



Committee

Do explore our new website further, now that you have followed the link to this newsletter.

New Groups

We are very keen to expand the number and range of activities offered by Monmouth u3a. Anyone with any ideas they would like to explore should contact a member of the committee.

Magazine

It is the time of year when articles and photos are needed for this year's magazine. If you are a convenor, please send a few paragraphs about the activities of your group and some photographs if possible to Simon Durrant (sncd@outlook.com). If you have anything you would like to contribute about u3a activities or anything else you occupy your time with, or if you have creative writing you would like to share, please send it to Simon. There's no magazine without contributions.

Members Meeting

Christine Green 14:30 Tuesday 20 June 1430 – 1600 Bridges Centre

Come along and hear about Chris Green's adventures on her cycling trip from John O'Groats to Lands End.

Enjoy a cup of tea and a biscuit afterwards and catch up with other members.

Christine's book about her trip will also be available to buy

July Summer Social.

Come and join us for our summer social on Tuesday July 18th at 2.30pm at Bridges. A chance to meet up with u3a friends and enjoy strawberries and cream and a glass of Pimms (non-alcoholic drink will be available).

Groups

Science and Technology

Tuesday 13 June at 2.30pm in the BRIDGES CENTRE

Farming for Nature (or regenerative farming) by Gethin Davies, Agricultural Adviser with the RSPB.



Nature is in crisis – farming must and can play a leading role in its restoration. Around three quarters of the UK is used for farming – nearer 90% in Wales. How this land is managed has a huge bearing on the fortunes of our nation's wildlife. Policies and practices in farming have evolved over the decades, from the post-war focus on production, to the current interest in 'regenerative' farming. How can we find an appropriate balance for the many demands we place on land? This talk will cover the challenges and some of the solutions being developed,

including how the RSPB's Hope Farm in Cambridgeshire has seen wildlife thrive within a productive and profitable arable farming enterprise.

If you are not a member of the Science and Technology group you are welcome to join us as a guest for the small fee of £3 (or you can become a member for £12).

Cycling

Anyone interested in a cycling group should email Mel Hughes (mellyu3a@gmail.com).

French Improvers – Les petits français

We currently have two vacancies within our French group. We use an external tutor who has lived and worked in France for many years. Each lesson starts with some conversation for about one hour and then we usually spend about 30 minutes on reading and translating a French text. Currently we are reading *Le Petit Nicolas*. Points of grammar can be discussed as required during the lesson.

We meet at Raglan Country Club every Tuesday morning at 10.30. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact the convener – Mike Saunders by e-mail at mikesaunders.mjs@gmail.com or telephone 01600 716255.

Critical Thinking

The next meeting will be on 27 June at 3.00 in Ty Price. We will be thinking about the importance of the Arts. We might think about funding, education, the balance between elite productions and community involvement, why they are valuable and what would be lost were government not to support them.

A more specific reading list will be sent out in advance of the meeting. Anyone not on the members list who might be interested in coming along could email Simon Durrant at sncd@outlook.com.

Exploring Local Churches

A visit to St Michael's Church, Garway has been arranged for 30th June. The visit will include a tour, talk, tea and cakes, it will cost £10 each. It will take place in the afternoon, at 2pm.

If you are interested in going on this visit please contact Frances Williams by email: fhwsunnyside@gmail.com or telephone: 01600 713766.

Film Club

The initial meeting of the new Film Club will be on the fourth Friday of this month, 23rd June, at 2pm in the Agincourt Room at Drybridge House. The film is The Painted Veil, based on a Somerset Maugham story about a cholera epidemic in scenic southern China. It stars Toby Jones, Naomi Watts and Edward Norton, with music by Lang Lang. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible. Please aim to arrive early so everyone is seated for a prompt start at 2.00.

There will be a fee of £3.00 initially to cover costs.

Events

Reminder: Drop-in coffee mornings, each Monday at the Estero Lounge in Monmouth. Everyone welcome.

Future Visits

1st August Eastnor Castle

8th December Bath, Christmas market and afternoon tea

Please contact Melanie for further details: mellyu3a@gmail.com

News from the Third Age Trust

Here is the latest copy of the Third Age Trust newsletter [Your u3a National Newsletter – May !\[\]\(870f5d5e9c0d57485634be3ecf52f3ca_img.jpg\) \(campaign-archive.com\)](#)