



Pontyclun u3a

Chair's Report 2020-2021

This has been a very different year for us all! As individuals and as members of our u3a. The COVID restrictions have controlled and affected our lives, our behaviour, our families, our friendships, and our freedom. The results of which, will I think, be felt for some time to come.

Some of us have coped with lockdown better than others but I do hope that being a u3a member, has helped in some small way. Because of the difficulties that some of our members may have, we must make sure that we have a robust support programme in place. As you know, we did not have an AGM last year and this year it is a virtual one. I hope that this time next year we will be in the Community Centre.

I do want to thank the Group Leaders who have kept their groups going through lockdown and Sharon and Sheila for being my 'navigators' during the delivery of the Christmas and Easter cards! Now that Cafe 50 is able to open, our groups can begin to meet and we can begin to 'live, laugh and learn' and enjoy the friendships which our u3a brings to our lives. I think/ feel that we have an exciting year ahead. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve what we do, please bring your suggestions/ideas to the Committee.

We are going to have a second Walking Group, meeting on the first Tuesday of the month, for those of our members who are happy to travel further and walk further, taking a picnic and returning by 3pm in time for any collecting from school. We will, of course, still walk on the 2nd and 4th Monday.

I want to thank Barbara, who has been our Treasurer, and has managed our account for the last 5 years. Barbara has decided to step down as Treasurer and not seek re-election. Barbara, thank you so much for the time and care you have given to the role. As required by our Constitution, all Committee members have to stand down and seek re-election, with a proposer and Secunder, should they so wish. The invitation to stand for the Committee was extended to all members, with no one answering the call! The present Committee members have all presented themselves for re- election, with some fulfilling different roles.

Sharon remains as Secretary, as does Sheila as Publicity Officer and responsibility for engaging our Speakers, Gordon as Group Co-ordinator, Sandra as Support Contact and Paul as Deputy Chair. Stella becomes Treasurer, Sarah Membership Secretary. No one wished to take on the role of Chair and as I cannot hold that title for another year, for this year we will have 2 Deputy Chairs, Paul and myself- all quite legal within our Constitution. Paul will perform the duties of Deputy Chair and I will take on the duties of Chair but not the title. As we only have 8 Committee members, but are allowed 15, we will co-opt members onto the Committee for certain projects- even if you have to be dragged to the task! All our documents and the minutes are available on our [website](#).

Thank you for your support, being part of our virtual AGM and for making our u3a very special.

Chris Dickson 13 May 2021