



Chair's Ramble

I hope you are all managing to stay healthy and avoid the bugs that are going around at the moment. January has been a bit of a wash out as regards the weather but it is good to get back into routine again.

We had a great number of members attend the January meeting to hear Tony and Liz talking about Patagonia and their family history research there. It was lovely to see so many.

The committee has now submitted a bid for some money to buy a new projector so hopefully that will be successful and we can get a new one soon. We have also produced some leaflets about staying safe online, protecting and backing up your computers. These will be available at the next monthly meeting or can be downloaded from our website. They will also be sent out via email with this newsletter - I hope they will be useful.

About 10 of us are attending the workshop at the end of this month to find out more about the National Library project to transcribe old wartime documents. More about that once we have been.

A few groups have now told me what they are planning for my 2018 challenge in the Welsh Coastline project. Don't forget to talk about it with your members and let me know what you are planning.

You can find out more about the project on the Wales U3A website,
<https://u3asites.org.uk/walesu3a/page/79874>

They also have a facebook page for those of you on facebook,
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1149551921846045/>

It is called U3A Border and Coastline celebration. I will try to put a link to it on our own facebook group page.

Don't forget to keep an eye on the study workshops at Lampeter University and apply to go on whatever takes your fancy. Personally I am interested in the archeology ones. If you want to know more details contact Jim.

Hazel

A wife asks her husband, "Could you please go shopping for me and buy one carton of milk and if they have avocados, get six".

A short time later the husband comes back with six cartons of milk.

His wife asks him, "Why did you buy six cartons of milk"?

He replied, "They had avocados".

Our Subject Groups

Activity Group

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

Art Group

(1st and 3rd Thursdays from 10.00am at Penboyr Village Hall)
More details contact Amanda

Astronomy

(3rd Wednesday from 2.00pm at Coracle Hall, Llechryd) - Joint with Cardigan U3A
More details contact Malcolm

Book Club

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

Crafty Crafters

(2nd Wednesday from 11.00am at Betty's in Waungilwen or Barbara's in Cenarth)
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

(currently an email support group) - 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 at Hazel's in Waungilwen)
More details contact Hazel

Garden Group

(1st Friday, generally pm - venue & time varies amongst the group, or other gardens)
More details contact Tony

German Group

(This group has ceased to meet - as of February)
More details - see Group Reports

ICT Support Sessions

(3rd Tuesday from 2.00pm at Hazel's in Waungilwen)

More details contact Hazel

Lunch Group

(last Wednesday - venue varies)

More details contact Tracy

Philosophy am

(3rd Thursday from 11.00am at Penrhiwllan Village Hall)

More details contact Jim

Philosophy pm

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

More details contact Susan

Scrabble

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

More details contact Margery

Strollers

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

More details contact Jim

Table Tennis

(2nd Tuesday from 2.00pm and 4th Thursday from 10.30am at Rhydlewllan Village Hall)

More details contact Ali

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.

Freddie and John were fortunate enough to have a season ticket to watch Chelsea. They could not help noticing that there was always a spare seat (B14) next to them and they had a friend who would love to buy a season ticket, especially if all three could have seats together.

One half-time Freddie went to the ticket office and asked if they could buy the season ticket for B14. The official said that unfortunately the ticket had been sold. Nevertheless, week after week the seat was still empty.

Then on Boxing day, much to Freddie and John's amazement the seat was taken for the first time that season. John could not resist asking the newcomer, "Where have you been all season". "Don't ask" he said, "the wife bought the season ticket back last summer, and kept it for a surprise Christmas present".

Group Reports

Book Club

The book for January was 'The House of Hidden Mothers' by Meera Syal. It was full of interesting human dilemmas, especially about surrogacy. The descriptions of India were thought to be authentic by those who had been there.

In February, we will meet on *Wednesday 28th* at Val's, as the usual day is 'Not The Xmas Dinner' at Cardigan College. February's book is 'Different Class' by Joanne Harris.

The March meeting is on Tuesday 27th, probably at Val's, but please check with Ann. The book is 'Killing Floor' by Lee Child.

