

Tavy District u3a

THE NEWSLETTER



No 114

March 2022

u3a

Who's Who in Tavy District u3a

Chair	Robin Neave	854766
Business Secretary		
Treasurer	Angela Pitt	07519 886578
Membership	Tony Rose	481569
Groups Liaison	Pippa Gardner	616007
Newsletter Distribution	Susan Neal	611076
Speaker's Liaison	Jane Ward	610608
Two Moors Liaison	Robin Neave	854766
Equipment Officer		

Events Committee

Norma Woodcock	613597
Chris Webb	613884
Janet Hunt	613088
Shirley Smith	614964

Remember:

Contact details of all
Group Leaders and
Committee members
can be found in the
password protected
area of the website

NOTE: Some Committee members will change at the AGM.

Refer to the website for up to date details after the AGM

Webmaster: Jan Draper 618517
web@tavydistrictu3a.org.uk

Newsletter Editor: John Noblet

The deadline for the next Newsletter is 20th April 2022

Send contributions to johnnoblet@tavydistrictu3a.org.uk

FROM THE CHAIR



Speaker Programme 2022 Part 2

Below is the programme for March to May 2022. As you will see, we are going to continue with hybrid meetings for the time being, but do please look out for the e-mail circulated in advance of each meeting in case any of the details below have changed. It remains to be seen how well both the March and May meetings will work on Zoom! These are both pre-pandemic bookings.

Looking ahead, I am in the process of organising speakers for the remainder of 2022 and details will be circulated in subsequent newsletters and posted on the website. For 2023, I am crossing my fingers that we'll be able to revert to the "normal" regime whereby the entire programme for the year will be published in January 2023.

I have a long list of possible speakers including many from around the country who popped up when everyone was Zooming only. However, I much prefer to approach potential speakers who have been recommended to me by members and others, either because they know them personally or have heard them speak elsewhere. Please do e-mail me – jane.paul.ward@gmail.com – if you have any suggestions.

Wednesday 2nd March 2022 – 2pm – at Tavistock Town Hall and via Zoom

**AGM followed by
Glassblowing demonstration
Graham Reed, Master Glassblower**

Graham has had a long and very varied career in glass since he first became fascinated by glass blowing at the age of 10. I will try to ensure that he tells us about this as well as actually demonstrating his skills!

Wednesday 6th April 2022 – 2pm – at Tavistock Town Hall and via Zoom

**The Via Francigena – a walk from Canterbury to Rome
Captain Andrew Welch RN Ret'd**

Andrew, who joined the Royal Navy in 1968 and during his career as warfare officer spent several extended periods abroad – Qatar, Italy and, immediately prior to his retirement in 2003, Pakistan - will talk about his Naval Officer's 'retirement cruise', a 1200 mile walk from Canterbury to Rome, in 2004

Wednesday 4th May 2022 – 2pm – at Tavistock Town Hall and via Zoom

David Buncle – 21st Century Falconer

David will be known to many of you from a previous meeting to which he brought a number of his birds. This is another opportunity to meet David and some more of his amazing birds-of-prey. Learn a little of the history of this "sport of Kings" and how David's boyhood fascination led to a varied career amongst some of nature's most spectacular predators.

Jane Ward

Wine Appreciation

Soviet bloc wines, to say the least of it, sounded unpromising. In fact, they proved particularly apposite, due to the situation in Ukraine, and everyone had done proper u3a research for it with maps.

I now know exactly where Moldova is, even if we don't think much of the wine! Château Vartely (Laithwaites) had a beguiling bouquet but no body. The Viorica grape is usually blended and we could see why!

Universally liked was Ian Gasper's Romanian Fettesca Regale from M&S. This seems a good source of unusual varieties, all at £7. It was fragrant and tasted of elderflower, good value for money, especially as Asda has it for £5.

Then came Shirley and Peter's amazing prehistoric Georgian wines. As Oz Clarke says, there aren't many areas of life where something is recreated exactly the same as 8000 years ago. Before Stonehenge and the Pyramids were built, ancient Georgians were making and burying vast clay kvevri (amphora). They then picked and roughly crushed grapes, stems and pips and threw them into the jars sealing them in with clay and leaving it to ferment for months or a year. They are still doing it now.

