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CHAIR'S LETTER - JUNE 2026

Hello everyone

I do hope you are all enjoying this glorious weather. Seems incredible for a bank holiday weekend. Where is the rain?. There are lots of tourists around so hopefully it will be a good season.

The talk on digital skills was very interesting and hopefully you all found it of value. Neil will be coming back in November to talk about scams and how to avoid them. A very worrying problem and one that several of us have experienced.

Hopefully some of you have managed to book a one on one with Neil to discuss your concerns or problems. Let us know how you get on. Several of our members have been unwell and indeed hospitalised. Could you please let one of the committee know so that Sarah can send a card. I am writing this piece sat in our garden which is really peaceful with the birds singing away. Nice to take a break and appreciate our surroundings. We have a busy few months coming up with various speakers interspersed with a quiz.

Perhaps you may wish to join one or more. Until you have tried something you won't know if it's for you!

Any suggestions for speakers always welcome. Just let Simon have contact details.

Don't forget our regular coffee mornings and the dine out evenings coming up as well as the many group activities.

Our u3a certainly lives up to our national and international motto of "learn, laugh, live". Have a great time in the Bay, especially the Airshow weekend, or meeting up with family and friends.

Look forward to seeing you at our June meeting
June
Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Can anyone who has not renewed their membership, please do so as a matter of urgency. The payment is now overdue.
Thank you.

COFFEE MORNING

The coffee morning are held at 11am every 3rd Thursday of the month at the Paignton Club/Paignton Vista, The Esplanade, TQ4 6ED. I look forward to seeing you there on 18 June. New members are encouraged to joining us to get

to know more about Paignton u3a.

Contact Group Leader - Sue Lewton –for more details.

CRIB/BACKGAMMON GROUP

The next meeting will be on 2nd June at 2pm at Janet's House

Group Leader - Janet Hobbs

CANASTA GROUP

The Canasta group will be held at 10.30am on Monday 1st and 22nd June at Albany Court Paignton. TQ3 2BB.

Group Leader - Sue Hoggett

MAH JONG

Our next Mah Jong meeting will be on Wednesday 10th June at 10.30am at Janet's House

Group Leader - Sue Hoggett

KNIT & NATTER GROUP.

The next Knit and Natter group will be held on Wednesday 10th June at 2pm at Janet's House

Group Leader - Janet Hobb

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DINING OUT GROUP

The venue for dining out on Thursday 25th June and menu details will be available at our June 11th Meeting. If details are available before we will send out an email.

LUNCH CLUB

It has been decided to trial the 2nd Friday of the month.

The inaugural lunch will take place on:

Date: Friday 12th June

Venue: The Ship, Manor Road, TQ3 2HR

Time: 12 for 12.30

No pre-ordering required.

If attending, please let Janet Hobbs know by Friday 5th June.

The dates for the rest of 2026 will be if a Group Leader comes forward to organize.

10th July, 11th September, 9th October, & 13th November.

Whilst Janet has agreed to organise the initial lunch it is hoped that other u3a members will offer to organise the venue and ordering food in the future.

Look forward to seeing you on the 12th June.

DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussion Group every 4th Monday morning of the month at 10.30.

New members always welcome.
Group Leader - Martyn Powell

AMBLING GROUP

We meet the first and third Wednesday of the month at 1.30. Venues will be varied, emails are sent out by myself advising where to meet.

Group Leader Anne Adcock

TORBAY LITERARY FESTIVAL

Torbay Literary Festival takes place at The Palace Theatre, Paignton, between 10-15th August 2026.

Tickets have been reserved as follows:-

Wednesday 12th August. 11.00-13.00 in the company of Ann Widdecombe. Cost is £28 per ticket.

Thursday 13th August. 11.00-13.00 in be the company of Anne Glenconner. She was Princess Margaret's lady-in-waiting. She will be offering tips on 'Manners and Mischief'. Cost is £28per ticket.

Booking forms will be available at the monthly meetings and on our website page.

