



What a great Gig

Cotehele Quay Gig Club

We knew we were in for something different for June's talk, when the 32 foot gig turned up in the Pannier Market. Jeremy Lawrence and David Ward took us through the pleasures of gig rowing, both competitively and socially. Their enthusiasm for the sport was obvious from the beginning so that, even if you had no knowledge of gigs beforehand, you couldn't help but be interested by the end of their talk. --

Jeremy introduced the topic with a brief history of gig boats as working boats in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. In the 1700's gigs raced from the harbour to ships to be the first to get to the piloting work. Later, gig teams raced for the sport. Today, it is a very popular sport, not only in Cornwall but throughout the South West, Wales and even in Holland.

Cotehele club has been going for five years and now has some 125 members, ranging in age from 12 to 72 years old. Members join for a number of reasons, competition, fitness, getting back to nature and to socialise. The club rows on the River Tamar which can change its character everyday depending on the weather, tide and amount of water flowing. It can be flat calm one day and a raging torrent another. You can be training in challenging conditions or rowing gently downstream for a picnic. You don't have to be ultra-fit to join the club but enthusiasm is essential.

The club owns four gigs, two traditionally built wooden boats, Zeus and Cream of Cornwall, used for competitions and two plastic training boats. The traditional gigs have to conform to the Pilot Gig Association rules and are built to a standard pattern but the plastic boats are cheaper and stronger for practice. Jeremy took us outside to talk about the star of the show, the Cream of Cornwall (so named because it was purchased with sponsorship money from Rodders). It is an elegant 32 foot gig costing about £23,000. All in all the gig and rig for it costs about £30,000 to purchase and then more money is needed for the upkeep of the wooden boats.

We then returned inside while we were told about the racing, the Diamond Jubilee and the club's work with disadvantaged youngsters from London, many of whom had never experienced the countryside, having fun on a small boat on a river, silence or complete darkness.

Finally, we were invited to try gig rowing for ourselves (or just enjoy the experience of being in the gig) by contacting the secretary of the club (via the website) and having a trip in the gig on a Saturday or Sunday. Why not have a go and maybe you might become a new member of the club or just enjoy the experience?

Marian Watson Speakers Organiser

Group Reports

■ Allotment

Two allotments are being cultivated.
Contact Ann Martin

■ Art

Normal meetings for July, last two Thursdays in the month. Art group planning on taking a break during August.

Contact Tony Walpole 01822 833082

■ Baking

We all had more than our five a day at our last meeting, hosted by Maire and Richard, as we were baking with vegetables. Richard introduced us to cassava root, Mike persuaded us that rhubarb really is a vegetable and the rest of us produced cakes and loaves using courgette, beetroot, turnip and parsnip. Who says cakes aren't healthy! At our next session we shall be baking for the Group Leaders' tea and for the following one baking for the WW1 main meeting.

Contact Jenny Wheeley 351662

■ Bird Watching

Golitha Falls June 10th 2014

Six of us set off at 10.am on Tuesday June 10th to Golitha Falls on the river Fowey. This was my first visit to this site. There were quite a number of birds about but they were difficult to see amongst the foliage. Fortunately we were able to identify some by their songs, which gave us a total of 14 species. There hasn't been much rain of late so the falls that we saw were not spectacular. It was interesting to see the evidence of mining along the river's edge.

On Tuesday 8th July we will go to Wisley Down hoping to hear and possibly see some nightjars. This will be an evening visit and the departure time will be decided later. Meet in the FCP and bring some anti midge cream and a torch might be useful. For more information

Contact Keith Lane 370713

■ Bookworms

The June book 'The Blind Assassin' by the award winning Canadian author Margaret Atwood, a story of love, grief and manipulation both financially and sexually, was well received. Those who read all 660 pages enjoyed it immensely, narrated by Iris it tells the story of a hundred plus years of a family living near Toronto. The characters were beautifully crafted as were the twin stories that ran concurrently throughout the novel. In particular most enjoyed the description of Iris's feelings and actions in her later years, which we could relate too, that were so accurately portrayed.

