

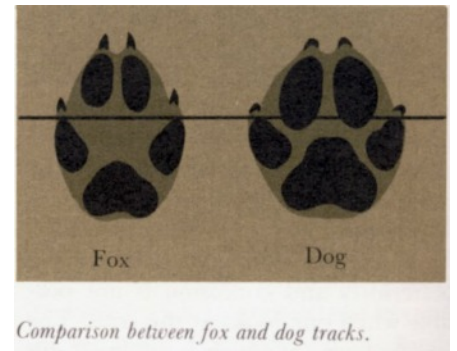
The speaker for June at the Callington U3A was the delightful and funny Denise Walker. Her talk was entitled 'Who goes there' a look at animal tracks.



She suggested when we are out walking in this beautiful county, that we keep our noses to the ground, as there is a world of animal tracks and clues to the wild life in your area. You need to look for clues to the small dramas that have been taking place.

There maybe fur caught on barbed wire, tracks and trails in the bank, and foot prints if the path is wet. Denise showed us various tracks we could spot, like hedgehogs, squirrels, deer and foxes. She showed us pictures of various poo! which contains the indigestible parts of foods such as hair, feather, bone splinters, which provide a wealth of information. Smells also play a vital role in the social aspects of mammals. Clues can be found about their eating habits in their droppings, there are 3 types, vegetarians, carnivores and birds.

As you continue on your walk she explained other things you might see, like broken birds eggs, if the shards are folding inwardly then it has probably been the victim of a fox, badger, squirrel or magpie. If it has hatched naturally the edges fold outwards and its clean with no yoke marks. She also explained about feathers that tell the story of animal predation. For example if it was a bird of prey, there would be a mass of down and feathers. The real evidence lies in the individual feathers, there will be a kink or bend in the feather were it has been gripped, the quill base will be undamaged. If killed by a fox then the feathers would be matted together with saliva, the quills bitten off and spat out, with a trail of dropped feathers.



She also told us that moth wings indicated bats. If you find owl pellets, soak them overnight in warm water, then tease them apart with tweezers to discover what the owl had for dinner. Plus, strangely, you can buy owl pellets from Amazon to dissect. If you have interested children or grandchildren or yourself of course.

Denise made us think more about what we could see if we only looked. 'The more you look the more you see'. The Q & A afterwards was both informative and funny.

Gillian Brown

*Next month on 7th August it is the
HOG ROAST*

Details on page 4

GET
YOUR
TICKETS
TODAY

CONTACTS

Officer contact numbers

Chair	Carol Dowell	382158	Secretary	Jo Earl	532024
Vice-chair	Gillian Brown	01822 832533	Treasurer	Ian MacDonald	351221

Phone numbers without dialling codes are for the 01579 area

GROUP NEWS

Groups - the contact person is available on the website, from the Secretary or at monthly meetings

ALLOTMENTS

There is one vacancy on one of the shared allotments. 10 x 15 feet. Contact Ann Martin

BAKING

Well the Baking group must be a very righteous lot as the sun shone on us at our annual Pillaton picnic in the midst of a pretty wet and miserable week. This is never your jam sandwich and a piece of fruit cake picnic, the table groaned under a feast of flans, filled breads, pies, French casserole and of course puddings! No cooking an evening meal that day!
Our July meeting is on the 19th, midday at Karen's for French cuisine. There will be no meeting in August.



BARN DANCING

The next sessions will be on 6 July and 3 August, 10.30 a.m. in the Methodist Church. All very welcome.

BOOKWORMS

"Mendel's Dwarf" written by Simon Mawer is a book that you must read with an open mind. It deals with the life of Benedict born a dwarf to 2 normal sized parents. He is a descendant of Father Gregor Mendel the monk who first researched genetic mutations. Benedict (a doctor) is intent on finding out why he was born a dwarf, also he is infatuated with a girl whom he first met as a boy in the local library. The book has moments of humour, is full of scientific explanations, and has more than a little romance. Mawer's books are well researched and skilfully written, but not for the fainthearted.

BRIDGE

Meet on Tuesday evening in the Methodist Church. New members welcome. Call Hilary on 350360

CORNISH CULTURE

There were a very select group who went to Bude Castle on Monday 12th June. However it was an interesting visit concerning Sir Goldsworthy Gurney, the unrecognized Cornish Inventor, who was responsible for many valuable contributions some of which are in use today. Here are two more two he suggested, the flashing light (his work) could be used as an identification for sailors to recognize the lighthouse they could see. Each lighthouse has an individual pattern still used by Trinity House today. Bude Castle was built on a concrete 'float' after Gurney was told you could not build on sand, this technique is still in use today on unstable ground. We have much to thank Gurney for and it is a pity he is not recognized with Trevithick, Humphrey Davy, etc.

The photo shows two of the group anxiously awaiting their food at the Falcon Hotel. Our next meeting will be at 5 School Lane, Harrowbarrow for a picnic (inside or out) on the 10th July, 4.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. (note change of usual time).



No August meeting.

CRIME FICTION

At our May's meeting, delayed a week until 1st June, 8 of us met at Lucy's. We discussed many books and authors from many different genres of crime fiction, from US and British historical fiction, through reissues of 1920s fiction to modern British, Scandi, Italian and American crime and spy fiction. These included old favourites Nikki French, Peter Robinson, John Harvey, Ann Cleeves, Donna Leon and several new names, Fiona Barton, Melissa Lenhardt, and Jacqueline Winspear. Everyone enjoyed David's orange polenta cake with our tea. The next meeting will be on Thursday 27th July. If you are interested in joining us to discuss or learn more about crime fiction, please contact David Seward 384631

GROUP NEWS CONTINUED

FAMILY HISTORY

.No meetings in July or August.

