

Issue 139 January 2017

## A letter from your Chairman

Dear All,

I hope you have had a great Christmas and the family quarrels were not too acrimonious.

From the compliments received from lots of members (and I thank you for them), our new style Christmas Meeting seemed to agree with all who attended. We had an amusing speaker (with a Christmas message) including a bit of community singing, and Marilyn's sound and picture quiz also went down well as, indeed, did the Bucks Fizz. The mince pies and Stollen bites added to the festive feeling while the raffle was magnificent. Everyone with a meeting ticket had a 1 in 5 chance of getting a prize – much better odds than the lottery! My thanks go to everyone who helped make this a success.

I have good news on the Newsletter front! We have a new editor! Erdmute (Sammy) Brewer has stepped into the breach and will be taking over the February edition. Please see the outgoing Newsletter Editor's report at the top of page 2.

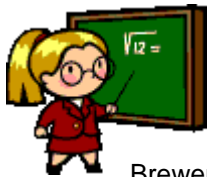
We have had almost a full complement of Group registers returned to us (The walking group doesn't seem to be able to provide a list and yes I know the lists vary – Lunch club managed it!). We have picked up one or two peculiarities on the lists so the exercise has proved very worthwhile. Inside this Newsletter we can now provide a definitive list of groups with vacancies. As you can see the number of vacancies is quite small and new members may not have much choice – new groups are always needed. We now have only one Art group and used to have three. Please consider starting a group if you have any interests you would like to pursue. Talk to Pat Johnson if you have any ideas.

All that is left is for me to wish each and every one of you a Happy New Year. I hope that 2017 is a good one for you all.

**Alan**



Today we welcome Alistair Borland MBE from the volunteer rapid response medical transport service. As this is a charity which depends upon public donation, we will be putting a collection box out for anybody who so wishes to make a donation on the way



I am very happy to report that we now have a new Newsletter Editor which means that this will continue. She is Sammy Brewer, so group leaders need to send their monthly reports to her, starting with your reports for February which need to reach her by the end of January.

Details of where to send are on the back page of this newsletter. Please do your best for her. The more reports she gets the easier the job becomes. Sammy would also like to hear from anybody with items of local interest. Photographs are also welcome too.

**Mary Howarth**

#### TEA and COFFEE

January Dai Johnson and Pauline McCreedy

Please note that volunteers are required to help serve the tea and coffee at our monthly meetings for next year.

**If you are willing and able please put your name down at the Groups table.**

You can choose to do it with a friend if you prefer, or we will put individuals together.

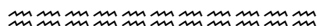
Two people are needed each month, so do please consider if you are able to help.

Volunteers just need to arrive by 1.15pm on the day. A member is the centre staff is always there to show you the ropes.

#### Camera Group

We held our last meeting for 2016 on the 19th. There were mince pies and a very small mulled wine to get us in the spirit. We brought our photos of Kettering and promised to send our favourites to Alan for his collection. Our homework is to take a festive photo for next month when we meet on the 16th at 3 St. Mary's Road.

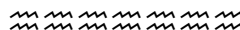
**Jenny Goddard**



#### 10 PIN BOWLING

We continue to meet at Kettering Bowling Alley at 10am on the Friday after the main meeting. Our numbers are growing but we still have room for new members. Please come and join us for a relaxing, fun morning. See me to sign up at the monthly meeting or ring me on 01536483398

Dai Johnson



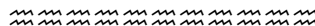
#### Travel Group

We enjoyed our usual Christmas celebrations. Thanks to everyone who brought food for us to consume and Brian who treated us to a prize winning film about balloons.

The Christmas Quiz was about U3A trips and results were good this year.

This is a longstanding group and this year we have completed eleven sessions. In 2017 we begin in February.