Bookworms meet on the third Friday of the month at 28 Trelawney Road

**Contact Carol Dowell
382158**

■ Bridge

Bridge Group meets 7.30 pm. at the Cricket Club every Tuesday except the first Tuesday each month.

Contact Roy Burridge 389018

■ Computer Group Back to Basics

The next computer meeting will be on Thursday 17th July at 10.00 in the cricket club.

In response to a number of requests, this meeting will be back to some computing basics of sending emails and transferring photos.

Where possible can members bring their own laptops or tablets.

Contact : Peter Watson 384509

■ Cornish Art & Literature

The Cornwall Art and Literature Group enjoyed an outing to Launceston on Friday 13th June. As Part of the Charles Causley Festival there was a premier of Edward Woodward's last film A Congregation of Ghosts based on the eccentric Vicar of Warleggan, the Reverend Frederick Densham. His widow, Michele Dotrice said a few words at the start as did Mark Collicott, the director. There then followed a tour de force performance by Edward Woodward who at the time was not a well man (the film was made in 2009 and Edward died in November of that year). However this could not be seen in this sensitive performance of the Vicar a lonely and at times a kindly man who unfortunately roused hostility in his parishioners.

While it was a very hot evening we were all pleased with our evening out.

**Contact Anita & Tony Bowden
Joint Co-ordinators 350668**

■ Crime Fiction Appreciation

At our May meeting, 10 members gathered for another lively discussion about our latest crime fiction reading. Books returned within the group included those by Stella Rimmington, Charles Cumming, Pierre Lemaitre, Michael Connolly, Sian Busby and Donna Leon. Among new works discussed were books by Peter Robinson, Rory Clements, M C Beaton and Peter Lovesy. Several new authors were also discussed – Robert B Parker, James M Cain and Anne Holt. Thank you to Jenny for providing the tea time treats. July's meeting will be on Thursday 24th July, 2pm at Cricket Club. If you are interested in joining us to discuss or learn more about crime fiction, please contact me:.

David Seward 384631

■ Digital

Having been active since February 2011, it is now becoming increasingly

difficult to find new and interesting material for our meetings. Consequently I believe it is best for the Digital Group to cease in its present format and, as a result, there will be no more monthly meetings.

I should like to thank all of you who have supported and contributed to the group over the past three years. I have certainly learnt much in an enjoyable way and hope that you have done likewise.

I will review the situation with others in our U3A and maybe a new group with a revised format can be set up in its place.

Contact: John Wheeley 351662

■ Family History

The next Family History meeting will be on Monday 28th July at 2.30pm at Eileen's. There will not be a meeting at all in August but the September one will be on the 22nd September at 2.30pm at Eileen's. The Family History pages on the new Callington U3A website give lots of hints for researching ----worth a look, for experienced and beginning researchers alike!

Contact: Eileen Sturt 350639

■ Flower Arranging

The next Flower Arranging session will be on Wednesday 1st October at 10am at Eileen's.

Contact: Eileen Sturt 350639

■ Food & Wine

Contact Maire Warwick 350711

maire.warwick@btinternet.com

■ Game On

Our games group has finished for the season and will reconvene in the Autumn, date to be advised.

■ Handbells

Contact Maire Warwick 350711

■ History

For details,

Contact Josephine King 350890

■ Italian

The group continues to meet every

month in the Cricket Club. More details from:

Sally Thomas 01822 832017

■ Jazz Appreciation

At June's meeting, 9 members gathered on a lovely sunny Wednesday for a delightful afternoon of jazz. Many old favourites were featured including Humphrey Lyttleton, Kenny Ball, Duke Ellington, Stan Getz, Errol Garner and vocal tracks from Billie Holliday and Clare Teal. We also heard from some artists played less often – EST, Charlie Byrd, Maynard Ferguson, Paul Desmond, Joe Newman and Sonny Stiff. Next month's meeting, on Wed 9th July, will be another members' choice session. 2.30 at the Cricket Club. If you are interested in joining us, contact:

David Seward 384631

■ Music Appreciation

The next meeting will be on Tuesday September 3rd.

