



NEWSLETTER

May 2023

Welcome to Issue 15 of our Newsletter.

*Finished working full time?
Join our u3a to make new friends, take up new interests,
and enjoy life*

See. <https://u3asites.org.uk/newent/home> for more details

Monthly General Meetings are held
on the 2nd Tuesday of the month
at Newent Community Centre,
Ross Road, Newent.

Doors open @ 2.00pm with 2:30pm start.

Newent & District u3a is 10 Years Old!



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In February, Newent & District u3a celebrated its 10 year anniversary. It was back in February 2013, that our u3a held its first Monthly Meeting at the Memorial Hall, Newent.

An Organising Group, formed during late 2012, quickly established that there was a need for a u3a to serve Newent and the surrounding district. This was followed up with a general meeting, held in January 2013, to determine the level of interest. This meeting attracted 100 people, all of whom subsequently became members. The Organising Group soon morphed into a Management Committee that set about developing initiatives to grow the membership base and to establish a number of specific interest groups e.g. walking, French, National Trust, led by individual members. Until the onset of the pandemic membership had grown to in excess of 200 with some 20 + Interest Groups

Like many organisations the pandemic impacted on membership levels. Whilst our u3a managed to hold a number of Interest Group meetings via Zoom during the pandemic our membership numbers unfortunately declined. We have, however, started to reverse that trend – our numbers are now circa. 125

To celebrate our u3a reaching 10years it was decided to hold a “prosecco and cake “party, to which current and past members were invited. We were pleased that we had some of the original Organising Committee – Gill Moseley, Ann Humphries, Mary Aubrey, Phil & Rosemary Ludlow. As part of the celebrations, we had members past and present enjoying country dancing, which was led by local dance organiser Ken Boon. Whilst Ken tried hard to keep us right, fun was had by all taking part, learning another new skill! Those not participating enjoyed the company of both current & past members.



After our country dancing session, we enjoyed the cakes baked by some of our members and glasses of prosecco! Finally the original “gang of five” cut the celebratory cake. More photos of the event can be seen on our website <https://u3asites.org.uk/newent/page/128525>



Photos by *Livia Pietragalla*

10 Year Anniversary Cake – Thank You to Liz Higgins



A special thank you goes out to Liz Higgins for making the cake that was enjoyed by all those who attended our 10 year anniversary celebrations in February. Liz’s cake was a truly wonderful demonstration of cake making and decorating – it certainly tasted as good as it looked. Thank you Liz for your support.

Moving Your u3a Forward

The Management Committee is delighted that our u3a has recently been able to chalk up its ten year anniversary. In discussing our progress over those ten years the Committee found it difficult, in all honesty, to answer the fundamental question "is our u3a currently delivering what its membership wants"? In order for the Committee to reassure itself that we are on the right track in meeting members needs and expectations we intend undertake a consultative exercise with all members. The exercise is likely to take the form of requiring a response to simple questionnaire – so we would like a high response rate. It is your u3a so please ensure your voice is heard. Watch this space

Move to Newent Community Centre

May 9th saw the implementation of the decision that we hold our Monthly Meetings at the Newent Community Centre instead of the Memorial Hall, Newent. This decision was not easy one for us to take, given that we had been using the Memorial Hall since our formation. The central issue, however, was all about giving our u3a access to the superior meeting facilities on offer at Newent Community Centre for our monthly meetings and group meetings. As you will be aware the decision was taken following a consultative exercise with all members. So a big "thank you" goes out to those members, nearly 50% of you, who submitted their views on the proposal.

Consultation with our membership, on major decisions like this, is a vital component in our u3a's decision making process. So we would like to an even larger number of members responding to consultative exercises in the future. Remember the Management Committee is there to implement the wishes of its membership so if you do not respond we cannot take into account you views on major decisions.



Chairman's Vacancy

At our AGM in July I will be standing down as Chairman of our u3a after some five years in the role. I should have, as per our constitution stood down after three years in office, however, because of the challenges and aftermath of the pandemic my term was extended. I will, however, stand as a Management Committee member for 2023/24.

