



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE  
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## Newsletter OCTOBER 2016

## Newyddion HYDREF 2016

### From the Chairman

We had our usual full diary of events in September. Gary Victor gave us an excellent talk on the tragedy of the Samtampa and Andrew Collier's evening talks continued to inspire. This month we will be looking forward to the Annual Memorial Lecture Day at the Brecon U3A - so please come along if you can. On a personal level we started the film club again in September and it seemed to go well. I am the convenor of the film club so don't listen to me - I might be biased.

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

### Our Members' Outstanding Successes at the National Eisteddfod of Wales 2016

It is with great pleasure that I report that nine members of our U3A joined a choir for Welsh Learners and competed at the National Eisteddfod at Abergavenny in August. The choir came third in the competition and they then sang outside the U3A exhibition stand on the Maes (the Eisteddfod Field) and attracted a large crowd. By doing so they helped to promote the U3A movement as a whole and our own U3A in particular.

Also, two members of our Welsh Group, Chris Williams and John Pearman, were joined by Ann Brown, the Director of the Learners' Choir, in a sketch presentation under the Set-Piece competition title *Syrpries* (Surprise). In awarding them **first prize** for their performance, the judges commended them on their humorous portrayal and clarity of expression in communicating with the audience.

We congratulate most warmly all our Welsh Group members and thank them for helping to ensure that our U3A continues to be highly regarded throughout Wales and beyond.

**Chris (marilynjameschris@yahoo.co.uk); tel 864742**

### Our Members' Outstanding Success at the Inter U3A Quiz Competition Summer 2016

This competition is held twice a year in Cardiff, attracting teams from U3As across the South Wales Network. The level of competition is very high indeed and I'm delighted to report that our team won first place when the competition was held in July. We offer them our congratulations on their success and our thanks for helping to ensure that our U3A is widely respected and admired.

**Chris (marilynjameschris@yahoo.co.uk); tel 864742**

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2.15pm at the Hi Tide: Talk by Andrew Collier: *The History behind our Literature*

In his extensively illustrated talk Andrew will examine why literary forms, styles and fashions arose and developed when they did, and if and how they reflect their times. We know from the talks he has given us in previous years that Andrew is a compelling speaker who raises issues that have escaped our notice and gives us insights and interpretations which stimulate thought and great interest. We can be certain that this talk will be of the same high quality, so do come along if you can.

**Chris James (tel.864742)**

### FOLLOW UP TO THE SAMTAMPA TALK LAST MONTH

Gary Victor was surprised and admitted to being somewhat unprepared for the number of people who came along and told him their stories and recollections. Last year a public 'Remember the Samtampa' afternoon was held in the Prince of Wales, Kenfig and it was recorded by ITV. The group are now working with the BBC history unit on a similar venture and if you would like to share and record your memories of that awful disaster please contact Gary tel: 783491

### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October: Visit to the Annual Memorial Lecture Day at Brecon U3A

**The coach will leave the Atlantic Hotel at 8.15am and Sainsbury's Bridgend at 8.40am (aprox)**

We have been attending this Annual Memorial Lecture Day for many years. We have always enjoyed the lectures and Brecon U3A's welcome and hospitality. This year the title of the morning lecture is **The Wonder that was Syria**. It will be given by **Denise Darbyshire, a lecturer at Oxford University and at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford**. Lavishly illustrated, it will be based on her visits to sites in Syria where she had access to parts of the country which are now in the hands of various rebel groups. **The afternoon lecture, entitled Sarah Siddons and the Acting Dynasty of the Kemble Family**, will be given by **Kate Newey, Professor of Theatre History at Exeter University**. She will describe the career of Sarah Siddons and the role of the family in the theatrical profession as well as the importance of the regional theatre in the history of the theatre of the four nations of the United Kingdom.

We still have a few places available so if you haven't yet booked your place and want to come along, please contact me immediately. The cost of the Day to include coach fare, the lectures, coffee on arrival and a buffet lunch is £20. 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 without delay.

*Dorothy Jones (tel.657571)*

### **Saturday 15th October: Visit to Concert at Brangwyn Hall Swansea**

The coach for this visit will leave SAINSBURY'S BRIDGEND AT 5.30 PM AND THE ATLANTIC PORTHCAWL AT 5.45 PM (APPROX), PICKING UP IN PORT TALBOT (JUNCTION 40 OF THE M4) AT 6.00PM APPROX.

