

# ISE VALLEY NEWS

Kettering, Northants

**Charity Number 1179738**

**December, 2023**

Hello Everyone

Hope you are all keeping safe and well.

As this is the last newsletter of the year, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I would like to take this opportunity to say Congratulations to a newish member of our group Mr. Trevor Fairall,(on the left of photo) who with his bowling partner Alan Bland won the Ise Lodge Mixed Pairs Bowling Cup. Although called mixed pairs, as there are more men than women in the group it is often not always mixed pairs.

Hope to see you all at our January meeting.

***Jill***  
**Chair**



## PLAY READING

How does Maralyn manage it ? Yet another very funny (naughty) play. This time it was “All in Good Time” written by Bill Naughton. Set in the North Midlands the play starts with the wedding of two young people whose families live and work in the same town. Much slapping of backs, downing of pints and winking of eyes at the reception. But all is not well in the bedroom!! Six weeks later ALL is revealed— — —

Looking forward to the PANTO in December,

Merry Christmas from Rosalind

## THEATRE TRIPS

**I should be so lucky** at the Milton Keynes theatre on 6th March. If we can fill a 19-seater minibus will cost approx. £49.

**The Full Monty** at the Curve in Leicester on the 28th March will cost approx. £42.50 if we can fill a 29-seater minibus.

**The Chorus Line** on the 4th July at the Curve in Leicester will cost approx. £54 if we can fill a 19-seater minibus.

As usual, you are welcome to bring friends and family along. A coach is much cheaper than a minibus, so the more the merrier.

There was not enough interest in All about Jamie so will not be running that trip.

I will let you know prices for Hairspray in the new year. Anyone interested in these shows please let me know. 01536 411865 or

[sylviadale@live.co.uk](mailto:sylviadale@live.co.uk) We will need to collect the money in at the January meeting for the first two shows so if you can't make the monthly meeting, please contact me to make alternative arrangements.

Sylvia

## TEN PIN BOWLING

The most successful shot this week was "bowling down the hole", removing the possibility of converting many spares. Pat achieved the best score of the week by some margin. We are looking forward to our Christmas breakfast at The Forge Tearooms in Cranford.

Dai Johnson

## SPANISH

The Spanish group had two good sessions this month. In the first one, we had to pretend to be someone else while the others asked questions in Spanish to discover facts about us. This was a fun and worthwhile exercise.

In the second lesson, we had to describe an object in the home. Then the others tried to guess what it was. This was, also a fun lesson. We are not meeting during December, so our next meeting will be January 25th 2024.

Pauline Mc Cready

## BEGINNERS CAMERA CLUB

Our topic this month was Arachnids (spiders). Helen had researched the subject and provided us all with ideas to photograph these difficult creatures. We also brought to the meeting our photos of Locks. Some people looked at keys and locks while others took photos of locks on Canals. You can see our photos after Christmas as we won't have space to display them at the next meeting as its the Christmas Party.

Pat Johnson

## LUNCH CLUB

There was no Lunch Club in November, but we are looking forward to our Christmas Lunch Club at The Old Vic, in Burton Latimer on the 20th December. We have collected the deposits and taken the food orders. We shall be collecting the outstanding money in cash at the Christmas Party. The first Lunch Club in 2024 will be in February, at The Hare in Loddington.

Pat Johnson

## TRAVEL GROUP

There will be no Travel Group until 16<sup>th</sup> January. The November and December meetings have been cancelled.

Dai Johnson

## ADVANCED CAMERA GROUP

Just wait till you see our spiders. We had a good meeting this month with not too many frights. Spiders are really quite amazing creatures close up. One had very long legs. Just imagine what that one could get up to and where it might pop up ! Our theme for this month is 'Sparkly things'. Let's see what turns up. Our next meeting will include mince pies, when we will be making plans for next year, and remembering to take a photo of the group.

Jenny

## SHORT WALK GROUP

Back from our holiday which turned out to be a bit of an adventure. Teddy was very pleased to us. We were away for 22 days.

