

Note Paignton u3a new website is <https://u3asites.org.uk/Paignton>

Chairperson's Remarks

Hello everyone and A Happy Chinese New Year to you all! Here we are in February already, and I hope with the longer days we will all be able to get out and about again. This, of course, includes going to groups and socialising with friends in the u3a.

The Committee is gearing up for our AGM in April, and the appropriate forms will be available at this month's General Meeting.

The room for this month's monthly meeting will be back to its normal size and I hope that the road works are not hampering your journey too much. In fact, some members have found it easier with the diversion than the traditional sea front run!

I hope to see you on Tuesday and please stay safe.

Carole Giffen

Monthly General Meetings

We are grateful to Colin Porter for arranging the following speakers, so, let's try and make an effort to support them by attending.

Tuesday 8th February at the Livermead House Hotel. 10.30am for 11am.

CLLR SWITHIN LONG, who is Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing on Torbay Council, so, with the new plans being made public, these will be of massive interest to us all.

On Tuesday 8th March, the speaker will be **PROFESSOR PETER EDWARDS**. He has degrees in Mathematics, Aeronautics and Industrial Robotics and is a Fellow of the UK's Higher Education Academy. He was at Bournemouth University until retirement in 2007. His talk will be entitled, '**Cataclysmic Italy, including Earthquakes and Volcanos**'. What with events around the world these days, should be very interesting indeed.

Annual General Meeting & Renewals

This year our AGM, will be held on **Tues 12th April**, as usual, but the membership paperwork involved will be different to previous years.

Let's try and explain!! Those who paid their membership fees, early in 2020, for the year 2020 – 2021, will receive their membership card for the coming year 2022-23, but NO membership application form, as

your monies have been carried over to this year

Those whose membership monies were NOT cashed at the bank, or, had not been processed before the closure in March 2020 will receive a membership application form, and will need to submit and pay for the coming year 2022-23.

Everyone's nomination papers will have to be submitted as per the details on the form.

Groups' News

SCRABBLE

Janet Wright is hoping to take over the Scrabble Group from Liz Mills. As yet, Janet hasn't got the details of members etc. but anyone who is interested, please email her via the Groups page on the website.

CANASTA

Susan Hoggett would like to start a Canasta Group. If you are interested, please email her via the Groups page on the website.

MAH JONG

If, on a Wednesday morning, you'd like to couple company with learning something new, why not come along to the Paignton Club and join us to play, or learn how to play Mah Jong an ancient Chinese game? Our next meeting will be **Wednesday 9th February** at 10.30am. Everybody welcome.

If you would like to know more please make contact via the Groups page on the website.

LUNCH CLUB

Weds 16th Feb. HAMILTONS, Babbacombe Downs, Torquay TQ1 3LP

Weds 16th Mar. RAILWAY INN, Churston, Brixham TQ5 0LA

Weds 20th April. BABBACOMBE INN, Torquay TQ1 3LP

All meet at venue 12 noon for 12.30 meal.

Looking forward to seeing our regulars and members who wish to join this happy monthly gathering. PLEASE let me know if you would wish to join us by the week before. Please make contact via the Groups page on the website.

SOCIAL GROUP

has moved to Paignton town centre to URBAN EDGE CAFE near the station and opposite Poundland. Each 2nd Friday in the month from 14.00 - 16.00, come along and share your ideas, thoughts and suggestions for the group, where to have trips, what you would like as topics for talks and workshops. It's a great place to bring interested friends who are not yet members and promote our group. Please make contact via the Groups page on the website.

HANDICRAFTS

Now meeting in URBAN EDGE CAFE in VICTORIA STREET on 4th WEDNESDAYS each month from 14.00 - 16.00; bring along all your handicrafts and share your skills with other members. We only need to buy one drink and then we can use the cafe for free!!!! Please make contact via the Groups page on the website.

GROUP LEADERS

At the six monthly GROUP LEADERS' MEETING in January, reports from those present stated that their groups were up and running, however, the numbers attending are lower than previously.

Let us ask ourselves, if we can, to come along again and support our leaders, and maybe encourage others, not necessarily members of u3a, to come along and see for themselves, what u3a is all about.