

## Review of 'Folk Tales of Rock and Stone' by Dr. Jenny Moon 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021

When Jenny first offered her story telling session over a year ago, we both thought she would deliver her session in Exmouth Pavilion but because of Covid 19 it was not to be. Instead Jenny told her stories over 'Zoom' which is no easy task when it is difficult to see your audience and hear their reactions, so thank you Jenny.

Jenny told her stories with feeling, variation in tone and with great expression. We could picture the scenes, appreciate the emotions, anticipate and wonder what would come next and how it would all end. This was certainly the case with 'The White Mountain' an old Russian folk tale. A classic tale with three brothers, two of whom were favoured by their father which left the youngest to try and make his way in the world against all the odds. By the end we had been introduced to sailors battling against a raging storm, the appearance of the beautiful daughter of the Tzar, a small box of salt and a kind and thoughtful giant. Without notes Jenny took us through the drama of the story, definitely an accomplishment.

Jenny followed with the tale of a devoted elderly couple, Bill and Beryl, who loved to visit Woodberry Common. As this tale unfurled we wondered if the bee that was introduced early on would be significant. Later, as more and more bees played a central role, we discovered that they were; at least one was 'saying' just two letters that together became a well-known acronym we all know.



Following questions Jenny kindly offered to lead 'Story telling' workshops once we can all meet together again face to face. Some of the members were quick to respond that they too would like to learn more about 'Story telling'.

Thank you very much Jenny.

Review by Christine Chittock, Chair and Speakers' Coordinator, Exmouth and District U3A.