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CHAIR'S LETTER - OCTOBER 2025

Hello everyone

I hope this lovely autumn sunshine is giving you a welcome boost ahead of winter. Apparently it is three months to Christmas as I pen this piece! Ouch.

We have a busy schedule for our monthly meetings and also our groups continue to thrive. Janet Hobbs is our Groups Coordinator and she will give you help if you are interested in maybe starting up something new or updating an existing activity. Anything been at the back of your mind this summer that you would like to do over the winter? Come on, be adventurous!!

Simon and myself met with seven other leaders of u3a in the surrounding area together with a regional officer. This was useful and provided an insight into their groups. Ideas were shared over a great cup of tea or coffee at Austin's in Newton Abbot. We agreed to meet in the new year to progress this and I will keep you all updated.

Don't forget our regular dine out evenings and of course our Christmas lunch, reservations

being taken now. Yes the season is approaching
Thank you for your very welcome support to our branch and I look forward to seeing you there.
June
Chair

CANASTA GROUP

Our Canasta group will be held on Monday 6 and 27 October at Albany Court, Paignton. Group leader - Sue Hoggett

MAH JONG

Our next Mah Jong meeting will be on Wednesday 8 October at 10.30am at Janet Hobbs home. Group leader - Sue Hoggett

KNIT & NATTER/CRAFT GROUP.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 8 October @ 1.30 at Janet Hobbs Home

DINING OUT GROUP

The venue for this month's Dining Out will be held on Thursday 23 October at The Cattleman's, Parkers Arms 6pm for 6.30. Menus will be available at the next General meeting and online. Menu choices to Cindy & John Ball by Sunday 19th October.

FUTURE DINING OUT

27th November at The Linny, TQ12 4SR. Names only required to Janet Hobbs. Menu choice on the night. 6 for 6.30.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Christmas Lunch 11 December at the Paignton Club.
The menu is attached and paper copies will be available at the monthly meeting. The cut off date for getting completed forms and payment to Janet Hobbs is 13th November, 2025

CRIB/BACKGAMMON GROUP

Unfortunately Janet is unable to host the meeting on 7th October. Next meeting 4th November.

REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS

When attending any Group you will need to show the group leader your u3a membership card as this shows you are a current member and therefore covered by the u3a insurance in case of accidents.

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

The next General meeting will be held on Thursday 9 October at the Palace Avenue Methodist Church Hall, Paignton. Tea, coffee and biscuits served from 10.30 at the bargain price of £1!

DISCUSSION GROUP

A big thank you to Martyn Powell who has offered to lead this group.
The group meets on the first Monday of the month. Please contact Martyn to discover the venue.

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FUN PAGE

ANSWERS TO SEPTEMBER'S QUIZ

1 Which British seaside attraction is 158 meters tall?

2 At 1.34 miles where is the longest pleasure pier in the UK?

3 Which group has a top 10 hit with Summer Sunshine in 2004?

4 What was the name of the ITV holiday show fronted by Judith Chalmers which ran from 1994 – 2003?

5 Thunderstorms are most likely to hit South East England? True or False

6 When does summer official start?

7 The month of July is named after which famous historical person?

8 Which British TV show starts every year in August in ends just before Christmas?

9 Which month are most babies born in Britain in Summer?

10 The First Day of Summer is an annual public holiday celebrated in which European country in April?

- 1 Blackpool Tower
- 2 Southend
- 3 The Corrs
- 4 Wish you were here
- 5 True.
- 6 21st June
- 7 Julius Ceaser
- 8 X Factor
- 9 September
- 10 Iceland

OCTOBER QUIZ

1 Spithead is a safe anchorage between the coast of England and which island?

2 What can be a pick-me-up or the keynote of music scale?

3 Which sport would you use an Eskimo roll?

4 Which diminutive actor was nicknamed the sex symbol?

5 Which is the lowest rank of the British peerage?

6 Which island of Dorset is one of the last British refuges of the Red Squirrel?

7 Who was Tweety pies arch enemy?

8 The Jerusalem artichoke is a native of which continent?

9 Which is the highest mountain in Australia?

10 Who wrote the Prime of Miss Jean Brodie?

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH.

FUN FACTS ABOUT OCTOBER

October has two birthstones the opal, that symbolizes faithfulness and confidence, while the tourmaline is renowned for it's vast number of colours and it's ability to inspire artistic expression.

The beautiful and vibrant Calendula also known as the Marigold is the birth flower for October. It's bright orange and

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yellow colours perfectly echo the changing Autumn foliage.

Two notable holidays in October is Halloween, 31 October, and Columbus day, 2nd Monday in October, which commemorates Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas.

October is the National Pizza month in the USA.

Walt Disney World in Florida officially opened on 1 October 1971