



Chairs Ramble

How have we got to November already! The next main meeting will be on Wednesday 6th November and the speaker will be one of our own members Pam Slater telling us about Garden Lore - the myths behind Holly, Ivy and Mistletoe. Please support Pam and find out about some myths!

The December meeting will be on Wednesday 4th December and will be slightly different from our usual meetings. For our newer members it is always a meeting not to miss!!! We will start at 10.30 (please don't arrive earlier as the doors will be closed until 10.30 to allow the committee chance to get set up). There will be the usual coffee and chat and then we will start our Christmas Shenanigans. You should have received an invitation via email but if you are on email but if not here is your invitation.

You are cordially invited to the annual Christmas meeting of Newcastle Emlyn u3a on Wednesday 4th December. The usual fun and festivities will be included along with a carvery lunch (optional).

Timetable; 10.30am Arrive - Tea & coffee available

11.00am Festive Shenanigans – 'Festive Frolics with Friends.'

12noon Quiz & chat

12.30pm Carvery Lunch

The carvery lunch will be 2 courses with a choice of Beef, Turkey or Vegetarian. Please let us know if you have any further dietary requirements. Desserts will be Christmas Pud or Trifle. All followed by Coffee or Tea & mince Pies. The bar will be open during lunch for cold drinks only. The entry to the event is free but the lunch cost is £20.00 Per person. Please sign up for the lunch at the November Meeting where payment can be made by cash or cheque. Alternatively you can email Tracy with your choices and pay by BACS to the U3A account. Please ask for details.

PLEASE NOTE – DEADLINE for bookings is Monday 25th November 2024. Any cancellations after this date cannot be refunded.

Our Garden group has run for many years now and has always been well attended. However, Tony and Mike will be stepping down from leadership and unless someone or a small group come forward to take over this group will sadly have to close. Tony will be willing to help anyone with advice on how they have organised the group but new leaders may wish to take it on a new route! Please can you think seriously about volunteering to take on this group and let either Tony, Tracy or myself know as soon as possible. You would be well supported in your role. It would be a shame to see it fold. Our thanks must go to Tony and Mike for all of their hard work as group leaders.

Our January 2025 meeting will be on the second Wednesday of the month, the 8th, as the first Wednesday is New Year's Day!

Art Every Thursday from 10.00am at Penboyr Village Hall	Amanda 01559 372273 amanda.treesong@gmail.com
Astronomy 3rd Wednesday from 2.00pm at Coracle Hall, Llechryd. Joint with Cardigan u3a.	Malcolm 01239 711787
Badminton/Pickleball 2nd Wednesday from 12.15pm at Llandysul Leisure Centre	Nigel 07447 440841 cambs5@sky.com
Book Club 4th Tuesday from 10.30am at venue to be advised (currently Zoom meetings).	Vicky 01559 372278 vkthomas2008@gmail.com
Bowls 3rd Monday from 2.00pm at NCE Bowl Club	Julia julia.pearson2013@icloud.com
Crafty Crafters 2nd Wednesday from 10.30am at Penboyr Village Hall.	Ruth 01239 711787
Creative Writing 2nd Thursday from 11.00am at Ali's - venue varies.	Ali 07716 826362, 01239 682965 alisonkate606@gmail.com
Croquet Fridays 2.30 om at Sue's garden Penrhiwllan	Sue 01559 370684
Digital Photography Fourth Wednesday from 2.30pm at Coracle Hall, Llechryd - Joint with Cardigan U3A.	Colin 07866502400 colinlucker@yahoo.co.uk
Don't get me started 2nd Monday from 2.00pm at Susan's in Pontgarreg	Sue 07969 590878 susanedmunds@hotmail.com
Family History 4th Tuesday from 2.30pm at The Church of Latter Day Saints, Newcastle Emlyn.	Margaret 07866 420122 jtandmargaret@gmail.com
French 4th Tuesday - at 11.00am at Sue's in Penrhiwllan	Ali 07716 826362, 01239 682965 alisonkate606@gmail.com
Games 3rd Tuesday from 10.30am at Penboyr Village Hall.	Paul steam24x7@btinternet.com Linda lindakenworthy66@gmail.com
Garden 2nd Thursday at 2pm venue varies	Tony 01239 712931 poolletony@ Mike 07949 032308
ICT Support Sessions as required	Hazel 01559 371842
Kayak Paddlers Various dates and venues	Nigel cambs5@sky.com

