



# Newcastle Emlyn U3A

## Newsletter - January 2017

<http://u3asites.org.uk/newcastle-emlyn>



### Chair's Ramble

A happy and peaceful new year to all of you. I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and I wonder what 2017 will bring? Here are a few facts and snippets of information about 2017!

2017 is an odd number and also a prime number being only divisible by 1 and itself. 2,017 seconds is equal to 33 minutes and 37 seconds and it would take about 33 minutes to count from 1- 2,017. A cube with a volume of 2017 cubic inches would be around 1.1 feet tall. 2017 is the year of the Rooster and is designated International Year of Sustainable Tourism for development by the United Nations. In Roman numerals 2017 is MMXVII.

In January the United States of America will inaugurate a new president. In February it will be 90 years since Sir Malcolm Campbell set a new world land speed record on Pendine Sands driving the Napier-Campbell Bluebird at a speed of 174mph over the flying mile. On August 21st in 2017 there will be a total eclipse of the sun visible in the United States.

Lets also hope that 2017 brings some peace to the troubled areas of the world and that it is a good year for Newcastle Emlyn U3A.

We are planning another open afternoon in April, so if groups can start thinking about their display that would be useful. The wine group are planning a couple of trips out this year so if you would like to go on those please watch out for information.

If anyone knows of good speakers for our monthly meetings please let a committee member have names and contact details as the programme secretaries are in the process of putting together the programme for July onwards.

Thank you to everyone who helped on the Victorian evening, roasting chestnuts and chatting to passers by about who we are.

Hopefully, we will get a few more members and enhance our profile in the town.



*Some of the members that represented Newcastle Emlyn U3A at the Victorian Evening. Thanks to all of you.*

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## Our Subject Groups

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### Activity Group

(every 2-3 months. Activity and location varies)  
More details contact Annabelle

### Art Group

(2nd and 4th Thursdays from 10.00am to 12.00 at Penboyr Village Hall)  
More details contact Amanda

### Astronomy

(2nd Wednesday from 2.00pm at Coracle Hall, Llechryd). Joint with Cardigan U3A  
More details contact Malcolm

### Book Club

(4th Tuesday from 10.30am at Ken & Val's in Horeb)  
More details contact Ann

### Crafty Crafters

(2nd Wednesday from 11.00am at Annabelle's in Penboyr)  
More details contact Ruth

### Creative Writing

(2nd Thursday from 10.30am at Carol's in Penrhiwllan)  
More details contact Carol

### Digital Photography

(2nd Tuesday from 10.30am at Coracle Hall, Llechryd). Joint with Cardigan U3A  
More details contact Denis

### Family History

(4th Wednesday from 10.30am at Coracle Hall, Llechryd). Joint with Cardigan U3A  
More details contact Harold

### French Group

(date varies - from 11.00am at Peggy's in Croeslan)  
More details contact Ann

### Games Group

(3rd Tuesday from 10.30am to 12.30 at Hazel's in Waungilwen)  
More details contact Hazel

### German Group

(1st and 3rd Thursday from 11.00am at National Woollen Museum, Drefach Felindre)  
More details contact Steph and Terry

### Lunch Club

(last Wednesday - venue varies)  
More details contact Mags

### **Philosophy am**

(3rd Thursday from 11.00am at Lesley's in Henllan)

More details contact Lesley

### **Philosophy pm**

(2nd Monday from 2.00pm at Susan's in Pontgarreg)

More details contact Teresa

### **Scrabble**

(2nd Friday from 2.00pm at Margery's in Henllan)

More details contact Margery

### **Strollers**

(last Friday of the month from 10.30am, venue varies)

More details contact Jim

### **Wine Appreciation**

(3rd Thursday from 7.00pm - venue varies, amongst the group)

More details contact Hazel

**Note:** Circumstances may require these details to change occasionally. Please refer to the current monthly calendar to see if there are any changes to date, venue and time.

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### **December Open Meeting**

We were a little depleted from various bugs and holidays, but all of us there had a very enjoyable morning. Malcolm, at short notice, ably presented for the meeting.

