



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
porthcawlu3a.webplus.net



PRIFYSGOL Y TRYDYDD OED
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Newsletter JANUARY 2017

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From the Chairman

We are now well into 2017 and I hope you all had an excellent Christmas, and wish you a happy and healthy New Year. We are looking forward to a packed year of activities with the interest groups still keeping to their very high standard. In particular, look at the talks and visits programme – which are enclosed - there is a huge variety for you to choose from. I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible when the new programme starts.

Chris (marilynjameschris@yahoo.co.uk): tel 864742

Membership Subscriptions for 2017 and Gift Aid Declaration

Our membership subscriptions for the period January to December 2017 are now due. **The annual subscription for 2017 has been reduced to £30, so I'm sure you will agree that our U3A is remarkably good value for money.**

May I ask you to:

- **complete the membership form included with this newsletter and send it to me as soon as possible with your cheque for £30 made payable to Porthcawl U3A - my address is given on the form;**
- **ensure that you fill in every section of the form and send it to me even if you are already a member;**
- **please inform me without delay if you do not intend to re-join this year.**

Special Note on Gift Aid. Please remember to answer Yes or No to the question about Gift Aid. It does not cost you anything to agree to Gift Aid. In fact, higher rate tax payers benefit from making the declaration. You are entitled to tick the YES box if you do pay tax, but many members do not realise they are paying tax because it has been deducted at source, for example on an occupational income or on investments. If you are in doubt please contact me. I will not enquire into your circumstances. The U3A is entitled to claim Gift Aid because it is a registered charity and the income from Gift Aid helps to keep the annual subscription to a minimum. **David Parry (tel. 784211).**

Wednesday 18th January 2.15pm at the Hi Tide: Talk by Carol Evans:

My Teaching Adventure in Africa, with a tribute and thanks to Rowena Milward who should have been there

At Easter 2016 Carol spent two weeks in Kenya teaching & helping with a number of projects for the charity Mission Direct, supported financially by many U3A members after Rowenna Millward's untimely death. This is Carol's story.

Do come along and hear it if you can. Carol will give us very interesting and informative insights into a country and a culture that few of us know.

Chris James (tel.864742)

Wednesday 25th January: Visit to the National Museum of Wales & City of Cardiff Museum

The coach for this visit will leave the Atlantic Hotel at 9.30am and Sainsbury's Bridgend at 9.45am (approx).. After coffee together at the National Museum we shall have a guided tour of the Artes Mundi exhibition which features the work of leading contemporary artists and of the Nature's Song exhibition featuring Chinese Bird and Flower Paintings. After lunch we'll go on to the Cardiff City Museum which is devoted to graphic displays of the history and development of the city. There will be time afterwards to visit some of the large department stores nearby. The cost of the visit to include coach fare and guided tours is **£10**. **If you would like to come along please send me – Dorothy Jones, 84 Heol West Plas, Coity, Bridgend CF35 6BA – a cheque for this amount payable to Porthcawl U3A as soon as possible.**

Dorothy Jones (tel.657571)

Thursday 26th January: Visit to Porthcawl School's Production of *The Little Shop of Horrors*

I am arranging to reserve tickets for this production at the Grand Pavilion by the remarkably talented students of this school. **Please phone me without delay if you would like a ticket. The concessionary cost for a seat in the stalls is £6.**

Dorothy Jones (tel. 657571)

Sunday 29th January 12 noon at 19 Mary Street Porthcawl: Sunday Lunch Group

The Group will meet for Sunday Lunch at 12 noon in 19 Mary Street on 29th January. I have heard very good reports but places are limited so leave me your name and number without delay if you would like to come. Main course £14.95, Starter / Dessert £4 each.

