

u3a

learn, laugh, live

ISE VALLEY NEWS

Kettering, Northants

Charity Number 1179738

December 2021

Hi Everybody, hope you are all well and continue to be safe!

The Christmas party has been organised and the committee have been working hard behind the scenes.

Thanks to all those who came forward at the last meeting offering help. It was much appreciated.

Any ideas or suggestions about future events or groups are always welcome, so do come and speak to me if you have any.

A very happy Christmas and New Year to you all – see you at the Christmas party.

Jill Burgess

Chair



Singing for Pleasure

We are well into our programme of carols and songs for the season. We have now added bells and maracas to songs that benefit from more input. This is all very well unless you happen to be sitting between two people shaking the maracas! Looking around I can see how people benefit from music and singing as they are all moving and looking happy.

We almost enlisted our first male member, I explained the music we sing and that we are not a choir, we do not have a conductor but we all enjoy singing. There are about twenty-four ladies in the group and quite a few of them have beautiful voices and are able to carry the more mediocre ones amongst us.

I think the mention of twenty-four ladies deterred him and I was able to direct him to a mixed group!

Have finalised our menus for the Christmas lunch, so all is well.

Velda Robinson

Camera Club

We looked at the photographs taken of the subject "Hands" and these were shown at the November meeting. This was a hard subject. For the next meeting we have to take photographs of natural materials arranged to form shapes and patterns and these will be shown at the January meeting

The next group meeting will be on Tuesday 14th December 2021 at 19 Sherwood Drive at 2.00pm.

Julie Bates

Book club

Today the book group enjoyed a delicious lunch at Beckworth Garden Centre. Our usual outing once a year.

We discussed our many books we had read and enjoyed over lockdown beside our usual chosen book for the month.

The list was not surprising varied and covered a wide range of titles; lots of murder mystery new authors we have not read before, plus many old favourites we had forgotten over time. Anne Cleves, Lucinda Riley, Ian Rankin. T.J.Rankin to name a few Also this month we are visiting one of our members to watch the film Lion by Saroo Brierley, the book of the same name we enjoyed in October

Margaret



Ten Pin Bowling

We had another enjoyable meeting with some above average scores. Twenty points covered everybody which is the closest we have ever scored. I feel we are all improving. We still have room for more new members so please come and join us and have some fun. Our last session of the year is at 12 midday on Thursday 16th December.

Dai Johnson

Short Walks

Hi everyone,

The walk this month was at Sywell Country Park. The weather was good for walking and many sorts of water fowl were to be seen on the reservoir. There were eleven of us I'm pleased to report. Four new walkers, some from Kettering U3a and we were very pleased to see them. With all the chatting going on we knew each other quite well by the end of the walk. Cake and coffee with our new friends followed before we went home. Someone was missing, Teddy, he has a broken foot, he hopes he will make the next walk.

Next walk is the 16th December 2021

From Wanda, Bob and Teddy.



DAY TRIP NEWS

We all enjoyed a wonderful trip to the Thursford Spectacular on November 23rd. This magical show left us all wanting more. The Thursford experience must not be missed, everything about it from the moment you step down from the coach until the moment you step aboard for home was fantastic. The music, costumes, artistes from all over the world, dancers and comedy were second to none. Roll on next year when we can all do it again.

FORTHCOMING TRIPS

Our first trip of 2022 takes us to KEW GARDENS on February 23rd. February is a special month for Kew as it's when they present their famous Orchid Exhibition. The

cost is just £40.00 which includes the coach, entrance to Kew and our coach driver's tip. You can book by phoning me on **07783 692666** or email on **mikeandnormareilly29@gmail.com** or at our meeting at the Eden Centre on Jan. 12th. Payment will be taken also at our meeting or by telephoning me to make alternative arrangements.

NB This trip is open to family and friends so that they can enjoy a unique experience.

Norma Reilly

January Meeting

This will be a social occasion with a 'Bring and Buy' stall. You are welcome to bring any unwanted Christmas presents and all donations will be given to a charity. You can also bring a friend to this meeting. There won't be a Speaker so you are welcome to come at any time between 1.15 and 3pm to meet other members; have a cup of tea and a chat and decide what groups you would like to join in the new year. We are hoping that all the groups will be up and raring to go in January so that we all have something to look forward to. Speakers are booked until July and can be found further on in the newsletter.

