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Newsletter MARCH 2017

Newyddion MAWRTH 2017

From the Chairman

February was another month filled with many good things. Richie Wood's talk on "Churchill and the Tonypandy Riots" was excellent and very well attended. The interest groups continue with their very high standards. As usual, there is plenty to look forward to in March including the AGM and our celebration of St David's Day on 2nd. I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

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

Membership Subscriptions for 2017 and Gift Aid Declaration

We are very grateful to members who have renewed their subscriptions for 2017. We value your continuing support very much indeed. We offer a warm welcome to members who are joining us for the first time this year and to those who have rejoined after a period of absence. If you were a member in 2016 but have not paid your subscription for 2017 by 6thMarch, we will contact you to make sure you do not intend to rejoin and then we will not bother you with further newsletters. We are grateful for your support and interest in the past and we hope that you will want to join again in the future.

**David Parry (tel. 784211)*

Membership Badges

We would ask you to wear your membership badge to all the U3A groups and events you attend. If you do not have a badge, please contact Chris James, our Chairman, by e mail <u>marilynjameschris@yahoo.co.uk</u>) or phone: tel 01656
864742
Caroline David (tel. 771657)

Links with Local Schools

Porthcawl U3A has in recent times been developing strong links with our local Comprehensive School by, for example, inviting students to take part in our Conversation (Discussion) Group sessions, or inviting students to sing at social events, and we, in turn, have attended their drama productions. We and the School are very keen to further these links, and one way we can do this is by giving the senior students interview practice.

They are at a stage in their lives when they will be facing interviews for higher education or employment. Many of us have been both interviewers or interviewees in our working lives and have acquired skills which we can pass on to the young people. Interviewers from the outside world, rather than by their teachers, will make the experience more 'real', and follow-up feedback will give the students valuable guidance as to how they can present themselves to maximum advantage.

The Head of the Sixth Form suggests that the students most likely to benefit from the mock interviews are those in Year 12 (First Year Sixth) and the most suitable time will be the second half of the summer term, i.e.mid June to mid July, when they will have taken their As Level exams. The School will provide guidance for interviewers.

I would like at this stage to ascertain whether there is sufficient support within Porthcawl U3A for this project to proceed. So if you are interested in taking part would you kindly contact me Malcolm Cowper by 31st March on 01656 858812, or 07761 498284, my e-mail is malcolmcowper@gmail.com

Malcolm Cowper

Third Age Matters

This is the time of year when we renew our subscriptions to this U3A publication or put ourselves on the list to receive it if we aren't already there! Unfortunately, I don't have the submission dates yet, as there appears to have been a bit of a communications hiccup.

However, based on previous years - if you want to receive or to continue receiving Third Age Matters please let me have your name and address by Monday 13th March either by post to 67 Merthyrmawr Road, Bridgend, CF31 3NN or by email at rhutchinson_75@yahoo.com I will contact you later about the charge, which is only ever postage as the publication itself is FREE to all U3A members. (2016-2017 charge was only £2.25 for the whole year).

Lindy Hutchinson Tel 01656-654418

Our Summer Series of Evening Talks 2017

It is proposed that at least some of this summer's series should take the form of debates, and I will start planning them in the next few weeks. I would welcome suggestions for topics (as varied as possible) and possible lead speakers, as well as any volunteers to have a go.

Andrew Collier (tel.784939 e mail helgandrew@yahoo.com.)

Thursday 2nd March 6.30 for 7pm at the Hi Tide: Our Celebration of St. David's Day

We will celebrate St David's Day with a meal and a performance by Dawnswyr Penyfai, the very accomplished and popular Welsh Folk Dancing Group. Details of the two course menu at £13.95 is included with this newsletter. Please return the form to me with your menu choice and a cheque for £13.95 made payable to Porthcawl U3A immediately. I hope very much that you will want to join us on this enjoyable occasion.