*Janice Lloyd (Tel. 786532)*

### **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 10.15am at Trinity:**

#### **Our U3A Coffee Morning in aid of the Mayor's Charities**

Our next Coffee Morning will be held at Trinity on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October beginning at 10.15am, and the proceeds will be donated to the Mayor's charities. Tickets at £1.50 each will be available at the door, and there will be a raffle. Do come along and enjoy a morning chatting to friends old and new in a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

*Pam Munro (tel. 783751)*

### **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 10am: Visit to Parc Stormy**

Following the excellent talk given in June about the pioneering environmental work being undertaken on Stormy Down, we have managed to arrange a visit for Porthcawl U3A members to the Cenin Renewables site. **This will be at 10:00 am on Tuesday 25 October.** If you are interested in coming along then please contact me so I can give the operatives an idea of numbers.

*Chris James (tel. 864742)*

### **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December: Visit to Wales Millennium Centre for a matinee performance of "Kiss Me Kate" by the company of The Welsh National Opera .**

There are a few places left on this visit, so if anyone would like to join us please send a cheque for £44.00p.p.(inc. coach) to reach me at the address below no later than October 5<sup>th</sup> as our tickets are being held only until the 8<sup>th</sup> Oct. Thank you. **Judith Hillman 1 Seawinds Rest Bay Close Porthcawl CF36 3UN . Tel: 07981869066**

email [jude.hillman@yahoo.com](mailto:jude.hillman@yahoo.com)

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October 12.30pm at the Tap (Ye Olde Wine House Pyle): Sunday Lunch Group**

**Sunday Lunch Group will meet this month on Sunday 30th October @ 12.30 @ The Tap - Ye Olde Wine House - Pyle.** Lunch will be Roast Pork, Beef or Turkey with all the usual accompaniments @ £8.95. Starters and desserts will be available to select from the blackboard as desired @ £4 each. Vegetarian by special order. **Email to reserve your place - [sally2482atc@aol.com](mailto:sally2482atc@aol.com) OR phone 07773 181467.** *Sally A Corbett.*

### **U3A Diaries 2017.**

**Red in colour, excellent value at £2 each. Place your order NOW by leaving your name and phone number with me and I will contact you for payment when they arrive.**

*01656 771657.*

*Caroline David*

### **THANK YOU**

Grateful thanks are extended to Ben Fielding, Judith Evans and Sue Rowlands who each in turn most ably convened the Russian Group which has now discontinued after meeting for several years.

### **RESEARCHING YOUR FAMILY**

Several members have expressed an interest in this topic, but it doesn't really work as a group meeting. For the best results you will need to know your way around a computer, but once you've entered the [Ancestry.Com](http://Ancestry.Com) site, it becomes fairly straightforward after that!

**BUT** you must be prepared to take out a monthly or an annual subscription! Currently new subscribers get a fortnight's free trial, after which they can either cancel or pay for a monthly subscription of £13.99 or an annual subscription of £119.99, which works out cheaper.

If anyone is genuinely interested in researching their family, I am prepared individually to offer them an introduction to the site in my own home and thereafter to act as their mentor.

**If you are interested, please contact Harry Lowman (01656 663353) or email [kanora78@gmail.com](mailto:kanora78@gmail.com)**

