

## Carmarthen

Carmarthen U3A has 167 members and 23 groups - the most popular group is history. We normally have a guest speaker, sometimes one of our own members. Most of the groups meet once a month. However, 'start speaking Welsh', art, the Park walkers (ie at the Velodrome) and philosophy meet twice a month.

The monthly meeting is held in St Peters Hall - up to 70 members attend. Conveniently the hall has a large well-equipped kitchen great for serving coffee and biscuits. The History group also meets in St Peters Hall - up to 50 or so attend.

At the recent monthly meeting the speaker was Professor Yamni Nigam from Swansea University on the subject of 'Time to love a maggot'. A brilliant talk by a most engaging speaker - we had a chance to see the little maggots up-close. The audience was won over to the idea of agreeing to 'maggot therapy' if advised - a convincing show of hands said they would be happy to have such a treatment option.

Another great speaker was the Older Peoples Commissioner for Wales, Sian Bowen-Davies. Our most recent outing was a visit to the ultra-modern recycling centre at Nant y Caws outside Carmarthen. The highlight of the visit was the Eco Centre where items are reclaimed and made available to the public at a knock-down price. The shop or should I say the arcade of shops is worth a visit

Christmas lunch will be on December 18 at the Carway restaurant in Pensarn (under new management). Almost 60 members have already signed up and the price is £20.79 for two courses and £23.79 for three courses.

Following the AGM we now have a new chair - Richard Swann. Ann and Eric Kitchen are still on the committee, group coordinator / newsletter editor and membership secretary / treasurer respectively. Les Murphy has joined the committee and is the vice chair (and an occasional presenter at the history / monthly meeting. Also on the committee are Susan Edwards, the secretary and Shirley Mc Farlane (busy organising the Christmas lunch!). Like many u3as we would like to strengthen the committee but getting members to join is a challenge!

# Cefn Sidan

## 1. Membership

Current Membership	Direction of Travel
50	Down

## 2. Groups

Changes since last meeting

New Group	Notes
Crafting	Twice monthly, each meeting with a different focus

Closed or mothballed groups	Notes
Walking Group	To be relaunched in new year
Line Dancing	Been there done that attitude now

## 3. Planned Events

Event	Location	Open to Network
Nothing other than regular monthly/annual events		

## 4. Points of note

Since last meeting

Success	❖ New craft group
Issue/Concern	❖ Some apathy for some activities
Network benefit	❖

## 5. Committee

Role	Name
Chair	Paul Reynolds
Vice	Chris Hartley
Secretary	Caroline Washer
Treasurer	Paul Amor

# Llanelli

## 1. Membership

Current Membership	Direction of Travel
87	Up by 3

## 2. Groups

Changes since last meeting

New Group	Notes
Spanish Conversation	Starting in October
Skittles	Starting in October

Closed or mothballed groups	Notes
Cycling and snooker	Both still available on an ad hoc basis.

## 3. Planned Events

Event	Location	Open to Network
Annual lunch 24 October	Ashburnham Hotel	No

## 4. Points of note

Since last meeting

Success	Obtained a lottery grant. Recently introduced croquet as a summer replacement for board games.
Issue/Concern	Last minute venue cancellation for the annual lunch.
Network benefit	Lottery funding?

## 5. Committee

Role	Name
Chair	Paul Cullen
Vice	Mike Dingley-Jones
Secretary	Paul Follows
Treasurer	Roger Williams

# NARBERTH

## Membership

161 stable

## Groups

New groups:

Stroll and Photos

beginners Tai Chi Qigong

Beginners Art and Drawing

Poker (for fun!)

Short Story Writing

Closed/Mothballed:

History

Quiz - might have an alternative in pipeline

Italian Conversation

## Point of Note:

committee are getting to grips with Beacon System, using it for finance and some membership communication as well as doing online training. plan to present the system to Group Leaders in time.

## Committee

Chair

Kay Howells

Treasurer

Red Campbell-White

Secretary

Jackie Brown

Membership Secretary Ann Maidment

## **Newcastle Emlyn**

Numbers are slightly down from the last meeting because our membership year starts in July and, as always, there are some members who haven't rejoined. We are still getting new members at most meetings so should soon make the numbers back.

Our AGM was well attended in July. Hazel resigned as chair and Colin was voted in as the new one.

Our annual outing in August was to Picton Castle. Just over 40 members went, there was a conducted tour of the castle, a very good buffet lunch and plenty of time to explore the grounds. Rehearsals have started for this year's Christmas skit.

We haven't heard anything back from the Charity Commission yet. The application went in in May.

# Pembrokeshire

## 1. Membership

Current Membership	Direction of Travel
255 (renewal time)	Stable

## 2. Groups

Changes since last meeting

New Group	Notes
Chewing the Cud	Discussion/philosophy

Closed or mothballed groups	Notes
Classical Keys	Music Group

## 3. Planned Events

Event	Location	Open to Network
Wind ensemble have many bookings	Various	Yes

## 4. Points of note

Since last meeting

Success	❖
Issue/Concern	❖ Difficulty replacing group leaders
Network benefit	❖

## 5. Committee

Role	Name
Chair	Carol Matthews
Vice	Penny Thomas
Membership Secretary	Jan Manning
Treasurer	Gerry Russant