



Chair's Ramble

Another month gone! I am writing this in week five of lockdown due to the Coronavirus. I am not sure any of us really knew what this was all going to mean to us and the changes we were going to have to make to the way things are done. All I can say is thank goodness for the good weather we have been having as it has meant that those of us with gardens can get outside and potter! We are going to have very pristine gardens once this is all over. The other thing I am very thankful for is the internet! This has meant that some of us have been able to meet virtually using a programme called Zoom which is a video conferencing app. It is not difficult to use as long as you have a computer. If anyone else fancies getting involved please let me know. There are a few of us getting quite proficient at using it. Welsh group is using it - and the committee. I also know that the Creative Writing group have all been in touch and taken part in a limerick challenge. Hopefully your group leaders have been in touch and also you should have had a phone call from a member of the committee. Apologies if someone hasn't managed to get in touch with you.

Talking of challenges! I put out an extra 25 challenge a week or so ago on email and had a wonderful response. The Coronavirus sentences can be seen in the newsletter. They will all get a certificate for taking part! I'm afraid you will have to wait till we meet again to receive them. This may be quite a time yet according to the powers that be. It will get harder so be strong and stay safe.

The Castles of Wales photographic competition was judged by Barry Adams from Debbie's Jewellers in Newcastle Emllyn. He chose 4 photos which I have sent forward to the next level. The winners were three for John and one for Malcolm. Well done to both of them.

May's 25 challenge: is a slightly different one and has been set by Jim and the 25th sub committee. In the last 25 years since Newcastle Emllyn U3A began there have been many new inventions. Some of these include Wifi, smartphones, tablets and iPads, Google, Amazon, GPS, 3D printers, Facebook, satellite TV, digital cameras, and advances in genetics and genetic medicine.

We would like you to think about what might be invented in the next 25 years. Looking forward rather than backwards! We know of things that are being talked of like adaptable electric cars, hydrogen powered cars, driverless cars, cancer treatments. There is more information about this inside the newsletter.

Stay safe and stay well,

Hazel

May

Groups are making their own arrangements via email & Zoom - check with your Group Leader

- Welsh Group - via Zoom
- Write Now - at Carol's in Penrhiwllan
- Monthly Meeting - at Community Hall, N. Emllyn
- Speaker: Anthony Populton-Smith - The Etymology of Words
- French Group - at Peggy's in Croeslan
- Philosophy (pm) - at Susan's in Pontgarreg
- Digital Photography - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd
- Table Tennis - at Rhyd Lewis Village Hall
- Crafty Crafters - at Penboyr Village Hall
- Gardens Group - at the nursery of Roger Spencer
- Patchwork and Quilting - at Penboyr Village Hall
- Scrabble - at Margery's in Waungilwen
- Games Group - at Penboyr Village Hall
- Astronomy - at Coracle Hall, Llechryd
- Philosophy (am) - at Penrhiwllan Village Hall
- Wine Appreciation - at Julie and Brian's, Adpar
- Science and Technology - at Penrhiwllan Village Hall
- Book Club - at Betty's in Adpar
- Family History - at the Church of Latter Day Saints
- Lunch Group - no information
- Creative Writing - at Carol's in Penrhiwllan
- Table Tennis - at Rhyd Lewis Village Hall
- Strollers - at Llanerchaeron to Aberaeron
- Art Group - meets fortnightly at Penboyr Village Hall
- ICT Support Session - not available this month
- Bowls Group - In recess until further notice
- Croquet Group - In recess until further notice

June

- Monthly Meeting - at Community Hall, N. Emllyn
- Speaker: John Piggott - A trip to the South Sea Islands

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** (Emllyn), **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 - *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

Patchwork and Quilting

2nd Friday from 11.00am at Penboyr Village Hall
More details contact Ruth

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 Rhydlewis 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.*

Group Reports

Creative Writing

Here are some limericks from our Creative Writing group about the current situation!

We're all frightened of getting the bug
And I desperately need a good hug
But I sit in the sun
With a big hot cross bun
And cover my knees with a rug.