Caroline David 01656 771657

Friday 3rd March 2017: Visit to Concert at St David's Hall, Cardiff

This concert is given by the Vienna Tonkünstler Orchestra, with Yutaka Sado (Conductor) and Angela Hewitt (Piano). The programme is Mendelssohn: *Hebrides Overture*, Beethoven: *Piano Concerto No. 4*, and Dvorak: *Symphony No.9 (New World)*. **The price (including coach fare) is £43.50 for Centre Stalls and Tier 2, and £30 for Tier 3. If you would like to come please send a cheque made payable to Porthcawl U3A with your name, 'phone number and pick up point printed on the back to me at 25 Sandpiper Road, Porthcawl, CF36 3UF by 28th January.**

Janice Lloyd (tel. 01656 78653)

Porthcawl U3A Website

Surfing the Waves of Learning is the new strapline to the Porthcawl U3A website. Thanks to Christine Groom of Writing for Pleasure Group 1 for thinking that up. We are grateful that Martin Patten has re-created the site, using U3A Site Builder. This brings us into line with most other U3A groups nationwide. Have a look at it by typing Porthcawl U3A into your search engine. It gives information about most aspects of our U3A. There are also links to the Wales U3A website & the UK website. Each interest group has its own page. May we remind Convenors to check their page periodically to ensure it is kept up to date.

Congratulations

We have done it again! We entered two teams in the Inter U3A Quiz Competition arranged by Cowbridge U3A at the end of November. One of our teams won the competition and the other performed very well. We offer our congratulations to them all and also our thanks for helping to ensure that Porthcawl U3A continues to be recognized as one of the very best U3As.

Chris James (tel.864742)

Thanks

We are very grateful to members of our Painting Workshop who decorated so splendidly our U3A Christmas Tree for the display at All Saints Church. They did us proud and once again ensured that we are recognised as an organisation of quality.

Chris James (tel.864742)

New Interest Group: Astronomy

We have started a new interest group on astronomy. If you have any interest in the subject or are a complete beginner then please come along and you will be very welcome. **We will meet next at the Y-centre on Thursday 19th January at 2:00 pm.**

Chris James tel 864742

Beekeeping

Bridgend Beekeepers Association is running a course on beekeeping, starting on 30th January. The course consists of a series of evening classes, followed by practical sessions at the Association's apiary in Bryngarw Country Park. Please contact me if you are interested so that I can put you in touch with the Association.

Doug Jones (tel. 657571)

Meetings of our Interest Groups in January 2017

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
Ancient History	2.15pm at the RAFA Club	Thursday 5 th & 19 th	We will be looking at the Shang and Zhou dynasties as well as the Chinese New Year due at the end of the month.	David Trace tel. 782335
Archaeology	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 17 th	We will discuss Beowulf, the longest epic poem in the English language, Old English that is, the language of the Anglo-Saxons. Written in the 6 th C.in Scandinavia, it gives us an insight into the Anglo-Saxon world that complements the archaeological evidence we have been looking at.	Ian Hutchinson tel. 654418
Art History	2.15pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 9 th & 23 rd	Studying the work of W. R. Sickert (1860-1942), a British painter and printmaker of drab London in Edwardian times, and of and Titian (1485-1576) the greatest painter of the Venetian school. Studying the work of Nicholas De Stael (1914-1955), a leading abstract painter of the school of Paris, and of Graham Sutherland (1903-1950) an English painter and graphic artist, at one time inspired by the Welsh landscape.	Graham Cross tel. 785876