Pam Munro tel. 783751

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

The coach for this concert will leave the Atlantic at 5.45pm and Sainsbury's Bridgend at 6pm approx. The concert is given by the Vienna Tonkunstler 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).

Janice Lloyd (tel. 01656 786532)

Wednesday 8th March 2.15pm at the Hi Tide: Talk by Geoff Henderson John Hughes of Merthyr Tydfil and his part in shaping the life of Nikita Khrushchev

John Hughes was born poor in Merthyr Tydfil but in time, impressed a Tsar of Russia, became very rich, founded a city in Ukraine, and left an indelible mark on the life of Nikita Khrushchev This will be a fascinating afternoon so do come along if you can and why not join us for lunch beforehand at the Hi Tide where they have a new and good quality menu Chris James (tel.864742)

OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2.15pm on Friday 24th March at the Hi Tide

This year's AGM will take place at the Hi-Tide on Friday 24th March at 2.15pm. The agenda will include the approval of the minutes of the last AGM, any matters arising, the annual report for 2016, the treasurer's report, and any matters notified by members in advance. The agenda will also include the election of a member to serve as Honorary Secretary from the AGM 2017 until the AGM 2020, the election of a member to serve as Honorary Treasurer from the AGM 2017 until the AGM 2020 and the election of one member to serve as a member of the committee from the AGM 2017 to the AGM 2020. Nomination forms and a copy of the Annual Report for 2016 are include with this newsletter. At the beginning of the meeting we will be entertained by Porthcawl Comprehensive School's talented singing group. PLEASE TRY TO COME ALONG TO THIS VERY IMPORTANT MEETING.

Chris James (tel.864742)

Sunday 26th March 12.30pm at The Pavilion, Porthcawl: Sunday Lunch Group

Sunday lunch at 12.30pm on 26th March will be a two course Carvery for £10 95 at the Pavilion, which has its own small car park. If you would like to reserve a place please leave your name and phone number for me on 01656 771657.

Caroline David (tel. 771657)

Wednesday 29th March: Visit to Cyfarthfa Castle and Llancaiach Fawr Manor House

The coach for this visit will leave the Atlantic Hotel at 9am and Sainsbury's Bridgend at 9.20am (approx). Built in 1824, Cyfarthfa Castle Museum and Art Gallery is one of the most impressive monument of the Industrial Iron Age in South Wales. Once the home of the ironmaster William Crawshay II and his family, it serves as a reminder of the Ironmaster's dominance over the town and the wealth the iron industry brought to the area. It now contains artefacts spanning 2000 years of Merthyr's history, including the first steam whistle, the first voting ballot box, Swansea, Nantgarw and Wedgwood porcelain as well as galleries of paintings by celebrated Welsh artists. There are also dresses by Laura Ashley and Julien McDonalds on display.

After lunch together we'll go on to Llancaiach Fawr near Nelson, a semi-fortified Manor House which was built in 1550 and figured prominently in the Civil War. It has been restored and furnished as it would have been in 1645, with the guides dressed in costumes of that period and speaking the style of English in use at that time. The cost of the visit to include admissions, an introductory talk and tours is £19. 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)*

Saturday 13th May: Visit to Malvern Spring Flower Show

I shall be arranging a visit to this excellent show. If you would like to come along please phone me with your name and telephone number as soon as possible.

Handel Davies (tel 788363)

Advance Notice of some of our other Events in April and May

A visit to the Senedd Exhibition to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Samtampa tragedy

Tuesday 25th April 2.15pm at the Hi Tide: The Annual Gwyn Petty Memorial Lecture given by Professor Chris Williams, Head of the School of History, Archaeology and Religion at Cardiff University speaking on the work of J.M. Stanisforth, the 1st World War cartoonist.

Thursday 18th May 9.15am at the Hi Tide: **Our Annual Study Day**. The theme this year is the Environment and the speakers include the Director of National Parks UK, the Curator in Marine Biology at the National Museum of Wales and an Adventurer and Author who walked alone across Africa.

Full details of these and other events will be given in the newsletters for April and May.

