

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

Edition: SIX – Feb/March 2020

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A great start to the new year

Felicity Goodall was our first speaker of 2020 talking about "The Exodus from Burma (now Myanmar) in 1942". Felicity gave a fascinating insight into the situation in Burma at the time and why over half a million people (mainly battle-hardened Indian and British troops) trekked hundreds of miles to safety in India; following the invasion of Burma by the Imperial Japanese Army.



At our monthly meeting on **Thursday March 5th 2020** we will be joined by Sir Neil Butterfield QC who will be speaking about "Crime and Punishment"! Sir Neil has been a lawyer for longer than he cares to remember. Sir Neil came to Exeter as a junior barrister in 1970, specialising in criminal law. He became a QC in 1985 and a High Court Judge in 1995. A life of crime has given Sir Neil cause to reflect on the misdeeds of criminals and how society deals with them. We look forward to some provocative and stimulating thoughts influenced by stories from the courts, some of which may even be true ...

Thursday 2nd April 2020, we will hear about the work of 'daat' ... Devon Air Ambulance Trust. Our speakers will be Chris and Sara, two local 'daat' volunteers. Their presentation will cover why it is vital for us to have our air ambulances, how and why it started, their running costs and patients stories.

Devon Air Ambulance Trust
Registered Charity No. 127799



Speakers and Topics for 2020 Monthly M

- May 14th 'Life in Russia' by John Dobson
- June 4th Culm Valley U3A Day (No speaker)
- July 2nd 'Mercy Ships' by Kay Rouse
- August 6th 'Devon Photo Quiz' by Robert Heskwith
- September 3rd AGM and 'The London Blitz' by Peter Morris
- October 1st 'Why did they invent that?' by Ian Barclay
- November 5th '21 years in the Tower' by John Keohane
- December 3rd Christmas Social and Quiz

IMPORTANT - Membership Renewal

Our membership renewal time is the beginning of April to coincide with the new financial year. The annual membership fee for 20/21 has been set at £15 per person for full membership and £5 per person for associate membership. **ALL MEMBERS** will need to complete a new membership application form as a requirement of the Data Protection Act is that we ensure that we hold up to date information on all members. Having members fill out a new membership form each year is a way to achieve this. The form can be downloaded here <https://u3asites.org.uk/culm-valley/page/102005>

If you change any of the personal information you have given us, at any time during the year, please inform the Membership Secretary.

National U3A Day

If you can help, in any way, with our planning for National U3A Day please do get in touch with Ken Wood who is leading the working group. Ken can be emailed at Ken38wood@gmail.com

If you can help with:

- 1. Organising the day** – Please let Ken know
- 2. Distributing posters and leaflets** to GPs, Library, community centre or any other public building in **your village/town** please let us know by emailing Ken38wood@gmail.com so we can ensure that we order enough from national office.
- 3. Baking** – we will be looking for willing bakers at our next monthly meeting. If you would be willing to bake some scones or a cake, for our Cream Tea, please let us know by emailing ken38wood@gmail.com

Other news

Culm Valley U3A Policies and Procedures are now on the website. They can be found on the Committee page.

Culm Valley U3A will host the first East Devon U3A Network Link Quiz on Thursday 24 September 2020 from 14:00 to 16:00. We have also extended an invitation to Tiverton and Exe Valley U3As who are in a different Link group. Members of the East Devon Link are Culm Valley, Honiton, Seaton, Sidmouth, Exeter, Exmouth

Recycling Crisp Packets! Both the individual size bags and the multi bag bags. Please don't, fold, scrunch or tie up. Please lay flat and bring them to the monthly meetings where Barbie will be happy to collect them. A box will be provided for you to place them in.

Exmouth & District U3A are hosting an event - **How to Safeguard Against Cyber Crime and Scams** Monday 24 February 2020 from 10.00 am to 12.45 pm at Budleigh Salterton Public Hall, Station Road, Budleigh Salterton, EX9 6RJ. Speakers are:

- Laura Cowie, Cyber Protect Officer, Devon and Cornwall Police. who will cover cyber crime
- Janet Quinn, Trading Standards, Devon & Somerset and Torbay Trading Standards Service, on scams and how to avoid them.

