put a sign up that said: "Get your treatment for £250 - if not cured you I will give you £500.

There was a local doctor who was positive that the retired farmer didn't know anything about medicine and thought it would be an easy way to receive £500. He went to the retired farmer's clinic and this is what happened.

Local doctor: "I have lost all taste in my mouth. Can you please help me?"
Farmer: "Nurse, please bring medicine from box 22 and put 3 drops in the Doctor's mouth."

Local doctor: "Aaagh! This is Gasoline!"
Farmer: "Congratulations! You've got your taste back. That will be £250."

The local doctor gets annoyed and goes back after a couple of days figuring how to recover his money. "I have lost my memory, I cannot remember anything."
Farmer: "Nurse, please bring medicine from box 22 and put 3 drops in the patient's mouth."

Local doctor: "Oh no you don't, that's Gasoline!"
Farmer: "Congratulations! You've got your memory back. That will be £250."

The local doctor (after having lost £500) leaves angrily and comes back after several more days. "My eyesight has become weak I can hardly see!"

Farmer: "Well, I don't have any medicine for that so. Here's your £500 back.

The local doctor: "But this is only £250..."

Farmer: "Congratulations! You've got your vision back! That will be £250."

Keep safe and keep smiling.

Graham

Join our Zoom Tutorials - by the members for the members - National U3A

Did you know 350 members have already joined us?

If you would like to connect with other U3A members on video or want to take your interest group on-line or run a virtual meeting during lock down, then this may be for you.

U3A Trust Volunteers are hosting Tutorials covering an **Introduction to Zoom**

The aim of this session is to help you become familiar with the basics of how to use the Zoom platform, what you can do on it, some of the functions (such as splitting into break-out rooms, instant polling, muting everyone!) and how to be safe.

Zoom for Hosting Group Meetings

The aim will be to cover the basics on organising and inviting members to meetings, meeting protocols, managing your group, and showing slides, ensuring fair participation, and generally how to run virtual meetings successfully.

To book : <https://www.u3a.org.uk/about/events/online-events>

Batty about Bats

I Got fed up with my back garden so went down to the Cockwood Marshes to watch BATS.

Arrived 2100 hrs just getting dimpsie. Set myself up - chair, flask, all o.k.

Saw Mallard, Pheasant, Moorhen, Blackbird, Wren, Canada Geese. Heard Warbler and outline of a Kingfisher - did I see any BATS? NO.

Came home, made a coffee, sat in the garden. What do I see Pipistrelle BATS.

Morale STAY HOME.

Malcolm

Breath of Fresh Air

I wandered lonely as a cloud
Two metres from the madding crowd
When all at once my name was called
To enter Sainsbury's hallowed hall

This was the pensioners' special hour
I'd gone to get a bag of flour
But I forgot when through the door
What I had gone to Sainsbury for.

The Sainsbury staff are extra kind
I told them it had slipped my mind
They asked what else I had forgot
They clearly thought I'd lost the plot

I phoned my wife again to ask
She reminded me of this special task
"I need some flour to bake a cake
With all that cream you made me take"

"Ah yes, I recall" I had to lie
I dared not ask what flower to buy
But then I saw them by the tills
A bunch of golden daffodils.

Anon

Answers to Last week's Quiz

BRITISH PRIME MINISTERS

1. Who was the first British Prime Minister to serve under Queen Victoria? **William Lamb, 2nd Viscount Melbourne**
2. How many Prime Ministers have served under Queen Elizabeth II? **14**
3. Who was the last British Prime Minister to die when in office? **Spencer Perceval KC**
4. Who is the longest serving British Prime Minister to date? **Sir Robert Walpole**
5. Which British Prime Minister led Britain in the American Revolution and was forced to resign in 1782? **Lord North**
6. Which Prime Minister took Britain into the EU? **Edward Heath**
7. Which British Prime Minister oversaw the abolition of slavery throughout the British Empire? **Earl Grey**
8. Which British Prime Minister made Jeffrey Archer a life peer? **John Major**
9. Tony Blair was the longest serving Labour Prime Minister. How many years was he in office? **10**
10. There are currently how many living British prime ministers? **6**

Very Fishy!

Researching material for a talk on Law, I came across a number of items I found amusing.

Section 32 of the Salmon Act 1986 stipulates that it is an offence to handle salmon under suspicious circumstances.

This section creates an offence in England and Wales for any person who receives or disposes of any salmon in circumstances where they believe or could reasonably believe that the salmon has been illegally fished. The maximum penalty is two years imprisonment.

The context may well make the law less weird, but even so, suspiciously holding salmon is a pretty funny offence to be arrested for.

The existing law that "all beached whales and sturgeons must be offered to the Reigning Monarch", initially came into force in 1322.

The law was tested as recently as 2004, when a fisherman named Robert Davies caught a 9lb sturgeon off the coast of Wales which he duly offered to the Queen, only to receive notice that she was happy for him to "dispose of the fish as he saw fit".

Barbara

This week's quiz

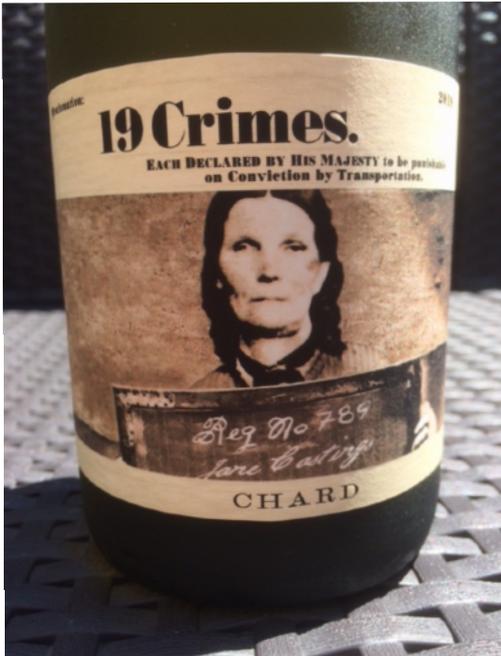
WHO SAID THIS?

1. I want to be the white man's brother not his brother-in-law.
2. And - which is more - You'll be a man my son.
3. Put me back on my bike!
4. I told you I was ill.
5. What you do not want others to do to you, do not do to others.
6. That's very nearly an armful.
7. Work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion.
8. I am playing all the right notes, but not necessarily in the right order.
9. It has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time.
10. Golf is a good walk spoiled.
11. I don't care to belong to a club that accepts people like me as members.
12. Left hand down a bit.
13. No Mr Bond - I expect you to die.
14. Some people think football is a matter of life or death. I assure you, it's much more serious than that.
15. A cynic is a man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing.
16. Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.

Natural History

I gave a friend (an historian) a bottle of 19 Crimes Chardonnay recently. He loved it and researched the woman on the label! If you are into history, and wine, and labels, read this:-

https://thefamilytapestry.blogspot.com/2016/07/family-history-stories-jane-castings_2.html



Best wishes to you all,

Graham & Jenny 🍷🍷

Quarantine day 36 - If only I had bought food rather than 300 rolls of toilet paper...



