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Newyddion HYDREF 2017
Newsletter OCTOBER 2017

From the Chairman

It has been a full month yet again. The monthly talk by Neil Sinclair on 'From Tiger Bay to Cardiff Bay' was very well attended and gave us a possibly different insight from the usual story into the history of this once much-maligned area. The trip to Picton Castle was well-attended and much enjoyed. The interest groups continue with their very high standard of work. If members can see an area for an interest group we are not currently offering please contact me or any member of the committee and, numbers permitting, we shall see if we can arrange something. I look forward to meeting up with as many members as possible over the next few months.

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

Membership Badges and Newsletters

Membership badges: Chris James (tel. 867472; e-mail: marilynjameschris@yahoo.co.uk)

Newsletter Team: Gary Russell (785691); Ben Fielding (07967 831271); e-mail: pu3a_newsletter@btinternet.com

All e-mail not directly related to the Newsletter should be sent to Brian Thomas (Hon. Sec., e-mail: sec@porthcawlu3a.org), who will deal with it directly, or forward it to the appropriate person for action.

Please Help to Keep Porthcawl U3A amongst the Best

There can be no doubt that we rank among the best U3As in the country. That is due entirely to the unstinting efforts of many of our fellow members and the recognition and support they receive from the membership as a whole. Yet, we need even more help if our U3A is to maintain and indeed improve the quality and range of what it provides. **In particular we need members to help with the planning and organization of social events, including Coffee Mornings, and with delivering the monthly newsletters. We are also looking for one more person to assist occasionally with compiling the Newsletter, when Ben or Gary is unavailable. If you think you can spare the time to help with these or any other tasks please get in touch with me. Whatever you are able to do will be greatly appreciated.**

We would also like to form a group of members who would be willing to keep in touch with members who are temporarily or permanently housebound as a result of an injury or illness. It is so easy in these circumstances to feel isolated, lonely and forgotten. A weekly or more frequent phone call can make all the difference. If you feel you can help in this way, please get in touch with me.

Pam Munro (tel. 783751)

A Reminder for Members

Members are encouraged to use the generic e-mail address given in the Quick Contact List above as a single point of contact for the U3A. All e-mails sent to this address will be received by Brian Thomas, our new Hon. Secretary, who'll either deal with them himself or immediately forward them to the appropriate person for action.

Brian also serves as coordinator of our refreshed Communication, Marketing & Publicity team. He would welcome newsworthy contributions from members that can be used to help raise the profile of our U3A and encourage others to explore our offer. If they are accompanied by a photo, so much the better! Members are also encouraged to visit (and 'Like'!) our Facebook page (see above).

Brian can be contacted using the above e-mail address, or by telephone **01656 772027** (but only between 09.15 and 10.00 weekdays).

A Note to Newsletter Contributors

The Newsletter Team would like to request that any contributions for next month's Newsletter be submitted as soon as possible, and by Thursday 19th October at the latest. This will allow us to compile the Newsletter and get it to the printers in sufficient time to have it printed and delivered by the start of November. Please send contributions to pu3a_newsletter@btinternet.com, or ring Gary (tel. no above).

We will contact all contributors during the weekend preceding the deadline as an aid to memory.

Thursday 12th October: Visit to the New Theatre, Cardiff: for a matinee performance of *Deathtrap* by Ira Levin

Trixie Tudor and I have now taken on the task of arranging our U3A theatre trips. We have booked seats for 12th October at The New Theatre Cardiff matinee at 14.30pm to see *Deathtrap* by Ira Levin. **The coach leaves the Atlantic at 10.30am, picking up at Fulmar Road and Sainsbury's Bridgend 10.45am (approx).** The price, to include the theatre ticket and the coach fare is £27.50. Please send cheques ASAP to Mrs T Tudor 78 West End Avenue, Nottage CF36 3NG made payable to Porthcawl U3A. Trixie's phone number is 01656 782194

Anne Syrad text 07956419321 or annewan@icloud.com

**Wednesday 4th October – 2.15p.m. at the Hi-Tide
Talk by John Laver FRAS, M. INST. P. – Global Warming – Myth or Monster?**

