

Edition: THREE – Nov/Dec 2019

**UPDATE** Editor: Sue Hooper-Lawrie

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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.



## Thank you Peter...

It is with huge appreciation and sadness that we announce that Peter Morris has stepped down as Chairman of Culm Valley U3A. Peter's time on the Steering Committee was short yet significant, as he worked with us through the birthing of Culm Valley U3A. Peter agreed to be Chairman, when no one else felt able to take on the role. Peter stayed for as long as he could, until his health told him to slow down. Thank you Peter for being with us as we took our first tentative steps as a Steering Committee and as a U3A. We hope that you will continue to join in our activities as and when you feel able.

## Monthly Meetings ...

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November we welcomed David Hawkings who gave a fascinating talk entitled "Family History for Beginners - How to research your family Tree" It is mind boggling to learn where information about your family can be gathered from. From Church Registers to the National Archive and from the Railway Archive to Poor House Records. David was full of interesting information about how and where he learnt to research family histories. Interestingly not once were the words "online" or "internet" used.

If Davids' talk inspired you to start looking into your families history why not join the Genealogy Group. See details under Interest Groups, further on in this edition of **UPDATE**.

## Next Monthly Meeting ... 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019

To round off 2019 and put us all in the Christmas spirit our speaker will be **Mike Crew** (a long time member of the Wellington U3A ). Mike specialises in researching Queen Victoria's children, most especially Princess Louise. He also knows a great deal about other aspects of Victorian era history, especially Jack the Ripper! His talk will encompass "**Queen Victoria's Children - Celebrating Christmas at Windsor Castle**" and include snippets about Princess Louise.



**For monthly meetings the Willand Village Hall will be open from 13:30**



Roll up, roll up all you Gin lovers ....

**An invitation to ALL CVU3A MEMBERS:**  
The Behind the Scenes group visit to Plymouth on Tuesday 17th December has a few places still available - and these are being offered to the wider membership. The journey will be by small coach and will include a tour of Plymouth Gin Distillery [45 mins] plus time to enjoy the Christmas Market etc. with the Behind the Scenes group.  
For further details please contact Moira Wood Tel: 01404841391 or  
Email: moira@ruinsfield.plus.com



I have it on good authority that there may be some Gin tasting going on too, so get yourselves booked onto the charabanc...! 😊

*You're always learning. The problem is, sometimes you stop and think you understand the world. This is not correct. The world is always moving. You never reach the point you can stop making an effort. Paulo Coelho*

## THREE prospective new Interest Groups .....



### Photography group

Have you ever wondered how people get some of those amazing photographs you see around you every day, be they action shots, cute grandchildren, pets, portraits or landscapes we all have a favourite shot but mostly it only exists in our imaginations. What exactly is depth of field, and what on earth is a lead in line and as for F stops, the mind boggles! Lets embark on a journey of photographic discovery together, learning from each other as we go and see if we can bring to life one of those illusive shots. Dust off your camera gear and let's get started.

### I.T Computer skills

If, like me, you have had to ask your grandchildren how to use modern technology wouldn't you love to be able to show them that you don't need their help? We are planning an I.T. Computer group for you to learn how to get your phone/laptop/tablet or desktop to do what you want it to do without the aid of a grandchild! Learning as we go and at our own pace, there will be no set 'curriculum' we will learn what we want to learn!





### ReThink!

Join the challenge to see how far we can go in rethinking what we do with what we don't want or use anymore. This is about being creative, using our imagination and having fun as we learn from one another about what we can do with an empty plastic tub, an old shirt, an empty wine bottle, an old or broken chair, left over decking boards, old curtains or an empty paint tin ..... and that's just for starters, ..... the list is endless.

Share your ideas and suggestions and even some of your creations to inspire, challenge and enthuse us!!

Find out more about these new groups and sign up, at the monthly meeting on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December!



