

Dawlish U3A



Monthly Newsletter – April 2019

From the Chairman, Barrie Hamill

As most of you will appreciate, about a third of the members of the Dawlish U3A do not live in Dawlish itself, but come from Teignmouth and many nearby villages and communities. Partly to reflect the nature of our group, and also to ensure that everyone who might be interested in joining a U3A branch in the future realises that Dawlish U3A would be a good choice for them, your Committee will be recommending to members that we change our name to 'Dawlish and District U3A'. There are some procedural matters to address before this modest change can happen, not least that it must be approved by members at the forthcoming AGM. A full explanation of the reasons for this proposal will be made in time for the AGM, and all members will have the opportunity to express their opinion before the matter is approved. In the meantime, if you wish to know more or to express an opinion, please feel able to contact me or any other member of the Committee.

Our next monthly meeting will be at 2pm on Monday 15th April in Dawlish Methodist Church Hall when David Gearing of the Dawlish Local History Group will give a talk with the intriguing title, 'Dawlish Warren History - maybe more interesting than you might have thought!' I hope you will be able to come.

Barrie

Membership Renewal

A reminder that membership is due for renewal in April. It remains at £15.00 and may be paid at the April monthly meeting, by cheque if possible, or by sending it to the Membership Secretary, 10 Underwood Close, Dawlish EX7 9RY. Please make your cheques payable to Dawlish U3A.

Alternatively, you may pay by direct bank transfer using the details below.

Name of bank: NatWest

Name of Account: Dawlish U3A

Sort code: 52-30-22

Account No: 34078967

Reference: Your name

Thank you.

Barbara Roberts

Membership Secretary

membershipsecretary@u3a.dawlish.info

David Gearing would like to bring to members' attention the following event organised by the Dawlish Local History Group and in support of Dawlish Museum and Friends of Dawlish Library. I hope Dawlish U3A members would like to support this as both the Museum and Library play an important part in our community's life.

**THE PAST BROUGHT
TO LIGHT**
An evening of Dawlish history

◻

The Dawlish Bronze Age Hoard
Derek Gore talks about the archaeology
of the period

◻

Growing up in Dawlish in the 60s
Jimmy Hill remembers his childhood

◻

From fishing village to Georgian resort
David Force on how the architecture of
Dawlish evolved in the 19th century

◻

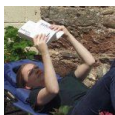
Shaftesbury Theatre
Wednesday, 8TH May, 7.30 pm

◻

Tickets - £5 - from the Tourist information Centre
Any unsold tickets will be available on the evening at the
Shaftesbury
Organised by the Dawlish Local History Group
Proceeds will be donated to Dawlish Museum
and Friends of the Library

News from Interest Groups

Bookworms



The next meeting of Bookworms is at 2pm on Thursday 25th April, at the usual venue, 8 Honeysuckle Drive, Dawlish. We will be discussing Shan's choice, *The Stone Book Quartet*.

Meetings take place on the 4th Thursday of the month. If you would like to join the group and for more information, contact Barbara at bookclub@u3a.dawlish.info

Lunch Club



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

Here, There and Everywhere



Our next outing will be on Friday 26th April when we will go to Paignton and transfer to the Steam Railway for Kingswear. We will then take a 90 minute trip on the Dartmouth ferry/boat, a 30 minute bus trip to Totnes and return to Paignton. We will leave Dawlish Railway Station at 10am. The full price is £6.50 Return (£4.45 with a Rail Card). The Round Robin Tour ticket (boat and bus) costs £27.50 (Concession). Bookings can be made either at the U3A monthly meeting, or between 10.30 - 11am on Thursday 18th April at the Open Daw (HTE Coffee morning).

Plans for May are having to be re-written. Due to circumstances beyond Andy's control, HTE will not be going to Plymouth in May after all. Instead, he invites members to join him for lunch in the River Exe Cafe on Friday 31st May. Please contact Andy by Thursday 23rd May to confirm booking.

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

Art Appreciation



The next meeting will be on Monday 8th April when Richard will be hosting and presenting a session at 1 Kestrel Way, Dawlish on *The Beginnings of Art*. For further information, contact Lynne at art@u3a.dawlish.info

Great Lives



Steve Thomson led the last meeting on Aung Sang Suu Kyi. On 26th April the meeting will be led by Chris Marsh on the life of Ludwig Wittgenstein.

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

Badminton



The badminton group is getting larger with more joining every week. Fun is being had by us all and we are keeping fit or getting fitter in the process. The Badminton Group is open to all abilities. We meet every Monday at 5pm at the Dawlish Leisure Centre where we play for an hour, with rests between games.

