

# u3a Dart Valley General Meetings – Programme for 2025

At the Flavel Arts Centre, Dartmouth 10.00 am - tea & coffee; 10.30 am - Talk.



## January 9th

### **Loaves and Fishes in Nepal** **Lt Col (Retd) Philip Holmes OBE**

After resigning from the army following the tragic death of his first wife, he set up a children's charity in her memory to work in Nepal. He began with tiny resources, but success began when he went to live in Nepal, where he rescued a thousand innocent children from imprisonment, off the streets and from modern day slavery. He closed two cross-border child trafficking routes.

## February 13th

### **Who were the ancient Britons** **Dr Iain Watt**

The talk will introduce you to a small number of folks from our past who have fascinated our speaker and inform about the people of our Isles today.

## March 13th

### **Our Place in Space** **Jo Richardson**

Planet earth is our home in space; our very own space craft hurtling around the sun our nearest star. In this talk we check out our local neighbourhood by looking at the solar system. From the hellish world of Venus to the stormy conditions of Neptune we discover how the system operates, the size and distances involved, plus how it was formed some 4.6 billion years ago

## April 10th

### **Principles of Garden design** **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.

## May 8th

### **Science of Spices: how to use spices to revolutionise your cooking** **Dr Stuart Ferrimond**

Stuart will explain the nature of spices, why they are so important for cooking, the science underpinning flavour and how to harness this in everyday cooking to create more flavourful dishes, equipping us with knowledge and skills

## June 12th

### **Convicts and Settlers** **The Characters who built Australia** **Lynne Carroll**

An enlightening talk covering the fascinating experiences of early settlers and convicts travelling to and arriving in Australia during the 18th and 19th centuries. Although having quite varied reasons for taking up residence in the Colonies; lives of early settlers and convicts would often overlap as they found themselves dependent upon each other's skills and knowledge.

## July 10th

### **The Suffragette story in the Southwest** **Pamela Vass**

On August 4th, 1914, a car was spotted speeding away from a Devon mansion late at night. Moments later the alarm was raised as flames lit up the sky. The papers were full of speculation that suffragettes were to blame. Truth or Fiction? This one question opened the door to the fascinating story of the fight for the vote in the southwest - not a tale of the sleepy rural backwater but of women prepared to protest at political meetings, recruit in the streets, join mass rallies in London and suffer forced feeding in Holloway. All this and the biggest sleepover the region has ever known.

## August

No meeting as u3a has a month off during the holiday season.

## September 11th

### **The race to discover the Northwest Passage and the North Pole.** **John Davidson**

In the 19th century there was a race to discover the Northwest Passage through the Canadian Arctic and expeditions were mounted to reach the North Pole. Polar conditions were very challenging and the Arctic was one of the last great unknowns. We look at who went on these voyages of discovery, why they went, what happened to the expeditions and what they finally discovered.

## October 9th

### **How the Brain Works** **Tony Davis**

Humans have always been curious about how their mind/brain works. In this talk we explore some of the methods used and the results they produce.

## November 13th

### **The Medical aspects of flying in the RAF**

#### **Air Vice Marshal Aroop Mozumber**

Aviation produces a hostile environment for aircrew. Supporting them is the core purpose of Military aviation medicine. This talk will describe the effects of G-forces, lack of oxygen, spatial disorientation and others and how to combat these, as well as medical aspects of carrying injured casualties of war by air.

Dr Mozumber recently retired as a medical officer in the RAF, where he became Director General of the RAF Medical Services in the rank of Air Vice-Marshal.

## December 11th

### **Musical Satire of the 20th century** **Peter Gill**

Peter explores the evolution of the comedy song in the 20th century from songs in the trenches of the first world war to the genius of Cole Porter, Noel Coward and Tom Lehrer and on to the hilarity of Monty Python, Billy Connolly and Victoria Wood. The skill of satirical lyricists will be identified and a choice selection of the songs performed.



