



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Press Release

Sent to Western Morning News, Signpost, Devon Life

Meeting held at the Yealm Yacht Club, Newton Ferrers on Friday 30th March 2007

Yealm U3A New U3A Group created in South Hams

Over 60 residents attended a meeting at Yealm Yacht Club, Newton Ferrers on Friday 30th March to establish a new U3A group – Yealm U3A. They were pleased to welcome the Development Officer from the University of the Third Age National Office, Mike Long.

The University of the Third Age is a self-help organisation for people no longer in full-time employment providing educational, creative and leisure opportunities in a friendly environment. Members share their expertise and knowledge and skills to organise interest groups. The Yealm group has got off to a flying start with 14 groups meeting regularly. The interest groups are as diverse as art and music appreciation, garden design, fly tying, photography, singing and ukulele playing.

In addition, it is the intention to hold general meetings with speakers on a variety of subjects. At this inaugural meeting there was a fascinating address by Rear Admiral Robin Hogg, CB who regaled those present with interesting and amusing tales of his distinguished career in the Navy.

The meeting was chaired by Roy Fenner who was the instigator of the idea of forming a Yealm U3A group. Colin Smith has also been involved from the start in his role of liaison with Newton and Noss Network. This is a Parish Council initiative offering courses using professional tutors in subjects such as computers, digital photography and art which have proved very popular and have benefited from the wonderful facilities of the Newton Primary School. Their concept of 'building communities through learning' very much complements and builds on the aims and objectives of the University of the Third Age.

New Executive Committee Members including:-

(left to right)

Colin Smith

Madeleine Strobel (Leader/Painting with Oils)

Yvette Steward

Tony West (Leader/Music Appreciation)

Barbara Geddes

John Wilson

