



#### Chair's Ramble

We had our largest number of members yet at the January meeting to listen to one of our own members, Trevor, speak about life behind the scenes of aviation. A very interesting talk. Thanks again Trevor. If anyone knows of a bigger hall within the Newcastle Emlyn area please speak to a member of the committee. It is getting a little squashed as our numbers are increasing.

We had 14 matchboxes submitted for the January Challenge and the 25th anniversary sub-committee had an interesting time reading through the lists and checking contents. I must say some of the answers were very ingenious! The winner will be revealed at the February monthly meeting!

Don't forget we will be starting a little earlier at the February meeting on Wednesday 5th in order to have a quick EGM about the change to the wording on the constitution.

The February Challenge photos of members at '25ish' will be on display with an answer sheet for people to fill in. They will be up again at the March meeting as time will be a little short in February.

Please keep gathering bits and pieces for the March 25 challenge which will take place in the monthly meeting (there will be no speaker). Ribbons, paper, scraps of material, artificial flowers, sheets of thin card, old cereal boxes, wrapping paper (any size or colour). Bring these bits and pieces to the monthly meetings, everyone will take part.

There is a committee meeting on Tuesday 11th February so if anyone has anything they would like the committee to discuss please let a committee member know.

The Family History group has reformed again and will start officially in February. Please see elsewhere in the newsletter for details. We are also in the process of starting a Patchwork and Quilting group. Great news and even more to fit into a month!

There is certainly no excuse to be bored in the Newcastle Emlyn U3A!

At the 25th anniversary dinner in June we would like to run a good raffle. If any of you have anything that you could donate for this, or know of a business that could possibly donate a prize, please can you bring it to a monthly meeting or give it to a committee member.

Hazel

*What do you call a bull that likes taking a nap? - A bulldozer!  
Why is it pointless to play hide and seek with mountain ranges? - They peak.  
I was told I pick my nose at times -  
- I mean, why would I do that? I've still got the one I was born with!*

### February

Monday	3	<b>French Group</b> - at Peggy's in Croeslan	10.30am
Tuesday	4	<b>Welsh Group</b> - at Liz's in Cenarth	10.30am
Tuesday	4	<b>Write Now</b> - at Carol's in Penrhiwllan	10.30am
Wednesday	5	<b>Monthly Meeting</b> - at Community Hall, N. Emlyn	10.30am
		<b>Extra Ordinary Meeting</b> - prior to Speaker	10.45am
		<b>Speaker:</b> Glen Johnson - The History Man	11.00am
Thursday	6	<b>Creative Writing</b> - at Carol's in Penrhiwllan	10.30am
Thursday	6	<b>Gardens Group</b> - at Tony & Liz's, Cenarth	2.00pm
Monday	10	<b>Philosophy (pm)</b> - at Susan's in Pontgarreg	2.00pm
Tuesday	11	<b>U3A Committee Meeting</b> - at Coracles, Cenarth	10.00am
Tuesday	11	<b>Digital Photography</b> - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd	10.30am
Tuesday	11	<b>Table Tennis</b> - at Rhyd Lewis Village Hall	2.00pm
Wednesday	12	<b>Crafty Crafters</b> - at Penboyr Village Hall	10.30am
Friday	14	<b>Patchwork and Quilting</b> - time and venue to be notified	
Friday	14	<b>Scrabble</b> - at Margery's in Waungilwen	2.00pm
Tuesday	18	<b>Games Group</b> - at Penboyr Village Hall	10.30am
Tuesday	18	<b>ICT Support Session</b> - at Hazel's in Waungilwen	2.00pm
Wednesday	19	<b>Astronomy</b> - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd	2.00pm
Thursday	20	<b>Philosophy (am)</b> - at Penrhiwllan Village Hall	10.30am
Thursday	20	<b>Wine Appreciation</b> - at Ruth & Malcolm's in Bryngwyn	7.00pm
Monday	24	<b>Science Group</b> - at Penrhiwllan Village Hall	2.00pm
Tuesday	25	<b>Book Club</b> - at Betty's in Adpar	10.30am
Tuesday	25	<b>Family History</b> - at the Church of Latter Day Saints	2.30pm
Thursday	27	<b>Not the Christmas Diner</b> - at Cardigan College	TBA
Thursday	27	<b>Table Tennis</b> - Not meeting this month	
Friday	28	<b>Strollers</b> - at Aberporth to Tresaith	10.30am
Thursday		<b>Art Group</b> - meets fortnightly at Penboyr Village Hall	10.00am
		<b>Lunch Group</b> - no meeting	
		<b>Bowls Group</b> - In winter recess until Spring 2020	
		<b>Croquet Group</b> - In winter recess until Spring 2020	

