



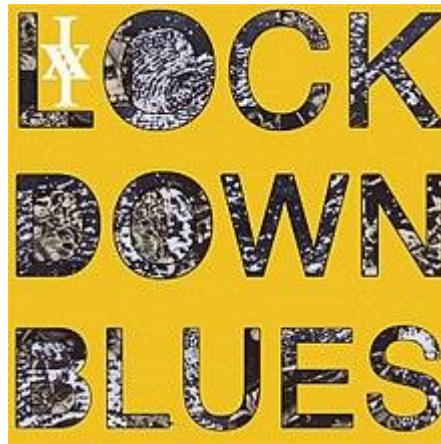
ISE VALLEY NEWS

Kettering, Northants

Charity Number 1179738

July 2020

Chair's Chatter:



As the lockdown has eased and more shops open, I have discovered the difference in how I am greeted in some. The Bank – “What are you coming in here for?” I felt like saying a new hat, but refrained! The small shop – “Welcome, come and have a look, nice to see you!” What a difference. I went into B&Q and the checkout girl sanitised her hands after handling the goods we wanted to purchase from that store. Makes you feel unclean! It is nice to have a chat at the checkout – especially if you have been self-isolating and have had no one to talk to. Fortunately, most of those checkout operators are friendly and recognise the need to pass the time of day. I am looking forward to when we can meet again as a group. You have all been missed and we are looking forward to when we can be together again.

I am wondering how many of you read this newsletter now it is on-line? Do you want me to carry on with it or not? I am not getting any feedback from you as to what you want us to do. Alan Bailey is sourcing some of it and I am getting a couple of bits of info from other members but that is all. Are you still out there? Please let me know what you are up to, what you would like to see or not. At the moment I feel totally isolated from you all and no one is talking to me! Let me know what you want from Ise Valley U3A during this interminable lockdown please.

As I am sure you are aware, the AGM should have been this month. We will be having it as soon as we are allowed to meet again. It may be our last meeting as so far, we have not got a replacement for the Chair. If this proves to be the case then I am sorry, I have done my best to keep this group going, but I will have to close it.

I had a barbecue with the family recently in my daughters' garden. She put up the gazebo and we all sat outside with our coats on and blankets over our knees as we weren't allowed to go in the house! Enjoyed it but it took me ages to get warm afterwards! Seems odd but I can have a service engineer visit the house to repair a recliner chair, but I can't have my family in. Whoever thought up these rules didn't think them through very thoroughly.

How are your gardens looking? I am pleased with mine. How about some photos of yours for the newsletter?

We had our tradesmen recommendations earlier in the year. I have just had my gutters and fascias replaced and the outside painted by one of them. Fantastic job. Thank you John Cooper for recommending Nick.

Have any of you taken up a new skill during lockdown? Let me know how you are getting on.

I have just had 3 separate letters from KGH cancelling an appointment in July. It says that my appointment was non-urgent. If it was non-urgent then why was I going in the first place?

Sorry this is so long this month. Must need someone to talk to!

Keep safe, keep well and keep in touch!

Sylvia Dale
Chair

No wonder foreigners have a hard time learning our language!! Scroll down and get a true kick out of this one:

UP - read until the endyou'll laugh

This two-letter word in English has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that word is 'UP'. It is listed in the dictionary as an (adv), (prep), (adj), (n) or (v).

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky, or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP? Why are the officers UP for election, and why is it UP to the Secretary to write UP a report? We call UP our friends, brighten UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and fix UP the old car.

At other times, this little word has real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite and think UP excuses.

To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed UP is special.

And this UP is confusing: A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP.

We open UP a store in the morning, but we close it UP at night. We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP.

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look UP this word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost ¼ of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions. If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out, we say it is clearing UP. When it rains, the earth soaks it up. When it does not rain for a while, things dry UP. One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP for now ...my time is UP!

Ohone more thing; what is the first thing you do in the morning and the last thing you do at night?

U P !

Did that one crack you UP?

Now I'll shut UP!

Quiz

All the clues relate to flowers or plants.