Meetings of our Interest Groups in March 2017

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
Ancient History	2.15pm at the RAFA Club	Thursday 2 nd & 16 th	The group meets on the first and third Thursday of the month. We are continuing our study of ancient China.	David Trace tel. 782335
Archaeology	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 21 st	This month's guest speaker Howard Williams will be talking about his extensive collection of Roman coins, some of which he will be bringing with him for us to examine. After coffee he will talk about artefacts from various periods up to the end of WW II which again we will be able to examine.	lan Hutchinson tel. 654418
Art History	2.15pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 6 th &	We'll study the work of JAN VAN EYCK (1390 - 1441), one of the most significant representatives of Northern Renaissance art; and also the work of SIR ANTHONY VAN DYCK (1599 -1641), Flemish painter whose fame derives chiefly from his portraiture of English High Society.	Graham Cross (tel. 785876)
	12.30pm	20 th	Our Group Annual Lunch at the FAIRWAYS	
Astronomy	2pm at the Y Centre	Thursday 16 th	Roger will give us a talk on "Armchair Astronomy".	Chris James (tel: 864742)
Book Club 1	10am at Stella Maris	Friday 31 st	Discussing <u>A Man called Ove</u> by Frederick Bachman	Barbara Miles tel. 783291
Book Club 2	10am at 5 Locks Common, Porthcawl.CF36 3HU	Wed. 15 th	Discussing A View from the Foothills by Chris Mullin Please note the venue.	Ray Richards tel,786991.
Book Club 3	10am at 25 Heol Croes Faen, Nottage	Thursday 9 th	Discussing ' <i>Elizabeth is Missing</i> ' by Emma Healey Please note the new venue	Carolyn Tansey 07970508233
Bridge Course for Beginners	2pm at Awel y Mor (Side Room)	Tuesday 7 th ,14 th , 21 st & 28 th	There's always more to learn: Bridge continues weekly with patient 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 6 th & 20 th	New members very welcome and we will teach you how to play.	Mary Thomas (tel. 786137)
Computers, tablets and other gadgets	10am to 12 noon at the DADDY'S (previously The Coast), Dock St	Monday 6 th & 20 th	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 Geoff Henderson tel.786790; Martin Patten tel.786745 & Laurence Parry 788089	GH; MP, & LP

