

Upcoming Monthly Talks

Members £2, Visitors £4, Talk starts 10:30am.
Talks are held in The Flavel Auditorium

Africa's Overlooked Heroes

Presented by Astrid Madimba & Chinny Ukata Ogunlusi

Thursday 8th October

Join Astrid and Chinny, authors of *It's a Continent* book and podcast series, as they spotlight overlooked African figures. They will share the stories of remarkable individuals whose vision and achievements shaped the continent, exploring their impact, challenges and the legacies that continue to inspire.



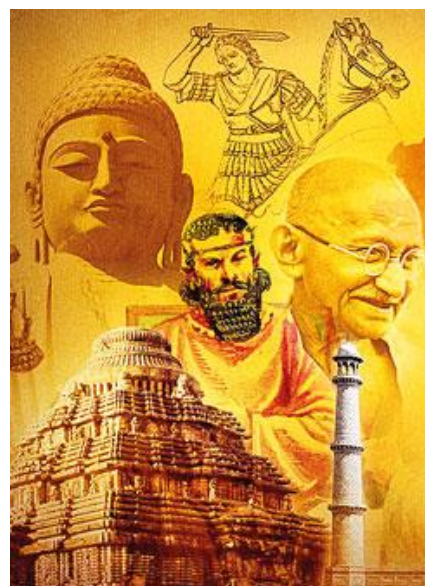
India: A History in Objects

Presented by Richard Blurton

Thursday 12th November

Richard will survey the cultural history of the subcontinent using the collection of the British Museum, covering the period from c1.5 million years ago, up to the present day. Using examples from the collection, Richard will cover sculpture, textiles, paintings and metalwork from prehistoric hand axes up to the work of living artists.

Richard was a curator at the British Museum for more than 30 years.



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

News and Notices



Digital Painting

New group starting soon!

Learn how to create art on a smart phone and tablet.

See below for more details.

Please register your interest with Suzie Dodsworth by phone at 07811278133 or by email at suziedwong@gmail.com



What's on in September 2026

Summary of events on this month, further details are in the Groups and Events section below in this newsletter. **Some groups are having a break for the summer.** Please always check with the convenor as details may change after the issue of this newsletter.

AM/ PM	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2	3
AM					Classics	Mahjong	
PM						History of Art Italian Conversation	
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
AM		Art Spanish Conversation Walking	Archery Bridge Crafts Club	Sports Morning	Monthly Talk		
PM			Virtual Film Club Yoga for Beginners	Book Group 2 Medau		Italian Conversation Scrabble	
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
AM		Walking	Archery Bridge Crafts Club Cryptic Crosswords	Book Group 3 Sports Morning	German Conversation	Garden Group 1 & 2 Mahjong	
PM		Wine Tasting	Bowling Yoga for Beginners	French Conversation Geology Medau		Italian Conversation	
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
AM		Art Book Group 1 Spanish Conversation Walking	Archery Book Group 4 Bridge Crafts Club	Sports Morning	Architecture		
PM			Pub Lunch (C) Yoga for Beginners	Medau	Wine Group – Noble Rotters	Italian Conversation Scrabble	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
AM		Walking	Archery Bridge Crafts Club	Sports Morning		Italian Conversation	
PM		Writing Group	Yoga for Beginners	French Conversation Pub Lunch (A)	Pub Lunch (B)		

Membership and Groups

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Sarah Nottrodt membership@dartvalleyu3a.org

Sarah Nottrodt is our new membership secretary. Please continue to use the membership@dartvalleyu3a.org email address for any queries about your membership, or questions about joining us. Our membership application form can also be found on the welcome page of the Dart Valley u3a website and at The Flavel ticket desk.

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.

GROUPS COORDINATOR Suzie Dodsworth 01803 770134 groups@dartvalleyu3a.org

We would welcome new ideas for groups, especially from those of you who would like to help start a group. Remember the philosophy of the u3a is that we all have an interest or skill we could share. We are not expecting you to be a teacher, or an expert, we just hope you can bring a group of likeminded people together in enjoying an activity, meeting others and having fun! It takes very little time to organise and brings great joy to those who participate.

Groups and Events

NEWSLETTER Wiz Tehel 07770912100 newsletter@dartvalleyu3a.org

If you wish to have an entry in this newsletter then contact me by email or phone.

ARCHERY Colin Payne 07919 933891 colinpayne43@hotmail.com (Tues am Stoke Fleming Cricket Ground).