Large free car park nearby (which does get busy) and a pay one at the rear of the hall. There will be a charge of £2 for visitors.

if you are proposing to attend please can you email the secretary, Keith Phillips, on: secretary@exmouthu3a.org.uk



Interest Groups UPDATE...

Group Name	Organiser & Contact	Date/Time	Venue
Behind the Scenes	Gill Sole Gill.sole@yahoo.com Moira Wood moira@ruinsfield.plus.com	Tuesday 25 February 2020	The Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter

RAMM (Royal Albert Memorial Museum) in Exeter in the morning and Exeter Passages in the afternoon. (FULL)

Programme for 2020

April - Devon Valley Mill - Hele (Bradinch) Historic papermill producing specialised paper for the food industry and laminates worldwide. Refreshments at The Antique Village, Hele (formerly Fagins/Old Whiteways Cider Factory)

Friday 19 June - Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth. Since 1863, Dartmouth has been the home of initial

Naval Officer training in the UK. Today, it is the only remaining Naval College in the country, fulfilling a vital role in training Naval cadets not only from Britain but from the Commonwealth and all over the world.

August - Coldharbour Mill, Uffculme One of the best preserved and important textile mill complexes in the country, fully working and largely untouched since Victorian times.

October - Exeter Energy Recovery Facility ERF operates under a partnership with Devon County Council and diverts non-recyclable household waste away from landfill each year to create valuable low carbon energy, used to operate the facility and the excess electricity is fed into the National Grid.

December - Devon Highways Traffic Control Visit to the Traffic Hub, Sowton, Exeter

PLEASE NOTE: Where dates for trips are not given, they will be announced nearer the time, and places reserved on a first come basis. If you are not currently signed up to the Behind the Scenes Group, and would like to be, please email gill.sole@yahoo.com

Birdwatching	Pete/Lyn Lucey palucey@gmail.com or phone: 07811456417	2 nd Monday of month @ 14:00
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We had to abandon our January trip due to storm Brendan! Our next trip is Monday 10th February 11am to Exminster marshes meeting at the car park at the far end of Station Road by the canal. Roughly EX6 8DZ. More details contact Lyn

Boules/Petanque	Richard Taylor richard@4bridgestreet.eclipse.co.uk Mobile: 07816337456	Weather dependent
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Atrocious wet weather has kept outdoor activities to a minimum, but we hope to resume playing on the terrain behind The Walronds, Cullompton later in March. In the meantime, it was encouraging to see that a number of flyers were taken from the "Boules" table at the February monthly meeting and I hope that those who are interested are viewing the EPA training video <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=F2tkFwse218> which is helpful for both beginners and those wishing to develop their game.

PLEASE NOTE: Group Organiser - Richard Taylor is now unavailable until after 11th March 2020

Computer/IT	Vicki Woodward vickijwoodward@gmail.com	Wednesday 12 February 2020 at 15:00	Costa Coffee
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Items to be covered: An introduction to Social Media and how to transfer photos from a mobile phone or memory stick to a PC and organise them.

Craft	Vicki Woodward vickijwoodward@gmail.com	Thursday 27 February 2020 @11:00	Willand Village Hall
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Creative ReThink!	Sue Hooper-Lawrie Shlawrieu3a@gmail.com	Wednesday 26 February 2020 @14:30	Janets' home
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5 of us met to discuss how we see the group going. Sue shared her idea for an A-Z directory of recycling, repurposing, regifting etc. and it was agreed that we would give it a try. We also heard about a number of initiatives including collecting and recycling crisp packets large and small! It was agreed that this would be announced at the next monthly meeting and members encouraged to bring crisp packets each month. They will be collected by Barbie and sent on. We are planning that once the A-Z directory starts to take shape, we will make it available to all members via the website. If you would like to be involved please do get in touch.

