

Brecon u3a

Margot Hollingdale

On 26th June, Jonathan Williams outlined the history of Penpont – the local country house and estate well known to so many which lies 5 miles west of Brecon. Through Coats of Arms, we learnt of the progressions through Boulogne, Bullen and Boleyn surnames, and via the patronymic system came to the Williams family who dominated the lines of inheritance for 350 years. The house had history well before the 18th century façade recognised today and surrounding gardens have seen many changes, but farming and love of the area has remained constant.

The afternoon investigated Quantum Biology and aspects of the Moon as well as the up coming Elections from the angle of our British Constitution and the possibility that King Charles could request any one of us to lead his new Government! “Bookshelf” reviewed another 2023 Booker Prize nominee, Paul Harding’s “This Other Eden”, which reminds us how devastating colonialism and the domination of others was, and still can be.

Tomorrow we will travel to Eastern Australia in the morning and later Special Interest Groups will be looking at William of Orange - the Monmouth Rebellion and being creative with writing and devious Scrabble words.