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
Astronomy	2pm at the Y Centre	Thursday 19 th	Roger will give us a talk on observing and the tricks of the trade.	Chris James tel. 864742
Book Club 1	10am at Stella Maris	Friday 27 th	Discussing <i>An Officer and a Spy</i> by Robert Harris.	Barbara Miles tel. 783291
Book Club 2	10am at 5 Locks Common, Porthcawl.CF36 3HU	Wed. 18 th	Discussing <i>Hagseed</i> by Margaret Atwood. Please note change of venue.	Ray Richards tel,786991.
Book Club 3	10am at 2 Bardsey Close, Nottage	Thursday 12 th	Discussing: <i>The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society</i> by MA Shaffer and A Barrows.	Carolyn Tansey 07970508233
Bridge Course for Beginners	2pm at Awel y Mor (Side Room)	Tuesday 10 th , 17 th , 24 th , & 31 st	Bridge continues weekly with tuition, practice and advice from Tony & Pat. Please ring me if you need more information.	Caroline David tel. 771657
Canasta	2pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 9 th & 23 rd	This is an enjoyable card game which is easy to learn. New members very welcome but please phone me first.	Mary Thomas (tel. 786137)
Computers, tablets and other gadgets	10am to 12 noon at the DADDY'S (previously The Coast), Dock St	Monday 9 th & 23 rd	A drop-in and help-desk for all your gadgets. Feel like kicking it? We'll show you how to love it. Want to do more? We can help with that too. Please note the venue <u>Geoff Henderson tel.786790; Martin Patten tel.786745 & Laurence Parry 788089</u>	GH; MP, & LP
Conversations (Discussion Group)	2.15pm at the Rugby Club	Thursday 12 th & 26 th	Discussing: <u>Looking back at 2016 and forward to 2017 what should please us and what should cause us dismay?</u> Discussing: <u>Are our citizen freedoms being steadily eroded?</u>	Doug Jones tel. 657571
Crafts	2pm at the Y Centre	Thursday 12 th & 26 th	A warm welcome awaits members interested in any type of craft	Pam Munro tel. 783751
Drama – Origin & Development	2pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 9 th & 23 rd	We shall finish our viewing of the DVD of <i>Beckett</i> and begin to study Eliot's <i>Family Reunion</i> .	Elizabeth C Bower tel. 786234
Film Club	2pm at STELLA MARIS	Friday 13 th	We will watch "Babette's Feast" (1987) - Danish with sub-titles. The first of our occasional forays into world cinema. When a French refugee with a mysterious past arrives in a remote Danish community the results are unexpected.	Chris James Tel. 864742
Food in Britain	2.15pm at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 10 th & 24 th	I will lead a session on <u>the History of Cake</u> I will lead a session on <u>Street Food</u>	Margaret Williams tel. 665128
French for All	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 10 th & 24 th	Discussing plans for the New Year. The theme is yet to be announced.	Jenny Cross (tel. 785876) Jenny Worthington (785446)
Gardening	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 31 st	I will lead a discussion on gardening in January	Handel Davies tel. 788364

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
German	10.30am at Stella Maris	Thursday 12 th & 26 th Thursday 19 th	Foundation group Advanced group Please note that I had to cancel the session planned for 5th January for family reasons.	John Murdoch 07583570891
History	10am at the Y Centre	Wed. 11 th & 25 th	Chris will take us on Crusade, undoubtedly avoiding Bush and Saddam as well, we hope, as pirates and other dangers.	Andrew Collier tel. 784939
Latin	10.15am at the RAFA Club	Monday 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th	Grammar Revision & translation from & into Latin, friendly argument and enjoyment!	Doug Jones tel. 657571
Listeners' Guide to Music	2pm at the Rugby Club	Wed 11 th	The programme will include Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue and Rimsky Korsakov's Scheherazade.	Brian Nelson tel. 742159
Mah Jong	2pm at the Rugby Club	Thursday 12 th & 26 th	Beginners are welcome but I would appreciate a phone call letting me know that there will be new members.	Elizabeth C. Bower 786234
Painting Workshop	10am at the Y Centre	Thurs, 5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th	If you are not already a member of this group and want to join it, please phone me.	Stephen Jarvis tel. 649165
Philosophy and Ideas	10am at the Y Centre	Friday 13 th & 27 th	We have a lot of member-led treats in store (art, consciousness, Kropotkin) We will start with Neil's 'Capitalism as Fraud' on Friday 13 th (bad luck comrades!) and probably on to 27 th .	Andrew Collier tel. 784939
Photography for Everyone	10.30am at the Rugby Club	Monday 23 rd	Learning and developing skills in digital, still and video photography	David Morgan tel. 740605
Play Reading	10am at the Rugby Club	Wed 4 th & 18 th	We shall be starting new work.	Liz Sumner tel. 772314.
Poetry	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Monday 16 th & 30 th	We shall conclude our study of Old English Poetry and begin to explore the poetry of Byron.	Elizabeth C. Bower 786234
Quiz	2pm at the Y Centre	Monday 9 th	Come along, enjoy yourselves and test your general knowledge in lovely company	Roger Thomas tel. 786292
Science	2pm at the RUGBY CLUB	Monday 30 th	Martin Patten will talk about Genetics: the development of a modern scientific theory ending in the recent revolution of Epigenetics, showing how DNA does not rule all and the sins of the father visited upon his sons. Please note the change again of venue.	Gwyn Davis tel. 654766; Brian Nelson. tel. 742159
Scrabble	10am at AWEL Y MOR	Mon. 9 th , 16 th & 30 th	A game, a chat and a cup of coffee. Members of all abilities welcome.	Pat Parry tel. 784211
Shakespeare & other "Greats"	2.15pm at Stella Maris	Tuesday 10 th & 24 th	We are studying <u>Othello</u> .	Barbara Miles tel. 783291
Singing for Fun			We will not meet in January but we will resume in February.	Veronica Rees tel. 784718.
Spanish for Beginners	10am at the RUGBY CLUB	Tuesday 10 th & 24 th	Gaining confidence to speak Spanish in everyday situations.	Declan Gilmartin tel. 772675

