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CHAIR'S LETTER - SEPTEMBER 2026

Hello once more to you all
The summer is moving quickly on
and I hope you continue to enjoy
this sunshine, albeit some rain at
night would be very welcome.

I have enjoyed trips to both
Ireland and Scotland in the last
few weeks. So different but the
scenery was spectacular in both
countries. I still firmly believe
that Devon can hold its own
though!

Looking towards our autumn
meetings, there will be a variety
of speakers to inform and
entertain us but we would
always welcome suggestions
from you for next year

Possibly you have been on a
special trip and would like to tell
your fellow members all about it.
Speak to Simon and let us all
share those memories.

Simon and Janet have been
working hard on updating many
of our necessary and formal
documents and once these have
been agreed by our committee,
they will be brought forward to
all the membership for adoption.
A much needed task which has

taken a lot of time and I truly
appreciate they have undertaken
this to ensure our Branch
complies with National
guidelines.

Many groups took a break for
the summer, but meetings will
resume in September. A big
thank you to our Group
Coordinator and Group Leaders
for all their hard work, which has
resulted in our Branch continuing
to grow and thrive.

Remember this is your Branch
and we value your participation.
If we get it wrong, please let us
know

Thank you for your continued
support and I look forward to
seeing you at our next meeting
on Thursday 10th September

Myself and the Committee look
forward to welcoming you to our
Christmas Lunch on 10th
December at the Railway Inn
please find full details below.

June
Chair

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.
New members can contact me

BRIDGE

Sorry but due to the low take up
of participants for the group and
the current cost we are being
quoted by venues we have put
this group on hold, we are
looking to see if it can be run at a
member's home to assist with
the costs.

CANASTA GROUP

Please note there will be **NO**
Canasta on Monday 7th
September but will resume on
Monday 28th September at
10.30am at Albany Court
Paignton. TQ3 2BB.
Group Leader - Sue Hoggett

COFFEE MORNING

The coffee mornings 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
17 September.
New members are encouraged
to join to get to know more
about Paignton u3a.
Contact Group Leader - Sue
Lewton – for more details.

CRIB/BACKGAMMON GROUP

Please note there will be no Crib
on Tuesday 1st. The next meeting
will be on 6th October at 2pm at
Janet Home.
Group Leader - Janet Hobbs

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DISCUSSION GROUP

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

New members always welcome.
Group Leader - Martyn Powell

DINING OUT

Thursday 24 September

The Cow Shed in Brixham (just off the harbour) is a new venue for us. Menu is attached to this newsletter and also available on the Paignton u3a website.
Booked as 18:00 for 18:30

I have spoken to the proprietor, and she can put on a special dish of Lamb Shank cooked in Guinness, with dauphinoise potatoes and peas. Have not had a price as yet but I would expect it to be in the region of £25.
Pre orders to Keith by the 14th September.

Thursday 22nd October

Our location for this evening will be the Oriental Touch, St Marychurch Road, Torquay
Booked as 18:00 for 18:30
Organisers – Simon Clarke

No pre orders are needed but please let John know by 18th October if you will be coming

November 2026

This will be held at the Boathouse, Preston – Details will follow next month.

GENEALOGY

The next meeting will be on 2nd September at 10:00 at Group Leaders Home.
Group Leader – Carole Griffin

LUNCH CLUB

11th September – The Railway Inn – Dartmouth Road, Churston Ferrers, Brixham, TQ5 0LL

You have until the 4th September to let Janet Hobbs know if you wish to attend and your menu choices. (A menu will have been attached to this newsletter)
Janet Hobbs

9th October – The Wighton, Orchard Way, Torquay, TQ2 7JA
Menu will be attached to this newsletter and is available on our website. Menu Choices to Lizzie Doyle by 1st October please.

13th November will be the Old Manor at Preston – Details coming soon

All lunch club bookings are 12:00 for 12:30

MAH JONG

The next meeting will be on 9th September at 10:30am at Janets Home.

Group Leader - Sue Hoggett

KNIT & NATTER

The next meeting will be on 14th September at 14:00 at Janets Home.

Group Leader - 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.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

It is time to plan for our Christmas lunch which will be held on 10th December 12:00 for 12:30.

The location of our Christmas Lunch will be the Railway Inn, Dartmouth Road, Churston Ferrers, Brixham, TQ5 0LL

The menu is attached to this Newsletter, food choice and payment need's to be made to Janet Hobbs by 30th November 2026.

We will hold a Christmas Raffle at this event.

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SPEAKERS FOR 2026

September 10th – John Ridsen –
“A Norwegian Voyage”

October 8th – Quiz, Raffle and
card sale

November 12th – Neil Winter
discussing Scammers.

December 10th - Christmas
Lunch.

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 10th September. A talk and Presentation by John Ridsen with a topic of Norwegian Voyage.

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 21st September 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

GENERAL NOTE

Please note that all menus that have been referenced within this newsletter will also be available at the Monthly Meeting.

WEBSITE

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

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FUN PAGE

SEPTEMBER 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 Southeast 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 and 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

AUGUST QUIZ & ANSWERS

- 1) Who is Roman god of winemaking?
Answer: - Bacchus
- 2) On which river does St Petersburg stand?
Answer: - Volga
- 3) Which language does limousine come from?
Answer: - French
- 4) Who wrote "Jakes Thing"?
Answer: - Ben Elton
- 5) What name is given to a straight line that joins any two points on the circumference of a circle?
Answer: - Radius
- 6) Louis Daguerre took first photograph what?
Answer: - Space
- 7) The international car registration of DZ applies to which country?
Answer: - Germany
- 8) Which series of stamps featured Denis the Menace and Mona Lisa?
Answer: - 1st day covers
- 9) In Dynasty in the 80's which famous actor played Sammy Jos father?
Answer: - Rock Hudson
- 10) What type of building did Mary live in , in "The Life and Loves of a she devil"?
Answer: - Haunted

FUN FACTS ABOUT SEPTEMBER

The name "September" comes from an old Roman word "septem" which actually means 7

This September "Harvest Moon" is the fullest moon of the year.

September's birthstone is the sapphire; they are linked to wisdom, loyalty and nobility.

September has 2 birth flowers: the Aster and the Morning Glory