



Thursday 14th March *Life on the Licence Fee: Hot Rocks and High Places* by Alex Leger

A view from the Chair – Howard O’Keeffe howardokeeffe49@gmail.com Looking forward to seeing many of you at our Open Morning on Saturday 23rd March. Do invite friends and neighbours to come along to see what u3a can offer !

Secretary’s reminders – Christine Milsom christinemilsom@btinternet.com The talk for the u3a members’ meeting is at The Flavel on Thursday 14th March. *Life on the Licence Fee: Hot Rocks and High Places* by former TV producer, Alex Leger, will explore pivotal moments in broadcasting as well as entertain with stories from his days at *Blue Peter*. Coffee from 10am, please remember your mug if you would like coffee.

Membership Secretary– ‘Wiz’ Tehel 07770 912100 membership@dartvalleyu3a.org

A friendly reminder that renewals will be due on **1st April**. If you already pay by standing order, you do not need to do anything. I will be sending a reminder email or letter in March. Please use electronic payments or set up a standing order payment as this greatly simplifies membership administration, and make payments to **Dart Valley U3A**, Sort Code: **52 30 20**, Account: **06170102**, or alternately, a cheque made out to **Dart Valley U3A** and posted to Membership Secretary, 33 Clarence Hill, Dartmouth, TQ6 9NY. The annual membership fees are **£10** for Individuals, **£20** for Joint Memberships (ie, couples at the same address) and **£5** for Associates.

Group Co-ordinator – Suzie Dodsworth 01803 770134 suziedwong@gmail.com

On Saturday 23rd March from 10.30 to 12.30 we have an open morning in the Flavel auditorium. The aim is to show the community what an amazing organisation we are. How much we contribute to the well-being and enjoyment of our members. A monthly talk and coffee, nearly 40 groups provide a good mixture and opportunity to socialise while learning something new. Conveners often say, “but my group is full why should we attend,” it is good to recruit new members but not the main aim of the OM. Should new people sign up we hope to start another group. This month we shall have a new gardening group and a new book group. Tim Freeman is starting a new bowling group – see below. We all have something to offer others, let us show the world how great we are!

Reminder: **Open Morning** Saturday 23rd March 10.30 – 12.30pm



New Bowling Group

March is an ideal time to sign up for our newest group, the u3a Bowling Group. The group plans to meet on the second Tuesday of each month, starting on April 9th, 3pm to 5pm. Each session costs £2. Beginners are welcome, you do not need to have bowled before. Tim Freeman who is forming the group says ‘This group is trying to attract new people to the sport, so beginners are especially welcome. All the equipment you need will be provided. At time of writing enough people have joined the group to be sure we will go ahead, but there are spaces for more to join us.’ If you want to consider joining contact Tim Freeman on 07792 620176, or email timfreeman61@googlemail.com He will meet you beforehand, show you the bowling green and run through what you need to bring.

Group reports

ARCHERY Colin Payne 07919 933891 colinpayne43@hotmail.com (Tues am S F Cricket Ground). Archery awaiting improved weather!

ARCHITECTURE Mike Trevorrow 01803 752928/07470 484858 mike.d.trevorrow@gmail.com (4th Thurs, 11.15 for 11.30am start, Flavel Studio – all welcome.) In February we had a superb talk from Wiz all about Sydney Opera House; this was very much enjoyed by the 30 or so people who came along. Next month we are looking at roads, canals and railways.

ART GROUP Pat White 07929 271658 lespatwhite@icloud.com

(Monday 10am Townstal Hall). The group has been exploring pastel work.



ASTROLOGY Geraldine Leigh geraldine.e.leigh@gmail.com 07590 646653

(3rd Tues, afternoon Convener's Home).