Georgian wines have a smell, a taste and a feel of the Stone Age - we don't have to like it but it is so atavistic. Shirley's white Tibiluno Qvevris, pronounced KayVe, was not only orange but had an antique taste, think a dry sherry is perhaps the nearest?

Peter's red Inverludi (Novel Wines £13) smelt of mushrooms and Malic acid, not exactly entrancing - then tasted dry of Mulberry and oak initially, but after eight hours open, gosh what's this? Damson gin?!

These Georgian wines were definitely the best talking points we've ever had.

The lessons of the day:

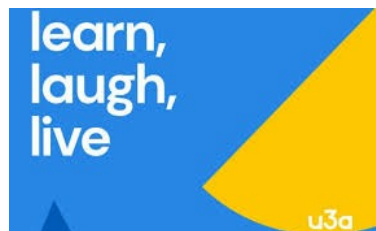
Try them in company.

Research - the pages of printouts that everybody brought added immensely to the experience.

If it's Georgian and tastes awful, leave it to breathe for hours.

Try again and sample prehistory.

Frances Howard



u3a is 40!



2022 is the u3a's 40th Anniversary.

There are big plans across the UK. See the national website www.u3a.org.uk for more details.

Watch this space!

Petanque

The Petanque Group still meet regularly in the Meadows, next to the Sensory Garden, on the 2nd and 4th Monday mornings of the month, weather permitting of course.

We've been lucky enough to play through most of the winter with only one or two Monday mornings being called off due to heavy rain. Some of our players are complete novices and others having played before are quite skillful but all games are played in a friendly spirit which is just as well when it comes to deciding who is closest to the jack! Happily, we have several tape measures to aid a final decision.



Meeting at 10.00 o'clock we draw lots to see who will play with whom and off we go in teams of two or three. It's good outdoor fun and there's plenty of chat and encouragement.

We usually have a small break in between games with some players bringing flasks of coffee to keep them going.

If you fancy having a go at playing please do join us at 10.00 o'clock on the 2nd or 4th Monday morning of the month and we will show you the ropes.

Liz Heaton

The deadline for the next Newsletter is 20th April
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Keep Calm and Start an Interest Group!

We currently run approximately 50 interest groups in some form or another. Some are meeting outdoors such as the walking groups; some are meeting indoors, either in the group leaders' homes or in public rooms in town; others are still zooming and some are not yet back 'in play'.

As you all know, our u3a (like all u3a's) adheres to the *Self-help Learning Principle*. This means, in practice, that interest groups are formed by the members for the members covering as wide a range of topics and activities as desired. We don't offer or seek any qualifications – learning is for its own sake with enjoyment being the prime motive. There is no distinction between the learners and the teachers – everyone belongs to the u3a!

I think that what puts many people off from starting a new group is the idea that they have to 'lead' the group and be knowledgeable about the subject or activity. That is indeed one model, but it is not the only one.

Admittedly, there has to be a Group Leader if only for contact and organisational purposes but they do not always have to 'lead' and they certainly don't have to know everything about the topic. In fact, they could be learning alongside and at the same time as the other members of the group.

It's truly amazing what is on the internet these days! I was having difficulty deciphering some instructions the other day when my daughter suggested I 'look it up on Youtube'. I did and, lo and behold, there was someone who demonstrated and explained it all for me. Since then I've become quite a convert!

In addition, there are national subject advisors who can provide practical advice and support on setting up or running a group. Each subject advisor has a page packed with useful information at u3a.org.uk under the 'Learning' tab. And, of course, there is your Group Co-ordinator as well as other Group Leaders and committee members to offer help and support.

Although we do offer a good range of groups, there is always room for more. What about a Foodies Group – this could take any form that you like from trips out to food sampling to cookery demos? We don't have a Pub Quiz group or a Board Games group. We have poetry and reading groups but not one that focuses on short stories. We have discussion groups but not one that focuses on a specific theme such as films. There are so many possibilities – what about flower arranging or comedy or meditation?

So, get your thinking caps on and let's get some new groups up and running!

Robin Neave

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Digital Photography

In December the challenge for the month for the Group was entitled “Christmas Lights”. I was expecting a series of images of the Lions Trees of Light on the Town Hall plus some of the lights around the Guildhall and the coloured lights in St Eustachius’ Church grounds.