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
Conversations	2.15pm at the	Thursday 9 th		
(Discussion	Rugby Club	9 th	Discussing: How likely is it that future British	Doug Jones
Group)		&	governments will discriminate against older people in the provision of health and welfare	tel. 657571
		a a rd	services?	
		23 rd	Discussing: <u>Is Britain an exclusive or an inclusive</u> <u>society?</u>	
Crafts	2pm at the Y Centre	Thursday 9 th & 23 rd	A warm welcome awaits members interested in any type of craft	Pam Munro tel. 783751
Drama – Origin & Development	2pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 13 th & 27 th	We shall continue our study of American Drama with three plays by Eugene O'Neil:- Long Day's	Elizabeth C Bower
& Development	ragby Club	15 & 27	Journey into Night, The Iceman Cometh and	tel. 786234
			Desire Under the Elms. In all three cases, our	
			reading and discussion will be enhanced by the	
			viewing of DVDs.	
Film Club	2pm at STELLA MARIS	Friday 10 th	We will see "The Truman Show" (1998) - starring Jim Carey and Ed Harris. The "Truman Show" is	Chris James Tel. 864742
	IVIANIS	10	the ultimate television reality show - except the	161. 004742
			main protagonist doesn't know he's in it.	
Food in Britain	2.15pm at the	Tuesday 7 th	Nite Device will lead a session of T. A.C.	NA
	Rugby Club		Nita Davies will lead a session on <u>The Most</u> Expensive Food You Can Buy	Margaret Williams
		&	<u> </u>	tel. 665128
		o 4 St		
		21 st	Anne Cobby will lead a session on <u>The Food of</u> Portugal	
French for All	10.15am at the	Tuesday	<u>r ortugur</u>	Jenny Cross
	Rugby Club	7 th	Theme to be discussed.	(tel. 785876)
		& 21 st	Theme to be discussed	Jenny Worthington
		21	Theme to be discussed	(785446)
Gardening	10.15am at the	Tuesday	Kay Boswell will lead a session on <u>Container</u>	Handel Davies
German	Rugby Club 10.30am at	28 th Thursday	Gardening.	tel. 788364 John Murdoch
German	Stella Maris	2 nd & 16 th	Foundation group	07583570891
		Thursday		
		9 th , 23 rd Thursday	Advanced group	
		30 th	Foundation Group	
			•	
History	10am at the Y Centre	Wed. 8 th & 22 nd	I suspect we will still be crusading with Chris's thrilling accounts of cunning, treachery and	Andrew Collier tel. 784939
	i Centre	0 & 22	slaughter. When the bloodshed is over we will	ter. 704939
			need to decide how to recover and hope things	
Lotin	10.15am at the	Monday	can get better. Grammar Revision & translation from & into Latin:	Doug longs
Latin	RAFA Club	Monday 13 th , 20 th	Grammar Revision & translation from & into Latin: "physical jerks" for the brain, friendly argument	Doug Jones tel. 657571
	- 12.2	& 27 th	and enjoyment! Please note that we will not	
Lieter	One of the Decel	\\/ a = 1	meet on 6 th March	Drian Male
Listeners' Guide to Music	2pm at the Rugby Club	Wed 1 st	The programme will include Hummel's <i>Trumpet</i> Concerto and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 8	Brian Nelson tel. 742159
			(the Pathetique)	
		\A/ = -!	The programme will include Tchaikovsky's	
		Wed 15 th	Serenade for Strings and Bach's Keyboard Concerto 1050	
Mah Jong	2pm at the Rugby	Thursday	I shall not be there on the 16 th because of the U3A	Elizabeth C.
	Club	2 nd , 16 th	visit to The Royal Albert Hall but the experienced	Bower 786234
		and 30 th	players will cope without me. If anyone wishes to learn the game, please come along on the 2 nd and	
			the 30 th .	
Painting	10am at the	Thurs,	If you are not already a member of this group and	Stephen Jarvis
Workshop	Y Centre	2 nd , 9 th , 16 th &	want to join it, please phone me.	tel. 649165
		23 rd		
	i		I	

