



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
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PRIFYSGOL Y TRYDYDD OED
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Newsletter SEPTEMBER 2016

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From the Chairman

The long summer holidays are finished and we can look forward to an excellent autumn of events. The talks we had in July certainly whet the appetite for what is to come. The monthly talk was given by Neil Tapper and Jessica King and was about the renewable development at Parc Stormy and was absolutely fascinating. It is hoped we can organise a trip to visit the development, possibly in October - watch this space. There is a lot to look forward too in our September programme with one of the highlights being the "Any Questions" session on 30th - please come along if you can. Finally I would like to welcome back Margaret Williams who has been coopted onto the committee and look forward to working with her.

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

Wednesday 7th September 2.15pm at the Hi Tide: Talk by Gary Victor: *The Samtampa Tragedy*

Most members will be aware of the loss in April 1947 of the 7200 ton Liberty ship SS Samtampa with all hands and of the inspirational courage and bravery shown by the crew of the Mumbles Lifeboat, Edward Prince of Wales, which was also lost with all hands while attempting a rescue. A total of 47 men and boys died of asphyxiation in a raging sea of thick fuel oil and jagged rocks at Sker Point. Twelve are buried in the Porthcawl cemetery. This enormous tragedy which attracted world attention is the greatest loss of civilian life on the Welsh coast in modern times and a major piece of our maritime heritage. Yet it is now almost forgotten.

Gary will remind us of the details of this tragic event. He will also tell us about the importance to Britain's war effort of the Samtampa and its 181 sister ships made available under the US Lend Lease scheme, the arrangements being made to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the disaster in South Wales and on Teeside and the plans to create a fitting memorial on the promenade at Porthcawl. This will be an enlightening and inspiring afternoon, so do come along if you can.

Chris James (tel. 864742)

Our Current Programme of U3A Evening Talks

The last talk in the present series given by local volunteers will be on **Friday Sept. 9th at 7.15pm at the Y-centre) when we will hear from The Samaritans and from KPC Youth & Community.** Like all the other talks in this series, these talks will also be interesting and stimulating so do come along to learn how these two organisations help to enrich community life in Porthcawl and the surrounding area.

On 23rd September (same time, same place) we plan to hold a discussion forum, as suggested at some of these talks, where those who have spoken and those who have listened can get together to discuss the problems of the local voluntary sector and share ideas. The talks and the forum are open to non-members so bring a friend.

Andrew Collier (tel.784939)

Friday 30th September 2.15pm at the Hi Tide: Our *Any Questions* Afternoon

Following our very successful hosting of the BBC *Any Questions* programme last autumn, we have decided to arrange **our own *Any Questions* event which will be held at the Hi Tide at 2.15pm on Friday 30th September.** We have been able to assemble a distinguished panel who between them represent a wide range of responsibilities, interests and experience. They are **Venerable Peggy Jackson (the Archdeacon of Llandaf), the Rt. Hon. Carwyn Jones (First Minister of Wales), Anne Morgan (former High Sheriff for Mid Glamorgan) and Andrew Slade (Headteacher, Porthcawl Comprehensive School).** Do come along and hear their views on the questions put to them. And why not submit a question yourself? If you would like to do so, send it to me in advance by e mail or give it to me in writing by 1.45pm on the day. My e mail address is marilynjameschris@yahoo.co.uk I will then select those which together make for a wide and varied span of interest. The panel will not, of course, see the questions in advance.

Chris James (tel. 864742)

Thursday 1st September: Visit to Cardiff New Theatre

This is a matinee performance of 'No Man's Land' by Harold Pinter, starring Patrick Stewart and Ian McKellen. The coach will leave the Atlantic Hotel at 10.30 am, and Sainsbury's at 10.45 approx. Judith Hillman 1 Seawinds Rest Bay Close Porthcawl CF36 3UN tel: 07981 869066) or email jude.hillman@yahoo.com