How wrong I was. Three images from the 43 submitted by the group are in this Newsletter. Those submitted by the group ranged from close up indoor lights to vast outdoor lights reflected in water at Mousehole to a highly decorated shop in Tavistock. The remainder of the images included a landscape scene decorated in post production with Christmas mushroom and elf decorations, some street decorations photographed in Prague, and an elaborate house and garden garlanded in lights from Worthing. One image which deserves mention but is not shown here but is on the u3a website, was a deliberately out of focus shot but showing highlights in both red and green submitted by John Dean. It was felt that this image would not render well in print but deserves to be seen so visit the u3a website and look for the link on the right hand side of the home page.

Note if any members wish to join this group please contact me (tonywrose@gmail.com) for details.

Tony Rose



Discussion Group

While the Government is focussed on the aftermath of its Downing Street parties, the Discussion Group in January turned its attention to the NHS and whether it could survive as we know it.

Following a brief introduction, the members, comprising a range of backgrounds, examined the NHS development, identified key issues and explored its future options.

Founded in 1948 to provide free comprehensive health for all, the NHS now employs over 1 million people; the biggest employer outside China. Caring for the UK's growing population and with longer life expectancy, the service now, in real terms, costs the country 10 times more than when it was established. That represents 10% of our national income.

Even before Covid, the NHS was struggling to deliver on its objectives as set out in its Constitution due to a combination of underfunding, and a population that arguably is not helping by ignoring appointments and good advice on dietary habits. More than half our doctors are foreign trained but even then the UK has fewer doctors and nurses per head of population than other leading countries. The number of hospital beds in England has more than halved in the last 30 years. To exacerbate the situation the UK now has fewer beds in residential settings than other countries.

Given it takes 8 years to train a doctor, and we need many more, there can be no quick or cheap fix.

Over the years all political parties have, especially during elections, offered different and competitive amounts of extra emergency cash. That approach by itself is no longer valid or credible.

Where will the extra money come from? Pay more tax, cut public spending elsewhere, introduce personal insurance schemes as some countries have done?

We all have to be part of the response. The danger is we take the NHS for granted because we think it is "free". Helped by the government and the food industry, we as individuals must become more responsible for our own health. We need to be prepared to pay more for a world class health system. That was what was intended when the NHS was established but it is no longer the case.

Our love for the NHS is both a strength and weakness. It is not a criticism of the NHS and its staff for the country to have an open, honest and objective discussion on the above issues. The biggest risk is not to have the discussion and to see something that is so valuable, continue to decline. The Discussion Group meets monthly to consider such key issues of national or international significance. If you might be interested, you would be welcome in our small friendly group. We might not always find or agree on possible solutions but over coffee and cake we always improve our understanding of issues that help shape our lives.

Ian Gasper



Please don't park here!

Seen by John Noblet in Topsham

A Scent-So



ation Florist



Rod Taylor



We are still battling Covid 19
and the next thing is here already.

The NILE Virus, type C

Virologists have identified a
new Nile virus - type C

It appears to target those who were
born between 1940 and 1970

Symptoms:

1. Causes you to send the same message twice.
2. Causes you to send a blank message.
3. Causes you to send a message to the wrong person.
4. Causes you to send it back to the person who sent it to you.
5. Causes you to forget to attach the attachment.
6. Causes you to hit **SEND** before you've finished.
7. Causes you to hit **DELETE** instead of **SEND**
8. Causes you to **SEND** when you should **DELETE**

It is called the C-NILE virus!

And if you can't admit to doing the
above you've obviously caught the
mutated strain, the D-NILE virus.



When you had a holiday before you arrived

It takes 22 hours to fly to Sydney, but in economy it's 22 hours to be endured. You worry about DVT so you must book an aisle seat. But the sights of Europe, the Middle East and southeast Asia pass unseen six miles below. All you can do is stare blankly at films that down on earth you would never think of watching.

It wasn't always like this. There was a time when climate was thought to be permanent and unchanging. When the telephone (for the few who had one) was on the hall table, under the barometer. When homes had real fires burning coal, or coke from the local gas works, so you could come in from a frosty walk and get warm straightaway. When there were over 6,700 railway stations in the UK so you went everywhere by train.