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
Philosophy	10am at the	Friday	Will we have exhausted Roger's scientific ideas	Andrew Collier
and Ideas	Y Centre	10 th	from the Age of Steam? Will we be through to	tel. 784939
		&	examining Consciousness with Jean or Artistic	
		24 th	Taste with Sue? There is so much still to resolve	
			before we can say we know or understand anything, but we'll keep trying.	
			anything, but we it keep trying.	
Photography	10.30am at the	Monday	Learning and developing skills in digital, still and	David Morgan
for Everyone	Rugby Club	13 th & 27 th	video photography	tel. 740605
Play Reading	10am at the	Wed	We'll be continuing new work	R.M & L.S
	Rugby Club	1 st , 15 th & 29 th	Rolf Mitchell (tel. 740120) & Len Smith (tel. 771574)	
Poetry	10.15am at the	Monday	We shall continue our exploration of the poems of	Elizabeth C.
1 0011 y	Rugby Club	6 th & 20 th	Byron. New members always welcome.	Bower 786234
	0.		·	
Quiz	2pm at the	Monday	Come along, enjoy yourselves and test your	Roger Thomas
	Y Centre	13 th	general knowledge in lovely company	tel. 786292
Science	2pm at	Monday	This month with the aid of a DVD we will illustrate	Gwyn Davis
	the RUGBY	27 th	the birth and rise of the continent of Australia. This	tel. 654766;
	CLUB		will be the geology and evolution of its plants and	Brian Nelson.
	40		animals.	tel. 742159
Scrabble	10am at AWEL Y	Mon. 6 th & 20 th	A game, a chat and a cup of coffee. Members of	Pat Parry
	MOR	0 & ZU	all abilities welcome.	tel. 784211
Shakespeare &	Stella Maris	Tuesday		Barbara Miles
other "Greats"	1.30pm	7 th	We shall watch a film about Othello. NOTE TIME	tel. 783291
	2.15pm	21 st	We will be studying Hamlet	
Singing for Fun	2pm at the Rugby	Friday	We'll sing some of our familiar favourites as well	Veronica Rees
	Club	10 th &	as some new songs. At the moment the group is	tel. 784718.
Spanish for	10am at the	31st Tuesday	full to capacity. Gaining confidence to speak Spanish in everyday	Declan
Beginners	RUGBY CLUB	14 th & 28 th	situations.	Gilmartin
J				tel. 772675
Table Tennis	10.00am at the	Friday	Come and join in our relaxed and friendly games.	Pam Munro
	Y Centre	10 th , 17 th	If you have a bat please bring it along. Please	tel. 783751
		and 31 st	wear suitable shoes.	
Walking	1.30pm at the car	Friday	We'll do the two and a half mile Bryngarw Circular	
	park at Bryngarw	10 th	Walk. Please be aware that sections of this walk	
	Country Park,		are likely to be muddy. It's mostly flat but there is	
	Brynmenyn CF21		one fairly steep climb for about a quarter of a mile.	
	8UU (parking		This walk is organised by Malcolm Cowper {tel	Jaha Daawaan
	charge £2.50)		858812 or 07761498284}	John Pearman tel. 782133
	2pm at the Car	Friday	We will take the Daffodil Walk.	131. 732 133
	Park opposite the	17 th		
	Fox and Hounds		If the weather is doubtful on either occasion	
	St Brides Major		please phone to check that the walks will take	
			place. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear. We walk at our own risk.	
			100thear. He waik at our own lisk.	
Welsh	10am at the	Thurs	Although a basic knowledge of Welsh is desirable,	John Pearman
	Rugby Club	9 th & 23 rd	we will make you welcome in this group whether	David Parry
			you are a beginner, an improver or fluent speaker.	
			John Pearman (782133) David Parry (784211)	
Writing for	10am at the	Friday	We write simply for the pleasure of writing and to	
Pleasure	Rugby Club	10 th &	receive friendly advice.	
Groups 1, 2 & 3		24th	Marcia Humphries {tel 772895} Group 1;	
			Jo Brooks (tel 859535) Group 2;	
			Annie Rance (tel 711848) Group 3	



	Sur	nmary of Dates and Events in N	/larch 2017
Wednesday	1 st March	10am in the Rugby Club 2pm in the Rugby Club	Play Reading Listeners' Guide to Music
Thursday	2 nd March	10.00am in the Y Centre 10.30am in Stella Maris	Painting Workshop German
		2pm at the Rugby Club 2.15pm in the RAFA Club	Mah Jong Ancient History
		6.30 for 7pm at the Hi Tide	Celebration of St David's Day
Friday	3 rd March	5.45pm from the Atlantic & 6pm (approx.) from Sainsbury's	Visit to Concert at St David's Hall
Monday	6 th March	10.00am at DADDY'S, Dock Street	Computers
•		10am at Awel Y Mor	Scrabble
		10.15am at the Rugby Club	Poetry
		2.00pm in the Rugby Club	Canasta
		2.15pm in the Rugby Club	Art History
Tuesday	7 th March	10.15am in the Rugby Club	French for All
•		1.30pm in Stella Maris	Shakespeare and other Greats
		2.00pm in Awel y Mor	Bridge: Playing and Learning
		2.15pm in the Rugby Club	Food in Britain
Wednesday	8 th March	10.00am in the Y Centre	History
		2.15pm at the Hi Tide	Talk by Geoff Henderson on John Hughes
Thursday	9 th March	10.00am in the Y Centre	Painting Workshop
-		10.00am in the Rugby Club	Welsh
		10.00am in 25 Heol Croes Faen	Book Club 3
		10.30am in Stella Maris	German
		2.00pm in the Y Centre	Crafts
		2.15pm in the Rugby Club	Conversations (Discussion group)
Friday	10 th March	10.00am at the Y Centre	Philosophy and Ideas
		10.00am in the Y Centre	Table Tennis
		10.00am at the Rugby Club	Writing Groups One, Two & Three
		1.30pm at Bryngarw Country Park	Walking Group
		2.00pm at Stella Maris	Film Club
		2pm at the Rugby Club	Singing for Fun
	- th		
Monday	13 th March	10.15am in the RAFA Club	Latin
		10.30am in the Rugby Club	Photography for Everyone
		2pm at the Rugby Club	Drama: Origins & Development
		2pm at the Y Centre	Quiz
Tuesday	14 th March	Oam at the Rugby Club	Spanish
		2pm at Awel y Mor	Bridge: Playing and Learning