## Interest Groups UPDATE...

Group Name	Convener & Contact	Date/Time	Venue
Art Appreciation	Vivienne Marrow <a href="mailto:viviennemarrow@icloud.com">viviennemarrow@icloud.com</a>	4 <sup>th</sup> Friday of month @ 14:00	Member's Homes
Behind the Scenes	Gill Sole <a href="mailto:Gill.sole@yahoo.com">Gill.sole@yahoo.com</a> Moira Wood <a href="mailto:moira@ruinsfield.plus.com">moira@ruinsfield.plus.com</a>	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Plymouth Gin factory



17 members of the **BEHIND THE SCENES** Group made their way (mostly by bus, it being Green Wednesday, to the Northcott Theatre, in Exeter, for a private backstage tour followed by a genuinely delicious light lunch in the theatre's View Restaurant followed by 15 members of the group taking in the matinee production of *The Lady Vanishes*. As it was our first group outing it was a great opportunity to get to know each other in such a convivial setting. The tour itself was most interesting, thanks to Lisa, the Creative Learning Manager, who split us into 2 smaller groups allowing plenty of opportunity for questions. The matinee was just right for a wet Wednesday, fun and not too challenging! Our next trip will be round the Plymouth Gin factory on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Contact **Moira Wood** to put your name down.'

Birdwatching	Pete/Lyn Lucey <a href="mailto:palucey@gmail.com">palucey@gmail.com</a> or phone: 07811456417	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of month @ 14:00	Somerset Levels.
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On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October, five of us braved the elements and set off for Bowling Green Marsh, the first venue for our group. There we encountered Pintails, Wigeon, Shovellers, Teal and the rarest of rare - a Long Billed Dowitcher, a visitor from America! We explored the Exe Estuary, very misty, but with the help of strong telescope, thanks to Peter and Lyn, we were able to see a flock of Little Egrets.

Then onto Topsham Goat Walk where Godwits, Little Egrets, Curlews, Avocets, Herring Gulls and Cormorants were seen. A very rewarding afternoon. Next month the Somerset levels.

Boules/Petanque	Richard Taylor <a href="mailto:richard@4bridgestreet.eclipse.co.uk">richard@4bridgestreet.eclipse.co.uk</a>	Weather dependent	
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Group Name	Convener & Contact	Date/Time	Venue
<p><b>BOULES/PETANQUE Group</b> did manage to hold one session on the (now fully renovated ) most excellent "terrain" in the gardens at the Walronds House in Cullompton. Great fun, revealing some hidden talents! However, the weather has largely conspired against us, and further meetings of this group are likely to remain "weather dependent" over the next few months. Anyone who wishes to arrange to play a game of "PETANQUE" or "BOULES" at short notice, please phone Richard Taylor on 07816337456 to discuss possibilities.</p>			
<b>Craft</b>	Vicki Woodward <a href="mailto:vickijwoodward@gmail.com">vickijwoodward@gmail.com</a>	28 <sup>th</sup> November @ 11:00–13:00	Willand Village Hall Annexe
<p><b>CRAFT Group</b> met and tried to tackle crochet as their chosen craft.....none of us are 'hooked' so have decided to each take along a piece of craft that we want to try out or are very comfortable with so that we can share our craftiness over a cup of coffee. Meeting at Willand Village Hall if you'd like to join us. Contact Vicki <a href="mailto:vickijwoodward@gmail.com">vickijwoodward@gmail.com</a></p>			
<b>French Conversation</b>	Chris Gray <a href="mailto:Jack.gray@tinyworld.co.uk">Jack.gray@tinyworld.co.uk</a>	Fortnightly on a Monday @ 13:30	Members Homes
<p>Next meeting is on Monday 18 November at 2 pm at Priesthall, Kentisbeare. Would anyone interested in joining the group please contact Chris before attending. At the meeting on 18 November we will be discussing our favourite book.</p>			
<b>Gardening</b>	Margaret Chumbley <a href="mailto:allerbarton@btinternet.com">allerbarton@btinternet.com</a>	Wednesday 8th January @ 14:30	Wishing Well Garden Centre
<p><b>GARDENING Group</b> now has 20 members, 10 of whom visited Otter Nurseries on the 13th November. Several members met with a member of staff who gave advice on varieties of fruit trees and pruning. The next meeting will be in the New Year, Wednesday 8th January in the coffee shop, Wishing Well Garden Center, J 27. At 2.30 pm to decide on dates and places to visit in 2020.</p>			
<b>Genealogy</b>	Pete Lucey <a href="mailto:palucey@gmail.com">palucey@gmail.com</a> Moirra Wood <a href="mailto:moira@ruinsfield.plus.com">moira@ruinsfield.plus.com</a>	November 19 <sup>th</sup> @15:00	The Bakehouse, Cullompton
<p>Thank you to Culm Valley U3A team for organising David Hawkings' stimulating genealogy talk. If we follow his lead who knows what unexpected discoveries the members of our group may uncover! Following the talk we had a brief get together for those who have expressed an interest in the group. We will be meeting as planned at 3pm, November 19th at the Bakehouse, Cullompton. In due course we will provide details of future plans as they emerge. [I liked someone's comment on Facebook that the internet wasn't mentioned once!! (Ed.)]</p>			
<b>History</b>	Alison Waple <a href="mailto:alisonwaple@hotmail.com">alisonwaple@hotmail.com</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday in month @ 14:00	
<b>Jazz</b>	Sue Tremeer <a href="mailto:stremeer@yahoo.co.uk">stremeer@yahoo.co.uk</a> Richard Taylor <a href="mailto:richard@4bridgestreet.eclipse.co.uk">richard@4bridgestreet.eclipse.co.uk</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of month @15:30	Various
<p><b>JAZZ MUSIC APPRECIATION Group</b> have travelled far and wide to attend live music gigs during the latter half of Sept / early October, including a visit to the South Molton Jazz Club at The George Inn at South Molton where John Shillito's Riviera Ramblers gave an excellent performance; then a visit to the Wellington Jazz Club at The Beam Bridge Inn, Sampford Arundel, to be entertained by Pete Allen and his Dukes of Wellington on the first Sunday of the month (followed by an excellent supper in the pub restaurant where 10% discount applied to "jazzers"!); then a small contingent made it to the Saddlers Inn at Lypmstone on Friday 11th Oct where the Park Lane Stompers played from 8.00pm, and lastly to Magelake Pavilion in sunny Uffculme for the 3rd Wednesday in the month when Gordon's Jazz Club presented an evening with Gordon's Algiers Strutters. All most enjoyable outings, where a wide range of different styles kept the feet tapping! Contact Richard Taylor if interested in possibly car-sharing; tel: 07816337456.</p>			
Lunch Out	Vicki Woodward email: <a href="mailto:vickijwoodward@gmail.com">vickijwoodward@gmail.com</a> mobile: 07966391042	4 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 @ 12:00	Culm Valley Inn
<p><b>LUNCH OUT group</b> met at the Little Bakehouse and had a lovely lunch. Next meeting is on 4<sup>th</sup> December at the Culm Valley Inn. It will be their Christmas menu so have asked that we pre order. Cost is £20 for 2 courses or</p>			

