



ISE VALLEY NEWS

Kettering, Northants

Charity Number 1179738

April 2020

Chair's Chatter:

The only thing I can say to you all this month is I hope you all keep safe and well. When will this end? Like you all, I expect, I am finding this lockdown very restrictive. Not to be able to go out and about is hard, but on the plus side, I am doing those jobs I have been putting off for months! My house has clean windows and floors and I am starting on the cupboards. I spoke to a friend this morning and she is doing the same! At least some good is coming out of this pandemic!!!



Not many reports this month obviously but there are a few for you to read.

I am sure that you all know what to do regarding the Coronavirus so I am not going to repeat it. I just hope that you all stay well and we can start up our activities soon.

Don't forget that you can keep up with what we are doing and let us know what you are up to on our Facebook page Ise Valley U3A. You will find it in the Groups section.

If you can send me poems, stories and ideas for next month's newsletter that would be great. There won't be any reports as we are all in lockdown!

Sylvia

Singing for Pleasure

We have now selected songs for our summer programme. They are very lively and uplifting and the whole group appears to enjoy singing them.

Early in February our organiser Jill, celebrated a special Birthday, and the majority of the group together with other friends and her very friendly family gathered together at Church House, Barton Seagrave for a lunch. It was a happy time and we thank Jill for including us in the occasion.

On a sadder note, Marion, a stalwart of the group, has announced that she will not be joining us at every meeting due to ill health, but she is busy at the moment preparing information on our music and setting out our programme. We hope that she will continue to join us at our social events.

We already have several dates in our diary to entertain care and retirement homes, so now it's off to practise, practise, and more practise.

Velda

Gardening Group

The Gardening Club had their March meeting at Chris and Peter's house (thank you to them for their hospitality). We discussed the following:

A visit to Frosts Garden Centre in the future. Half priced seeds from D.T. Brown (www.dtbrown.co.uk).

Members shared seeds and plants, which they had brought along. The benefits of various types of compost. We had a quiz, which was fun and made us all put our thinking hats on. Helen won the quiz - well done Helen! Also travel arrangements were discussed for our trip in April to Tandy's Garden Centre at Barnwell.

Gill Green

Play reading

Lots of laughs reading "A chorus of disapproval" by Alan Ayckbourne. The play tells the story of an "Am:Dram:" group rehearsing "The Beggar's Opera". We are sure that we will read more of his!

Next get-together will be on the 6th April at 1pm.

Rosalind.

Ten Pin Bowling

We had two new members for the bowling this week, so we welcomed Margaret and Neil to our growing band, I hope they enjoyed their two hours of merriment and exasperation in equal measure. Friday the thirteenth certainly seemed to have an effect on all of us as only one managed to achieve a personal best and that was Jill. The rest of us were struggling somewhat as the bowls weren't running well for us. Andy and Lou normally manage over 100 but not this time, we hope for better luck next time if the Coronavirus allows!!!! New members welcome anytime for an enjoyable morning and making new friends all for £2.00. What a bargain!

Mike Collins (standing in for Red Leader Dai)

Camera Club

Our task was to visit Oundle to take photos of the architecture, particularly arches and doorways. Geraldine and I went for our last session together and enjoyed the sunshine on that Monday. Oundle looked beautiful. Many of the group declined to go because of the virus, but we look forward to meeting again when Boris gives his permission. Keep taking photographs and we'll look at the best when we meet again. Take care of yourselves.

Jenny

Book club

In February we chose a Joanna Trollope book "An Unsuitable Match"

As always Joanne Trollope writes with knowledge of her subjects so well

Rose has just divorced her husband after discovering he has been having an affair with a colleague at the hospital he is working for.

For ten years. Rose settles on a very nice mews house in London near her three children the elder Laura, twins Emily and Nat. Life is good for Rose she has come out of the shadow of her husband and created a life for herself with friends and translating to keep her solvent. Until she meets Tyler, a recently widowed American whose wife has not long died leaving her two children the lions share of her wealth with Tyler having enough to buy a house.