Lunch Club

Our last lunch club of the year is our Christmas meal at The Stirrup Cup in Barton Seagrave on 15th December. We are fully booked with 30 members who have paid their deposits.

In 2022 we hope to have a lunch on alternative months, but I hope that some members will agree to help organise one meal.

Wishing you all a Very Happy Christmas.

Pat Johnson



Remember when:

It took five minutes for the TV to warm up.

Nearly everyone's Mum was home when you got home from school.

Nobody owned a purebred dog.

You'd reach into a muddy gutter for a penny.

Your Mother wore nylons that came in two pieces.

All male teachers wore ties and female teachers had their hair done every day and wore high heels.

You got your windscreen cleaned, oil changed and petrol served without asking all for free every time.

It was considered a great privilege to be taken out to dinner at a restaurant with your parents.

They threatened to keep children back a year if they failed the school year and they did!

When a Ford Zephyr was everyone's dream car and everyone went steady.

Spinning around, getting dizzy and falling down was cause for giggles!

Playing cricket with no adults to help the children to play the game.

Bottles came from the corner shop without sealed lids because no one had thought of poisoning a complete stranger.

And with all our progress, don't you wish you could slip back in time and share it with the children of today.

When being sent to the head's office was nothing compared with what waited for you when you got home!

Basically, we were in fear of our lives not from shootings, drugs etc but because our parents and grandparents were a much greater threat. But we survived because their love was greater.

Remember the summers riding bikes, going for hikes, eating ice creams, sherbert and liquorice sticks?

Didn't that feel good, reading through that and saying "Yes, I remember that"

Knit and Natter

Despite the road works at Wicksteed Park, 2 of our regular members manage to get to the meetings. That is dedication for you.

We still enjoy our sessions which include some knitting and a lot of putting the world to rights, finished off with tea and biscuits or cake. We have decided to have our Christmas lunch after Christmas as it won't be so packed.

A very happy and safe Christmas to you all.

Sylvia Dale

Coffee Mornings

Coffee morning is going from strength to strength with a good number of men meeting regularly. We need more space in the pub now that there are so many of us! We meet from 10am every Thursday at the Stirrup Cup in Barton Seagrave. A number stay on for lunch as well.

Sylvia

Thank you to all those members who offered help with the printing of the newsletter. The good news is that Tresham have decided to start printing it again so we are back to normal – thank goodness. It will still be on the website but there will be copies at the meetings for everyone to take home if they wish to.



Thank you also to those who offered to help at the meetings. We needed help on the door, with the raffle and on the groups table, plus any other tables that we have no one for. It would be great if you could help at different tables every month so that there is some variety in what you do. As there are so few of us on the committee we have been really struggling to fill some of these places so you have been a tremendous help. Look forward to starting this in the new year and will contact you all in time for the first meeting of 2022.

Sylvia

**A Celebration of Christmas
A concert with the Variations Choir**

Come and join us and soloists for an evening of Christmas Songs at

The United Reform Church, London Road,
Kettering

On Saturday the 18th December 2021

At 7.15pm.

Tickets – adults £6

Children under 12 £3

Telephone 01536 513548/723376 or
available at the door.



Christmas Quiz

1. In what year did Raymond Briggs' classic *The Snowman* first appear on TV in the UK?
2. Which member of *The Simpsons* family delivered Channel 4's annual alternative Christmas message in 2004?
3. Over 30 million people watched *EastEnders* on Christmas Day 1986 in an episode that culminated in Dirty Den handing Angie Watts what?
4. On Christmas Day 2003, the final Christmas special of which show was aired, called "Sleepless in Peckham"?
5. In *Friends*, what character does Ross invent to entertain his son Ben when he's unable to get his hands on a Santa outfit?
6. The first dedicated *Doctor Who* Christmas special was broadcast in 2005, featuring which actor as the Doctor?
7. In *The Office* Christmas specials, we learn that David Brent spent his entire redundancy payment on funding a cover version recording and video for which song?
8. Carols from King's College has been a regular fixture of broadcasting on radio and TV every Christmas for many, many decades. But where is King's College?
9. In which decade was the first televised Christmas address from a British monarch? BONUS: who gave the address?

