**World Events Past and Present**

Meetings are currently held on Zoom with the occasional face-to -face meeting. We meet every 2 or 3 weeks on Wednesday at 10.15-11.45 a.m.

Group Organiser: Dorothy Ferrie

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Interested in the influence of world events past and present?

The members of this small and friendly group pick a topic we all find interesting then do a little bit of research so that we can join in with the group discussion. Sometimes we each choose a different aspect of the topic and tell the others a bit about it. None of us are experts. We just enjoy learning together.

New members are very welcome. Come along/listen in to a couple of the meetings and find out if you would like to join us.

Over the last 3 years we have covered a wide range of topics as you can see from the examples given on the next page. Where the topics are very big, we simply choose a few aspects of the topic to investigate.

**Some of the topics we have covered:**

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| Conspiracy theories: Who believes in them? Why? What are some of the well-known conspiracy theories? | Why were the Mongol hordes so successful? |
| Famous protests: how successful were they? Do they have anything in common? | The relationship between religion and state in different parts of the world. |
| China’s Belt and Road Initiative | The American Civil War and its consequences |
| Issues affecting Central America (corruption, drug trafficking etc) | Cuba: history, revolution, Fidel Castro, the Cold War and the Cuban Missile Crisis, Cuban music |
| Famous shipping canals. | Conflict in the Middle East |
| Spirituality in China | What makes a nation? |
| Globalisation in a responsible world. | The Marshall Plan |
| Africa in pre-colonial times. Colonialism and its aftermath. | Causes and effects of the Reformation. |
| The Enlightenment: social, religious, scientific, cultural impact. | Golden Age of Islam: discoveries, inventions and achievements. |