

■ Table Tennis

We meet once every 4 weeks on a Thursday evening at the upper schoolroom of Callington Methodist Church at 7 pm. Dates are on the U3A website. All are welcome and we are all enthusiastic and play covers all abilities from beginners upwards. Why not come and give it a try. All equipment is provided. A charge is made to cover the cost of hiring the room.

Contact Ray Geatches 350638

■ Walking Group 1

Only one of our February walks have been cancelled due to rain and although somewhat muddy have been most enjoyable with a trip to Germansweek (which most of us had never visited before), Landulph, a trip with Phil to Wadebridge and the Camel trail and for the last one of the month we did a walk from the railway. We took the train to St Keyne on the Looe line, walked through Duloe and Tredinnick and back down to Sandplace for the trip back to Liskeard. We were even lucky enough to have sunshine, a walk of 5.5 miles. New members always welcome.

Contact: Doreen Johnson 343152

doreen.johnson@onetel.com

■ Walking Group 2

Contact: Lucy Thomas 350018

THAT TIME AGAIN!

at the end of March, membership fees for your U3A will be due for payment. On Monday 3rd April at our AGM it will be decided if any change is required to the rate.

When renewing it is important that your details have remained the same as last year, ie: name address email phone etc. if anything has changed please notify the treasurer.

At the AGM it would be appreciated if **payments are by cheque**, as this will speed up the process and hopefully avoid long queues, it will also still be OK for cheques with your postcode written on the reverse to be posted to:

**Callington U3A Treasurer
Ian Macdonald
Clampitts Farmhouse
Metherell
Cornwall PL17 8BJ**

The Last Call!! We need YOU!

Our AGM is next month. At that meeting we MUST have a new Chairman and need a new Vice Chairman. If you know anyone you think could do the job, please put their name forward.

**Without a Chairman,
the U3A cannot continue!!**

Please contact the Chairman, **David Seward** or Secretary, **Jo Earl**.

And coming up soon...

Speakers at the next few Meetings:

■ April 3rd

AGM

■ May 8th

Millie Lindfield on Hannah Lindfield

Officer Contact Numbers

Chairman: David Seward
t: 384631

Vice Chair: Michael Farr
t: 383482

Secretary: Jo Earl
t: 532024

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t: 351221

Callingtonu3atreasurer@gmail.com

Editor: Colin Mills t: 208598
Email: colin-mills@talktalk.net

Group Leaders and other contributors - Please Note: All Copy to the editor by 25th of the preceding month please.

(N.B. I cannot guarantee inclusion of copy submitted after this date - but exceptions may be made wherever possible for groups meeting in the fourth week of the month)

The Newsletter is published at the start of each month.

Disabled members: Contact Peter Watson 384509

N.B. Phone numbers without dialling codes are for the 01579 area.

Callington U3A Newsletter



March 2017

Be Water Wise!



This month at the Callington U3A meeting our speaker was Jason Harvey, Network and Customer Services Manager at South West Water.

He talked about where and who they serve. They have 1.7 million customers, 70,000 businesses, many tourists, 35% of all bathing water and 19% of shellfish waters. They also have the longest pipework per customer.

Every 5 years they submit a business plan to Ofwat, with 8 elements, 1) Top quality tap water all the time. 2) Reliable wastewater service. 3) Ensuring the region has the water it needs. 4) Coping with extreme conditions. 5) Giving you the services and information you want. 6) Fair charging. 7) Protecting the environment. 8) Benefiting the community.

Jason talked about various aspects of the business such as their price promise for 2015-2020 increases to be

below inflation. Successes so far, 20yrs of no restrictions. Looking ahead, Catchment management, Service progresses, Reduction of complaints. Ways to help their customers with flexipay, additional needs and watercare. He told us about the waste water and clean sweep bathing, 250 crude outfalls closed, 86 Olympic sized swimming pools of storm storage. His 'looking forward' section included the challenge they have with keeping surface water out of combined sewers. Working with the environment through more solar, wind and hydro power, reducing energy consumption, using natural solutions to prevent pollution and reduce pumping costs.

He recommended we go to Roadford Lake Reservoir as a great day out, to get an idea of how part of our water system works.

