



Dawlish and District U3A Newsletter

January 2021 Issue 4

Chair's Chatter

On my walk out the other day I passed a few pubs in town. Some looked drab and tired outside but the one which for me has the most attractive exterior in central Dawlish is the Brunswick Arms. One of the notice boards states 'Food, beer and lots of cheer served daily at the Brunswick Arms.' The other notice board informs people of the times for the daily happy hours. We realise that the Happy hour is a period of the day when drinks are sold at reduced prices in a bar or other licensed establishment. Businesses state that one way of bringing a team together, building camaraderie and strengthening work bonds is by holding a happy hour. This gives the opportunity for work colleagues to connect with others and talk about something other than the big projects and deadlines that are looming.

So when was the first Happy Hour mentioned? The term first seems to crop up in Shakespeare. No surprise there, as we owe around 1,700 of the words and terms we use today to this great linguistic inventor. However, Shakespeare's happy hour refers to a time of merriment and entertainment (not drink discounts) in King Henry V, written around 1599. King Henry proclaims in Act one, "Therefore, my lords, omit no happy hour / That may give furtherance to our expedition" — and I agree, we should never omit a happy hour! Then back in the early 20th century, a weekly entertainment programme called "Happy Hour" was created aboard

the USS Arkansas to help relieve the boredom of being at sea. There were a variety of activities during this time, including boxing and wrestling matches, music, and dancing.

Happy hours, days, are so important and during the pandemic virtual happy hours are held over video conferencing platforms like Zoom, Webex and Google Meet. The goal of these events is to have fun and build relationships between attendees. Virtual happy hour ideas include specific games, activities and themes that you can use to boost engagement further. I hope that as U3A members we all agree that when we have been able to meet for a group activity or a monthly meeting we have been participating in a happy hour! One of the three integral parts of our motto is 'Laughing'. When we laugh, it's usually a sign of happiness. According to the science of happiness, intentional laughter can uplift our mood and make us happy.

Someone who made me laugh and happy was the late Sir Ken Dodd. As I write this article I am reminded of some of the lyrics of his song 'Happiness'. 'Happiness to me is an ocean tide, A sunset fading on a mountain side A big old heaven full of stars above, When I'm in the arms of the one I love Happiness is a field of grain, Turning its face to the falling rain.

A wise old man told me one time,
 Happiness is a frame of mind
 When you go to measuring my success,
 Don't count money count happiness
 Oh, happiness, happiness, the greatest
 gift that I possess'.

Someone said that 'The art of being
 happy lies in the power of extracting
 happiness from common things.' So you
 were spot on Ken! Fashions come and go
 but being happy never goes out of style.
 A song from the 1980's has as title 'Don't
 worry, be happy'. It's up to us all and
 here's to our next face to face happy
 hour!

Graham

Scrabble

Scrabble is a social game which thrives
 on friendly competition. Unfortunately, it
 is not possible to play Scrabble under
 Covid restrictions: household mixing is
 not permitted and social distancing could
 not be preserved. There is therefore no
 prospect currently of our U3A group
 resuming in the foreseeable future. There
 are various forms of online Scrabble; but
 none of these approaches the social
 nuancing that enlivens the traditional;
 game; and all permit the players to
 research allowable words before
 submitting answers. Unsurprisingly, when
 offered to the Scrabble Group only 2
 members showed an interest. If any other
 U3A members wish to try online scrabble,
 I would commend Lexulous. Evidently, so
 as not to invoke issues of copyright,
 Lexulous is played with 8 tiles instead of
 the traditional 7, the board layout is
 slightly different and the individual letter
 scores are also different. It will costs you
 nothing to give it a try. Contact me if
 you'd like to know more.

George

Weekly Zoom Quiz

Weekly quiz continuing each Monday on
 zoom at 7pm.

French Conversation Group

On Thursday the group conversed about
 'If you were in a Circus which character
 would you be?' Now we know! Magician,
 illusionist, trapeze artist, ring master,
 acrobat, an act with dogs and clown. So
 book your tickets to watch the u3a
 Summer circus perform on the lawn.
 The dates for our group in February are
**Thursday 4th and Thursday 18th at
 10.30am** on zoom; the themes being:

4th – Who has been your favourite
 comedian?

18th – What is the film you could watch
 over and over again?

Graham

Free stuff available now from your local library

Did you know that your local library
 provides thousands of books, magazines
 and other resources, all for free online?

Library members have access to all sorts
 of resources. If you are not currently a
 member then it is easy to join (see
 below**).

If you have a tablet or smartphone you
 simply need to download one of the
 following easy to use Apps and log in with
 your membership number and PIN:

- **Libby** for ebooks and audiobooks
- **Borrowbox** for audiobooks
- **RBDigital** for popular newspapers and
 magazines

Other resources are available via an
 internet browser on your computer or
 tablet:

- **Naxos Music Library** for classical
 music
- **Ancestry Library Edition** (family
 history) is available to library members at
 home during lockdown (normally it can be
 accessed on library computers only).