We celebrated the silver jubilee of King George V and Queen Mary in May, and in the middle of that same month Devon had a heavy snowfall, showing that 'extreme' weather is nothing new. In October Plymouth had a one night practice 'blackout': street lights were turned off, windows blocked and RAF bombers cruised overhead.

This is 1935, when you could embark on the P & O *Strathnaver* and reach Sydney by way of Marseilles, Suez, Bombay and Colombo, taking a leisurely six weeks. But you could also fly there.

From Croydon to Singapore Imperial Airways was using the Handley Page type 42, which cruised at 100 mph and had a range of 500 miles. It was at the time the largest aeroplane in the world: an ungainly-looking four-engined biplane that could carry 24 passengers in great comfort, plus cargo and mail. Qantas took you on to Brisbane and Sydney.

Perspicacious readers will have realised that Australia is rather more than 500 miles from the airline's base at Croydon.

And that 100 mph is not very fast. However, Imperial had realised that although the journey by air would take nearly a fortnight, that was a month less than the P&O liners.

No navigation beacons and no air traffic control meant flying low enough for the pilot to find his way by checking features on the ground. The passengers sat in large seats next to a huge window so there were breath-taking views of everything going on: cities, deserts, jungles, ancient ruins, fortresses, and peoples and places you never knew existed.

No need to provide on-board entertainment; life through the window was always more exciting than any film. No one went to sleep or they would have missed the overlaid ferry barely making it across the Indus south of Hyderabad, or the string of exotic and mysterious islands stretching over a thousand miles from the southern tip of Sumatra to Timor.

My Imperial Airways map says their route to Sydney was 13,129 miles long and the airline was covering that in 13 days. The average distance covered per day is therefore 1010 miles. But the plane can do only 500 miles on one tank of fuel. And the wise pilots would surely never have gone on till the red light showed? Maybe 450 miles at a stretch?

Short range plus basic navigation instruments meant there was no flying in the dark, so there were twelve overnight and maybe another twenty refuelling stops *en route*. At the end of each day the passengers would be taken to a hotel or guest-house, the standard of which varied widely depending on where the pilot had landed.

It wasn't cheap to fly that far. The single fare was £195, the equivalent of about £14,000 today. The cheapest ticket on a P&O liner was half that.

Continued on next page

When you had a holiday *Continued*

It was the plane's limited range which meant passengers enjoyed a unique holiday while travelling. Every day enchanting views of unknown lands, every night somewhere different.

My Imperial Airways map, published in 1934, shows all the landing grounds on the way to the Far East and Australia. You flew by way of Paris, Brindisi, Alexandria or Cairo, Baghdad, Sharjah

(on the Persian Gulf), Karachi, Calcutta, Rangoon, Singapore, Batavia, Darwin and Brisbane, plus many other smaller places needed for refuelling.

You had an unforgettable holiday before you even arrived. What a wonderful way to travel.

Ivor Williams

Craft4Crafters Show

The Craft4Crafters Show is at Westpoint Arena on 24th-26th March, and u3a members are offered a special discount of £2 off ticket price if booked on line in advance. The Code for this discount is **C4CU3ACWALL** when booking online.

The link to the website and more details is:

<https://www.craft4crafters.co.uk/Westpoint/>

According to the organisers, the Craft4Crafters exhibition features a mass of crafting delights; packed full of crafting displays, demonstrations, lectures, workshops, make and takes, and a large selection of fantastic retailers. Stock up on craft & needlework supplies, including embroidery, card making, cross stitch and knitting.

They say that over the last 18 years the show has established itself as one of the largest sewing and crafting exhibitions in the Southwest of England, it is a must visit for anyone who loves making things!

New Painting and Drawing Group

Would you like to join us?

We have recently formed a new art group - "Painting and Drawing". We meet in The Harrison Room at Tavistock Library on 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings between 10am and 12 midday. We currently have just 4 members but can grow to a maximum of 12 in our group. Numbers are limited by the comfortable, safe space in the room.

We are a small enthusiastic, supportive group with a range of experience. We use a variety of different media. We will choose a selection of different topics but the benefit will be painting and drawing together. In addition to our regular group meetings we envisage periodically inviting a local artist to demonstrate and visits to local exhibitions or events.

You don't have to be an experienced artist, we welcome beginners, improvers and those with vast experience. If you would like to come along please contact Jane Perona-Wright.

