

## Upcoming General Meetings & Monthly Talks

All talks are held in The Flavel Auditorium

### AGM followed by Putin, Trump and the Ukraine

Presented by John Dobson

11<sup>th</sup> June

**Please note the earlier start of 10:15am to accommodate the AGM**

**Members free, Visitors £3**

What were Putin's real reasons for invading the Ukraine, an independent sovereign state?

What has been the impact on Russian's economy?

What is the relationship between Trump and Putin?

What are the scenarios for the end of the war?



Find out answers to these and many other questions on the conflict from John who spent 3 years as a Royal Naval attaché in Moscow.

### Wildlife Photography: In Pursuit of the Improbable

Presented by Stephen Powles

9th July

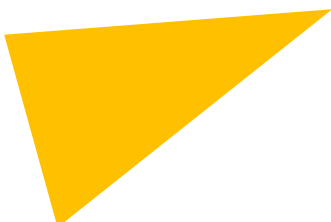
**Members £2, Visitors £3, Talk starts 10:30am**

In a medley of interesting, amusing, and informative wildlife stories, wildlife photographer Steven describes how he managed to photograph and film some challenging subjects and how an understanding of their natural history and behaviour enabled him to do so. Amongst others, kingfishers, herons, otters, lizards and hedgehogs will be featured.



Details of upcoming talks can be found on our website by clicking on this link:

<https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/events/>



# What's on in June 2026

Please **always** check with the convenor as details may change after the issue of this newsletter.

Summary of events on this month, further details are in the Groups and Events section below in this newsletter.

| AM/<br>PM | Sunday       | Monday                               | Tuesday                                                | Wednesday                                     | Thursday                                      | Friday                                 | Saturday |
|-----------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------|
|           |              | 1                                    | 2                                                      | 3                                             | 4                                             | 5                                      | 6        |
| AM        |              |                                      | Archery<br>Bridge<br>Crafts Club                       | Book Group 2<br>Sports Morning                | Classics                                      | Mahjong                                |          |
| PM        |              |                                      | Yoga for Beginners                                     | Medau                                         |                                               | History of Art<br>Italian Conversation |          |
|           | 7            | 8                                    | 9                                                      | 10                                            | 11                                            | 12                                     | 13       |
| AM        |              | Spanish Conversation<br>Walking      | Archery<br>Bridge<br>Crafts Club                       | Book Group 3<br>Sports Morning                | <b>AGM &amp; Monthly<br/>Talk</b>             |                                        |          |
| PM        |              |                                      | Bowling<br>Yoga for Beginners                          | French Conversation<br>Medau                  |                                               | Italian Conversation<br>Scrabble       |          |
|           | 14           | 15                                   | 16                                                     | 17                                            | 18                                            | 19                                     | 20       |
| AM        |              | Art Group<br>Book Group 1<br>Walking | Archery<br>Bridge<br>Crafts Club<br>Cryptic Crosswords | Geology<br>Sports Morning                     | Architecture<br>German Conversation           | Garden Group 1 & 2<br>Mahjong          |          |
| PM        | Sunday Lunch | Wine Tasting                         | Yoga for Beginners                                     | Medau                                         | Pub Lunch (C)                                 | Italian Conversation                   |          |
|           | 21           | 22                                   | 23                                                     | 24                                            | 25                                            | 26                                     | 27       |
| AM        |              | Spanish Conversation<br>Walking      | Archery<br>Book Group 4<br>Bridge<br>Crafts Club       | Sports Morning                                | Garden Group 3                                |                                        |          |
| PM        |              |                                      | Yoga for Beginners                                     | Pub Lunch (A)<br>French Conversation<br>Medau | Pub Lunch (B)<br>Wine Group – Noble<br>Rotter | Italian Conversation<br>Scrabble       |          |
|           | 28           | 29                                   | 30                                                     |                                               |                                               |                                        |          |
| AM        |              | Art Group<br>Walking                 | Archery<br>Bridge<br>Crafts Club                       |                                               |                                               |                                        |          |
| PM        |              |                                      | Yoga for Beginners                                     |                                               |                                               |                                        |          |

## News and Notices



Looking for a fun day out? The u3a Bowling Group are looking for new members.

The group meets at 3pm on the second Tuesday at the Dartmouth Bowling Club in Victoria Road. All equipment is provided. See below for more details.

