

December 2018

Armistice Celebration

We celebrated the Armistice with a morning of nostalgia from music, singing, poems, a play, memorabilia and baking.

On arriving at the Town hall we were welcomed with a crocheted poppy beautifully made by our Secretary Jo. The stage was decorated with red, white and blue bunting and red balloons. Silhouettes of soldiers were displayed along with a beautiful flower arrangement by Eileen Sturt, each of the yellow roses representing one of the named men on the Callington War Memorial.



Whilst enjoying a cup of tea or coffee we were able to sample a selection of cakes, biscuits and bread, each made following war time recipes by our baking group. These included Anzac biscuits, Trench cake, potato scones, oatmeal and ginger biscuits, potato and chocolate biscuits and bread and dripping.



Many of the groups displayed memorabilia including letters, photo's, games, advertisements, medals, journalist reports and beautiful displays of poppies amongst other rare and interesting items.

The Singing Group began our morning programme with a medley of war time tunes including, 'Its a Long way to Tipperary' and 'Pack up your troubles.

The Poetry and Bookworms group contributed with war poems, one written by one of our members and The Family History Group read out the names of local soldiers who lost their lives during the war and who are remembered on the Callington Memorial. This was all interspersed with music and narration of how the war began and ended.



Sheila Tredinnick wrote a playlet entitled 'Land for Heroes?' which was performed by members of the Play Reading Group and demonstrated peoples thoughts and concerns after the war had ended.

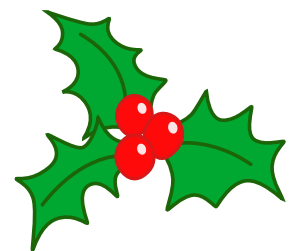
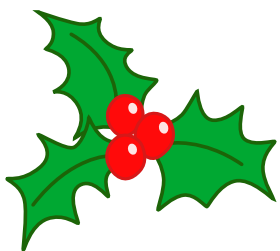
We finished the morning with the Singing Group leading us in a lively rendition of celebration songs including 'There'll always be an England' and 'Rule Britannia' with flags flying!

Huge thanks go to the committee and all the other members whose support and hard work enabled us to enjoy a wonderful morning, we certainly are a very talented bunch!

I would also like to say a **BIG Thank You** to John Wheeley and Rosy Hanns for the brilliant photos far too many to include in this newsletter so please have a look on the Callington U3A website.

Finally I would just like to wish you all a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS and a **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

Yvonne Johnson



GROUP NEWS

■ Art Appreciation

This month featured John Everett Millais and Caravaggio.

Millais was instrumental in the forming of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood with Rossetti and others. He was very painstaking about his work and true to the ideals of the Brotherhood. His painting of Christ in the House of his Parents caused outrage as people (led by Charles Dickens) did not like to see such a subject portrayed in an ordinary way. The painting is full of symbolism on close inspection and John Ruskin, famous art critic and friend of the group came to the rescue and fought their corner for them.

Caravaggio was an Italian painter working between the 1590s until 1610. It seems he was quite a rogue and sometimes violent, being chased out of more than one town. Later questions were posed as to his mental stability but on the way he did some beautiful work. Like the Pre-Raphaelites he was a painter of realistic observation and worked straight on canvas with no drawing preparation. His dramatic use of lighting was an influence on Rubens and Rembrandt.- which says a lot - even if you are a bit naughty. Both presentations were very full and the artists had much more interesting lives than I have space for here to do them justice. No meeting in December - next date is January 21st. Merry Christmas Everyone

Contact Penny Beach - 01822 834756 or 07971 889572

John Everett Millais

Christ in the house of his parents



Caravaggio

The Cardsharps



■ Baking

Baking this month was for the WW1 commemoration meeting. We tried as far as possible to stick to original recipes although ingredients such as dried egg are not easily available and measurements and cooking times were pretty basic. Most people enjoyed the Anzac biscuits and Trench and War cakes, but the chocolate biscuits made with mashed potato were definitely an acquired taste and not a recipe I shall be trying again!

Our Christmas meeting is on December 12th at the Wheelleys

Contact Jenny Wheeley - 351662



■ Crime Fiction

We welcomed two new members to our group so there were 11 of us for what turned out to be a very lively meeting. Our tastes range from those preferring Scandi crime to those enjoying cosy murders set in the local environment, with historical, quirky and everything else in between. Some of us don't care for American crime, others go for anything set in Italy. Some choose books because they don't take long to read while others of us like to stick to one author for a while. Whatever we like there's never a shortage of books or discussion on their merits.

There will be no meeting now until January

Contact Jenny Wheeley 351662

■ Cornish Culture

Next members topic Cornish Artists and Authors. We began with EV Thompson, He wrote 40 books selling 5 million copies in his lifetime, perhaps the most famous being 'Chase The Wind', he died in 2012 in Launceston.