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
Table Tennis	10.00am at the Y Centre & 10.00am at the Y Centre	Friday 6 th & 20 th	Come and join in our relaxed and friendly games. If you have a bat please bring it along. Please wear suitable shoes. Please note the times.	Pam Munro tel. 783751
Walking	1.30pm at Bedford Park Car Park 1.30pm at Parc Slip Nature Reserve	Friday 13th Friday 27th	Go through Cefn Cribbwr and turn left at the brown sign for Bedford Park. The walk is mainly flat with no stiles. It will be led by Trixie Tudor {tel. 782194} and Anne Trimble (tel.784229) Go along the road from Kenfig Hill to Aberkenfig. Turn left at the Fountains' Inn and follow the road for about 500 yards. The car park. is on your left. It will be led by Malcolm Cowper {tel 858812 or 07761 498284} If the weather is doubtful please phone to check that the walks will take place. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear. We walk at our own risk.	John Pearman tel. 782133
Welsh	10am at the Rugby Club	Thurs 12 th & 26 th	Although a basic knowledge of Welsh is desirable, we will make you welcome in this group whether you are a beginner, an improver or fluent speaker. John Pearman (782133) David Parry (784211)	John Pearman David Parry
Writing for Pleasure Groups 1, 2 & 3			We are not meeting in January but we will resume in February. Marcia Humphries, Jo Brooks & Annie Rance	



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Summary of Dates and Events in January 2017

Friday	6th Jan	10.00am in the Y Centre	Table Tennis
Monday	9th Jan	10.00am at DADDY'S, Dock Street 10.00am at Awel Y Mor 2.00pm in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in the Rugby Club 2.00pm at the Y Centre 2.15pm in the Rugby Club	Computers Scrabble Drama: origin and development Canasta Quiz Art History
Tuesday	10th Jan	10.00m in the Rugby Club 10.15am in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in Awel y Mor 2.15pm in the Rugby Club 2.15pm in Stella Maris	Spanish French for All Bridge: Playing and Learning Food in Britain Shakespeare & other greats
Wednesday	11th Jan	10.00am in the Y Centre 2.00pm in the Rugby Club	History Listeners' Guide to Music
Thursday	12th Jan	10.00am in the Y Centre 10.00am in the Rugby Club 10.00am in 2 Bardsey Close 10.30am in Stella Maris 2.00pm in the Y Centre 2.00pm at the Rugby Club 2.15pm in the Rugby Club	Painting Workshop Welsh Book Club 3 German Crafts Mah Jong Conversations (discussion group)
Friday	13th Jan	10.00am at the Y Centre 1.30pm at Bedford Park Car Park 2.00pm at Stella Maris	Philosophy and Ideas Walking Group Film Club
Monday	16th Jan	10.00am at Awel y Mor 10.15am in the RAFA Club 10.15am at the Rugby Club	Scrabble Latin Poetry
Tuesday	17th Jan	10.15am at the Rugby Club 2.00pm in Awel y Mor	Archaeology Bridge: Playing and Learning
Wednesday	18th Jan	10.00am in the Rugby Club 10.00am at 5 Locks Common 2.15pm at the Hi Tide	Play Reading Book Club 2 Talk by Carol Evans
Thursday	19th Jan	10.00am at the Y Centre 10.30am in Stella Maris 2.00pm in the Y Centre 2.15pm in the RAFA Club	Painting Workshop German Astronomy Ancient History
Friday	20th Jan	10.00am at the Y Centre	Table Tennis