We started with an exercise from the Creative Writing Group, devised by Hilary, to test the members imagination. She presented two characters – a living, or dead, person and a mythical, or fictional, character and we had to think of a book, gift and an item of clothing to give them. Everyone attempted this. There is a report elsewhere in the newsletter as we didn't have time to present the ideas on the day (page 6).

We were then given the answers to the Beatles Quiz from the November Newsletter, which led to outbursts of song for each answer. Many of the voices were very pleasant, hidden talents of members. The Quiz was won by Leslie.

Ann then gave a monologue entitled 'Don't put your Grandma on the stage'. This was followed by a sketch - 'The Evening Surgery', highlighting the humorous outcomes of verbal misunderstandings, read by Vicky and Jim - both organised by the Book Club. Both of these items are by Pip Parry, a member of the Third Age Players in Milton Keynes, from his book 'Hidden Treasures', a collection of original drama pieces.

Graham kept us amused with his jokes and tales and finally a Christmas Quiz devised by Steph which stretched our minds to work out the answers.

Margery won the Christmas Hamper Raffle which was presented by Hazel. Our members had produced a tasty spread for lunch which left us full and well satisfied.

Thanks to every one who enabled us all to get into the Christmas spirit.

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## **Group Reports**

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### **Book Club**

Tuesday 3rd January from 10.30am at Ken & Val's in Horeb. *Note change of date.*

The book is 'A Place Called Winter' by Patrick Gale.

*Jim*

### **Creative Writing Group**

The December meeting, albeit a small group, enjoyed a Festive themed task. We were asked to make up new lyrics for a verse or two of 3 Christmas Carols . . .

While Shepherds Watch, We Three Kings & Away in A Manger . . . and then to attempt to sing them back!! The only one of us who could sing them back was Carol, who did so beautifully! All the new lyrics were great, very funny and entertaining (more than could be said for the rest of the 'singing!'). Nevertheless it was a very enjoyable session and Carol put on a veritable Festive Feast - Thank you Carol.

Next meeting is January 12th. Happy New Year!

*Alison*

### **Lunch Club**

The January lunch is (the now traditional) 'Not the Christmas Dinner'. Three courses only, with a vegetarian option, both at £17.95. Venue is Newcastle Emlyn Rugby Club on Wednesday 25th, it is also Welsh Valentine's Day (Dydd Santes Dwynwen) and Burns Night so if you have any theme ideas please bring them to the monthly meeting.

*Mags*

### **Philosophy pm**

Over mince pies, cakes and biscuits we ranged over a number of topics with as usual no conclusions reached. Our Thanks went to Teresa as we are changing our meeting place to Susan's. I will send out directions nearer the meeting. We will be looking at Freedom of the Press at next meeting.

*Jim*

### **Philosophy am**

We had a non philosophical look at the myths and customs of Christmas, from how the date of Christmas became December 25th. Christ could not have been born in the winter as they had been lambing so the disparity of the dates and the written history to the Christmas tree, Holly and Ivy as well as our own personal customs.

The next meeting we will discuss Shamans and Faith Healers.

*Jim*

### **Strollers**

The walks start at 10.30am (unless mentioned otherwise), usually 3-5 miles long, likely to be hills, mud, stiles, nettles, brambles and maybe surprises, plus good company and scenery. We will be walking at the pace of the slowest but there will be information

so that some of the members can walk at a faster pace.

Please note that “members ramble at their own risk – so please take care and consider if you are fit enough for the walk”.

We hope that there will be a place to purchase refreshments at the end of the walk.

For general information, including whether the walk is cancelled because of inclement weather, please contact the Group Leader (Jim), or the Walk Leader.

Full details will be sent out nearer the time, so please let us know if you are planning to join us.

To whet your appetite, here is the walk plan for the next three months:

**January 27th** - Aberaeron coastal walk to and around Aberarth. Return by coast or road, could include ‘Town Trail’. 3-4 miles, relatively flat, fair surface shingle beach. Meet at the Beach Parade Car Park (fees), south of the river. Walk Leader - Jim.