Come and join us. We welcome anyone willing to have a go. For more information please contact Patricia after 12th April at badminton@u3a.dawlish.info

Spanish



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

History



At our last meeting, John drew astounding parallels with the Tariff Reform crisis of 1903 and the years which followed and our present wallowing in the mire of EU negotiations. And here we are again, wondering what wonderful ideas the Government will come up with next. Personally, I think there's a lot to be said on both sides!!!! Sorry, all three sides, or is it four, perhaps five?

Next month, we will be going to Haiti and meeting a slave, courtesy of Pat's family history research. It's at Richard and Barbara's house, 1 Kestrel Close, Dawlish, at 2pm on Thursday 18th April. For further details, contact Richard at history@u3a.dawlish.info

Strollers



Dawlish U3A Strollers group meet on the afternoon of the second Thursday of each month for a gentle social stroll. We generally explore the Teignmouth/Shaldon area one month, and the Dawlish/Cockwood/Powderham area the following month.

New members to our group are always welcome. For further information, contact Jean on 01626 779140 or strollers@u3a.dawlish.info

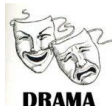
Discussion



The Discussion Group has grown very quickly, and we now have plenty of people discussing a wide range of topics. Our next meeting is at 10.30am on Monday 8th April when we will discuss 'A Sense of Humour'.

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

Play Reading



We next meet at 1.30pm on Tuesday 16th April at Edens Court in Teignmouth, when we will read *The Devil at Midnight* by Brian Clemens.

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. New members welcome.

Contact Janette on playreading@u3a.dawlish.info or ask at the monthly meeting for contact details

Creative Writing



We exercise our little grey cells putting thoughts to paper over many subjects with as many different interpretations as members. At the March meeting we each picked two objects from a random selection and will try to incorporate them both into a piece of writing to be read in April. The next meeting of the Creative writing group will be Monday 29th April at 10.30am Edens Court in Teignmouth.

We normally meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 10.30am, so please note that this is the **fifth** Monday since in April the fourth is Easter Monday.

New members welcome. Contact Janette on creativewriting@u3a.dawlish.info

Wine Appreciation



Our next meeting will be held on the 12th April. with Richard and Barbara Warburton hosting at their home. The topic will be wines from Germany which will be an interesting subject as Germany has not enjoyed a particularly good reputation for its wines in the past. However, they have improved significantly recently, and they are now producing wines which have received critical acclaim.

If you are interested in wines but think, "I don't know much about wines", then don't worry. None of us is an expert but we do enjoy experimenting and learning about wines. Please feel free to contact me if you need more information.

For further information contact Steve on wine@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



Despite being hopeful that our March book, *The Sea Lady*, by Margaret Drabble, would be a bit more light-hearted than our January and February books, alas, it was not to be! For such a reputable writer, most of us found the book very hard going, slow, irritating and, in parts, boring. There is no doubt that Drabble has a superb command of the English language, but, for us, this story did not really hang together with only the main characters being brought together towards the end. However, it did encourage a very lively and interesting discussion which helped to redeem the story somewhat.

At our next meeting in April, we will be discussing *The Woman who Went to Bed for a Year* by Sue Townsend. Very different from our last three books and sounds more light-hearted! We shall see.

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

Psychology



Our next meeting will be at 2pm on Wednesday 24th April and we will take a look at what science and psychology is now saying about 'Gender'. We will dispel some persistent myths and so-called evolutionary facts. This is a topic at the forefront of understanding modern relationships.

Any Dawlish U3A member is welcome to come to the group. However, there is room for more people to come along. No prior knowledge is needed; just an open and enquiring mind. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

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

Simple Science (formerly known as Gadgets and Gizmos)



Gadgets and Gizmos is changing its name to 'Simple Science' which is a more appropriate title for the format we have now adopted. The next meeting is at 13 Coryton Close, Dawlish at 10am on Thursday 11th April. The topic is: 'How to find and use Open ('free') information on the World Wide Web without breaking the law'.

In the following months we intend to do a series of presentations and discussions on the International Space Station. Although we will look at the technical side of its construction, we will also be covering various aspects concerning the crew: What sort of people are they?

- How do the different nationalities communicate and co-operate?
- What is the day-to-day life really like?
- How do you clean your teeth in space? I will let you know what the topic is each month when we have decided what order we are going to do them. Any U3A members are welcome to come along and join us for all, or just a few, of the meetings.

For further information, please contact Jack Whitehead at either simplescience@u3a.dawlish.info or gadgetsandgizmos@u3a.dawlish.info. It would be helpful to know in advance the number of people attending so we can arrange the venues.