



Next General Meeting & Monthly Talk

When and where: April 10th at 10:30am The Flavel Auditorium

Principles of Garden design

Presented by **Jacque Felix-Mitchell**

This talk looks at the main principles of garden design and aims to give you some inspiration regarding your own outdoor space, be it a balcony, courtyard or something much larger.

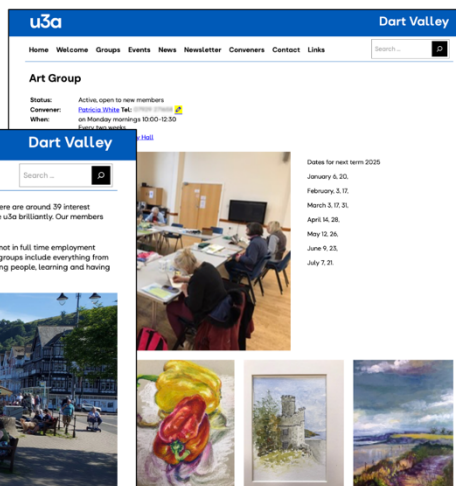
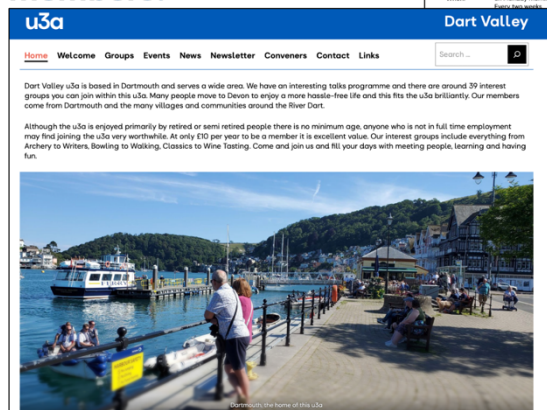


Details of upcoming talks can be found on our website by clicking on this link:
<https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/events/>

News

- A friendly reminder that your annual membership renewals are due **1st April**.
- Archery will be running introductory tuition for anyone wanting to have a go this season. Archery is a fun, safe and enjoyable outdoor and social activity. Contact the Archery convener for details.
- There are vacancies in the Bowling, Scrabble, Spanish, Walking, Wine and Writers groups. Contact the relevant convener to join (details below).
- French Reading is expanding to become French Culture. See below for details.
- Visit our new website by clicking on the link <https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk>

Dart Valley u3a new website is now live for members!



We moved to our new website in December 2024.

Tim Freeman, Wiz Tehel and Peter Avis have been working with the Committee and group coordinators.

The site is updated regularly with new information on groups, events, the newsletter, and other items,

Please see if the link above works for you! If not, please email one of us at peteravis1@gmail.com, timfreeman61@googlemail.com, or wiz@tehel.net.

What's on in April

Summary of events on this month, further details are in the Groups and Events section below in this newsletter. Please always check with the convenor as details may change after the issue of this newsletter.

AM / P M	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4	5
AM			Archery Bridge Crafts Club	Book Group 2 Sports Morning	Classics	Mahjong	
PM				iPad 4 Beginners		History of Art Italian Conversation	
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AM		Spanish Conversation Walking	Archery Bridge Crafts Club	Book group 3 Sports Morning	Monthly Talk	Italian Conversation	
PM		Wine Group	Bowling Pub Lunch (C)	Geology Medau		Scrabble	
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
AM		Art Group Walking	Archery Bridge Cryptic Crosswords Crafts Club	Garden Group 3 Sports Morning	German Conversation	Good Friday	Easter Saturday
PM	Sunday Lunch			iPad 4 Beginners			
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
AM	Easter Sunday	Easter Monday	Archery Bridge Crafts Club	Sports Morning	Architecture		
PM				Medau Pub Lunch (A)	Pub Lunch (B) Wine Group – Noble Rotters	Italian Conversation Scrabble	
	27	28	29	30			
AM		Art Group Spanish Conversation Walking	Archery Bridge Crafts Club	Sports Morning			
PM		Book Group 1 Writers Group		Medau iPad 4 Beginners			

Groups and Events

GROUPS AND NEWSLETTER [Wiz Tehel 07770912100 newsletter@dartvalleyu3a.org](mailto:Wiz_Tehel_07770912100_newsletter@dartvalleyu3a.org)

If you wish to start a new group or want to have an entry in this newsletter then contact me. For starting new groups, your committee can support with advertising, publicity, advice and reasonable financial assistance.