FOOD AND WINE

Don't forget the Cornish cheese tasting lunch on Tuesday 11th July at 12.45 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chamber. Plenty of room for everyone, just let me know by 6th July if you can come. maire.warwick@btinternet.com

GAMES

The Games group has finished for the Summer and will be starting again in the Autumn. For details contact Lucy Thomas.

JAZZ APPRECIATION

At our June's meeting, 8 members met at Christine's. In a very varied session, we listened to music covering the New Orleans jazz of Bix Beiderbecke through big bands of Stan Kenton, Harry James and Glen Miller to the modern sax jazz of Stan Getz, Charlie Parker and Jonny Hodges, pianos of Jelly Roll Morton and Bill Evan and vocals from Madeleine Peyroux and CleoLaine. A very enjoyable afternoon session. The next meeting will be on Wed 12th July at Christine's. This will feature an illustrated talk on British Jazz clubs by Ruth Desborough. If you are interested in joining us, contact David Seward 384631.

OPERA

July 18th will be a full day of opera from 10.30 with lunch in the garden, hopefully, please bring a 'savory plate' and I will provide the sweet. This will be the last meeting until October when new members will be welcome. Opera is held on the third Tuesday of the month at 28 Trelawney Road

We feature one composer each session, watch an opera and learn a little about their lives and the background of each particular piece.

POETRY

Our subject this month was Summer. A small group enjoyed a wide variety of poets including, Thomas Hardy, Charles Lamb, Philip Larkin, James Whitcombe, Lord Byron, Robert Louis Stevenson and Patience Strong. Lesley Cheetham wrote a lovely poem for us entitled The Rocky Shore.

The sound of children's laughter
As they run across the shore
To swim and play in waters deep
Lots of mysteries to explore

The Sea worn rocks and inlets
With treasures to behold
For eager young explorers
In search for what they hold

Mothers with their hampers
Full of tasty rich delights
To feed the hungry children
With endless appetites

But as the daylight starts to fade
And the tide turns back to shore
The tired but happy children
Bid farewell to the rocky shore.

If you would like to join us, our next meeting will be on the 14th July 2.30 p.m. at Pat Ferguson's house and the subject will be Cornwall.

PHILOSOPHY

This month our subject is Jean Jacques Rousseau, a Swiss 18th Century philosopher who believed that humans were essentially good and civilisation a bad thing. We will also look at an example of humanistic capitalism in Italy and discuss whether magnanimous actions really are magnanimous. Our July meeting will be on the 29th and there will be no meeting in August. New members welcome.

SCRIBBLERS

Our June writing task was to produce a school story. For valid reasons our numbers were down and we felt that the theme would be worth another airing for July. It had been interesting to revisit Anthony Buckeridge, Angela Brazil and others for a bit of research. Children's literature has certainly changed over the years!

Sadly, we have lost one of our members in John Clayton's recent passing. John's funeral took place on 22nd June.

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

The July dates for Singing for Pleasure are Monday 10th and Monday 24th meeting at the Methodist Church 3.30 to 5 p.m.

TABLE TENNIS

Because of the low numbers at our meetings and depleted funds it has been decided to cancel further meetings until 19th October. Hopefully there will be renewed enthusiasm to be back at the tables after the summer months.

WALKING GROUP 1

Excellent walks, excellent weather in June for walks. The first included unexpected trip to Bodmin Jail which was a first for many of us, the second to the moors, followed by a coastal walk Fowey to Polkerris, a 2 valley walk at St Neot and the last of the month at Darite and Trethevy Quoit. We are always grateful to the leaders for the effort involved and welcome new members who would enjoy a 5 to 7 mile walk in good company

WALKING GROUP 2



'Eight members walked alongside the River Tamar upriver from Calstock and then headed uphill for a very leafy climb through the Okel Tor woodland and discovered the old Copper and Arsenic factory well overgrown with ivy as you can see.

After our two hour walk we recuperated in the Boatyard Café for homemade cakes and hot drinks feeling quite pleased with our exertions' Jenny M Morley

STUDY DAY - TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

The Tamar Valley - Past-Present-Future

Wednesday 25 October 2017 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All are Welcome

It is a full day event with Lunch, Tea/Coffee breaks included for the cost of £12.50

There will be 4 speakers each with their own story to tell. There will also be displays and an AONB stand selling local interest books.

The day should be enjoyable and informative, it is also open to other interested South West U3A's, therefore, tickets are on a first come first served basis.

Detailed programme and application forms for tickets will be available at each monthly meeting at the desk. They are also available by email from pennybeech@googlemail.com

Hope to see you on the day.

Members only
Event
Special diets
catered for

HOG ROAST

Monday 7 August 2017 , noon to 3.00 p.m.

Harrowbarrow and Metherall Village Hall.

Tickets at July monthly meeting or from Ian MacDonald - £5 Bring your own drinks



‘Picture by Anita Bowden of the notice at the Boatyard Cafe, Calstock, visited by the Cornish Culture Group. It is a delightful, serve yourself establishment also enjoyed by some other Callington U3A groups.

“Most days we are open about 9 or 10. Occasionally as early as 7. But some days as late as 12 or 1. We close about 5 or 6 or maybe 4 or 7. Some days we aren't here at all. And lately we've here about all the time. Except when we're somewhere else but we might be here then too. Failing which - knock on our door - Ebbside Cottage -opposite the yard”

Editor - Wendy Fader - contact wendykfuk@yahoo.co.uk or 01822835985

The next newsletter will be available on 7th August. All contributions for the newsletter to be with the editor by **Wednesday 26 July**, at the latest, please.

If you are interested in joining us at the Callington U3A, go to www.u3asites.org.uk/Callington or come along on the first Monday of the month at 10.00 a.m. in Callington Town Hall