

Registered Charity Number 1179738

December 2019

## Chair's Chatter

**The committee and myself would like to wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and New Year.**

We have a good selection of Speakers booked for next year – at the back of the newsletter. If any of you have any adverse comments to make regarding this, please let us know. We are not able to hear the talks beforehand so do rely on what members tell us.

2020 is my last year as Chair and in order for Ise Valley U3A to continue I do need a replacement in July! We will also be losing the Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Secretary and Groups Co-ordinator. The Treasurer and Secretary are only allowed to do those jobs for 3 years as is the Chair. The other two have been on the committee for – in one case – 9 years and now feel it is time to come off it. Who can blame them as they have worked their socks off for you all for a long time.

The membership must realise that in order for this group to continue then we need to have new people willing to work as a committee and run things! Please, if you want it to continue you must come forward now and have a conversation with me as to what you can do to help.

I would like to book the tickets for Thursford for next November, in the New Year. We have had enough interest to do that, but will Ise Valley U3A still be in existence?

I hope you enjoy our entertainment for today – Stanwick Handbell Ringers and a quiz by Marilyn and Alan, and of course, our bumper raffle.

Sylvia



## Book Group

In October we changed our format of the meeting and enjoyed watching the DVD of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society with some very tasty eats supplied by our members, before discussing the book of the same name. It takes us back to 1946 just after the war and Juliet Ashton isn't sure what to write next. She receives letters from Dawsey Adams who has a book that she had written, and so the correspondence begins.

This is a story of how some people survived the occupation of Guernsey and also the ones that lost their lives through bravery to others.

It is a wonderful story which the film brings all of the characters to life and, together with the book, we felt such an affinity with the characters. Needless to say, it all concluded very happily.

We all agreed it was a very enjoyable afternoon.

Margaret Turnbull

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## Discussion Group

The October meeting of the Discussion Group discussed the TV programme Peaky Blinders – very dark! Was Oswald Mosely as nasty as portrayed in the programme? Three, old enough to know, said “yes” he was!

Next, is British Press too intrusive? Most of us had watched the Harry and Meghan Africa documentary and opinion was divided. Some of us felt that the Royal family are so privileged that they should expect the scrutiny and take it on the chin. I disagree – the press go too far.

Should 16 year olds be able to vote? We thought 18 was quite young enough!

Lots of chat over tea and biscuits followed.

Linda

## Play Reading

The Play Reading group gathered together at Liz's house this time as Rosalind's home where we usually meet was unavailable, to read Simon Brett's play 'Murder in Play' which is a play within a play. A bit confusing at first, being two people, but we soon got the hang of it and had a lot of fun reading the different parts. As usual Ron was helped out in male parts by the ladies. It would be great to get some gents to help him out. Tea, coffee and biscuits helped proceedings along to make for an interesting afternoon.

Carlene Lee

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## Singing for Pleasure

Our last outing with the summer programme finished on a high. We visited Thorndale House and were well received with residents standing alongside us and singing from our music sheets. Several were encouraged by staff to stand up and move around to the music with the staff also joining in, together with friends who were visiting.

We are now practising our Christmas programme with many outside dates already organised. We have, together with Lynda (our pianist), chosen some beautiful and some not so well-known Christmas carols and songs. The group has swelled in numbers and our room at the Fuller Chapel is now full to capacity, the Caretaker finding more chairs each session. Certainly, having a larger number in the group results in more voice volume which we all appreciate.

We welcomed back Margaret, who now possesses a brand new knee joint, and also acknowledged another entry to the octogenarian club.

Menus and deposits for our Christmas lunch have now been handed to staff at the Stirrup Cup.

We left our meeting in a far more uplifted mood than when we arrived

Velda Robinson

## Book Group (2)

This month we enjoyed a Murder Mystery for a change by author Cara Hunt, who has written several mystery novels with D.I Fawley as her detective.

This time story belongs to Daisy, an eight year old who is too clever for her age, and her dysfunctional family, mother, father and her adopted brother Leo. Daisy disappears while her family are hosting a summer party for the neighbours. No one has seen her leave. Obviously, it is always family the police suspect and this is no exception Her father is the first, a very shady character who has a secret past. It does not help when the police find planted evidence which makes him very vulnerable. We also have the brother Leo under suspicion, and finally the guilt falls on the mother whose sister died in strange circumstances when she was a young girl. Cara Hunt takes us on a journey with many red herrings, which keeps you guessing right until the last page. I will confess all seven of the book group did not guess correctly. We all enjoyed this murder mystery and look forward to experience more of DI Fawley solving the next crime

Margaret Turnbull

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## Short Walks

We met in the bottom car park at Sywell reservoir. It took a minute to gather us all together, ten walkers and of course Teddy. I think you would call the weather murky and chilly but once we got going we enjoyed the views, each other's company and just being out. They have now finished making a hard top path all the way round so walking is now much easier and safer for wobbly knees etc. They have put in gates which are no trouble to negotiate, we think to stop cycles and motorcycles. Then afterward we went to the little cafe just off the car park for refreshments. Good cake. Teddy, Bob and others sat outside.

The next walk will be 19th December.

