

Cardigan

1. Membership

186 expected to slowly rise.

2. Groups

We have 18 groups. 2 are joint with NCE they are Digital photography and Astronomy. Castle bagging has restarted, Desert Island disc had one meeting then folded as no one else would come forward to be the castaway.

3. Events

Nothing is planned to date

4. Points of note

We held a very successful speaker presentation by Wildlife Kate from Llandeilo at Rhosygilwen oak hall 87 attended that. A coach outing had to be cancelled owing to the exorbitant cost of coach hire.

We have had a major change of committee with a new Secretary and Treasurer this is proving a headache for me changing bank mandate info with Barclays.

Carmarthen

1. Membership

As at financial year end (31/3) there were 171 members of which 25 had yet to pay by AGM (26/5). 24 did not so we're now down to 148 although within this there has been one new member since.

2. Groups

- New Group
Bridge.
- Suspended Group
Start Speaking Welsh. Will probably regroup in the Autumn
Film Group – Group Leader sadly deceased

3. Planned Events

October – Brother Andy from Skanda Vale giving a follow up talk on recent visit.
October 1st – St John's Ambulance, First Aid Course.
Both can be opened to Network members.

4. Points of note

Successful events.
Dawn Chorus Walk – April – Parc yr Esgob
Visit to the National Museum for the Gwen John exhibition – May
Skanda Vale visit – May

Area of concern
How are other u3a's managing WhatsApp groups?

Llanelli

1. Membership

80 Individual

2 Honorary

A reduction of 8. Three new members joining recently.

2. Groups

New Groups, Started June 2026: Quiz and More than Mozart

A light hearted look has ceased as the Group leader is no longer able to run the group

3. Planned Events

Picton Castle visit in September

Quarterly afternoon tea TBE

4. Points of Note

Success

New treasurer and secretary

Concern

Membership stagnating/falling

Narberth

1. Membership

157

this is about the same as this time last year. our membership year starts in May some have not paid up and we have gained new members

2. Groups

Started -

Petanque

Opening up to Shakespeare

Photography

Suspended -

Art for beginners

3. Planned Events

none

4. Points of note

We were concerned that our AGM (May) would have a very low turn out, so this year we promoted it early, encouraging members to attend in order to make the meeting quorate and so we were able to do business. We had 59 attending with 19 apologies!

The committee supplied cake to have with teas and coffee.

After the business was completed we had short reports from most of the groups which went really well. One member's comment was " it was an uplifting morning"!

Newcastle Emlyn

1. Membership

207. Going up slowly but 1st July is our renewal date and we always lose a few who don't rejoin. Hopefully they will soon be replaced with new members

2. Groups

32 groups, no change. Photography and Astronomy are joint groups with Cardigan. Any group can have members from other u3as as long as they become associate members by paying half the normal joining fee

3. Planned Events

5th August is our annual outing. This year we are going to St Fagans. We went there in 2019 but several members expressed a wish for us to go again.

2nd September following our monthly meeting will be a "picnic in the park" taking place outside on the rugby club grounds unless the weather isn't suitable, in which case we will stay indoors.

10th November – art and craft exhibition

4. Points of note

Newcastle Emlyn u3a is now a registered charity. After sending in a second application, it went through very quickly.

Open day held 30th June saw several new faces through the door, 2 have joined and several others showed positive interest

Pembrokeshire

1. Membership

457 Including 12 Life Members

2. Groups

Film group started on trial basis.

3. Planned Events

Study Day Subject Flora and Fauna. October 2026 at Hook Sports and Social Club.
Possibly open to attendees from other branches.

4. Points of note

The leader of the "Chewing The Cud" has moved to the north to be near his son, he has joined his local u3a and started a "Chewing the Cud" group there.

5. Committee

Please provide the names of your officers, the first 3 are required information for the running of the network, others are optional. The Rep may be left blank if the responsibility sits with the chair or rotates.

Wales Networks & u3as News

From Nicky Lee & Colin Luker your Council Reps

JULY 2026

FUTURE MEETINGS

All Wales u3as - 2nd November 2026 – face to face – Newtown

Network Chairs / Secretaries - February 2027 – Zoom – details to be circulated

All Wales u3as – May 2027 – face to face – Newtown – details to be circulated

WORKSHOPS

Practical AI – how can it help you day to day – this is being arranged with Barry Claydon & Glenys Hart for the Autumn. The request from the Networks is that this should be simple; immediate benefits; personal use & reduction in workload e.g. production of minutes, etc.

There are a number of workshops being produced / revised by National Office. Details of which will be circulated shortly.

ONGOING MATTERS – being progressed at Council

- Bank charges
- Help for smaller u3as
- Council Reps have been asked to comment by 14/9/26 on a paper from National Office about Strategic Challenges

OTHER MATTERS

AGE CYMRU REPORT – I have received the results of the Age Cymru survey on people over age 50. It cover about 1500 respondents and 22 local authorities. The link to the results is:

<https://www.agecymru.wales/our-work/policy/annual-survey/>

HEALTHY AGEING FOR LIFE – course start 21/07/26 Link to sign up is:

<https://openss.qualtrics.com/fe/form/SV>