



Honiton u3a Bulletin

SEPTEMBER 2026

MONTHLY TALK SEPTEMBER 16TH: MAYDAY IN JULY

Jim Rider, an author and musician living in Honiton, describes the forced landing of a Vickers Viscount airliner near Ottery St. Mary in 1980.

Doors open at 1.30 p.m. and the meeting starts at 2 p.m. Please bring a slip of paper with your name on it to put in the box provided when entering the auditorium (this is a safety measure). The Beehive cafe will be open before and after the meeting for refreshments.

(The Beehive has asked that we don't park in the hatched yellow squares in the parking area behind the building, as these are reserved for coaches. Parking spaces are not easy to find so please consider car sharing, which is better for the environment, and if you share petrol costs it helps with the budget, too!)

MEET OUR NEW PUBLICITY OFFICER

'I'm Rob Newell, Honiton u3a Publicity Officer. If any of you, especially Group Leaders, have something you'd like to publicise, I have access to some local publications that are happy to include brief articles from us. You're really welcome to send me items for publication and I'll adjust them for the various outlets. Alternatively, you can just contact me, we can discuss what you'd like and I'll write it. I'll always get back to you for approval. My email is: robnewell54@gmail.com I look forward to hearing from you.'

QUIZZERS WE NEED YOU!

Come on quizzers, we know you're out there! We need you to complete our team for the inter u3a Big Quiz open to all Devon u3a groups. Test those little grey cells, have fun, meet people from other u3a groups and enjoy a cuppa and a biscuit or two! There is also a free raffle. The venue is Awliscombe Village Hall, **22nd October, 1.30–5.00 p.m.**

If you're interested in being part of the quiz team or for more information contact honoreditor1@gmail.com

BBQ AND WALK AT COOMBE MEADOW GARDENS, ASHBURTON

U3a members Angela and Mike Walker invite you to a BBQ and tour of their gardens on **Thursday 17th September**. There will be a short walk at 12 noon for those who can't walk far, then a much longer walk, (an hour and a half 'ish'), at around 3 p.m. after a BBQ lunch. Coombe Meadow Valley is six acres of land that the couple has transformed from an overgrown wilderness into beautiful gardens. The event is £20 per person and any profits are split equally between Devon Air Ambulance and a school they support in India. They also ask you to bring either a salad or dessert for sharing. Numbers are limited so please let Dee know asap at dee@swreventsu3a.org.uk

EXETER U3A: NATIONAL POETRY DAY

Thursday 1 October, 2.30 p.m. at the Mint Centre, Fore Street, Exeter. A celebration of National Poetry Day, the event is being put on by the Exeter u3a poetry groups and comprises a programme of mainly short poems by established authors and u3a poets. There will be a chance for the audience to judge a poem for themselves and give feedback if they wish. The event is free and coffee etc is available in the Mint foyer at £1. For more information contact Loran at loranwaite@yahoo.co.uk

HONITON REPAIR CAFE

A u3a member reminds us that before we dispose of broken items we should consider the Repair Café. Their ethos is to recycle, reuse and repair rather than filling landfill. The service is free but donations are welcome. The Repair Cafe is open on the 3rd Saturday of the month (except December) from 9.30–12.00 at the CUB Building, School Lane, EX14 1QW (opposite the LED leisure centre). Coffee and homemade cakes are also available.

HONITON U3A PHOTOGRAPHY SHOWCASE

We invite you to submit one photograph taken in the month of September of this or a previous year. Give your photograph a title, add the name of the photographer and submit it to: u3aphotoshowcase@btinternet.com by 2nd October. A selection will be included in the PowerPoint slide show at The Beehive before our September Monthly Talk.

STAY SAFE: SCAMS AND FRAUD

At the August meeting of the Current Affairs group, Paul Fudge, Honiton's Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), described some fraud and scamming scenarios. He advised us to seek help immediately if we're scammed or suspect we've been scammed.

Further sources of self-help learning and advice:

www.devon-cornwall.police.uk search: *The Little Book of Fraud*, read the 10 golden rules to prevent fraud and how to report a scam or fraud.

www.getsafeonline.org The Free Self Help Tool Centre with 11 easy-to-use free tools to help protect yourself, your finances and devices from online harm. The website also features fun quizzes on how to spot fake photos and emails etc.

The National Cyber Security Centre www.ncsc.gov.uk is a very useful source of advice and guidance for staying safe online.