BOOK GROUP 1 Lindsay Charlesworth 01803 834592 lindsay@jpcharlesworth.plus.com

(10.30am – 3rd Mon Stoke Fleming)

BOOK GROUP 2 Valerie Church 01803 834280 churchval2@aol.com

(1st Weds 2.30pm – 4.00pm)

BOWLING Tim Freeman 01803 832663/07792 620176. timfreeman61@googlemail.com

Coming soon! The plan is for a first session on Tuesday April 9th. We will meet from 3pm to 5pm at the bowling green near the Guildhall Offices in Victoria Rd. Many of those starting are new to the sport and we will be teaching the basics so all can take part. You do not need to bring anything; we will provide the equipment. The cost is £2. To ask if you can join, please contact the coordinator, Tim Freeman. There may be an introductory session in the second half of March, this will be confirmed when the green has been readied for the season. A bowling green needs hoovering, washing and cleaning and that is all happening now, it is weather affected so not yet quite clear when in March it will be ready for play.

BRIDGE Judi Cotes 01803 834802

(Flavel Studio Tues 10am – 12 noon) No need to have a partner.

CALLIGRAPHY Gill Kidd gillkidd@btinternet.com

(Thurs 2–4pm Members home)

CLASSICS 'Wiz' Tehel 07770 912100 classics@dartvalleyu3a.org

(1st Thurs 10.30am Flavel Auditorium). Doors open 10am, talk starts 10:30, finishes 11:45am. Tickets: £4 from The Flavel website and Flavel box office or tickets can be purchased within the Auditorium on the day.

7th March – **The Emperors' Building Stone: the Life and Afterlife of Porphyry** presented by **Prof. Val Maxfield**

4th April – **A Lion Among Lambs: Alcibiades of Athens** presented by **Mike Sproule**

COFFEE CUPS Gwendolyn Alker 01803 833270 jsgmaker@yahoo.co.uk

(Main Meeting Flavel 2nd Thurs) Thank you for remembering to bring your own coffee cup. Disposable cups are always available for 20p at the counter. Volunteers serving coffee at the meeting have free entry to the talk.

CRAFTS CLUB Joan Buscombe 01803 832662 c/o_vcbest@hotmail.co.uk

(Tues 10am – 12 noon ring first)

CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS Gwendolyn Alker 01803 833270 jsgmaker@yahoo.co.uk

(3rd Tues). If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Gwendolyn. The next cryptic crossword meeting is on Tuesday 19 March at 10.30am.

FRENCH CONVERSATION Alan Kerr 01548 531843. Mob:07402 276468 alanckerr@yahoo.com
(2:30pm 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, at Brown's Hotel, Bar & Bistro, Victoria Road.)

GARDENING GROUP 1 Clare Ball ceball@live.co.uk (3rd Friday)

GARDENING GROUP 2 Clare Ball ceball@live.co.uk (12 noon on the last Tuesday).

GEOLOGY Tim Freeman 01803 832663 timfreeman61@googlemail.com

(Irregular Weds 2.30pm Flavel Studio). Next meeting March 13th 2.30pm *The German Chocolate Cake*. Now this month's talk is not actually about cake...it's about rocks in Washington state USA that have been likened to a German chocolate cake. They are huge layers of lava that have cooled into some of the oddest formations. They show just how much lava the planet can produce in one place given the right circumstances. We will however be having an actual chocolate cake to share during the meeting ! Cost £2.

GERMAN CONVERSATION Ingrid Sidell 01803 770870 ingsid23@yahoo.co.uk mob 07818208721 (for texts)

(Monthly Thurs 10.00am in Strete). On Feb 21st we had a very interesting and enjoyable presentation on Augsburg given by Anita Ulrich, a German watercolour painter and teacher, who has been staying in Dartmouth for two months. She introduced us to the history of Augsburg, where she lives, through her photos and watercolour paintings . A lot of German was spoken too! Next meeting: Thurs March 14th at 10.00am in Strete.

HISTORY OF ART Julia Churchley 07900 321681 julia.churchley@hotmail.co.uk

(3rd Fri 2pm Studio, Flavel) Our next talk is Friday 15th March at 2pm in the studio. We welcome lecturer Nicola Wakeham from University of Plymouth for a talk on **Impressionism**. All welcome, this talk costs £3.

i P A D S GROUP Alan Machin alanmachin@aol.com

(Monthly 10.30am Stoke Fleming Village Hall)

i P A D 4 Beginners Tutor Suzie Dodsworth 01803 770134 suziedwong@gmail.com

(Tuesdays, Stoke Fleming Village Hall). The new course started on Tuesday 23rd January at 2.30pm in the Ron Harris room in Stoke Fleming Village Hall.

