



Committee

Have you renewed your membership?

If you have not renewed your subscription to Monmouth u3a, it will have expired on 1 October. If you do not wish to renew, please let us know and will not bother you anymore!

If you do wish to renew, please do the following TODAY:

- 1) fill in the renewal form, either online or the one we sent you, AND
- 2) pay your £10 subscription by BACS (bank transfer) or cheque.

Your subscription will not be renewed until you have done both of these actions. 1) To fill in the form, go to this link <https://monmouthu3a.com/membership/> and scroll down to Renewal Form. Click on that, fill it in and click the Send button. If you have done it correctly, you will get a message that says ALL DONE.

You will have received an email or letter with your Membership Number on it.

To pay by bank transfer:

- Account Name: Monmouth u3a (it's a business account)
- Sort Code: 30-98-97
- Account Number: 71124562
- PLEASE put your membership number (above) in the reference field

To pay by cheque, payable to Monmouth u3a:

Send to: Membership Secretary, 6 Monkswell Close, Monmouth, NP25 3PH

Please put your membership number on the back of the cheque.

Don't forget to fill in the form AND pay by BACS or cheque. Please do it today!

Many thanks,

Cherry

Monmouth u3a Membership Secretary
monmouthu3amembership@gmail.com

Members Meeting

Annual General Meeting

17th October 2023 2.30 pm

Bridges Community Centre

Agenda

1. Welcome and apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last AGM
3. Chair's annual report
4. Treasurer's annual report
5. Election of the officers for 2023/2024
6. Election of the committee for 2023/24
7. Any other business

The AGM will be followed by a talk on Mari Lwyd by Sue and John Exton. This will not be available via Zoom.

Do you know the story of Mari Lwyd? No, not the famous music hall star but she of the Welsh tradition, associated with the darkest time of the year, wassailing and rebirth.

"Once a found skull mounted on a broomstick
Bobbing above a man clad in a sack
Going from door to door, a merry beggar"

from a poem by Anne Drysdale

Sue and John Exton will bring along some "beauties" from their vast and interesting stable of Maris. Maybe you will get to ride one. So do come along, alone if you dare or come with a friend and enjoy this interesting and intriguing tale.

Groups

Critical Thinking

The next meeting will be on 24 October at 3.00 in Ty Price. The topic will be Immigration. Suggested reading will be issued in advance. Anyone not on the members list who might be interested in coming along could email Simon Durrant at sncd@outlook.com or simply turn up on the day.

Science and Technology

Tuesday 10 October at 2.30pm in the BRIDGES CENTRE
Early Laser Research & Development 1960 – 1980
A Personal Experience by John Prince

This talk will cover my involvement in the research & development of solid-state lasers over a period of 20 years starting with the invention of the first laser by Theodore

Maiman in 1960. It starts with research into the use of lasers as rangefinders for military vehicles, followed by working on high powered lasers at the Korad Corporation, whose President was Theodore Maiman. Finally, project management of airborne laser systems during the 1970s will be reviewed. This included rangefinders, designators and laser guided bombs.

If you are not a member of this group you are welcome to join us as a guest for the small fee of £3 (or you can become a member for £10). Contact Cherry Lewis on monmouthu3amembership@gmail.com

Local History Group

Friday 13th October 2pm at Bridges

The Chartists in Monmouth,
'Voices for the Vote'

The Shire Hall and The Story of Chartism in South Wales

A talk by Ruth Waycott and Les James

Ruth Waycott is a freelance writer, and interpreter based in Monmouthshire.
Les James is Research Associate at The South Wales Centre For Historical and Interdisciplinary Research University of Wales Newport.

NOT TO BE MISSED Guests most welcome £4

Next exciting Theatre trip.

Would you like to join us?

Matthew Bourne's Edward Scissorhands - Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff
Thursday 21st March 2024 2.30 show.

We will be leaving Monmouth by coach at 1030 and should return at 1930 approximately.

We have reserved 41 tickets (first come first served). To book your place.

Please e-mail Mo Shipley maureenshipley@hotmail.com

Cost: U3A members £60.00 Guests £70.00

Please note: guests should become members if they attend on a second occasion.

Payment is due by the 1st November 2023

Payment details for theatre trip:-

Account Name: Monmouth u3a - activities

Sort code: 30-95-71

Account number: 00694365

Ref: your name/theatre

Please check you have renewed your Monmouth u3a membership.

Matthew Bourne's dance adaptation of Edward Scissorhands is hitting the road for a new UK tour in 2023 and 2024 – here's all you need to know. The magical production returns to UK theatres for the first time in 9 years following sell out performances. Based on the classic Tim Burton movie and featuring the hauntingly beautiful music of Danny Elfman and Terry Davies, Bourne and his company, New Adventures return to this witty, bittersweet story of an incomplete boy left alone in a strange new world.

Country Dancing

We restarted our activities on the third Monday and had an enjoyable afternoon with some old and some new dances.

Our next session is on Monday 16th of October at 2p.m. at Bridges.

Although we have a lovely time, we really need a few more people to come and join if this group is to continue beyond Christmas. We have spaces for about 6 or 7 people at least. Why not come along and see for yourself what an enjoyable activity country dancing is? No experience necessary, with or without a partner just a pair of comfortable shoes. We look forward to welcoming you on the 16th.

Christine.

Film Club

The film for Friday 27th October, at 2pm in the Bridges Centre, is 'The Way', starring Martin Sheen and Emilio Estevez, as hikers on the long-distance Camino de Santiago pilgrim route. Full details here:

[The Way \(2010\) ☆ 7.3 | Comedy, Drama](#)

Geology group

Next meeting at 2.00pm on Wednesday 11th October.

Michael Benge, one of our members, will talk about 'Dry stone walling and my connection with geology' Why then did I become interested in geology. As he explains, *As a waller, particularly working with limestone stones, when you break up a stone you often discover what you think is a fossil and most usually it is when you make enquiries about it with your colleagues.*

Guests very welcome at a cost of £2

Events

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

Future Visits

8th December Bath, Christmas market and afternoon tea

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

Thirsty Thursday Pub Club – is It a good idea?

Monmouth u3a offers numerous activities and social opportunities during the day but far fewer in the evening.


So what about a regular evening get together?

The 'Thirsty Thursday Pub Club' – meets on an informal basis on Thursday evenings in the Queen's Head pub on the corner of St James Street and Wyebridge Street from 7.30, probably starting late September.

The Thirsty Thursday Pub Club will be the evening equivalent of the highly popular Monday Coffee and Chat sessions – just drop in when you feel like it in the confidence that there will be someone there to chat with.

Averil McDonald

News from the Third Age Trust

Here is the latest copy of the Third Age Trust newsletter [Your u3a National Newsletter – September](#)  ([mailchi.mp](#))