Despite the fact that I have written out to members about finding someone to replace me no one has put themselves forward for the role. I have no doubts whatsoever that we have individuals within our membership who are more than capable of taking up the reins. If you feel you might be exposed or uncertain in the role don't worry as I am more than willing to provide whatever support my successor might need to help them assimilate into the position. So we urgently need a volunteer to put themselves forward. The role is not as onerous as you might think. The Management Committee has already started to identify how the Chairman's work load can be eased by sharing out some duties amongst the Committee membership.

Furthermore you won't be starting from scratch as there is already an excellent system in place and you will have the total support of the Committee. So I am urging you to consider the matter seriously as we need a candidate in place as soon as possible so that the transition as smooth as possible. At the end of the day our u3a cannot operate without a Chairman so the position has to be filled – doing nothing is not an option for us.

Alan.
Chairman

Newsletter Editor Vacancy

I have to say that is extremely disappointing that we still remain, after many months, in desperate need of a Newsletter Editor. This state of affairs is embarrassing, not in the best interests of our u3a, and is unsustainable. Currently we publish a Newsletter every 6 months which, quite frankly, is not serving our membership. We need more regular issues to keep members up to date with developments and to provide a channel for communications

I have no doubts whatsoever that we have individuals within our membership who are more than capable of performing the role of Editor. I do not understand why they are not putting themselves forward as the role is certainly not as onerous as it once was. The often difficult aspects of design, layout, and article insertion, have been taken away from the Editor as they are now in the capable hands of Terry Darrington. Therefore the Editor is left free to focus on getting material and content for the Newsletter itself. Articles will flow to the Editor from a variety of sources including Groups, administration of our u3a, and members. In essence the Editor acts as the focal point for the Newsletter

So based on this job profile I am seeking a volunteer to step into the breach. If you are worried about being thrown into the deep end fear not! You will be supported 100% by the Management Committee and Officers of our u3a. We are all in this together. So please can you consider volunteering to take on this vital post to support your u3a. If you have any questions or queries or reassurances about the role please do not hesitate to contact me.

Alan
Chairman

More Management Committee Members Urgently Required

I am sure that all of you will appreciate that our u3a is only as good as the people who volunteer to help run it. The Management Committee's role is to ensure that our u3a functions efficiently and effectively for its members. It is no stretch of the imagination to say that without the volunteers who make up our Management Committee, Newent & District u3a would cease to operate.

Ever since I have been on our Committee we have struggled to reach a full complement of Committee Members. At this coming AGM in July we will see at least one Committee Member stand down. Whilst we have had some success over the last 18 months in getting individuals to join the Committee the fact remains that we are still carrying too many vacancies.

At this juncture I would like to dispel the myth that involvement in the Management Committee is an onerous or boring task – in reality this could not be further from the truth. Being on the Committee enables you to contribute to the operation and development of our u3a. How far you want to get involved in the operation of our u3a is entirely up to you. First and foremost you are there to represent and look after the best interests of our members. We meet for 2 hours per month in the afternoon, and our work involves making decisions that ensure our u3a operates and functions effectively, and shapes its future direction. As far as individual tasks emanating from monthly meetings are concerned it is up to you what you want or do not want to take on.

I am therefore appealing to you to think seriously about joining our Committee. Please contact me to discuss what is involved and to hopefully persuade you to join me on the Committee. At the end of the day if we do not get fresh blood onto our Committee our u3a will eventually die – that is a situation that none of us want to happen – so please step forward and support your u3a


NEW GROUP SUGGESTIONS

We are very keen to expand the number of Groups available to our members. If you have the knowledge / skills to run or form a new group Jules Everett our Groups Coordinator would be more than happy to hear from you.

Alternatively if running a new group is not for you but you have an interest in a particular subject area please get in contact with Jules. Possible ideas for new groups that members have already suggested are:-

- Chess
- Singing for fun
- Art
- Table Tennis
- National Trust
- Sunday Lunch
- Maths for Fun
- Crochet

If anybody is interested in joining any of the above or indeed would like to become a Group Leader/Joint Group Leader, please let Jules Everett, Groups Coordinator :

 07958 736596 – email everettjulie41@gmail.com

2nd Wed of each month (am).
We are not experts, but enjoy sharing our love of Nature & concerns about human impacts on our natural world.

2023 Recent meetings:

Jan: Farming Practices & Sustainability. We met at a member's house & shared our childhood experiences of farms. We discussed how farming practices are changing to become carbon net-zero.