Lunch Last Wednesday - venue varies.	Tracy tracyU3Alunch@gmail.com
Patchwork and Quilting 2nd Friday from 11.00am at Penboyr Village Hall.	Ruth 01239 711787
Petanque 2nd Monday 2pm + 3rd Tuesday 10-00am King V playing field Newcastle Emlyn	Trevor 01559 370395 trevorkgunn@aol.com
Philosophy 3rd Thursday from 11.00am at Penrhiwllan Village Hall.	Ali 07716 826362, 01239 682965 alisonkate606@gmail.com
Science and Technology 4th Monday from 2-00pm at Ffat Forks, Cenarth Falls Resort	Colin 07866 502400
Singing 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 2 - 4pm at Catholic Church Hall, Newcastle Emlyn	Gareth 01239 682635 g.furley277@btinternet.com
Sketchers 2nd Tuesday from 10-30am at National Wool Museum	Millie milliethomas946@gmail.com
Snooker 3rd Tuesday from 1pm at Beulah Snooker Hall	Mike 07858 168874 mikesmithies862@btinternet.com
Strictly Basic Ballroom 2nd Wednesday from 10.30am to 12.00noon.	Julia julia.pearson2013@icloud.com
Strollers Last Friday of the month from 10.30am, venues vary	Pam pamjwalks@aol.com
Table Tennis 2nd Tuesday from 2.00pm and 4th Thursday from 10.30am at RhydLewis Village Hall.	Margaret 07866 420122 jtandmargaret@gmail.com
Theology 1st Monday from 2pm at Ffostrasol Village Hall	Carol carolwardman@outlook.com
Walkers 2nd Monday from 10.30am, venues vary	Nigel 07447 440841 camb5@sky.com
Welsh 1st Tuesday from 10.30am at Capel Iwan Village Hall	Vicky 01559 372278
Wine Appreciation 3rd Thursday from 7.00pm - venue varies	Hazel 01559 371842 group.
Write Now 2 nd Monday from 11 – 1.00pm Church of Latter day Saints, Newcastle Emlyn	Carol caroleswift806@gmail.com

BADMINTON/PICKLEBALL

With numbers being on the low side both sections could do with more players so if your looking to have some light excersise then come along and give it a try.

Those intrested in giving Pickleball or Badminton a go please get in touch (camb5@sky.com 07447440841)

Nigel

BOOK CLUB

In October we read *The Trouble with Goats and Sheep* by Joanna Cannon.

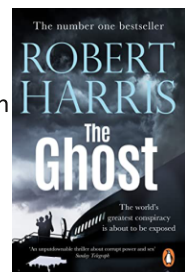
Cannon worked as a hospital doctor before specialising in psychiatry. She wrote *The Trouble with Goats and Sheep*, her first novel, in an NHS carpark during her lunch breaks. She has since written two more novels and her work has been translated into 14 languages.



The novel is set in 1976 and is narrated by ten-year-old Grace. She and her best friend Tilly attempt to investigate the disappearance of a neighbour from the Cul de Sac where Grace lives. Grace and Tilly go door to door in search of clues. The cul-de-sac starts to give up its secrets, and the amateur detectives uncover more than they ever imagined. A complicated history of deception begins to emerge—everyone on the Avenue has something to hide.

There were mixed views about the book in our group. Most of us enjoyed the book and connected with the way things were in 1976. We appreciated the many vignettes of life that were described. But some felt that the prose was rather lengthy and that the large number of characters in the cul de sac was heavy going.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 26th November, on zoom, and we will be discussing *The Ghost* by Robert Harris



Vicky

CRAFTY CRAFTERS

There was nothing specific planned for Crafty Crafters in October so we all took along projects of our own that we were already working on. There was lots of chatter and interest in what everyone else was doing, from crochet to tatting and card making incorporating pressed flowers to tea bag folding. Everyone was doing something different. We have a wide range of different crafts between us.

Our next meeting will be 13th November and we will be having another session with Pam doing tea bag folding. This time with Christmas cards in mind.

Ruth

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

This month's project was 'the Moon'. Unfortunately, it only made brief appearances on a couple of evenings. Anyhow, a challenging project!