**Geraldine Hardwick**

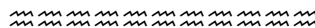


#### Slimming Group

The group meets most Tuesdays at 9.30am at my house, 31 Anderson Drive, on the Ise Lodge estate. We are a friendly group of ladies (gentlemen would be very welcome) with a common interest- to lose weight. We share suggestions that have helped us and gain a lot of help and support from each other.

Cost is 50p to attend, with a system of fines for weight gained! (£1 per pound) Anyone is welcome to join us- (male or female), please phone me on 510870.

**Wendy Islip.**



A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend.  
A successful woman is one who can find such a man.

Lana Turner

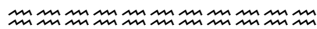
### Medium Walking Group

The next walk will be on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. Meet 10.00a.m. at the Wharf Inn, Bugbrooke, NN7 3QB to order lunch ready for a 10.15 start.

A very pleasant 5.5 mile walk from Bugbrooke to Nether Heyford returning along the banks of the Grand Union Canal.

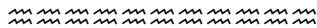
Walk leader: David Hamilton Tel 01536 518900/ 07512790188.

**David Hamilton**



### Kettering U3A Walking Group

This group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month for a walk average 5 miles. For details of the next walk contact David Hamilton on 01536 518900



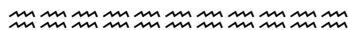
### Spanish Group

Another year has ended and I think we are getting better. We still need to learn the different tenses of the Spanish verbs but it really helps us to translate.

Thank you to our tutors Bob and Bill. They are very patient and give their time free.

Usually we use the study room at Asda which is also free but on occasions have to move elsewhere.

**Geraldine Hardwick**



### Short Walking Group

We enjoyed some interesting short walks during 2016, but numbers are getting low. New members are very welcome to join this happy group. We do up to three miles at a leisurely pace, chatting as we walk, we just enjoy the countryside and the company.

The next short walk will be on the 25th January 2017. Please put names down at January meeting.

**Julie Bates**

## *Trips & Theatre Visits*

### 2016 Trips.

**April** - we went to the Wedgwood Factory. It was very interesting going around the factory whilst they were working and the operatives explained the different expertise that is required before the finished article is completed. The new Museum was open and this was full of the history of Josiah Wedgwood. A good day.

**May** - was the trip to the Bank of England, Threadneedle Street, London. Although we made a very early start, owing to the traffic we were late for our time slot, so we missed most of the introduction talk. The Museum was interesting but we were disappointed. We had time for some lunch and to visit some of the local landmarks. We have learnt that if we go to London not to book a specific time because the traffic is getting worse.

**June** - we went to Stratford-upon-Avon. This was a really nice relaxing day, pleasing ourselves what we did - Butterfly Park, Boat Ride, Shopping or walking by the river. Andy took the scenic route there which was nice.

**July** - we did the Boat Trip on the River Trent at Nottingham. We took over the top deck so everybody could see out okay, the meal was served when we got on board which was very nice. There was plenty to eat. We had a commentary whilst we were going along. A different day out.

**August** - we went to Grimethorpe Castle and Gardens. This was a super day out. We were welcomed by the guide and taken for coffee where we ordered our lunch before having a tour around the estate when the guide explained how the estate was run etc.

After lunch we had time to look around the gardens before having a tour around the castle. The weather was great and the day was enjoyed by all.

At the January meeting we will be taking names for the following:

Indian Temple Tour. April 20th.  
National Memorial Arboretum. May 11th.

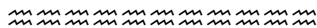
**Julie and Jessie**

## History Group

Our trip to Rockingham Castle was great fun. The castle dressed for the era of Dickens was the background for an excellent tour led by an appropriately dressed footman visiting the various rooms in the castle. We were warmed by the fire in the Great Hall in the huge inglenook fireplace. After our tour we visited the well-stocked shop and then enjoyed our tea waited on by servants. I was most impressed by the care taken of our less able members whilst the rest of us were upstairs in the long gallery.

We have some lovely buildings in Northamptonshire but none prettier than this castle. The views over the Welland valley still had an autumn tinge even in December, and were spectacular.