**If you are not a member then you can join today as follows:

1. Go to www.devonlibraries.org.uk
2. Visit the 'Join Us' section and complete the online form
3. You will be issued with a card number and PIN

Further information is available on the Devon Libraries website: go to www.devonlibraries.org.uk and scroll down the page.

Miggie

Answers to Last Weeks Quiz -

GUESS THE SWEET

1. Where refined people live - **QUALITY STREET**
2. 100% Precious - **ALL GOLD**
3. 9, 10, 11 - **AFTER EIGHTS**
4. All sorts of girls - **DOLLY MIXTURES**
5. Corks for mouths - **GOB STOPPERS**
6. Punishment for nuts - **WALNUT WHIPS**
7. Royal Herb - **MINT IMPERIALS**
8. Petals and Prickles - **ROSES**
9. America's half time - **TIME OUT**
10. Little Richard's favourite - **TUTTI FRUTTI**
11. Aromatic spheres - **ANISEED BALLS**
12. Edible fasteners - **CHOCOLATE BUTTONS**
13. Fallen fruits - **PEAR DROPS**
14. Feline Gear - **KIT KAT**
15. Speak quietly - **WHISPA**
16. Wobbly infants - **JELLY BABIES / TOTS**
17. Carrier for dairy produce - **MILK TRAY / BOTTLES**
18. Sport of the princes - **POLOS**
19. Home for alcoholic teeth - **WINE GUMS**
20. Ten pin bowling - **SKITTLES**

Fascinating Fact

Trinity College, Cambridge has a total of 32 Nobel Prize winners. This is more than Canada, Russia, Italy or Japan.

Some funnies

So a man dies and goes to heaven and sees St Peter. There are many clocks surrounding him so the man asks "What are these clocks for?" St. Peter replies "These are lie clocks, they tick once for every lie you tell. Here we have Mother Teresa's clock. She has never lied so the clock has not moved. Honest Joe has only lied twice in his life, so it has only ticked twice." The man then asks "So where is George W Bush's clock?" St. Peter replies "Oh, that is in Jesus' office; he is using it as a ceiling fan!"

Whoever would have thought that the phrase 'I wouldn't touch him with a six foot barge pole' would become national policy.

He who laughs last thinks slowest.

Change is inevitable, except from vending machines.

I used to work in a shoe recycling shop. It was sole destroying.

Did I tell you the time I fell in love during a backflip? I was heels over head.

DAFFY'S DAILY

By Annie Tempest.



"It's just that I find that having two glasses of wine at once stops me touching my face..."

This Weeks Quiz - SMALLEST AND LARGEST

1. Smallest continent
2. Largest wall
3. Largest land animal
4. Smallest country
5. Smallest desert
6. Largest island
7. Smallest ocean
8. Largest democracy
9. Smallest river
10. Largest country
11. Largest animal
12. Smallest democracy
13. Smallest island
14. Largest desert
15. Largest continent
16. Smallest animal
17. Smallest bird
18. Largest ocean
19. Most populated country
20. Least populated country

Answers next week

Scam Alert

We sent a previous message of various scams taking place where a cold caller, email, or automated call claims to be from Amazon or Amazon Prime, we would like to make you aware of another variation of scam of a person cold calling informing the resident that they have been signed up to Amazon Prime and when the resident says they don't know what it is or don't have it they are offered a refund, a story line is then given of accidentally refunding too much to the resident of a much larger amount and for the resident to send the money back - this is a scam.

Please be wary of this and any automated call of this type and other variations, which may include:

- an automated call stating a number should be pressed for various reasons

- or by someone in person asking for vouchers to be purchased in a shop and codes to be handed over
- a request to download an app
- emails with links attached (to phishing sites)

All of these are scams and instructions should not be followed, please hang up, don't give out any personal information or click on any links.

Never give your bank details and never let someone have control of your computer remotely.

If you want to check a call is genuine - hang up and contact the company via a reliable source. Please wait ten minutes before making another call or clear the line by phoning a friend/family member.

If you have any concerns please phone 101 or email 101@dc.police.uk

If you have fallen victim to a scam, please report this to Action Fraud: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

Please report any suspicious emails you receive to the National Cyber Security Centre: report@phishing.gov.uk

Please pass this information on and consider displaying in public areas, such as notice boards etc.

Thank you.

Message Sent By

Linzi Berryman (Police, DC Alert Officer, Devon & Cornwall)

Another Funny

A police officer attempts to stop a car for speeding and the guy gradually increases his speed until he's doing over 110 mph. The man eventually realises he can't escape and finally pulls over. The police officer approaches the car and says "It's been a long day and my shift is almost over so if you give me a good excuse for your behaviour I'll let you go without a fine". The man thinks for a few seconds and then says "My wife ran away with a police officer last week and I thought that you might be the same officer trying to give her back!".