Feb: International Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition at Nature in Art Museum. Beautiful images, sharing with us their passion for Nature. And the café was great too!

Mar: Biodiversity Our planned visit to Cannop Ponds was deferred due to snow. So, we retreated indoors to discuss the importance of the variety of species, large & small for our healthy living, and what a disaster the proposed draining of Cannop Ponds would be.

Apr: Sadly, our plan to visit Cannop Ponds was cancelled again, due to inclement weather!

Visits are planned throughout the lighter months, and we hope the weather will be a bit kinder.

2023 Wrens dates to put in your diary:

May 10th, June 14th, July 12th, Aug 9th, Sept 13th, Oct 11th, Nov 8th, Dec 13th

Please email me for more information & I'll add you to my group mailing list with details of the upcoming WRENS events. And we would love you to join us!



**“WRENS”:
Nature Appreciation**

Welcome to our u3a Group

Group Leader: Ginny Birkett
Email: vmbktt@gmail.com



Newent u3a Garden Group.

Visit to Pengethley Garden Centre, Peterstow, Ross on Wye, where the garden group members were treated to a very amusing and informative talk on composting from an horticulturist of 50 years, followed by tea a cake in the cafe.



Garden Group Meetings 2023

- 25TH APRIL:** Visit to Home Farm, Huntley for a walk through woods and Fields to see carpets of Bluebells and Spring flowers.
- 23rd May:** A Plant & Seed Swap at the home of a member
- 27th June:** A garden visit to Coddington Vineyard Gardens. Ledbury
- 25th July:** to Pixley Berries, Ledbury to view their blackcurrant processing.
- 22nd August:** to Weston Hall, Ross on wye, HR97NS for a garden visit,
- 26th September:** Composting demonstration & making Compost tea.
At the home of Ken Power, Taynton
- 24th October:** to be arranged.
- 28th November:** Beryl Griffiths will be demonstrating a Christmas Arrangement which we will replicate afterwards.

All meeting at the venue at 2pm. New members always welcome.

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

Due to the current relatively low numbers of Photography Group members, it has been quite difficult through the shorter winter days to arrange our outings to photogenic locations. However, on the 17th of April, thanks partly to a couple of potential new recruits, we managed to visit Raglan Castle. It was really good to get out and an enjoyable time was had by all in spite of the slightly cool and dull conditions.

Raglan Castle, about 30 miles from Newent, has an unmistakable silhouette crowning a ridge in the glorious Welsh countryside. It is a late medieval castle located just north of the village of Raglan in Monmouthshire dating from between the 15th and early 17th centuries and is reputed to be the grandest castle ever built by Welshmen.



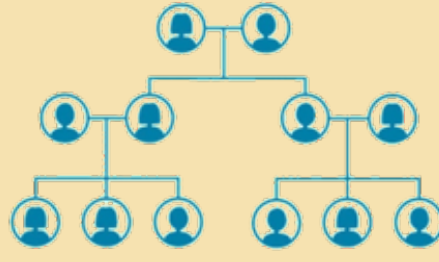
Under various earls of Worcester Raglan was transformed into a magnificent country seat with a fashionable long gallery and one of the finest Renaissance gardens in Britain. But loyalty to the crown was to prove its undoing.

Despite a garrison of 800 men and one of the longest sieges of the Civil War, it fell to parliamentary forces and was deliberately destroyed.

Future Photography Group venues will include local gardens, towns, villages and events. So, if you would like to spend some very pleasant afternoons visiting interesting places in good company, while also improving your photography, why not come along and join us. Please see our u3a website for more details.



Genealogy Group



The Genealogy Group visited the Gloucestershire Family History Centre located in the Gloucestershire Archives Hub on Monday 27th February. The volunteers there gave us a guided tour of the facilities and helped us further investigate our family history. We had a fabulous afternoon and gained a lot from the visit.

Another visit is planned later this year and if anyone is interested in going then please get in touch.



If you would like to join our monthly meeting held in Newent then please get in touch.

Board Games Group



Our latest group had its first meeting on 6th April with a great turn out. We managed to play a number of games including..... Bananagrams, Sequence and Sorry.

If you would like to join our monthly meeting held in Newent then please get in touch.