## Meetings of our Interest Groups in October 2016

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
<b>Ancient History</b>	2.15pm at the RAFA Club	Thursday 6th & 20th	We will be looking at the first Babylonian Dynasty and the expansion of the Hitites from Anaonia	David Trace tel. 782335
<b>Archaeology</b>	10.15am at the Holiday Hotel	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	We will study Post Roman Britain and the Anglo Saxon invasion, or was it. Oh, and don't forget the Frisians!	Ian Hutchinson tel. 654418
<b>Art History</b>	2.15pm at the Holiday Hotel	Monday 10th  &  24th	<b>On 10th:</b> Georges Rouault 1871-1958. French painter, graphic artist and designer - an Expressionist artist with a highly distinctive place in modern art. Dante Gabriel Rossetti 1828 - 82. English painter & poet, Co-founder of Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. <b>On 24th:</b> Marc Rothko. Significant Abstract Expressionist painter of the 1950s. Raphael. 1483 - 1520. Italian painter, architect & designer - a master of high Renaissance art	Graham Cross tel. 785876
<b>Book Club 1</b>	10am at Stella Maris	Friday 14th	Discussing 'The Miniatures' by Jessie Burton	Barbara Miles tel. 783291
<b>Book Club 2</b>	10am at 132 New Road	Wed. 5th	Discussing 'A Fine Balance' by Rohnton Mistry	Annie Rance tel. 711848
<b>Book Club 3</b>	10am at 2 Bardsey Close, Nottage	Thursday 13th	Discussing 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' by John Boyne. This new group is not quite full, if you are interested in joining please contact me.	Carolyn Tansey tel.856831
<b>Bridge Course for Beginners</b>	2pm at Awel y Mor	Tuesday 4th, 11th 18th & 25th	This U3A course is run by <b>Tony and Pat Howarth</b> for those who would like to learn the basics of this game.	Caroline David tel. 771657
<b>Bridge Group</b>	2pm at Awel y Mor (Side Room)	Tuesday 4th, 11th 18th & 25th	We can join with the Beginners Course for revision.	Caroline David tel. 771657
<b>Canasta</b>	2pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 3rd & 17th	New members welcome but please phone me first.	Judith Davey tel. 783632
<b>Computers, tablets and other gadgets</b>	10am to 12 noon at the <b>Costa Café</b>	Monday 3rd & 17th	A drop-in and help for all your gadgets. Feel like kicking it? We'll show you how to love it? Want to do more with them? We can help with that too <u>Geoff Henderson tel.786790; Martin Patten tel.786745 &amp; Laurence Parry 788089</u>	GH; MP, & LP
<b>Conversations (Discussion Group)</b>	2.15pm at the Holiday Hotel	Thursday 13th & 27th	Discussing: <u>Is inequality inevitable?</u>  Discussing; <u>Why do we tolerate the intolerable?</u>	Doug Jones tel. 657571
<b>Crafts</b>	2pm at the Y Centre	Thursday 13th & 27th	A warm welcome awaits members interested in any type of craft	Pam Munro tel. 783751
<b>Drama – Origin &amp; Development</b>	2pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 3rd, 17th & 31st	The group will continue its exploration of European Drama by focusing on two plays by the Czech dramatist Karel Capek.	Elizabeth C Bower tel. 786234
<b>Film Club</b>	2pm at the Holiday Hotel	Thursday 6th	We will see 'Niagara' (1953). Starring Marilyn Monroe and Joseph Cotton. This thriller was Monroe's first starring role.	Chris James Tel. 864742
<b>Food in Britain</b>	2.15pm at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> & 18th	This session will be led by Harry Lowman  A quiz led by Margaret	Margaret Williams tel. 665128

<b>French for All</b>	<b>10.15am</b> at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 11th & 25th	Why not come and practise your French conversation? <b>Jenny Cross (tel. 785876)</b> <b>Jenny Worthington (785446)</b>	Jenny Cross Jenny Worthington
<b>Gardening</b>	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 25th	Jenny Cross will introduce a topic of her choice.	Handel Davies tel. 788364
<b>German</b>	10.30am at Stella Maris	Thursday 6th, 13th,20th & 27th	Looking at all things German and Germanic including conversational language and grammar	John Murdoch 07583570891
<b>History</b>	10.15am at the Y Centre	Wed 5th &  19th	We will look at Queen Victoria and her times, trying to take Barbara Cartland out of recent portrayals; if time permits we might also try to remove the Alexander Dumas out of Louis XIV. On 19th we will look at the story of Malta which tells us a lot about all its neighbours, near and far.	Andrew Collier tel. 784939
<b>Latin</b>	10.15am at the RAFA Club	Monday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st	Grammar Revision & translation from & into Latin, and enjoyment!	Doug Jones tel. 657571
<b>Listeners' Guide to Music</b>	2pm at the Rugby Club	Wed 12th &  26th	On 12 <sup>th</sup> : Dvorak's Symphony No 8 and Music from Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story.  On 26 <sup>th</sup> : Schubert: Symphony No 8 and Delibes: Ballet Suite <i>Sylvia</i>	Brian Nelson tel. 742159
<b>Mah Jong</b>	2pm at the Rugby Club	Thursday 6th & 20th	There is now room for additional members in this group so if anyone would like to learn this game of skill and chance, please would he or she telephone me.	Elizabeth C. Bower 786234
<b>Musical Theatre Course</b>	2pm at the Y Centre	Monday 3rd & 17th	On 3rd; 'Paris' On 17th; 'Way out East'	Harry Lowman tel. 663353
<b>Painting Workshop</b>	10am at the Y Centre	Thurs, 6th, 13th 20th & 27th	If you are not already a member of this group and want to join it, please phone me.	Stephen Jarvis tel. 649165
<b>Philosophy and Ideas</b>	10am at the Y Centre	Friday 7th & 21st	We will meet on 7th when Gary is likely to conclude his search for truth with Leibniz, and on 21st Charles will probably make a few slips as he tackles, with limited respect, the ideas of Freud	Andrew Collier tel. 784939
<b>Photography for Everyone</b>	10.30am at the Holiday Hotel	Monday 10th & 24th	Learning and developing skills in digital, still and video photography	David Morgan tel. 740605
<b>Play Reading</b>	10am at the Rugby Club	Wed 5th & 19th	We will continue to look at new work <b>Len Smith (tel, 771574)</b> <b>Rolfe Mitchell (tel.740120)</b>	Len & Rolfe
<b>Poetry</b>	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Monday 10th & 24th	The group will resume its perusal of Beowulf. Our next topic will be a selection of the shorter poems written in Old English.	Elizabeth C. Bower 786234
<b>Quiz</b>	<b>2pm</b> at the Y Centre	Monday 10th	Come along, enjoy yourselves and test your general knowledge in lovely company	Roger Thomas tel. 786292
<b>Science</b>	2pm at the Holiday Hotel	Monday 31st	Some recent medical breakthroughs will be explained by Martin Patten. <b>Gwyn Davis tel. 654766; Brian Nelson. tel. 742159</b>	Gwyn Davis; Brian Nelson.