Contact Pat Ferguson 384402

■ Needlework

Normally meet on the second Thursday of the month.

Details from Ann Martin

■ Opera

Opera will return in September

Contact Carol Dowell 382158

■ Philosophy

The Group discussion was about defining 'Same' perhaps a more difficult topic than previous subjects, however after some analysis we were able to rationalise our thoughts and came to the 'same' conclusion as the famous philosopher 'Wittgenstein' that as in other philosophical puzzles we are tricked by language. Although not able to totally rationalise Heraclitus statement 'that you cannot jump into the same river twice', we concluded that nothing is totally the same as something else and that everything changes,

The next Philosophy meeting will be at The Cricket Club on July 31st at 10am

Contact: Doreen Johnson 343152
doreen.johnson@onetel.com

■ Play Reading

For details:

Contact Jean Rose 350029

■ Poetry

Our session began with more comic poems and then we continued our research into the poems and poets of the First World War and the shift in both the public and the poet's attitudes as the conflict progressed.

Poetry meets at The Cricket Club on the second Friday of the month at 2pm.

Contact Pat Ferguson 384402

■ Science & Technology

At the June meeting, members viewed an

other video on the Planets shown by Ray Lawrence. This one based on the sun. This was followed by business, mainly concerned with our programme and our contribution to the WW1 exhibition at the August General Meeting.

On July 9th. we will finalise our contribution and I am hoping to be able to announce the programme of meetings until the end of the year, when I will be standing down as leader of this Group.

Contact: Tony Atkinson 370433

■ Scrabble

The group, led by Lesley Cheetham at her home, meets in the evening on the third Wednesday of each month.

Contact Lesley Cheetham

■ Scribblers

Meeting on the first Thursday afternoon of each month (2-4pm) means we have frequently had our monthly meetings before the general ones. Last week we should have been reading our efforts at composing a story using words of 3 letters or

fewer. You will see that we are not tackling anything in the style of Shakespeare this month - we did that the time before! We are pleased that our numbers are picking up again and always welcome new members. We are still meeting at 3 Grenville Close at the moment but may return to the Cricket Club. Certainly we will be at the Cricket Club in October when the group leader is on holiday.

Forthcoming dates.

August 7th, Sept.4th, Oct. 2nd and Nov.6th.**Contact : Anne Cooper (acting coordinator) 382267**

■ Singing for Pleasure

Contact Rosalind Bunkham 383171

■ Strollers

Our programme for future walks is on the U3A website.

Contact: Pauline Husband 350379

■ Table Tennis

Why not come along and give it a try! We meet once every 4 weeks for a couple of hours of good fun and exercise. All equipment is provided and you don't need to be an expert, just enthusiastic. You can check the website or ask for details.

Contact Ray Geatches 350638

■ Travel

There is no meeting in July or August, so the next will be on Thursday 11th September at the Cricket Club at 7.30 p.m. No presentation arranged just yet, but details will follow.

Contact Meg Bassett 383731

■ Walking Group 1

There will be a meeting in the Cricket Club on Tuesday 12th August at 2pm for all walkers.

Contact : Ann Martin

■ Walking Group 2

Contact Lucy Thomas 350018

New Web Site Launched

Some of you will have noticed that our web site has changed. We are now using the standard U3A template as hosted by the U3A Trust.

The first page shows the new Callington Town Crier at the recent MayFest. This image can readily be changed

If you, or your group, have some suitable images then send them to me, Peter Watson and they could well end up as our image for the month! The front page carries links to our welcome page, group listings and events.

