

July's sunlight inspired us to shine our brightest.

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

The aim of this group is to develop writing skills whilst sharing ideas. Our numbers make an interesting mix of experience, knowledge and opinions. Recently we invited back tutor Halima Alam to give us another of her sessions (and hope it won't be the last). They are interesting and stimulating, giving us all fresh ideas and inspiration for further writing.



HESTERCOMBE VISIT

Many of our members went on a day trip to Hestercombe in Somerset, arranged by our Gardening & Wildlife Group. The estate dates back to Anglo Saxon times and we were impressed with the house which is now a contemporary art gallery, bookshop and a tea room decorated with beautiful wood panelling, ornate ceilings, intricate cornices and elaborate fire places. The real jewel is its 50 acres of famously restored gardens that span three centuries of garden design. We found



evidence of Sir Edwin Lutyen's hallmarks in the pergolas, pools, cascade and iris-choked rills. There was also an orangery, gothic arch, temples and formal gardens where we admired the simple but bold planting schemes of Gertrude Jekyll. It was a glorious day and all was a riot of colour, scents and alive with the buzz of bees and butterflies.

LA COMIDA ESPANOL

Members of our new Spanish Beginners' Group celebrated the end of their 10 week course with a meal at New Olé. We stepped off Cardiff Road and into an oasis of Spain. Sitting on a terrace at the rear of the restaurant, we all thoroughly enjoyed a delicious three course tapas selection of generous portions - it was too much to eat so we all left with



doggie bags! Anton, the chef and owner, from Galicia in Northern Spain, spent some time to discuss (in Spanish) his homeland so we even learnt a little Gallego - the language of that region. When we left it was like saying 'Adios' to old friends, having been made so welcome by Anton & Fay. We all promised to return individually and hopefully together at Christmas - a highly recommended restaurant.

L2M@HOME

Members of our Listening to Music Group like to continue meeting fortnightly throughout the summer recess at each other's homes. This gives us the opportunity to use Youtube, DVD and Vinyl media to provide more choice. After a welcoming cuppa, biscuits and a catch-up we enjoy listening to a variety of music chosen by our members. All genres of music are selected, such as classical, rock, jazz, folk and even a bit of humour! Afterwards we have a leisurely lunch at a local inn - this year we are frequenting the Ridgeway Inn, the Man of Gwent and the Saint Julian Inn. All agree that the meetings are very enjoyable and sociable days out.



Contact Angela at publicity.newportu3a@gmail.com if you have any news about your group to be included in a future Newsletter.

