

**CHAT FROM THE CHAIR:**



I hope you have enjoyed Christmas and now I would like to reflect on U3A's 2019, yet with so much to review it's difficult to know where to start. There was the January "Christmas" meal after the monthly meeting with Dr. Keith Hooper talking about food through the eyes of Charles Dicken's and his books. The meal was then held at the Royal Beacon Hotel and was very well attended. The monthly meetings have been increasingly well attended and we have had a variety of interesting speakers The Social Group has been very successful with the visits it has organised and everyone will have their favourite.

Our membership has been substantially growing and is a tribute to the handful of visionaries who started Exmouth and District U3a some six years ago. We have a huge number of groups, many full to capacity. This is the reason we are constantly encouraging people to start new groups. The more you put into your U3a the more you will get out of it.

I look forward to 2020 when we start the year with the Entertainment on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January followed by the "Christmas Lunch" at the Royal Beacon Hotel. New Year Resolutions come in many forms so don't forget to include your U3a. How about joining a new group or starting one and there is the AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> May so you might like to join the Committee.

Happy New Year!

***Best Wishes Sandy MacQueen***

**U3A MONTHLY MEETINGS AT THE EXMOUTH PAVILION:**

**Why not come along to our monthly meetings (usually the second Thursday in the month) held in Exmouth Pavilion, Esplanade Exmouth, EX8 2AZ. You will be most welcome.** U3A members and visitors usually start arriving at around 10:00 when there is the opportunity for a drink and the chance to chat. Our 'Meeters and Greeters' will be on the door and inside the hall to answer any questions you may have. New members are welcome to join our '**Link Up**' table in the Pavilion Café.



Our meetings start at 10:30 with notices and our speakers usually start their presentations at 10:45. Talks usually last from 45 – 60 minutes followed by a brief question and answer session. We have a hearing loop system if needed. If you have any particular requirements or want to find out more please see Christine Chittock, Speakers' Organiser or one of the committee members who will be wearing name badges. **So, enjoy!**

To find out more about future meetings go to:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/files/e/exmouth/docs/speakersforu3amonthlymeetings2019andso meof2020.pdf>

**Forthcoming monthly meetings – January 2020 to March 2020**

<p><b>Wendy Groves, Christine Chittock &amp; Exmouth Members</b></p> <p><b>16th January</b></p>	<p><b>‘The Best of Times’; entertainment by our own members on the theme of ‘Time’.</b> Includes many of our wonderful groups, featuring line dancing, limericks, play reading, poems, review of books, antiques, singing, family history, a band, photography, walking and much more.</p>
<p><b>Phil Holt</b></p> <p><b>13<sup>th</sup> February</b></p>	<p><b>‘The Red Arrows’</b> In the height of the "swinging sixties" the RAF formed an aerobatic team that would win the hearts of a nation. Phil takes you through the events that led to the creation of the world's best-loved team of pilots, then takes you behind the scenes. Phil is a pilot, Air Display Director and patron of the Bournemouth Air Festival and speaks from first-hand experience of the men (and women!) in the famous red suits, who make precision their profession, teamwork their science and aerobatics their art form.</p>
<p><b>David Boag</b></p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> March</b></p>	<p><b>‘The Life of a Wildlife Photographer’</b> This entertaining lecture spans 35 years of photography and takes us to 5 continents. The questions David is most often asked are about his ‘favourites’. What are the photographs you are most pleased with – what is the best place you have visited – which subjects do you most enjoy photographing? As David explains, how can you possibly compare the Queensland tropical rain forest with the desert of Utah; or compare delicate but vibrant sunbirds with the power and majesty of a bald eagle? It may be impossible but, in his lecture, this is what he does! Working his way through his commissions over a span of 30 years, he brings us right up to date with his latest and most exciting project.</p>

Arrangements for:

## 'The Best of Times'

Entertainment by our own members on the theme of 'Time' at Exmouth Pavilion on:

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 10:30 – 12:00**

Performers please arrive by 10:00 so that you can be seated in the hall.

U3A members and visitors please note that doors will open at 10:15 (but not before) so that you can be seated by 10:30.