<b>Scrabble</b>	10am at the Holiday Hotel	Mon. 3rd, 17th & 31st	A game, a chat and a cup of coffee. Members of all abilities welcome.	Pat Parry tel. 784211
<b>Shakespeare &amp; other "Greats"</b>	2.15pm at Stella Maris	Tuesday 11th & 25th	We will continue with our study of King Lear	Barbara Miles tel. 783291
<b>Singing for Fun</b>	2pm at the Holiday Hotel	Friday 14th & 28th	Unfortunately we cannot accommodate any new members until the current number is confirmed.	Veronica Rees tel. 784718.
<b>Spanish for Beginners</b>	10am at the RUGBY CLUB	Tuesday 4th & 18th	Gaining confidence to speak Spanish in everyday situations.	Declan Gilmartin tel. 772675
<b>Table Tennis</b>	10.00am at the Y Centre on 7th 1.45pm on 21st	Friday 7th & 21st	Come and join in our relaxed and friendly games. If you have a bat please bring it along. Please wear suitable shoes. <b>Please note the times.</b>	Pam Munro tel. 783751
<b>Walking</b>	<b>2pm at the Abbot's Kitchen Margam</b> <b>2pm at Ewenny Priory</b>	<b>Friday 28th &amp; Friday 14th</b>	This month we shall enjoy the magical autumnal colours of the trees and foliage along Margam mountain.  Arising out of the popularity of our walks and at the request of members we are also providing this mid-month walk of 3 to 4 miles which will be led by Malcolm Cowper (tel. 858812).  If the weather is doubtful please phone to check that the walks will take place. <b>Please wear suitable clothing and footwear. We walk at our own risk.</b>	John Pearman tel. 782133
<b>Welsh</b>	10am at the Rugby Club	Thurs 13th & 27th	We will make you welcome in this group whether you are a beginner, an improver or fluent speaker. <b>John Pearman (782133) David Parry (784211)</b>	John Pearman David Parry
<b>Writing for Pleasure Groups 1, 2 &amp; 3</b>	10am at the Rugby Club	Friday 7th & 21st	We write simply for the pleasure of writing and to receive friendly advice. Places are now available in Group Three. <b>Marcia Humphries (772895) &amp; Jo Brooks (859535) &amp; Annie Rance (711848)</b>	Marcia Humphries. Jo Brooks & Annie Rance



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## Summary of Dates and Events in October 2016

Please note that the Glamorgan Holiday Home is now known as the Glamorgan Holiday HOTEL