1. Foggy Romance
2. Remembrance flower
3. Spread on bread with a drink container
4. An unshaved pensioner
5. A bovine slide
6. Say hello to Cynthia
7. Good for sweeping
8. Automobile country
9. Reynard's hand warmers
10. Elizabeth is never idle
11. Wed for money
12. Get better soon
13. Capital's respect
14. Not a true tangerine
15. Is a crystal ball needed to see this?

16. Mrs Clinton is frightened
17. Is this writing implement attached to a plant?
18. Bees product with babies feeding method
19. A thorny leaf in the pawn shop
20. A ring from Chaucer's stories
21. IM IN TAPES (anagram)
22. Look after the pennies
23. A bird that swears
24. Ringed animal travelling fast
25. Old fashioned punishment
26. Eat in a prison
27. The kitchen pot is noticed
28. A tatty bird.

Many thanks to David Capps for this quiz.

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Book Group

The book group have been meeting by email and sending comments on the books we were scheduled to read.

June's book was 'The Librarian' by Salley Vickers. (Yes, I have spelt the name correctly) It is the story of a young librarian taking up a job at the children's library in a small south counties town in the late 1960's. She is very keen to encourage children to read. The chief librarian is anti her efforts. At first she is successful with the help of a volunteer who is having an affair with the chief librarian. . Events, including an affair with the local doctor, conspire to complicate her life and increase the opposition eventually to mean she has to leave, having overcome some of the opposition. The final part of the book ties up a lot of the loose ends telling what had happened to the three main children, Lizzie who Silvia had helped pass her eleven plus and who was now a successful children's author, Sam who although bright had failed his eleven plus but was now a successful scientist in Australia and Marigold who was the source of all the trouble and who had made little of her life. It left the possibility that Sam and Lizzie would get together.

Everyone seems to have enjoyed the book and felt the description of small town life in the 1950's with its prejudices and problems was very realistic. The last chapter where loose ends were tied up was appreciated as it didn't leave you asking what next. We were also able to share the books we had enjoyed as children - remarkably similar and mainly the classics.

We are hoping that next month we will be able to meet in Margaret's garden and to be able to properly share in the meantime we keep reading!

Lindsey Cole



Scammers are already exploiting Test and Trace for 'phishing' campaigns targeted at vulnerable people.

Remember, real contact tracers will never do any of the following:

- Ask you for details of card or bank account numbers
- Ask you to provide or fill in social media login details
- Ask you to set up a pin
- Ask you to download anything

If you are asked for these types of information, you can report the incident to [Action Fraud](#). (Click here for the site)

If you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive, you should only be asked for the information found [on the contact tracing website](#) and [on the gov.uk site](#). This **will** include your full name, date of birth, and details of any symptoms you may have.

If you have tested positive you will receive a call, text or email from NHS Test & Trace with instructions on how to share details of people you have been in close contact with.

You will be called only from 0300 013 5000 or texted from NHS but unfortunately either of these can be faked. If you do not feel comfortable talking or suspect it is a scam, ask for an email or a text that will invite you to use the Test & Trace website instead. Check the email link carefully – you should only be directed to the web address shown here. Any discrepancies will definitely be a scam!

contact-tracing.phe.gov.uk

Hundreds of free audio books. Included are a large range of Agatha Christie novels - including a some [Poirot books read by David Suchet](#) himself. Listen online (easiest), or you can download them.

<https://archive.org/details/audiolibrary>

Fed up with no Wimbledon – why not look at some great moments and behind the scenes films here.

https://www.wimbledon.com/en_GB/video/media/6163290591001.html

Ukulele Group

We continue to learn new songs and get together (social distancing = 13 miles in my case!) on Tuesday mornings via the Internet. We spend nearly as much time chatting as playing but some of our number are self isolating due to medical issues so I suspect it makes a change to talk to people

Alan



Camera Group

We enjoyed another zoom meeting with our homework focussed on looking upwards. Mike Haxell kindly organised the meeting as I am not too confident. These meetings are shorter than the usual so having talked through our photos, we organised that for next month, on the 13th our theme would be, 'Any old iron'

Jenny



Thank you

Thanks to all of you who have been keeping in touch with other members. This lockdown has affected some people quite badly and they now don't want to leave the house in case they catch the virus. Please keep up the good work as we don't know when we will be allowed to meet again.