## Membership

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY** [membership@dartvalleyu3a.org](mailto:membership@dartvalleyu3a.org)

Suzie Dodsworth is standing down as membership secretary but please continue to use the membership email address - Julia will be managing your membership queries.

If you haven't paid this year's fee, (£10 for individuals and £5 for associate memberships) please email membership and we will assist you. Alternatively ask for a u3a envelope at the monthly meeting.

New members need to fill out a membership form (available at the monthly meetings and on our website).

By now you should have heard from Julia, and if you have not, please contact Julia at the chairman email address [chairman@dartvalleyu3a.org](mailto:chairman@dartvalleyu3a.org)

Thank you very much for those of you who responded. There is still roughly a quarter of people yet to pay, and I'd ask that those of you in that group pay ASAP. Thank you.

## Groups and Events

**GROUPS AND NEWSLETTER** Wiz Tehel 07770912100 [newsletter@dartvalleyu3a.org](mailto: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:colinpayne43@hotmail.com) (Tues am Stoke Fleming Cricket Ground).

If anyone would like to join us for the coming summer you will be welcome to give archery a try. We give basic instruction. Please contact the convener.

**ARCHITECTURE** Mike Trevorrow 07470 484858 [mike.d.trevorrow@gmail.com](mailto:mike.d.trevorrow@gmail.com)

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

On June 18th we are gallivanting off to **Mount Edgecombe** on the Rame Peninsula, just inside Cornwall, for a guided tour of that ancient house. It should be a lovely day. £9:50 to be collected at the May 28th talk on Civic Buildings in the Flavel Studio.

**ART GROUP** Pat White 07929 271658 [lespatwhite@icloud.com](mailto:lespatwhite@icloud.com) (Monday 10am Townstal Community Hall).

During May we have continued to explore expressive use of colour through various scenes, encouraging artists to make conscious decisions about their use of colours to establish mood and atmosphere, not just copying nature as we see it. It's always exciting to see how each individual manipulates colours and creates unique and very varied outcomes.

Future dates are June 15 & 29, July 13 & 27.

Examples of what the group produced are on our website at [https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/art-group/](https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/art-group/)

**BOOK GROUP 1** Lindsay Charlesworth 01803 834592 [lindsay@jpcharlesworth.plus.com](mailto:lindsay@jpcharlesworth.plus.com)

(10.30am – 3rd Monday Stoke Fleming)

In May the group discussed *On the Beach* by Neville Shute which apparently provoked a lot of discussion. It was written in 1957 and is certainly a book of its time. The dialogue was rather wooden with lots of tedious stretches and details of the submarine at sea. In June we shall be discussing *The Hearts Invisible Furies* by John Boyne.

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

We are now reading *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan. Contact the convenor for details of upcoming books.

**BOOK GROUP 3** Sarah Nottrodt 0777 8547064 [sarah\\_nottrodt@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sarah_nottrodt@hotmail.co.uk) (2<sup>nd</sup> Weds 10am)

Some of the books we have read are on our website at [https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/book-group-3/](https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/book-group-3/)

**BOOK GROUP 4** Jane Davies 07779 340062 [mrs\\_j\\_a\\_davies@hotmail.com](mailto:mrs_j_a_davies@hotmail.com) (2<sup>nd</sup> Tues 10:30am The Royal Castle)

We have a book club outing to Greenway at 11am on Tuesday 23rd June as our book is *Dead Man's Folly*, which is set there.

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

We would welcome some more members for this group. If interested email me and I will meet you and give you a short lesson. The group meets at 3pm on the second Tuesday at the Dartmouth Bowling Club in Victoria Road. All equipment is provided, but please bring some training shoes with clean soles to change into when you arrive. Cost £2.

**BRIDGE** Judi Cotes 01803 834802 / 07870897108 [judigrovecotes7@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**CLASSICAL ERA** Wiz Tehel 07770 912100 [classics@dartvalleyu3a.org](mailto:classics@dartvalleyu3a.org) (1st Thurs 10.30am Flavel Auditorium, £4).

On 4th June we are pleased to have **Professor Claire Holleran of Exeter University** present on Life in Roman Spain. Claire's research lies in Roman social and economic history, and the experiences of living in the ancient empire. She has published numerous articles and contributed to, edited and authored, several books.

