

ISE VALLEY NEWS

Kettering, Northants

Charity Number 1179738

April 2024

Hi Everyone,

Hope you all keeping well and safe.

Hope you all had a good Easter if it was a bit wet. I was on holiday the week before, came home Good Friday to a houseful of family which was nice, spent Easter Monday stripping beds and putting the house back to normal.

Last month we wished Peter a happy 90th birthday and this month we would like to wish John Cooper a very happy 90th birthday.

AGM will be in July and any new recruits to the committee would be most welcome, if interested please let myself or Penny know.

Jill

If you have anything you would like to be included in the newsletter please contact Joy at the meetings or joy.knight2@btinternet.com

February Book Report

The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

This book is set in a very exclusive retirement complex where four friends meet every Thursday to try to solve old murder cases, but then a real-life murder happens on their very own patch.

Richard Osman writes with gentle humour and draws his characters well. The members of the book club enjoyed this book and would like to read the three other books about the same characters but felt the books needed to be read in the correct sequence as there are plots and sub-plots and very many characters, which can be a little confusing but overall it was well received.

Lynda Kirbyshire

Recommendation by Member

I have just had my lawnmower serviced and my shears sharpened and I was so impressed by the workmanship, the speed of service and the price I thought that perhaps other members of the U3A might find him useful. All the members need to do is phone him and discuss what they require. Below are his details, he lives in Geddington

Regards Mike Collins

The Lawnmower Man
John Cole 0795 100 4387
www.ketteringmowerservices.co.uk

Short Walk

Hi everyone,

Despite the wet weather so far this year we managed a walk at Sywell. Chosen for its good paths. It was perfect walking weather sunny with a light breeze. We had a good turnout, some new faces always nice to see and everyone pleased to be meeting up. Even I made it. Just! Thank you, Bill and Trevor for your support. Teddy loved it running from back to front. He had a workout. The birds were singing loudly in the bushes and trees as we walked by. Spring is here? Almost. We finished the walk at the on-site cafe which is small but has been upgraded over time. Thankfully, it was warm enough to sit outside.

Looking forward to seeing you all next month when spring really will be here.

Wanda, Bob and Teddy

Craft n Coffee

7 members joined in the crafting and drinking coffee this month. Joan arrived wearing a lovely hexagon crocheted cardigan she had made after seeing mine. 3 of us were knitting, 1 crocheted, 2 were sewing, 1 came for the chat and to let us know her upcycling projects. Also had a discussion on chasing companies to sort out issues with smart meters.

I would like to thank my members for my Easter flowers, much appreciated.
Next meeting 23rd April 10.30 – 12.00
Look forward to seeing you there

Joy

Notice from Northamptonshire Police

Good afternoon

I am pleased to announce the first free mature driver roadshow for 2024.

Free Mature Drivers Roadshow – 7th May 2024 - Rushden

Are you a mature driver (aged 60+)? Live in Northamptonshire? Rely on being able to drive? This FREE roadshow is for you! Driving is an important part of our everyday life and we (Northamptonshire Safer Roads Alliance (NSRA)) are keen to help to keep mature drivers driving safer for longer.

Our driving ability to drive changes over time for different reasons, especially as we get older. It's important that we recognise whether and how our driving is changing so we can stay safe and protect both ourselves and those around us.

This Mature Drivers Roadshow is aimed at drivers 60+ and will cover all different aspects of driving. There will be a short talk and then plenty of time to meet informally with our many stand holders. Free advice will be available on car adaptations, eyesight, how your prescription medications may affect you, and much more. There will be FREE hints and tips drives available to book, delivered Northampton Advanced Motorists.

Our aim is to keep mature drivers driving safer, for longer.

Book your Free tickets via Universe <https://www.universe.com/mature-drivers-rushden-2024>

The event is being held at The Goods Shed, 227 John Clark Way, Rushden NN10 0AW (what3words.com/minority.mows.interrupt) with two sessions, 9.30am and 1.00pm.

Verse sent in by Helen Smith

Helen came across this verse which she thought readers might like:

I remember the corned beef of my childhood

**And the bread that we cut with a knife
When the children helped with the housework**

And the man went to work *not* the wife.

The cheese never needed a fridge

And the bread was so crusty and hot

The children were seldom unhappy

And the wife was content with her lot.

I remember the milk from the bottle

With the yummy cream on the top

Our dinner came hot from the oven

And not from a freezer, or shop.

The kids were a lot more contented

They didn't need money for kicks

Just a game with their friends in the road

And sometimes the Saturday flicks.