French Conversation	Chris Gray Jack.gray@tinyworld.co.uk	1 st and 3 rd Monday of month @14:00	Kentisbeare
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We've had 2 good meetings in January, one discussing our favourite parts of France, another about a movie we had recently seen. We're a friendly group, speaking as much French as we can, supported by Katherine, a native French speaker who corrects & encourages us. We're kept fascinated by her stories (in French) of her childhood in Britany. We meet on the first & third Monday afternoons in the month at the convenor's home, so our number must be limited by the size of her living room. Our knowledge of French is varied, although we feel beginners would not find it helpful. In February we'll be meeting on the 3rd & 17th at 2 pm at Priesthall, Kentisbeare.

Gardening

Margaret Chumbley
allerbarton@btinternet.com

With the snowdrops appearing early this year the Walkers and Gardeners groups joined together to visit Burn Valley snowdrop walk on Tuesday 4th February.



Burn Valley snowdrop walk

Monday 2nd March 2020 - Stone Lane Gardens, Stone Farm, Chagford TQ13 8JU - suggested by Andy Stone Lane Garden has the National Collection of birch and alder. There are also sculptures, water features and hopefully daffodils. Admission £6.

To car share meet top of Head Weir Road by the play area at 9.45 am to leave at 10.00 am sharp or in the car park at Stone Lane Gardens at 11.00 am. Please bring a pack lunch and suitable footwear. We will be walking on grass. If interested please contact Margaret Chumbley by email - allerbarton@btinternet.com

Tuesday 24th March 2020 - RHS Rosemoor, Torrington - suggested by Terry

This is a Free Open Day but you need to pre-book tickets on line. To car share meet top Head Weir Road by the play area at 9.45 am to leave 10.00 am sharp or by the Ticket Office, RHS Rosemoor at 11.30 am. If interested please contact Terry by email - Terry.buse@hotmail.co.uk

Genealogy

Pete Lucey palucey@gmail.com
 Moira Wood moira@ruinsfield.plus.com

Wednesday 26
 February 2020 @
 14:00 Hayridge Centre,
 Cullompton

For our first meeting of the year Moira will give a presentation featuring aspects of the history of my village, Sheldon, and its people, making use of a variety of records.

Peter is arranging a visit to the Heritage Centre in Exeter. This will take place on Monday March 23rd. Please contact Peter for further details and to book a place.

PLEASE NOTE: After these sessions, Peter and I will be stepping down, so a new group organiser [or preferably two people sharing] will be needed to take the group forward. If you are interested in becoming an organiser, or would like more information about what the role involves, please contact Vicki Woodward, Groups Co-ordinator - vickijwoodward@gmail.com who will put you in the picture.

History

Alison Waple alisonwaple@hotmail.com

Thursday 13
 February 2020 @
 14.15 Bickleigh Castle

Private guided tour of Bickleigh Castle. Cost: £6.00 per person. Minimum of 10 people required.

Please let Alison know if you will attend so she can ensure there is a minimum number for group. Please also advise if you need transport.

Jazz

Sue Tremear stremear@yahoo.co.uk
 Richard Taylor
richard@4bridgestreet.eclipse.co.uk

Wednesday 19
 February 2020 @
 19:00 Gordon's Jazz
 Club, Magelake
 Pavilion,
 Uffculme

Jazz with Gordon's Algiers Strutters. Doors open at 7.00pm. Entry £7 on the door.

There will be a Mardi Gras style Brolly Parade during this evening, to add to the fun, so bring a "jazzed-up" brolly, plus Mardi Gras jazzy hats, etc, with you!

Wednesday 18 March 2020 at Magelake Pavilions @ 19:00 - John Shillito's "Riviera Ramblers" will be entertaining the jazz enthusiasts.

Sadly The Wellington Jazz Club will no longer be providing live music by Pete Allen and his Dukes of Wellington New Orleans jazz band at the Beam Bridge Hotel, Sampford Arundel on the first Sunday each month, due to lack of meaningful support. Regrettably, falling audience attendance is quoted as the cause!

PLEASE NOTE: The joint Group Organisers Sue Tremeer and Richard Taylor will now be away until 11th March and look forward to seeing you all again on the 18 March!
Keep Jazzing!