We thought with the weather being so wet and windy Sywell would be a safe bet with good paths, lovely views across the water and refreshments on site. We had 15 walking. Some new faces which is always nice to see. We meet in the lower car park in ideal walking weather. Teddy was very excited he had a friend, Dizzy for company. We started the walk on the right-hand side. Soon striding along, no wind and warm for November, catching up with the latest news. Teddy ran from myself to Bob all the way round and was quite tired at the end. Dizzy was enjoying being free keeping Dave busy keeping up with him. There is an extra path extending the walk by a short distance. Some took that route and caught us up on the way back. Walk done we had refreshment at the outside cafe'. Good walk.

Wanda, Bob, and Teddy

We will be doing a December 21st 2023 walk. In case you can't make it, we would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas look forward to seeing you in the new Year.

## NOVEMBER QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Walford
2. World Wide Web
3. Gold
4. A4
5. David Jason
6. Washington DC
7. Jeans (and denim goods)
8. Jaws
9. Independent Television
10. Henry VIII

### WANTED POINT AND SHOOT CAMERA

If you have a point and shoot camera you no longer use Eleanor Gibson is looking for one. Please contact her on 01536 514475

### CRAFT N COFFEE

Very informative meeting with Penny demonstrating stencilling on cards.

Our next meeting is our Christmas Lunch but the January meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> will be open to anyone who would like to attend.

Joy

## BOOK CLUB

The Family Upstairs by Lisa Jewell.

This is quite an absorbing story and very detailed with quite a few people involved with different and cruel things happening which are described very well by the author and takes place over 5 years and 25 years later.

Henry and Martina Lamb own the house in Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, where most of the action takes place. They have a son Henry Junior, who tells most of the story aged 11, and a daughter Lucy aged 8.

The house is gradually taken over by Birdie and her friend Justin, and then her friend David Thomsen with his family, wife Sally and children Phin and Clemency. So many things happened in the house over the next five years, ending with Lucy having a baby. Time to do something... ending up with 4 bodies, 4 teenagers and a baby. They cleared the house out and warned someone so they would let the police know and the baby would be looked after.

Henry, Phin, Lucy, and Clemency carried on with their lives and met 25 years later.

Next meeting 18<sup>th</sup> December

Julie Bates

## SPEAKER'S REPORT

This month's meeting is, as we all know, the Christmas Party! All tickets for this event have been sold, so I'm afraid if you have not got a ticket you will not be able to attend, due to catering requirements. Doors open at 1.45 pm.

Next month we shall have a talk by Cathy Shelbourne entitled "A Pillar of Society? - Admiral Lord Nelson and the loves of his Life" Will it change the way we think of this hero?

Penny Smith

## REQUEST FOR PHOTOS

As you know we now use the TV screens in the Eden Centre for all our talks. Rather than looking at blank screen before the meeting we thought it would be quite entertaining to put on a slide show of pictures featuring chiefly ourselves doing what we do best - enjoying ourselves! Therefore I would much appreciate it if you could send me by email any pictures that you have, as I am fairly new to the group and I should like have some pictures of past events as well as present ones. I will be about with my camera at the party, if you don't wish to appear on the photos please say. If you do have anything to put on the slideshow, please call me on the number on the back page. Many thanks Penny Smith

## HUG IN A MUG

### Mocha

Makes 1, Ready in 5 mins, plus cooling.

2 tbsp soft light brown sugar

2 tbsp plain flour

1 tbsp cocoa powder

¼ tsp baking powder

1 medium egg

2 tbsp espresso or double-strength coffee, cooled to room temperature.

1 tbsp chocolate chips

½ tbsp icing sugar

2 tbsp double cream

In your mug mix together the sugar, flour, cocoa, and baking powder using a fork. Add the egg, oil, and 2 tbsp of the coffee and mix until just smooth. Gently stir the chocolate chips into the top half of the batter. Microwave for 1 min 10 secs, or until risen and spring to the touch. Set aside to cool for 10 mins.

