



Dawlish and District U3A Newsletter

January 2021 Issue 3

Thank you Covid

Following the invitation by Tim Freeman from Dartmouth u3a to Devon u3a science groups we were able to join Devon Association Geology Section's Zoom talk on 'Lithium exploration in Cornwall'. This proved to be a very well presented and interesting talk that helped to explain the geology in terms I could follow (as a non geologist) and helped in understanding the environmental and economic development issues.

This is clearly not everyones interest on a Saturday morning, but it does occur to me how much the pandemic has opened up u3as to the potential offered by sharing between u3as and with other organisations. As a result of this sharing over 130 people attended this talk, and it became obvious that many of them attending were from Devon u3as. Sharing talks like this opens up a vast opportunity for learning that cannot be met in our local u3as and also gives organisations like the Devon Association an opportunity to attract new and interested members.

Whilst face to face group meetings must be the bedrock of the local u3a we must be aware of what can be achieved through sharing. We can have the benefit of both. Perhaps this is something good that can come out of the adversity of Covid.

Steve Angove

Keep Learning

I also wanted to thank Covid in a way. I have been attending lots of webinars, conferences and talks given by different organisations that, pre-lock down I would never have been able to attend, simply cost and travel.

I have attended talks given by people from as far away as America and talks and webinars attended by people from all over the planet.

On attending some regular monthly talks I have been seeing the same people attend and we have begun to at least say hello to each other or send chat messages to each other.

Although I am so looking forward to us all meeting again face to face and enjoying all our local u3a activities, especially our monthly meetings and the badminton group (I expect we'll all be very stiff and rusty) I shall carry on with my usage of zoom.

I am finding that my horizons are widening, meeting new people from all over the world, learning new things all the time.

I am really enjoying my zoom experience.
Patricia Angove

Dawlish & District U3A Monthly

Talk on Zoom

Monday 18th January – at 2pm.

(zoom links were sent out yesterday)

Councillor Alison Foden will be talking to us about her role as the Dawlish Town Mayor.

Alison Foden has lived in Dawlish for over 20 years, having moved here from Brighton. Alison works part time for the NHS at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, and is also a district councillor. Previous voluntary work in Dawlish included being a Guider with one of the Brownie units.

Discussion Group

Looking forward to a time when we can meet again face to face, the Group is trying to keep some momentum, and following a trial in December we want to expand to a meeting of six in February.

We would therefore like to extend an invitation to anyone interested in joining us for a meeting on Zoom in February when we intend to discuss 'the role social media is playing in the covid crisis'.

We shall be following the example of the best in social media by inviting a wide range of views, respecting others opinions and not talking over one another. We shall try and avoid the worst aspects, shouting people down and being dismissive of their ideas.

If you would be interested in joining us please message me at the address below including your phone number, and someone will call you and answer any queries you have.

Michael Heyden

michaelheyden@yahoo.co.uk

Weekly Zoom Quiz

MONDAY AT 7PM.

To join in this evening of fun, contact

Graham Carey

Great Lives

It is with a heavy heart that I've taken the decision to postpone the Great Lives Meeting scheduled for 29th January, at least until the end of lockdown. Although churches were permitted to open for worship under the lockdown3 restrictions, all churches in Dawlish and District have chosen not to do so. With rising cases of Covid-19 infection in Teignbridge, it would have been irresponsible for us to continue to meet.

Although two of my grandchildren have contracted Covid-19: one in Beirut (where even supermarkets have closed); and the other in Havant (a real hot spot), the latter grandchild is still bed bound, but thankfully her fever is abating. For my part I'm Covid negative; and amongst my immediate family we've even suspended Bubble meetings I sincerely hope you all are fit and well; and keeping your spirits up. We'll meet again

George

French Conversation

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday 21st** when we will be conversing about 'If you were in a Circus which character would you be?'

We have had 3 people join in recent times and any one who has an interest in French is welcome to 'parlez-vous'.

Graham

Some funnies

During his military service Elvis served in the bomb disposal team due to his experience with suspicious mines!

My wife is mad at me because she said I never buy her flowers. I honestly did not know she sold flowers.

Wine Appreciation Group (WAG)

We used to meet up in each others homes to taste an occasional Cotes du Rhone,

or a fruity Merlot or robust French Shiraz, but Covid 19 has arrived, and it has curtailed our gath'rings.

We were full of gloom. Then Patricia suggested we could meet via Zoom!

Now ev'ry month we fire up devices, from laptops to tablets. It's not quite as nice as meeting in person, but it's safer this way to sample Sauterne or a crisp Chardonnay!

Dark, fruity Malbecs are always a winner, enjoyed by some members accompanying dinner.

Fish would go well with a chilled Sauvignon or other white wine; the list carries on.