ITALIAN CONVERSATION Tasha James 0795 750 9351 nataliarh9@gmail.com

MAHJONG Elaine French 01803 832304 frenchfamily1@live.co.uk

(1st & 3rd Fri 10am to 1pm Stoke Fleming Village Hall)

MEDAU Yvonne Cottam 01803 835251 ycottam@live.co.uk

(Weds 12.30pm-1.30pm, Townstal Hall) £1 per session (to cover cost of hall) but to commit for half a term. Dates for 2024 as follows: 21st February to 27th March – 6 weeks – £6
10th April to 12th June – 10 weeks – £10.

MUSIC Lindsay Charlesworth 01803 834592 lindsay@jpcharlesworth.plus.com

(2.30pm 3rd Weds, Flavel Studio).

PITCH AND PUTT Jennifer Wright 01803 445247 jenniferm.wright@hotmail.co.uk

(Occasional, Cayman Golf, Churston) We hope to have an outing to Cayman Golf at Churston when the weather has settled down and it is a bit warmer! Look out for details in future Newsletters!

PUB LUNCHE GROUP (A) Alan Cole 01803 752902 alan5cole@icloud.com

(4th Weds monthly)

PUB LUNCHE GROUP (B) Alan Drew 01803 833219 asdrew@btinternet.com

(Last Thurs monthly)

PUB LUNCH GROUP (C) Mike Dodsworth 01803 770134 mike1.dodsworth@btinternet.com

(2nd Tues month)

SCRABBLE Sue Manley 01803 414774 susancmanley2004@yahoo.co.uk

(2-4pm 2nd & 4th Fridays Flavel Studio).

SPANISH CONVERSATION Yvonne Cottam 01803 835251 ycottam@live.co.uk

(Mon 11.30am – 1.00pm)

SPORTS MORNING Yvonne Cottam 01803 835251 ycottam@live.co.uk

(Weds 10am Dart Leisure Centre) Start the day with a warmup and then have a go at badminton, table tennis, pickleball. £3.50 payable at Leisure Centre reception.

SUNDAY LUNCH Anne Taylor 01803 363257 jonquil_shapley@hotmail.com

(2nd Sun month 12.30pm)

WALKING Hilary Cranmer 01803 835812 hilarycranmer@hotmail.co.uk
(Mon 9.30am Ivatt Rd, Townstal)

WINE GROUP–NOBLE ROTTERS Anne Taylor 01803 363257 jonquil_shapley@hotmail.com

(4th Thurs, Royal Castle Hotel Library Room/members homes/gardens weather permitting!) The Noble Rotters wine tasting group met again at the end of January to discuss the varied wines growing in the lovely wine growing areas of Spain. Members were asked to see if they could identify the grape varieties used to make the wines and were not even foxed by a Gewürztraminer grown in the Pyrenean foothills to make an excellent white wine, even though the variety typically comes from Alsace! Other wines were more typical of Spain, Tempranillo from Ribeira del Duero and Garnacha from southern Catalonia, from areas slightly different from the classical Rioja, a lovely Albariño from Galicia, a very tasty Monastrell from Jumilla, west of Alicante, so a veritable tour of España.

WINE TASTING Bill Riddell 01803 752049 billriddell75@gmail.com

(1st Mon pm. Members homes)

WRITERS Val Depledge 01803 834323 valdepledge@hotmail.com

(Mon pm. Members homes)

Talks at the General Meeting 2024

Thursday 14th March *Life on the Licence Fee: Hot Rocks and High Places* by Alex Leger

Thursday 11th April *The Wonderful World of Glass* by Dr F E Burroughs

Thursday 9th May *Animals at War – The History of the Dickin Medal* by Ashley Jones

u3a Dart Valley

Open Morning

10.30am –12.30pm

Saturday 23rd March

The Flavel, Dartmouth

**Please drop in and bring
your friends!**