



Garth Olwg U3A

Founded : March 2008

Web - <https://gartholwg.u3asite.uk>



FaceBook : [gartholwgu3a](https://www.facebook.com/gartholwgu3a)

Registered Charity No. 1206759

AUGUST, 2026 NEWSLETTER

Dear Member,

1. WELCOME

Please remember to SIGN IN AT THE DOOR for our General Meetings.

This bulletin contains some information about our future events and Interest Groups.

2. IMPORTANT NOTICES

3. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- a) **Annual Christmas Lunch** : Put the date in your diaries now – Wednesday, 9th December. This will be held at the Manor Parc Hotel in Thornhill, Cardiff. Further details will be available later but we will require your names (if interested) at our General Meeting on 19th August and a deposit of £20 at the General Meeting on 16th September when menu choices will be available.
- b) Because of costs, the “Race Night” plan has been abandoned. Instead, we have arranged a “Murder Mystery Evening”. This was a very successful event last year. This will be held on Friday, 20th November at the Llantwit Fardre Sports & Social Club == “The Spit”. This will be an Edwardian-themed murder mystery entitled “The Final Curtain” and will be enacted by a professional group of players. As the theatre group gather for an evening of entertainment, you can question suspicious characters and work together to identify the killer.
Ticket prices – including a hot buffet supper – are expected to be around £35pp. Please put your name down, if interested, at the General Meeting on 19th August and a deposit of £20 must be paid at the General Meeting on 16th September.
- c) A trip to the Skirrid Inn at Llanvihangel Crucorney (outside Abergavenny) is being planned for Wednesday 14th October. This will replace the normal “Lunch Club” on that date. Before lunch at the Skirrid Inn, we will visit St Mary’s Priory in Abergavenny. The Norman part of this church was built around 1090 and has been called “The Westminster Abbey of Wales”. The coach, the visit to the Priory and the lunch will cost in the region of £35 - £40pp. Please sign up at the upcoming General Meeting on 19th August. A deposit of £20pp will then be required with the balance to be paid at the General Meeting on 16th September.
- d) A Trip to the Chepstow races has been planned for Wednesday, 4th November. To indicate your interest please “sign up” at the General Meeting on 19th August.
- e) **BAYEUX TAPESTRY** : As indicated in my recent eMail, we will be going to the British Museum to see this. The event will be run by Edwards Coaches and we are

reliant on them to tell us when this trip will take place as they, in turn, are reliant on ticket availability. The cost is £99. We are trying for a 5th March, 2027 date and remain hopeful. **Our allocation for this event is FULLY BOOKED but if interested, you can add your name to a “Waiting List” at the General Meeting on 19th August.**

- f) We are awaiting confirmation from RCT council for a date for a presentation by their “Care & Repair” team. This is a service to the older generation where minor defects at home can be rectified for free or you can be directed to a specialist “fixer” if required. This “Information Session” will be added on after the usual talk at one of our monthly General Meetings. This is expected to take place in the next few months.
- g) You have a long time to plan and wait for this one :- Following a very successful, enjoyable visit to “Gareth’s Kitchen” last month, we have been offered a return visit. This will be of an “Autumn” theme and is expected to take place Friday 3rd September 2027 – i.e. next year. Watch this space

4. SUGGESTIONS

We have discussed all the suggestions recently received and are acting on several of them. These often take some time to organise and we cannot fit them all in in our current year. –

4. GENERAL NOTICES CONCERNING OUR MEETINGS

- a) **Our Monthly Raffle** : Each strip of tickets is only £1 so please pay up !!
- b) **PLEASE PICK UP YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARDS** immediately after “signing in”.
- c) Non-Renewed past members and visitors must sign the “VISTORS” form as per usual.

5.INTEREST GROUPS

Should you have an interest in forming a new Interest Group then please contact our new **Interest Groups Co-ordinator – Barbara Brown on 07734 384234 or barbarabrown0550@gmail.com**

Cinema Group : As and when a suitable show is available – members will be notified by eMail.

Contact : Barbara Brown on 01443 201535

Theatre Group – As and when a suitable show is available – members will be notified by eMail.

Contact : Jacqui on 01443 205004 or 07399719235 or eMail to j.bunnage@talktalk.net

Culture Club : As and when a suitable event is available – members will be notified by eMail.

Contact : Beryl Keating on 01443 222637 or 07804834344

Wednesday, 12th August - Lunch Club:

Elaine has booked lunch at the “The Bryn Cae Arms” in Bryn Cae \ Llanharan

Deposits will be taken as usual at the General Meeting but everyone must now pay the balance of their own bill at the restaurant.

At our General Meeting on 17th May 2023, an announcement was made whereby the last opportunity for booking a lunch club lunch will be the Sunday evening following the relevant General Meeting.

Contact : Elaine Williams on williams.me.49@gmail.com or 01443 203358

Tuesday 18th August – Games Group

Calling all you board games enthusiasts – Why not join our Games Group and enjoy a couple of hours playing Rummicub and other games. which combine strategy and luck. The Group will meet in Room 19 in Garth Olwg LLC from 13.30 to 15H30.

