



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

## Science, Technology and Society Network

### THE ANNUAL SEMINAR AT ABERGAVENNY

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2008

## LIFE, THE UNIVERSE AND EVERYTHING

Organised by members of the U3A Science, Technology and Society Network:

Nic Griffin, Spread Eagles, Melbury Abbas, Dorset SP7 0DU: 01747-855720 [nicgriffin@hotmail.com](mailto:nicgriffin@hotmail.com)

Peter Rockwell 7A Courthouse Road, London N12 7PH 020 8445 3574 [peter@rockwell.net](mailto:peter@rockwell.net)

This event will have a similar format to last and previous years and consist of a number of presentations and visits to local places of interest.

This year's seminar will cover a wide field. We will have presentations by U3A members covering subjects such as Human Energy, Evolution, Food, Postal History, Hydrogen as a future fuel and a look at English life in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. We are also planning a presentation on Sustainable Development and Climate Change which we hope will stimulate a vigorous debate.

We have already received many enquiries from attendees at previous seminars. Please book as soon as possible to ensure that you get a place

### The Seminar is Open to all U3A Members

**Three nights half board accommodation in Ty'r Morwydd Environmental Study Centre, Abergavenny and three days of talks, discussions and visits. The programme starts at 2.00pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August and finishes at noon on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> (there is a buffet lunch (included) before departure).**

#### Location, and Accommodation:

Abergavenny is a historic market town in Monmouthshire. Ty'r Morwydd Environmental Centre is a good quality hostel rather than an hotel and has 30 single and 22 twin bedrooms. All rooms have washbasins but they are not en-suite. There is a well-equipped shower and toilet room near the bedrooms on each of the first and second floors and toilets on the ground floor. The shower and toilet rooms are single sex (normally female on the first floor and male on the second floor) but there is an additional unisex toilet on each floor.

Beds will be made up with duvets and rooms are serviced daily but **you will need to bring your own towels and soap.**

The dining and seminar rooms are on the ground floor and there is no lift. Please note that most of the single rooms are on the second floor (male shower room). Those who have particular problems with stairs should state this and ask for a first-floor room but it cannot be guaranteed.

**Food:** The meals are very good and generously proportioned and mostly 'help yourself to as much as you want'. There will be refreshments when the seminar opens but our first meal will be an evening meal on Monday 18<sup>th</sup>. Thereafter the price includes cooked breakfast, evening meal and coffee/tea and biscuits for the breaks when we are working at the Centre. There will also be a buffet lunch before we depart on Thursday.

In order to keep costs down, the catering is fairly precise. There are quality vegetarian alternatives at each meal. This alternative is only available for those who have asked for this in advance at the time of booking. **It is important to advise us if you have special dietary requirements.**

Ty'r Morfydd is not licensed but we will be providing wine, beer and soft drinks for members socialising in the evening. This is included in the price. We believe that informal evening socialising is one of the enjoyable parts of the seminar.

**Cost per person, half board for 3 nights: £175.00** We are budgeting for a maximum of 50 participants and have included all costs and gratuities in the price except lunches on days out. The cost is the same per person whichever rooms you occupy, i.e., there is no single surcharge, nor is there a reduction for twin rooms.

**To join us on Sunday the B&B charge is an extra £25.00.** The Seminar starts on Monday afternoon. People who arrive then will not have missed any part of it. The Sunday evening/Monday morning is more of a social occasion.

**Local 'Day-Rate' (to cover whole Seminar): £80.00.** We can accommodate some local people at a 'day-rate'. That is, to participate in the whole Seminar, including coach trips, evening meals, the evening events and the final buffet lunch.

**To get there:** Abergavenny is well served by trains. London and Manchester are around 2.5 hrs. Driving is not complicated: up via M4 and Newport, or down on the M5/ M50 Ross-spur, then A40. Full directions to the centre will follow.

Inevitably we may have missed out some aspects of the event, but if you are interested contact either of us for more info. (phone, email, or whatever).

We hope you decide to join us. We will have another memorable 3 days.

**Send a deposit to secure your place, with the enclosed application form.**

**Please address all enquiries to the organisers, Nic or Peter. Nic is dealing with the Application Forms and the accounts, but general questions about the seminar can be addressed to either of us. Bear with us if we are not at home, leave a message and we will reply ASAP.**

**The Third Age Trust, the Ty'r Morwydd Centre, and the Abergavenny U3A are all supportive of the Seminar but unable to answer queries.**

**This event is open to all U3A members – not just the Sci- Tech Network.**

**U3A Sci-Tech at Abergavenny - Seminar**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2008**

**To Book:** Send the application form below (or a copy of it) to Nic Griffin, Spread Eagles, Melbury Abbas, Dorset, SP7 0DU with a cheque deposit of **£75 per person (Res)** or **£40 (Day)**, payable to "Third Age Trust".

The balance (£100 resident, £40 day student) should be forwarded to Nic by 15<sup>th</sup> June 2008 (cheque payable to Third Age Trust). **WE DO NOT HAVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE EFFORT TO SEND REMINDERS SO MARK 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE IN YOUR DIARY NOW.**

Bed and Breakfast accommodation will be available at Ty'r Morwydd on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August if at least 12 of us want it. Cost will be an additional £25.00 payable by 15<sup>th</sup> June, please indicate below if you would like B&B on 17<sup>th</sup> August.

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Please reserve a place for me/us at the  
**U3A Seminar Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2008 at**  
**Ty'r Morwydd Environmental Study Centre, Abergavenny**

Name/s .....

Resident/Non Resident .....U3A .....

Address. ....

.....

Postcode. .... Phone .....

Email.....

Note any dietary requirements:(vegetarian, diabetic etc.) .....

Please tick here  if you require B&B on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August. **You will be advised whether we achieve the necessary minimum of 12 and reminded to add £25.00 to your final Seminar payment.**

I enclose deposit of £..... and agree to pay the balance by **15<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

**Signed**.....

[Tell us if you have difficulty walking, we may be able to put you in a room closer to facilities, if one is available].....