Next was Joseph Hocking born in 1860 at St Stephen in Brannell and brother to Silas and Salome. Joseph was keen to promote Christianity his most successful book was 'Harry Penhale. Trial of His Faith'. Joseph died in 1937.

We moved onto the contemporary artist Andrew Giddens who is inspired by the sea and paints it in many moods, his paintings being in great demand and commanding a high price. Another artist Dod Proctor, one of the Newlyn artists who painted nudes. Her paintings can be seen at the Penlee Gallery, St Ives but she did struggle to have her work shown as the subject matter was considered rather risqué. Her husband Ernest was better known as he fought in and survived the First World War. The Proctors lived in Tor Villa, Tavistock and Dod died in 1982.

Charles Napier Hemy was born in 1841. He had a varied life living as a monk but eventually returned to normal life and moved to Falmouth where he began painting boats. Like Andrew Giddens, Hemy was fascinated by the sea painting his boats on the sea in all moods. His paintings can be seen at Falmouth Museum.

Our next subject was Kenneth George a lecturer in Oceanography at Plymouth University and also an expert on the Cornish language translating many songs into Cornish. We heard about the Armistice Cross at the Village Hall in Pillaton made of mosaic and a new craft for many villagers.

Lastly photographer Jane Lewarne who takes many stunning photographs all within a few miles of her home in Trispen. These are made into framed photos, calendars and cards and have appeared on Spotlight and local online websites.

To sum up we finished with a poem by local poet Eileen Crouch and here is a verse from her poem Cornish Gorsedd:

The Echoes of Cornish tradition
Of writing, painting and song
Are acknowledged as being the culture
Cornwall's built its traditions on

This was the last meeting of the Group with our Christmas lunch on the 10th December at the Who'd Have Thought It

Anita & Tony Bowden

■ Events and Outings

Five members visited the submarine HMS Courageous at Devonport. Our guide (an ex submariner) was incredibly knowledgeable and provided a fascinating glimpse into the operational world of the 'Silent Service'

On November 24th there was a visit to RHS Rosemoor Gardens where a food and craft fair event took place during the day and the "Glow Garden" illuminations in the evening.



The next event to take place is on 15th December - Exeter by train. Leaving Liskeard station at 9.30 and enjoying the day, shopping, visiting the Exeter Underground Passages, the cathedral or going on a free Red Coat guided tour.

Contact mary.hardy48@outlook.com or telephone 01752 382775

■ Humour

There will be no meeting of the Humour group in December but we will reconvene in January 2019.

Contact: **Helen Redden 01579 382612**

■ Italian

Nine of us spent an amazing holiday in September enjoying the scenery, food and culture of one of Italy's less well-known regions, Abruzzo. This area extends along the Adriatic coast of central Italy and inland into the Appenines, so includes a great variety of terrain from mountains and lakes to vineyards and beaches.

The trip, deemed a learning experience, was organised by Fabrizio Lucci, the founder, managing director, tour guide and general factotum of Italia Sweet Italia, a company he runs to celebrate his passion for his homeland. He involves many of his family, friends and acquaintances in the business so that we all felt welcomed into the whole community.

Over the course of twelve days we were able to immerse ourselves in the Italian culture, taking part in a large number of different activities including cooking, painting, ice cream making, pottery and ceramics, cheese making, wine tasting, grape picking, olive oil tasting, walking and vegetable harvesting. We visited farms and markets, factories and vineyards, potteries and museums, a bell foundry and a jewellery maker, lakes and nature reserves, churches and many restaurants. We ate some memorable meals, sampling local delicacies such as clams, octopus and other seafood, truffles, pasta, cheeses and sausages, meats, vegetables, cakes and of course, a variety of different wines and liqueurs.

Our visit coincided with the Patronal Festival of Vasto, the town where we were based, so we were able to experience the pageants, festive lights, concerts and general celebrations taking place - an absolute delight. Our Italian may not have improved very much but we certainly enjoyed an unforgettable holiday

Maire Warwick



■ Jazz Appreciation

The DVD 'The Fabulous Dorseys' was enjoyed by the members at the November meeting. The other featured artists were Paul Whiteman, Art Tatum, Ziggy Elman, Helen O'Connell, Bob Eburly and Charlie Barnet.

The next meeting will be at Christine's on Wednesday 12th December at 2pm when we will be listening to Christmas Jazz.

If you would like to join us or need any further information

Contact **Rosemary Wright 370578**

■ Needlework

Results of our annual Christmas decoration meeting. Thanks to Vivian for inspiring us once again.

Contact **Ann Martin 384246**



■ Play Reading

We meet at the Library on the first Thursday of each month to read a variety of Plays loaned from Cornwall Drama Library. On very special occasions we will don costumes and take to the stage for a short presentation and even try to learn the words! Such a project is hard work, but fun and most enjoyable. We welcome new faces, no stage experience necessary.