Contact : Elaine Williams on williams.me.49@gmail.com

Wednesday 19th August – General Meeting, 2pm :

This meeting is back in the Theatre.

The speaker this month is **Howard Thomas**. Howard will be talking to us about a topic which resonates with so many of us locally – “Italian Café Families of Pontypridd”.

Thursday, 20th August, – Poetry Appreciation Group

This is a small, friendly group and has been suspended until the September meeting.

NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME

Contact : Barbara Brown on 01443 201535

Tuesday, 25th August – Card Players – meeting at 2pm in Room 4 (i.e. upstairs) at Garth Olwg. “Canasta” is the current game being learned so get in on the ground floor. **A few more members of this group are needed.** Please contact Philip for information of this very sociable group

Contact : Phillip Hughes on 07964885857

Tuesday, 1st September – Monthly Trustees Meeting

Tuesday 1st September – Enjoying Science Group -- Meeting in Garth Olwg Room 5 (the new number for room 21), 2pm.

We will continue with Brian Cox's DVD "The Planets", this time taking a look at the strange moons of Saturn. One has volcanoes whilst another is composed mainly of ice and perhaps provide a home for life.

On Friday, 16th October, members of this group will be visiting the observatory of the Cardiff Astronomical Society for a bit of stargazing.

THIS GROUP IS NOW FULL

Contact John at : John Sayle on 07766 714669

Wednesday 2nd September - Book Club – This month’s book is “The Names” by Florence Knapp.

“Beginning in 1987, this story follows Cora Atkin, a young mother trapped in an abusive marriage, as she prepares to register her son’s birth. Pressured to name him after his domineering father, Gordon, Cora considers calling her son Julian or Bear—names that reflect her aspirations for her newborn son. The story unfolds in three alternate narratives, each based on the name Cora chooses. Spanning 35 years, the book examines the profound impact of that pivotal moment, illustrating how a single decision can alter the course of multiple lives”.”

THIS GROUP IS NOW FULL

Contact : Clare Thomas on 07833 647383 or thomasnj53@aol.com

Wednesday, 9th September – Lunch Club

Elaine has booked lunch at the “The PennyFarthing” in Beddau.

Deposits will be taken as usual at the General Meeting but everyone must now pay the balance of their own bill at the restaurant.

At our General Meeting on 17th May 2023, an announcement was made whereby the last opportunity for booking a lunch club lunch will be the Sunday evening following the relevant General Meeting.

Contact : Elaine Williams on williams.me.49@gmail.com or 01443 203358

6. And, FINALLY

We have, at last, caught up and we now have our own FACEBOOK PAGE. Just type in “gartholwg u3a” when next you go into “search” in FaceBook. Please look at our **NEW** branch website - very ably run by our own Jayne Harte. You can find this at

<https://gartholwg.u3asite.uk> and also linked from our FaceBook page. This site is updated regularly and contains information on our local history, our various Interest Groups, the various trips that we've been on as well as your photographs and links to other u3a information – well worth a look.

Bob Davies

(Business & Communications Secretary and Membership Secretary)
e-mail robertdavies11@gmail.com ; 01443 551434 or 07767 832199

COMPUTERS - Male or female?

A professor at the end of his last class to a group of post-graduates asked men to move to one side of the class and women to move to the other side. He then wrote a question on the board and asked the groups to think about the answer with their justifications: "Is the computer a male or female?"

Men's response: The computer is female because

- No one but their creator understands their internal logic
- When computers communicate with each other, they communicate in code language only they can understand
- Every mistake we make is stored in their hard drive which can be retrieved later
- As soon as you commit to one, you find yourself spending half your paypacket accessorizing it

Women's response: The computer is male because

- To get their attention, you need to turn them ON
- They have a lot of data but still can't think by themselves
- They are supposed to solve our problems, but half the time they ARE the problem
- As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you had awaited a little longer you could have got a better model.

PORTMANTEAU WORDS

The other day, while out for a walk, I came across this sign in front of a house: "Please No Trespooping" This blend of trespass and poop brought a smile. It also raised questions.

- Are there dogs who actually break into houses to do their business?
- Would it be acceptable if dogs relieved themselves in front of the sign, on the public road, with no trespassing involved?

Trespassing plus pooping is forbidden, but what if only one of the two is performed ?

NEOLOGISMS

The Washington Post has published the winning submissions to its yearly neologism contest, in which readers are asked to supply alternate meanings for common words - and the winners are:

1. Coffee (n.), the person upon whom one coughs.
2. Flabbergasted (adj.), appalled over how much weight you have gained.
3. Abdicate (v.), to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
4. Esplanade (v.), to attempt an explanation while drunk.
5. Lymph (v.), to walk with a lisp.

A little boy got lost at the YWCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, 'What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?'

The fast track to a life well lived is feeling grateful. *David DeSteno*