### March

Wednesday	4	<b>Monthly Meeting</b> - at Community Hall, N. Emlyn	10.30am
		Creative morning with Anne Ecuere	

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](mailto:neu3anewsletter@hotmail.com)

## 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 - *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

### Family History

4th Tuesday from 2.30pm at The Church of Latter Day Saints, Newcastle Emlyn  
More details contact Margaret

### French Group

Date varies - from 10.30am 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 and Technology

4th Monday from 2.00pm - 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, at Cilgerran Wildlife Park  
More details contact Jim

### Table Tennis

2nd Tuesday from 2.00pm and 4th Thursday from 10.30am at Rhydlewic 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.*

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*Why can't women put on mascara with their mouths closed?*

*Why is 'abbreviated' such a long word?*

*Why do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries and a diet coke?*

*Why do dwarves and midgets have very little in common?*

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## Group Reports

### Bucket List

Not all of the events on the Bucket List are expensive or require travelling. Over the last few weeks five people have been gathering at Hazel's house, and with Ruth's help, have been learning how to crochet and are getting on really well. Some are now beginning their own projects. All have learned the basic stitches and today we tried a 'granny square'.

It doesn't matter how small an item is on your bucket list, if it's something you have always wanted to do we can try and help you achieve it.

*Hazel*



### Crafty Crafters

January's Crafty Crafters was a session where we all took something of our own to work on. Some of our members are also members of the Bucket List Group who had said they wanted to learn to crochet. As Hazel and Ruth are teaching them, they brought this work to continue with. Hazel brought some of her own crochet, Carol was working on stitched paper and I took the castle squares that people have made for the castles wall hanging to start cutting them down to size.

Amanda has offered to come in February to demonstrate beading and to help us make a start on a project and she called in to the meeting to show us some samples of her work. Very impressive and we look forward to having a go. Amanda will bring beads and some other equipment but will let me know what we can take along if we already have them.

*Ruth*

### Family History

Those members of this new group who could make it to the inaugural chat had an interesting meeting and hopefully have chosen a day when everyone who expressed an interest can come to the meetings most months. We shall be meeting on the 4th Tuesday of each month, usually in the afternoons from 2.30pm to 4.30pm, though we may occasionally change to the morning - so please contact me if you would like to join us, rather than turning up and missing us.

The first meeting will be on Tuesday 25th February, 2.30pm at The Church of Latter Day Saints, Newcastle Emlyn. Thank you to Ken Jones for his hospitality and interesting talk on what can be achieved on a particular subject in a relatively short time - sometimes.

I said that I want us each month to share hints and suggestions, on a particular topic, or in general, to help the other members with their continuing research at home, as well as using the facilities of the family history centre for our own research.

*Margaret*

### French

The next French Group meeting will be at Peggy's on February 3rd at 10:30am. We will be starting the new book which will refresh our memories of grammar!

Eight members have booked to visit Beziers in the Languedoc at the end of March. Hopefully, this will be as enjoyable as the Nice trip last year.

I have had several enquiries about joining the French Group but at the moment we do not have room for more. If you would be interested in getting a second group going please could you contact me. I would be happy to share information on books etc.

*Ann*

### Gardens

We started off the new gardening year with a speaker from the Lampeter Seed Library. They are a voluntary group who give out free seeds, mainly edible, for you to grow on and then give them some seeds back at the end of the season. Apart from being free this also helps to preserve older varieties or varieties more suitable to particularly soil types or weather conditions. The library is held every 2nd and 4th Saturday at Lampeter Farmers Market.

Our February meeting will be held at Chatterbox Cottage, Cenarth on Thursday 6th February at 2.00pm. Having lived on a Greek island on and off for over 25 years I am going to give an illustrated talk on the Wild Flowers of Greece. All are welcome.