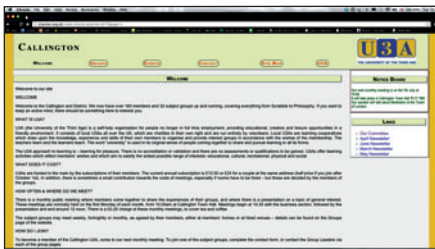
Each group page is edited and controlled by the respective group co-ordinator (or a person in that group nominated to look after the group's page). Each group can have a series of sub

pages for walk reports, recipes, book reviews, visits or photos of recent events.

Each group needs to work out how much information they wish to display and make available to prospective new members and to let other members know what they are doing.

Group pages also carry links for emailing the group co-ordinator. If any group co-ordinator needs assistance, I am always on hand to help. As with all new initiatives, there will be teething troubles so if you spot a problem let me know. If there's something you would like to see on the site, I'll see if it can be incorporated.

Contact : Peter Watson 384509



Annual Outing to Rosemoor Gardens

On a glorious day in June; 15 members attended the annual outing to RHS Rosemoor which was at it's best. We all admired the magnificent roses, strolled leisurely in the formal garden and passed under the bridge into Lady Anne's garden.

The estate was given to the RHS in 1988 by Lady Anne Berry and has since been transformed into the acclaimed ornamental gardens and Bicentenary arboretum.



Future Meetings:

August - no speaker; WW1 commemoration by Callington U3A groups

September - My life as a monk by Kevin Grant

October - My life in the theatre by Elaine Clifford

November - The fishermen of Port Isaac by Geoff Provis

Officer Contact Numbers

Chairman: David Seward t: 384631

Vice Chair: Jenny Wheeley t: 351662

Secretary: Ann Henderson t: 351289

Treasurer: Maggie Wood t: 384634

Editor: Colin Mills t: 208529

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The Newsletter is published at the start of each month.

Copy to the editor by 25th of the preceding month.

website:

www.callingtonu3a.org.uk

Copies of these Newsletters can be found on the above website.

NB. Phone numbers without dialling codes are for the 01579 area.

WWI COMMEMORATION August 4th Meeting – WWI Theme

The meeting opens at 10.00 a.m. as usual with time for catching up with friends, browsing the WW1 Display Boards and pinning up slips for the Memory Board. Then, following any U3A business reports, we will move on to WW1 presentations. Michael Farr has kindly agreed to be our MC for the morning.

We will have Board Displays from Baking, Bird Watching (Messenger Pigeons), Cornish Art and Literature, Family History, Philosophy (Conscientious Objectors), Scrabble, Scribblers and, under consideration at time of writing, Science. The Bakers will include a modest and edible display of recipes from the time – come early to sample!

Flower arrangers will also be providing floral displays. Weather permitting, they are hoping to gather the kinds of hedgerow and garden flowers the men will have remembered from home. Eileen is working on a special display to set by the Memory Board.

If you are bringing a slip for the Memory Board please also feel free to bring an accompanying photograph if you have one.

Stage presentations are from Bookworms, Family History, Handbell Ringers, Play Readers and Poetry. Play Readers have written an original sketch; there will be personal readings as well as classic war poetry and a published book containing letters and memories. Singers will also entertain us and there will be an opportunity to join in.

Our time is a little tight, so your co-operation in helping us along with that will be much appreciated!



Penny Beech
Group Co-ordinator

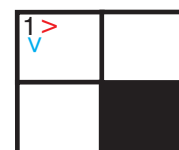


U3A Diaries

Last chance to order your 2015 U3A diary today!

The cost is £2.00, and is payable when the diaries are received. They will probably be here in time for the August meeting.

There's a list at the back of the hall. Please add your name if you are interested, and if you want more than 1, please indicate how many you'd like.



Bi-No.

1 Across:

The meaning of Life

1 Down:

Life begins