Corona - we're dropping like flies
Unprepared - our leaders aren't wise
But their souls fill with pride
When they get to decide
Who lives and who of us dies

I'm wearing a clinical mask
"Why?" I hear somebody ask.
To keep germs at bay
Chase this virus away.
I'll say it's one helluva task

There was a young lad I was fancin'
I asked if he cared to go dancin'
But to my surprise
He looked into my eyes
And said "Social Distancing, no I'm not chancin' "

Hope you're keeping safe and well,

Ali

Crafty Crafters

Well here we are, four weeks with no meetings. I hope you are all managing to find time (and inspiration) to do some craft work. I'm finally working on projects of my own after finishing the Castles Wall Hanging. My biggest project for a while is making a patchwork tuffet which Malcolm bought me for my ??? birthday last year. I've been at it for a week and a half now and am pleased with the progress so far. It looks like I may have to wait for the shops to re-open though, if I want to stain the feet. We have clear varnish but if I don't want the pale pine colour, I need some wood stain.

So, what is everybody else working on? I would love to hear and if you sent pictures, they could go in the newsletter to show everyone what we get up to. Before Easter I suggested that we could try decorating eggs. Something that I used to hear about when I was young (yes, I know, I'm still young!) but never actually did. The only

Don't try to fly overseas
Someone on the plane just might sneeze
So if you're not keen
To see quarantine
Just stay where you are if you please

Now Boris has got this new virus
And he is extremely desirous
To make us behave
Our lives for to save
Cos meeting with people will tire us.

While sitting at home on my own
I sometimes feel very alone.
I'd like to go crazy
But I'm far too lazy
I might just kill time on the phone.

member I know who took the challenge up was Hazel, so I'm afraid you only have photographs from her and myself.

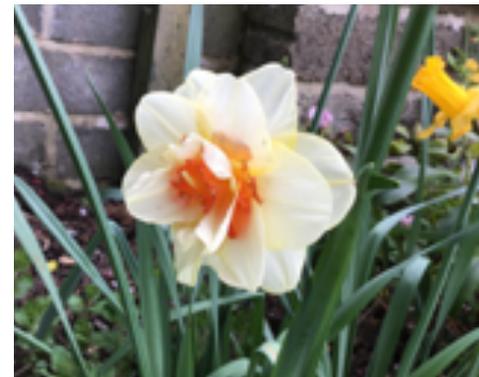
Hopefully we can all get back to



normal soon. I'll try to think of something else which we could have a go at.

Ruth

Gardens



We are very lucky during lockdown to have a garden, and great Welsh weather. Our garden has never been so tidy, if a weed pokes its head up in the morning it is in the compost heap by teatime! The daffodils have been superb this year, now the bright

yellow trumpet variety have finished we have moved on to the more exotic varieties.

Needless to say our group cannot meet at the moment but we hope we may have a chance to get together later in the year.

Plant of the month. I know it is common but the Euphorbia in the garden has been magnificent for a month or so already making a big splash of lime green color in a dark corner. A bit too easy to grow I now need to dig some up before it takes over the whole border, if anyone wants a bit let me know.