Group Name	Convener & Contact	Date/Time	Venue
<p>£25 for 3 courses. Anyone wanting to join us please contact Vicki. Lifts can be arranged for those without transport.</p>			
National Trust	Gill Sole <a href="mailto:Gill.sole@yahoo.com">Gill.sole@yahoo.com</a> Sally Hickmott <a href="mailto:smhickmott@gmail.com">smhickmott@gmail.com</a> .	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of monthly @ 15:00	Shute Barton
<p><b>NATIONAL TRUST Group</b> will visit Shute Barton, a small medieval manor near Axminster. A private tour has been arranged as the property only occasionally opens to the public.</p>			
Quizzing	Sue Hooper-Lawrie <a href="mailto:Shlawrieu3a@gmail.com">Shlawrieu3a@gmail.com</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of month 10:30-13:00	Willand Village Hall Annex
<p><b>QUIZZING Group</b> met on Friday 15 November to take on another 6 rounds, this time organised by Richard and Anne Collier, otherwise known as "The Collywobbles"! Rounds included Humphrey Bogart, British Kings and Queens, 1960s Pop Music, Geography and General Knowledge. This months' winners will be setting the next quiz which is on Friday 20 December. Please feel free to contact Sue if you would like to join us.</p>			
Reading	Jane Bunting <a href="mailto:s.bunting@sky.com">s.bunting@sky.com</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month	Hayridge Centre, Cullompton
Strollers (up to 3 miles)	Janet/Roy Harrington <a href="mailto:Roy.harrington2@ntlworld.com">Roy.harrington2@ntlworld.com</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month @ 14:00	Swan's Neck Canal walk
<p><b>STROLLERS Group</b> Our first walk together on a lovely autumn day in beautiful surroundings. 11 of us, led by Tony and Sandra Sutton, made our way to the main gate at Killerton and started a perimeter walk which turned out to be pretty muddy (thanks Tony for reminding us to wear boots!). It is a very friendly group and we spent a lot of time getting to know one another and chatting, so perhaps didn't appreciate our surroundings as much as we should have done. We eventually found the café and had a cup of coffee and more chat! A very enjoyable morning, looking forward to the next one. Meeting at the White Bridge for the Swan's Neck Canal walk at Halberton, contact Janet Harrington for details of start times etc.</p>			
Theatre/Cinema	Gillian Evans <a href="mailto:gillianmayevans@gmail.com">gillianmayevans@gmail.com</a>		The Bakehouse, Cullompton
Walkers (3-6 miles)	Viv Caley Tony Ross <a href="mailto:rossmchenry@btinternet.com">rossmchenry@btinternet.com</a>	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of month	Blackdown Hills