**Geraldine Hardwick**



## Singing for Pleasure Group

Happy New Year, Ise, from both, joint, SfP Groups. Singers, welcome back:

A Group will have reconvened on January 6<sup>th</sup> and B on the 13<sup>th</sup> at Fuller.

In Autumn 2015 the original group, under Jill Dee's gentle hand, was full to bursting though still attracting would-be chanteuses. Thus it was decided to "cast our bread upon the waters" to see if there was enough interest to form a second group.

B Group began with some half dozen in the run up to Christmas. By the beginning of 2016 that number had doubled and now we are up to 18. We've lost a couple owing to other commitments, but are still welcoming new members. B Group is not yet full and our brave Gordon would like some more male support.

Group A has been as ever much in demand, summer and winter, to perform in residential homes and other venues. Both Groups have been extremely fortunate in the hard work and commitment of their accompanists without whom we couldn't function. Carol, Linda, Marian, Maddie, we salute you.

**Mary Wildman, Jill Dee**

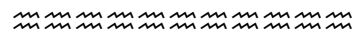
## 4 Singing for Pleasure Group(2)

DO YOU PLAY THE PIANO ??  
IF YOU DO, WE REALLY REALLY NEED YOU.

We are a group of 21 ladies who get together once a fortnight and sing a range of songs from the shows etc. and have a great deal of pleasure as well as giving pleasure to people in residential homes or sheltered accommodation.

I DO HOPE WE CAN FIND YOU!!

If you can help, please respond to Jill Dee.  
01536 514054.



## GROUPS

Thank you to all those groups who returned their forms. As a result, we now know where there are vacancies. They are:-

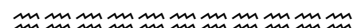
Gardening 2  
Canasta 2  
Scrabble/Mah Jong 2  
Slimmers 3  
Book Group 1  
10pin bowling 6  
I Padders 2  
Camera Group 1 experienced photographer  
Computer Club 1  
Making Music 1  
Swimming lots

We also have vacancies in the Ballroom Dancing group. You don't need a partner and we are all beginners.

The Singing for Pleasure Group B has vacancies especially for men. Please see me for details.

There are several new groups we would like to start in the New Year. Please look for the signing up sheets on the Groups Table.

**Pat Johnson**



"You can get excited about the future.  
The past won't mind."

**Hillary DePiano**

### Answers to December 2016 Quiz

- |                                |                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Boughs of holly             | 11. Austria            |
| 2. Morning                     | 12. The First Noel     |
| 3. On the Feast of Stephen.    | 13. Coventry Carol     |
| 4. Silent Night                | 14. Bohemia            |
| 5. Lowing                      | 15. Little Drummer Boy |
| 6. O Come All Ye Faithful      | 16. Morning            |
| 7. Gold                        | 17. Mendelssohn        |
| 8. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen | 18. 1660               |
| 9. Bethlehem                   | 10. We Three Kings     |
| 10. The Holly and the Ivy      | 20. Winter Fuel        |

