

Summary Minutes SWN Meeting 16th November 2023 at 6.00 pm

SWN AGM March 2024

The Chairman and the Vice Chairman will not be standing again. We currently have no Secretary and the Treasurer has already done two extra years. If SWN u3as do not step forward with nominations for Officers **there will be no SWN after the AGM.**

Cardiff Offer to Host a Stand at the Eisteddfod in Pontypridd August 2024

The aim is to promote u3as throughout Wales but organising and running a stand requires a considerable amount of work and money (estimate upto £1200) and while Cardiff u3a will take on a lot of the work they cannot do it on their own. They will need help from other u3a members on the stand during the Eisteddfod (at least two people every day one of whom must speak Welsh). Although there is about £250 in the SWN account ring fenced for the Eisteddfod and at least £150 is available from TAT as a grant they will need financial help from other SWN u3as. A decision will be made at the January SWN meeting about going ahead with a stand.

Before this January meeting:

- Could member SWN u3as decide if they:
 - Can assist with manning a stall at the Eisteddfod. Have they any Welsh speakers who could assist?
 - Will assist financially according to their means. In previous years SWN u3as have donated sums ranging from £100 to £25 depending on the number of members in their u3a. In 2018 this raised £950.
- Cardiff will
 - Contact TAT with regard to a obtaining a grant.
 - Endeavour to get costs for a stand including purchase of entry tickets. These details are not currently available. They may be available in January but, if not, estimates will have to be taken from previous Eisteddfods.

Visit from Wales Trustee and TAT Chair Liz Thackray

- Over the week they visited a variety of different groups, coffee mornings, afternoon tea and lunches some allowing opportunity for chat with members others less so.
- Liz's mobility caused some problems getting from Group to Group.
- Karen was happy to chat to members, Liz Keener to talk about 'modernisation' of u3a.
- Was the visit worth it? Mixed feelings - half yes, half 'not sure'.

Other Reports from u3as

- Newport using Dolman Theatre for most Groups. Central café area. Involved in Newport as an Age Friendly Town.
- As usual some u3as doing well, others not so well. Various events past and planned including Open Days. AGMs, Christmas celebrations, 30th Anniversary party. New Groups being formed, short courses planned.
- Beacon recommended by those u3as using it. Demonstration available so u3as not using Beacon can make up their own mind.

Links and Downloads on the Website

- Pilot Council Notes and presentation Sept 2023
- Network Link Summary Oct 2023 and York Festival Presentation
- BBC Pension Talk - conference 16 August 2024 at the Hilton Hotel in Cardiff. Our Scheme consists of a network of BBC pensioners who give support/listening ear to our BBC pensioners aged 70 and over, widows and widowers. Annual conference which serves as training and signposting for our volunteers. I was hoping someone from your organisation could come along and talk to us about u3a. Contact Cheryl Miles, 0303 080 3558, cheryl.miles@bbc.co.uk

Date and Time of Next Meeting

- Wednesday January 10th 6.00 pm on Zoom
- Topics
 - Decision on Eisteddfod in Pontypridd August 2024.
 - Welcome and Induction of new members