Saturday 17th September: Visit to Abergavenny Food Festival

The coach for this visit will leave the Atlantic Hotel at 9am and Sainsbury's Bridgend at 9.15am (approx). The coach fare is £9 each. We will leave Abergavenny for home at 5pm. A programme for the events and a form for booking can be obtained from the booking office (tel. 01873 851643) or on line on the festival web site www.abergavennyfoodfestival.com To book a seat on the coach please send a cheque payable to Porthcawl U3A to me – Margaret Williams, 54 St Christopher's Road, Bridgend

Margaret Williams (tel. 665128)

Tuesday 20th September 10.30am: Meeting of the U3A Geology Network Merthyr to Blaenavon: Geology and Industry, Present and Past

Meet in the car park in front of Cyfarthfa Castle Museum, Merthyr Tydfil [SO 042074] where parking is free. The theme of the field day is the influence of coal, iron and limestone on scenery, industrial history and transport up to the present day. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear, don't leave the group without telling the leader and be aware that we take part in this field trip at our own risk. Please phone me if you need further information

Nigel McGaw (tel. 654439)

Sunday 25th September 12.30pm: Sunday Lunch Group

Why dine alone? The Sunday lunch group will meet on 25th Sept at 12 noon in The Angel in Maudlam. Carvery meal costs £8.95 (£5.50 small). Pie, fish or nut roast are made to order so may take longer. Deserts £4.50. They will need the tables for a second sitting at 2pm. Book your place early by leaving your name and number with Caroline.

Caroline David (tel 771657)

Thursday 13th October: Visit to the Annual Memorial Lecture Day at Brecon U3A

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.

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 by 30th September. The coach will leave the Atlantic Hotel at 8.15am and Sainsbury's Bridgend at 8.40am (approx)

Dorothy Jones (tel.657571)

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

This is an all Tchaikovsky concert given by the Tchaikovsky Symphony Orchestra with Denis Lotoev (Conductor) and Pavel Kolesnikov (Piano). The programme is *Francesco da Rimini, Piano Concerto No.1* and *Symphony No. 5*. The booking for this concert had to be made during the summer break, so apologies if news of it did not reach you, but if you would like to put your name down for a possible cancellation please let me know.

Janice Lloyd (Tel. 786532)

Thursday 8th December: Visit to Wales Millennium Centre for a matinee performance of "Kiss Me Kate" by the company of The Welsh National Opera

If you would like to join this visit please send your cheque for £44.00 p.p. to me at the address below by 30th September. Seats will be allocated in order of receipt of cheques which should be made payable to Porthcawl U3A. Thank you. Judith Hillman 1 Seawinds Rest Bay Close Porthcawl.

Tel : 07981869066 or email jude.hillman@yahoo.com

New (Revived) Interest Group

I am pleased to announce the Film Club has been revived. We will meet in the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel on Thursday 8th Sept and then on the first Thursday of each month. Please come along if you are at all interested in films and we will try to examine as many different genres and film personalities as possible.

Chris James (tel 864742)

Spanish for Beginners

This course is designed to give beginners the basic structures of the Spanish language and, for example, allow them to feel more confident about speaking Spanish while on holiday. This month we'll meet **at the Rugby Club at 10am on Tuesday 13th and 27th September**

Declan Gilmartin (tel 772675)

A Study of Musical Theatre

We will continue our study of the history of the genre from 1905 to the present day with illustrations from both familiar and less familiar musicals. **Our meeting this month will be on Monday 5th and 19th September at 2pm at the Y Centre.**

Harry Lowman (tel. 663353)