ARCHERY [Colin Payne 07919 933891 colinpayne43@hotmail.com](mailto:Colin_Payne_07919_933891_colinpayne43@hotmail.com) (Tues am Stoke Fleming Cricket Ground).

For the first time ever, we have managed to continue Archery Group outdoor shoots over the past winter period whenever the weather wasn't too wet, nor too cold and windy! We concentrated on exploring the limitations of our bows; marksmanship at various distances up to 60yds and 'clout shooting' to over 100yds; we learnt techniques to judge distance and elevation of our bows without the use of modern aiming sights. Come the warmer weather this Spring we welcome new would-be archers to join us.

ARCHITECTURE Mike Trevorrow 01803 752928 / 07470 484858 mike.d.trevorrow@gmail.com

(4th Thurs, 11.15 for 11.30am start, Flavel Studio – all welcome)

Thursday 24th April - The many things we “see” in architecture but do not necessarily “notice”.

ART GROUP Pat White 07929 271658 lespatwhite@icloud.com (Monday 10am Townstal Hall).

March has been a time for exploring more expressive watercolour effects, some with spring flowers, others with animals, with one member continuing with a superb ‘perspective’ drawing. Members have enjoyed the challenge of being looser with colour effects and being selective with detail.

For anyone interested there is a very good exhibition at the Brownston Gallery in Modbury at present with examples of work by Sam Boughton, Phil Creek, Ray Balkwill, amongst others; an excellent, varied exhibition with lots to inspire!

Examples of what the group produces are on our website at https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/art-group/

BOOK GROUP 1 Lindsay Charlesworth 01803 834592 lindsay@jpcharlesworth.plus.com

(10.30am – 3rd Monday Stoke Fleming)

Queen of the Tambourine by Jane Gardam was the basis for a 'vigorous meeting' apparently. Amazing writing showing the gradual mental breakdown of the principal character but overall too many characters and extra complications. Our April book is *Death at the Sign of the Rook* by Kate Atkinson, and then in May we have selected *There are Rivers in the Sky* by Elif Shafak.

BOOK GROUP 2 Valerie Church 01803 834280 churchval2@aol.com (1st Weds 2.30pm - 4.00pm)

Coming to Find You by Jane Corry not having gone down too well we have again gone back in time. To academia, the dreaming spires of Oxford and Lord Peter Wimsey. In other words, *Gaudy Night* by Dorothy L Sayers. To be discussed in April. This will be followed by *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus.

BOOK GROUP 3 Sarah Nottrodt 0777 8547064 sarah_nottrodt@hotmail.co.uk (2nd Weds 10am)

BOWLING Tim Freeman 01803 832663/07792 620176 timfreeman61@googlemail.com (2nd Tuesday 3pm).

Tuesday 8th April - First meeting of the year! Meeting at 3pm at the Dartmouth Bowling Club near the Guildhall this u3a group offers a chance to try out bowling for £2. All equipment is provided. To join the group please email the convenor who will arrange a short lesson prior to check if this activity is right for you and get you holding the woods correctly. **New members sought.**

BRIDGE Judi Cotes 01803 834802 / 07870897108 judigrovecotes7@gmail.com (Flavel Studio Tues 10–12)

No stress bridge. £4 which include tea/coffee and biscuits. A partner will be found if you come on your own.

CLASSICS Wiz Tehel 07770 912100 classics@dartvalleyu3a.org (1st Thurs 10.30am Flavel Auditorium, £4).

Full list of upcoming talks can be found on our website on this link

https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/classical-studies/

3rd April - In Vino Veritas – The Story of Wine Presented by Bill Riddell. Wine is one of the most popular beverages in the world and it has a long history. When and where was wine first produced? How did wine come to take over the Ancient World. Bill takes us on a journey of discovery from wine’s first creation through to Greek, Roman and other ancient cultures.

1st May - History of Vindolanda and the Vindolanda Trust. Presented by Gary Calland. Vindolanda Fort is one of Europe’s most important Roman archaeological sites. It is situated near Hadrian’s Wall, and it considered a must-see attraction in the England’s Northeast. Vindolanda is managed by a charitable trust, established in 1970, who continue to manage this World Heritage Site. Gary traces the history of the Roman fort, the Trust, and the significant discoveries that the fort has revealed over the years.

COFFEE CUPS Gwendolyn Alker 01803 833270 jsgmalker@yahoo.co.uk

We are always needing help to serve coffee and tea at the monthly meeting.

Please sign up to help at the next meeting. You will have **free entry** for the meeting when you help.

