

May 2019

AGM...



This year's Annual General Meeting was held on 1st April and was very well attended with 75 members. It began in the traditional manner with our **Chair Maire Warwick**, opening the meeting, welcoming members and receiving apologies. The Minutes of the last AGM meeting had been previously distributed and were also shown on the screen for people to read. They were all agreed and duly signed.

Two proposals were raised; Firstly - to increase the annual subscription from **£12.50** to **£13.00**, this being due to general increases in the cost of running the U3A. A show of hands agreed and this was accepted, although one member voted against.

The Second proposal was to raise the coffee/tea donation from **20p** to **30p** at the monthly meetings, this was unanimously agreed

Chair's report:

Maire said that although she hadn't intended to stand last year she had enjoyed her role. The U3A continues to flourish with new groups being formed. We have a strong committee and thanks should go to all those who volunteer to keep the groups going. She felt it was a shame so few people had put themselves forward to go on the committee, which can be very rewarding and is only for a maximum of 3 years. There had been an article in the papers which had stated that helping in this way can apparently ward off dementia!

Thanks were made to Lucy for standing in and being a supportive Vice, to Jo and Wendy for their hard work and efficiency during their term in office, and also to 3 committee members who are standing down for their commitment, Gayle, Malcom and Karen.

Jo followed with the **Secretary's report** and thanked the committee for their help over the years. She said it was strange to think that when she first joined the committee she'd had to bring her small grand-daughter to the meetings with her and now she is starting school! She noted that she had now served under 3 chairmen! Jo gave her good wishes to everyone for the future

For the **Treasurer's report** **Wendy** had distributed copies of her annual audited account sheets to members. She said there was currently a small loss of £102 but this would be slightly higher as monies had been banked for the annual outing in July. A Thank You was made to Richard Woodley for auditing the accounts and by a show of hands the accounts were accepted.

The next point of the agenda was the election of officers and members of the Committee, all of whom were elected unopposed.

These are;

Yvonne Johnson - Chair

Lucy Thomas - Vice Chair

Rosy Hanns - Secretary

Stephen Savill - Treasurer

Cyndy Banks - Groups Co-ordinator

Ruth Desborough - Speaker Organiser

Mary Elliott - Membership Secretary

Rosemary Shatford - Publicity

Roy Brawn

Ray Lawrence

Richard Woodley - Examiner of Accounts

Gayle Hollington-Wyatt and **Caroline Hales** - will provide and serve the refreshments at the monthly meetings

NEWS from our groups

For more group details and photos check out the Group Boards, U3A website, Callington U3A Facebook page, contact the group conveners or come along to the monthly meetings

In AOB Joanne Harding suggested that refreshments provided for groups meeting in individuals homes should also go up in line with the meetings. Wendy advised that this was up to the Group Conveners as there are no fixed rates, but hosts should not be out of pocket.

The meeting closed at 11.15am and members enjoyed scones and cream whilst having time to socialise.

A message from your New Chair:



Huge Thanks to all who nominated and voted for me, I'm both delighted and honoured to be your new Chair.

I moved to Callington from Bicester, Oxfordshire in July 2017 and my sister in law introduced me to the U3A as a way of meeting people and keeping me occupied in retirement. Everyone was so friendly and

welcoming that I decided to join the Committee in May 2018 and in this way get more involved and for people to get to know me. It was the best thing I could have done, I have made so many new friends and the various groups I belong to means I have places to go and people to see almost every day. I want to thank those committee members I have worked with over the last year and welcome on board new members and I look forward to working alongside them to ensure our U3A grows from strength to strength and enjoys another successful year.

New Members meeting - Thursday 23rd May

Anyone who has joined the Callington U3A since May 2018 is welcome to come along to the Town Hall between 10am and 12 noon for coffee and biscuits. Some Committee members and Group Conveners will be there to answer any questions and discuss any new group suggestions or just sit and have a chat.

Summer Outing to Exmouth - Monday 1st July

Final payment **now due**, please ensure you have paid by **Friday 17th May**, otherwise your place may be given to someone on the waiting list.

Motown The Musical - Thursday 8th August

Reminder to those who have signed up to this visit at The Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Please pay Mary by **16th May**.

Speakers at the next few meetings:

May - Helen Wilson - The Pinwill Sisters

June - David Tovey - Artists & The fishing industry of St Ives

July - Summer Outing - Exmouth

August - Terry Faull - Holy Wells of Devon & Cornwall

► Art Appreciation

Our Artists for April were **Degas** and **Toulouse Lautrec**. Earlier absence caused them to be thrown together and it turned out they had a lot in common. In particular Lautrec was influenced by Degas' dancers and horses seemed to be a favourite and common subject. Both men came from wealthy backgrounds but Degas lived a fairly solitary life whereas Lautrec, feeling an outsider amongst his well connected family, threw himself into Bohemian society as we know from his work.