Ann

Crafty Crafters

February's meeting was at Betty's in Waungilwen. Meeting in her studio was ideal for those of us who needed to grout the mosaic tiles we did at the workshop we attended in November. Although we did clean up after ourselves, we didn't have to worry about spilling the grout on an expensive carpet or scratching someone's best dining table. The instructor had given us the grout powder we needed and emailed easy to follow instructions to me, so we were all set. I hope to have photographs of the finished tiles for the next newsletter.

The remaining time was spent discussing ideas for the coming months and our plans for making a fabric panel for the Coastline Project (watch this space). Suggestions for 'trying our hands at' were tissue box covers, pyrography, pebble pictures, bead work, some sort of jewellery making, glass painting and die cutting. As we would like to have the fabric panel finished and ready for display at the All Wales Conference early in May, it was agreed that the months until then should be spent concentrating on that but to take along anything else we are working on to fill in any spare time.

Next month's meeting will be 14th February at Barbara's in Cenarth, when we will have a planning session for the panel. The group will be emailed with the suggested picture, so they can start thinking about how we could represent it using fabric, any needlecraft (or other crafts) and other embellishments.

Ruth

Creative Writing

This month we were asked to write an advert to sell a Boa constrictor as a family pet! There were some amusing and strange advantages proffered as to the benefits of having such a 'pet'!

We also had a good discussion about the Coastal and Borders project, and what we can offer as a Group. This will be ongoing and we will be bringing more ideas to the table next month.

Next meeting is Thursday 8th February, 10.45am at Carol's.

Ali

French Group

We are reading a short story in French each time and enjoying the experience, increasing our vocabulary.

Our next meeting is on Monday 12th February, 10.30am at Peggies.

Ann

Games Group

Hazel and John will not be available this month. Venue to be advised (or cancelled).

Hazel

German Group

It is with sadness that we have to report that the German group has had to fold due to the lack of regular members. I would like to thank Terry for running the group and hope that maybe in the future there will be a call to restart the group. Thanks must also go to the National Wool Museum for hosting the group and for their hospitality.

Hazel

Philosophy am

This month we looked at Friendship.

The ancient Philosophers made much of friendship, it being more important than romance. To today where, with social media, friends are numbered in hundreds. We couldn't define friendship but concluded that we had many friends who we know would help, but only a few close friends who you would share confidences with.

Most philosophers had quotes about friendship, one was from Henry Thoreau - 'The Language of friendship is not words but meanings'.

The next meeting is on Thursday 15th February, 11.00am at Penrhiwllan Village Hall. Just bring pen and paper.

Jim

Philosophy pm

We looked at the various things that worried or concerned us - they varied from;

- Religion - its effects and whether right and wrong
- Men's inhumanity to man - and inequalities
- Ageism and other 'isms - including care of the elderly
- The NHS
- Bovine TB
- Climate Change and the environment

This will give us many topics to look at in the future. In spite of not being nearer the top of the list we will be looking at Climate Change and its philosophy. We will look at Power (Generation), its effect on society and, if time, what would happen if power was rationed.

I thought we could choose a subject which we had to research into the science and politics of as well as the philosophy.

We next meet on Monday 12th February at Sue's in Pontgarreg.

Jim

Strollers

This month's walk was from Llanerchaeron National Trust car park through the woods towards Aberaeron and then back along the old railway track. The first part was rather muddy in places but the weather was glorious and Conti's cafe was open at the end to enjoy some lunch.

Next months walk will probably be in the Newport area and will be led by Tony.

Hazel



Wine Appreciation

The wine group enjoyed their first meeting of the year at Hazel and John's when we tasted one of each other's favourite wines. We also planned a programme for the next few months. If you would like to join this group please contact Hazel.

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|----------|--|
| February | – Romanian wines at Liz and Tony's, |
| March | – Guess the price. Choice of £5, £10 and £15 bottle from the same region/grape. Ruth and Malcolm's |
| April | – visit to Llaethliw Vineyard near Aberaeron <i>The plan is to use this visit in some way for the coast project</i> |
| May | – British wines |
| June | – Aldi wines |
| July | – visit to Gwaun Valley brewery near Fishguard |

Other ideas for the second half of the year - Fortified wines and a 'type' of bubbly.