Honiton Police Station – usual opening hours for the Enquiry Office Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–3.00 p.m or you can access online services on the Devon and Cornwall Police website. For non-emergency enquiries call 101.

If you would like more information but are unable to access the websites mentioned contact Jackie Moran jackiemoran@btinternet.com or phone (see attached email).

GROUP VACANCIES:

ART FOR FUN Meets **every month on the 2nd Friday 9.30 a.m.** downstairs in the Community Use Building (CUB). Members share expertise and knowledge within the group – there is no formal teaching. This group is open to everyone.

BOOK LOVERS Meets on the **1st Monday of the month at 2 p.m.** in the group leader's home in Honiton.

CRIBBAGE Meets in the Beehive café the **3rd Thursday of the month at 2 p.m.**

CURRENT AFFAIRS – DISCUSSION Meets at the Methodist Church, Honiton on the **1st Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m.**

FRENCH CONVERSATION: Meets on the **2nd Thursday** of the month in the group leader's home.

GAMES Meets at **1.45 p.m. the last Friday of the month** at Mountbatten Park Sports and Social Club, Honiton.

GERMAN CONVERSATION Meets on **alternate Tuesdays from 2–3.30 p.m.** at The Yellow Deli, High St, Honiton. Beginners welcome as well as improvers.

JANE AUSTEN READING GROUP 2 This new group, starting in September, will meet on the **3rd Tuesday of the month at 1.30 p.m.** in the group leader's home.

OPERA Meets in a member's home, the **1st Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.**

RECORDERS Meets on the **2nd Monday of the month at 10.00 a.m.** in the group leader's home in Honiton.

SINGING FOR FUN This group meets twice per month on the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 2 p.m.** at Honiton Family Church. There's no need to be able to read music and everyone is welcome. Group members contribute to the cost of hiring the venue.

SPANISH CONVERSATION Meets at the Beehive on the **1st Thursday of the month, 10 -12.** Not for complete beginners. Conversation ranges from personal experiences to the culture, traditions and history of Spain. The meetings also include practical exercises, such as asking for directions/ordering in a restaurant.

SUNDAY SINGLES LUNCHES Meets **1st Sunday of the month** at a venue chosen by a group member. For more information contact Rosie on lilyandbill47@outlook.com

WALKING GROUP Group walks take place on the **2nd Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m.** Walks are about 4 miles in length at a leisurely pace and usually end with a pub lunch. To find out more email the group leaders Pauline and Tim Clark on fiveclarks5@yahoo.co.uk

WALKING 2 (ALL DAY) Meets on **1st Monday or Thursday of the month.** The walks are all day and **start at 9.30 a.m.**

WALKING 3 These walks take place on the **2nd Thursday and 4th Thursday of the month,** starting in Honiton at **2 p.m.**

To find out more about any group vacancies contact the group leader or enquire at honitonu3a@gmail.com. If you are unable to access the internet call Jackie Moran.

NATURE APPRECIATION GROUP LEADER NEEDED!

Val Frood is standing down as leader of the NAG and would like someone to take her place. The group has 28 members and meets the 3rd Monday of each month when they visit local places of interest with a strong emphasis on nature. To find out more please contact Val at honitonu3a@gmail.com

HONITON U3A MONTHLY TALKS 2026/2027

PLEASE NOTE THIS TALK HAS CHANGED

October 21st: A Song In Every Window

The singing duo Silvington are back with a selection of songs looking at episodes from the history of Plymouth as depicted in the painted windows of Plymouth Guildhall. From the Black Prince and Catherine of Aragon to the reconstruction of Plymouth after the blitz. The presentation includes an illustrated slide show that puts the songs in context.

November 18th: The Real World of Jane Austen by Stewart Raine. A look at the world of the late 18th and early 19th century, when there was social unrest, industrialisation, fighting against Napoleon's France, the slave trade and transportation to Australia.

December 16th: Christmas Event, for members only.

2027

January 20th: Nature's Garden A talk by David Boag. Nature owns everything, even your garden! David's camera explores every area of the garden from the garden shed to the little pond and finds so much colourful, unexpected and sometimes unwanted wildlife.

February 10th: tbc

March 17th Annual General Meeting for members only, followed by **Air Traffic Confusion** by Nick Clyburn, a former Air Traffic Controller with over 40 years experience in military and civilian air traffic control.

All talks take place at The Beehive. Unless stated, talks are open to non-members.