CRAFTS CLUB Joan Buscombe 01803 832662 c/o vcbest@hotmail.co.uk (Tues 10am -12 noon ring first)

We are a friendly multi-level skills group who has met on 1066 occasions since we started. A couple new members have recently joined us to learn how to crochet and we would welcome anyone else interested in needlecrafts. We would welcome more people to come and join us and share their knowledge with ours, or if a complete beginner for us to share our knowledge with you.

Do come forward if you enjoy creative stitching.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS Gwendolyn Alker 01803 833270 jsgmalker@yahoo.co.uk (3rd Tues)

The next meeting is on Tuesday 15 April at 10.30. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Gwendolyn

FRENCH CONVERSATION Steve Stevenson steelboatsteve2@btinternet.com

(2:30pm 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, at Brown's Hotel, Bar & Bistro, Victoria Road.)

Members enjoyed a lively conversation at Browns Hotel on Wednesday 12th March. It was decided that it would be our final meeting of the season since many members have other engagements over the coming months. We propose to reconvene in the autumn as from Wednesday 10th September and every fourth and second Wednesday of the month thereafter. If anyone would like to join our group in the autumn, please email me

NEW FRENCH CULTURE Anne Goody anne@goody.org.uk

For 2025 French Reading will expand its scope and interest to become French Culture. The group will enjoy French news, literature, popular fiction, films, music, arts, not to mention food and wine. Contact Anne for more details for next meeting.

GARDENING GROUP 1&2 Clare Ball ceball@live.co.uk (3rd Friday)

Please note that Garden Groups 1 & 2 are now amalgamated and meet 11AM 3rd Friday of the month.

GARDEN GROUP 3 Julia Churchley 07900 321681 julia.churchley@hotmail.co.uk (Irregular meetings)

Wednesday 16th April at 11am - Visit to Lukesland Gardens near Ivybridge, a large and beautiful spring garden. The garden is based around a stream, with numerous islands and bridges, which makes it fun to explore. Magnificent flowering shrubs. (£9). Email Julia to join the trip or to join our mailing list. All welcome.

GEOLOGY Tim Freeman 01803 832663 timfreeman61@googlemail.com (Irregular Weds 2.30pm Flavel Studio, £2)

Wednesday 9th April at 2:30pm, Alfred Russel Wallace and the Wallace Line. We think of Darwin as the main creator of the theory of evolution but in the eyes of some Wallace should be given the credit. He also produced maps of a strikingly unusual line snaking through nearby islands either side of which very different species lived. This is now known as the Wallace Line and is the result of movements of the earth's tectonic plates. £1 only this month, please bring the correct money, all welcome.

GERMAN CONVERSATION Ingrid Sidell 01803 770870 ingsid23@yahoo.co.uk mob 07818208721 (for texts)

We generally meet monthly on the 3rd Thursdays 10.00am in Strete but may vary depending on members availability.

HISTORY OF ART Julia Churchley 07900 321681 julia.churchley@hotmail.co.uk (1st Fri 2pm Studio, Flavel)

Friday 4 April - The Spanish Painting Tradition with Dr Chris Davies (Art historian). Chris will be talking about some of the most significant Spanish painters. The talk will explore Studio practice, how materials and techniques have been deployed in the making of the paintings. Starting at 2pm prompt.

22nd – 27th April – History of Art Trip to Madrid. A group of us are off to Madrid to visit the incredible galleries.

Friday 9th May Trip to Delamore Arts and Sculpture Exhibition Delamore Estate, Cornwood PL21 9QT. A chance to see contemporary art and sculpture in a beautiful garden setting. More details to follow.

IPADS 4 BEGINNERS Suzie Dodsworth 01803 770134 suziedwong@gmail.com

(Stoke Fleming Village Hall, Weds 2:00 to 4:00pm twice a month.)

iPads for Beginners started and is currently full. Contact Suzie to register for future courses.

ITALIAN CONVERSATION Tasha James 0795 750 9351 nataliarh9@gmail.com

We meet on Fridays at 2 pm. Contact Tasha by email or telephone.

MAHJONG Elaine French 01803 832304 frenchfamily1@live.co.uk

(1st & 3rd Fri 10am to 1pm Stoke Fleming Village Hall)

MEDAU Yvonne Cottam 01803 835251 ycottam@live.co.uk (Weds 12.30pm-1.30pm, Townstal Hall)

Several new members have joined this term making the class full now. Everyone is working hard at improving their movement and fitness. Dates for summer term are 23rd April to 21st May (5 weeks) and 4th June to 25th June (4 weeks). Contact Yvonne for more details.