NEXT MEETING: 26th November at Coracle Hall, Llechryd @ 2.30pm. Subject for this month is 'Autumn'. The Group's Christmas Lunch is on 17th December. Contact Colin for details about this Group. colinluker@yahoo.co.uk

Colin

CREATIVE WRITING

September meeting

The meeting started with an exercise on emotions . Each member selected 5 different emotions and wrote 5 sentences describing each emotion without revealing the emotion. They were read to the group, who had to guess the emotion. The range of emotions were varied, with love and regret being the most selected emotion.

That was followed by the group reading their individual 500-word homework on the scenario of ordering a meal in France using their non-existent or school day French assisted by arm gestures, sounds or mime. The individual contributions were creative and entertaining with plenty of humour. The members then selected the best, which is attached for others to read, but will require the reader to make appropriate sounds. Bon Chance !

Bon Appetit

Hen-pecked Ivor, his wife, Beryl and their son, Darren are on a trip to Paris.

Beryl: "My stomach thinks my throat's been cut. Look! A restaurant! I bet it's all French food. I'm not eating slugs and frogs' legs!"

Ivor: "They're not slugs, they're snails!"

Beryl: "So, what's a slug except a snail who's homeless?"

Ivor: "They're bound to do English food. I fancy fish'n chips.

Beryl: "Well order, then. Use your French!"

Ivor: "From forty years ago! Can't do this".

Beryl: "Call the waiter!"

Ivor: "Garçon! Je m'appelle Ivor et j'habite Tonypany. Ici est Beryl, mon ami....

Beryl: "What'd you say about me?"

Ivor: "I said you were my friend 'cos I don't know the word for 'wife'. Ok? Aussi ici est Darren, mon enfant. Je Desiree does pommes frites et de, don't know the word for 'fish'.

Beryl:: "Make a noise like a fish, then."

Ivor: "Fish don't make noises".

Beryl: "They do. We saw that film, remember? Everyone knew when the fish was coming 'cos he was going '#duh-duh, duh-duh.....# (imitates menacing music).

Ivor: "That was 'Jaws'. It was the music, not the fish! So, Garçon, dan's la mer (makes swimming motions), et une tasse de PG Tips, s'il vous plait. Darren, the usual?"

Darren: "Yeah. Jacket potato with cheese and beans".

Ivor: "Ok. Une pommes de terre ... um Dan's une gilet avec de fromage et Heinz beans. Beryl?"

Beryl: "Roast beef with Yorkshire pudding".

Ivor: "Oh heck! Right! Beryl Desiree manger de 'Moo! Moo! (imitates cow noises) avec does pommes de terres, de petit pois et de Yorkshire?...um Trouble at t'Mill, Geoffrey Boycott.... um .. #Laaa la la la lalaa# (imitates theme from 'Coronation Street') . Avec une vere de vin blanc. Merci".

Beryl: "Ivor, everyone 's staring at us and laughing. I've had enough. I'm not staying. You know where I want to go now, don't you?".

Ivor: "The toilet again?".

Beryl: "No. You know where ".

Ivor: "They won't have one of those here!".

Beryl: "'Course they will. When they start living on the moon it'll be the first thing they'll build. Ask for directions. Now!".

Ivor: "Our est

Waiter: "Ah! Madame, Monsieur! If you go to the entrance you must turn left.

Then you will walk on for approximately five hundred yards and turn left again. It will be there. You cannot miss it. Macdonald's! Bon Appetit!"

October meeting

The Group is now bringing their own refreshments but our retired Prison Officer continues to bake us his delicious lemon drizzel cake (minus the file)

A new member was welcomed back into the group and he read aloud his previous 500 word homework on Prejudice, which was original and thought provoking.The group exercise was to write a piece of dialogue from a film and the other members had to guess the name of the film.

Members then read aloud their 500 word homework on the topic, **The Waiting Room**. The different waiting rooms were a green room where a ever hopeful understudy nearly got to go on, various other waiting rooms were rooms where newly arrived deceased people waited to be welcomed by St Peter, these rooms had creative and gruesome alternatives to heaven.A more poetic waiting room was the writer sitting under a tree and both the tree and her silently surrendering to nature's will.

