

Newsletter Pontyclun



March/April 2017

Issue 3

Monthly Meetings

We hold our monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month in Pontyclun Community Hall at 1:30pm.

March Meeting

On Monday 20 March John Sheen will be the speaker with a talk entitled 'Five Boys and a Pasty'. A reminiscent and amusing trip back to growing up in the 1950s.

Member's subscription 2017/18

Annual subscription for 2017/18 is due at the end of March. We will be accepting payment at the monthly meeting on **20 March**. Existing members will now be able to pay by annual standing order as well as by cash and cheque. Please make cheques payable to Pontyclun U3A.

No monthly meeting in April May Meeting

On 15 May the speaker will be Rhodri Morgan telling about his time as First Minister for Wales. It is also our first AGM!

Next newsletter - If you have any news/pictures to submit to the next issue please send to Sarab Carmichael by 30 April

1st Annual General Meeting - 15 May 2017

Why have an AGM?

Holding an AGM is a constitutional requirement for every U3A and it's a chance to hear reports from the committee, approve the annual accounts and elect committee members. It's also an opportunity to have your voice heard; if you have any proposals to put to the wider membership any member can 'propose a motion' to be discussed and approved.

Who can join the committee?

Anyone! We all have a part to play in the running and success of our U3A. Perhaps you don't feel like running an interest group but have an interest in how the U3A works. If this sounds like you why not volunteer? If you have enthusiasm and are interested in U3A, it's well worth giving it a go as it can be very rewarding.

Where can I find out more?

You can find more information about the AGM on our website. Nomination forms and motion proposal forms will also be available at the February and March meetings. All nominations and proposed motions must be submitted to the Secretary by **31 March 2017**.

Day trip to Botanical Gardens Antique Fayre

We must be doing something right! For our visit to the National Botanic Garden of Wales on Saturday 28th of January, we had a new 29 seater coach, delivery of which was taken only three weeks prior by Watts Coaches.



Theatre tickets

We have tickets for the award winning National Theatre production of the The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time on 4 May in WMC, Cardiff. Contact Chris Latus for more information.

Gardening Group visits

The Gardening Group meet on the second Wednesday of the month in Cafe 50 at 10:00am. On Friday 7 April they will be visiting RHS Cardiff Flower Show in Bute Park and on Wednesday 10 May they'll be going to Clyne Gardens, Swansea. Please get in touch with **Barbara Hancock** if you're interested in joining the Gardening Group on these visits.

Craft & Sewing Group



We meet in Cafe 50 on the 3rd Wednesday each month at 1.30pm. We enjoy being creative using a variety of different materials. So far this has included clothing alterations, crochet, patchwork, Christmas table decorations and origami. At our February meeting we will be attempting a stained glass window collage. We welcome new ideas so come along and join in the fun!
Contact: Jackie Pryor for more information.

The sun shone for the whole time of our visit but poured with rain on our return journey! The gardens, although in their Winter resting period, gave us a wonderful show of snow-drops and, as if to remind us that Spring is around the corner, a bed of daffodils, in all their sunny glory.

I think that the Fayre was more vintage on the whole, rather than antique, but nevertheless very interesting. Made one realise, that if you are of a certain age, just how much you have given or thrown away! A lovely trip down memory lane!

This is the third of our day trips. Our next is to **Llanelly House on 15 March and on 14 May to Malvern RHS Spring Show.**

Chris Dickson

Macmillan - Our Charity.



Thank you all for your generosity in allowing us to support a charity, and your enthusiasm, for it to be Macmillan, which, as a charity requires no explanation. So many families have need of its help!

As many of you know, we have a very thriving and successful local Macmillan fund raising group.

This year it is directing all monies raised to the Y Bwthyn Project, at Royal Glamorgan Hospital, which will cost £6.75m, of which Macmillan are contributing £5m! The largest sum of money that Macmillan has contributed to a project in Wales.

The Cottage (Y Bwthyn) will be an eight bedded unit for local people with terminal cancer. This unit will also be equipped to provide treatment to patients with cancer, so making the whole journey less traumatic for the patient and their family.

If you are happy, we will have a Macmillan collection box at each of our meetings.

May I thank you again for your generosity.

Chris Dickson