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the experience of the American Indian under siege; a family travelling to join in the Scramble for Land in 1862; the plight of a 'Mail Order Bride' (yes really!) waiting for the railways to reach Texas and, most like a 'proper Western', a story from Jean Rose which included a gun slinging bank robber; two glamorous ladies working in a house of ill repute; and a young woman in distress! Marvellous.

We are moving on to Science Fiction next and meeting in the Library again on Thursday October 20th at 2.00 p.m.

Contact Penny Beech on 01822 834756 or 07971 889572

■ Singing for Pleasure

The Singing for Pleasure Group will be meeting on October 10th and 24th from 3.30 to 5pm at Callington Methodist Church.

Contact: Rosalind Bunkum 383171

■ Strollers

Three Monday mornings this month

when we have been unable to go strolling due to wet weather. We have, however, met up for coffee so there has been more talking than walking I am afraid. We hope for better in October.

Contact: Pauline Husband 350379

■ Table Tennis

We meet once every 4 weeks on a Thursday evening at the upper school-room 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

Contact: Ann Martin

■ Walking Group 2

2 Sept 20th

Lucy would like to thank the group members who clubbed together and

presented her with a big surprise of a potted plant and vouchers when we met in the Callington free car park for the first walk of the season.

Warm September sunshine enhanced the three mile walk as it peeped through the trees in the woodland of The Tamar Trails at Gunnislake. We enjoyed the walk from the Tamar Trails Centre despite the deer eluding us although we did catch a glimpse of a Green Woodpecker and were able to watch the busy giant ants collecting woodland detritus.

We are looking forward to our next Tamar Trails Walk from Scrubby Tor. Watch the Web Site for details.

Contact: Lucy Thomas 350018

New members' Coffee Morning:

Thurs 3rd Nov, 10.30 to 12.00.

for all new members who joined since May 2016. In Council Chambers, Town Hall.

Committee members will be present.

Callington U3A Newsletter

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

October 2016

Just Hanging

Rachel Hunt, Properties Manager at Cotehele House, gave a fascinating talk about the tapestries that hang at Cotehele. They help you step back hundreds of years into a period created by the Edgcombe family in the 18th century when they remodelled Mount Edgcomb and moved their antique furniture and tapestries to Cotehele.

Tapestries are very expensive items. One large tapestry could take two years to complete and cost £250,000 in today's money. Rachel explained that they were not just to keep the house warm but illustrated family wealth, importance (included heraldic symbols) and showed cleverness (with thought provoking themes). All this, together with the antique furnishings and weaponry, gave the house an historic and romantic feel. The Edgcombes gave the impression that the tapestries had always hung at Cotehele despite the fact that most were not made until the late 17th and early 18th centuries when they were not living at Cotehele.

The earliest small piece of tapestry (probably dating from 1480) can be found in the dining room beneath the window. This is an heraldic piece showing a boar's head which is part of the Edgcombe arms. There are 56 tapestries in the house but only one is complete, Geometry from the Liberal Arts set. The others have been cut to fit their new settings, eg. around fire places, across doors and extended to fit bigger walls.

At this point, Rachel explained the difference between a tapestry (a woven fabric) and an embroidery (stitching on fabric). Each historic tapestry is completed by several weavers; the less experienced weavers doing the simpler parts (trees, sky, etc) and the master weavers doing the detailed figures. Weaving businesses were family run, the weaving being done by men and setting up of the looms and finishing stitching by women.

Often, the designs for tapestries were taken from printed cartoons of the early 17th century. Many tapestries are of the verdure type, blue green themes, bringing the outdoors into the house, as seen in the dining room. Rachel then went on to describe some of the other tapestries and making us (and also young visitors) laugh with a photo of one

of the Children's Games set which comes from a Belgium print translating as "the fart in the face" game. More details of the tapestries can be found online.

Even today, the tapestries prove to be very expensive. Conservation is a highly skilled process and many of the tapestries need work doing on them as a result of deterioration because of dust, mould, pests, light and wear and tear. The last tapestry to come back from conservation is Leander in the Hellespont which cost £86,000 and took eighteen months to complete but it should not need any further conservation for 100 years.

Finally, Rachel explained that this year's theme for the self-guided tour (Just Hanging) has been extended to links in the garden and the restaurant. She hopes that everyone has been enthused to revisit the house

Marion Watson

ONLY A NUMBER

Age is but a number
It follows us through life
From the day of our birth
To our final breath of life

It changes every Birthday
As the years go by it grows
But one thing that is certain
On our bodies it does show

Wonder pills to slow it down
Even Botox can be tried
But nature has its limits
Age is what we cannot hide

Then Newton's law of gravity
With age does play its part
For what in youth was northern
Down south with age does start

Age brings many memories
Too many to recall
So waste no time worrying
It's just a number after all

BY LESLEY CHEETHAM

Speakers at the next few Meetings:

■ November

John Cuttell –
Lifeboats

■ December

Christmas Lunch

■ January

Janet Cowlard
on The Royal Family.

■ February

South West Water.

Officer Contact Numbers

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t: 532024**

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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.



■ Allotments

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

Contact Ann Martin

■ Art

Contact Tony Walpole 01822 833082

■ Baking

There were 8 of us at our Autumn fruits meeting, hosted admirably by Les, and as usual we managed to produce a variety of bakes. On offer were squash tarts, blackberry and raspberry cake, plum muffins and apple strudel to name but a few. Next time we shall be baking anything with a filling - sweet or savoury and meet on October 12th, 12 noon at Jane's.

Contact Jenny Wheeley 351662



Eating in the UK in the Fifties...

Pasta had not been invented

Curry was a surname.