Global warming is very much in the news, with the fact of its existence, its causes and consequences brought constantly into question. Jon will examine these issues in his talk in a way that is thought provoking but not too technical. Jon is a retired applied physicist who worked in the electricity generating industry. Since retirement and moving to Wales, he has been a Research Fellow at Cardiff University, a Science Tutor for the Open University and taught at the Technical Training School at RAF St. Athan. He is a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, a member of the Society for Popular Astronomy, a member of the Institute of Physics and both Education Officer and Deputy Chairman for Bridgend Astronomical Society. We can be sure that this will be a most interesting talk on a subject of great importance. Do come along if you can.

Chris James (tel. 864742)

Thursday 12th October: Visit to Special Lecture Day at Brecon U3A

The coach for this visit will leave the Atlantic Hotel at 8.30am, picking up along Fulmar Road and at Sainsbury's Bridgend at 8.50 (approx.). There will be two prestigious lectures during the day. The first will be given in the morning by Professor Slone of Cardiff University on the theme of Stem Cell Research. There will also be an exhibition arranged by the Wales Gene Park. In the afternoon Professor Lyn Evans, FRS, of Imperial College London, will give a lecture entitled The Large Hadron Collider – a Marvel of Technology. Professor Evans has spent his career in the field of High Energy Physics and he led the team that designed, built and commissioned the Collider.

The cost of the visit to include entry to both lectures and the coach fare is £19. If you have contacted me to reserve a place for you but have not yet sent me a cheque for this amount payable to Porthcawl U3A, please do so immediately. If you would like to come along and have not booked your place with me please contact me without any further delay as there is likely to be a heavy demand for tickets. If there are delays or difficulties on the morning of this visit please phone my mobile number which is 0755 208 5799

Dorothy Jones (84 Heol West Plas, Coity, Bridgend CF35 6BA, tel. 657571)

Sunday 29 October, 12:30 at The Broomwagon, Station Hill - Sunday Lunch Group

The options are: Roast Beef; Roast Chicken or Nut Roast. All served with seasonal vegetables and all the trimmings. Cost £7.95. You may make your selection on the day, but please book in advance by emailing or phoning me.

Sally Corbett (sally2482atc@aol.com; 07773 181467)

Programme of Talks for 2018

We shall soon be compiling our programme of talks for 2018. It will include the monthly talks and also the Gwyn Petty Memorial Lecture and our Annual Study Day. We would be very grateful for any suggestions you would like to make about topics, themes and speakers, and perhaps you would like to offer to give a talk yourself. We will consider all suggestions and offers very carefully and do our best to include them. Some members have already been in touch on this. If you have it would be very helpful if you would do so again to make sure that your suggestions or offer will not be overlooked.

Doug Jones (tel. 657571; e-mail jay3deekay@aol.com)

Saturday 14th October - Visit to Concert at the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea

This concert is given by the St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra with Alexander Dmitriev (Conductor) and Tim Hugh (Cello). The programme is Prokofiev: *Classical Symphony*, Shostakovich: *Cello Concerto No. 2*, and Rimsky Korsakov: *Scheherazade*.

The coach for this visit will leave Sainsbury's, Bridgend at 5.30 pm, the Atlantic Hotel, Porthcawl at 5.45 pm, and Junction 40 of the M4, Port Talbot at 6 pm approx.

Janice Lloyd (Tel. 01656 786532)

Third Age Matters – Payment

My thanks to all those members who sent me their cheques to cover the postage of this magazine. A number of subscribers have yet to send me a cheque for £2.40, made payable to Porthcawl U3A. I should appreciate these as soon as possible please.