Full list of upcoming talks is on our website at [https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/classical-studies/](https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/classical-studies/)

**COFFEE CUPS** Gwendolyn Alker 01803 833270 [jsgmalker@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jsgmalker@yahoo.co.uk)

We always need members to help serve coffee and tea at our monthly meetings. All you have to do is be at the Flavel at 9.45 am and serve drinks until 10.30. You will have **free entry to the talk**, and it is a good way to get to know other members. Please sign up at the next monthly meeting or contact Gwendolyn.

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

We are a friendly multi-level skills group who has met on more than 1000 occasions since we started. We would welcome anyone else interested in needlecrafts 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](mailto:jsgmalker@yahoo.co.uk) (3rd Tues)

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 16 June at 10.30am.

**FRENCH CONVERSATION** Steve Stevenson [steelboatsteve2@btinternet.com](mailto:steelboatsteve2@btinternet.com)

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

Chers Amis, francophiles. Le mois d'avril est arrive'. Peut-être le printemps illuminera t-il nos prochaines reunions d'un temps agreable. J'ai trouve' interessant de consulter le livre illustre de Mike sur ses travaux de construction. Cela fait ressurgir des souvenirs, pas tous agreable! Et cela devrait interesser tout le monde, ne serait-ce que pour l'inspiration du bricolage. Nous sommes assures d'être bien accueillis chez Brown's, nous y poursuivrons donc nos reunions. Au plaisir de vous revoir bientôt. Merci, cordialement, Steve

**GARDEN GROUP 1&2** Clare Ball [ceball@live.co.uk](mailto:ceball@live.co.uk) (11am 3rd Friday) 🌹🌿🌻🍄🌱

Contact the convenor for details of the next meeting.

**GARDEN GROUP 3** Howard and Elaine Sones 07803 605010 [gardens@sones.org](mailto:gardens@sones.org) (Irregular meetings)

Our next visit is on Thursday 25th June at 10.30am, this will be to The Garden House & Wildside Gardens in Yelverton. Please email if you would like to join us on this visit.

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

On wed June 17th we will be having a visit to look at the rocks at Shaldon where we hope to find a volcano! We will meet at 12.30pm at the main carpark near the beach in Shaldon and then proceed through the tunnel that connects the carpark to the beach. No charge but you may need to pay for parking and petrol re shared cars. Sign up in advance please by email saying if you need a lift or can offer a lift.

**GERMAN CONVERSATION** Ingrid Sidell 01803 770870 [ingsid23@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ingsid23@yahoo.co.uk) mob 07818208721 (for texts)

The next meeting will take place on Thursday June 18th at 10.00 in Strete at the usual venue.

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

Our next group talk titled **Immersive Art – Fad or Fabulous?** will be on Friday 5th June, starting promptly at 2pm. Our talk will include a range of mediums – from a 19th century panoramic painting, to a contemporary sculptural piece -Hew Locke's 'The Procession', and a range of light room and other experiences.

Please email me if you would like to add something – I'm hoping we can enjoy a lively discussion and look at a wide range of art.

Our meeting after that will be on Friday 3rd July with a talk on the Pre-Raphaelite brotherhood, delivered by art historian Dr Nicola Wakeham .

**ITALIAN CONVERSATION** Tasha James 0795 750 9351 [nataliarh9@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:frenchfamily1@live.co.uk) (1st & 3rd Fri 10am to 1pm Stoke Fleming Village Hall)

We are meeting on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month. New players always welcome.

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

We are taking a half term break week of 25th May, returning on Wednesday 3rd June for 4 weeks and then we'll be taking our summer break until 9th September.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported this class throughout the year - I hope you feel you've benefitted!

**PUB LUNCHES GROUP (A)** Alan Cole 01803 752902 [alan5cole@icloud.com](mailto:alan5cole@icloud.com) (4<sup>th</sup> Weds monthly)

Contact Alan Cole for details of next pub lunch venue.

**PUB LUNCHES GROUP (B)** Christine Bond 07541 199158 [christine.b.bond@gmail.com](mailto:christine.b.bond@gmail.com) or Virginia Best [vcbest@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:vcbest@hotmail.co.uk) 07752 720724 (last Thursday Monthly)

The next lunch will be 25th June, venue TBA. Please contact the convenor for details.

**PUB LUNCHES GROUP (C)** Wendy Boulding 07902 765674 [pwboulding@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pwboulding@hotmail.co.uk) (3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs monthly)

Lunch Group 'C' met at Brown's Bistro for our May meeting and enjoyed a variety of 'small plates' of locally produced delicious food with lots of chat and good company.