Meetings of our Interest Groups in SEPTEMBER 2016

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
Ancient History	2.15pm at the RAFA Club	Thursday 8 th & 22 nd	For new members, a review of the developments in the fertile crescent from 3000 BCE. Myths and legends in Mesopotamia and links to the Bible. The Babylonian and Assyrian empires following the dark age.	David Trace tel. 782335
Archaeology			We will not meet in September	Ian Hutchinson tel. 654418
Art History	2.15pm at the Holiday Hotel	Monday 12 th 26 th	Talk by Geoff Henderson: The Artist as Propagandist - Hans Holbein, (1497-1543), the famed portraitist of the Tudor monarchy and Henry VIII's 'Spin doctor'. Sir Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) the Flemish painter and designer who was, the most influential figure in Baroque art in Northern Europe. Sir Joshua Reynolds (1723-92): President of the Royal Academy and portrait painter of high society.	Graham Cross tel. 785876
Book Club 1	10am at Stella Maris	Friday 23 rd	Discussing: <u>The Untouchables</u> , by John Bandle	Barbara Miles tel. 783291
Book Club 2	10am at 132 New Road	Wed. 14 th	Discussing: <u>All The Light We Cannot See</u> , by Anthony Doerr.	Annie Rance tel. 711848
Book Club 3	10am at 2 Bardsey Close, Nottage	Thursday 8 th	Discussing: <u>The Girls</u> by Lisa Jewel.	Carolyn Tansey tel.856831
Bridge: Playing & Learning	2pm at Awel y Mor	Tuesday 6 th , 13 th , 20 th & 27 th	Tony Howarth will continue to aid the progress of last year's intake on a weekly basis. Practice makes perfect. Please contact me if you need further information.	Caroline David tel. 771657

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
Canasta	2pm at the Rugby Club	5 th & 19 th	New members welcome but please phone me first	Judith Davey tel. 783632
Computers, tablets and other gadgets	10am to 12 noon at the Costa Coffee	Monday 5 th & 19 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. Note change of venue to Costa Coffee, John Street, Porthcawl. Please ensure devices are fully charged. <i>Geoff Henderson tel.786790; Martin Patten tel.786745 & Laurence Parry 788089</i>	GH; MP, & LP
Conversations (Discussion Group)	2.15pm at the Holiday Hotel	Thursday 15 th & 29 th	Discussing: <u><i>Is 'love of country' an outmoded and dangerous concept?</i></u> Discussing: <u><i>What do reality, virtual reality and augmented virtual reality mean?</i></u> (session led by Martin Patten)	Doug Jones tel. 657571
Crafts	2pm at the Y Centre	Thursday 8 th & 22 nd	A warm welcome awaits members interested in any type of craft	Pam Munro tel. 783751
Drama – Origin & Development	2pm at the Rugby Club	Monday 5 th & 19 th	The group will continue its exploration of European Drama by focussing on two plays by the Czech dramatist Karel Capek. We shall begin with <i>The Insect Play</i> and follow it with <i>R.U.R.</i>	Elizabeth C Bower tel. 786234
Film Club	2.15 at the Holiday Hotel	Thursday 8 th	We will see “Some Like it Hot” (1959); Dir: Billy Wilder; Starring Jack Lemmon, Tony Curtis and Marilyn Monroe. Often regarded as one of the best comedy films ever made.	Chris James tel: 864742
Food in Britain	2.15pm at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 6 th & 20 th	I will lead a session on <u><i>Recipes from the first cookbook to food television</i></u> Nita Davies will lead a session on <u><i>Food Advertising</i></u>	Margaret Williams tel. 665128
French for All	<u>10.15am</u> at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 6 th & 20 th	This term we shall be discussing various current events as they occur. Jenny Cross (tel. 785876) Jenny Worthington (785446)	Jenny Cross Jenny Worthington
Gardening	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 27 th	Jenny Cross will introduce a topic of her choice	Handel Davies tel. 788364
German	10.30am at Stella Maris	Thursday 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd and 29 th	Looking at all things German and Germanic including conversational language and grammar	John Murdoch 07583570891
History	10am at the Y Centre	Wed 7 th & 21 st	We will start with a look into Italian history, in particular 19 th Century Unification (the Risorgimento, starring Garibaldi and others) and maybe look at some other European Countries before reverting to our own Island Story.	Andrew Collier tel. 784939
Latin	RAFA Club at 10.15am	Monday 12 th , 19 th & 26 th	Grammar Revision & translation from & into Latin,.....and enjoyment!	Doug Jones tel. 657571
Listeners' Guide to Music	2pm at the Rugby Club	Wed' 14 th & 21 st	The programme will include Mozart's Symphony No 25 & Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. The programme will include Elgar's Fantasia on a theme by Thomas Tallis and Mozart's Piano Sonata in C	Brian Nelson tel. 742159