The Archery Group had plenty of opportunity of functioning continuously throughout the Summer. We plan to continue archery, whatever the weather, through Autumn to Spring 2027. If anyone would like to join us, you will be welcome to give archery a try. We give basic instruction. Please contact the convener.

Photos of the group are on our website at https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/archery/

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

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

Welcome back to our new season of talks which start on Thursday October 22nd at 11:30am in the Flavel Studio. Note there are 5 Thursdays in October but as always, we meet on the FOURTH Thursday. This month we're having a look at the fascinating architecture of Bristol. I hope you've had a great summer and are primed ready for action.

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

During September we continued with our sketching sessions meeting up first at Warfleet to get a different view of Dartmouth, then at Steamer Quay in Totnes for a completely different change of view.

We will be back in the Hall at Townstall on Monday October 5th but will hopefully be able to squeeze in one more sketching session before then, weather permitting. October dates are 5th and 19th. I will be emailing members beforehand with new challenges and look forward to an exciting term ahead being creative.

Examples of what the group produced 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)

We shall be discussing Patrick Gale's *A Place Called Winter* at our September meeting (many of us enjoyed Patrick's talk about his new book *Love Lane* at the Dartmouth Book Festival), and then in October we shall be discussing *Started Early, Took my Dog* by Kate Atkinson.

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

During the holidays we have read *Wrong Place Wrong Time* by Gillian McAllister. We will be meeting on the 7th of October to discuss. Our next read will be *Various Haunts of Men* by Susan Hill.

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

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 14th October, during which we will be discussing *'The Artist'* by Lucy Steeds - whilst enjoying our usual catch up and tea and cake!

Our choice for November is *'The Eights'* by Joanna Miller. During this meeting we will be planning for 2027.

Some of the books we have read are on our website at https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/book-group-3/

BOOK GROUP 4 Jane Davies 07779 340062 mrs_j_a_davies@hotmail.com (2nd Tues 10:30am The Royal Castle)

Our next meeting is Tuesday 20th October at The Dart Marina, and we are reading *The Radium Girls* by Kate Moore, our September book was *The Names* by Florence Knapp which was a complex novel providing lots of material to discuss.

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

We next meet on 13th October. This is your chance to come and try bowling for a cost of just £2. All equipment is provided; beginners are welcome. Turn up at 3pm at the Dartmouth Bowling Club, located opposite the Guildhall. We will show you how to bowl if you've not done it before. If you have a dodgy leg or can't bend much, don't worry, people with minor disabilities can often find a way to bowl.

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

We have a very thriving bridge club with several new members who have recently joined, our table money is **now reduced to £2** to cover venue hire, which include tea / coffee and biscuits, The bridge is no stress, and a partner will be found if you come on your own.

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

Our next talk will be on 1st October with **The Greatest of all Greek Temples - and it's not the Parthenon!** Presented by Wiz Tehel who is continuing his series on the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. This temple, besides being one of the largest of any ancient Greek temple, earned its fame and reputation from its beauty and elegance. As well as learning about this Wonder, Wiz will also explore Greek temples in general. How were they built, used, and how many of them were lost forever.

Full list of upcoming talks is on our website at https://dartvalley.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/classical-studies/

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

We always need members to join our rota 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 (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 (3rd Tues)

Our next Cryptic crossword meeting will be on Tuesday 13 October at 10.30 am. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Gwendolyn

NEW GROUP DIGITAL PAINTING Suzie Dodsworth 07811 278133 suziedwong@gmail.com (Stoke Fleming Village Hall, Weds 2:30 to 4:30pm twice a month.)

Using a smart phone or tablet to paint is fun and easy. It also has advantages - no paints, easels, canvas or paper, no mess, and you have a permanent image which can be printed as a poster or card. You do not have to be a great artist or even have any artistic background to join us.

We will be using ArtRage app which has a small cost (£3.50) and a second-hand book (£5) will get us started and a weekly fee (£3 to £4 for hall hire depending on numbers) to secure the group's future. Autumn, Winter and Spring only. Contact Suzie to register interest to join the group.

FRENCH CONVERSATION Steve Stevenson steelboatsteve2@btinternet.com

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

Chers Amis, Salutations. J'espère que tous va bonne avec vous. Notre dernière seance a connue une bonne participation et a' donne lieu a de nombreux échanges. Laurie, Mike, Nella et Jon, qui n'on pas pu se joindre a nous, nous ont manque'.