Tony



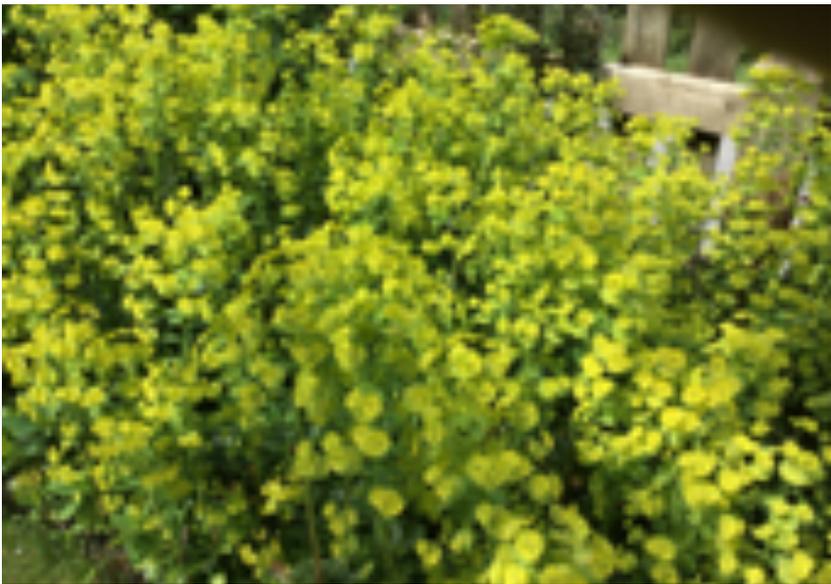


Photo of the Euphorbia

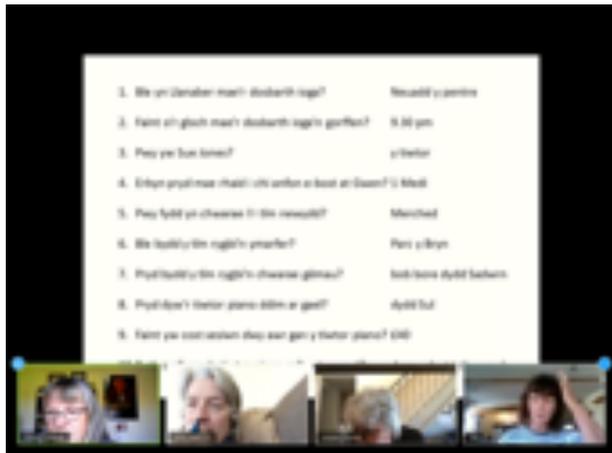
Patchwork and Quilting

I do miss being able to get together in a group and chat while we sew and work on our projects but I hope everyone else is finding the time to carry on with their sewing work, whether patchwork or something else. In the middle of April I sent out some instructions for a couple of simple patchwork blocks so that the beginner patchworkers could, hopefully, try to continue working on their own until we are back up and running again. Although I know it is often much easier to see demonstrations than work from the written word, I will attempt to continue sending more suggestions until we can meet up again.

Ruth

Welsh

On 7th April five of the Group held our monthly session via a video conference using Zoom. This worked well and we all participated and enjoyed it. We translated more small adverts, this time concerning sports and tuition, then answered questions about the ads. We also practised translating more phrases into Welsh using vocabulary and expressions from [‘saysomethinginwelsh.com’](http://saysomethinginwelsh.com)



challenges 1-7 together with other useful phrases.

Next time we are going to learn to tell the time.

Our next session will be on Tuesday May 5th, starting at 10.30am, again using Zoom.

Vicky



Write Now

Obviously, no meeting was held this month. It was suggested to members, via e mail contact, that they might like to write something using the pandemic as a background. This could be creative eg. a poem or an imaginative short story or could be simply a memoir of how they themselves exist and feel during the shutdown. ‘Interesting’ times are always worth recording. . . . and other U3A members might also like to consider doing the same.

Julie

May’s 25 challenge

May’s 25 challenge is a slightly different one and has been set by Jim and the 25th sub committee. In the last 25 years since Newcastle Emlyn U3A began there have been many new inventions. Some of these include Wifi, smartphones, tablets and iPads, Google, Amazon, GPS, 3D printers, Facebook, satellite TV, digital cameras, and advances in genetics and genetic medicine.

We would like you to think about what might be invented in the next 25 years. Looking forward rather than backwards!

We know of things that are being talked of like adaptable electric cars, hydrogen powered cars, driverless cars, cancer treatments.

What we want you to do is become an inventor and decide what you would like to see invented in the next 25 years. Members can submit their ideas as drawings, in writing or as a model. Obviously we can’t physically accept these ideas at the moment but would like you to photograph your ideas and then email them to me at neu3achair@hotmail.com. Please submit your ideas by 25th May.

What would you like to see to make life better in the next 25 years. Maybe a self ironing machine, hover boards for getting around etc., etc.

**Let’s see what inventive brains you have!
Anything goes however fantastical it might sound**



1. Cardiff Castle



3. Cilgerran Castle



4. Carew Castle

U3A Castles Photographic Competition

These are the four photographs from Newcastle Emlyn U3A that were selection to be entered into the national competition later this year.

Congratulations, and good luck, to John and Malcolm.

Aprils extra 25 Challenge

This challenge was first posted on the U3A Keeping In Touch Facebook page but I thought it would be a good one for some of you to get your brains around and I was right!

Can you find something positive in Coronavirus by suggesting an uplifting sentence where each word begins in sequence with the letters in the word Coronavirus.

Example: Completely Ordinary Residents Of Neighbourhoods Are Vivaciously Influencing Recyclers Under Stress.

These are the ones that have been emailed to me and I think we do need to vote on them although they are all brilliant and will all receive a certificate. The only way of doing that is if you email or phone me with which number you think is most creative and best and I will count up the votes for each one. Email neu3achair@hotmail.com or Phone 01559 371842.