### 2016 Quiz – How much can you remember?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. What caused the diving pool at the Rio Olympics to be closed after two days competition?  | 12. Who cooked their last meal on "Saturday Kitchen" in March 2016?   |
| 2. One of the first casualties of Brexit, what popular food was temporarily withdrawn from supermarket shelves after a row over price rises?                             | 13. Who in 2016 announced that he would step down as "Top Gear" presenter after just one series?  |
| 3. According to a You Gov survey in September 2016, which city in the UK has the angriest drivers?   | 14. In which northern England city did 3,200 naked volunteers assemble in July 2016 to be photographed for an art-work?   |
| 4. A death certificate was issued in February 2016 after a wait of some 42 years. Whose name was on it?  | 15. Which 2012 Olympic gold medalist carried the flag for Great Britain at the 2016 Olympic opening ceremony?   |
| 5. An exhibition dedicated to the career of which person, who died in 2016, has become the most-visited show in the Victoria and Albert (V&A) Museum's 164-year history? | 16. Sam Allardyce resigned as England football manager in September 2016 after a newspaper expose. His time in charge was a record breaking low of 67 days, who previously held this unenviable record? |
| 6. Who got thrown out of Parliament in April 2016 after calling the then Prime Minister "Dodgy Dave"?  | 17. Who did Andy Murray defeat to win his second Wimbledon title in 2016?   |
| 7. Married in September 2016, how many Olympic gold medals do Mr Jason and Mrs Laura Kenny have between them?  | 18. Launched in August 2011, the space probe Juno entered orbit around which planet in July 2016?   |
| 8. According to the side of the "Brexit Battle Bus" how much does the UK send to the EU each week?   | 19. Comedienne and singer Victoria Wood sadly passed away in April 2016, which TV talent show first brought her to prominence?  |
| 9. Who said that they "would not be going with the dough" in 2017?   | 20. A new plastic £5 note was issued in the UK in September 2016 but why did it cause problems with vegans?   |
| 10. Which character in the popular board game Cluedo is being replaced by Dr Orchid?   |   |
| 11. Costing more than £9 million and comprising 12 volumes containing some 2.6 m words, what was finally published in July 2016 after a wait of over five years?         |   |

This is the new year the new you. You can pass through another year, coasting on cruise control. Or you can step out of your comfort zone, trying things you have never done before, & make 2012 as the year that you elevate from where you are & soar high. Make it happen!"

**Pablo (2012)**

(Read 2017 for 2012 – still relevant today)

## Speakers for 2017

<b>January 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Bikes, Blood and Babies</b> Volunteer Rapid response medical transport service	Alistair Borland MBE
<b>February 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>The Charles Rennie Macintosh House</b> 78 Derngate, Northampton	Robert Kendall
<b>March 8<sup>th</sup></b>	101 Things you didn't know about garden birds	Chris Ward
<b>April 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Food Glorious Food</b> A History of eating, shopping and food manufacturing in Northamptonshire from 1837 until now	John-Paul Carr
<b>May 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>"How's Your Father"</b> Past entertainers and entertainment celebrated in songs, stories and magic.	Dave Noylan
<b>June 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>From Kettering to Van Dieman's Land</b> Transportation of prisoners to Tasmania	Mike Britton
<b>July 12<sup>th</sup></b>	AGM	
<b>August 9<sup>th</sup></b>	History of Papworth and it's Hospital	Ian Burton
<b>September 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Northamptonshire Curiosities	Helen Crabtree
<b>October 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Amy, Wonderful Amy</b> Early flying heroine Amy Johnson	Roy Smart
<b>November 8<sup>th</sup></b>	The Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes Waterway Park	Alan Dodds
<b>December 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Christmas Event	

