



Chair's Ramble

Happy New Year! 2020 – wow! 20 years ago I watched the sun rise on the new millennium from a hill near Nuneaton. What a lot has happened since then.

The January monthly meeting will be on the 8th January and will be a talk by Trevor Gunn, one of our own members. Please try and support him if you can.

Well, I hope you have all completed your matchbox 25 challenge. Please can you name your matchboxes and your answer sheets and give them to myself or Ruth at the January monthly meeting or before then if you see us. The 25th anniversary sub committee is going to judge the winner.

For the February 25 challenge we would like you to loan us a photograph of yourself at about 25 years old! At the February and possibly the March meeting (depends how many we get!) we will ask people to match the photos to a list of names. So we have time to set it all up please can you let us have the photo at the January meeting. Please put your name on the back so we can give the photo back to you afterwards and know who it is!

Don't forget to gather bits and pieces for the March 25 challenge which will take place in the monthly meeting. Ribbons, paper, scraps of material, artificial flowers, sheets of thin card, wrapping paper (any size or colour). Bring these bits and pieces to any of the monthly meetings.

It is with great sadness that I have to report the passing of Chris Phillips at the beginning of December. He was a member of the astronomy and wine appreciation group and was a very talented man and expert photographer. He had also been a member of the committee for a couple of years. Our thoughts and prayers are with his sister and family at this time.

Now to some official business. I need to give you notification of an Extraordinary General Meeting which we need to hold at the start of the February meeting on Wednesday 5th February. Hopefully it will only take a few minutes! It is to do with making a change to the constitution that the National Office has asked us to do. More details will have been emailed to you and are included with this newsletter.

Photography Competition. As part of the Castles Shared Learning Project, Wales are running their first regional photography competition, with the theme of 'Castles in Wales'. The competition is open to any U3A member of a U3A in Wales. The first 'heat' of the competition takes place at local U3A level. If you wish to enter a photograph for this competition they will need to be entered by the end of March for judging. Please speak to Hazel for the rules regarding the format of the photos.

Hazel

What's On In Newcastle Emlyn U3A - January 2020

January

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|---|---------|
| Tuesday | 7 | Welsh Group - at Vicky's in Capel Iwan | 10.30am |
| Tuesday | 7 | Write Now - at Carol's in Penrhiwllan | 10.30am |
| Wednesday | 8 | Monthly Meeting - at Community Hall, N. Emlyn Speaker: Trevor -What goes on behind the scenes when you fly | 10.30am |
| Thursday | 9 | Creative Writing - at Carol's in Penrhiwllan | 10.30am |
| Thursday | 9 | Gardens Group - at Tony & Liz's, Cenarth | 2.00pm |
| Friday | 10 | Scrabble - at Margery's in Waungilwen | 2.00pm |
| Monday | 13 | Philosophy (pm) - at Susan's in Pontgarreg | 2.00pm |
| Tuesday | 14 | Digital Photography - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd | 10.30am |
| Tuesday | 14 | Table Tennis - at Rhyd Lewis Village Hall | 2.00pm |
| Wednesday | 15 | Crafty Crafters - at Penboyr Village Hall | 10.30am |
| Wednesday | 15 | Astronomy - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd | 2.00pm |
| Thursday | 16 | Philosophy (am) - at Penrhiwllan Village Hall | 10.30am |
| Thursday | 16 | Wine Appreciation - at John and Janet's in Horeb | 7.00pm |
| Tuesday | 21 | Games Group - at Penboyr Village Hall | 10.30am |
| Tuesday | 21 | ICT Support Session - at Hazel's in Waungilwen | 2.00pm |
| Thursday | 23 | Table Tennis - at Rhyd Lewis Village Hall | 10.30am |
| Tuesday | 28 | Book Club - at Betty's in Adpar | 10.30am |
| Wednesday | 29 | Lunch Group - no information | 12.30pm |
| Friday | 31 | Strollers - at Cilgerran Wildlife Park | 10.30am |
| Thursday | | Art Group - meets fortnightly at Penboyr Village Hall | 10.00am |
| | TBA | French Group - at Peggy's in Croeslan | 11.00am |
| | TBA | Science Group - no information | |
| | | Bowls Group - In winter recess until Spring 2020 | |
| | | Croquet Group - In winter recess until Spring 2020 | |
| | | Family History - Currently not active (see page 8) | |