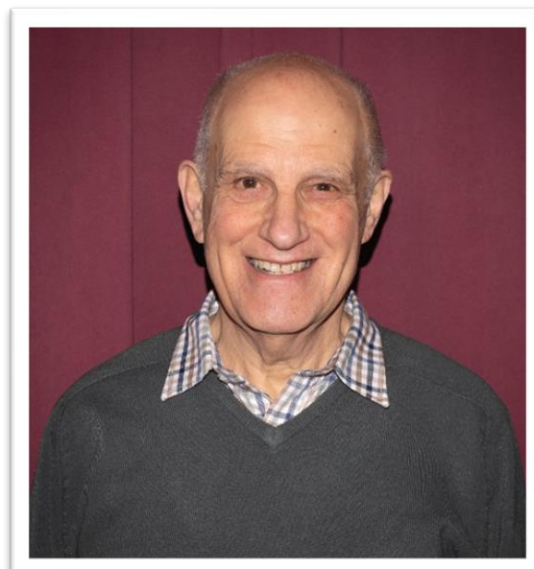
Our thanks in advance for everyone who has contributed thus far; it is much appreciated.

*Wendy Groves and Christine Chittock*

**Advance notice of** 'Safeguarding against Cyber Crime and Scams' hosted by Exmouth and District U3A in Budleigh Salterton Public Hall on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020 10:00 – 13:00 with speakers – Laurie Cowie, Cyber Protection Officer, Devon and Cornwall Police and Janet Quinn, Trading Standards.

### **REPORT ON THE DECEMBER PAVILION TALK:**

Photo: Stewart Raine our monthly speaker for December 2019 on 'The History of the Music Hall'.



Stewart was on a return visit to our U3A and entertained members with his illustrated talk of the early days of 'Music Hall' in the nineteenth century to decline after the Second World War. There were numerous illustrations all clearly labelled and well chosen for the talk. On occasions there were opportunities for the audience to join in as we did for "Daddy Wouldn't Buy Me A Bow Wow" by Joseph Tabrar and first performed by Vesta Victoria in 1892.

Stewart mentioned his own connections with Music Hall through his Aunt at the Mile End Empire Theatre, Stepney Green. His Aunt played the piano for silent films as part of the Music Hall bill. It was clear throughout, that Stewart had a passion for music hall and had set out to document many of the famous names and venues of the day.

He told us about male impersonators such as Matilda Alice Powles who adopted the stage name of Vesta Tilley and how she also acted as a principal boy in pantomime. We learnt about Marie Lloyd as well who sang so many of the well-known songs such as 'Oh Mr Porter' and about Gus Elan who sang 'If it wasn't for the 'ouses in Between' (a commentary on the spread of suburbia) pronounced so well by Stewart with an Estuary twang. We learnt about the origins of rhymes/songs such as 'Pop goes the Weasel'. With 'Up and down the city road, in and out the Eagle' referring to the Eagle Tavern on the corner of City Road.

Stewart had an extensive knowledge of the music halls of the day such as the Canterbury Music Hall in Lambeth established by Charles Morton in 1852 and extensively damaged by bombing in 1942. Also, the Oxford Music Hall in Oxford Street and closer to home the Hippodrome in Exeter on the site of today's 'Boots' in the High Street.

Altogether it was a fascinating talk and by the comments from the audience a popular session. Thank you, Stewart!

Stewart has kindly donated our U3A fee of £40 to Honiton Hospicare.

***Christine Chittock, Speakers' Organiser***

### **FORTHCOMING SOCIAL COMMITTEE VISITS & EVENTS 2020:**

Thank you to all who completed surveys on the sort of social events you would like. These have helped us plan a yearlong calendar of events. These are listed below. We will only take bookings two months in advance of any event. Bookings can be made at our monthly meetings or via instructions on our web site.

If you would like to join any of these event's, please complete a booking form and hand it to one of our committee members. Bookings will only be accepted with full payment. We don't offer refunds, but wherever possible unused tickets will be allocated to the waiting list. Cheques need to be made out to the **Exmouth and District U3A**.

Send with a SAE to: **Mrs C Dawson 2, Windsor Square Exmouth EX8 1JU**

**Health and safety issues.** With every event we research issues of Health and safety in order to support our members. Any particular issues are listed against each event. However, U3A members must take into account their own capabilities before joining any excursions, trips, walks, etc. In addition, members must wear or carry suitable apparel and walking aids to meet all weather ground conditions. If you have any concerns or queries, please speak to a committee member before you book.

**7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 £12.50 per member 40 places available.**

**Birdwatching on the Exe with Stuart line cruises.** You can book pasties veg or meat with Stuart Lines and soup will be available at their bar on board. The 2-hr cruise starts at 11 am, so please assemble on the dockside from 10.30 am. There will be an ornithologist on board to help guide you to the wild life that you will see. Tickets will be available on 16 January.

