



CHAIR'S LETTER - DECEMBER 2024

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO ALL MEMBERS

You will all be aware that since Covid and Lock down, our numbers attending monthly meetings have reduced to the point where we are no longer covering the cost of room hire and speaker each month. This cannot continue as we must conform to National U3A regulations.

Your Trustees have spent a lot of time looking at options to ensure we remain a financially viable group. It has been difficult to find suitable premises which are accessible to all, on or near public transport, with reasonable hire charges and car parking. All have impacted our decisions. These changes will come into effect from 1st January 2025 for a period of seven months, when they will be reviewed

From that date our group meetings will be held -

- on the second **Thursday** of each month (please note change of day) at 11 am
- at **Paignton Methodist Church hall**, the entrance to which is behind the church in Palace Avenue, Paignton. TQ3 3EQ
- there is a public fee paying car park immediately adjacent.
- tea and coffee available from 10.30 am at small extra charge
- speakers will be engaged alternate months, again starting in January.
- the alternate dates we hope our members may be willing to display their various group activities, or speak of special holidays or work experiences.

We understand there will be concerns about these changes but hope you will continue to support and attend our monthly meetings, which are so important to enable everyone to get together for a short time each month. Group activities will continue unchanged. In the meantime don't forget our Christmas Lunch

on **Thursday 12th December at Paignton Club at 12 for 12.30 pm**. Menu choice and payment to **Janet Hobbs by 3rd December**, two courses £25.95, three courses £28.95. There will be a small raffle and any small unwanted gifts would be appreciated.

Dates for your diary - All Thursdays at 11 am
9 January, 13 February, 13 March, 10 April (AGM), 8 May, 12 June, 10 July 2025
June Pierce,
Chair Paignton U3A

JANUARY SPEAKER

Kevin Dixon: talking on "Legends of Torbay and beyond"

CANASTA GROUP

The next Canasta Groups will be held at Albany Court on Monday 2 and Monday 23 December at 10.30am.

Sue Hoggett

MAH JONG

Our next Mah Jong meeting will be on Wednesday 11 December at Janet Hobbs' home in Paignton.

RUMMIKUB

This group will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month between 2 and 4pm at Albany Court, Polsham Park, TQ3 2BB

Barry Hodges

KNIT & NATTER/CRAFT GROUP.

The next meeting will be on the second Wednesday of the month.

11th December

Time from 1.30

At Janet Hobbs' home in Paignton

Looking forward to seeing you

Janet

It's not too late to join us on the CHRISTMAS LUNCH

This year we are holding our Christmas Lunch at the Paignton Vista Club on **Thursday 12 December**

If you are interested you can put your names forward. Two courses will be £27 and 3 courses will be £30.

Menu choices along with full payment for the meal will be due on 3/12/24. There will be no refunds after this date.

We're holding a raffle at the Christmas lunch and looking for raffle prizes. If anyone has any unwanted gifts in their cupboards or wardrobes that are no longer wanted and would be suitable for a raffle prize, please bring them along to the Christmas lunch. All gifts will be gratefully received
Thank you.

Janet

**QUIZ GROUP:
CHANGE OF VENUE**

The Quiz Group will now be held at Albany Court, Polsham Park, TQ3 2BB

Jan Hodges

DINING OUT

Jan and Barry will be organising January's fine dining venue. At present they are having trouble confirming the venue. I'm sure Jan will have all the details including menus at our January meeting on Thursday 9th at the Methodist Hall, Paignton.

FUN PAGE

Answers to November's Quiz

NOVEMBER'S QUIZ

- 1 Which famous person made the following address in 1863? ”
(Democracy etc.) Of the people; for the people; by the people”
- 2 In Nature, what is a Quercus Robur?
- 3 Why was a ‘Jack Boot’ so called?
- 4 Where did the Maoris of New Zealand originally come from in 800 CE ?
- 5 Salted, fermented cabbage. What is the (a) Dutch name, and (b) German name for this?
- 6 Where does the name of the day ‘Wednesday’ come from?

Answers:

- 1 Abraham Lincoln, in the address he made to Union Troops at Gettysburg, during the American Civil War.
- 2 A tree, the Common Oak
- 3 The term could be applied to any calf-length boot. In the 18th. and 19th. Centuries, before boots had side zips, making it easy to take them off, people would place the heel of the boot on a boot-jack and pull. A boot jack was an artefact made of metal, positioned near the ground, with a triangular notch in the top where one would place the heel of the boot.
- 4 Fiji.
- 5 (a) Zuur Kohl (sour cabbage): (b) Sauer Kraut (sour herb).
- 6 The pre-Christian Saxon name for the God ‘Woden’. For the Angles, who came from Denmark, it was ‘Odin’.

DECEMBER'S QUIZ

- 1 For those of you who have been watching the series ONEDIN LINE on television, and also the Hollywood film SPARTACUS you will probably recognise the theme music to both.
 - (a) What was the music originally composed for?
 - (b) Who was the composer?
 - (c) What was his Nationality?
2. The Swastika belonged to the German Nazis of WWII; the Star of David (hexagram) to the Jews and the State of Israel. Was this correct?
- 3 In the Christian Book of Revelations a reference was made to ‘The Beast’ with the number 666 and was related to The Serpent. Did this relate to the Devil?
- 4 Where did the name of ‘FRANCE’ come from?
- 5 What is ‘The Southern

Cross'?

6 What is a nautical mile as a unit of arc measured over the surface of the Earth.

7. What two things do the following Central Asian States have in common? Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan.

8. Many countries that produce wine have a system of quality control and labelling. Hence in German we have tafel wein, Qualitäts Wein, Qualitäts Wein mit predikat. In France, what does the term 'Premier Cru' indicate?

"December: A month of lights, snow, coziness and feasts: time to make amends and tie up loose and make your wishes come true: finish what you started" Unknown

"There is no winter without snow, no spring without sunshine and no happiness without companions."

"Winter forms our character and brings out our best"

"Winter is the time for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home"

**ANSWERS IN
JANUARY'S NEWSLETTER**



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**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

QUOTES OF THE MONTH