They are certainly working hard to bring us clean water everyday. What we learnt is that a lot goes on behind the scenes to bring us our cup of tea.

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 10am Callington Town Hall.

Gillian Brown



Low water at Colliford Reservoir



Group Reports

Allotments

We currently have two 8'x10' plots vacant at Hays Road. Anyone interested please contact Ann Martin for information and a site visit.

Contact Ann Martin

Art

Meetings booked so far are as follows:-

Thursday 9th & 23rd March

All at the Old School, Stoke Climsland from 10am - 1pm.

New members (no skill needed) are welcome to just turn up on any of these dates, or until further notice please

Contact Jane Black 382187

Baking

There were pies galore at our last meeting. Meat, vegetables and sweet... we baked them all in pastry ranging from potato to puff, sweet to short. Thank you to everyone who contributed to a really good session and shared their pastry expertise.

Next meeting is Brunch at Les' on March 8th and following that is Easter baking on April 5th at the Wheelleys'.

Contact Jenny Wheeley 351662

Barn Dancing

This new group is progressing well, learning lots of new dances and having some good laughs in the process. The group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 10.30 am, the next meetings will be on 6 April and 4 May. Hope to see you there.

Contact Wendy Fader on 01822 835985

or email wendykfuk@yahoo.co.uk

Bookworms

Sebastian Barry – A Temporary Gentleman.

This month's book received a mixed collection of reports either it was confusing, boring, got off to a good start then went down

hill, apart from a handful of us who read it twice (mainly because we got confused the first time) and decided it was actually an intriguing book. Too much detail would give away the plot, but basically it is about a family split by politics, war and overseas postings. It's not a happy book, although it has some amusing moments – hard to describe you must read it for yourself to form your own opinions. The book we are reading this month is a good old fashioned 'classic' A Pair of Blue Eyes by Thomas Hardy.

Contact Hilary Howarth 382172
hilary.howarth@btinternet.co.uk

Bridge

Contact Hilary Davis 350360
chebsey@aol.com

Cornish Culture

Over a Cornish tea on the 16th February it was decided to resurrect the Cornish Culture Group in a slightly different format. We will work to a programme of discussion and events. Here is the future time table:

10th April – Cornish Traditions – members choice.

15th May – Visit to Calstock – possible ferry trip if tide is suitable.

12th June – Bude Castle built by Sir Goldsworthy Gurney.

July – To be advised.

11th September – Bus trip to Helston and the Lizard.

9th October – Cornish Music, Songs and Poetry – members choice.

13th November – DVD of Cornish interest.

All welcome.

Contact Anita & Tony Bowden 350668

Crime Fiction Appreciation

At our February's meeting at Lucy's, there were only 5 members. However we still managed to discuss over 15 authors. These included Tana French, Fred Vargas, Stella Rimington, Andrea Camilleri, Ann Cleeves and several new authors, Alafair Burke, Tim Weaver, Sally Newton, and A L Gayling. Our tea time treat

was a lemon sponge (courtesy of Ellen). The next meeting will be on Thursday 23rd March. If you are interested in joining us to discuss or learn more about crime fiction, please contact

David Seward 384631

Computers

Currently this group is resting however several members have enquired about meeting again.

If you would like to come to a meeting please contact me:

Contact Peter Watson 384509
or email pwatson177@gmail.com

Family History

Monday 27th March 2.30pm at Eileen's Flower Arranging Wednesday April 5th 10am at Eileen's Title 'A day in the life of'

Contact Eileen Sturt 350639

Flower Arranging

Contact Eileen Sturt 350639

Food & Wine

Contact Maire Warwick 350711
(maire.warwick@btinternet.com)

Game On

Next meetings are March 12th and 26th and our final meeting of the season is on April 9th.

Contact Jenny Wheeley 351662

Handbells

Contact Maire Warwick 350711

History

Contact Josephine King 350890

Humour

Contact Keith Lane 370713
or by email kandslane@hotmail.com.