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
Mah Jong	2pm at the Rugby Club	Thursday 8 th & 22 nd	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
Musical Theatre Course	2pm at the Y Centre	Monday. 5 th & 19 th	“Another Openin’ Another Show!”	Harry Lowman tel. 663353
Painting Workshop	10am at the Y Centre	Thurs, 8 th 15 th , 22 nd & 29 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 9 th & 23 rd	We will renew our efforts to put the world to rights with some thoughts from Burke and Paine, (revolutionary or not) before on 23 rd letting Gary introduce us to Leibniz and the best of all possible worlds. Don’t let foreign names and big words put you off – we’re all quite simple if voluble.	Andrew Collier tel. 784939
Photography for Everyone	10.30am at the Holiday Hotel	Monday 12 th & 26 th	Learning and developing skills in digital, still and video photography	David Morgan tel. 740605
Play Reading	10am at the Rugby Club	Wed 7 th & 21 st	Looking at some new work	Len Smith tel. 771574 & Rolfe Mitchell tel. 740120
Poetry	10.15am at the Rugby Club	Monday 12 th & 26 th	The group will resume its perusal of <i>Beowulf</i> picking up the epic at the beginning of Beowulf’s third adventure. We shall complete our study of the poem with a DVD of academics discussing the poem. Our next topic will be a selection of the shorter poems written in Old English.	Elizabeth C. Bower 786234
Quiz	2pm at the Y Centre	Monday 12 th	Come along, enjoy yourselves and test your general knowledge in lovely company	Roger Thomas tel. 786292
Russian Language & Culture	10am at Awel Y Mor	Tuesday 13 th	We will continue our study of the Russian language and culture	Sue Rowlands tel. 785969.
Science	2pm at the Holiday Hotel	Monday 19 th	Plants when growing in the wild have to face a social struggle to survive. They compete with one another for space, light and food, and some just have to bide their time. This will be illustrated in a DVD.	Gwyn Davis tel. 654766; Brian Nelson. tel. 742159
Scrabble	10am at the Holiday Hotel	Mon. 5 th & 19 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 13 th & 27 th	We will be studying <i>King Lear</i>	Barbara Miles tel. 783291
Singing for Fun	2pm at the Holiday Hotel	Friday 9 th & 23 rd	Polish your voices and come and enjoy some singing	Veronica Rees tel. 784718.
Spanish for Beginners	10am at the Rugby Club	Tuesday 13 th , 27 th	Gaining confidence to speak Spanish in everyday situations.	Declan Gilmartin 772675)
Table Tennis	At the Y Centre	Friday 10am 16 th & 1.45pm on 23 rd	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 OF THE MEETINGS.	Pam Munro tel. 783751

Group	Time & Venue	Date	Information	Contact
Walking	2pm at The PRINCE OF WALES, KENFIG	Friday 23 rd	We will walk over the Kenfig Dunes to Kenfig Castle. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear. On our return to "The Prince" I would be grateful if members could stay for a short meeting in convivial surroundings to discuss our walking programme for the year ahead. If the weather is doubtful please phone me to check that this walk will take place. We walk at our own risk.	John Pearman tel. 782133
Welsh	10am at the Rugby Club	Thurs 8 th & 22 nd	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	10am at the Rugby Club	Friday 9 th & 23 rd	We write simply for the pleasure of writing and to receive friendly advice. Places are now available in Group Three. Marcia Humphries (772895) & Jo Brooks (859535) & Annie Rance (711848)	Marcia Humphries. Jo Brooks & Annie Rance

Music in Porthcawl

Friday 9th September 7pm at All Saints Church: Porthcawl Choral Society present 'Adiemus' by Karl Jenkins and other works. Tickets are £6 each. Contact Pat or David Parry on 784211



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SUMMARY OF DATES AND EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

