

Pontyclun U3A Newsletter

Issue 9: May : June 2018

Monthly Meetings

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

May AGM

On Monday 21 May we have our 2nd Annual General Meeting. The AGM will last for about 30 minutes. You can find copies of the AGM agenda and papers on our website [here](#).

May Meeting

Following The AGM, local historian Mike Clubb speaking to us about the WWII Prisoner of War camp at Island Farm, Bridgend.

Outstanding Membership subscription renewals

A reminder that our membership subscriptions were due from 1 April 2018. It's still £15 for the year which is excellent value for 11 monthly talks, 5 copies of Third Age Matters magazine and the 16 Interest Groups we currently have.

Newsletter items

If you would like to publicise a forthcoming group event, or have pictures of a recent activity you want to share with the membership please send to Sarah Carmichael

June Meeting

On Monday 18 June, Abigail Kenvin will be talking to us about 'Making Money'.

The Lunch Group



Have planned their lunches through to next April. They meet on the third Tuesday of the month. Here are the dates and venues. For more information please get in touch with David Pryor

15th May	Sportsman Rest, Peterson super Ely
19th June	Beech Tree, Culverhouse Cross
17th July	Captains Wife, Sully
21 st August	Plymouth Arms, St Fagans
18th Sept	Farmers Arms, Aberthin
16th Oct	The Bear Hotel, Cowbridge
20th Nov	Caesars Arms, Creigiau
18th Dec	Miskin Manor – Christmas lunch*
15th January	Golf Club, Talbot Green
19th February	Bryncae Arms
19th March	The Bush Inn, St Hilary
16th April	Fullbrooks, Pontyclun

*£60 deposit paid- open to all U3A members

Short Story Competition.

The Wales U3A Short Story Competition is running again this year and open for entries from 1 July. You can enter a story in either Welsh or English of no more than 1500 words. But it must start with the words 'It was a beautiful stretch of Welsh coastline....' The closing date is 31 August and you can find more details about how to enter the competition on the U3A website [here](#).

Pontyclun Walking Festival

Pontyclun Community Council is organising a Walking Festival during the Whitsun Bank holiday week. There will be a wide range of walks of different lengths and difficulties suitable for all. They are hoping to encourage people to start walking around Pontyclun area. Interested? You can find out more details about the various walks [here](#)



Have we got enough Interest Groups? If there's a topic or subject area you're interested in pursuing and we do not currently have an interest group, please let us know.

We've had a suggestion for a Wine Appreciation Group; either tasting or appreciating wine or perhaps visiting vineyards. Does this interest you? If so, please let us know.

The Walking group

have planned their walks up to 8 October:

14 May	Brynna Woods – bluebells
11 June	Cefn Onn Park – Rhododendrons
25 June	Nash Point (Plough & Harrow- project walk)
9 July	Llantrisant
23 July	Llantwit Major (The Old Swan - project walk)
30 July	Llanelli Coastal walk (longer walk)
13 August	14 Locks Newport
10 September	Cyfartha Park
24 September	Aberthaw (Blue Anchor - project walk)
8 October	Margam Park

Wales Coast and Border Celebration Heritage coastal pub walks No 1– The Jolly Sailor, Newton



On Monday 26 March 28 of us embarked on the first of our Wales Coast and Border Celebration walks.

Undeterred by the fact that our historic pub The Jolly Sailor was shut on Mondays, we started off our tour with a visit to Newton Church and a brief talk from the vicar.

We heard that the church was built in the 12th century and was originally a Norman fortress. The pulpit dates from the 14th century and is very rare. We were very impressed to see that renovation work in 1990 had revealed some medieval wall paintings.

Our walk took us past the ‘closed!’ Jolly Sailor, the oldest pub in Porthcawl whose first landlord was Frances Turpin. Local legend tells of a secret tunnel that ran from the pub under the church through to the beach at Newton point; most of the inhabitants of Newton were members of the ‘Turpin’ smuggler’s gang!



We then made our way across the back of Newton Burrows sand dunes and across the dunes down to the beach. We were treated to beautiful views of Ogmore, the location for our next coastal pub walk.

Newton Burrows sand dunes are part of a dune system that once stretched from the estuary of the river Ogmore to the east to as far west as the Gower Peninsular. Now a designated SSSI and home to some unique wildlife and fauna it was not always so well looked after.

Between 1937 and 1977 the frontal dunes were subject to commercial sand removal. So much sand was removed that the sea broke through the dunes during a high tide in 1977 and 1978. Fortunately, since that time the importance of the dune system as a natural flood defence and unique habitat has been recognised and they are now well protected.

We continued back to Newton church stopping on the way to look at a rather unimpressive looking St John’s Well.



I really enjoyed my visit to Newton, revisiting my childhood haunts and finding out about its history. I was so pleased to see the church and village green exactly as I remember them, well seemingly smaller, but still the same!

Newton Walk – a very personal history

When we started our coastal pub walk in Newton with visit to the beautiful church, little did we know that one of our members, Enid Rees, had a whole lot of family history there! After the Vicar had given us the history of the church, Enid showed him a tiny hymn book, found amongst her late father’s possessions. It was Enid’s great grandmother, Edith Pearce’s hymn book from Sunday School in Newton Church. Enid also shared information about her great grandfather James Pearce, who took part in the rescue of the crew of the schooner Trevaunance off the coast of Porthcawl in 1857 for which he was awarded the RNLI Silver Medal. James’s son, also called James, was a Leading Stocker on HMS Goliath. He was killed in action in Turkey in 1915.



The family have a grave in Newton Church. We were so pleased that the vicar took the time to look up the location of the tomb and took Enid to visit her ancestors. And here is Enid with a picture of her great grandparents.

General Data Protection Regulation

From 25 May 2018 the new General Data Protection Regulations come into force replacing the current Data Protection Act 1998. The main changes for Pontyclun U3A will mean an updated Privacy Policy Statement on our membership application form that will provide clearer and more precise details about what information we hold, why we hold it and for how long. There will also be clearer guidance on how to update or correct your personal information.

What data do we hold? The personal data we hold are members’ names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses and gift aid information.

Why do we need this information? We hold this information so that we can communicate with you about Pontyclun U3A and Group activities and for the administration, planning and management of your U3A.

Who do we share this information with? We share this information internally to committee members and group leaders/administrators as required, and externally, with your consent, for direct mailing Third Age Matters Magazine and Sources. Where we need to share your information outside U3A we will seek your consent and inform you as to who the information will be shared with and for what purpose.

How long do we keep your personal information? Your information will only be held while you continue to be a member of Pontyclun U3A. Once your membership has ceased, we will no longer hold your personal information unless there is a legal requirement to do so.

We are currently preparing a Privacy Policy and Data Protection Policy for Pontyclun U3A which will soon be available to share with members.