In a small bowl, combine the remaining 1 tbsp of coffee with the icing sugar and cream, and whisk until the cream forms soft peaks. Dollop a large spoonful of the coffee cream on to your cake and enjoy.

## **Dates for your Diary**

### **Cransley Hospice Community Choir (including some of our members)**

**“ Christmas Cheer with Cransley Hospice Community Choir and Guests”,**

Monday 4th December at the Salvation Army Citadel, Rockingham Road, Kettering.

Doors open at 7pm and the concert will start at 7.30pm.

Tickets are priced at £3 and can be purchased from the Cransley Hospice Shop on 01536 414343 and the Cransley Hospice Fundraising Office on 0300 027 4040.

What better way to start the run up to Christmas and support a worthy cause.

### **“A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS”**

With the Variations Choir and Soloist

Musical Director Christine Howlett

At the United Reformed Church

London Road, Kettering

On Saturday the 16th December at 7.15pm

Tickets Adults £6. Children 12 and under £3. Or tickets available at the door. Or from 01536 513548 or 01536 723376

# Christmas Songs Trivia

- 1) What song does Lucy ask Schroeder to play on his piano in “A Charlie Brown Christmas”?  
A. My little Drum    b A Christmas song    c Jingle bells
- 2) Which Christmas song was the first song ever broadcast on radio?  
a. O Holy Night    b. Joy to the World    c. Jingle Bells
- 3) “Jingle Bells” was originally written for which holiday?  
A. Christmas    b. Thanksgiving    c. Easter
- 4) Which Christmas song holds the world record as the best-selling single of all time?  
a. White Christmas    b. All I want for Christmas is you    C Last Christmas
- 5) Which was the first Christmas Song that mentioned Santa?  
A The Little Drummer Boy    b Up on the Housetop    c. A Holly Jolly Christmas
- 6) Which was the first Christmas song that was perform in space?  
a. O Holy Night    b Jingle Bells    c O Christmas Tree
- 7) How old was the singer Brenda Lee when she recorded the original version of “Rockin’ around the Christmas Tree”?  
a. 21    b. 11    c.13
- 8) “Do You Hear What I Hear” was originally written as a call for peace during which conflict?  
a. The Cuban missile crisis.    B. American Civil War    C. World War 2
- 9) Which of these songs was condemned by the Roman Catholic Church?  
a. I saw Mommy kissing Santa Claus    b. Grandma got run over by a reindeer.  
c. Dear Sant (Bring me a Man this Christmas)
- 10) What year was “It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year” first recorded?  
a. 1972    b. 1963    c. 1981
- 11) What is the most published Christmas hymn?  
a. O Holy Night    b We three Kings    c Joy to the world
- 12) What pop Christmas hit was released in 1984 but did not rank in the charts until 2017?  
a. All I want for Christmas by Mariah Carrey    b. Winter Wonderland by Eurythmics  
c. Last Christmas by Wham
- 13) In the song “The Little Drummer Boy” kept time. Who accompanied him?  
a. The fox and the lamb    b. The ox and the lamb    c. The ox and the sheep
- 14) On he tenth day of Christmas, what does my true love give to me?  
a. gold rings    b. lords a leaping    c. swans a swimming.
- 15) Which Christmas song was written during a summer heatwave in 1944?  
a. Chestnuts roasting on an open fire    b. O Fir Tree Dack    c. I’ll be Home for Christmas