Next month, something slightly different - John will be talking about Photography as Art. We are all looking forward to it, especially having had a taster of the Victorian Photographers at the Penlee exhibition earlier in the year.

Contact Penny Beach - 01822 834756 or 07971 889572

The Laundress Toulouse Letrec



The Dance Class Degas



► Baking

There were pies galore on the table at our last meeting. Fruit pies of every combination were the most popular but we also had a Calzonne- a pizza dough pie filled with cheddar cheese and chorizo, mini steak and mushroom pies, cheese and leek pie and individual cheese, potato and onion pies. And to bridge the gap between sweet and savoury there was a cheese and apple crumble pie.

Next meeting will be at Pillaton where we shall be using herbs and spices.

This group is now full but to be put on our waiting list, or start another group please

Contact Jenny Wheeley 351662

► Crime Fiction

There were 8 of us at our last meeting and plenty of books to be returned to their original owners, also plenty to be relocated to the U3A book table or charity shops.

Quirky new books on offer were This is What Happened by Mick Heron whose Slough House series was very popular, The Affair of the Bloodstained TeaC cosy by James Anderson and Speaking From Among the Bones by Alan Bradley whose sleuth is a precocious 11 year old! Crime fiction is never dull.

Contact Jenny Wheeley 351662

► Events and Outings

The visits to the National Trust Houses have started again with a visit to Buckland Abbey on 26th April. It was a quiet day which meant we had the full attention of all the room guides who were very informative telling us about all the people who had occupied the Abbey over the years as well as the life of Sir Francis Drake. Also took the opportunity to view the original Rembrandt self portrait currently hanging there.

A suggested outing for May is to the normally private wildlife conservation garden of Lethyep near East Taphouse where a circular signposted walk takes you through wildflower meadows around lakes, ancient woodland and various displays. There is a "free" open day on Friday 31st May when their Orchids should be at their best. Entry is by suggested donation of £5 which is donated to medical charities.

Check the sign up sheet available at the Monday meetings for the current months outings, or details will be on the Callington U3A website and U3A Facebook page.

Contact Mary Hardy 382775

► Humour

The next meeting of the Humour Group will be on Monday 20/5/19 and will be held at Richard and Maire's house, Pillaton. Subject will be Dave Allen

Contact Helen Redden 382612

► Jazz Appreciation

The April Meeting was a member's choice and we enjoyed listening to various artists including Charlie Christian, The Jazz Crusaders, Mel Torme, Stacey Kent, Nina Simone, Miles Davis and Count Basie. The next meeting will on Wednesday 8th May at Christine's at 2pm. We welcome new members and if you need any further information,

Contact Rosemary Wright 370578

► Music Appreciation

Our small group began again on May 7th and will continue on the second Tuesday of each month throughout the summer. If you would like a restful afternoon listening to classical music why not join us

Our Next meeting is June 11 at Pat's Home. Please telephone

Contact Pat Ferguson 384402

► Opera

In April members of the Opera Group and friends went to 'The Big Apple', the highlight of the visit was to see Placido Domingo star in La Traviata, at The Metropolitan Opera House. His voice is still strong and clear, even at the age of 78. We also took in most of New York's many attractions, The Statue of Liberty, Manhattan skyline, The Empire

State Building and some of us narrowly escaped being blown off the Top of the Rock, New York's tallest building. We shopped in Bloomingdales, Macys and Tiffany's and a teapot shop which Carol managed to misdirect us to several times. Visited the 9/11



museum and Ellis Island, and re-lived the long immigration progress that some members of our families had endured in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Some of us rode in a trishaw around Central Park, some walked along its borders and others visited the Guggenheim Museum. We took a bus tour of the city by night, crossing the high ride' over Manhattan Bridge to Brooklyn viewing the floodlit imposing bridge, before touring the Lower East End, the first foothold of most American immigrants. We ate large quantities' of enormous pancakes, walked many miles, sometimes in the wrong direction and finally exhausted managed to return home unscathed with lots of memories, to catch up on our sleep

The Opera Group will begin again on the 18th June and will be held at my house.

For the first three sessions we invite those who would like to know more about opera and want to learn about different composers, different styles and to find out from where, all those arias which are so familiar to you fit into the grand order of things. To this end we will revisit some well-known opera starting with Puccini's Madam Butterfly followed by Carmen by Bizet and The Barber of Seville by Rossini. All the operas have English sub titles and a synopsis as well as a biography of the composers which will help you familiarise yourself with both the settings and the composers themselves.

