

Brecon u3a

Margot Hollingdale

Last week we had excellent collection of learning. Richard Walker gave an enlightening talk on Alexander von Humboldt (1769 – 1859). Born into a German aristocratic family, he was able to pursue his ambition by continuing study all that nature encompasses, travel extensively and to promote the concept of the “web of life”, showing how interconnected we and nature really are. He was a polymath, geographer, cartographer, naturalist, explorer, scientist, and proponent of Romantic philosophy and even proposed the idea of human-induced climate change. He detested slavery and the Colonialism of his time.

In the afternoon, Mervyn Bramley inspired us to explore the beauties of the Monmouthshire landscape and architecture, followed by David Mitchell introducing us to the artist, sculptor and saviour of Lanzarote, César Manrique (1919 – 1992).

Tomorrow, another u3a member, Philip Grant, will explore the synchronicities between Lesotho and Wales. In the afternoon, Dr Gill Wakley will present the history of 17th century Plas Gunter Mansion in Abergavenny, “Family History” will meet, and “Poetry” will discuss the theme of “Seasonal Disorder”.