Wednesday	15 th March	5 ,	Play Reading
		10.00am at 5 Locks Common	Book Club 2
		2pm in the Rugby Club	Listeners' Guide to Music
Thursday	16 th March	9am from the Rugby Club	Visit to Classical Spectacular at Royal Albert Hall with overnight stay
		10.00am at the Y Centre	Painting Workshop
		10.30am in Stella Maris	German
		2pm at the Rugby Club	Mah Jong
		2pm in the Y Centre	Astronomy
		2.15pm in the RAFA Club	Ancient History
Friday	17 th March	10.00am at the Y Centre	Table Tennis
		2pm at the Car Park opposite the Fox and Hounds	
		St Brides Major	Walking Group
Monday	20 th March	10am at DADDY'S , Dock Street	Computers
		10am at Awel y Mor	Scrabble
		10.15am in the RAFA Club	Latin
		10.15am at the Rugby Club	Poetry
		2.00pm in the Rugby Club	Canasta
		12.30pm in the Fairways (lunch)	Art History
Tuesday	21 st March	10.15am in the Rugby Club	French for All
		10.15am in the Rugby Club	Archaeology Group
		2.00pm in Awel y Mor	Bridge: Playing and Learning
		2.15pm in the Rugby Club	Food in Britain
		2.15pm in the Stella maris	Shakespeare and other Greats
Wednesday	22 nd March	10.00am in the Y Centre	History
Thursday	23 rd March	10.00am in the Y Centre	Painting Workshop
		10.00am in the Rugby Club	Welsh
		10.30am in Stella Maris	German
		2.00pm in the Y Centre	Crafts
		2.15pm in the Rugby Club	Conversations (Discussion group)
Friday	24 th March	10.00am in the Y centre	Philosophy and Ideas
		10am at the Rugby Club	Writing Groups One, Two & Three
		2.15pm at the Hi Tide	Our Annual General Meeting
Sunday	26 th March	12.30pm at The Pavilion, Porthcawl	Sunday Lunch Group
Monday	27 th March	10.15am in the RAFA Club	Latin
		10.30am at the Rugby Club	Photography for Everyone
		2pm at the Rugby Club	Science
		2pm at the Rugby Club	Drama: Origins & Development
Tuesday	28 th March	10am at the Rugby Club	Spanish
		10.15am at the Rugby Club	Gardening
		2.00pm in Awel y Mor	Bridge: Playing and Learning

Wednesday	29 th March	9am from the Atlantic and 9.20am (approx.) from Sainsbury's	Visit to Cafarthfa Castle and Llancaiach Fawr Manor House	
		10.00am in the Rugby Club	Play Reading	
Thursday	30 th March	10am at the Y centre	Painting Workshop	
		10.30am at Stella Maris	German	
		2pm at the Rugby Club	Mah Jong	
Friday	31 st March	10am at Stella Maris	Book Club 1	
		10am at the Y Centre	Table Tennis	
		2pm at the Rugby Club	Singing for Fun	