Answers in the January edition of the newsletter.

A very happy Christmas to all our members from the committee of Ise Valley u3a

hohohohohohohohohohoho

PROGRAMME OF SPEAKERS FOR 2022

January 2022	Open and social meeting
February 9 th	Talk by Mr M Kushner, a Bletchley Park Guide. 'Spies, lies, double agents. The real James Bond'.
March 9 th	Talk by Ian Addis. 'Lost sports grounds of old Kettering'
April 13 th	Mr J Norwell - 'A day above the Canary Islands'
May 11 th	Liz Taylor of the Woodland Trust. 'Talking Trees'
June 8 th	Mr Keith Brown - 'The Air Ambulance Service'
July 13 th	Annual General Meeting

Activity Groups and Leaders

Day/Group	Leader	Telephone	Venue	Frequency	Time
Monday					
Art Group	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864621		Monday	10am-12 noon
Book Club	Margaret Turnbull	01536 511139	Varies	3 rd Monday	2pm
Camera Club (advanced)	Jenny Goddard Pat Johnson	01536 482972 01536 483396	3 St Mary's Rd	Monday following Monthly meeting	2pm-4pm
Canasta	Margaret Hall	01536 512215	Kettering Bridge Club	Every Monday	2pm-4pm
Knit and Natter	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865	Dorothy Stocks house	Alternate Mondays	2pm-4pm
Mah Jongg/scrabble	Linda Law	01536 659091	Barton Seagrave village hall	2 nd & 4 th Monday	2pm-4pm
Play reading group	Rosalind Bridges	01536 741466	Venue and date vary	Normally 1 st Monday	2pm-4pm
Recorder Group	Mary Cooper Sue Hartley	420336 367676	Members home	2 & 4 th	2.30-3.30
Tuesday					
Camera Club (Beginners)	Julie Bates	01536 725538	Members house	2 nd Tuesday	2pm
Travel	Geraldine Hardwick	01536 481203	Varies	3 rd Tuesday	2pm
Walking (medium)			Varies	Last Tuesday	10 am
Wednesday					
Country dancing	Janice Angles	07768 169490	St Andrews Hall	2 nd and 4 th Wednesday	10.30am – 12 noon
Gardening	Chris Ditri and Sandra Tecklenberg	01536 723145/733419	Starts in Feb 22	3 rd Wednesday	12.45pm
Discussion Group	Linda Miller	01536 483773	Home	1 st Wednesday	2-4pm
Music Appreciation	Rosalind Bridges	01536 741455	Home	Varies	2-4pm
Thursday					
Coffee Morning	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865	Stirrup Cup Barton Seagrave	Every Thursday	10.00am
Spanish	Geraldine Hardwick	01536 481203	Hertford Community Centre	1 st & 3 rd Thursday	2-4pm
Friday					
Making Music	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Home	Weekly	2-4pm
Singing for Pleasure	Lynda Harris	01536 628940	St John's Church Hall	Fortnightly	10-12.00
Ten Pin Bowling	Dai Johnson	01536 483398	Thunder Bowl	Friday following monthly meeting	12md

Trips

Day Trips Norma Reilly 07783 692666

Timings at the Eden Centre

Main meetings – 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Eden Centre

Doors open – 1.15

Chair's Chatter – 1.55

Speaker - 2pm

Raffle – 3pm

Finish – 3.15pm

To all members

If you are aware of anything affecting one of our members, such as important birthdays, anniversary or illness and feel that a card from the u3a would be appropriate, then please contact one of the committee.

Newsletter Editor

Please send contributions by 5pm, 30th of the month to sylviadale@live.co.uk If you can get them to me earlier, that would be appreciated as the newsletter fills up and it is often a job to get the last contribution in..

Webmaster	Alan Bailey	01933 350147
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Committee – 2021-2022

Chairperson	Jill Burgess	01536 515045
Vice Chair	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865
Treasurer No 1 a/c	Tony Reed	01536 481733
Treasurer No 2 a/c	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864632
Membership Secretary	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865
Secretary		
Groups Co-ordinator		
Speaker Secretary	Julie Bates	01536 725538
Raffle	Linda Miller	01536 483773
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General Duties	Norma Reilly	07783 692666
General Duties	Mike Reilly	07783 692666
Newsletter Editor	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865