**February 24th** - Abercych, up to the round house for the snowdrops, hopefully! 2+ miles, long slow climb on forest track goodish surface. Walk Leader - Jim.

Meet at the Nags Head Car Park, Abercych, Cenarth to Boncath road.

**March 31st** - Cardigan to Llechryd along river then via Cilgerran back to river to Llechryd (one way). 4 miles, return via car or bus - details later. Mostly flat, rough in places, with tree roots. Walk Leader - Tony.

Meet at Cardigan market first left after the cattle market then right.

Walks for April, May, June and July have been planned (in outline) for Cardigan to St. Dogmaels, National Botanic Gardens, from Key West car park near Newquay and Dinefwr Castle, respectively. More information on these nearer the date.

*Jim*

### **Wine Appreciation**

The December meeting was held at Hazel and John's house in Waungilwen and it was a pleasure to welcome two new members, Les and Lesley. There were 11 of us who enjoyed a wine game and refreshments. Members brought one wine from a selection of three types specified before the evening. We listened to tasting notes relevant to the three wines, then tasted the wine and had to choose which wine we thought it was. There were both red and white wines (3 of each!).

The January meeting, on Thursday 19th, will be at Liz and Tony's house and we will be looking at a video to help us match wines to different foods. Bring a favourite wine to taste.

As some other groups have done, here is our outline plan for the next few months:-

**19th January** – video matching wines to food at Liz and Tony’s

**16th February** – Chilean wines at Ruth and Malcolm’s

**16th March** – possible visit to Da Mhile distillery near Ffostrasol

**20th April** – Australian wines at Annabelle and George’s

**18th May** – still to decided

**15th June** – possible visit to the Llaethliw Vineyard near Aberaeron

**July** – possible Cheese and Wine evening hosted by the group for all U3A members

Other topics under discussion included . . .

another visit to the Cwmpengraig vineyard

a visit to Penderyn distillery

German, English and Dessert wines

One grape variety, 3 different prices (£5/£10/£15) - can you spot the difference!

*Hazel*

### **December Meeting Creative Writing Exercise - Summary**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>BOOK</b>	<b>ITEM OF CLOTHING</b>	<b>GIFT</b>
<b>David Cameron</b>	Oliver Twist	Straight Jacket	A crystal ball
<b>Oliver Twist</b>	How to meet friends & Influence people	Warm Coat	Food voucher
<b>Donald Trump</b>	Love thy Neighbour	Astronaut suit to blast off quickly	London
<b>Robinson Crusoe</b>	Delia Smith’s Fish Cook Book	A Wet Suit	Girl Friday
<b>Snow White</b>	How to deal with Stepmothers	Fur Trimmed Coat	A Warm Coat
<b>Mary Berry</b>	30 best stomach remedies	A red beret	Milk of Magnesia decanter
<b>Gandalf</b>	Hunt for new Hobbits	Pair of Hob(nailed) boots	Hobby Horse
<b>Peter Rabbit</b>	Biography of Beatrice Potter	Blue Waistcoat	Years Supply of Carrots
<b>Puss in Boots</b>	Dogs I have loved	Sandals (for the Summer)	Welly Boot Socks
<b>Anne Boleyn</b>	Hypnosis Book	Chain mail shawl	Hair dye
<b>Miss Piggy</b>	Animal Farm	Trotting Shoes	A Wild Boar
<b>Henry VIII</b>	How to be a good husband	Large Codpiece	Viagra

Well done every one who put their ideas on paper.

If you enjoyed the exercise do come and join us in the Creative Writing Group.