## Activity Groups and Leaders

Day/Group	Leader	Telephone	Venue	Frequency	Time
<b>Monday</b>					
Mah Jong/Scrabble	Margaret Hopkins	01536 503308	Home	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday	2.00pm – 4.00pm
Camera Club	Jenny Goddard Pat Johnson	01536 482972 01536 483398	3 St. Mary's Road	Always Monday following the monthly meeting	2.00pm – 4.00pm
Swimming	Isabel Collins	01536 520971	Kettering Swimming Pool	Every Monday in term time	9.00am – 9.45am
Book Club	Margaret Turnbull	01536 511139	Varies	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	2.00pm
Discussion Group	Linda Miller	01536 483773	Home	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	2.00pm-4.00pm
Canasta	Margaret Hall Patricia Stokes	01536 512215 01536 724342	Kettering Bridge Club	Every Monday	2.00pm-4.00pm
<b>Tuesday</b>					
Travel	Geraldine Hardwick	01536 481203	Varies	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday	2.00pm
Walking (Medium)	Bill Joyce	01536 724337	Varies	Last Tuesday	10.00am
Computer Club	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Asda Training Room	Fortnightly	10.00am-12.00pm
Slimming Club	Wendy Islip	01536 510870	Home	Weekly	9.30am –10.30am
<b>Wednesday</b>					
<b>Lunch Club</b>	Margaret Hall Patricia Stokes	01536 512215 01536 724342	Varies	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	12.45pm
Short Walks	Julie Bates	01536 725538	Varies	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	Time varies
Country Dancing	Janice Angles	07768169490	St. Andrews Hall	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	10-30am– 2.00pm
Music Appreciation	Ted Faulkner	01536 513984	Home	Last Wednesday	2.00pm – 4.00pm
Craft	Angela Deans	01536 484187	Home	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	10.00am
Gardening	Chris Ditri Sandra Tecklenberg	01536 723145  01832 733419	Varies	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	Varies
<b>Thursday</b>					
Thrapston Art Group	John Brewer	01536 481700	154 Oundle Road	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	2.30pm – 4.30pm
Spanish	Geraldine Hardwick	01536 481203	Asda Training Room	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	2.00pm – 4.00pm
<b>Friday</b>					
Singing for Pleasure	Jill Dee	01536 514054	Fuller Church	Fortnightly	10.00am-11.30am
Ballroom Dancing	Matilda Harvey	01536	Mash Dance Studios		10.30am-12.00pm
Making Music	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Home	Weekly	2.00pm – 4.00pm
Ten pin bowling	Dai Johnson	01536 483398	Thunder Bowl, Kettering	Always Friday in week of monthly meeting	Start 10am

### DAYS ARRANGED BY GROUP

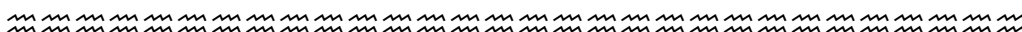
Day Trips  
Theatre Visits  
IPad Group  
History Group  
Basic Life Support

Julie Bates 01536 725538 & Jessie Mills 01536 722421  
Joyce Williams 01536 482566 & Jean Issitt 01536 513218  
Michael Collins 01536 520971 arranged after each meeting  
Geraldine Hardwick 01536 481203 arranged after each meeting  
Mick Coleman 01536 503534 date and time to be arranged

### General Information

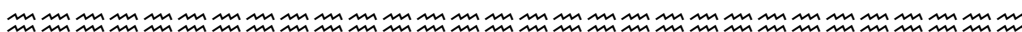
#### Forthcoming Meetings (Note: Doors open at 1:30pm.) From January 2016 at The Eden Centre

January 11 <sup>th</sup>	Blood, Bikes and Babies	Alistair Borland MBE
February 8 <sup>th</sup>	The Charles Rennie Macintosh House	Robert Kendall



#### To all members

If you are aware of anything affecting one of our members such as an important birthday, anniversary or illness and feel that a card from the U3A would be appropriate please contact Mary on 01536 722029



#### Plea from the Editor

Please post copy S. Brewer, 3 West Way, Kettering NN15 7LE to reach me by the end of the month. (01536 481700) If you would prefer emailing then my address is [omi.brewer2@btinternet.com](mailto:omi.brewer2@btinternet.com)



#### Committee – 2016-17

Chairman	Alan Bailey	01933 350147
Vice Chair & Speaker Secretary	Valerie Walker	01536 511838
Treasurer	John Cousens	01933 664602
Acting Secretary	Mary Howarth	01536 722029
Membership Secretary	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865
Groups Co-ordinator	Harry Wells	01933 314808
Assistant Groups Co-ordinator	Pat Johnson	01536 483398
Assistant Speaker Secretary	Helen Checkley	01536 418616
Newsletter Editor	Sammy Brewer	01536 481700
Webmaster	Alan Bailey	01933 350147
General Duties	Christine Begg	01536 514083
General Duties	Pauline Bailey	01933 350147
General Duties	Linda Miller	01536 483773