As Hilary is in hospital we agreed to email our homework to her to keep her in the loop.

It was decided that the November homework topic was to be a 500 word story that included a diary, a handkerchief and a watch.

FAMILY HISTORY

This month's subject was the General Record Office website and some of us were able to order an instant digital image of a birth or death record. Many of the group are very familiar with the site, but this part of the session was to familiarise everyone with the procedure for searching for records free of charge and ordering images for £3 each.

Next month, we shall be discussing the two main subscription genealogy websites – FindMyPast and Ancestry – the differences between them and passing on tips for successful searching techniques.

New members are welcome, whatever your level of experience. Please contact me for further details.

Margaret

FRENCH

Our last 2 French sessions have been a lot of fun. We've been reading and translating our Horoscopes and had some interesting diaries. The latest chapter in our story book has been entertaining, about a puppy and his antics. Sue's hospitality was delicious, as always!

Ali

GAMES

Having invested this year in a 6 person version of Rummikub (as opposed to the normal four) we actually played for the first time with six people, justifying the investment. It's frightening to think that at our next meeting we need to decide what we want to do regarding Christmas treats at the December meeting. This year seem to have gone so fast.

Paul and Linda

PATCHWORK AND QUILTING

October saw us once again getting our sewing machines out and spending a few hours enjoying the time to get on with our patchwork projects. Julia was working on a project that will need quite a lot of seam matching when she joins her rows of square together. Hazel and I were both working on new quilts using the same pattern. Mine as playmat for another prospective great niece/nephew while Hazel intends making hers bigger as a small bed quilt for her grandson.

Pam and Jessica continued with their bag making and they were joined this time by a new member who hadn't used a machine for a long time but wanted to get back to it and who also decided that making a bag was a good place to start. She started by doing a sample of all the different stitched her machine can do so she could get the feel of the machine. By the end of the four hours she had made a start on her bag.

The next meeting is early in the month this time on 8th November.

Ruth

PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy group took on a real challenge when they discussed the topic of Awe/wonder because little work has been done on the subject to date.

In spite of the lack of available ideas the group did a very good job in examining the topic and came up with some very interesting ideas which will be further developed.

Gwyn

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

We had a well-attended meeting at our new venue at Phatt Forks, Cenarth Falls Resort.

Martin produced another informative practical session on how lasers (Light Amplification by a Stimulated Emission of Radiation) work.

Our discussion this month was 'Species Reduction - will humans survive?'

Some interesting research:

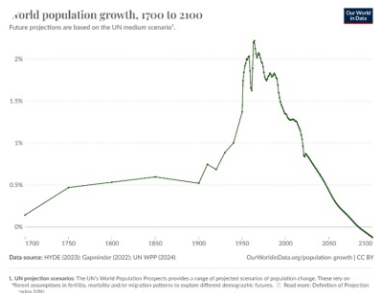
The average size of global wildlife populations has declined by 73% in 50 years, the World Wildlife Fund has found. Will we be on the list of declining species?

World population is on the decline:

The UK population, which was estimated to be 67.0 million in mid-2021, is projected to rise by 6.6 million to 73.7 million over the next 15 years to mid-2036 (a 9.9% increase).

Over the last decade, the growth of the non-working-age (dependent) population – those aged 0 to 14 and 65 and older – has outpaced the growth of the working-age population. The non-working-age population grew by 13.1 million, a 12.9% increase, while the working-age population increased by a modest 6.4 million or 3.1%. Where does future pension money come from?

* In November it is our Christmas lunch, so the next meeting is on 27th January 2025.



Colin

SINGING

Hello everyone, I am afraid I am going to have to talk about Christmas already.

We have started our preparation for Christmas by learning several carols and Christmas songs. It is great fun singing to favourite tunes and even more so to Christmas Carols, so, if you want to be part of the fun, now is the time to come and join us. All are welcome.

If you would like to know more get in touch through g.furley277@btinternet.com it would be good to hear from you.

Gareth

SKETCHERS

The sketch group met at our regular venue , National Woollen Museum, this month. The winter months make outdoor sketching less predictable so Members brought items to sketch a still life.



Millie

SNOOKER

Looking for more members to give snooker a try we meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 1pm Beulah Snooker Hall SA38 9QB. If you would like to play on another day of the week please get in touch with me I'm more than happy to play most days of the week.