February

| | | | |
|-----------|---|--|---------|
| Wednesday | 5 | Monthly Meeting - at Community Hall, N. Emlyn Speaker: Glen Johnson - History Man | 10.30am |
|-----------|---|--|---------|

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, at the latest.

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).

Our Subject Groups

Activity Group

Date, Activity and Location will vary - see 'What's On In Newcastle Emlyn U3A'
More details contact Hazel

Art Group

Every other Thursday 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 Betty's in Adpar
More details contact Betty

Bowls Group (Outdoor) - *In winter recess until Spring 2020*

1st Tuesday and 3rd Monday both from 2.30pm at Newcastle Emlyn Bowling Club
More details contact Ali

Bucket List

Date, Activity and Location will vary - see 'What's On In Newcastle Emlyn U3A'
More details contact Helen

Crafty Crafters

2nd Wednesday from 10.30am at Penboyr Village Hall
More details contact Ruth

Creative Writing

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

Croquet Group - *In winter recess until Spring 2020*

1st and 3rd Friday from 2.30pm at The Old Rectory, Llandyfriog
More details contact Sue

Digital Photography

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

French Group

Date varies - from 11.00am at Peggy's in Croeslan
More details contact Ann

Games Group

3rd Tuesday from 10.30am at Penboyr Village Hall
More details contact Hazel

Gardens Group

Date, venue and time varies amongst the group, or other gardens
More details contact Tony

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 10.30am at Penrhiwllan Village Hall
More details contact Jim

Philosophy pm

2nd Monday from 2.00pm at Susan's in Pontgarreg
More details contact Susan

Science Group

New Group - meeting at Penrhiwllan Village Hall
More details contact Jim

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 Rhydlewish Village Hall
More details contact Ali

Welsh Group

1st Tuesday from 10.30am at Vicky's in Capel Iwan or Liz's in Cenarth
More details contact Vicky

Wine Appreciation

3rd Thursday from 7.00pm - venue varies, amongst the group
More details contact Hazel

Write Now

1st Tuesday from 10.30am at Carol's in Penrhiwllan
More details contact Carol

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.*

What's round and bad tempered? A vicious circle

What do frogs wear on their feet? Open toad sandals

Why did Santa have to go to the hospital? Because of his poor elf

Why couldn't the skeleton go to the Christmas party? He had no body to go with

Why did the pony have to gargle? Because it was a little horse

Why was the turkey in the pop group? Because he was the only one with drumsticks!

Group Reports

Book Club

We met in November and had a lively discussion on 'A man called Ove' by Fredrick Backman. Most of us enjoyed it, although the story was slow to begin with. It had a quiet humour and some sadness in it.

We meet again on Jan 28th, when it is Camp David by David Walliams.

The book for February is 'Home sick. Why I live in a shed.' by Catrine Davies.

Betty

Crafty Crafters

At December's meeting we brought the Christmas trees we were making during October and November so that they could be photographed. We were then very productive making gift bags from good quality wrapping paper ready for the gifting season, with some members managing to make more than one.

Everyone had also brought some nibbles as it was our Christmas meeting.



Crafty Crafters will be on Wednesday 15th January at 10.30am. There is nothing planned, so bring a project of your own to work on.

I hope you all had a good Christmas and hope that 2020 brings you good cheer.

Ruth

Creative Writing

We had a lovely festive evenings thanks to Carol's hospitality. And an entertaining festive session thanks to Hilary. Huge thanks to Hilary for coming up with rewarding and interesting sessions every month, you're a star.

Next session is Thursday 9th January, 10.30am.