Our June venue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the month to be advised shortly.

**SCRABBLE** Sue Manley 07840 257045 [manleysusan7@gmail.com](mailto:manleysusan7@gmail.com) (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays, 2pm Flavel Studio, £4)

The Scrabble Group is a small friendly group that meets the second and fourth Fridays of the month, being Friday 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June. We meet upstairs in The Flavel Studio. 2 pm start. We cater for all abilities and are always looking for new members. The cost is £4 a meeting with tea and biscuits provided. Come and try a session.

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

We do have a couple of spaces - but you need to be able to speak some Spanish already as we can't teach. Dates for next classes: 8<sup>th</sup> June and 22<sup>nd</sup> June

**SPORTS MORNING** Yvonne Cottam 01803 835251 [ycottam@live.co.uk](mailto:ycottam@live.co.uk) (Weds 10am Dart Leisure Centre, £3.50)

Although the Leisure Centre changes management on 1<sup>st</sup> June this will not have any effect on our sessions and we will continue to meet every Wednesday as usual.

**SUNDAY LUNCH** Anne Taylor 01803 363257 [jonquil\\_shapley@hotmail.com](mailto:jonquil_shapley@hotmail.com) (2<sup>nd</sup> Sun month 12.30.pm)

We are lunching at St Elmo's on 14<sup>th</sup> June. Contact the convenor if you wish to attend.

**VIRTUAL FILM CLUB** Adrian Kyte 07890 392444 [adrian.kyte@btinternet.com](mailto:adrian.kyte@btinternet.com) (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday 8pm)

We are a small group who watch the same film starting at 8.00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each Month (except for the summer months of June, July and August) on TV at home and discuss the film via WhatsApp so this is our last 'meet' until September. If you want to join the WhatsApp group, email the convenor your mobile number. We mostly use BBC iPlayer but can use ITV or the Channel 4 equivalent as they are subscription free.

**WALKING** Hilary Cranmer 01803 835812 [hilarycranmer@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hilarycranmer@hotmail.co.uk) (Mon 10am Ivatt Rd, Townstal)

At last, some dry and pleasant Monday mornings to encourage us out into the fresh air.

Other walks have taken us to Noss, Brixham and Staverton and we are looking forward to more to come now that lovely weather is upon us.

Photos of recent walks can be seen on our website at [https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_groups/walking/](https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/walking/).

**WINE GROUP-NOBLE ROTTERS** 🍷 Anne Taylor 01803 363257 [jonquil\\_shapley@hotmail.com](mailto:jonquil_shapley@hotmail.com)

We will be meeting in the private dining room at The Royal Castle Hotel on 25<sup>th</sup> June.

Many thanks to them for so kindly letting us, use their room. It is much appreciated.

**WINE TASTING** Bill Riddell 01803 752049 [billriddell75@gmail.com](mailto:billriddell75@gmail.com) (2<sup>nd</sup> Mon pm. Members' homes)

Lizzie Utley was the host for our May tasting which celebrated the wines of Spain. Lizzie had selected a Freixenet Cava, 4 dry whites from the North and Northwest, 2 Tempranillos from Navarra and Rioja and 2 satisfying full-bodied reds from Ribera del Duero and Calatayud. We had fun trying to guess what she had paid for each of these - perhaps the greatest surprise was the £5.79 for a very drinkable Rioja Crianza from Lidl - Price held while stocks last?

**Writing Group** Val Depledge 01803 834323 [valdepledge@hotmail.com](mailto:valdepledge@hotmail.com) (4<sup>th</sup> 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.

Please contact the convenor regarding the next meeting.

**Yoga for Beginners** Helen Howard 07786 673527 [howardhj@btinternet.com](mailto:howardhj@btinternet.com) (Tues 12:00, Stoke Fleming Village Hall)

Qualified Yoga teacher Kirsty Bradley runs these gentle and relaxing stretch classes for u3a members at Stoke Fleming Village Hall, which has the benefit of under floor heating, every Tuesday at 12 noon. All are welcome £10 per class, cash on the day. Bring a yoga mat if you have one but Kirsty has plenty to share. Please come and join us for a very worthwhile time of stretch and relaxation. If getting to Stoke Fleming is a problem, please contact Helen as it may be possible organize a lift from another attendee.