*Tony Poole*

### Philosophy (am)

We also looked at the area of good governance, but perhaps in more detail, again we found problems with especially the UK government. We will continue with the same subject and maybe look at possible solutions.

*Jim*

### Philosophy (pm)

We looked at Governance based on the a commercial article and the EU elements of Good Governance, which included, rule of law, transparency, responsiveness, consensus, inclusiveness, effectiveness, accountability and participation. All in relationship to the U3A and UK government. We didn't get very far especially with regard to the UK government.

Next time we are looking at the Ethics of the Foreign Policy. Is it possible to have an Ethical Foreign Policy?

*Jim*

## Science and Technology

At our January meeting Vicky gave a talk about municipal wastewater treatment. Arrangements are to be made to visit Haverfordwest wastewater treatment works. Many thanks to John and Elaine for providing for the refreshments.

The next meeting will be on Monday 24th February, 2.00pm in the village hall at Penrhiwllan. We will be discussing meteorology and the weather. All are welcome.

*Vicky*

## Welsh

We have been talking about our families. In our February meeting we will continue this discussion. We will also be using the vocabulary from '[saysomethinginWelsh.com](http://saysomethinginWelsh.com)' challenges 5 and 6.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 4th February, 10.30am at Liz's in Cenarth.

*Vicky*

## Wine Appreciation

In January 10 members met in Horeb at Janet and John's house and had a really interesting meeting. John had bought some wines made from unusual grapes. We do tend to be creatures of habit and stick to what we know, so it was good to be challenged with some not so well known names. We tried 5 wines, two whites and three reds.

We liked a very palatable white called Albariño from Spain and the favourite was a red called Black Stump from Australia made from the Durif grape which we sampled with dark chocolate! Very tasty!!!

Our next meeting will be at Ruth & Malcolm's in Bryngwyn when we will be tasting wines from the SE corner of Australia currently being hit by the devastating fires. This will be on 20th February at 7.00pm.

*Hazel*

## Write Now

At our January meeting, we each read out our 'dialogue between a famous couple' homework. The couples were not named within the text – so the clues to their identity had to be discovered via their conversation and/or setting.

Thelma and Louise, Adam and Eve, Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, Winnie-the-Pooh and Christopher Robin, Lennon and McCartney, Posh and Becks and a tricky Jack and Jill of nursery rhyme fame all featured and inspired a lively session.

Annie showed us the frontispiece she had prepared over the holiday for our collection of writing on the Castles of Wales theme and ideas were also put forward for a possible group outing.

We next get together at Carol's in Penrhiwllan on Tuesday 4th February at 10.30am. Anyone who made a 'must write right now' resolution for New Year is welcome to join

us. There is a choice of homework tasks for those who want a prompt: either write a poem or piece of prose including the word 'turn' or 'turning' or take your inspiration from a newspaper headline.

*Julie*

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## Another New Group - Patchwork and Quilting

We are hoping to start a new Patchwork and Quilting group in February. There will be an initial meeting on 14th February, time and venue to be notified depending on numbers. The group will be for anyone interested, regardless of whether they already have some experience or have never done it before but would like to learn. It is planned to hold future meetings on a Friday for 4 hours at Penboyr Village Hall. The first meeting will just be a couple of hours to find out what experience we all have and to sort out the logistics for future meetings.

If you are interested please add your name to the interest sheet which will be available at the general meeting on Wednesday 5th February, or let Hazel or Ruth know.

*Ruth*

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## U3A 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 to the committee by the end of March, or at the latest the monthly meeting on April 1st, for judging.

Photographs will be judged on -

- Adherence to given theme - Castles in Wales
- Composition
- Exposure
- Colour balance
- Sharpness

Images that do not comply with any of the above should/will be disqualified.

- Each U3A will select their top 3 photographs to be sent forward to judging within the network.

Eventually the entries will have to be digital photographs (which we can help people with if that is a problem) but in order to create a display we need entries to be submitted initially as an actual photograph of approximately A5 size, 6"x 8".

Please add your name and name of the photo including the castle name. i.e. Hazel Towle, Sunset at Cardigan Castle.

I hope some of you will give this a go as I know there are many budding photographers out there!

*Hazel*