



Registered Charity no. 1073206

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Email: ferndownu3a@gmail.com

Website: www.ferndownu3a.co.uk



to your new term;

whether you are an old hand or a new member, we know that you will have a great time over the next few months.

Please remember to welcome anyone new in your groups, it isn't always easy to walk into an established group when everyone else knows each other.

There have been a number of Summer activities and visits over the break and these have been both well attended and popular. To make sure you don't miss anything, check the notice board outside of the conference room at the Barrington. For those of you who have given us an email address, you will receive details of all events by email from the Beacon Database.

On the subject of emails, we have been trying to ensure that all members receive relevant information in a timely manner. To this end Bob Reeve wrote to all members for whom we have no email address to establish what we can do to help you. This may involve assisting you to find information via the computers in the Library, gaining help from a family member or friend, or finding a 'buddy' to make sure you don't miss anything.



Bob is collating all your replies and we will come back to you once we understand your individual needs.

**FERNDOWN
& DISTRICT U3A**

Have you visited the new website recently?

It is the hub of everything that goes on in FU3A so check it regularly.

www.ferndownu3a.co.uk

In Memorium

As you may already know, **Lorna Archer** was a member of Ferndown U3A of long standing; sadly she died recently aged 95. Condolences have been sent to the family.

To let those who knew her know, **Enid Rothwell** has died. She was well into her 90's and was a very intelligent and active lady.

She could do the splits in her 80's, and was a volunteer at the Barrington for about 20 years. There she ran a cookery club and with her husband, Arthur, ran the Strollers, a walking group and Enid herself ran a French Conversation group

Enid was a thespian, she acted and assisted Ferndown Drama Group and also organised an annual theatrical competition with her friend Edith. She was very active in local amateur dramatics, Having participated in her younger days, and regretted that she had to get rid of all the costumes she had collected, when they moved house.

Enid was an expert on Shakespeare and acted for and advised the Brownsea Open Air Theatre and as a member of Ferndown U3A she tutored the Shakespeare classes.

When her health deteriorated recently she went to live with her daughter Kathryn in Buckinghamshire who cared for her at home.

Lovely lady.

Note to all Leaders



Have you often wished that you could show visual images on screen at your meetings?

John Mullett has volunteered to give one-to-one tuition to anyone who is new to Powerpoint and would like to learn.

You can contact John on email: johncmullett@gmail.com

Annual General Meeting

As we work towards the AGM in early December, we need to decide which charity to support for 2019. This year's charity, Kawasaki, has been well supported and we will be able to let you know how much has been raised at the AGM.

We wish to support a local charity, and if you have any suggestions, please could you send details to Bob Reeve.

As you are aware, the AGM is where the Committee is elected for the coming year. Perhaps you could consider whether you have skills which would be useful, and if so decide if you would like to stand.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Saturday Singles Lunch

This is always on the second Saturday of the month. Next one is 8th Sept at the **Carpenters Arms Bransgore . Pato**

Skittles

On July 11th eighteen members played Skittles at The Three Legged Cross Pub. We had a lot of fun, lunch and drinks (mainly tea and coffee!) and prizes for the winners.



Look out for the next one, probably in half term so as not to interfere with term time activities.

Members will be notified by email but notices will go up in The Barrington for those members not on the Internet.

Details will also go onto the website: www.ferndownu3a.co.uk

Last Summer Friday and Opening Friday

The last of our Summer meetings took place on 7th September and was a chance for new members to dip their toes in the water informally before term starts.

Entertainment was provided by the Creative Writing group who read some of their original work.

The next event is the Opening Friday on September 21st, where Rodger Pettengell will be hosting an Around Britain Quiz. Rodger's quizzes are always popular so arrive early to ensure a seat. Coffee and tea will be held from 9.45am in the Barrington Centre Conference room, until 10.15am followed by the quiz.

Visits

On Friday August 24th the second group of 23 Ferndown U3A members visited the RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution) College at Poole. During a 90 minute tour, our very informative guide volunteer Caroline gave a very interesting commentary on the training methods and facilities at the college. Among these, which was experienced at the hands of (inexperienced) Keith as helmsman, was the very realistic simulator. We were taken on an erratic trip in a force 6 gale to examine two burning ships which had collided, showing us just how realistic is the simulator training and how effective it is in preparing RNLI volunteers for real incidents at sea.

We also discovered that the cafe and restaurant at the college, which serve very good reasonably priced food and drink, are open to the public - recommended for a coffee with a sea view!



While most of us have been relaxing **Barry Zimmer** has cycled from **John O'Groats to Land's End**. This is his story.



My bicycle ride from John O'Groats to Lands End was 3 years in the planning and with 5,500 training miles under my belt I set off on 19 June to achieve my goal, flying from Southampton to Wick I was reunited with my bike which I had sent up by road courier a week before.

The first morning I awoke to rain, so packing up my tent I set off North to the the start point, which was the finger post at J O G then on to Thurso for my second night, which is where storm Hector was passing through, I was woken in the night to the tent violently shaking, thankfully it stayed up. The next morning I packed up and had to cycle 40 miles west in the face of strong head winds.

Soon I was heading in a southerly direction with the weather slowly improving to what would turn out be gloriously sunny days for most of my journey, passing through the wild remote landscape of the Scottish highlands. One lunch time saw me passing the Crask Inn, according to my guide book the remotest pub in the country. Here I met other cyclists most going the other way so nearing the end of their rides.

Lunch time on day 5 I was passing through Inverness where I met a German couple who were cycling from their home in Hamburg through France crossing over to Dover and up to the far north before taking a ferry to Norway and back home. That night I was between camp sites and had to wild camp. The best I could find was a wide verge beside the main A9. Surprisingly it turned out fine but the next morning the tent was covered in frost due I think to the altitude .