<b>Monday</b>	<b>3rd Oct</b>	10.00am at Costa Coffee, John St 10.00 in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 10.15am in the RAFA Club 2.00pm in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in the Y Centre	Computers, tablets and gadgets Scrabble Latin Canasta Drama – origin & development Musical Theatre Course
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>4th Oct</b>	10.00am in the Rugby Club 10.15am in the Holiday Hotel: 2.00pm in Awel y Mor 2.15pm in the Rugby Club	Spanish Archaeology Bridge: Playing and Learning Food in Britain
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>5th Oct</b>	10.00am in 132 New Road 10.00am in the Rugby Club 10.15am in the Y Centre 2.15pm in the Hi-Tide	Book Club 2 Play Reading History Talk by Andrew Collier
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>6th Oct</b>	10.00am in the Y Centre 10.30am in Stella Maris 2.00pm in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 2.00pm in the Rugby Club 2.15pm in the RAFA Club	Painting Workshop German Film Club Mah Jong Ancient History
<b>Friday</b>	<b>7th Oct</b>	10.00am in the Y Centre 10.00am in the Y Centre 10.00am in the Rugby Club	Philosophy and Ideas Table Tennis Writing for Pleasure 1,2 & 3
<b>Monday</b>	<b>10th Oct</b>	10.15am in the Rugby Club 10.15am in the RAFA Club 10.30am in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 2.00pm in the Y Centre 2.15pm in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Poetry Latin Photography Quiz Art History
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>11th Oct</b>	10.15am in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in Awel y Mor 2.15pm in Stella Maris	French for All Bridge: Playing and Learning Shakespeare & other greats
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>12th Oct</b>	2.00pm in the Rugby Club	Listeners' Guide to Music
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>13th Oct</b>	8.15am to 6.00pm Brecon 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 2.15pm in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Visit to Brecon U3A Lecture Day Painting Workshop Welsh Book Club 3 German Crafts Conversations (discussion group)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>14th Oct</b>	10.00am in Stella Maris 2.00pm in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 2.00pm at Ewenny Priory	Book Club 1 Singing for Fun Walking Group
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>15th Oct</b>	Brangwyn Hall, Swansea	Evening Concert
<b>Monday</b>	<b>17th Oct</b>	10.00am at Costa Coffee 10.00 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 10.15am in the RAFA Club 2.00pm at the Rugby Club 2.00pm at the Rugby Club	Computers, tablets and gadgets Scrabble Latin Canasta Drama – origin & development

		2.00pm in the Y Centre	Musical Theatre Course
Tuesday	18th Oct	10.00am in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in Awel y Mor 2.15pm in the Rugby Club	Spanish Bridge: Playing and Learning Food in Britain
Wednesday	19th Oct	10.00am in the Rugby Club 10.15am in the Y Centre	Play Reading History
Thursday	20th Oct	10.00am in the Y Centre 10.30am in Stella Maris 2.00pm in the Rugby Club 2.15pm in the RAFA Club	Painting Workshop German Mah Jong Ancient History
Friday	21st Oct	10.00am in the Y Centre 10.00am in the Rugby Club 10.15am in Trinity Church Hall 1.45pm in the Y Centre	Philosophy and Ideas Writing for Pleasure 1,2 & 3 U3A Coffee Morning Table Tennis
Monday	24th Oct	10.15am in the RAFA Club 10.15am in the Rugby Club 10.30am in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 2.15pm in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Latin Poetry Photography Art History
Tuesday	25th Oct	10.15am in the Rugby Club 10.15am in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in Awel y Mor 2.15pm in Stella Maris	French for All Gardening Bridge: Playing and Learning Shakespeare & other greats
Wednesday	26th Oct	2.00pm in the Rugby Club	Listeners' Guide to Music
Thursday	27th Oct	10.00am in the Y Centre 10.00am in the Rugby Club 10.30am in Stella Maris 2.00pm in the Y Centre 2.15pm in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Painting Workshop Welsh German Crafts Conversations
Friday	28th Oct	2.00pm in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 2.00pm	Singing for Fun Walking
Sunday	30th Oct	12.30pm The Tap (Ye Olde Wine House)	Sunday lunch group
Monday	31st Oct	10.00 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 10.15am in the RAFA Club 2.00pm at the Rugby Club 2.00pm in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Scrabble Latin Drama – origin & development Science

# **Classical Spectacular Concert**

## **The Royal Albert Hall: third week in March 2017**

This preliminary, exploratory notice seeks to ascertain the level of interest in a U3A overnight visit to the Museum Quarter of Kensington for members to attend this very exciting concert at the RAH. It is not possible at this point to be precise about dates or costs: as soon as they are available, I will inform those who have indicated an interest.

The programme for the concert includes almost all of the most popular classics performed by: two orchestras, two military bands, two choirs, soloists, the classical spectacular dancers all accompanied by a coloured laser lighting display, fireworks and finally the Moscow Muskets and Cannons.

The format for the visit is departure by coach from the Rugby Club at 9 am, check into hotel – probably The Queensgate (5 minutes by foot from the RAH) – enjoy free time until the evening performance. The following day would be free until departure at 4 pm.

The cost, which includes ticket, bed and breakfast accommodation and travel would be in the region of £200+ per head.

If you are interested, please write to me, as soon as possible, with the following information: name(s), address(es), telephone number(s), and the type of accommodation you require: single occupancy, twin or double.

Elizabeth C Bower, 38, Heol Croes Faen, Nottage, CF36 3SW  
(telephone number 786234)