

Edition: FOUR – Dec/Jan 2020

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At its heart, the U3A believe that continuing to learn, develop your interests, make friends and try something new, is a life-long passion.



*Wishing all members of Culm Valley U3A
a very merry Christmas and a
happy, healthy and peaceful new year.*

Welcome to our new Steering Committee members...

We have grown in numbers and done a little bit of swapping around since the last newsletter. We are thrilled to welcome new members Marian Luck, Jenny Hodgson and Kevin Woodward to the Steering Committee and look forward to working together to continue the development of Culm Valley U3A.

A member of the steering committee has also changed role. The current Steering Committee looks like this

Sue Hooper-Lawrie	Chair and Newsletter
Carol Mitchell	Vice Chair and Speaker Co-ordinator
Gill Sole	Secretary and Speaker Co-ordinator
Kevin Woodward	Treasurer
Sue Tremeer	Membership Secretary
Vicki Woodward	Groups Co-ordinator
Marian Luck	Webmaster and Beacon
Richard Taylor	Assistant Treasurer
Jenny Hodgson	Assistant Groups Co-ordinator



We look forward to Susan Greengough, Suzi French, Catherine Black and Sue Baker joining us in the new year. Yes, we too are aware at how many Sue type names are on the committee!!

Monthly Meetings ...



On 5th December 2019 Mike Crew intrigued and fascinated us with the story of one of Queen Victoria's daughters the Princess Louise. Leaving questions for us to ponder about why she has virtually been written out of the family history of Victoria and Albert. Mike also dropped hints about a possible connection between Princess Louise and Jack The Ripper, no less!! This has left us with no option but to invite him back at sometime in the future.

First monthly meeting in 2020 is on Thursday 6th February.

Our speaker will be Felicity Goodall who will talk about "The Exodus from Burma (now Myanmar) in 1942". Felicity will tell us about the march of over half a million people (mainly battle-hardened Indian and British troops) who trekked hundreds of miles to safety in India, following the invasion of Burma by the Imperial Japanese Army.

Monthly meeting dates for 2020

No Meeting in January	7 May	3 September
6 February	4 June	1 October
5 March	2 July	5 November
2 April	6 August	3 December



The capacity to learn is
a *gift*; the ability to
learn is a *skill*; the
willingness to learn is a
choice.
Brian Herbert





Interest Groups UPDATE...

Group Name	Convener & Contact	Date/Time	Venue
Art Appreciation	Vicki Woodward vickijwoodward@gmail.com	4 th Friday of month @ 14:00	Member's Homes
Behind the Scenes	Gill Sole Gill.sole@yahoo.com Moira Wood moira@ruinsfield.plus.com	Tuesday 17 th December	Plymouth Gin factory
Birdwatching	Pete/Lyn Lucey palucey@gmail.com or phone: 07811456417	2 nd Monday of month @ 14:00	
<p>On a cold November day 3 of us headed to the Somerset levels to Greylake, Ham Wall and Upcott Lows nature reserves. We had a very successful and enjoyable day seeing most of the levels specialists eg great white egret, cattle egret on the back of cows and hunting Marsh Harriers, peregrine and buzzard. At the end of the day in fading light we were really lucky to see a female hen Harrier- a rare bird in the south west. We had a great day. Nothing planned for December so the next date will be Monday January 13th 2020 with the venue yet to be decided. Please contact Pete or Lyn for more details on 07811456417</p>			
Boules/Petanque	Richard Taylor richard@4bridgestreet.eclipse.co.uk	Weather dependent	
Craft	Vicki Woodward vickijwoodward@gmail.com		Willand Village Hall Annexe
French Conversation	Chris Gray Jack.gray@tinyworld.co.uk	Fortnightly on a Monday @ 13:30	Members Homes
Gardening	Margaret Chumbley allerbarton@btinternet.com	Wednesday 8 th January @ 14:30	Wishing Well Garden Centre
Genealogy	Pete Lucey palucey@gmail.com Moira Wood moira@ruinsfield.plus.com		
History	Alison Waple alisonwaple@hotmail.com	2 nd Thursday in month @ 14:00	
Jazz	Sue Tremeer stremeer@yahoo.co.uk Richard Taylor richard@4bridgestreet.eclipse.co.uk	Wednesday 18 th December	Magelake Pavilions

Magelake Pavilions Christmas Jazz - Weds 18th December.

This event would provide a great opportunity for all members of our Culm Valley U3A Jazz Music Interest a Group to meet up. Doors open at 7.00pm, for a 7.30pm start. Entry price is £7.00. Ample free car parking plus a licensed bar. Come along for a light-hearted evening of good, varied, New Orleans / Traditional Jazz music provided by Dave Martin and fellow musicians.