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Help to fill it next time.

No contributions = No Newsletter

Stop, Look, Listen

Changes to legislation don't just happen. Laws are a response to a need or a perceived need. Just like the revision to the Highway Code recently published with much publicity.

Pedestrians (and cyclists and horse riders) have been assessed as being at increasing risk of injury from motorised road users. Note: A summary of the Highway Code changes as they affect walkers is elsewhere in this newsletter.

The expression "Risk Assessment" has entered everyday language. We hear it on a daily basis. Even for garden parties, it would seem. If not a product of Covid, it is a 21st century phenomenon, perhaps originating in the blame culture imported from the USA.

Correct?

NO! Most certainly not.

Our ancestors were making risk assessments of their environment long ago. Determining if the dangers involved in crossing a river outweighed the opportunity for finding resources on the other side was a basic risk assessment (and we would still do it today, wouldn't we?).

The Tigris-Euphrates basin, in what is now Iraq, is considered the birthplace of Western Civilisation, with a move from a nomadic lifestyle to one of settled communities. Empires such as the Sumerians and Babylonians started to develop what we now consider fundamental cornerstones of civilised life such as rule of law, mathematics and other aspects of merchant and industrial life.

The first evidence of a detailed assessment of risk dates from this era when a group known as the Asipu offered guidance for risky ventures around 3200 BC.

A couple of thousand years later the Ancient Greeks, in particular the Athenians, began developing philosophies to weigh up risk and the dangers posed by different aspects of daily

life and war. Later still Hippocrates, he of the Hippocratic Oath, a document of professional medical ethics that survived until modern times, recorded his findings of toxicity about 370 BC. The Roman architect Vitruvius wrote about assessing risks in the construction of buildings in his work *De Architectura* about 10 BC.



Fast forward to the Industrial Revolution when concerns were voiced over the hazards that could arise from technology. In particular, it was the invention of steam engines that changed how society and government viewed and controlled risks. It was this control of risk that was a new concept. Not just calculating whether there was a risk of injury or harm but whether anything could be done to reduce that risk.

In the last 200 years the nature of hazards and risks has changed and so has society's attitude. Most of what we take for granted today didn't exist 250 years ago.

The Factories Act 1802 is generally considered the first Act of Parliament for what we now call "Health and Safety".

Stop, Look, Listen *Continued*

Mostly, however, legislation tended to be related to health considerations for employees in the more hazardous occupations and not, for example, the wider public and safety matters.

Fast forward another 150 years. Rather like the death of JFK, most people of a certain age can remember hearing the news of the Aberfan disaster. In October 1966 a colliery spoil tip engulfed a primary school and 116 children died along with 28 adults. The inquiry found that the situation had been an accident waiting to happen but no organisation or individual was prosecuted, dismissed or even reprimanded because no laws had been broken.

In the aftermath a committee was set up to review and make recommendations in relation to the safety and health of persons at work and that of the public in connection with activities on industrial, commercial or construction sites. It was rather ironic that this committee was led by Lord Robens, Chairman of the National Coal Board.

The conclusions were far reaching but perhaps the most important outcome was the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 which set out the framework for managing health and safety in the workplace. For the first time, this act defined the general duties of both employers and of employees to maintain a safe place of work. In other words, they had to assess the risks and do what they could to reduce the likelihood of harm. Even now, nearly 50 years later, it remains the primary piece of legislation setting out the general duties that employers have but also the duties that employees have to the employer and to other employees.

Times have changed in those 50 years and there have been many “supplementary regulations” supporting the 1974 Act including the requirement in 1999 to write down the results of the risk assessments made.

The responses by both the public and government (are they the same thing?) to events such as the Grenfell fire and the Covid pandemic have shown that we now expect rules to protect other people and not just ourselves.

But ignore risk assessments at your peril. There is an even older code, if you remember. The Green Cross Code was introduced in 1970 and I wonder if anybody still has their Tufty Club badge?



The new Highway Code guidance says that you, the walker, have priority at junctions when crossing roads. But, please, please, please, carry out a risk assessment before stepping into the road and “Arrive Alive”!