HI I'M MATTHEW BENNION, I'M  
A RESEARCHER AT THE  
UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO  
THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENHANCED  
COMPUTERISED PROBLEM SOLVING  
PROGRAM? WE ARE SEEKING OVER  
50'S TO TEST OUR CURRENT PROGRAM  
AND SHARE THEIR VIEWS ON ADVANCED  
TECHNOLOGY

I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM  
YOU IF:

- YOU ARE 50 OR OVER
- CAN READ WITH GLASSES  
IF NEEDED
- CAN HEAR CLEARLY WITH  
A HEARING AID IF NEEDED

TO FIND OUT MORE PLEASE EITHER EMAIL ME AT  
M.BENNION@SHEFFIELD.AC.UK OR TELEPHONE (IF YOU WOULD  
PREFER) ON 0114 222 4399 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE WITH  
NAME AND NUMBER. WE'LL CALL YOU BACK!

This study has been approved by the Ethics Committee of the School of Psychology at the University of Sheffield.

This is a genuine request via the national U3A mailing list,  
Matthew has been in touch before

## What's On In Newcastle Emlyn U3A - January 2017

### January

Tuesday	<b>3</b>	<b>Book Club</b> - at Ken & Val's in Horeb <i>Please note change of date</i>	10.30am
Wednesday	<b>4</b>	<b>Monthly Meeting</b> - at Community Hall, N. Emlyn Speaker - Kathryn Horton - HUTS outreach worker	10.30am
Wednesday	<b>4</b>	<b>Lunch</b> - at Emlyn Arms (after monthly meeting) If you wish to attend, please order from the menu at the meeting	12.30am
Thursday	<b>5</b>	<b>German</b> - at The Woollen Museum	11.00am
Monday	<b>9</b>	<b>French</b> - at Peggy's in Croeslan	11.00am
Monday	<b>9</b>	<b>Philosophy (pm)</b> - at Susan's in Pontegarreg	2.00pm
Tuesday	<b>10</b>	<b>Digital Photography</b> - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd	10.30am
Wednesday	<b>11</b>	<b>Crafty Crafters</b> - at Annabelle's in Penboyr	11.00am
Wednesday	<b>11</b>	<b>Astronomy</b> - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd	2.00pm
Thursday	<b>12</b>	<b>Art Group</b> - at Penboyr Village Hall	10.00am
Thursday	<b>12</b>	<b>Creative Writing</b> - at Carol's in Penrhiwllan	10.30am
Friday	<b>13</b>	<b>Scrabble</b> - at Margery's in Henllan	2.00pm
Tuesday	<b>17</b>	<b>Games Group</b> - at Hazel's in Waungilwen	10.30am
Thursday	<b>19</b>	<b>Philosophy (am)</b> - at Lesley's in Henllan	10.30am
Thursday	<b>19</b>	<b>German</b> - at The Woollen Museum	11.00am
Thursday	<b>19</b>	<b>Wine Appreciation</b> - at Liz and Tony's in Cenarth	7.00pm
Thursday	<b>26</b>	<b>Art Group</b> - at Penboyr Village Hall	10.00am
Wednesday	<b>25</b>	<b>Family History</b> - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd	10.30am
Wednesday	<b>25</b>	<b>Lunch Club</b> - Newcastle Emlyn Rugby Club	12.15pm
Friday	<b>27</b>	<b>Strollers</b> - at Beach Parade Car Park, Aberaeron	10.30am

### February

Wednesday	<b>1</b>	<b>Monthly Meeting</b> - at Community Hall, N. Emlyn Speaker - Brian Daniel - 'Any idea where we are?'	10.30am
Wednesday	<b>1</b>	<b>Lunch</b> - at Emlyn Arms (after monthly meeting)	12.30am

To add events to this monthly calendar please contact John, giving date, venue and time plus any further information to assist those wishing to attend. Closing date for newsletter contributions will be on the 24th of the month. Sorry, later than this and I cannot guarantee its inclusion.

Contact John via email at: [neu3anewsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:neu3anewsletter@hotmail.com)  
It's easy to remember - **n** (Newcastle), **e** (Emlyn), **u3a** (catching on!)  
**newsletter** (I think you've got it!) - [@hotmail.com](mailto:@hotmail.com) (gets it to me).