Ali



As New Year's Day falls on a Wednesday this January, the general meeting has been postponed until the second Wednesday. This means that

Games group

The games group had a lovely meeting in December with friendship, fun and food! Everyone brought a bit of food to share and we played games such as Spider dominoes and Rummikub amongst others.

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and enjoyed maybe playing games with their families and visitors. If you enjoy games then why not join us in January at our next meeting.

Hazel

Gardens Group

In December eleven of our intrepid gardeners met to make Christmas wreaths from garden greenery. We all had an enjoyable afternoon finishing with many different styles of wreaths all of which now hang proudly on the doors in Newcastle Emlyn! We finished with tea and mince pies. Thanks to Maureen Webley for helping with the greenery and the room hire.



Our next meeting will be on Thursday 9th January, 2.00pm at Chatterbox Cottage in Cenarth. We are having a speaker from the Lampeter Seed Library, Andrea Gibbon. This is a voluntary body which saves mainly edible seeds and relies on members to grow the seeds, multiply them, and then at the end of the season return some to the library.

This helps to preserve old varieties that can be more suitable for local areas.

If anyone doesn't know where Chatterbox Cottage is please give me a ring.

Tony Poole.

Strollers

We managed a short walk to take in Capel Colman in Boncath where we looked at the Graves of one of the ancestors of one of our members. The sun was out and it was almost warm with lovely views across the valley to I Fenni, but I still managed to find mud as well as an electric fence to cross. Fortunately the big Hereford Bull was well enclosed in the barn we passed.

We then adjourned to plan next years programme - some old favourites and some new. One, Pengalli Wood, is reported to have Polecats there. Perhaps if we are quiet we may encounter one.

We had to adjourn to the Nags Head for refreshments after our hard work. Our next walk is Friday 31st January in the Cilgerran Wildlife Park, meeting at the Cardigan Market. The actual route depends on the weather.



Wishing you all a very enjoyable Christmas holiday,

Jim

Table Tennis

The group enjoyed its Christmas tournament on Tuesday 10th. Everyone entered into the spirit with festive garb and we had some good matches, with eventual winners being Jim and Geoff, and runners up John and Julia/Ali.

I have also had notification of the National U3A Table Tennis tournament to be held in October at Cardiff. It's open to members who regularly attend a U3A Table Tennis group.

Ali



Welsh Group

In December we were asking and answering questions about ourselves and our Christmas plans. Next time we will be talking about our families. The meeting will be at Vicky's in Capel Iwan, Tuesday 7th January at 10.30am.

Vicky

Wine Appreciation

Our numbers were a little low at our Christmas meeting in December due to holidays and illness but there were still eight of us who got together to do a blind tasting game.

Each couple bought a specified wine from wine family groups. The





wine characteristics were read out as we tasted and we had to choose from 3 different choices within each group.

January's meeting is on Thursday 16th January at John and Janet's house in Horeb. John will supply some wines from unusual grapes and we will split the cost between us on the night.

Hazel

Family History Group

It has been proposed that the Family History Group should be reintroduced. The Church of the Latter Day Saints in Newcastle Emlyn have said that we can use their facilities and Margaret Taylor has offered to be Group Leader. There will be a sheet at the next monthly meeting for those who are interested to add their names, then if there is enough interest a planning meeting will be held.

May you have the gladness of Christmas which is hope; The spirit of Christmas which is peace; The heart of Christmas which is love.

Ada V. Hendricks

The smells of Christmas are the smells of childhood.

Richard Paul Evans

When we recall Christmas past, we usually find that the simplest things – not the great occasions – give off the greatest glow of happiness.

Bob Hope

Christmas is a necessity. There has to be at least one day of the year to remind us that we're here for something else besides ourselves.

Eric Sevareid

I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. Mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph.

Shirley Temple



U3A WALES Photography Competition 2019



Open to all members of U3As in Wales



Closing date: April 30th 2020

The theme for 2019 is 'Castles in Wales'

Competition rules and other details are available from your U3A

and at

www.u3asites.org.uk/walesu3a

Queries to chris.winner@u3a.org.uk