Lindy Hutchinson, The Pines, 67 Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend, CF31 3NN

FURTHER LINKS WITH PORTHCAWL COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Following on from the highly successful U3A/PCS event last June, when 18 of our members went into the school to give the sixth formers interview experience, we have now been approached to see if we can help the younger pupils with some of their numeracy work. They have to cover topics such as bank accounts, budgeting, investing, insurance, foreign exchange and so on, the sort of issues we all have to grapple with in our everyday lives. The maths department will, of course, be covering these topics themselves, but feel it would make them more relevant to the pupils if they also had some input from the adult world. What they are asking, therefore, is for some of us to go into school and talk to them about these topics in their lessons. It would not necessarily require a background in banking or finance, just an understanding of the topics based on our own experience. There would not be a great time commitment, but it would be necessary to go into school at times when they are covering the topics in their maths lessons. If you would like to be involved in this project, please contact me and, if there is sufficient interest I will arrange a meeting at the school, where the maths team will explain in detail how we can help.

Malcolm Cowper (01656 858812, 07761 498284 or malcolmcowper@gmail.com)

Friday 1st December 10.30am at the Grove Golf Club Our Writing Groups present their popular morning of Stories and Poems

Please note change of venue: easy parking, no stairs & comfortable seating. The morning's entertainment will be followed by a buffet lunch and the price of the whole event is just £9.50. Please send me cheques payable to Porthcawl U3A, putting your address & tel. no on the back of your cheque. This annual event sells out quickly. Places will be allocated in order of receipt of cheques.

Julie Matthews, 47 Anglesey Way, Nottage, Porthcawl CF36 3QP

PROPOSED VISIT TO LONDON JUNE,2018

The proposal is purely exploratory at present but will go ahead if there is sufficient interest. The outline is as follows: coach from The Rugby Club to London, book into The Novatel Hotel on Southwark Bridge, free afternoon to visit, Tate Modern, or St Paul's Cathedral, or The Shakespeare Exhibition at The Globe, or The Clink Museum all of which are within a few minutes walk of The Hotel. Evening meal In The Swan Restaurant at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre or where participants choose, followed by an evening performance in The Globe Theatre. The following day would be spent at Hampton Court en route for home. I cannot be more specific until the Globe Theatre publishes its programme in February and as soon as it does, it will be necessary to buy the tickets if I am to secure seats in Block H which will give the best view. However, I shall not be booking one of the tragedies if you are interested, please write to me, with your name, address and telephone number by January, 20th at the latest earlier if possible.

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

Help Required

The coordinator for all our U3A equipment would greatly welcome an assistant to help maintain and prepare various electrical things for talks and other events. If any members would like to help please contact me.

Laurence Parry (Tel.01656 788089)

Coffee Morning

Our U3A Coffee Morning is for new members and in aid of the Mayor's Charities. Friday 20th October 10.15am at Trinity Church Hall. Tickets £2 at the door, and there will be a Raffle and a Tombola stall. A warm welcome to all members. Come and enjoy some convivial company.

Pam Munro 783751

U3A Diaries

To reserve a Diary, please leave your name and telephone number on my answer phone as soon as possible so that I can send the order off

Caroline David 771657

Stop Press

Congratulations to Leonard Calvert (Writing For Pleasure group 3), who recently won a prize for his radio play entitled "Against All Odds", in a competition run by Bridgend Writers' Circle. Leonard has only been in the group a few months and had not written before joining.

