



Dawlish

and District U3A

Newsletter

May/June 2021

Zoom Talk Tomorrow - 'A Picture of Waste in Devon'

Monday 17th May at 2.00pm.

What we hope will be our last zoom talk in favour of meeting up face to face again. This talk really does sound very interesting and informative.

Presented by Lucy Mottram and Bobby Hughes. Lucy and Bobby form part of the Recycle Devon team at Devon County Council. They love to talk to community groups and help people understand what happens to their rubbish and recycling in Devon and how they can reduce their waste.

Your zoom link to this talk is on the covering email sent with this newsletter.

Wednesday 2nd June is National u3a Day

As part of National u3a day we are organising a stall outside the Strand Centre to give out leaflets, talk about our u3a and sign up anyone interested in becoming a member. If you'd like to join in with us, please contact the committee at: enquiries@u3a.dawlish.info

June Members Meeting

Taking place **June 21st at 2.00pm.** A speaker has not been organised as we will be meeting outside, on the lawn. Bring your own chair and be ready to meet up and catch up with old friends.

Weekly Zoom Quiz

Tomorrow evening, **Monday 17th May at 7pm.** All are welcome. For your zoom link please contact: **Graham Carey**

Discussion Group

The Discussion Group met on the Lawn on Monday, to talk about the possibility of Britain becoming a republic at some time in the near future. In general, it seemed unlikely in this sort of timescale, since it doesn't appear that there is a groundswell of public opinion in favour of such a move. Nonetheless it was accepted that that could change, and that with new monarch expected in the next decade could act as a catalyst. However it was felt that even then the practical difficulties would be immense, particularly in relation to agreement over a new constitution. In the light of experience we didn't feel a referendum would be helpful! Lively political discussion had kept us going for a while, but the weather eventually took over and we retreated to thaw out our feet.

Michael Heyden

Wine Appreciation Group (WAG)

Our next meeting will take place on **Friday 4th June.** To join us please contact: **Graham Petridge**

Strollers

We will be meeting up on **Thursday June 10th**. We will catch the number 2 Exeter bus which leaves Teignmouth at 1.10pm and Dawlish at 1.25pm.

The plan is to leave the bus at the next stop after Cockwood Harbour then walk along Staplake Lane and back around into Starcross for a coffee at the van in the car park near the railway line before catching the bus home.

Covid restrictions and guidelines will still be in place.

Here's hoping we all continue to keep well and that we have some lovely sunny, warm weather for our first 2021 Strollers walk on June 10th. **Jean Gitsham**

French Conversation Group

The French Conversation group is meeting next on **Thursday 20th May at 10.30am on zoom**. The theme will be 'If you could get all your family members to donate to a charity, what would it be and why?' Then in **June on Thursday 3rd and 17th June**. Starting in July we will be meeting once a month on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10.30am.

Graham Carey

Scrabble

Under current lockdown rules I hope to recommence Scrabble group meetings on **Monday, 24th May**, with up to 5 members.

George Lipscomb

Bookworms

Bookworms are invited to read the following books over the next 3 months, sharing their reviews by email, during the last week of each month. We decided to write as briefly or extensively as we felt able, also sharing other books we had read recently. The emphasis is on an informal, relaxed approach, during such a difficult time.

[MAY 27th](#) - 'The Elegance of the Hedgehog', by Muriel Barbery, a highly regarded portrayal of a Parisienne concierge, who, despite all appearances, is a cultured, intelligent woman, who secretly despises the wealthy inhabitants of the apartments. Intriguing and insightful, perhaps controversial too.

[JUNE 24th](#) - I offer a choice this month, both Italian authors; either 'My Brilliant Friend' by Elena Ferrante, the first of her Neopolitan Quartet, again, very well regarded. This is the portrayal of the intense friendship between two girls, set in post-war Naples, and covers a wide spectrum of social issues, recommended by Irene. Alternatively, 'The Path to the Spiders' Nest', by Italo Calvino. This is an unusual story set in World War 2, and concerns the Italian resistance movement, but so much more too, again with reference to relationships and issues around loyalty.

[JULY 29th](#) - Hopefully, we should be able to meet in person this month, for our first, celebratory meeting.

The book for this month will be 'The Whistling Season', by Ivan Doig. It has been described as a 'heart warming story' set in the 20th century in Montana, and it is another coming of age description of 3 boys, growing up without their Mother, and the struggles of their Father to cope, with the help of an amazing housekeeper! The story has some very unexpected twists, and the references to a passing way of life are poignant. It really is an enriching book, and one that many state they are sad to finish.