Contact **Sheila Tredinnick 383717**

■ Scribblers

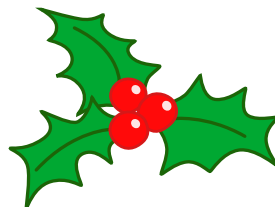
In November we had the challenging theme of Climate Change to write on. We could treat this in any way we wished. Some of us incorporated the subject into a story - a child having to tackle the subject for homework and doing it so well he changed his best friend's mind who went home to tell his Dad he was wrong and CC is real. We thought that would have gone down well! Another story tackled Coastal Erosion, a hotel falling into the sea and incorporated John Ruskin's thoughts on CC way back in the 1800's. We also had a well researched list of greenhouse gases and a discussion about that - remembering CFC's in the 1960's and how we fixed the hole in the ozone layer then. The news at lunchtime was very topical - telling us to stop eating beef and lamb and farmers to plant more forests.....all right in theory but we couldn't imagine the French giving up meat or the Argentinians agreeing to give up cattle farming or what New Zealand would do instead. 'Let them eat Chicken,' seems to be the idea. For a bit of light relief, Gillian had written a poem about Plastic - not that we think that is a subject to laugh about but about for how long and how much it surrounds us.

We are not meeting in December but will be back together on January 17th when our subject is, 'Strangers on a Train'

Contact **Penny Beech 01822 834756 or 07971 889572**

■ Strollers

The weather was kind to us this month and we were able to do our planned strolls. Our first was from Camelot Kennels to Polhilsa. It was too wet underfoot to walk around the lakes but we enjoyed coffee and cakes kindly provided for us. Our next outing was to Tavistock where we strolled through The Meadows. For our pre-Christmas lunch we are going to the Old School, Stoke Climsland. We have been there several times before and they always make us very welcome. Our last outing in November will be to Cotehele to see the garland



Walkers 1

A cracking walk, Walkhampton - Burrator via the Princetown railway track, passing the site of the old Burrator Halt Station.

Opened as Burrator Platform 4 February 1924 the station at first only catered for workmen employed on the raising of the Burrator and Sheepstor Dams when Burrator Reservoir was enlarged.

Owned by the Princetown Railway until 1 January 1922, the company then merged with the Great Western Railway (GWR). The line passed to British Railways (Western Region) in 1948 and closed on 3 March 1956. The track was lifted in December 1956



On our second walk 12 walkers set off from Helland Bridge to walk to St Mabyn over fields and woods. Lunch at St Mabyn Village Hall before setting off to return, passing a waterfall at Helligan Barton in full spate.



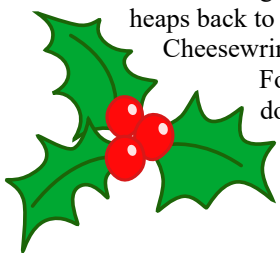
Walkers 2

For our first walk we set off from Jennycliffe to walk to Mount Batten Point in lovely sunshine. We enjoyed the views and the history. The Mount Batten Tower was erected as part of the post Civil War defences of Plymouth Sound and thought to be named after Captain Batten who was Governor of Plymouth during the Civil War.

Next 19 walkers started at Tokenbury Corner and followed the old miner's railway track to Minions. We were able to see the stunning views to Dartmoor and the remains of the Caradon mining heaps along the side of the old railway track that carried ore as far as Looe via

Liskeard. Time is gradually taking over and returning the heaps back to nature. We ended our walk at The Cheesewring for coffee/lunch.

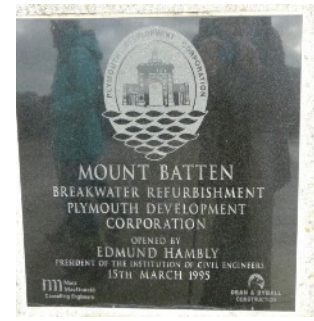
For our final walk in November we donned hats and gloves to face the bracing air at Seaton beach.



Mount Batten Point



Mine shaft Minions



Seaton Beach



Speakers at the next few meetings

January

Peter Woodward - Sterts Arts Centre
Also information and short demo to help you use U3A Face Book page

February

Lyn Gould
Daphne du Maurier's Cornwall

March

Rupert Kirkwood
Kayaking, up the creek and beyond

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Find us on FACEBOOK. Search Callington U3A within Facebook and apply to join. This is a Closed group, only open to members of Callington U3A.

Dont forget to visit the website

www.u3asites.org.uk/Callington

If you are interested in joining the Callington U3A visit www.u3asites.org.uk/Callington, click the Welcome tab and complete a membership form. Alternatively come along to the Callington Town Hall at 10.am on the first Monday of each month

Next newsletter will be available 7th January All contributions by 21st December please to johnsonyvonne1@sky.com