Hazel

Email newsletter from the Third Age Trust

The email newsletter is designed to be useful to both U3A members and committees

We therefore recommend that you sign up to receive it directly at

u3a.org.uk/email

Recipients of the newsletter will never have their email addresses disclosed to third parties, and will have the opportunity to unsubscribe at any time they see fit.

Lampeter University Humanities Workshops

Following the information in the last newsletter about the Humanities Study Workshops that Lampeter University are organising following our successful Philosophy Study Day, they have now set up a web page with more information and booking details.

Here is the link you need:

<http://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/humanities-workshops/>

If people do go on any of the study days please can they do a short report for the newsletter afterwards. It would be lovely if a group of people could go to each of them. Please book direct with the university.

Lampeter University Humanities Workshops - 2018 Programme

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|--------------------------|--|
| Wednesday, 7th March | The Ancient World - Kings, Emperors and Heroes |
| Wednesday, 4th April | Politics & Culture |
| Wednesday, 2nd May | Archaeology - A Guided Tour of Strata Florida |
| Saturday, 2nd June | Archaeology - A Guided Tour of the Archaeological Dig at Llanllyr |
| Wednesday, 4th July | History and Culture |
| Wednesday, 8th August | Philosophy |
| Wednesday, 5th September | The Ancient World |
| Wednesday, 3rd October | Anthropology & Archaeology |
| Wednesday, 7th November | Religion and Culture I |
| Wednesday, 5th December | Religion and Culture II |

Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day.

One remarked to the other, 'Windy, isn't it!'

'No', the second man replied, 'it's Thursday'.

The third man chimed in, 'So am I. Let's have a beer'.

What's On In Newcastle Emlyn U3A - February 2018

February

| | | | |
|-----------|----|--|---------|
| Thursday | 1 | Art Group - at Penboyr Village Hall | 10.00am |
| Wednesday | 7 | Monthly Meeting - at Community Hall, N. Emlyn Speaker - Janet Barber, Pant Glas World of Nature - Owls and Hawks | 10.30am |
| Thursday | 8 | Creative Writing - at Carol's in Penrhiwllan | 10.45am |
| Friday | 9 | Scrabble - at Margery's in Waungilwen | 2.00pm |
| Monday | 12 | French Group - at Peggy's in Croeslan | 10.30am |
| Monday | 12 | Philosophy (pm) - at Susan's in Pontgarreg | 2.00pm |
| Tuesday | 13 | Digital Photography - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd | 10.30am |
| Tuesday | 13 | Table Tennis - at Rhydlewys Village Hall, Llandysul | 2.00pm |
| Wednesday | 14 | Crafty Crafters - at Barbara's in Cenarth | 11.00am |
| Thursday | 15 | Art Group - at Penboyr Village Hall | 10.00am |
| Thursday | 15 | Philosophy (am) - at Penrhiwllan Village Hall | 10.30am |
| Thursday | 15 | Wine Appreciation - at Liz and Tony's in Cenarth | 7.00pm |
| Tuesday | 20 | Games Group - at (venue to be advised) | 10.30am |
| Wednesday | 21 | Astronomy - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd | 2.00pm |
| Thursday | 22 | Table Tennis - at Rhydlewys Village Hall, Llandysul | 10.30am |
| Friday | 23 | Strollers - probably in the Newport area | 10.30am |
| Tuesday | 27 | Lunch Club - at Cardigan College (<i>change of date</i>) (<i>Not The Christmas Dinner</i>) | 12.30pm |
| Wednesday | 28 | Book Club - at Val's in Horeb (<i>please note change of date for this month</i>) Family History - <i>email support group, see 'Our Subject Groups'</i> Garden Group - <i>winter recess, no meeting until March 2018</i> ICT Support Session - <i>no meeting this month</i> German - <i>this group has ceased - see 'Group Reports'</i> | 10.30am |

March

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| Wednesday | 7 | Monthly Meeting - at Community Hall, Newcastle Emlyn Speaker - Sharon Owen, Welsh Hearts |
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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

It's easy to remember - **n** (Newcastle), **e** (Emlyn), **u3a** (catching on!)
newsletter (I think you've got it!) - **@hotmail.com** (*gets it to me*).