Wanda and Bob Moffatt and Teddy

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## Gardening Group

November days are not usually good for gardening and this year the ground is so sodden we can only view the garden from the warmth of our living rooms and start planning for next year. This month our garden group enjoyed watching a video of the beautiful island of Madeira, with all its sunshine and flowers. Our thanks once again to Chris and Peter for their usual warm welcome into their home.

Greta

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## Camera Group

After showing our pictures of water and explaining how we took them, we went on to start planning next year's programme. For December's meeting on the 16th. we need to bring our favourite photo of the year and will be rewarded with mince pies.

Jenny

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## Painting for Pleasure

Another good month. We all continued our own projects, pastels, watercolour, Christmas cards and sketchbooking, with much discussion between us. We appreciate Catherine's help and advice in her monthly session. New members will be welcome on our return Monday 13th January 2020.

Tessa



## **Weekley Glebe Road Free Library.**

Biographies, auto-Biographies, Travel, Wildlife, and Specialist Text Books. Unwanted books welcome on these subjects.

Register - Email address.

Postal address.

Deliver, collect, and return books Sunday mornings only as easy parking.

Lists of titles available on which subject to registered members only.

Email only - Two books per person for up to 3 weeks.

Definitely NO fiction.

[Dianebulley1@gmail.com](mailto:Dianebulley1@gmail.com)

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## **Ten Pin Bowling.**

Another good week with lots of strikes and spares. Our best player was Pete who achieved a personal best. Planning for the Christmas breakfast is going ahead. Hopefully, all those not going to the Christmas party have let me know whether they are coming to the breakfast and bowling or not. If you are interested in joining our group, please speak to me at the meeting or ring me on 01536 483398.

Dai

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## **Lunch Club**

Twenty one people sat down for lunch at the Thornhill Arms, Rushton. The meal was good value at £7.95 for two courses. Most of us were happy with our choices but there were some items which could have been improved. We do really need someone to take on the overall organisation of the Lunch Club but in the meantime there is a rota

for people to sign up to organise a one-off meal for one month . We have had offers from Brian and Sue Coulson for February, and Neil and Margaret Bridgstock for April. Thank you to them, we look forward to those meals. Thank you also to Margaret Hall for organising the Christmas Lunch Club at The Royal Oak, Walgrave. I'm sure we are all looking forward to that meal.

Pat Johnson

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## **News from the Groups**

The cinema group will resume its outings in the New Year so watch out for a message from Tony. It would be helpful if Group Leaders could let me know if they have any vacancies in their groups. Also, if anyone has new ideas for groups which we could set up in the New Year, please let us know.

We would like to wish all Group Leaders, Hosts and group members a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Pat Johnson and Ros Bridges.

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## **Spanish**

We have cancelled our session on the 19th December so 5th December will be our final lesson of the year. We thank Bill and Bob for their wonderful efforts.

Geraldine

**S P A N I S H**

## Travel Group

We relived our memories of Wales through photos of my holiday in Llandudno. Afterwards we tasted Welsh Goats cheese. Our next meeting on 17th December will be a celebration with a quiz and photos of U3A events plus food.

Geraldine

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## Computer Club

We are currently looking at using a word processor (Libre Office which is a free program). There is room if you want to join us in the new year since 3<sup>rd</sup> December is our last meeting before Christmas – give me a ring on 01933 350147.

Alan

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## Making Music

We meet every Friday 2pm-4pm, at my home in Rushden. We have a lot of fun trying out our variations on tunes. Beginners and more experienced players on any instrument are welcome. And you get a free cuppa! If you fancy it, ring 01933 350147.

Alan

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## Ukulele Group

The group meet fortnightly on a Tuesday morning. We are all beginners and are sort of following a course from the internet. Training videos and song-sheets are available and with practice you will quickly get to our standard!! Illness has depleted our numbers so if you fancy joining us in the new year please ring me on 01933 350147. There is a spare Uke if you want to 'try before you buy'. If you don't fancy learning the Ukulele (which is a lot of fun) but would just like to sing with us, the more the merrier.

Alan

## Camera Group

We met on the 26<sup>th</sup> November at the usual venue. After looking at the recent photographs taken by the group, we discussed the subjects we would like to cover and made a programme for the year 2020. The next meeting will be on the 14th January 2020 at 2.00pm at the usual venue.

Julie Bates.

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## Walking Group

After the walking group was suspended for a couple of months during the Summer due to low numbers, the November walk was supported much better.

The walk from the Spencer Arms at Chapel Brampton was on a dull but mostly dry morning. We left the village to join the Brampton Way towards Northampton. After about 1½ miles we left the good footpath to cross the fields only to get our boots a little muddy.

After this the footpath crossed the Brampton Golf course and on to the road known as Millionaires Row with very large properties. Then we headed back to Church Brampton and the Spencer Arms for a very nice lunch.

There will not be a walk in December but weather permitting I will try one for January.

Thanks to David Hamilton and John Andrews for sorting the route.