John Noblet



**The deadline for the next
Newsletter is 20th
February**

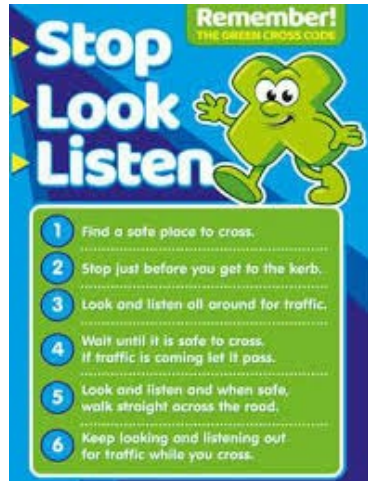
Highway Code Updates

The Highway Code has been updated, with changes that came into force on 29th January 2022. The new version of the Highway Code puts walkers at the top of a hierarchy of road users, giving drivers and cyclists more responsibility to reduce the danger they may pose.

The biggest changes for walkers are:

The introduction of a hierarchy of road users, with walkers at the top.

This new rule will ensure that road users who can do the most harm – drivers of motor vehicles – have the greatest responsibility to reduce the danger they pose to other road users. Up until now, the Highway Code has treated all road users as if they have equal responsibility for their own and other's safety.



A strengthened priority for walkers on pavements waiting to cross the road.

The new code introduces a responsibility for drivers and cyclists to give way to walkers who are waiting to cross a side road or a junction. Walkers will also have priority when waiting to cross a zebra crossing, as opposed to the current rule that only gives priority once you are on the crossing.



But have you noticed how the traffic is getting worse?

John Noblet got stuck in a traffic jam on the Launceston road the other day.

Are these walkers?

**The deadline for the next
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Chris and Jennie's Monthly Walk - At Last!

When I finally fully retired last summer, one of my resolutions was to start going on one u3a walk each month, almost certainly those organised by Chris & Jennie since the timing suited me.

However, within a couple of weeks, that well-worn phrase "I don't know how I ever had time to work" was already a reality and I found an excuse each month not to join in. In January, New Year's resolutions kicked in and I decided that I must spend less time in front of a screen and more on my feet, so I signed up for the walk "along the old railway track around King's Tor" with the option of refreshments at Fox Tor café.

When we got to the rendezvous car park, others were gathering, although it was quite hard to see who they were, as the mist was so thick. After some discussion and thanks to the experience of our leaders, the decision was made to abort and drive to Leg O'Mutton for an alternative lower level walk through Horrabridge, on to Gem Bridge, then down to the River Walkham and back up the other side. Fortunately, there was still

a refreshment option at Long Ash for which I was secretly grateful, as I remembered from a previous visit, that the climb up from the river to Long Ash was a bit of a slog.

There were, I think, 11 of us in all, including members I knew already – some not particularly well - and two members new to our u3a. We all walked at different paces at different stages of the walk, with Chris & Jennie taking it in turns to lead and act as back marker and this gave everyone a chance to talk to plenty of others. What a great way to have a good chin wag and exercise at the same time. I was particularly grateful to Caroline for wanting to go slowly and steadily up to Long Ash; it almost made it easy!

There was further time to chat at the café at Long Ash before walking back to Leg O' Mutton – more chat and more steps; about 5 miles in total for the day.

I'll certainly be signing up again and, Jennie & Chris, I promise that I will do my best to keep the fourth Thursday of every month free, if at all possible.

Jane Ward



A curlew on the River Exe.

See Rosemary's Birdwatching article on another page

Agreement for Letting a Bedford Cottage

Albert Jackman was my paternal grandfather. He was born at Foghanger, Milton Abbot in 1892 and died at Wheal Maria in 1966. Having served for four years as a Driver (of horse drawn gun carriages) in the Royal Field Artillery he was medically discharged on April 11th 1919 and awarded the Silver "War Badge" due to having been gassed in North Africa. His spurs and medals are still held in the family.

A month later, a single man of 27, he took on the tenancy of a Bedford Cottage, 13 Wheal Maria, Tavistock to provide a home for himself and his 66 year old mother who had been widowed in 1917 whilst Albert was away in the Army:-

This Agreement, made this **Twenty third day of June One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nineteen** between the **Most Noble, Herbrand, 11th Duke of Bedford, K. G.**, hereinafter called the Landlord, by **Edward Collins Rundle**, of Tavistock, in the County of Devon, his Agent, of the one part, and **Albert Jackman of Wheal Maria Cottages** hereinafter called the Tenant of the other part.