I remember the slap on my backside

And the taste of soap if I swore

Anorexia and diets weren't heard of

And we hadn't much choice what we wore.

Do you think that bruised our ego?

Or our initiative was destroyed?

We ate what was put on the table

And I think life was better enjoyed.

Author Unknown

Thank you Helen

Book Club March Report

Our book for March was *The Dream Weavers* by Barbara Erskine. The story starts in 2021 with Bea Dalloway helping Simon Armstrong, a writer, to get rid of a ghostly vision he had heard and seen, outside the cottage he was renting.

The story also goes back to 788 AD under the rule of Saxon King Offa of Mercia who had 3 daughters, the youngest of whom the story was about, and which involved her search for her long-lost lover. Bea had the ability to summon up scenes from the past involving the youngest daughter, and found herself actually present, sometimes in dangerous situations.

The book caused various comments and a lively discussion. Some members liked it, others found going back into the past a bit too far-fetched. All in all an interesting group meeting.

Shirley Hill

Change to Book Club Times

A change to our meeting time will As from May 20th we shall meet at 11am until 1pm same address as listed

Also can you please add. The Book Group is now at full capacity. Thank Margaret Turnbull

Signing in and out

If you arrive before we are set up or in back door please ensure you book in. Also if you leave before 2.00 can you also sign out.

Thank you

Speaker

The speaker for April is Philip Caine. He is a Cumbrian who worked in the hotel business, the oil industry in various far-flung places, he has spent time working in post war Baghdad with the American coalition and then 3 years running oil services companies in Dubai. Since retiring he has spoken at numerous venues across the UK and written 9 thrillers - which are available in multiple formats. He will be bringing some of them with him if anyone would like to make a purchase. His talk will be entitled "From Barrow to Baghdad"

The speaker for May is Anne Leach who will be speaking on the art of happiness

May I remind you that I am always interested in suggestions for speakers, so if you know of any good speakers please let me know.

Penny

Art Group

We had a good session with Melanie Henson painting a bluebell woodland scene with the Brusho powder which can be used in many different ways with interesting and sometimes amazing effects. Two of the group are having surgery so unable to make the classes for a while and one lady has left so although some weeks there are 10 or 11 of us it can be as little as 5 so have space for another one or two if anyone is interested to practice their art with our friendly group. Just drop me a text.

Tessa

Camera group

We discussed the ways we had photographed moving water and the effects we had hoped to achieve. You will see these at the April meeting.

Our topic for this month is to take photos of scenes that illustrate the titles of songs . To get the group started, I set up three examples; tea for two, these boots are made for walking and paperback writer. We look forward to seeing the group's examples at the 15th. April meeting which will be held at Pat's home.

Jenny

Last Month's Speaker

If anyone is interested in reading the presentation by Nick Dobson on Agatha Christie please contact Penny and she can forward it to you.

Play Reading Group

Bernard Shaw's play "Doctor's Dilemma" was written in 1906 and tells the story of a group of wealthy doctors and their different ideas of 'treatments' - and making money of course ! They are introduced to a beautiful, charming young woman who is desperate for them to see her artist husband. He is dying from "consumption" - they have no money for treatment - will the Doctors help ? Although the play is dated many of the moral arguments still apply. Again it is a play to be staged rather than read and it is still a "Comedy" - so we should use the Doctor's advice and "Stimulate the Phagocytes".

Next meeting will be on 7th: May

Rosalind Bridges

Ten Pin Bowling

We welcomed a new player, Tony to our February meeting and despite not having played for forty years, he proceeded to show us how to do it by getting the highest score of the week. The scores in March were close but no PB's were achieved. We have plenty of room for new members , so come and join us and have some fun. Please contact Dai for further details.

Dai Johnson

Travel Group

Peter welcomed us to our usual venue and we had a long chat as to the way forward for the group.

We were entertained by John's film from the Isle of Wight of coloured water fountains performing to music, which I'm sure some members have seen. The second film was of a visit to the National Memorial Arboretum, shortly after it had opened. Some members had been more recently and were able to inform us of the developments of the site, which is a wonderful venue for a day out.

Dai Johnson

March Quiz Answers

1. Call of Duty
2. Tennessee
3. Nine Inch Nails
4. Krone
5. The French Open (Roland Garros)
6. Netherlands
7. Four (The Godfather Part 2, Heat, Righteous Kill, The Irishman)
8. Marathon
9. Emperor Hirohito
10. Mercury

Theatre Trips

We went to see I Should Be So Lucky at Milton Keynes theatre in early March. Unfortunately, although I had booked circle seats the theatre decided that we should be in the upper circle! Not a good move as the sound was too loud and we all struggled with it. Despite complaining and the theatre turning down the sound during the interval, it was not a pleasant experience. The response from the theatre was less than helpful so I will not be booking any more shows there.