Meetings of our Interest Groups in October 2017

Ancient History	2.15pm at the RAFA Club	Thursday 5 th & 19 th	We will continue to look at Ancient Mesoamerica with particular emphasis on life during the archaic period	David Trace 782335
Archaeology	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Tues 17 th	We shall travel through time from the Paleolithic to the early medieval looking at highlights of our journey of discovery since we began.	Ian Hutchinson 654418
Art History	2.15pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 2 nd 16 th	PIERRE BONNARD – French Painter and Graphic Artist, best known for his peaceful domestic scenes. SANDRO BOTTICELLI - 1444-1510. Florentine Painter, best loved artist of the Quattrocentro Pieter BREUGEL. The greatest Netherlandish painter and draughtsman of the 16 th century	Graham Cross 785876
Astronomy	2pm at the Y Centre	Thursday 5 th 19 th	We shall look at the many achievements of the Voyager probes. We shall look at the discoveries of the Cassini mission to Saturn.	Chris James 864742
Book Club 1	10am at Stella Maris	Friday 27 th	Discussing <i>The Children's Act</i> by Ian McEwan	Barbara Miles 783291
Book Club 2	10am at 132 New Road	Wednesday 11 th	Discussing <i>Alone in Berlin</i> by Hans Fallada. Inspired by a true story, this is a gripping tale of an ordinary man's determination to defy the tyranny of Nazi rule.	Annie Rance 711848
Book Club 3	10am at 25 Heol Croes Faen, Nottage	Thursday 12 th	<i>Life After Death</i> by Kate Atkinson	Carolyn Tansey 788093
Bridge	2pm at Awel y Mor (Side Room)	Tuesday 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th & 31 st	Expert advice from Tony. Development of existing players will continue through play and advice each week	Caroline David 771657
Canasta	2pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 2 nd , 16 th & 30 th	New members welcome. We will teach you how to play.	Mary Thomas 786137
Computers, tablets and other gadgets	10am at the Grand Pavilion cafe	Monday 2 nd & 16 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 786790; Martin Patten 786745; Laurence Parry 788089
Conversations (Discussion Group)	2.15pm at the Rugby Club	Thursday 12 th 26 th	<u><i>Is it possible to live a contented and useful life without beliefs and a sense of purpose?</i></u> <u><i>Should compassion for our fellow human beings ever override our duty?</i></u>	Doug Jones 657571

Crafts	2pm at the Y Centre	Thursday 5 th & 19 th	A warm welcome awaits members who are interested in any type of craft	Pam Munro 783751
Drama – Origin & Development	2pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 9 th & 23 rd	We shall continue our study of American Drama by reading and discussing O'Neil's <i>Desire under the Elms</i> . New members welcome	Elizabeth C Bower 786234
Film Club	2pm at Stella Maris	Friday 6 th	We shall see <i>The Usual Suspects</i> (1995) starring Gabriel Byrne, Kevin Spacey. When a group of criminals are wrongly arrested they feel the need to 'salvage a little dignity'.	Chris James 864742
Food in Britain	2.15pm at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 10 th & 24 th	10 th : Breakfast 24 th : Broth and Soup	Margaret Williams 665128
French for All	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 3 rd & 17 th	Theme – Vive la difference! Theme – How did you get to the Rugby Club	Jenny Cross 785876 Jenny Worthington 785446
Gardening	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 24 th	Topic not yet decided	Jeanette Victor 783491; Kay Boswell 7727384
German	10.30am at Stella Maris	Thursday 5 th & 19 th 12th	Foundation group Advanced group No session on 26th!	John Murdoch 07583 570891
History	10am at the Y Centre	Wed. 4 th & 18 th	Ben will introduce our series on European Royal Houses, almost certainly with the Romanovs	Andrew Collier 784939
Latin	10.15am at the RAFA Club	Monday 9 th , 16 th & 23 rd	Grammar and translation from and into Latin. Enjoyable jerks for the brain and friendly argument!	Doug Jones 657571
Listeners' Guide to Music	2pm at the Rugby Club	Wed 11 th 25 th	Prague, Mozart's <i>Symphony No.38</i> . and Dittersdorf <i>Harp Concerto</i> . Chopin's Ballet Music, <i>Les Sylphide</i> and <i>L'Arlessienne</i> .	Brian Nelson 742159
Mah Jong	2pm at the Rugby Club	Thursday 5 th & 19 th	Unfortunately, for the time being, the group cannot accommodate new members,	Elizabeth C. Bower 786234
Musical Theatre	2pm at the Y Centre	Monday 2 nd 16 th	Can't Sing, slightly Bald, can Dance a little. Oh, What a Lovely War!	Harry Lowman 663353
Painting Workshop	10am at the Y Centre	Thursday 5 th , 12 th , 19 th & 26 th	If you are not already a member of this group and want to join it, please let us know.	Stephen Jarvis 649165 Kay Richards 786463
Philosophy and Ideas	10am at the Y Centre	Friday 6 th 20 th	Gary is likely to be striving to ' Keep it simple ' in the face of all sorts of complexes and complexities from everyone else. Assuming Gary concluded, it is possible that Graham will try to tackle ' Conduct ' - it is time this lot learnt to behave!	Andrew Collier 784939