The day after I passed over the Dalwhinnie summit then it was a very long downhill hill run for several miles and that's where I met a much younger man who said he could go from top of Scotland to Lands End in 6 days - wow! Soon I was in Pitlochry and had a wonderful 2 days cycling through the beautiful countryside to Loch Lomond. This for me was the outstanding part of my ride.

By lunch time the following day I was passing through Glasgow, the city centre down by the river is full of amazing futuristic buildings and it's where I misread my route marker and ended up following the correct route number but in the wrong direction! After 10 miles the penny finally dropped and I had to retrace my steps, wasting 20 miles. The only saving grace was that I found a very good local sandwich shop and bought 2 very large baguettes which kept me going all day. That night I was again in between sites and came across the Strathclyde Country Park. I had no problem finding a quiet spot to put my tent up. I must point out that I always had at least 2 days food and water on the bike.

Passing through Lockerbie one morning after an early start I went into the most prominent hotel in town and had a full English breakfast. The staff were so nice and afterwards when I asked if I could sit in lounge and check my emails they said have a lie down if I liked. Later this day I met a Norwegian cyclist who told me he had cycled throughout the UK and even through Alaska. While doing this he himself met an Englishman who had cycled the equivalent of 2.5 times round the world.

Next on my route was the lake district with its many hills. In the course my travels and because it's very heavy, I normally have to push the bike up the hills, this can be exhausting especially with the hot sun beating down.

Coming into Manchester I was again faced with the problem of finding a suitable place to bed down. Five miles from the city centre, on the A56, I spotted a city park next to a metro station. On close inspection it looked good, with no sign of vandalism, very little litter and tidy with nice trees and shrubs also with very few people about. I set my bike down, cooked an evening meal and waited for sun down. With nobody near my chosen spot I put my tent up. I was a little concerned that some low life might spoil my night but I was very happy. I woke early and was gone from the park by 5am, my plan was to be through the city centre and out into the southern suburbs before the morning traffic built up and I must say this worked very well.

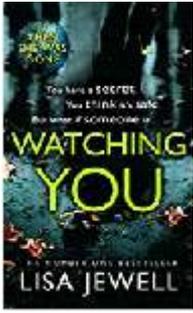
Now into the West Midlands I had the longest day yet, leaving Nantwich it was 12 hours on the road, hot and hilly covering just over 60 miles. The next day was easier with a short ride to Worcester where my wife Jennifer met me and we shared a welcome 3 night stay at a lovely spa hotel. Revitalized it was down to Cambridge just south of Gloucester for a night's stay with my wife's cousin, then down to Bristol to meet up with my son who rode the 50 miles with me to his home in Street.

The next day I had the end in sight and keeping to the main roads i.e. A303 and A30, pushed on as fast as possible to my end goal of Land's End.

So after 1,240 miles and 25 days on the road I have completed my long held ambition to do this ride. I've had no injuries and no problems with my bike not even a puncture. I therefore feel very happy with my achievement.

Very well done Barry!

BOOK REVIEW



Watching You by Lisa Jewell

Suspicion and paranoia make uneasy bedfellows

This is a murder story focused on the people living around the victim, rather than on the police investigation. The victim is secondary in that we do not learn their identity until the very end.

On the 24th March 2017, a body is found in the kitchen of a house rented by 'Super-head' Tom Fitzwilliam and his wife Nicola and teenage son, Freddie. Tom has recently moved into Bristol to turn around an Academy school which has been put under 'special measures'. Darkly handsome he is the subject of his teenage schoolgirls' and most other women's fantasies. His reputation is impeccable, but does he have a darker side which merits Jenna Tripp's mentally unstable mother Frankie staking out the house and warning anyone who will listen that he is a dangerous stalker?

Two houses away, Joey Mullen has just returned to Bristol from Ibiza with her new husband Alfie and is living with her brother Jack and his enigmatic wife, Rebecca. Joey soon falls under the Fitzwilliam spell and becomes the police's main suspect for the murder.

Meanwhile, Freddie, a somewhat troubled teenager is also watching the comings and goings around Melville Heights and drawing his own conclusions.

This is a clever story where suspicion of Tom Fitzwilliam rests on an incident on a coach trip in the Lake District in 1996. Several sub-plots emerge as rumours arise about Tom's interest in teenage schoolgirls, and the local residents see more and more of the woman watching him. The relationships are complex and credible, especially those between the teenagers who are struggling to make sense of this difficult period between childhood and adulthood.

Suspicion moves from person to person, and the suspense is maintained until the final denouement. I really enjoyed it.

Pashtpaws

What can we know?

"There are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns — the ones we don't know we don't know."

Donald Rumsfeld

"Age is merely the number of years the world has been enjoying you."

Unknown



Ferndown U3A Booking Form

Please reserve tickets for the event below
I enclose a cheque for £
(made payable to Ferndown & District U3A Social Account)

.....

Name of Event

Date Departure Point

Organiser

.....

First Participant

Contact Number Email

Any special requirements?

Emergency Contact *Please provide details of someone who can be contacted in an emergency. This needs to be someone who will NOT be travelling with you.*

Name Landline

Mobile Email

.....

Second Participant

Contact Number Email.....

Any special requirements?

Emergency Contact *Please provide details of someone who can be contacted in an emergency. This needs to be someone who will NOT be travelling with you.*

Name Landline

Mobile Email

Any further participants need to be listed on a separate form.

.....

Please place form and cheque in an envelope to be returned to the organiser.