A takeaway was a mathematical problem.

A pizza was something to do with a leaning tower.

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.

All crisps were plain; the only choice we had was whether to put the salt on or not.

A Chinese chippy was a foreign carpenter.

Rice was a milk pudding, and never, ever part of our dinner.

A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining.

Brown bread was something only poor people ate. Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking.

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.

Coffee was Camp, and came in a bottle.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh. Only Heinz made beans.

Fish didn't have fingers in those days.

Eating raw fish was called poverty, not sushi.

None of us had ever heard of yoghurt. Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

People who didn't peel potatoes were regarded as lazy.

Indian restaurants were only found in India.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognized food.

"Kebab" was not even a word never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly, muesli was readily available, it was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real

one.

Water came out of the tap, if someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than petrol for it they would have been become a laughing stock.

The one thing that we never ever had on our table in the fifties .. was elbows!

■ Barn Dancing

The first meeting of this group will be held on Thursday 6 October at 10.30 am in the upstairs room at the Methodist Church, Callington. The group has decided to meet once a month, on the first Thursday of the month at 10.30 am, so the following meetings will be 3 November and 1 December. I do hope to see you there for a bit of do-si-do!

Wendy Fader on 01822 835985

or email wendykfuk@yahoo.co.uk

■ Bookworms

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

■ Bridge

The Bridge Group is now meeting every Tuesday evening at 7.30 pm, in the Methodist Church. Please use the side entrance in Valentine Place. Parking is available at the rear of the church.

Contact Roy Burridge 389018

■ Computer Group

The computer group operates as a self help group. If you've a problem come along and see if we can help. We don't have a set agenda it all depends who turns up. Please bring your lap top or tablet if you have one and we can explore the computing world together.

Typical topics the group explore include;

1. Down loading photos from a mobile phone.
2. Removing programs.
3. Copying a CD.
4. Cleaning your pc - no not a dusting
5. Registering for windows 10.

We meet in members houses so please ask me where to meet. This normally takes place on the third Thursday morning of the month.

Contact Peter Watson 384509

■ Cornish Culture

Contact Anita & Tony Bowden Joint Co-ordinators 350668

■ Crime Fiction Appreciation

Due to members' holidays, there was not a meeting in September, so the next meeting will be Thursday 27th October. If you are interested in joining us to discuss or learn more about crime fiction, please contact

David Seward 384631

■ Family History

Monday 24th October 2.30pm at Eileen's. Any more presentations?

Contact Eileen Sturt 350639

■ Flower Arranging

Wednesday 12th October 10am at Eileen's. Practice session for Christmas lunch table decorations.

Contact Eileen Sturt 350639

■ Food & Wine

Contact Maire Warwick 350711

(maire.warwick@btinternet.com)

■ Game On

Games' group restarts on Sunday October 9th at Lucy's. We meet at 2 30 and I look forward to seeing you all plus any new games you've acquired during the holidays.

New members always welcome .

Contact Jenny Wheeley 351662

■ Handbells

Contact Maire Warwick 350711

■ History

Contact Josephine King 350890

■ Humour

This month's Focus, early TV children's

humour, was given by Keith.

The earliest puppet was Muffin the Mule, who first appeared on TV in 1946 and ended his run in 1955. He actually acquired star status on the BBC. The magic Roundabout appeared in October 1965 and lasted until 1977. It was a great success and attained cult status. When in 1967 it was moved from the slot just before the Evening News to an earlier children's, viewing time, adult viewers complained to the BBC. In more recent times Pingu has been on the screen from May 1986 until March 2006. After the obligatory coffee break we watched a short episode of Pingu. I think we grinned at it rather than laughed.

JOKES OF THE DAY

I can't believe I forgot to go to the gym today, that's 7 years in a row now.

Yes the early bird catches the worm but the second mouse gets the cheese.

The next meeting will be on Monday 17th October and will be held at Christine's house starting at 10am.

For more info contact me.

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

■ Italian

Contact: Sally Thomas 01822 832017

■ Jazz Appreciation

9 members met at Christine's for September's meeting. For the first half we watched a DVD of Duke Ellington performances from 40s and 50s. The second half was a member's choice - some old favourites - Oscar Petersen, Chet Baker and Glen Miller and some unfamiliar names - Ruby Braff, Kenny Burrell and Dave McKenna. The next meeting will be a members' choice session on Wed 12th October at Christine's. If you are interested in joining us,

Contact David Seward 384631

■ Music Appreciation

Contact: Pat Ferguson 384402

■ Needlework

Normally meet on the second Thursday

of the month.

Details from Ann Martin

■ Opera

Apologies for cancelling September due to my unexpected late holiday the new season will start on October 18th with La Boheme to begin our season of Puccini at 2pm at 28 Trelawney Road

Contact Carol Dowell 382158

■ Philosophy

Our next philosophy session will be on September 29th and will focus on Thomas Hobbes, a leading political thinker who believed that without a social contract people would revert to the 'law of nature' in which everyone would be out for themselves and life would be 'nasty, brutish and short'. He was also a fitness fanatic who lived to the grand old age of 91. The following session will be on October 27th

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

■ Play Reading

Contact Jean Rose 350029

■ Poetry

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 the room at the Library this month as our usual plans had a temporary hiccup. It was very successful and if anyone does have any difficulties with venues it is to be recommended. Free of course and comfortable, kettle and cups provided and washing up done for you. We provide our own tea and coffee of course. Plenty of parking too.

This month we were taking on West-erns. We all felt we had got a bit stuck with this but we had gained extra time to think and research having postponed our August meeting and it wasn't the worst effort we have made! We covered