

Borderlines

September 2017



The Magazine of Llandrindod and District U3A



Introduction from the Editor

Hello and welcome to the September edition of Borderlines. I always feel September is a new beginning - much more than the New Year. It must be left over from my school days!

My thanks as always to our contributors and to Patsy, who is collecting the copies from the printer for me.

This issue we are finishing off our profile of the committee. I identified so much with Nick's weakness of hanging on to things in the hope they will come in. I bet the difference is that when he does find a use, Nick can also find the object. I keep things for years, but find when I need them they seem to have disappeared!

With best wishes, Margaret

Welcome

We would like to welcome the following new members to Llandrindod U3A. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

June. Mike Buckley

July. Michael & Jacqueline Harvey

Useful Contact numbers

Berwyn Woolnough, Chairman, 01597 823217: berwyn@u3a-llandrindod.org.uk

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Cover photograph by Elsa Harflett.

The Walking Group were at Abergwesyn where a few of them went down to see the river and rock pools. L-R Stephen; Pat; Jill and Robert.

Your Committee Members.

Continued from last issue.

CHRIS THOMAS

Assistant Treasurer

Co-opted Member



I retired from the NHS as assistant to a Personnel Director. I was happy to take on the role of assistant treasurer in order to help Alun

I enjoy spending time with our family and also attend aerobics, hand bell ringing and gardening

NICK TALBOTT

Website Manager

Co-opted Member



I was volunteered onto the committee by Barbara Warner.

Interest Group? Record-ers. If I had time I'd also go to the Art Group and Virtual Travel

Hobbies? DIY, Computing (of course), Photography, Bread-making (not with a bread making machine!!)

Personal weakness? I hang on to too much junk in case it comes in handy.

Llandrindod? A great place to bring up a family, and lots going on if you're prepared to look for it

Recent achievement? I cooked a delicious butter-nut squash and chickpea recipe. I'm a confirmed meat eater but having vegetarians in the family means looking for meals we can all enjoy

MARTHA WOOLDRIDGE

Interest Group Coordinator

Co-opted Member



Favourite Interest Group? Military History

Hobbies? Anything I can salvage from depra-dations??? of three dogs; reading, knitting and trips out

Personal weaknesses? Clothes, food and dogs

Llandrindod? Genteel... which deserves better

Recent achievement? Helping to save the Herb Garden

See overleaf for Delphine.

DELPHINE CARTER

Committee Member



Why join the committee? I feel one should do one's bit

Favourite I. Group? Welsh History. I hope to join more in the Autumn - Military History sounds interesting

Hobbies? I'm voluntary manager of the local hospice. I enjoy walking the dog, history, gardening, reading and world travel. South America is my favourite continent

Weakness? Clothes! I probably wear only about 30% of those I own. The rest are too big or too small, but I can't discard them, I love them too much!

I live in Presteigne, so have a more detached view of Llan-dod. Sadly, the approaches to the town don't give a good impression

I recently attended a cruise craft session and made 4 pairs of earrings, giving me a real sense of achievement

The Readers

Photos sent in by Helen Wyton



Helen Wyton hosted a wonderful lunch for the July meeting of the Readers.

Above: Helen and Jan. Helen is holding the book we were discussing.

Left: Ian

Below: Margaret; Penny; Karyn; Barbara and Martha.



The Art History Group visit to The Rodd – 18th July

Josie Lewis and Jill Mouncer



Please see next page for an account of the visit.



The Art History Group visit to The Rodd – 18th July

This year is the centenary of Sidney Nolan's birth, and the trust has opened his studio for the first time.

We set off at 10am on a sunny day. On arrival, we were welcomed by Jackie and a friendly brown Labrador. Jackie had provided tea, coffee and cakes for us in the barn which was enjoyed by all. After refreshments our group of 17 were shown a very informative film of Nolan's life and work. Details of the film are on the website.

The Art Gallery is in the large barn – part of the farm complex belonging to the 17th century manor house. The paintings on display show the broad scope of his art.

Nolan was self-taught and innovative, expressing his emotions. He spent months in preparation, and then painted quickly and intensely to convey his thoughts.

One of the paintings 'The Crucifixion' 1955 depicts Christ as a shepherd – a real sheep farmer with a creased and grimy face, with sheep shears on one side and a marking iron on the other. A very powerful image, reflecting Nolan's life in Australia.

His studio is left as it was when he died. Because oil paints and linseed take a long time to dry, when the quick drying household paints and polyvinyl acetate became available after the war, he used these for his paintings. These are all on the shelves, along with spray paints; modelling clay to give texture; as can be seen in the paintings in the gallery.

Sidney and Mary Nolan bought The Rodd in 1983; in 1985 bought the adjoining farm and set up the charitable trust in his name – to provide opportunities for all to engage with the arts and the natural environment.

We are fortunate in Powys that this asset is available to all. We really enjoyed our visit and were appreciative of the assistance and welcome we received from the staff.

We recommend the Rodd gallery to anyone interested in art or historical buildings. There is a programme of various courses and information on their website – www.sidneynolantrust.org.

I was also sent a biography of Sidney Nolan, which I simply couldn't fit in. I hope to use it at a later date, but will ask Nick to put it on the website anyway. Ed

? A QUIZ FOR THE VERY BRIGHT ?

Quiz sent us by Elsa Harflett

There are only nine questions.

This is a quiz for people who know everything!

These are not trick questions.

They are straight questions with straight answers...

1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score, or the winner, until the contest ends.
2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backwards?
3. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted each year. What are the only two perennials?
4. What fruit has its seeds on the outside?
5. In some upmarket off-licences you can buy pear brandy with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and rips, and the bottle is genuine; it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?
6. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters 'dw' and they are all common words. Name two of them.
7. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?
8. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked or in any other form except for fresh.
9. Name six or more things that you could wear on your feet starting with the letter 's'.

ANSWERS: 1. Boxing. 2. Niagara Falls. The rim is worn down about two and half feet each year because of the millions of gallons of water that rush over it every minute. 3. Asparagus or rhubarb. 4. Strawberry. 5. It grew inside the bottle. The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small, and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stem. 6. Dwarf, dwell, dwindle. 7. Full stop, comma, colon, semi-colon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation mark, quotation marks, brackets, parenthesis, braces and ellipses. 8. Lettuce. 9. Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, snow shoes, stockings, stiletts.

Picture and text by Adele and Robert Bevan



Happy smiles from the Church Visiting Group as they visit Discoed.

Since the inception in 2009 the Church Visiting Group has explored over 100 churches chiefly in the Welsh border counties of Powys, Herefordshire & Shropshire. We have focused on the history & architecture of a wide range of churches many of them featuring signs of their Saxon & Norman origins - some with evidence even of Celtic beginnings. From the noble towers of Ludlow, Leominster and Weobley we have penetrated the remotest corners of the Marches and have always concluded our Forays with a convivial lunch at one or other of the local pubs.

Congratulations, Roy!

U3A member Roy Palmer was awarded the British Empire Medal (B.E.M.) for services to charity and the community in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June. Congratulations to Roy and his wife, Ros.

The Annual Mid Wales Quiz.

The Annual Mid Wales Quiz will take place on the afternoon of the 18th October 2017 at the Metropole Hotel. Price £5.50 which will include some form of refreshment. Sorry, at the time of going to press we aren't sure if it starts at 2pm or 2.30pm, but Berwyn will announce it at the October meeting. Meanwhile save the date and come along and support our teams!