The Landlord agrees to let and the Tenant agrees to hire the **Cottage, No.13** situate at **Wheal Maria** in the Parish of Tavistock late in the occupation of Mrs Maken together with the adjoining Garden and Outbuildings.

To hold from **Monday, the 12th day of May One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nineteen** from Week to Week, at the Weekly Rent of **One shilling & six pence** and subject to the following Conditions:-

All the Glass in the Windows to be repaired by the Tenant.

The Tenant to pay all Parochial and other Rates.

The Tenant to Sweep the Chimney Flues of the Ground Floor Rooms twice in every year.

The Tenant not to carry on any Trade or Business on the Premises.

The Tenant not to set up any erection in the Yards or on any part of the Premises.

The Tenant not to underlet or take a Lodger without leave, in writing, from the Landlord's Agent.

The Tenant not to keep any Poultry or Pigs without permission.

The Tenant to clean out the Privy and Ashpit not less than once in Six Months, or oftener if required, and where the Privy is not connected with an Ashpit, but is provided with a Pail, the Tenant to empty the Pail at least twice a week, and bury the contents.

The Tenant to keep the Yards clean, to properly cultivate and manure the garden as a Cottage Garden, and keep the Paths free from all weeds and nuisances.

The Tenant shall not Plant any Trees or Shrubs without the previous consent, in writing, of the Landlord or his Agent.

Continued on the next page

Agreement for Letting a Bedford Cottage Cont'd



That at the commencement of the tenancy, the Tenant shall pay to the Landlord, or the Landlord's outgoing Tenant, and at the expiration of the tenancy, the Landlord, or the Landlord's incoming Tenant shall pay to the Tenant the amount (if any), arrived at by agreement, or awarded under "The Allotments and Cottage Gardens Compensation for Crops Act, 1887," and in this agreement, the words "Landlord" and "Tenant" shall respectively have the same meaning as in the last mentioned Act.

As witness the Hands of the said Parties.....W H Matthews was the Witness to the Signature of the said **Edward Collins Rundle**, and the Witness to the Signature of the said **Albert Jackman**.

Val Blair

Bird Watching

We have had a really good start to the year with sunshine and balmy weather on two occasions so far.

The first was our traditional Bird-watching trip on the River Exe with Stuart Line Cruises in January. We have enjoyed this cruise many times in past years benefiting hugely from the commentary of RSPB guides on board. In the past we have braved the cold winds, rain and even snow but this year was sunny with very little wind and a joy to be on the water.

Provided with a list of possible sightings (courtesy of London Camera Exchange) we were hawk-like with our binoculars and snappy with our pencils clocking up 30 different kinds of bird from Kingfisher to Cormorant and Godwit to Grebe and, of course, the beautiful and graceful Avocet, emblem of the RSPB.

In February we made our second foray of the year to Bowling Green Marsh which is also on the River Exe. As the tide floods the estuary the birds can no longer access the mud where they feed so they fly onto the marshes. The light was amazing and again the weather was calm and sunny so we had a really clear view from the bird hide. Again there was plenty of variety which kept us amused for an hour or so before we started the walk along the river into Topsham for a bite of lunch. In all we saw 26 different bird types on this occasion. Not bad eh?

I'd like to thank all my fellow birdwatchers for their company and knowledge. I have learned so much from them all.

Rosemary Edwards

See the splendid photo of a curlew on another page

Walking Groups



Forthcoming walks are as below. **All are welcome but remember that you MUST book in advance with the leader beforehand by text or phone.** Bring a drink and a snack.

Thursday 10th March

Meet 10.00 at Tamar Trails P&D CP SX438728

Walk the Tamar Trails paths seeing plenty of evidence of copper and arsenic mining from the C19th. Bring lunch. 5½ miles approx

Val B

Book with John on 07900 054772

Thursday 24th March

Meet at Pixon Lane free CP at 9.40 a.m. to car share to Hexworthy Bridge SX659729. Circular walk on Moorland tracks and good paths, about 5mls.

Bring a snack and packed lunch.