1. Calling Outerspace, Require Overall Nationwide Assistance, Verily I Request Universal Solution.
2. Carry On Regardless, Outdoors Not Allowed, Visits Inappropriate, Release Us Soon 😊
3. Confidently Overcoming Really Onerous National Arrest, Vicarious Isolationists Resolute Under Shutdown.
4. Cherish Our Relationships Of Nice And Very Isolated Relatives Under Solitude
5. Coronavirus Offers Rare Opportunities Not Always Very Intense Respiratory Ubiquitous Strain.
6. Cannot Object Really Over Needing Active Virus Isolation, Results, Universal Safety.
7. Carrying On Regardless Outstanding NHS And Volunteers Incontrovertibly Rescuing UK Society.
8. Constantly Optimistic Reactions Of Neighbours And Various Individuals Rendering Unusual Services.
9. Come On Roads Of Neighbours, A Vaccine Is Reaching Us Soon!
10. Chemistry Offers Realistic Openings Nearly Achieving Very Interesting Results, Until Solutions.
11. Clearly Old Reasons Offer Necessary Aptitudes, Various Individual Results Unnecessarily Slowly.
12. Could One Russian On Narcotics Act Viciously Inside Reading University Societies.
13. Confinement Offers Relaxation Or New Activities Ventured In Rapidly Unfolding Situation
14. Coronavirus Obviously Recedes Once NHS Activate Vaccination Inevitably Relaxing Universal Uelf-isolation.

Space Filler Quiz! - Answers next month

1. Which rank in the British Army is immediately superior to a Brigadier?
2. Which birds featured in the title of a series of books by Arthur Ransome?
3. What is the last week in Lent called in the Christian calendar?
4. How many lines are there in a sonnet?
5. In which fictional land is it always winter but never Christmas?
6. How is the number 77 usually written in Roman numerals?
7. What was the name of Michael Jackson's chimpanzee?
8. In which European capital did Handel's Messiah receive its premiere in 1742?
9. Who wrote the Pallister series of novels?
10. In which month of the year does the Christian festival of Michaelmas fall?
11. In Morse Code what letter is represented by one dot?
12. In architecture to what does the term hypostyle refer?
13. Who is the driver of Ivor the Engine?
14. Which architect designed the Guggenheim Museum in New York?
15. With which art movement would you associate Salvador Dali?
16. What was the pen name of author Eric Blair?
17. What title is given to the Prime Minister of Ireland?
18. What organisations have the following mottoes, (i) 'Blood and Fire' (ii) 'Who Dares Wins' (iii) 'Faster, Higher, Stronger' (iv) 'Nation Shall Speak Unto Nation' (v) 'Fidelity, Bravery, Integrity'?
19. In the Children's rhyme that begins "Monday's Child is fair of face", how is Thursday's child described?

Answers to Last Month's Quiz

What would the prices have been in 1994/1995?

		2019/2020	1994/1995	Price now as % of price then
		£	£	
1	Annual subscription to our U3A	14.00	8.00	175
2	Litre of unleaded fuel	1.25	0.57	219
3	Pint of bitter draught	3.60	1.45	248
4	Average house price in Wales	150,000	48,215	311
5	1 dozen medium eggs	1.95	1.18	165
6	2nd class stamp	0.61	0.19	321
7	Council tax rate band D dwelling Wales	1,590	350	454
8	TV licence	154.50	84.50	183
9	1.5 kg self raising flour	0.67	0.58	116
10	Cinema ticket	7.50	3.25	231
11	250g butter	1.60	0.73	219
12	Average salary in Wales	29,000	12,900	225
13	Pint of milk	0.45	0.36	125
14	Annual average gas bill GB	600	350	171
15	White sliced Loaf of bread 800g	1.02	0.54	189
16	Average car price in Wales	22,000	10,600	208
17	250 g teabags	2.05	1.28	160
18	100g instant coffee	3.00	1.76	170
19	20 cigarettes	10.80	2.50	432
20	1 kg granulated sugar	0.75	0.70	107
21	Oven ready chilled roasting chicken /kg	2.75	2.00	138
22	British best beef mince /kg	6.65	3.50	190
23	Cauliflower each	1.00	0.60	167
24	Bananas /kg	1.00	1.00	100
25	Coal 50 kg	20.00	6.60	303
Average Rise 1994/5 to 2019/20				213

* Prices taken from UK Government ONS and Welsh Assembly figures

	Some other changes since 1994/95	2019/2020	1994/1995	% change
26	Severn Bridge toll (car)	0.00	3.40	- ∞
27	No. of Euros or French Francs to £1.00	1.14€	8.3 FF	NA
28	Savings account interest rate	1.30%	5.50%	-76
29	VAT rate on fuel	5%	8%	-38
30	Personal Tax allowance	12500	3445	263
31	Bank of England base rate	0.75%	6.25%	-88