John Sumpter



**SPEAKERS FOR 2020**

January 8 <sup>th</sup>	Gander's Goat	Ian Horton
February 12 <sup>th</sup>	Keep yourself safe, home or away	Jane Calcott
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	What a wonderful world	Richard Adams
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Spies, lies and XXX agents	Michael A Kushner (Bletchley Park Guide)
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Talking Trees	Liz Taylor (Woodland Trust)
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	A day above Northamptonshire	John Nowell
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	AGM	
August 12 <sup>th</sup>	My farcical career as a cruise ship Liaison Officer	Colin Bower
September 9 <sup>th</sup>	Car Safety	Andy Williams
October 14 <sup>th</sup>	When birds sing	Saffron Summerfield
November 13 <sup>th</sup>	Yule be surprised	Steve Dimmer
December 11 <sup>th</sup>	Over 60's Silver Band Christmas Party	

## Activity Groups and Leaders

Day/Group	Leader	Telephone	Venue	Frequency	Time
<b>Monday</b>					
Painting for Pleasure	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864632	Mind Centre	Weekly	10-12
Book Club	Margaret Turnbull	01536 511139	Varies	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	2pm
Camera Club (advanced)	Jenny Goddard Pat Johnson	01536 482972 01536 483398	Home	Monday after main meeting	2-4pm
Canasta	Margaret Hall	01536 512215	Kettering Bridge Club	Weekly	2-4pm
Knit and Natter	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865	Members home	fortnightly	2-4pm
Mahjong/Scrabble	Linda Law	01536 659091	B.S Village Hall	2 & 4 <sup>th</sup>	2-4pm
Play Reading	Rosalind Bridges	01536 741466	Varies	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	2-4pm
Swimming	Isabel Collins	01536 520971	K. Swimming Pool	Weekly termtime	9-9.45
Maths for Fun	Chris Crick	07490 591224	Home	2 & 4 <sup>th</sup>	10-12
Recorder Group	Mary Cooper Sue Hartley	01536 420336 01536 357676	Central Methodist Church School Lane, Kettering	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>	2.30-3.30
Yoga Group	Annette	01536 513234	St Andrews Church Rooms	Weekly termtime	11.15-12.45
<b>Tuesday</b>					
Walking (medium)	John Sumpter	01536 722198	Varies	Last Tuesday	10am
Ukelele group	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Home	Fortnightly	10am
Travel	G. Hardwick	01536 481203	Member's home	3 <sup>rd</sup>	2pm
Camera Club beginners	Julie Bates	01536 745538	Home	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2pm
Computer Club	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Members home	Fortnightly	10-12
<b>Wednesday</b>					
Keep Fit	Katie Reynolds		BL Civic Centre	Weekly	9.45-10.30
Country Dancing	Janice Angles	07768 169490	St Andrews Hall	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.45
Discussion Group	Linda Miller	01536 483773	Home	1 <sup>st</sup>	2pm
Gardening Club	Chris Ditre S Tecklenberg	01536 723145 01832 733419	Varies	1 <sup>st</sup>	10am
<b>Thursday</b>					
Short Walks	Wanda Moffatt	01536 659236	Varies	3 <sup>rd</sup>	10 am
Music Appreciation	Ken Bridges	01536 741455	Home	Varies	2-4pm
Spanish	G Hardwick	01536 481203	Hertford C Centre	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2-4pm
<b>Friday</b>					
Making Music	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Home	Weekly	2-4pm
Singing for Pleasure	Jill Dee	01536 514054	Fuller Church	Fortnightly	10am
Ballroom Dancing	Pat Johnson	01536 483398	St Edwards Church	Weekly	11.45
Ten Pin Bowling	Dai Johnson	01536 483398	Thunder Bowl	Friday after meeting	10 am

## **Trips**

Day trips          June Mason                  01536 726654

## **Timings at the Eden Centre**

Main meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Eden Centre

Doors open – 1.15

Chair's Chatter – 1.55

Speaker – 2.05

Raffle – 3pm

Finish – 3.15

## **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 Lynne on 01536 618001



## **Newsletter Editor:**

Please send contributions by 5pm, 30<sup>th</sup> of the month to [sylviadale@live.co.uk](mailto:sylviadale@live.co.uk) If you can get them to us earlier that would be appreciated as the newsletter fills up and it is often a job to get the last contributions in.



<b>Webmaster</b>	Alan Bailey	01933 350147
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	Bob Moffatt	01536 659236



## **Committee – 2018-2019**

Chairperson	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865
Vice Chair & Assistant Group		
Co-ordinator	Rosalind Bridges	01536 741455
Treasurer	John Cousens	01933 664602
Secretary	Lynne Franklin	01536 618001
Membership Secretary	Pauline Bailey	01933 350147
Group Co-ordinator	Pat Johnson	01536 483398
General Duties & committee desk	Tony Reed	01536 481733
Speaker Secretary	Julie Bates	01536 725538
General Duties & raffle	Linda Miller	01536 483773
General Duties & New Members	Jill Burgess	01536 515045
General Duties & Assist Speaker		
Secretary	Helen Hicks	01536 483109
General Duties	Gill Green	01536 513519
General Duties	Helen Checkley	01536 418618
General Duties	Lindsey Cole	01536 515689