Lunch Out	Vicki Woodward email: vickijwoodward@gmail.com mobile: 07966391042	Wednesday 4 March 2020	The Red Lion at Broadclyst (EX5 3EL),
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13 of us met at the Keeper's Cottage in Kentisbeare for a very pleasant lunch. Good food and good company. Several places were suggested for next month's lunch on 4th March. We have booked The Red Lion at Broadclyst who have a varied menu and cater for smaller appetites. Contact Vicki if you would like to join us.

National Trust	Gill Sole Gill.sole@yahoo.com Sally Hickmott smhickmott@gmail.com	Wednesday 12 February 2020	Dunster Castle/village (via Snowdrop Valley)
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If you'd like to join the NT group please contact us, all are welcome.

Future events include:

Wednesday 11 March 2020 - Tyntesfield near Bristol (Details to follow)

Wednesday 8 April 2020 - Montacute (tbc).

Quizzing	Sue Hooper-Lawrie Shlawrieu3a@gmail.com	Friday 21 February 2020 @10:30-13:00	Willand Village Hall Annex
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This month's quiz is being set by The Collywobblers (last month's winners.) better known as Anne and Richard Collier. We arrive early to set up the room and get the kettles on. Quizzing begins at 11:00.

Reading	Jane Bunting s.bunting@sky.com	Thursday 20 February 2020 @ 14:00	Hayridge Centre, Cullompton
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Our current book is "The Binding" by Bridget Collins, which we will discuss.

Strollers (Up to 3 miles)	Janet/Roy Harrington Roy.Harrington2@ntlworld.com	2 nd Tuesday in month @ 10:00	
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Strollers abandoned their walk in January as the weather was pretty bad, so we went for coffee and a chat instead!

Theatre/Cinema/Music	Margaret Chumbley allerbarton@btinternet.com		
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Saturday 22 February 2020 @ 19.30 - An evening of Marvin Gaye at The Venue, Uffculme

I have already booked tickets for seats nos 11G and 12G. If interested you can either book tickets online yourself or contact me to arrange payment when I will book your tickets for you.

Saturday 28 March 2020 @ 19:30 - Made in Tennessee, The Soundtrack of American Country @ The Venue, Uffculme. If interested you can either book tickets online yourself or contact me to arrange payment when I will book your tickets for you.

Walkers (3-6 Miles)	Gill Sole Gill.Sole@yahoo.com		
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A snowy Clatworthy Reservoir on 28 January 2020.

We arrived to find snow settled everywhere. Very picturesque. We set off on the 5 mile clockwise navigation in lovely sunshine, but during the walk hail and snow made an appearance. We were all prepared and had a lovely walk, followed by lunch at The Bear Inn, Wiveliscombe.

With the snowdrops appearing early this year the Walkers and Gardeners groups joined together to visit Burn Valley snowdrop walk on Tuesday, 4th February. There is a Walkers' WhatsApp group (CV U3A Walkers). Ask to join, all info there.

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

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

Guests and Non-Members at meetings

Non-members, who are either guests of a member or who have found our information and decided to find out about us, are welcome to attend one monthly meeting and/or one interest group meeting to find out more about us. They are then required to apply for membership of Culm Valley U3A if they plan to continue attending meetings. If a payment is required to attend a meeting the non-member is required to pay the required amount.

Your Steering Committee members...

Sue Hooper-Lawrie	Chair and Newsletter
Carol Mitchell	Vice Chair and Speaker Co-ordinator
Gill Sole	Business Secretary and Speaker Co-ordinator
Kevin Woodward	Treasurer
Sue Tremeer	Membership Secretary
Vicki Woodward	Groups Co-ordinator
Marian Luck	Webmaster and Database (Beacon)
Catherine Boyack	Minutes Secretary
Richard Taylor	Assistant Treasurer
Susan Greenhough	Assistant Membership Secretary

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

Follow Culm Valley U3A on **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/694650274342487/>

Culm Valley U3A Website

<https://u3asites.org.uk/culm-valley/home>