

Pontyclun U3A Newsletter

Issue 12: January - March 2019

Monthly Meetings

We hold our monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month in Pontyclun Community Hall starting at 1:00pm with tea or coffee.

January Meeting

Our January meeting is on Monday 21 January when we have Rob Gee speaking to us about his 24 years as an RSPCA inspector.

February Meeting

On Monday 18 February Ann Pelleschi will be 'Walking us through history with Nursery Rhymes!' Sounds intriguing!

March Meeting

This month's meeting is held on Monday 18 March and Dan Clayton Jones will be telling us about the history of the Order of St. John which founded the St John's ambulance.

Upcoming Lunch Group venues

The following venues are arranged for the lunch group for January to March 2019. The group meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 12:15pm. If you are interested in joining them, please get in touch with [David Pryor](#)

15 Jan – Ivor Arms, Brynsadler
19 Feb – Bryncae Arms
19 Mar- Bush Inn St Hilary

17 December monthly meeting



Once again, we pushed the boat out and celebrated our last meeting of the year with wine, nibbles and mince pies. John Sheen returned to Pontyclun U3A; this time with his hilarious talk entitled 'Christmas Crackers'.

John treated us to a selection of poems, prose, jokes, a quiz and not one but two pantomimes but all with a Christmas theme. Well done to Linda and Pat for playing the 'Sugly Twisters' so gallantly! We all had a good laugh and hopefully left feeling full of good cheer.

Membership subscription renewals

A reminder that our membership subscriptions are due from 1 April 2019. It's still £15 for the year which is excellent value for 11 monthly talks, 5 copies of Third Age Matters magazine and the 19 Interest Group we currently have.

You can of course pay your subscription before 1 April! We will be taking payment at the monthly meeting on **18 March**. Please make cheques payable to Pontyclun U3A.

Keeping us informed

'If you've got an update about your interest group meeting, like a change of meeting time or venue or even a cancelled meeting, please let our Web Admin, Peter Cox know, so that he can keep the website updated and if you are on Facebook please update our Facebook page. If you're not on Facebook please get in touch with our Face Book Admin, Gordon Hill. Contact Peter Cox [here](#) and Gordon Hill [here](#)

November walk



As part of Pontyclun Community Council's month long 'peace at last commemorations', our Walking Group joined in with a fascinating 1918 walking tour of Pontyclun and Brynsadler led by Edgley Thomas. We started the walk at St Paul's Church and continued our way through Pontyclun and Brynsadler while Edgley pointed out what

was here in 1918 and gave us an idea of what the village would have looked like at that time.

We finished the walk at Talygarn Manor where Chris invited us all in to not only admire the painted ceilings, carved panelling and the Great Staircase but also to her own apartment for a welcome cup of coffee.

Walks	Jan to July 2019:		
14 Jan	St Fagans	8 April	Cefn – Onn Park
28 Jan	Merthyr Mawr sand dunes	29 Apr	Aberthaw
11 Feb	Veronica & Jacky's Mystery Walk	13 May	Brynna Woods
25 Feb	Cold Knap and Porthkerry Park	10 Jun	Caerphilly and Castle
11 Mar	Tredegar Park	24 Jun	14 Locks, Newport
25 Mar	Wild Daffodil walk, St Bride's Major	8 Jul	Salmons Leap, Dinas Powis
		22 Jul	Castles of Cowbridge

Café 50 and fire regulations



For the Interest Group organisers who meet in Café 50 you will have received an email from Tara Davies about holding a Fire Drill for your interest groups.

Don't panic! We are not expected to hold an actual fire evacuation drill for our interest groups! We are however expected to run through the fire evacuation procedures with our groups meeting in Café 50 during January. Please make sure you advise group members of the location of the fire exits and assembly point.

Once you have done this at your January meetings, please let Tara Davies know. If you can't get into the office to see Tara, just drop an email to Tara confirming that you have completed the fire drill. Tara's email is: cafe50@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales. We need to do this by 15 February. Any queries please get in touch with Tara.

Interest Group news

Cryptic Crosswords for Beginners

Janice and Peter Cox are running a series of Cryptic Crossword sessions for beginners.



They've already held 2 very successful sessions and the next 2 will be held on 23 & 30 January at 3:00pm in Café 50. If you're interested in joining them please get in touch with Janice and Peter [here](#)

Drawing Group

The first meeting of the Drawing Group will be held on Wednesday 16 January at 2:00pm in Café 50. If you fancy giving it go, please get in touch with Sheila Gifford [here](#)

Pontyclun U3A Choir

There's already a lot of enthusiasm to start up our own U3A choir!



We really hope this will happen when Pat Smith returns from New Zealand in the Spring. Watch this space

Ukulele Group



Great news! - U3A member Ann Richardson has kindly volunteered to get a Ukulele Group up and running. Anyone interested in getting involved please get in touch with Ann [here](#)

Ann will then organise an initial planning meeting during January and the group will decide how best to proceed.

Craft Group

This is now to meet very three months; the first meeting will be on 20 March.

Annual General Meeting Committee nominations



Our 3rd AGM will be held on Monday 20 May and once again we ask you to nominate committee members for the forthcoming year.

Members of the current committee will 'stand down' and U3A members then nominate and elect candidates for the various committee roles. Present Committee members can be re-elected for their current roles should they wish to stand again.

Although many of us on the committee will have served for three years by May 2019, we have only been **elected** members for two years.

During our first year we were **appointed** members of a steering committee. Therefore, we are all eligible to stand again in our current roles.

We will however be looking for a new Secretary as Sarah Carmichael will not be seeking re-election this year.

If you would like to know more about the Secretary's role, please have a word with Sarah. It's not as daunting a role as you may think and can be rewarding. As long as you are organised and have a flexible 'can do' attitude it's certainly worth giving it a go!

We particularly welcome new members to the committee so please do consider putting your name forward. Further details on how to nominate members will be sent out early in 2019.

Remember that without our Committee there will be no Pontyclun U3A, so do please consider joining the Committee.

Facebook Group update



Since we launched our U3A Facebook page its membership has slowly increased to 37 (with partners this covers 42 members). Thank you to all those members who have been sharing photographs of group activities and events. If you've not yet posted a picture, please give it a go or join the conversation and let us know what you think. If you're not sure what to do and would like to know more, just get in touch with Gordon Hill [here](#)