Chris/Jennie 07802 730549

Tuesday 29th March - 5th Tuesday Longer Walk

Meet at 10.00 Leg O Mutton free CP SX 517679

Walk Binkham, Walkhampton village and church, Gypsy Rock, Lowery and Burrator. Easy walking with great views. 8 miles. Tea after!

John 07900 054772

Tuesday 19th April

Meet at 10.00 Plym Bridge (North) CP SX523587

Walk Plym valley woods. Easy paths and old railways. Hopefully early bluebells and hopefully no mud! 5 miles

John 07900 054772

Thursday 28th April

Meet at Pound Cross SX 507689 at 10.00

Walk to the Garden House, lots of spring flowers. Easy walking on paths including the one through the Garden House. About 4 mls. Optional refreshments at Long Ash Cafe

Chris/Jennie 07802 730549

Theatre Group

We have two group bookings for September at the Theatre Royal.

The first is for **Fisherman's Friends - The Musical** on **Thursday September 8th at 2.30 pm**. This is based on the true story of a group of Cornish fishermen who come together to sing their traditional working songs and end up on the Pyramid stage at Glastonbury. Tickets are £43 for circle rows C and D.

The second is **This Land**, originally due to be shown in June 2020, on **Saturday 24th September at 2.30pm**.

Created and performed by 120 citizens of Plymouth, UK and 30 members of the

Native American Wampanoag Tribe from Massachusetts, USA, **This Land** tells the story of **Mayflower's** journey, its impact upon arrival in America and our collective experience of a global pandemic 400 years later.

Tickets are £15 for Circle rows C and D.

The payment deadline for both of these shows is the May meeting. You can either sign up and pay at a monthly meetings or alternatively email tavyu3atheatre@gmail.com to book and I will send you my address so that you can post a cheque.

Carole Thompson

What's in a Name?

What's in a name...? Asks Caroline Lorenzi....well you might ask...

I have an older sister, Veronica, who has lived in Paris for some 60 years. Her legal and birth name is Mary, but given the exigencies of so many Catholic girls being called Mary quite often their second name instead was used in schools and became the norm. Veronica is somewhat of a walking pilgrim. The Camino de Santiago route was off done annually. She does her stint cooking the donated abundances from the land in wayside refuges (a hearty courgette soup comes to mind....gulp) and she has many like minded friends.

One such friend was Joe, a male pal who lives in England. A few years ago, they decided to walk to Nazareth and Bethlehem for Christmas. Veronica from Paris, he from Dorset. Given that it was the time of the beatification of Mother Theresa they agreed to meet up in Rome for the celebrations. They had their bona fide Pilgrims' passports which permitted refuge in monasteries etc, and would proceed from there together.

Howsomever, after the beatification ceremony whence Rome was very crowded with pilgrims, on their onward journey they were constantly refused hospitality at the advised convent and monastery pilgrim sanctuaries. So instead had to return to Rome and fly to Israel.

Upon my enquiring of Veronica why they had been refused, she presumed that by showing their pilgrim passports denoting their proper names of Mary and Joseph - and in explaining they were on their way to Nazareth and Bethlehem - it might have been just a tad too implausible for the nuns and monks to accept...

(But maybe there just wasn't enough room...a single or double whammy..???)

Margaret Garton

The Events Committee

We enjoyed the Quiz and Cream Tea afternoon!

Next

The tours of **Ford Park Cemetery** are on Wednesday 9th March and Tuesday 22nd March. There are still a couple of places on each tour and these are being led by Alan Bricknell who did last month's u3a talk.

Contact Janet 613088 janle.hunt47@gmail.com Janet will contact all those signed up with full details of each tour a week ahead of the visits.

Trelissick Gardens and Falmouth on Wednesday 27th April £16, leaving opposite The Bedford at 9am. We expect to return by 6pm.

Trelissick Gardens are free to NT members. Contact Janet 07870 230138

janle.hunt47@gmail.com

Pay by the April u3a meeting.

Exeter Canal – Exeter (coffee, shopping and lunch) and then to Exmouth via the canal with Stuart Line Cruises

Tuesday 24th May £23.50 leaving the Bedford Hotel at 9am.

Contact Shirley 07751 127480 busybee5860@hotmail.co.uk to book your place (or at a meeting).

Pay by the May u3a meeting.

And Finally

Ball

Alan Puddicombe