The two meet and a romance is begun. Rose loves the attention that Tyler gives, together with friends who feel she deserves some happiness at last and encourage her to think of marriage with him

But - always a big but - Tyler suggests that Rose sells her lovely mews flat and buys a cottage in the country and the residue of monies left to give to the children, which is fine but she discovers Tyler has no money of his own and he assumes what's hers is his, this isn't what Rose wants to hear. So, after much soul searching, she breaks off the engagement to Tyler, sells her mews flat to start again.

After deliberation we all agreed Rose had made the correct decision

Margaret Turnbull

Book Club

This door step with over 600 pages was the ideal book to entertain me part of the time during my voluntary self-isolation.(Still well by the way)

I hadn't read any Lucinda Riley books before so was not used to her style of writing and it took me some time to get fully immersed in the story. She tried to get lots of facts over in the

first few chapters setting the scene for the whole series with introductions of the major characters and their background.

However, then the pace slowed and although it was an intriguing plot it took ages to be developed and on occasions, I just wanted her to get on with it! Maia had a rather closed up personality at the beginning but slowly blossomed as she experienced life in Rio de Janeiro and we learnt more of her former experiences. As often in these long tales it seemed to be rushed at the end as the author wanted to tie up loose ends and bring it to a conclusion.

Do we think she should have discovered where her son was after adoption?

Does it make you want to read the rest of the books in this series?

I did enjoy the historical details especially about the building of Christ the Redeemer and the artists involved. It is now recognised as one of the modern day 7 wonders of the World. The interesting social nuances between old and new money in Rio may be an interesting comparison to the latest Julian Fellows TV series Belgravia.

Linda Law



Painting for Pleasure

As the Art Group we had our last meeting on Monday 16th March when we luckily had a tutorial from Catherine. She showed us the fun you can have when painting wet on wet with Watercolours. We did plan to meet again on the 23rd but it was generally decided it would be silly in the circumstances to continue with our group until this unprecedented situation is over.

Catherine started a Facebook group called Catherine's Artists for all the groups she tutors.

This is a closed group so you have to ask to join. She is giving demos and we can post our work for comments and advice.

Tessa Bellamy

Technical Advice

There are 3.9 billion internet users in the world at the nanosecond of writing. The number has doubled in three years and is now well over half the global population (7.6 billion). Several dozen users were added since you read the last sentence. (56% of the Brit population over the age of 75 use it and 99% of those under 30) There are 1.87 billion sites on the web as I write (and only 4% are porn sites!). By the time you get up tomorrow morning, there'll be another half-million or so. (And all of these statistics were correct only for September 2019 so they are probably an underestimation)

Google processes more than 3.5 billion searches every day. That's 40,000 per second. Surprisingly, Google says 15 per cent of searches are new, which means no one has searched for that term before.

250 billion emails are sent every day. (do you read yours?)

The internet requires around 4m megawatts of electricity to work.

Facebook has 2.2 billion users and the number is still rising. If Facebook were a country, it would be China... plus the US, plus Brazil plus Indonesia!

Here are one or two useful links to help pass the time – remember as one newsreader stated “If you are over 70 and pregnant stay at home!” Also, someone told me The Bull in Ambridge is still open!!

1. For those doing DIY. 47 seconds on how to quickly hang a picture in the right place
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Z6lz4N1Hlo>
2. Theatres are closed, but you can still see a show online. [This musical version of the Wind in The Willows from the London Palladium](#) has been made available for free.
3. [the latest Government advice is here.](#)
4. Want to do a daily pub quiz? Here is where you start – live every evening

<https://www.facebook.com/treehousequizzes/>

5. Enjoy Cliff? Here he is giving a pep talk and a youtube play list. Just play the clip and let it run on and it will play through his specially selected list
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nmnla8ll3ul&feature=youtu.be>

As you are reading this on your computer or tablet probably clicking on the link will take you to the site you want



Trips

Coventry trip is postponed until later in the year.

Thursford is still going ahead – at the moment – and we will take the rest of the payments when we have a main meeting again. Should anything change I will contact you all.

Quiz – I hope to have another one later in the year but for those who have paid for the one in March, I will return the money as soon as we are out of this lockdown situation.