Mike

STROLLERS

Our October Walk was at Llanerchaeron National Trust nr Aberaeron. Nine of us, along with Maisie and Mitzi met in the car park and set off at 10.30am, led again by Pat and Richard Webb, Thank you. We followed a circular route that took us along lanes, over fields and along woodland tracks. We were lucky with the weather and the morning turned out bright and sunny, although we had all come prepared for a wet walk, as was the forecast.

There were three or four stiles along the walk, as well as a couple of small streams and a small fence that needed to be climbed over. At the side someone had made an opening in the fence which I managed, with help and a lot of laughter to get through, thanks to everyone that helped me! The paths were muddy in places and there was a lot of slate and tree roots to negotiate, but everyone helped each other over the awkward bits.

We finished the walk by following the lower path along the river and across another field that brought us back to nearly opposite the car park. The walk was approx. four and a half miles and took us about two and a half hours with a couple of stops. Four of us along with Maisie, then went to the Moody Cow for a lovely lunch and chat. Next month's walk will be on Friday 29th November and will be from Cenarth back to Newcastle Emlyn, as we will take a bus ride to Cenarth to start the walk.



If anyone would like to join the Strollers, please email me on pamjwalks@aol.com. for more information, a warm welcome awaits!

Pam

TABLE TENNIS

We welcome new members to our friendly group, however fit or active you are. We play twice a month in Rhyd Lewis Village Hall, and everything including tea or coffee is provided, though you are welcome to bring your own bat if you have one. There is a small charge of £2 or £2.50 per session.

Margaret

THEOLOGY

LIKE A HORSE AND CARRIAGE?

“If Adam was made in the image of God, how come he needed a partner at all? God doesn't have one!”

If there's one thing you can be sure of, it's that the Hitch-Hikers' Guide to Theology will throw up a question even the (ahem!) best-prepared leader hasn't thought of – and that was the opening challenge as we ventured into the fascinating subject of marriage in the Judaeo-Christian tradition, where we began by contemplating its origin as a 'creation ordinance'.

One-to-one love-matches were well-documented in the Bible ('Isaac loved Rebecca' being the first recorded) although polygamy was common, with King Solomon boasting eye-watering numbers of wives and concubines. Men could divorce their wives for a variety of reasons, but not vice-versa. Against the background of Christianity's emergence under the Roman Empire, where local marital traditions were tolerated and divorce was easy, Jesus' uncharacteristically rigid position on divorce and remarriage may have more to do with equalising the situation and freeing women from irregular forms of concubinage than forcing couples to stay in unhappy relationships or consigning them to lifelong celibacy. The early church, however, took marriage so seriously that they even wondered if widows should remarry (wouldn't that mean they had two husbands, one on earth and one in heaven?) and marriage was eventually declared a sacrament – though thankfully, not one that was compulsory for salvation.

The ancient Egyptians, Romans and Jews celebrated weddings with prayers and devotions, but this wasn't essential; and for most of recorded history – including in Britain – marriage simply meant living together and declaring yourselves married. The church acted as witnesses and registrars until the state took over in the 1830s (handy for establishing the status of Poor Law claimants) and until divorce was liberalised in the 1960s, everyone's family or neighbourhood would likely include couples who had separated from their first spouse and discreetly set up with someone else. Given that Christianity is based on forgiveness and new life, it is perhaps slightly shocking that it took until the 1990s and 2000s for the Church in Wales and Church of England to solemnise marriages for divorcees.

But what about the alternatives? Many societies continue to recognise polygamy, but remarkably few people, even where it's legal, take advantage of it. In days gone by few people slept alone, so there was a lot of 'homosocial' bed-sharing, and some same-sex friends – such as knights before battle – pledged allegiance to one another with church blessings. (So who knows what went on, whatever the church taught?) As for King David's famous elegy for Jonathan, whose friendship 'surpassed the love of women', maybe it's just that romantic love was in an entirely different category for the womanising king.

Companionship, faithfulness, the secure upbringing of children, and social stability are the enduring qualities for which marriage is valued – whether in the sight of God, or in secular society. And sex, of course: as St Augustine observed, marriage must have been designed for procreation, for if its primary purpose was companionship, surely God would have been better to provide Adam with another man to be friends with?!

