



Swansea U3A

MEMBERS' BULLETIN

Winter 2019



National U3A Day

Wednesday 3 June 2020

I am delighted to announce that the first national **U3A Day** will take place on Wednesday 3 June 2020. Each U3A is invited to take part by showcasing what they do.

The purpose is to raise the profile of your U3A, to help challenge negative perceptions about older people and to invite other Third Agers to discover the benefits of joining U3A. More information is available on the national website www.u3a.org.uk.

Be part of U3A Day

Swansea U3A will be playing its part in the celebrations. If you have an idea for an activity and would like to help, please contact me on chair@u3aswansea.org.uk. I look forward to hearing from you.

I would like to take this opportunity of sending you my best wishes for the Festive Season and for a happy and healthy New Year.

Lynette Carr, Chairperson, Swansea U3A

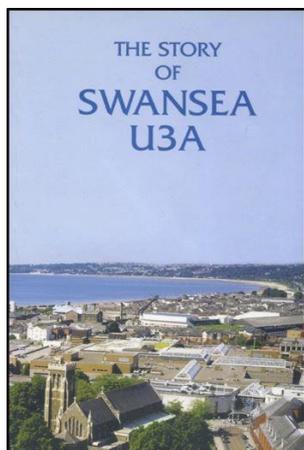
Date for the 2020 Diary

Wednesday, 26 February Welsh-themed event to celebrate St. David's Day
At the Sacred Heart Centre, Morriston
2.00 pm – 4.00 pm incl. Welsh tea

Tickets will be on sale in the New Year.

For more information on social activities and outings as they become available, access our website www.swanseau3a.wildapricot.org.

The Story of Swansea U3A



Thanks to Vice Chairperson, Adrian who has spent a long time ensuring "The Story of Swansea U3A" is available to download from our website. It charts the development of Swansea U3A from its inception in 1986 to 2002. Completed by the then Editorial Sub-Committee, it is an inspiring read for all U3A members. It chronicles the determination and hard work of members in the early years to overcome many problems to become a well-established organisation by 2002. It is available on our website via '**Who we are**' then '**History**' and then click on the blue '**click here**' link.

Development Day

Following on from our recently-launched initiative to encourage more members to volunteer, we had a very successful response at our stall at Open Day in October. More than 30 people signed up to volunteer.

Thanks to all those who signed up, you will receive an invitation to our Development Day to be held in early 2020 where we will be looking at developing new and exciting activities.

If you would like to be part of our Development Day, please contact me on chair@u3aswansea.org.uk to receive an invitation.

CONTACT DETAILS

Phone Enquiries: 07780 002262. (If there is no reply please leave a message and we **WILL** get back to you.)

Email us at: u3aswansea@me.com.

Write to us at: U3A Swansea, PO Box 779, Swansea, SA4 5BN.

Groups and Waiting lists.

Currently we have around 1500 members, 89 activity groups and 86 convenors. Membership will rise to at least another 250 over the next few months if trends over the last few years continue. This is something we can be proud of as an organisation. However, some of the groups have waiting lists which is not really acceptable nor does it meet the principle of inclusivity that is one of the main tenets of the Third Age Movement.

I would like to address the issue of waiting lists as one of the targets while in the role of Group Development, but I will need your help. I'd like to start, as I've said with looking at waiting lists and oversubscribed groups. Thanks to those of you who have sent me their lists, but I am aware there are more. If you have a waiting list, or are on a waiting list, please let me know.

Once I have that information, I will have more of an idea of the shape of Swansea U3A and which are the groups that we need to target to try to accommodate those who are waiting. We are also considering putting the waiting lists on the web pages which will have the advantage of anyone who doesn't renew will automatically drop off the list. It will also address some GDPR issues as the members section of the website is secure from public gaze. I have some ideas in regard to the language waiting lists but if you have any thoughts, please feel free to let me know.

In the next bulletin, I'll discuss how groups can share responsibilities, therefore relieve the main contact of the commitment to be there at every meeting. After all, we are retired, we have our relaxation and holidays to consider.

I look forward to hearing your views.

Sue Shannon-Jones, Group Development Swansea U3A

Contact me on groupdev@u3aswansea.org.uk or ring 07780 002262 and leave a message for me.

Winners of our Annual Quiz known only as Table No. 3!



Lecture Programme 2020-2021

This year's lecture programme started off well with an impressive audience who came to listen to our very own Welsh poet Owen Sheers, a hard act to follow but we have! We think our diverse programme of lectures cater for most tastes as we work to get a good cross section of topics to inspire you. Forward planning is everything so we meet early in the year to plan an exciting and well balanced programme of lectures for the following year. And this is where you could help us. If you know of anyone who would be happy to join our programme of speakers, we would be delighted to hear from them. Right now we are looking for speakers for the 2020-2021 programme. Talk to us about them at the Wednesday lecture or contact us on lectures@u3aswansea.org.uk. Another way you could help us is by giving feedback on the programme, what you thought of the lecture topic, was there enough time for questions, would you like to hear that speaker again, maybe speaking on another topic, we'll provide a suggestion box for you at the lecture so you can let us know your thoughts. Hope to see you at the lectures!

Fran Bacon, Lecture Co-ordinator

An appeal to Members

Not all our members receive the Members' Bulletin online. Despite our best efforts in distributing paper copies, there are still members who do not receive the information. If you know of anyone who has not received this Bulletin, can you please pass the information on. Many thanks.