While we are all sitting at home wondering what to do next, please spare a thought for Ise Valley U3A and consider if you can help by being on the committee. We are still looking for new committee members. The AGM is deferred until we can meet again, so now would be the ideal time to consider what you can do to keep this group going. If you want to have a chat about it, please ring me 01536 411865. I have plenty of time to chat at the moment!

Sylvia

CRANSLEY HOSPICE – HELP US KEEP IT LOCAL

Cransley Hospice in Kettering is appealing for support, as it urgently hunts for a new home to help safeguard its future.

For more than 20 years, the charity has provided compassionate end-of-life care and support for thousands of patients and their families across North Northamptonshire.

Now the hospice needs to relocate, because the lease on its nine-bed inpatient unit adjoining St Mary's Hospital is coming to an end.

If a new local home cannot be found, the hospice beds will be lost – leaving none in the north of the county.

Peter Kelby, Chief Executive of Cransley Hospice Trust, said: "We have an exciting vision to build a new hospice for the 21st century. This is a fantastic opportunity to create something which future proofs our service.

"Achieving this is crucial. We cannot allow a situation where people in the north of our county have to travel to Northampton or beyond for inpatient hospice care. This would be especially difficult for anyone without their own transport."

The charity has launched a campaign to win public support. People are being asked to sign a Charter, calling for hospice beds to remain in North Northamptonshire. This can be done online at www.cransleyhospice.org.uk/cransley-hospice-charter/ – or in person at the Cransley Hospice shop or cafe in Horse Market, Kettering.

The campaign will also be promoted on the hospice's social media channels, using the hashtag #helpuskeepitlocal.

The hospice's lease is due to expire in 2023 and won't be renewed. The charity has concluded that the best solution is to build a new hospice, with the capacity to expand to meet the future needs of a growing population. This means a location needs to be found as soon as possible, if the new home is to be ready in time.

Building a new hospice will cost £8.5m. The Cransley Hospice Trust has committed to raising at least £3m, and is seeking support from the local health and care system to provide the balance.

The hospice's care regularly prevents the need for 999 ambulance journeys, A&E visits and hospital admissions – thereby easing demands on the local NHS.



**THEY SAID THAT A
MASK AND GLOVES
WERE ENOUGH TO GO
TO THE GROCERY
STORE WITH.**

**THEY LIED, EVERYONE
ELSE HAD CLOTHES
ON!**

Activity Groups and Leaders

Day/Group	Leader	Telephone	Venue	Frequency	Time
Monday					
Painting for Pleasure	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864632	Mind Centre	Weekly	10-12
Book Club	Margaret Turnbull	01536 511139	Varies	3 rd 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 th	2-4pm
Play Reading	Rosalind Bridges	01536 741466	Varies	1 st 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 th	10-12
Recorder Group	Mary Cooper Sue Hartley	01536 420336 01536 357676	Central Methodist Church School Lane, Kettering	2 nd & 4 th	2.30-3.30
Yoga Group	Annette	01536 513234	St Andrews Church Rooms	Weekly termtime	11.15-12.45
Tuesday					
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 rd	2pm
Camera Club beginners	Julie Bates	01536 745538	Home	2 nd	2pm
Computer Club	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Members home	Fortnightly	10-12
Wednesday					
Keep Fit	Katie Reynolds		BL Civic Centre	Weekly	9.45-10.30
Country Dancing	Janice Angles	07768 169490	St Andrews Hall	2 nd & 4 th	10.45
Discussion Group	Linda Miller	01536 483773	Home	1 st	2pm
Gardening Club	Chris Ditre S Tecklenberg	01536 723145 01832 733419	Varies	1 st	10am
Thursday					
Short Walks	Wanda Moffatt	01536 659236	Varies	3 rd	10 am
Music Appreciation	Ken Bridges	01536 741455	Home	Varies	2-4pm
Spanish	G Hardwick	01536 481203	Hertford C Centre	1 st & 3 rd	2-4pm
Friday					
Making Music	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Home	Weekly	2-4pm
Singing for Pleasure	Jill Dee	01536 514054	Fuller Church	Fortnightly	10am
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 – 2nd 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, 30th of the month to 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.



Webmaster	Alan Bailey	01933 350147
Safeguarding Officer	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 529408
General Duties	Helen Checkley	01536 418618
General Duties	Lindsey Cole	01536 515689