Cutoff date for registering and payment is the 9th July to Janet Hobbs.

Look forward to seeing you.
Janet Hobbs

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.

SPEAKERS FOR 2026

June (11th) - open meeting with a Quiz and Raffle. Penelope will be selling home made cards. Proceeds for Paignton u3a and Paignton Methodist Church.

July (9th) – Cathie Burgess



who is the Volunteer Coordinator, will give a presentation talk about the work of Life Chance Trust and other ways that people can support what they do.

August – No Meeting

September (10th) – To be advised

October (8th) – To be advised

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November (12th) – Neil Winter
discussing Scammers.

GENERAL MEETINGS

PLEASE NOTE

Doors open at 10.30am

Due to H&S regulations members are unable to gain access to the Hall until the committee have arranged furniture accordingly. The next general meeting will be held on Thursday 11th June. This will be an open meeting with Jan as quiz master and we'll be having a raffle. Penelope will be selling home made cards. Proceeds for Paignton u3a and Paignton Methodist Church. This will be held at the Palace Avenue Methodist Church Hall, Paignton. Tea, coffee and biscuits served from 10.30 at the bargain price of £1!

Any help after the meeting to stack chairs away would be much appreciated.

NEWSLETTER ENTRIES

If anyone has anything that needs to be advertised in the next Newsletter it will need to be with Sue by Monday 22 June please.

Thank you.

LISTENING EAR

If you are experiencing a bereavement, ill health, anxiety, mental health or any other issues and would like to talk to someone in confidence please contact Sarah Malcolm, our listening ear committee member.

SOS

Paignton u3a are in need of prizes for the raffles that are now held every few months. Please could you donate a prize in readiness for the next raffle in June. Janet Hobbs is more than happy to receive gifts at any monthly meeting or group. Thank you.

WEBSITE

Our website Paignton.u3asite.uk
Where you will always find more information.

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FUN PAGE

ANSWERS TO THE MAY QUIZ

- 1 What does a herpetologist study?
- 2 In the U.S.A. how many nickels would you get for a dime?
- 3 What is a John Dory?
- 4 Which Scottish school did both the Duke of Edinburgh and his son King Charles go to?
- 5 What does a dermatologist study?
- 6 Which is the least used letter in the English language?
- 7 Which mythological character was sentenced to fall in love with his own reflection as a punishment?
- 8 What was the above being punished for?
- 9 Sometimes called a Gnu, what is it's other name?
- 10 An English bank clerk called Kenneth Graham in 1908 wrote a children's classic, name it.

ANSWERS

- 1 Amphibian
- 2 Two
- 3 A fish
- 4 Gordonstone
- 5 Skin
- 6 Letter Q
- 7 Narcissus

- 8 Pride
- 9 Wildebeest
- 10 Wind in the willows

JUNE QUIZ

1. What astronomical event takes place in the Northern Hemisphere in June
2. What two zodiac signs cover the month of June
3. What is celebrated on the 3rd Sunday in June
4. What are the June official birth flowers
5. Which English prehistoric landmark is associated with the answer to Nos 1
6. Which English Queen was crowned in Westminster Abbey in June 1953
7. Which historic document was signed in June 1215
8. What name is given to the allied invasion of Normandy, France on June 6th 1944
9. Which 5 day music festival takes place in Somerset, England in late June
10. Name the farm where it is held.

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH

FUN FACTS ABOUT JUNE

June is named after Juno, the Roman goddess of marriage and childbirth.

June hosts the summer solstice (the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere) and the shortest day in the Southern Hemisphere.

June is one of only a few months to feature three birthstones: the pearl, the moonstone and the colour-changing alexandrite.

Both in standard and leap years, no other month on the calendar begins on the same day of the week as June.

The official flowers for June are the rose and the honeysuckle, which symbolize romance and happiness.

June 21 is Fathers day.

June 1 - "say something nice day"

June 6- National yo yo day!

June 21- Go

Skateboarding Day!