Events Group



Since our last newsletter, the Events Group have had a number of outings

- 25th Nov – **Graffiti Classics**.....a superb performance by a very talented and hilarious quartet. Tears of laughter throughout. A thoroughly enjoyable evening had by all.
- 8th Dec – **The Nutcracker**.....at The Gateway Cinema. A live showing of this wonderful ballet.
- 15th Dec – **Snow White Panto** (for adults).....at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury. A wonderful start to the Christmas run-up.
- 6th March – **Pride & Prejudice** (sort of!).....at The Everyman Theatre. This comedy/musical was absolutely amazing, with all parts being played by only 5 women.
- 21st March – **Mrs Warren's Profession**.....at The Everyman Theatre. A wonderful performance by Caroline Quintin and her daughter.
- 8th April – **Les Miserables**.....at The Gateway Cinema, this show was preceded by Fizz and canapes. Many a tear was shed watching this wonderful play.

EVENTS Group Planned Trips

In terms of upcoming events the places for the following shows at **The Everyman Cheltenham** are available. If you are interested in going please contact Jules Everett,

☎07958 736596 – email everettjulie41@gmail.com

EVENTS Group Planned Trips



Tuesday 13th June 2023, 7.30pm.

Titanic - The Musical

In the final hours of 14th April 1912, the RMS Titanic, on her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York, collided with an iceberg and 'the unsinkable ship' slowly sank. It was one of the most tragic disasters of the 20th Century. 1517 men, women and children lost their lives.

Based on real people aboard the most legendary ship in the world, *Titanic The Musical* is a stunning and stirring production focusing on the hopes, dreams and aspirations of her passengers who each boarded with stories and personal ambitions of their own.

With music and lyrics by Maury Yeston and a book by Peter Stone (*Woman of the Year* and *1776*), the pair have collectively won an Academy Award, an Emmy Award, an Olivier Award and three Tony awards.

The original Broadway production of *Titanic The Musical* won five Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book. This stunning production celebrates the 10th anniversary of its London premiere where it won sweeping critical acclaim across the board.



Monday 24th July 2023, 7.30pm.

The Official Take That Musical Greatest Days

BY **TIM FIRTH** FEATURING THE MUSIC OF **TAKE THAT**

Relight Your Fire with this sensational new production of Take That's smash hit musical *Greatest Days*.

Greatest Days features more than 15 record-breaking Take That songs, alongside a heart-warming and hilarious story of love, loss and laughter from award-winning writer Tim Firth that will make your heart Shine.

The musical follows five boy band obsessed best friends in the 1990s, who reunite over 20 years later to see their heartthrobs one last time in what could be the *Greatest Days* of their life.

Previously titled *The Band*, the show broke box office records and delighted audiences around the United Kingdom when it performed from 2017 – 2019.

Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Take That's first ever UK number 1 single *Pray* and coinciding with the summer 2023 release of the official movie of this smash hit musical – *Greatest Days* is sure to be a night out at the theatre you will *Never Forget*.

★★★★★

"AN UTTER JOY"

Daily Mail

**"IT'S HEART BREAKING,
HEART-SOARING,
IT'S ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS!"**

Graham Norton



Thursday 14th September 2023, 7.30pm.

The Full Monty

AN EVERYMAN THEATRE, CHELTENHAM AND BUXTON OPERA HOUSE CO-PRODUCTION



Special preview performances
Thur 14 & Mon 18 September
All tickets £22

There are no heroes in Simon Beaufoy's heartfelt play, just a group of lads trying to regain their dignity and pride. This fast and funny play is still very much of our time, as again we are hit by a cost-of-living crisis. Gaz and his mates are down on their luck and feel they have been thrown on the scrap heap, but they are determined to fight back and bare a little more than they ever thought they would have to.

As in the 1997 smash hit film, this brand-new production is a rollercoaster ride of ups and downs, laughs and heartbreak. Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the film on a major national tour. Book now to relive the music of the 90's and have a great night out in the company of our group of lads as they work to put on the show of their lives.