La séance pourrait être plus intéressante si nous cherchions chacun un court commentaire, une actualité, un témoignage ou autre, et si chacun imprimait une « fiche mémo » en français, de manière à ce que l'échange autour de ce contenu suscite une discussion plus approfondie.

GARDEN GROUP 1&2 Clare Ball 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 (Irregular meetings)

We are in the process of arranging our October visit and will advise the location shortly. Please email the convenor for details or if you would like to join us.

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

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 14th October at 2.30pm, subject is **The Mystery of 1257**. A geological detective story is the subject of this months geology group meeting. I won't tell you all the details here. Come along and find out. You may want to buy some tins of ham afterwards. Cost £2. All welcome.

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

We will next meet on October 15th in Strete at the usual venue.

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

We have a splendid talk to look forward to on Friday 2 October at 2pm. Our guest speaker will be classicist John Davie. His illustrated talk is on '*Patronage and the Arts in the Italian Renaissance*' and will focus on Padua and Urbino. All welcome, £2 cash on the door.

On Friday 6 November 2pm Sheila Hipple will be giving a presentation on *Manet and Modernity*.

ITALIAN CONVERSATION Tasha James 0795 750 9351 nataliarh9@gmail.com (Fridays 2:00 to 3:30pm)

The meeting place varies so please email me, Tasha, for the location and any questions.

It is a relaxed conversation for those with fairly confident Italian.

MAHJONG Elaine French 01803 832304 frenchfamily1@live.co.uk (1st & 3rd Fri 10am to 1pm Stoke Fleming Village Hall)

Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month. Christmas lunch will be on the 18th December.

New members always welcome, coffee / tea, cake / biscuits and a get together chat mid-morning.

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

Great to welcome some new members! Term dates for 2026 / 2027 are:

9/9/26 - 21/10/26 - 7 weeks = £7 (£1 per week)

4/11/26 - 16/12/26 - 7 weeks = £7

6/1/27 - 10/2/27 - 6 weeks = £6

24/2/27 - 24/3/27 - 5 weeks = £5

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

Our October lunch is to be advised.

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

Our next lunch will be Thursday 29th October. Details will be sent to members.

PUB LUNCHES GROUP (C) Wendy Boulding 07902 765674 pwboulding@hotmail.co.uk (3rd Tues mthly, 12:30pm)

Our next lunch will be on Tuesday 20th October 2026 12.30pm venue to be advised. Please get in touch if you would like to come along.

SCRABBLE Sue Manley 07840 257045 manleysusan7@gmail.com (2nd & 4th Fridays, 2pm Flavel Studio, £4)

We are a small, friendly group who are looking for new members to join us this Autumn. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month from 2-4 pm, in the Studio in The Flavel.

Dates for this month are 9th and 23rd October.

SPANISH CONVERSATION Yvonne Cottam 01803 835251 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.

Upcoming dates for the year are 5th & 19th October, 2nd, 16th & 30th November, and 14th December

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

Great to welcome back all our regulars! Cost: £3.50 payable to the Leisure Centre (card only!)

VIRTUAL FILM CLUB Adrian Kyte 07890 392444 adrian.kyte@btinternet.com (1st 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. We mostly use BBC iPlayer but can use ITV or the Channel 4 equivalent as they are subscription free.

Contact the convenor for details of the next virtual screening or to join the group.

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

A hardy group of the walkers kept going throughout the roasting summer temperatures. As temperatures become more comfortable, we will get back to full strength for the autumn. As ever, new members are always welcome.

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

Contact the convenor for details of the next tasting.

We are full with a waiting list. Please contact the other wine tasting group (see below) who may have space for new members.

WINE TASTING Bill Riddell 01803 752049 billriddell75@gmail.com (2nd Mon pm. Members' homes)

The first meeting of our Autumn series was hosted by Mike and Suzie Dodsworth in Stoke Fleming. The theme of *Spanish Conexiones* embraced a selection of sporty strength whites, palate-cleansing sparklers and four Gran Reserva indulgences. The most popular wine of the evening was a CVNE Gran Reserva 2018 Rioja.

Our next tasting is on Monday 12th October in Dartmouth. The Group is open to new members so if anyone would like to try a taster session please contact the convenor.

Writing Group Val Depledge 01803 834323 valdepledge@hotmail.com (4th 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 note that the group is full. Please contact the convenor regarding the next meeting or to be added to the waiting list.

Yoga for Beginners Helen Howard 07786 673527 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.