Italian

Contact Sally Thomas 01822 832017

Jazz Appreciation

At our February meeting, 8 members met at

Christine's. We listened to some old jazz favourites, Ellington, Armstrong, Benny Goodman, Art Tatum, Bill Evans, but also some less familiar jazz names, Brian Carrick, the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, David Newton and Martin Taylor. A most enjoyable afternoon session. The next meeting will be a members' choice session on Wed 8th March at Christine's. If you are interested in joining us -

Contact David Seward 384631

Music Appreciation

We continued our appreciation of Mozart with a very enjoyable selection of his most famous concertos.

Next Meeting March 14th.

Contact Pat Ferguson 384402

Needlework

Normally meet on the second Thursday of the month.

Details from Ann Martin

Opera

Continuing with our featured composer Puccini we enjoyed one of his most popular operas; Tosca. Set in Rome on the eve of the battle of Marengo it tells of the love of the entertainer Tosca and her painter boyfriend Cavaradossi. An escaped republican prisoner is pursued by the chief of police the evil Scarpia, who himself has designs on Tosca. He tries to trick her into a liaison by offering to save Cavaradossi, who has been arrested for hiding the prisoner by means of a fake execution. Tosca believes him but not willing to respond to his advances, after first obtaining a freedom of movement pass for the two lovers to flee Rome, kills him. The supposed fake execution turns out to be real and Tosca's crime is discovered leaving her with no choice but in true Puccini style to leap to her death from the battlements. The opera from the Royal Opera featured Angela Gheorghiu as Tosca and a superb performance by Bryn Terfel as Scarpia, whose facial expressions and body language complemented his first-rate singing voice. Our next opera will be Puccini's last and unfinished Turandot.

Contact Carol Dowell 382158

Philosophy

John Locke was our February choice, another 17th century philosopher who struggled with

the question of personal identity. He also argued that everyone has a God-given right to life, freedom, happiness and property and was the Father of liberal democracy as we know it today. He believed all human beings have the potential for development. Our next session will be on March 30th and will be taken by Carol Dowell in my absence.

Contact Doreen Johnson 343152
doreen.johnson@onetel.com

Play Reading

Contact Jean Rose 350029

Poetry

Two subjects formed the main features of this meeting; Flowers and the Sea and we explored works of several poets some modern others classical. The lives and times of poets John Masfield and John Clare were discussed as were the poems of an unfamiliar poet to most of us Ernestine Northover. Born in 1943 in Derby she tries to see 'the funny side of life'. Her love of nature is emotionally portrayed in her poems which rare in modern poetry have a rhyming stance. At our next session we will be highlighting poems and Shakespearian block verse about 'England'

Next Meeting 10th March.
Contact Pat Ferguson 384402

Scrabble

The group, led by Lesley Cheetham at her home, meets once a month on a Wednesday evening. The actual week of the month will change in some months.

Contact Lesley Cheetham 383632

Scribblers

We met in February ostensibly to read and discuss our attempt at writing comedy but it seems a funny thing happened on the way to our computers and most of us found it quite difficult. Nevertheless, some previous work was dug out and tweaked a little - this included a very funny poem about the dilemma of finding a new pair of wellie boots on line and farcical events in the tea tent and the bedroom. Yes, I'll leave you to wonder about that last one! Next time, we are hoping for better results with Biographies.

We meet on the afternoon of the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Contact Penny Beech on 01822 834756 or 07971 889572

(which has an answerphone service).

Singing for Pleasure

The dates for the March Singing for Pleasure are 13th and 27th.

Venue and times as before.

Contact Rosalind Bunkum 383171

Strollers

The proposed outing to The Meadows in Tavistock had to be cancelled due to bad weather so a well attended coffee morning at Louis was substituted. The following Monday we went to Cotehele and admired the lovely display of snowdrops. Our next stroll was at Calstock when sixteen of us walked down through Harewood to the quay, a distance of 1.74 miles which included a short walk around the church. As there was nowhere open in Calstock where we could get coffee, we caught the bus back to the top of the hill. Some of the group decided to call in at Louis on the way back to Callington where, I am reliably informed, they enjoyed not only coffee but a big breakfast! Our final stroll this month is at St. Dominick where we hope to see some daffodils.

Contact Pauline Husband 350379



Strollers awaiting transport at Calstock

Groups Continued...