Featuring a hot man for everyone! Starring **Danny Hatchard** (*EastEnders, Ridley Road, Our Girl, SCROOGE*) as Gaz, **Jake Quickenden** (*Footloose, Hair, X Factor, Dancing on Ice*) as Guy and **Bill Ward** (*Coronation Street, Emmerdale, Everybody's Talking About Jamie*) as Gerald, with **Neil Hurst** (*Fat Friends the Musical, All Creatures Great and Small, Coronation Street*) as Dave, **Ben Onwukwe** (*The Shawshank Redemption, Professor T, Marcella*) as Horse and **Nicholas Prasad** (*Around the World in 80 days, The Comedy of Errors, Doctors*) as Lomper.

When it comes to keeping you entertained this lot go *The Full Monty!*

**"Bursting with wit and
deeply touching"**

THE TELEGRAPH



Tuesday 3rd October 2023, 7.30pm.

Agatha Christie's And Then There Were None

With twists and turns to keep audiences guessing until the very end, Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None* is the best-selling crime novel of all time with more than 100 million copies sold worldwide.

Ten strangers are lured to a solitary mansion off the coast of Devon. When a terrible storm cuts them off from the mainland, and with their hosts mysteriously absent, the true reason for their presence on the island becomes horribly clear, as secrets from their past come back to haunt each and every one of them.

Directed by **Lucy Bailey** (*Witness for the Prosecution*, now in its 6th year in London), this brand-new production will keep you on the edge of your seat... Genuinely terrifying...

Don't miss Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None*, coming to the Everyman Theatre this Autumn.

"None of us will ever leave this island"

**"Gripping
entertainment."**



THE TIMES

On Lucy Bailey's *Love From A Stranger*

**"Bailey turns the screw
with every scene."**



WHATSONSTAGE

On Lucy Bailey's *Gaslight*

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ROYAL
DERBYSHIRE &
NORTHAMPTON



Monday 6th November 2023, 7.30pm.

BILL KENWRIGHT PRESENTS

Twelve Angry Men

WRITTEN BY REGINALD ROSE

Following a recording-breaking West End season, this powerful production of **TWELVE ANGRY MEN** is back in session!

Reginald Rose's gripping courtroom thriller has been hailed as 'the classiest, most intelligent drama playing on the West End'. It brings the 1957 three-time Academy Award nominated film, considered one of the great 'must-sees' of all time, to the stage.

A jury has murder on their minds and a life in their hands as they decide the fate of a young delinquent accused of killing his father. But what appears to be an open and shut case soon becomes a huge dilemma, as prejudices and preconceived ideas about the accused, the trial, and each other turn the tables every which way, until the nail-biting climax...

Now it's your turn to witness a 'BRILLIANT', 'RIVETING', 'TRIUMPH' of a show.



'A TRIUMPH'
DAILY MAIL



**'THIS GRIPPING MEDIATION
REMAINS THE CLASSIC
EXPRESSION OF LIBERTY
HUMANITY'**
DAILY EXPRESS



'KNIFE-EDGE STUFF'
MAIL ON SUNDAY



'SUBTLY BRILLIANT'
DAILY MIRROR



Join Our Quiz Group

The Quiz Group meets on the 4th Wednesday afternoon of the month at Newent Community Centre. Our quizzes are very informal and cover a range of topics such as general knowledge, history, famous individuals, and food and drink. Our foremost aim, in our two hour meetings, is to enjoy ourselves, have fun and hopefully add to our general knowledge. At our meetings we normally organise ourselves into competing teams which makes the sessions more enjoyable. You do not have to be a “brain of Britain” to enjoy our meetings - it is surprising to see what depth of knowledge all individuals have. It all makes for a good afternoons entertainment for participants.

If you are interested or want to give the Quiz Group a try, please contact the group leader Janet Furtado, her email is antichoc51@gmail.com

This month’s “taster” quiz is one of the themed rounds that was used at our April meeting. “Hidden” in each of the twenty questions below is the name of a chocolate based confection or assortment. To help you decipher the questions please see the following example question:

Question: “Floral items, could be climbing or tea” **Answer:** Roses

Good luck – the answers are on Page 23

#	Question
1	<i>Definitely not before 20.00 hours</i>
2	<i>Superman, Spiderman and Batman are all these</i>
3	<i>Beautiful lady from Istanbul</i>
4	<i>Clever little individuals, these</i>
5	<i>Mediterranean islanders.</i>
6	<i>Passenger carrying vehicle, or maybe a club sandwich</i>
7	<i>This pub only sells cow juice</i>
8	<i>Sounds like a sadistic nut, this one</i>
9	<i>In the mane, you’ll enjoy this one</i>
10	<i>Are you a ? case</i>
11	<i>Sssh! Talk quietly!</i>
12	<i>Al fresco cuisine</i>
13	<i>Christmas and birthdays give rise to these</i>
14	<i>Single snowy deposit</i>
15	<i>Voodoo in a box</i>
16	<i>Mother’s hostelry, perhaps.</i>
17	<i>Gentle wave action</i>
18	<i>Cow juice container</i>
19	<i>Like toast, or autumn leaves, maybe</i>
20	<i>Serious bar, this, mainly for truckers</i>

When do our Groups meet ?

You might find the following meeting schedule, that covers all our current Groups, helpful as a useful reference point if you are a member or a potential member of any of these groups

<i>Week of the month</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
1 st Week	Tues – Walking Tues – Genealogy (Family History) Wed – French Beginners Wed – Computer Improvers	Thurs – Board Games
2 nd Week	Wed – Wrens Thurs – Spanish Improvers	Mon – Scrabble & Rummikub Tues – Monthly Meeting Fri – Latin
3 rd Week	Wed – French Beginners Thurs – Investment Discussions	Mon – Photography Thurs – Lunch Club
4 th Week	Tues – Walking	Mon – QACKS Tues – Gardening Wed – Quiz Wed – Book Club Thurs – Canasta Fri – Latin

Newent u3a New Members

“We would like to welcome the following new members who have joined us since the beginning of January”

- **Jennifer & Alec Tritton**
- **Gill Mitchell**
- **Carol Doelman**
- **Kenneth Norris**
- **Sue Foxley**
- **Cally Constantine**
- **Mary Ford**
- **Gina & Charlie Brees**
- **Michelle McDonald**
- **E.H. Shaw**
- **Barbara Wood**
- **Jill Furness**

Monthly Meetings – Upcoming Speakers Programme

Below you will find the latest schedule of topics that we are hoping to arrange a presentation at upcoming Monthly Meetings. Please note that this topic list is provisional. More details of the actual speaker and their presentation will be provided nearer the monthly meeting date

- JUNE – Producing the BBC Antiques Road Show
- JULY – Leaf Garden Centre
- AUGUST – Wealth Management
- SEPTEMBER – Bentleys Fruit Farm
- OCTOBER – To be arranged
- NOVEMBER – To be arranged
- DECEMBER – Christmas celebration

Annual General Meeting



This year's Annual General Meeting will be held at the start of the 11th of July monthly meeting in the Newent Community Centre. The AGM Notice, Agenda, Minutes for the 2022 AGM and nomination forms for the election of our 2023-2024 Committee will be circulated during June.

Our u3a is only as good as the people who volunteer to ensure that it functions efficiently and effectively. The role of the Management Committee, in running and shaping our u3a, is crucial to ensuring that we remain a viable and attractive organisation to retain existing members and to attract new ones.

By volunteering to serve on the Committee, you will be able to contribute to the operation and development of your u3a. We have several vacancies that need to be filled, so you are urged to think seriously about being nominated or nominating someone else to join the Committee. Please contact any Committee member to learn more about what is involved.

The AGM will be followed by the usual speaker, refreshments and social activities. It is an important event for our u3a, so please save the date and come along if you can.



Monday (Christmas Eve)

We board the coach this morning and then make our way to Torquay and the ever popular Derwent Hotel on the English Riviera. This evening we begin our Turkey & Tinsel break with a candlelit dinner, Christmas carols and mulled wine. We also have the Christmas show by the entertainment team.

Tuesday (Christmas Day)

A morning "at leisure" in Torquay or enjoy the hotel's activities including Killer darts, dancing and a festive quiz. Continue the festivities this evening with a traditional Christmas dinner, coffee and mince pies and a superb evening of entertainment.

Wednesday (Boxing Day)

We have an excursion in the South Devon area today. Dinner this evening is followed by a festive cabaret from one of the South West's leading Cabaret acts and a show by the talented entertainments team.