**Health and safety issues.** It will be cold, so wrap up well. There will be steps to get on / off the boat. If you have an mobility issues please talk to one of the social committee before you book.

**26<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Eden Project. Cost approx. £32 per person 30 places available**

We will assemble at 9.30 am at the coach park behind the station. We aim to arrive at the Eden project for 11 am. We are booking a guided tour to help you get the most out of your visit. The tour times are yet to be confirmed. There are plenty of places to eat lunch, or you can bring your own. For those who are Devon residents, you can sign up for a reduced fee annual membership during your visit. We aim to be back for 5.30 pm at the Exmouth coach park.

**Health and safety issues.** The Eden projects caters well for those with mobility issues. Please let us know if you have any special requirements, talk to one of our team and we will work with the Eden staff on getting you the help you might need.

**April**

**A trip to Bristol Science Centre.** This is a whole day trip planned to explore some scientific issues. At this time of going to press we don't have a date in April. We anticipate the cost will be £30 per person

Health and safety issues. As yet unknown

**18<sup>th</sup> May 2020 Delamore House £27 per person.** Each year Delamore house opens its gardens and house to over 200 artists. We have organised entrance to the show and a soup/roll light lunch. They have a lovely little café, which sells amazing cakes. The art-work and sculptures are spread out across the gardens and most items are for sale. The whole exhibition is only open in the month of May.

**Health and safety issues.** The gardens can be slippery in wet weather. We have booked an indoor spot for our light lunch. Wheel chairs can be used/manoeuvred around the grounds.

**1<sup>st</sup> June 2020. Cost TBA. Abbotsbury Swannery.** At this time of year there are many cygnets and our plan is to visit around the birds/ swans feeding time. There may be time to stop off at West Bay for some light refreshment as part of our trip.

**Health and safety issues. TBA.**

**15<sup>th</sup> June 2020 A trip with Stuart Line cruises from Exmouth to Exeter Quayside. Costs TBA.**

We will book a coach to come home. There will be time to enjoy the quayside, have lunch, or to walk into the city centre. The coach will meet us at the climbing wall centre at the quayside. This river trip is based on the tide times and the Swing Bridge is opened for us. It's amazing to see the technology in use.

**Health and safety issues.** There are steps to get on/off the boat. The quayside is mostly on the flat.

**Cream tea at Badgers Holt on Dartmoor. Date planned 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020. Costs TBA.**

We are aiming for a whole day out, looking at some key sites on Dartmoor and building in a cream tea at the lovely Badgers Holt. This is where the East and West Dart rivers meet and is a lovely spot.

**July TBA on costs and exact dates. We are planning a whole day at Castle Drogo.** The day will include a tour guide and time for lunch. We won't book lunch, but encourage members to bring their own lunch or make their own choices for eating. There may be an opportunity to visit Fingle Bridge for light refreshments.

**July. Parterre Perfume Farm (near Dorchester) Date and costs TBA**

This is planned as a whole day trip with lunch in their award-winning restaurant. There is also a gift shop there.

**September - Mayflower celebrations in Plymouth sept 10-14 main event on 16<sup>th</sup> Dates and cost TBA** We are exploring the best date/ time to access some of these celebrations. We will keep you informed.

**Vineyard trip.** We are exploring a suitable vineyard to visit. This trip will include lunch and wine tasting.

**October - 23-25 the Dartmouth Food Festival / Visit Bodmin Jail. TBC,**

Thanks

*Lyn*



*Above: Looking across to Dawlish from the beach below the Geoneedle nr. Orcombe Point  
25<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019 – Photo: Chris Woodward*

**EXMOUTH CHORAL SOCIETY**



and orchestra

# WINTER CONCERT

**J.S. Bach**

**CHRISTMAS ORATORIO**

Cantatas 1,2,3 &6

Musical Director: Laurence Blyth

**SATURDAY JANUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> 7.30pm**

Holy Trinity Church, Rolle Street, Exmouth.  
EX8 2AB

Tickets £12.00 (Under 18's free)

Online booking at:

**[www.ticketsource.co.uk/exmouthchoral](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/exmouthchoral)**

**Tickets also available from:**  
Holy Trinity Church (Parish Office)

The Card Shop Too, 4 High St Budleigh  
Salterton.



**[www.exmouthchoral.org](http://www.exmouthchoral.org)**