Group Name	Convener & Contact	Date/Time	Venue
Lunch Out	Vicki Woodward email: vickijwoodward@gmail.com mobile: 07966391042	1 st Wednesday in month	Keepers Cottage, Kentisbeare
National Trust	Gill Sole Gill.sole@yahoo.com Sally Hickmott smhickmott@gmail.com .	3 rd Friday in month	
Quizzing	Sue Hooper-Lawrie Shlawrieu3a@gmail.com	3 rd Friday in month 10:30-13:00	Willand Village Hall Annex
<p>We met for another round of quizzing on the 15th November with rounds including Humphrey Bogart, 1960s pop music, Kings and Queens of England, to name but a few, ably and cunningly created by Richard and Anne Collier. The winning pair are now busily creating the content for our next quiz meeting which is on Friday 20th December.</p>			
Reading	Jane Bunting s.bunting@sky.com	3 rd Thursday in month @ 14:00	Hayridge Centre, Cullompton
<p>The reading group met on Thursday, November 21st 2019. A small turnout probably due to the weather! Discussed Anthony Doerr's 'All the Light We Cannot See'. All agreed it is a beautifully written novel and easy to read, not always comfortable reading but rewarding.....10/10. Next meeting: Thursday January 16th 2020, Hayridge Centre at 2pm. Reading for Dec/Jan is 'Those who are Loved' by Victoria Hislop and for Jan/Feb is 'The Binding' by Bridget Collins</p>			
Strollers (up to 3 miles)	Janet/Roy Harrington Roy.harrington2@ntlworld.com	2 nd Tuesday in month @10:00	
<p>10th December - Swan's Neck, Halberton Eight of us met at the Car Park by the canal footbridge at Halberton, The weather wasn't so kind, although it wasn't too cold, it was pretty wet everywhere and was threatening rain. The water in the canal was very high but we were able to walk and talk quite easily to each other. The walk is a circular one, the first part is all by the side of the canal, it will look beautiful in the summer, but at the moment it is a bit bedraggled. Nevertheless it was good to get out in the fresh air. We left the canal at the second bridge we came to, called Greenway bridge, and made our way a short distance on the road to the Halberton Court Farm Shop to have a cup of coffee and talk about our next walk. We left the coffee shop and crossed the road to go uphill to a new off road pathway back to the start. The strong wind kicked in here and drizzly rain but it wasn't far to complete our walk. A very enjoyable choice, thank you Eileen. Our next walk will be 14th January at 10 a.m., lead by Heather and it is the circular walk around Cullompton.</p>			
Theatre/Cinema/Music	Margaret Chumbley allerbarton@btinternet.com		The Bakehouse, Cullompton
Walkers (3-6 miles)	Viv Caley Tony Ross rossmchenry@btinternet.com	4 th Tuesday of month	

Interest Groups please send in photos of what you have been up to, we would all love to see what you have been doing!

If you have an idea for an interest group please get in touch with Groups Co-ordinator - Vicki Woodward.



Are you able to help?



Bookstall Convener – We need someone or maybe a small team of people to manage our bookstall. You will need to be able to store and transport the books and create some kind of display at monthly meetings. Please contact Sue Tremeer if you can offer help.

App of the month

Crossword Puzzle Free (Named 'Crossword Puzzle – Redstone' on iPhones/iPads)
Available on Android + Apple devices

Crossword puzzle free lets you take your favourite crossword with you wherever you go. With a beautifully designed interface and hints if you get stuck, it will even let you download crosswords to play offline when you don't have an internet connection (e.g. on a plane). You will need to pay if you want to remove the odd advertisement.

Features

- Different difficulty levels to suit your ability
- Play offline mode for when there's not internet connection

Let us know the App or Apps you are using that you think CVU3A members should know about!!

National U3A Day

U3A Day, 3 June 2020, is set to celebrate the new experiences that come from being in our third age (no longer in full-time employment or bringing up children.) The annual event, which will take place on the first Wednesday in June, will show the amazing and diverse things that U3As get up to and challenge preconceptions of what being an older adult means. You can find out more about the National U3A Day by clicking on this link - <https://www.u3a.org.uk/u3a-day>

Culm Valley U3A will be celebrating the day on the 4th of June instead of the 3rd, as the 4th is our usual monthly meeting day.

U3A Day Working Party

We would like to create a working party made up of a few members of the Steering Committee and a few CVU3A members as we would like our day to represent what we in the Culm Valley U3A are doing. If you would like to join the working party please get in touch with Sue Hooper-Lawrie on shlawrieu3a@gmail.com.

You can contact the editor of **UPDATE** on
cvu3aupdate@gmail.com

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