Photography for Everyone	10.30am at the Y Centre	Monday 2 nd 16 th & 30 th	Learning and developing skills in digital, still and video photography	Rhod Earl 772935
Play Reading	10am at the Rugby Club	Wed 11 th & 25 th	We will be reading new work	Rolfe Mitchell 740120; Ian Hutchinson 654418
Poetry	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Monday 2 nd 16 th & 30 th	We shall continue our exploration of Byron's <i>Childe Harald</i> . New members welcome.	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 786292
Science	2pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 30 th	This month we will have the pleasure of the Martin Patten presentation entitled "How to Make a Brain". Clearly an interesting and possibly challenging afternoon to look forward to.	Gwyn Davis 654766; Brian Nelson. 742159
Scrabble	10am at AWEL Y MOR	Monday 2 nd & 16 th	A game, a chat and a cup of coffee. Members of all abilities welcome.	Pat Parry 784211
Shakespeare & other "Greats"	2.15pm at Stella Maris	Tuesday 3 rd , 17 th & 31 st	We will continue our study of <i>Hamlet</i>	Barbara Miles 783291
Singing for Fun	2pm at the Rugby Club	Friday 13 th & 27 th	Having sorted the register and been able to accommodate some people who were waiting to join, we are now at full capacity, so sadly, at present, we will have to maintain a waiting list.	Veronica Rees 784718
Spanish for Beginners	10am at the RUGBY CLUB	Tuesday 10 th & 24 th	Topic: 'Los libros' ('Books') Topic: 'Mi casa' (my home)	Nicola Evans 771742
Table Tennis	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.	Pam Munro 783751
Walking	13:30 at Bryngarw Country Park	Friday 27 th	We meet at 13.30 in the car park (£2.50 charge) at Bryngarw Country Park, Brynmenyn, CF21 8UU, to do the two and a half mile Bryngarw Circular Walk. Please be aware that sections of this walk are likely to be muddy. Mostly flat, but one fairly steep climb for about a quarter of a mile. For details contact Malcolm If the weather is doubtful, please phone the leader to check that the walk is taking place. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear. We walk at our own risk.	Malcolm Cowper 858812 or 07716 498284
Welsh	10am at the Rugby Club	Thursday 12 th & 26 th	Our meetings are not suitable for complete beginners. They take the form of presentations and discussions about pre-selected topics.	David Parry 784211
Whist	2pm at Awel y Mor	Monday 9 th & 23 rd	Please phone me first if you wish to join us to play or learn to play whist.	Pam Munro 784751
Writing for Pleasure Groups 1, 2 & 3	10am at the Rugby Club	Friday 6 th & 20 th	We write simply for the pleasure of writing and to receive friendly advice.	Marcia Humphries 772895 (Group 1); Jo Brooks 859535 (Group 2); Julie Matthews 788379 (Group 3)

Summary of Dates and Events in September 2017

		10:00	Awel y Mor	Scrabble
		10:00	The Grand Pavilion Cafe	Computers
		10:15	The Rugby Club	Poetry
Mon	2 nd	10 :30	The Y Centre	Photography for Everyone
		14:00	The Y Centre	Musical Theatre
		14:00	The Rugby Club	Canasta
		14:15	The Rugby Club	Art History
		10:15	The Rugby Club	French for all
Tue	3 rd	14:00	Awel y Mor	Bridge
		14:15	Stella Maris	Shakespeare & other "Greats"
		10:00	The Y Centre	History
Wed	4 th	14:15	The Hi Tide	Talk by John Laver on Global Warming
		10.00	The Y Centre	Painting Workshop
		10.30	Stella Maris	German (Foundation)
		14:00	The Rugby Club	Mah Jong
Thu	5 th	14:00	The Y Centre	Astronomy
		14:00	The Y Centre	Crafts
		14:15	The RAFA Club	Ancient History
		10:00	The Rugby Club	Writing Groups One, Two & Three
		10:00	The Y Centre	Table Tennis
Fri	6 th	10:00	The Y Centre	Philosophy and Ideas
		14:00	Stella Maris	Film Club : 'The Usual Suspects'
		10:15	The RAFA Club	Latin
		14:00	The Rugby Club	Drama: Origins & Development
Mon	9 th	14:00	Awel y Mor	Whist
		14:00	The Y Centre	Quiz
		10:00	The Rugby Club	Spanish
		14:00	Awel y Mor	Bridge
Tue	10 th	14:15	The Rugby Club	Food in Britain
		10:00	The Rugby Club	Play Reading
		10:00	132 New Road	Book Club 2
Wed	11 th	14:00	The Rugby Club	Listener's Guide to Music