At the end of March we went to see The Full Monty at the Curve in Leicester. Despite it being a cold a wet day we all enjoyed ourselves and the show was brilliant. The next show in July will be A Chorus Line. I have just had a cancellation and now have 2 more seats available if anyone wants to invite a friend to go with them. Usual phone number 01536 411865 if you want them or sylvia-adale@live.co.uk Usual phone number 01536 411865 if you want them or sylvia-adale@live.co.uk.

I am now about to book for Hairspray which will be at the Curve on Thursday 26th September. Anyone interested please see me at the next meeting in April where I will be collecting money from those who have booked for A Chorus Line.

Sylvia Dale

The Beginners Camera Group.

The group met on the 12th March with only 4 members present. We discussed the photographs we had taken of different shapes of boxes etc, and these were shown at the U3A meeting on the 13th March. The next group meeting is on the 9th April at the usual venue when we will be looking at photographs we have taken for the subject "Forgotten", things that are old, unused or neglected.

Julie

Spanish Group

The Spanish group only had one meeting in March. This was because most people had appointments to keep etc. A new member has joined the group.

In our Spanish session, we did some grammar work first. Then we asked each other questions in Spanish and had to answer appropriately.

After that we looked at a Spanish magazine article about Clara Campoamor. We had to answer questions about the article in Spanish.

It turned out to be a good session

Pauline McCreedy

April Quiz

1. Who wrote the novels Gone Girl and Sharp Objects?
2. Which legendary surrealist artist is famous for painting melting clocks?
3. Which football club plays its home games at Loftus Road?
4. Continental United States has 4 time zones, can you name them?
5. What was the Turkish city of Istanbul called before 1930?
6. From which US city do the band The Killers originate?
7. Name the Coffee shop in US sitcom Friends.
8. How many human players are there on each side in a polo match?
9. In what year did Tony Blair become British Prime Minister?
10. How many times has England won the men's football World Cup?

Activity Groups and Leaders

Day/Group	Leader	Telephone	Venue	Frequency	Time
Monday					
Art Group	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864632	St Andrews Church Hall	Monday	2-4pm
Book Club	Margaret Turnbull	01536 511139	Village Hall Barton Seagrave	3 rd Monday	11.00 to 1.00pm
Camera Club (advanced)	Jenny Goddard Pat Johnson	01536 482972 01536 483398	Member's home (Ise Lodge)	Monday following Monthly meeting	2pm- 4pm
Mah Jongg/scrabble	Linda Law	01536 659091	Barton Seagrave Village Hall	2 nd & 4 th Monday	1.45 - 3.45
Play reading group	Rosalind Bridges	01536 741466	Venue and date vary	Normally 1 st Monday	2pm- 4pm
Recorder Group	Mary Cooper/ Sue Hartley	01536 420336/ 01536 357676	Member's home	2 & 4 th	2.30- 3.30
Tuesday					
Camera Club (Beginners)	Julie Bates	01536 725538	Member's house	2 nd Tuesday	2pm
Ukelele Group	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Member's house	Fortnightly	10-12
Travel	Dai Johnson	01536 483398	Member's house (Ise Lodge)	3 rd Tuesday	2pm
Craft n Coffee	Joy Knight	07535 446758	Stirrup Cup Barton Seagrave	4 th Tuesday	10.30- 12
Wednesday					
Lunch Club	Pat & Dai Johnson	01536 483398	Varies	Alternative Months 3 rd Wednesday	12.00 for 12.30
Thursday					
Ten pin bowling	Dai Johnson	01536 483398	Thunder bowl	Following monthly meeting	12 midday
Coffee Morning	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865	Stirrup Cup Barton Seagrave	Every Thursday	10.00a m
Spanish	Pauline McCready	01536 485416	St Andrews Church Hall	Fortnightly	2-4pm
Short Walks	Wanda & Bob Moffatt	01536 659236	Varies	3 rd Thursday	10am
Friday					
Singing for Pleasure	Lynda Harris	01536 529410	St John's Church Hall	Fortnightly	10- 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 – 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Eden Centre

Doors open – 1.30

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 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.

Webmaster	Alan Bailey	01933 350147
Safeguarding Officer	Bob Moffatt	01536 659236

Committee – 2023-2024

Chairperson	Jill Burgess	01536 515045
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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 Seeker	Penny Smith	07772 237077
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