So, I do hope that if you choose to join with us, you will enjoy this next selection of books. **Jenny Petridge**

Great Lives

The Great Lives Group will meet on **28th May**; but, since the rule of 6 still applies, attendance will be by invitation of existing members only. **George Lipscomb**

Coffee and Chat

The next one will be **Tuesday May 25th** at The Bandstand, weather permitting, hopefully by then it will have improved. Look forward to seeing you all. **Tracy Penfound**

Literature Group

Our first official meeting is planned for the **21st May** at a member's house. This will be limited to 6 people, so for now we have a full complement. Similarly the restricted number will apply in June. However from July we are happy to welcome new members who may be interested. Our last book was *The Comforts of Home* – Susan Hill and our current book is *The Green Road* – Anne Enright, two very contrasting fictional stories. For more information, please contact **Margaret Cunningham**, Literature Group Convenor

A funny

I was addicted to the hokey pokey, but then I turned myself around.

Answers to Last Weeks Quiz - FISH AND CHIPS

1. Where in the UK was the first fish and chip shop opened? - **LONDON**
2. Fish and chips was originally served in what? - **OLD NEWSPAPER**
3. Which chip shop ubiquity used to have great value in many ancient empires, so much so that Roman soldiers were given a special allowance for this commodity? - **SALT**
4. Owning a fish and chip shop can be a very profitable business. Which British entrepreneur made his fortune by opening a chain of fish and chip shops? - **HARRY RAMSDEN**

5. The longest running fish and chip shop still in operation is based where? - **YEADON NEAR LEEDS**

6. The record number of fish and chip portions sold in one day is how many? - **12,406 AT MARINIS IN GLASGOW**

7. What do the Chinese serve fish and chips with? - **SUGAR**

8. An average portion of fish and chips contains what percentage of a female's recommended daily calorie intake and what percentage for a man? - **30%**

FEMALE 23% MALE

9. The UK's favourite fish choice is cod, which accounts for six out of 10 portions sold. What comes in second? -

HADDOCK

10. Chris Verschueren, from Kastel, Belgium holds the world record for the longest chip cooking marathon (83 hours). He served how many portions of chips? - **15,000**

BEEF / STEAK

1. Highly seasoned and smoked cut of beef usually from the shoulder? -

PASTRAMI

2. The beef equivalent of a chicken breast? - **BRISKET**

3. A steak made from the diaphragm that is rather flavourful but also rather tough? - **SKIRT**

4. From the end of a tenderloin; boneless but expensive? - **FILET MINON**

5. This cut contains the tenderloin and the top loin muscle? - **PORTERHOUSE**

6. Usually served for two and named for a French diplomat? - **CHATEAUBRIAND STEAK**

7. A patty from ground beef made with onions and occasionally mushrooms? - **SALISBURY STEAK**

8. The name of this cut from the side can also mean the extreme left or right side of an Army? - **FLANK STEAK**

9. A steak cut from the hip? - **SIRLOIN STEAK**

10. Finely chopped fillet of raw beef, onion, parsley and capers usually served with a raw egg? - **STEAK TARTARE**

Boules

We shall be meeting on **Tuesday May 25th and Friday June 11th at 10.30** by the bandstand. New members are welcome and no equipment required, but please contact me at heydenmichael@yahoo.co.uk and I'll be pleased to answer any questions, tell you about the cancellation arrangement and make sure you receive reminders.

Michael Heyden

Celebrating living in Dawlish



It's not quite the south of France, or Portugal, but really, Dawlish could beat them for good grub and plenty of wine, even in the rain. Here we are celebrating the fact that our u3a will be opening up soon so that we can meet, greet and make more friends.

Only a month to go, fingers crossed, and we can actually hold our meetings sitting together rather than on computer.

Patricia Angove

Covid News

Restrictions are being eased and to have our u3a up and running again is something we have been working for over the last year!

However, we still need to be careful (wash our hands regularly; wear face masks in enclosed public spaces, and keep distance from others). We still have a duty to others to prevent the spread of Coronavirus.

From Monday (tomorrow) we can -

- * socialise indoors in a group of up to six people and up to 30 people can meet outside.
- * Indoor hospitality such as pubs and cafes can re-open, but to order eats and drinks we need to remain seated.
- * Organised indoor sport can take place.

We will continue to operate our activities safely and please keep an eye on our website for groups taking place.

Please stay safe.

More funnies

The world tongue-twister champion just got arrested. I hear they're gonna give him a really tough sentence.

The best thing about good old days is that we were neither good nor old.

A lot of people cry when they cut onions. The trick is not to form an emotional bond.

The next newsletter will be out on **Monday 14th June**. Please send me any news, views, photo's, reports etc. to highlight your group and our u3a.