		08:30	Atlantic Hotel	Coach Pickup for trip to Brecon U3A For Special Lecture Day
		08:50	Sainsbury's	
		10:00	The Rugby Club	Welsh
		10.00	The Y Centre	Painting Workshop
Thu	12 th	10:00	25 Heol Croes Faen	Book Club 3
		10.30	Stella Maris	German (Advanced)
		10:30	Atlantic Hotel	Coach Pickup for "Deathtrap" at New Theatre, Cardiff
		10 :45	Sainsbury's	
		14:15	The Rugby Club	Conversations
Fri	13 th	14:00	The Rugby Club	Singing for Fun
		17:30	Sainsbury's	
Sat	14 th	17:45	Atlantic Hotel	Pickup Coach to Brangwyn Hall, Swansea For St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra
		18:00	Junction 40 of M4	
		10:00	Awel y Mor	Scrabble
		10:00	The Grand Pavilion Cafe	Computers
		10:15	The Rugby Club	Poetry
Mon	16 th	10:15	The RAFA Club	Latin
		10:30	The Y Centre	Photography for Everyone
		14:00	The Y Centre	Musical Theatre
		14:00	The Rugby Club	Canasta
		14:15	The Rugby Club	Art History
		10:15	The Rugby Club	Archaeology
		10:15	The Rugby Club	French for All
Tue	17 th	14:00	Awel y Mor	Bridge
		14:15	Stella Maris	Shakespeare & other "Greats"
Wed	18 th	10:00	The Y Centre	History
		10.00	The Y Centre	Painting Workshop
		10:00	The Rugby Club	Welsh
		10.30	Stella Maris	German (Foundation)
Thu	19 th	14:00	The Y Centre	Crafts
		14:00	The Rugby Club	Mah Jong
		14:00	The Y Centre	Astronomy
		14:15	The RAFA Club	Ancient History
		10:00	The Rugby Club	Writing Groups One, Two & Three
Fri	20 th	10:00	The Y Centre	Table Tennis
		10.00	The Y Centre	Philosophy and Ideas
		10:15	Trinity Church Hall	Coffee Morning

Mon	23 rd	10:15	The RAFA Club	Latin
		14:00	The Rugby Club	Drama: Origins & Development
		14:00	Awel y Mor	Whist
Tue	24 th	10:00	The Rugby Club	Spanish
		10:15	The Rugby Club	Gardening
		14:00	Awel y Mor	Bridge
		14:15	The Rugby Club	Food in Britain
Wed	25 th	10:00	The Rugby Club	Play Reading
		14:00	The Rugby Club	Listeners' Guide to Music
Thu	26 th	10.00	The Y Centre	Painting Workshop
		10.00	The Rugby Club	Conversations
Fri	27 th	10:00	Stella Maris	Book Club 1
		13:30	Bryngarw Country Park	Walking
		14:00	The Rugby Club	Singing for Fun
Sun	29 th	10.00	The Broomwagon, Station Hill	Sunday Lunch Group
Mon	30 th	10:15	The Rugby Club	Poetry
		10:15	The RAFA Club	Science
		10:30	The Y Centre	Photography for Everyone
		14:00	The Rugby Club	Canasta
Tues	31 st	14:00	Awel Y Mor	Bridge
		14:15	Stella Maris	Shakespeare & other "Greats"