Thursday	1st Sept	Visit to Cardiff New Theatre	Performance of 'No Man's Land'
Friday	2nd Sept		
Monday	5th Sept	10.00am at Costa Coffee 10.00 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 2.00pm at the Rugby Club 2.00pm at the Rugby Club 2.00pm at the Y Centre	Computers, tablets and gadgets Scrabble Canasta Drama – origin & development Musical Theatre Course
Tuesday	6th Sept	10.15am in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in Awel y Mor 2.15pm in the Rugby Club	French for All Bridge: Playing and Learning Food in Britain
Wednesday	7th Sept	10.00am at the Y Centre 10.00am at the Rugby Club 2.15pm in the Hi-Tide	History Play Reading Talk by Gary Victor
Thursday	8th Sept	10.00am at the Y Centre 10.00am at the Rugby Club 10.00am at 2 Bardsey Close, Nottage 10.30am at Stella Maris 2.00pm at the Y Centre 2.00pm at the Rugby Club 2.15 in the RAFA Club 2.15 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Painting Workshop Welsh Book Club 3 German Crafts Mah Jong Ancient History Film Club
Friday	9th Sept	10.00am at the Y Centre 10.00am at the Rugby Club 2.00 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 7.00pm at the Y Centre	Philosophy and Ideas Writing for Pleasure 1, 2, &3 Singing for Fun Evening talks, Samaritans & KPC
Monday	12th Sept	10.15am at the RAFA Club 10.15am at the Rugby Club 10.30 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 2.00pm at the Y Centre 2.15 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Latin Poetry Photography for Everyone Quiz Art History
Tuesday	13th Sept	10.00am at the Rugby Club 10.00am at Awel y Mor 2.00pm in Awel y Mor 2.15 at Stella Maris	Spanish Russian Language & Culture Bridge: Playing and Learning Shakespeare & other Greats
Wednesday	14th Sept	10.00am at 132 New Road 2.00pm at the Rugby Club	Book Club 2 Listeners Guide to Music
Thursday	15th Sept	10.00am at the Y Centre 10.30am at Stella Maris 2.15 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Painting Workshop German Conversations
Friday	16th Sept	10.00am at the Y Centre	Table Tennis
Saturday	17th Sept	Visit to Abergavenny Food Festival	

Monday	19th Sept	10.00 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 10.00am at Costa Coffee 10.15am at the RAFA Club 2.00pm at the Rugby Club 2.00pm at the Rugby Club 2.00pm at the Y Centre 2.00 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Scrabble Computers, tablets and gadgets Latin Canasta Drama – origin & development Musical Theatre Course Science
Tuesday	20th Sept	10.15am in the Rugby Club 10.30am Cyfartha Castle Museum 2.00pm in Awel y Mor 2.15pm in the Rugby Club	French for All U3A Geology Network Bridge: Playing and Learning Food in Britain
Wednesday	21st Sept	10.00am at the Y Centre 10.00am at the Rugby Club 2.00pm at the Rugby Club	History Play Reading Listeners Guide to Music
Thursday	22nd Sept	10.00am at the Rugby Club 10.00am at the Y Centre 10.30am at Stella Maris 2.00pm at the Rugby Club 2.00pm at the Y Centre 2.15 in the RAFA Club	Welsh Painting Workshop German Mah Jong Crafts Ancient History
Friday	23rd Sept	10.00am at Stella Maris 10.00am at the Y Centre 10.00am at the Rugby Club 1.45pm at the Y Centre 2.00 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 2.00pm 'The Prince of Wales', Kenfig	Book Club 1 Philosophy and Ideas Writing for Pleasure 1, 2, &3 Table Tennis Singing for Fun Walking
Sunday	25th Sept	12.00 meet at 'The Angel', Maudlam	Sunday Lunch Group
Monday	26th Sept	10.15am at the Rugby Club 10.15am at the RAFA Club 10.30 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 2.15 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Poetry Latin Photography for Everyone Art History
Tuesday	27th Sept	10.00am at the Rugby Club 10.15am in the Rugby Club 2.00pm in Awel y Mor 2.15 at Stella Maris	Spanish Gardening Bridge: Playing and Learning Shakespeare & other Greats
Wednesday	28th Sept		
Thursday	29th Sept	10.00am at the Y Centre 10.30am at Stella Maris 2.15 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel	Painting Workshop German Conversations
Friday	30th Sept	2.15pm at the Hi-Tide	Any Questions afternoon