Wine from most countries are all well received, with aromas detected being hard to believe!

From gooseberries or pepper to petrol and limes! We all get to taste and enjoy all the wines.

We talk about colour, and how much the price. From which shop it came. Was it nasty or nice?

Wines that we've loved and wines that we've hated. The merits of all get thoroughly debated.

A fizzy Prosecco that tickles the nose, or a white Zinfandel, the colour of rose Can evoke happy mem'ries of things that we've seen. From old friends and holidays, places we've been.

Our group will continue to meet up this way, for now, but we all will welcome the day

When we've all had the vaccine. The virus has lost! Normal service resumes, Fingers crossed!!!

Diane Brandon.

Facebook

Anybody interested in starting up a Facebook page for our u3a? Do you know anyone one who could do it? Please let us know.

Answers to Last Weeks Quiz - CLOTHES – ANSWERS CONTAIN SOMETHING YOU MIGHT WEAR

1. South Pacific atoll which saw the detonation of 23 nuclear weapons by the United States between 1946 and 1958 -

BIKINI

2. A snake, indigenous to North America, venomous but not fatal to humans, average 50cm long and come in a variety of colours - **GARTER SNAKE**

3. A group of people living in the area around the Pyrenees in Spain and France - **BASQUE**

4. A breed of dairy cattle - **JERSEY**

5. Character played by Julie Walters in Acorn Antiques - **MRS OVERALL**

6. A recurring character in the Blackadder series - **BALDRIC** (a wide silk sash or leather belt worn over the right shoulder to the left hip for carrying a sword)

7. He led the Charge of the Light Brigade at the Battle of Balaclava - **CARDIGAN** (James Brudenell, 7th Earl of Cardigan)

8. A flexible tube for conveying a liquid - **HOSE** (an article of clothing for the foot and lower part of the leg; stocking or sock)

9. An area of hard ground where aircraft are parked - **APRON**

10. The portion of the earth, about 1800 miles thick, between the core and the crust - **MANTLE** (a loose sleeveless coat or cape)

PUT THEM IN ORDER

1. The Bond movies in order of release: **Diamonds Are Forever (1971), Moonraker (1979), The Living Daylights (1987), Die Another Day (2002)**

2. In descending order, the countries in order of population: **Indonesia (265m), Brazil (210m), Bangladesh (162m), Russia (145m) (Note - Russia has just over half the population of Indonesia)**

3. In ascending order: - **Baron, Viscount, Earl, Marquess.**

4. The Andrew Lloyd-Webber musicals in order they appeared in London's West End theatres: **Cats (1981), Aspects of**

Love (1989), Sunset Boulevard (1993), The Woman in White (2004)

5. The British poets in the order they were born: **William Wordsworth (1770–1850), Thomas Hardy (1840-1928), Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936), Cecil Day-Lewis (1904–1972)**

6. The cities that have hosted the Summer or Winter Olympic Games (since 2008) in chronological order: **Beijing (2008), Vancouver (2010), London (2012), Sochi (2014)**

7. In descending size: **Skye (639 sq mi), Anglesey (276 sq mi), Isle of Man (221 sq mi), Isle of Wight (148 sq mi)**

8. The football teams in descending order of the number of times they have won the FA Cup: **Arsenal (14), Tottenham Hotspur (8), Blackburn Rovers (6), Bolton Wanderers (4)**

9. The sports venues in descending order of seating capacity: **Melbourne Cricket Ground (100,000), Wembley Stadium (90,000), Twickenham Stadium (82,000), Hard Rock Stadium (66.000)**

10. The British newspapers in chronological order of the year they first appeared: **The Times (1785), The Daily Telegraph (1855), Daily Mirror (1903), The Sun (1964)**

This Weeks Quiz - GUESS THE SWEET

1. Where refined people live
2. 100% Precious
3. 9, 10, 11
4. All sorts of girls
5. Corks for mouths
6. Punishment for nuts
7. Royal Herb
8. Petals and Prickles
9. America's half time
10. Little Richard's favourite
11. Aromatic spheres
12. Edible fasteners
13. Fallen fruits
14. Feline Gear
15. Speak quietly
16. Wobbly infants
17. Carrier for dairy produce
18. Sport of the princes
19. Home for alcoholic teeth
20. Ten pin bowling

Answers next week

Fascinating Facts

In 1752, Britons went to bed on September 2 and woke up on September 14. 11 days were lost when the Julian Calendar changed to the Gregorian Calendar.

In 1962, in Tanzania, 14 schools closed down - the cause was a laughing epidemic that affected over 1,000 people.

Another funny

I had been invited to the RNLI's Christmas party and was quite looking forward to it. Shame it was cancelled as they really know how to push the boat out.

**I bought a dog from a blacksmith.
As soon as I got it home it made a bolt for the door.**