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|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Archery</b>             | Tues am                        |
| Colin Payne                | 07919 933891                   |
| <b>Architecture</b>        | 4th Thurs am                   |
| Mike Trevorrow             | 01803 752928                   |
| <b>Art Group</b>           | 2nd/4th Mons am                |
| Pat White                  | 07929 271658                   |
| <b>Book Group 1</b>        | 3rd Mons am                    |
| Lindsay Charlesworth       | 01803 834592                   |
| <b>Book Group 2</b>        | 1st Weds pm                    |
| Val Church                 | 01803 834280                   |
| <b>Book Group 3</b>        | 2nd Weds am                    |
| Sarah Nottrodt             | 0777 8547064                   |
| <b>Bowling</b>             | 2nd Tues pm                    |
| Tim Freeman                | 01803 832663                   |
| <b>Bridge</b>              | Tues am                        |
| Judi Cotes                 | 01803 834802                   |
| <b>Classical Era</b>       | 1st Thurs am                   |
| Vince 'Wiz' Tehel          | 07770 912100                   |
| <b>Crafts Club</b>         | Tues am (ring)                 |
| Joan Buscombe              | 01803 832662                   |
| <b>Cryptic Crosswords</b>  | Tues am Monthly                |
| Gwendolyn Alker            | 01803 833270                   |
| <b>French Conversation</b> | Irregular Wed                  |
| Steve Stevenson            | steelboatsteve2@btinternet.com |

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|------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>French Culture</b>                    | 4th Wed pm        |
| Anne Goody                               | anne@goody.org.uk |
| <b>Garden Groups 1 &amp; 2</b>           | Irregular         |
| Clare Ball                               | 01803 833292      |
| <b>Garden Groups 3</b>                   | Irregular Thurs   |
| Julia Churchley                          | 07900 321681      |
| <b>Geology</b>                           | Irregular Weds pm |
| Tim Freeman                              | 01803 832663      |
| <b>German Conversation</b>               | Monthly Thurs     |
| Ingrid Sidell                            | 01803 770870      |
| <b>History of Art</b>                    | 1st Fri pm        |
| Julia Churchley                          | 07900 321681      |
| <b>iPad for Beginners</b>                | Alternate Weds    |
| Suzie Dodsworth                          | 01803 770134      |
| <b>Italian Conversation</b>              | Fri pm            |
| Tasha James                              | 0795 750 9351     |
| <b>MahJong</b>                           | 1st & 3rd Friday  |
| Elaine French                            | 01803 832304      |
| <b>Medau</b>                             | Weds pm           |
| Yvonne Cottam                            | 01803 835251      |
| <b>Pub Lunches</b>                       |                   |
| 'A' 4th Wed. 'B' Last Thurs 'C' 1st Tues |                   |
| 'A' Alan Cole                            | 01803 752902      |
| 'B' Alan Drew                            | 01803 833219      |
| 'C' Mike Dodsworth                       | 01803 770134      |

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|-----------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Scrabble</b>             | 2nd + 4th Fri pm |
| Sue Manley                  | 01803 414774     |
| <b>Spanish Conversation</b> | Alternate Mon am |
| Yvonne Cottam               | 01803 835251     |
| <b>Sports Morning</b>       | Weds am          |
| Yvonne Cottam               | 01803 835251     |
| <b>Sunday Lunch Group</b>   | 2nd Sun          |
| Anne Taylor                 | 01803 363257     |
| <b>Walking</b>              | Mon am           |
| Hilary Cranmer              | 01803 835812     |
| <b>Wine Tasting (1)</b>     | 4th Thurs pm     |
| Anne Taylor                 | 01803 363257     |
| <b>Wine Tasting (2)</b>     | 1st Mon pm       |
| Bill Riddell                | 01803 752049     |
| <b>Writers</b>              | Monday pm        |
| Val Depledge                | 01803 834323     |

**New ideas and volunteers always welcome.**

**For further information on the groups or other events visit:**  
<https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk>  
**or scan this QR code with your smart phone**



**Dart Valley**  
**Registered Charity No. 115520**

**Committee**

|                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Julia Churchley | Chair                  |
| Bill Riddell    | Vice Chairman          |
| Liz Helyer      | Treasurer              |
| Chris Milsom    | Minutes Secretary      |
| Suzie Dodsworth | Membership             |
| Wiz Tehel       | Newsletter & Groups    |
| Iain McCall     | Speakers & Talks       |
| Tim Freeman     | Marketing & Publicity  |
| Gwendolyn Alker | Devon Link Coffee Rota |
| Peter Avis      | Legal Advisor          |
| Paul Noonan     |                        |

**Non-Committee Support**

|           |                |
|-----------|----------------|
| Pat White | Front Register |
|-----------|----------------|

**For membership contact:**  
**Suzie Dodsworth on 07811 278133**  
**or [membership@dartvalleyu3a.org](mailto:membership@dartvalleyu3a.org)**

**There is an interesting talk every second Thursday of the month.**  
**See over for details.**