Monday	23rd Jan	10.00am at DADDY'S , Dock Street 10.15am in the RAFA Club 10.30am at the Rugby Club 2.00pm in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in the Rugby Club 2.15pm in the Rugby Club	Computers Latin Photography for Everyone Drama: origin and development Canasta Art History
Tuesday	24th Jan	10.00am in the Rugby Club 10.15am in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in Awel y Mor 2.15pm in the Rugby Club 2.15pm in Stella Maris	Spanish French for All Bridge: Playing and Learning Food in Britain Shakespeare & other greats
Wednesday	25th Jan	9.30am from Atlantic & 9.45 Sainsburys 10.00am in the Y Centre	Visit: National & Cardiff Museums History
Thursday	26th Jan	10.00am in the Y Centre 10.00am in the Rugby Club 10.30am in Stella Maris 2.00pm in the Y Centre 2.00pm in the Rugby Club 2.15pm in the Rugby Club 7pm at the Pavilion	Painting Workshop Welsh German Crafts Mah Jong Conversations (discussion group) Visit to School's Production
Friday	27th Jan	10.00am in the Y centre 10.00am in the Stella Maris 1.30pm at Parc Slip Nature Reserve	Philosophy and Ideas Book Club 1 Walking Group
Sunday	29th Jan	12noon at 19 Mary St Porthcawl	Sunday lunch group
Monday	30th Jan	10.00am at Awel y Mor 10.15am at the Rugby Club 10.15am in the RAFA Club 2.00pm at the Rugby Club	Scrabble Poetry Latin Science
Tuesday	31st Jan	10.15am at the Rugby Club 2.00pm in Awel y Mor	Gardening Bridge: Playing and Learning



Programme of Monthly Talks 2017 (including our Study Day)

Wednesday 18 th January:	Carol Evans: <i>My Teaching Adventure in Africa, with a tribute to Rowena Milward who should have been there</i>
Wednesday 8 th February:	Dr Richie Wood: <i>Churchill and the Tonypandy Riots</i>
Wednesday 8 th March:	Geoff Henderson: <i>John Hughes of Merthyr Tydfil and his part in shaping the life of Nikita Khrushchev</i>
Wednesday 5 th April:	Hilary Jones: <i>Discovering Japan</i>
Tuesday 25 th April:	Professor Chris Williams (Head of the School of History, Archaeology and Religion at Cardiff University) (The Annual Gwyn Petty Memorial Lecture arranged in partnership with Porthcawl Museum and Porthcawl Probus)
Wednesday 18 th May:	Study Day: Theme: Aspects of the Environment a) Kathryn Cook (Director National Parks UK): <i>A Delicate Balance - Life, Work, Recreation & Conservation in our National Parks</i> b) Anna Holmes (Curator, Marine Biology at the Nat. Museum) <i>A Look at Life beneath the Oceans</i> c) Fran Sandham (Adventurer and Author): <i>My Solo Walk across Africa</i>
Wednesday 7 th June:	David Carrington: <i>The Treasures of the Kenfig National Nature Reserve (to be held at the Reserve Centre) (max. capacity 50)</i>
Wednesday 5 th July:	Chris Bleach: <i>The Life of Tommy Cooper</i>
Wednesday 6 th September:	Neil Sinclair: <i>From Tiger Bay to Cardiff Bay</i>
Wednesday 4 th October:	Jon Laver: <i>Global Warming – Myth or Monster?</i>
Wednesday 8 th November:	Chris James: <i>Looking at the Night Skies</i>
Wednesday 6 th December:	Andrew Collier: <i>A History of Religion</i>

Outline of Proposed Visits in 2017

25 th January:	Visit to Exhibitions at the National Museum of Wales and to the City of Cardiff Museum
February:	Visit to Tredegar House, Newport
March:	Visit to Concert at St David's Hall, Cardiff Visit to the National Botanical Gardens of Wales and Aberglasney
April:	Nature in Art Museum and Gloucester Cathedral
29 th April:	Visit to performance of <i>Nell Gwyn</i> :
May:	Visit to Malvern Flower Show
June:	Visit to Berkeley Castle and Gloucester Docks
July:	Visit to a Welsh Proms Concert at St David's Hall, Cardiff