## Activity Groups and Leaders

| Day/Group                  | Leader                       | Telephone                          | Venue                           | Frequency                                       | Time                  |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>              |                              |                                    |                                 |                                                 |                       |
| Art Group                  | Tessa Bellamy                | 07854<br>864632                    | St Andrews Church<br>Hall       | Monday                                          | 2-4pm                 |
| Book Club                  | Margaret<br>Turnbull         | 01536<br>511139                    | Village Hall Barton<br>Seagrave | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday                          | 1.45pm                |
| Camera Club<br>(advanced)  | Jenny Goddard<br>Pat Johnson | 01536<br>482972<br>01536<br>483398 | Member's home<br>(Ise Lodge)    | Monday following<br>Monthly meeting             | 2pm-<br>4pm           |
|                            |                              |                                    |                                 |                                                 |                       |
| Mah<br>Jongg/scrabble      | Linda Law                    | 01536<br>659091                    | Barton Seagrave<br>Village hall | 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday        | 1.45 -<br>3.45        |
| Play reading group         | Rosalind<br>Bridges          | 01536<br>741466                    | Venue and date<br>vary          | Normally 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Monday              | 2pm-<br>4pm           |
| Recorder Group             | Mary Cooper<br>Sue Hartley   | 420336<br>357676                   | Member's home                   | 2 & 4 <sup>th</sup>                             | 2.30-<br>3.30         |
| <b>Tuesday</b>             |                              |                                    |                                 |                                                 |                       |
| Camera Club<br>(Beginners) | Julie Bates                  | 01536<br>725538                    | Member's house                  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday                         | 2pm                   |
| Ukelele Group              | Alan Bailey                  | 01933<br>350147                    | Member's house                  | Fortnightly                                     | 10-12                 |
| Travel                     | Dai Johnson                  | 01536<br>483398                    | Member's house<br>Ise Lodge     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday                         | 2pm                   |
| Craft n Coffee             | Joy Knight                   | 07535<br>446758                    | Stirrup Cup Barton<br>Seagrave  | 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday                         | 10.30-<br>12          |
| <b>Wednesday</b>           |                              |                                    |                                 |                                                 |                       |
| Lunch Club                 | Pat & Dai<br>Johnson         | 01536<br>483398                    | Varies                          | Alternative Months<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday | 12.00<br>for<br>12.30 |
| <b>Thursday</b>            |                              |                                    |                                 |                                                 |                       |
| Ten pin bowling            | Dai Johnson                  | 01536<br>483398                    | Thunder bowl                    | Following monthly<br>meeting                    | 12<br>midday          |
| Coffee Morning             | Sylvia Dale                  | 01536<br>411865                    | Stirrup Cup Barton<br>Seagrave  | Every Thursday                                  | 10.00a<br>m           |
| Spanish                    | Pauline<br>McCready          | 01536<br>485416                    | St Andrews Church<br>Hall       | Fortnightly                                     | 2-4pm                 |
| Short Walks                | Wanda & Bob<br>Moffatt       | 01536<br>659236                    | Varies                          | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday                        | 10am                  |
| <b>Friday</b>              |                              |                                    |                                 |                                                 |                       |
| Singing for<br>Pleasure    | Lynda Harris                 | 01536<br>529410                    | St John's Church<br>Hall        | Fortnightly                                     | 10-<br>12.00          |

To enrol in any groups, please contact the Group Leaders. Coffee morning is the exception - anyone is welcome.

## **Trips**

Day Trips                    Jill Burgess 01536 515045  
Theatre trips                Sylvia Dale 01536 411865

## **Timings at the Eden Centre**

Main meetings – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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## **Newsletter Editor**

Please send contributions by 5pm, 30<sup>th</sup> of the month to [joy.knight2@btinternet.com](mailto:joy.knight2@btinternet.com) 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.

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

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## **Committee – 2023-2024**

|                      |                    |              |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Chairperson          | Jill Burgess       | 01536 515045 |
| Vice Chair           | Penny Smith        | 07772 237077 |
| Treasurer No 1 a/c   | Penny Smith (temp) | 07772 237077 |
| Treasurer No 2 a/c   | Tessa Bellamy      | 07854 864632 |
| Membership Secretary | Doreen Riley       | 01933 313173 |
| Secretary            | Jill Burgess       | 01536 515045 |
| Groups Co-ordinator  | Joy Knight         | 07535 446758 |
| Speaker Secretary    | Penny Smith        | 07772 237077 |
| General Duties       | Anne Chandler      | 07734 963682 |
| General Duties       | Erika Beecher      | 01536 722932 |
| General Duties       | Joan Bennett       | 07597 559055 |
| Newsletter Editor    | Joy Knight         | 07535 446758 |