

USK u3a

SPRING NEWSLETTER
2023

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Can we tempt you to
do more for Usk u3a?



The photograph above is of snowdrops and members from the Walking Interest Group enjoying a recent walk in the sunshine around Clytha, near Raglan.



Can you help Usk u3a? we are looking for members to help in lots of different ways to help our u3a not only to function successfully but grow and develop.

Maybe you feel you can give a little time as a committee member? Our meetings are organised, fun and held around every six to eight weeks. We would love you to join us.

But, maybe you're not 'a committee person'? That's ok. You can still help in lots of different ways.

We need help with, for example:

- someone who will sit in on some network zoom meetings and send a short report back to the committee;
- collecting information from members that could go in to the newsletters;
- finding interesting speakers for some of the members' meetings;
- coordinating the refreshments at the members' meetings;
- setting up the hall and clearing away when we hold events at Llangybi Hall and the Memorial Hall in Usk;
- delivering a newsletter/ hard copy information to members who live local to you and don't access email; and
- taking photographs at activities and members' meetings/events so they can be used on the website and in the Usk Diary.

Maybe in a previous life, you had a skill which would be an asset to helping Usk u3a run efficiently?

We are very fortunate to have nine very healthy groups lead by wonderfully enthusiastic convenors. Wouldn't it be great to have more interest groups? Any ideas? On a recent

walking group outing during the break, conversations turned to St. David's Day and recipes for Bara Brith and Welsh Cakes. Lots of animated ideas were exchanged. Could this be the beginnings of a Recipe Swap Group? Interested? Do let us know. Or maybe you have other ideas? Brain Games, Pickleball, Fashion ???

There is always support for starting a new group from u3s Subject Advisors and of course from your Committee. Remember a group can run for as long as its members choose. So you could run a group for a limited time and groups don't have to have regular meetings, it can meet as and when members choose.

We are trying to raise the profile of Usk u3a and so you may have seen our advertising poster on the electronic board outside the Co-op shop. We are also keeping the website up-to-date and as appealing as possible, and, of course, we have a regular feature in our local rag, the Usk Diary. Maybe you can think of other ways to promote Usk u3a, please do in touch.

Please help your u3a



Invitation to a private tour of the Newport Medieval Ship



Following the very successful talk last year by Robert Evans on the Newport Medieval Ship, members are invited to a private viewing of the ship on **Friday, 28 April at 2pm**. If you are interested in this visit, please contact Joan Clarke jpiljoc@aol.com 01633873211

by **12 April** who is making the arrangements, so that numbers can be confirmed with the Museum.



Usk u3a AGM will be held on Friday, 31 March

Our AGM will be held in Usk Memorial Hall, Usk at 10.30am on Friday, 31 March. Please come along. We have some delicious refreshments and a special speaker, Ruth Ferguson, actor, director, producer and former president of Newport Playgoers' Society.



A massive thank you to the retiring convenor of the Bridge Interest Group

We would like to send our thanks and best wishes to Mary Atkins who has been the convenor for the Bridge Interest Group for many years. Mary has been a committed and hard-working member and convenor of Usk u3a and was very successful in keeping the group going through the difficult times of lockdown. Her friends in the Bridge Interest Group are very much looking forward to her return to the group.



Some information about insurance arrangements

As you may know, members are covered by the Trust's insurance when undertaking u3a activities. However, as the u3a is a membership organisation, we have been told that this insurance does not cover guests, such as those who may like to attend a members' meeting.

We have also been advised that there is no separate insurance we could take out that would allow us to offer occasional attendance to others.

We are still offering a trial attendance of TWO sessions as advised by the Trust but this does mean we cannot open up visits, meetings or trips to anyone other than members. We are sorry to make this announcement and will keep the situation under review.



Dates for members' meetings 2023

We are still confirming a number of speakers and events for the forthcoming year, but we thought you might like to note these dates for your diary.

- Friday, 28 April Visit to Newport Medieval Ship
- Friday 26 May Llangybi Hall, Llangybi
- Friday 28 July Memorial Hall, Usk
- Friday 22 Sept Memorial Hall, Usk
- Friday 27 Oct Llangybi Hall, Llangybi
- Friday 24 Nov Christmas Lunch venue to be arranged