Please let me know if you are coming so I can set up the seating. The Big Screen is now in position but there will not be any usherette service.!

Contact Carol Dowell 382158

► Philosophy

Our philosopher for April was Jean-Paul Sartre; born in Paris 1905 a novelist, playwright and exponent of Existentialism a philosophy acclaiming the freedom of the individual human being which states that existence precedes essence. 'Man exists and in the process man defines himself and the world in his own thoughts, and wanders between choice, freedom and existential anxiety'. He graduated from École Normale Supérieure, in 1929 and resisted what he called "bourgeois marriage," but formed a relationship with Simone de Beauvoir a union that remained a settled partnership in life. Sartre published La Nausée in 1938, his first claim to fame. The novel, written in the form of a diary, narrates the feeling of revulsion that a certain Roquentin undergoes when confronted with the world of matter not merely the world of other people but the very awareness of his own body. A most original, fiercely individualistic, antisocial piece of work, it contains in its pages many of the philosophical themes that Sartre later developed. He went on to publish many novels and to become a prolific playwright. He declined the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1964 on principle. When he died in 1980 his impressive funeral was attended by 25,000 people

Contact Sandra West 370231

► Rummikub

We had several members away this month for Rummikub, but still enjoyed 2 lovely afternoons playing this fun game. Rummikub is a tile based game you can play with numbers or letters. Rummikub combines elements of the card game Rummy & Mahjong or Scrabble if playing with letters.

Contact Susan Morris 370542

► Scribblers

Our theme was to write a crime story and concentrate on covering the 5 senses to give good descriptive writing. We all seemed to struggle with setting off but once we got going our stories ran away with us for longer than usual but we still had time for tea! We covered, a worried wife watching Crimewatch and wondering about her husband's blood spotted shirt; aggravated theft of a bicycle; theft of two paintings by someone who was thought to be a friend and turned out not to be so; discovery of a murdered ancient Roman; the manslaughter of a man who turned out to be someone the police had been trying to track down for a long time; and, a very dark account of a dangerous psychopath tricked into thinking the young police officer was to be his next victim. Next month - Nursery Rhymes! Some of those have dark secrets too of course - the things we didn't know when we were 3....

Contact Penny Beech 1822 834756 or 07971 889572.

pennybeech@googlemail.com

► Strollers

Since my last report we have been to Polhilsa where on a sunny but blustery morning we were able to stroll around the lakes before enjoying coffee and cakes kindly provided by Kay. Our second outing was to New Bridge, which is always a favourite, before going to the Engine House which, we were pleased to find, now opens on a Monday. Our last stroll was around fields and footpaths at Stoke Climsland after which we were invited in to the Old School for coffee and biscuits. This will be my last report as Coordinator of the Strollers, Pauline Abbiss will be taking over from me with help from Lesley. I am sure they will do a great job leading this lovely friendly group. Thank you all for putting up with me for the past fourteen years and a special thanks to Mary for her support

Contact Pauline Abbiss 01579 386 850

Polhilsa



New Bridge



► Walkers 1

Two walks - Boscastle circular through the landscape enjoyed by Hardy when courting his first wife Emma the vicars daughter of St Juliot. Through ancient wood valley hosting one of the UKs most important colony of HorseShoe Bats. Next setting off from Cadover Bridge we crossed Wigford Down to Dewerstone Rock, then descended to Shaugh Bridge following the River Plym back upstream to Cadover Bridge. There was a beautiful covering of bluebells in North Wood by the River Plym

Contact Rosy Hanns 0751 5370533



► Walkers 2

Bright and sunny weather welcomed us as we walked from our cars to the entrance of the fields that lie alongside the coast at Hannafore. At the entrance to the fields a notice advised us that part of the old Abbey's chapel had been discovered, on further investigation we could see the site had been fenced off. We made our back to the original pathway and The Hannafore Point Hotel where we enjoyed coffee and tea cakes whilst sitting in the sun watching the sea.

Our second outing to Tavistock was changed due to the accident on Gunnislake bridge. We turned round and headed for Cotehele Quay and a lovely 3 mile walk in the sunshine. Cotehele restaurant provided us with scrumptious cakes and drinks. We did another lovely local walk in fine weather, this time around Callington, ending at the Engine House for refreshments. Our last walk of the month was just over 3 miles along the south coast of Cornwall at Portwrinkle, walking along footpaths where lovely spring flowers were blooming everywhere, we tried to name as many of them as we could.

Contact Lucy Thomas 388799

Office Contact Details

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Find us on FACEBOOK.

Callington U3A This is a Closed group, so 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,

Or come along to the Callington Town Hall at 10.am on the first Monday of each month

Next newsletter will be available

June 3rd.

All contributions by 23rd May

please email Yvonne

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