**Interest Groups please send in photos of what you have been up to, we would all love to see what you have been doing! Please make sure you have the consent of all those who are in the photos.**

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

## Photographs

We would like to use photographs of interest group activities and monthly meetings in **UPDATE**, on the website and on Facebook as a way of showing what we get up to and encouraging others to join us. In order to do that a) we need photographs of your activities and b) we need those in the photographs to give their written and signed consent.

U3A National Office advises .... *"Consent will need to be obtained for both taking and displaying photographs of the membership. It is recommended that you ask for consent at the point when photographs are being taken, i.e. ask those who don't want to appear to move out of the shot. It is important to explain to people exactly what the photographs will be used for."*

*If a member were to object subsequently then the photograph will need to be removed from any publicity or display so it is important that U3As put in their privacy statement how members can ask for photographs to be removed."*

### **For those concerned about photographs on Facebook ....**

For those concerned about photos being used on Facebook .... Please be reassured that individuals are not tagged in photos put on the Culm Valley U3A Facebook page, so your identity remains anonymous except to those who already know who you are. Just a note here – it is only possible to “tag” people on Facebook if they have a Facebook account and are friends with the person tagging them. When you “tag” someone on Facebook only those who are your “friends” can see the picture.

Its also worth noting that *Facebook* does not own *photos we post*, they still legally belong to the person who originally posted them. Please see *Facebook's* terms of service: “You own all of the content and information you post on *Facebook* (Point 3.3.1 of Facebook’s Terms of Use as of April 2019 titled “Permission to use content you create and share”) Facebook specifically states that “You own the content you create and share on Facebook and the other Facebook products you use, and nothing in these terms takes away the rights you have to your own content. You are free to share your content with anyone else, wherever you want.”

Rather than asking everyone to sign a separate form, a single form has ben created, which everyone in an interest group can sign. You can sign to give your consent, or to deny consent. ***Should you wish to deny consent we would ask that you absent yourself from any photos which may end up in the Culm Valley U3A newsletter ,or on the website or Facebook.*** Group Conveners/Contacts have been sent a copy of the form with the request that all in the group sign it to indicate consent or denial of consent.

### **Steering Committee needs you ...**

If you would like to play an active part in the development of Culm Valley U3A why not join the Steering Committee. We would love to hear from you as we need to fill various roles.

Roles are:

- **Monthly Meetings Co-ordinator**
- **Publicity Co-ordinator**
- **Bookstall Convener**
- **Assistant Secretary**
- **Assistant Treasurer**
- **Assistant Group Co-ordinator**

Please contact the **UPDATE** Editor if you are interested in any of the roles on the Steering Committee.



above

**Thank you to  
Jenny Hodgson, Susan Greenhough and Marian Luck  
who have all offered to join the committee.**



## Are you able to help?

You may not feel that the Steering Committee is your cup of tea or glass of wine ..... but we do need volunteers to help in other ways too, including:



Can you help with setting up and clearing away the Willand Village Hall for the monthly meetings? You would need to be there as soon after 13:00 as possible, on the day of the meeting, and/or stay behind after the meeting to help clear away tables and chairs.

Could you help with refreshments? This requires getting all cups and saucers ready, making tea and coffee and then washing up and putting everything away afterwards. If you could help please let us know.



**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...

Do you have grand children who go out and about on their own, or perhaps you sometimes go out on your own. Why not take a look at the **Hollie Guard App**

**Hollie Guard can help you stay safe.**

**In danger? A simple shake or tap activates Hollie Guard, automatically sending your location and audio/video evidence to your designated contacts.**

Find out more at <https://hollieguard.com/>

Let us know the App or Apps you are using that you think everyone else should know about!!

You can contact the editor of **UPDATE** on  
[cvu3aupdate@gmail.com](mailto:cvu3aupdate@gmail.com)

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