PITCH AND PUTT Jennifer Wright 01803 445247 jenniferm.wright@hotmail.co.uk

(Occasional, Cayman Golf, Churston)

Any member of the u3a may go independently to P & P and enjoy a round for the discount price of £6 which includes the hire of two clubs and two balls. It is a good way to exercise but be aware that there are only a couple of places on the course to sit and rest! You can play just nine holes if you don't want to do the full 18 holes, and the garden centre cafe next door is great for refreshments afterwards!

PUB LUNCHES GROUP (A) Alan Cole 01803 752902 alan5cole@icloud.com (4th Weds monthly)

Contact Alan Cole for details of next pub lunch venue.

PUB LUNCHES GROUP (B) Alan Drew 01803 833219 asdrew@btinternet.com (last Thursday Monthly)

Contact Alan Drew for details of next pub lunch venue.

PUB LUNCH GROUP (C) Mike Dodsworth 01803 770134 mike1.dodsworth@btinternet.com (2nd Tues monthly)

Contact Mike for details of next pub lunch venue.

Lunch Group C is currently full. Potential members should be aware that a possible switch from 2nd Tuesday to 1st Tuesday is in discussion at present.

SCRABBLE Sue Manley 01803 414774 Mobile 07840257045 susancmanley2004@yahoo.co.uk

The Scrabble group meets upstairs in The Studio in The Flavel. Meetings take place on the second and fourth Fridays of the month. 2-4 pm. £4 to play. Tea and biscuits are provided. **Vacancies for new members.**

SPANISH CONVERSATION Yvonne Cottam 01803 835251 ycottam@live.co.uk (Fortnightly Mon 11.30am – 1.00pm)

We could take a couple more Spanish speakers if there is anyone out there wanting to practise for their next visit to Spain. We do not teach Spanish - you need to be on a learners' course and use our group for practising.

Sports Morning Yvonne Cottam 01803 835251 ycottam@live.co.uk (Weds 10am Dart Leisure Centre)

The group is full but contact Yvonne to register interest when there is a vacancy.

SUNDAY LUNCH Anne Taylor 01803 363257 jonquil_shapley@hotmail.com (2nd Sun month 12.30.pm)

Lunch on 13th April at The Fortescue Arms, East Allington.

WALKING Hilary Cranmer 01803 835812 hilarycranmer@hotmail.co.uk (Mon 9.30am Ivatt Rd, Townstal)

Meeting at 9:30am, weather permitting.

Photos of recent walks can be seen on our website at https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/walking/.

WINE GROUP-NOBLE ROTTERS 🍷 Anne Taylor 01803 363257 jonquil_shapley@hotmail.com

Meeting on Thursday, 24th April.

Wine Tasting Bill Riddell 01803 752049 billriddell75@gmail.com (1st Mon pm. Members' homes)

A convivial evening was held at Lizzie's house in Dartmouth on Monday 3rd March. The wines sampled were all from South Africa. The 1st SA vineyard was planted by Van Riebeeck in Constantia by a Dutch settler in 1655 and by 1659 they were producing a sweet wine. The climate soil and biodiversity of SA results in wines of a distinct minerality and freshness. One fizz, 4 white wines and 4 red wines were sampled with prices ranging from £6.99 to £18.50. One member remarked: "What we enjoyed didn't relate to the price!".

The Wine Tasting Group has **vacancies** for new members. Contact the convenor for details.

Writers Val Depledge 01803 834323 valdepledge@hotmail.com (Mon pm. Members' homes)

We are a small and close-knit group of enthusiastic writers who meet once a month to share our written pieces with each other for constructive feedback. The main purpose of our group is not to teach how to write or to correct punctuation, spelling and so on, but to help, support, encourage and enjoy our writing.

We currently have **vacancies for new members**, so if you think you might be interested in joining or finding out more, please contact me.

Membership

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY -Suzie Dodsworth 01803 770134 membership@dartvalleyu3a.org

The annual membership fees are £10 for Individuals, £20 for Joint Memberships (i.e. couples at the same address) and £5 for Associates. For new members who have or intend to join during the year, the membership fee per person is £10 if you join between April and June, between July and Sept it is £7.50, between October and Dec £5 and the remaining three months £2.50. Membership forms are available on the u3a website or from me.

A reminder for those who have not renewed that your membership starts on **1st April** each year. Our bank details are as follows: Account Name: **Dart Valley U3A**, Account Number: **06170102**, Sort Code: **52 30 20**.

Alternately, write a cheque made out to Dart Valley U3A and post to Membership Secretary, Swallowfield House, School Road, Stoke Fleming, TQ6 0PR.