Thursday (New Year's Eve)

A morning excursion and a dinner with fizz. Celebrate the New Year with more top cabaret followed by a late night disco

Friday

We leave Torquay this morning to make our return journey

Includes: Luxury Coach Travel
 4 Nights Half Board
 Excursions as Stated
 Christmas Festivities
 Use of leisure facilities

Prices: £320.00 per person (Double/Twin)

Hotel – TLH Derwent Hotel, Torquay

The 3 star hotel with contemporary decor and relaxed atmosphere is located close to sea front and town centre. A perfect location for exploring the English Riviera. The Derwent has extensive facilities, including a luxury spa, gym and indoor games area.

Entertainment is provided each evening.

CONTACT JULES,

GROUPS CO-ORDINATOR IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS, OUR FIRST EVER MINI-BREAK.

☎:-07958 736596. Email :- everettjulie41@gmail.com



Like it or not social media is here to stay and it is increasingly becoming part of everyday life. Whilst you may wish to limit your involvement with social media the purpose of this article is to inform members. The aim is to make members more conversant and perhaps more interactive with its usage. So for this issue of the Newsletter we are starting with Facebook – so here goes. I hope that you will find the following interesting and of some benefit in understanding Facebook's functionality and place in the world of social media

Facebook is a social media platform founded by Mark Zuckerberg and his college roommates Eduardo Saverin, Andrew McCollum, Dustin Moskovitz, and Chris Hughes in February 2004. Initially created as a way for Harvard University students to connect with each other, Facebook quickly expanded to other universities and eventually became available to anyone aged 13 and older with a valid email address.

The platform allows users to create personal profiles, add friends, and share various types of content such as photos, videos, and status updates. Users can also join or create groups, like pages related to their interests, and engage with others through comments, reactions, and private messages.

Over time, Facebook has grown to become one of the most popular social networking sites worldwide. It has introduced numerous features and services, including:

1. News Feed: Facebook's central feature that displays updates from friends and pages in a customizable, chronological order.
2. Messenger: A standalone messaging app that allows users to send private messages, make voice and video calls, and share media.
3. Facebook Pages: Designed for businesses, public figures, and organizations to create a public presence and engage with their audience.
4. Facebook Groups: Communities centered around common interests, where members can share content, participate in discussions, and organize events.
5. Marketplace: A platform for buying and selling goods and services within local communities.
6. Facebook Live: A feature that enables users to broadcast live videos to their followers in real-time.
7. Events: Users can create, invite others to, and RSVP to events, ranging from small gatherings to large-scale conferences.

Facebook has also acquired several other popular platforms and services, including Instagram, WhatsApp, and Oculus VR. These acquisitions have expanded Facebook's reach and allowed for integration and cross-platform functionality between these services.

However, Facebook has faced various controversies and scrutiny over the years. Concerns have been raised about user privacy, data collection practices, the spread of misinformation and fake news, and the platform's impact on mental health and well-being. Facebook has made efforts to address these issues by implementing stricter policies, fact-checking systems, and transparency initiatives.

Facebook had more than 2.8 billion monthly active users worldwide, making it the largest social media platform.





Lemon Torte

Ingredients (serves 4):



small tin condensed
milk



1 pot Elmlea whipping
cream



2 lemons
(juice and rind)



115g digestive biscuits



56g butter

Method:

1. Put biscuits in plastic bag and crush.
2. Melt butter.
3. Stir crushed biscuits into melted butter.
4. Tip into dish and level.
5. Put in fridge.
6. Whip Elmlea, stir in condensed milk and add lemon juice and rind.
7. Pour over biscuit base.
8. Put in fridge.

Answers to Quiz Questions on Page 17

No.	Answer	No.	Answer
1	<i>After Eight</i>	11	<i>Wispa</i>
2	<i>Heroes</i>	12	<i>Picnic</i>
3	<i>Turkish Delight</i>	13	<i>Celebrations</i>
4	<i>Smarties</i>	14	<i>Flake</i>
5	<i>Maltesers.</i>	15	<i>Black Magic</i>
6	<i>Double Decker</i>	16	<i>Mars Bar.</i>
7	<i>Milky Bar</i>	17	<i>Ripple</i>
8	<i>Walnut Whip!</i>	18	<i>Milk Tray</i>
9	<i>Lion bar</i>	19	<i>Crunchie</i>
10	<i>Cadbury's Fruit and Nut</i>	20	<i>Yorkie</i>

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