Our next meeting will be on November 4, 2pm in Ffostrasol Village Hall. This will be a discussion session with a few topical and provocative ideas to get us started – so please come along and join in. All ideas welcome and lively participation guaranteed!

WELSH GROUP

In October we carried on from our topic of September, using words connected with the countryside. This included farms and farmers, fields and hedges, farm animals and wild animals and various crops.

We are having a change in November as we move towards the festive season. So we'll be talking about celebrations, parties and eating out.

Our next meeting will be at Capel Iwan village hall on Tuesday 5th November starting at 10.30.

Vicky

WINE APPRECIATION

Unfortunately we cancelled the meeting in October as so many of our group were travelling in various parts of the globe! So, we will meet at Vicky and Brians house in Capel Iwan to taste Southern Portuguese wines on Thursday 21st November at our winter time of 2pm.

Hazel

Day	Date	Venue	Time
Friday	1	Croquet - Sue's garden Penrhiwllan	14-30
Monday	4	Theology - Llechryd Village Hall	14-00
Tuesday	5	Welsh- Capel Iwan Village Hall	10-30
Wednesday	6	Main Meeting NCE Rugby Club	10-30
Thursday	7	Art - Penboyr Village Hall	10-00
Friday	8	Patchwork and Quilting - Penboyr Village Hall	11-00
Friday	8	Croquet - Sue's garden Penrhiwllan	14-30
Monday	11	Petanque - King George V playing field Newcastle Emlyn	14-00
Monday	11	Walkers - venue tba	10-30
Monday	11	Don't get me started - at Sue's In Pontgarreg	14-00
Tuesday	12	Sketchers - National Wool Museum Drefach Velindre	10-00
Tuesday	12	Table Tennis – Rhydlewys Village Hall	14-00
Tuesday	12	Singing - Our Lady of the Taper, NCE	14-00
Wednesday	13	Crafty Crafters – Penboyr Village Hall	10-30
Wednesday	13	Strictly Basic Ballroom – NCE Holy Trinity Church Hall	11-00
Wednesday	13	Badminton - Llandysul Leisure Centre	12-15
Thursday	14	Creative Writing - at Rhydlewys Village Hall	11-00
Thursday	14	Art - Penboyr Village Hall	10-00
Monday	14	Write now - Church of the Latter Day Saints NCE	11-00
Friday	15	Croquet - Sue's garden Penrhiwllan	14-30
Tuesday	19	Petanque - King George V playing field Newcastle Emlyn	10-00
Tuesday	19	Games – Penboyr Village Hall	10-30
Tuesday	19	Snooker - Beulah Snooker Hall	13-00
Wednesday	20	Astronomy – Coracle Hall Llechryd	14-00
Thursday	21	Philosophy – Penrhiwllan Village Hall	11-00
Thursday	21	Wine Appreciation - Brian + Vicky's Capel Iwan	14-00
Thursday	21	Art - Penboyr Village Hall	10-00
Friday	22	Strollers - Cenarth	10-30
Friday	22	Croquet - Sue's garden Penrhiwllan	14-30
Monday	25	Science and Technology - Ffat Forks, Cenarth Falls Resort	14-00
Tuesday	26	French – at Ali's	10-30
Tuesday	26	Singing - Our Lady of the Taper, NCE	14-00
Tuesday	26	Book Club – Zoom meeting	10-30
Tuesday	26	French – at Sue's in Penrhiwllan	11-00
Tuesday	26	Family History – Church of Latter Day Saints NCE	14-30
Wednesday	27	Pickelball - Llandysul Leisure Centre	12-15
Wednesday	27	Lunch Club - Various venues	12-00
Thursday	28	Table Tennis – Rhydlewys Village Hall	10-30
Thursday	28	Art - Penboyr Village Hall	10-00
Friday	29	Croquet - Sue's garden Penrhiwllan	14-30
Wednesday	30	Digital Photography - Coracle Hall Llechryd	14-30
Thursday	31	Art - Penboyr Village Hall	10-00

To add events to this monthly calendar please contact Nigel neu3anewsletter@hotmail.com giving date, venue and time, plus any further information to assist those wishing to attend. Closing date for newsletter contributions will be on the 24th of the month, at the latest.