

ISE VALLEY NEWS

Kettering, Northants

Charity Number 1179738

February, 2024

Hi All,

Hope everyone is keeping well.

My plea for someone to step forward to take over the treasurer's role in July, did not fall on deaf ears. A big thank you to Bob Macgregor who has said he will give it a go. He will be shadowing Penny for the next couple of months to get a lay of the land.

Now all we need are some brave souls to come forward as committee members, especially the men as your input will be invaluable.

Remember this is your group and we are all responsible to ensure we can keep running and moving on.

Anybody willing to run a group please contact Joy or indeed let her know if you have any good ideas for a group. Anybody interested in a golfing group please let me know.

Thanks

Jill
Chair

Advanced Camera group

We welcomed a new member, Richard to our group on Monday, so 5 of us met to discuss the new theme of 'triangles'. There are now 6 of us in the group and we could still welcome another one or two. Our next meeting is on 19th February when our theme will be 'Water' If you would like to join, please contact me

Jenny

Travel Group

We restarted our group, hoping for some new ideas for the future. Brian showed us a disc/cd of a holiday in Oxford and Wiltshire. Thank you, Brian, for such a delightful and informative talk.

We discussed the future and it was suggested that we could have guest speakers. Maybe there are people who would be willing to share details/photos or films of their interesting holidays or days out. So if any of our members or friends would be willing to help us out please talk to me at the next meeting or ring me at home 01536 483398.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 20th February at 2.00pm.

Dai Johnson

Ten Pin Bowling

January Blues! Not one of our better sessions, so the few successes were greeted with a lot of enthusiasm.

We all hope for better scores in the future. New members are most welcome to join us. Please give me a ring if you have any questions about our group.

Dai Johnson

Beginners Camera Group

Our topic for this month was Boxes, Rectangles and Squares. We shared ideas as to how we could complete this task. We decided that lighting is important to give definition and contrast to the sharp angles of the shapes. You can see our photos at the February meeting.

Pat Johnson

Lunch Club.

Sadly, as some of you know, The Hare at Loddington closed down at the end of December 2023. We had planned to go there for our February lunch, so we are now busy finding a new venue, having had some good recommendations from members. We shall be taking food orders and a £5 cash, non-refundable deposit at the February meeting on February 14th. The meal will be at 12.00 for 12.30 on Wednesday 21st February 2024. Everyone is welcome.

Pat and Dai Johnson

AGE UK LIFEBOOKS

We have a supply of the AGE UK Lifebooks which is a easy and safe way to record the practical details of your life to help family or friends to sort any issues. These will be on the Group Info Table if you would like a copy

Book Club

The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins

The main character, Rachel Watson, is going through a stressful period of her life. She is struggling with an alcohol problem which may have been triggered by depression and the death of her father. She is now divorced from Tom, who has remarried, Anna, with whom he was having an affair and now has his child. Rachel was also dismissed from her job in the city. All because of her drinking. An old college friend, Cathy, kindly lets her stay and she pretends to go by train every day to work. The train stops regularly at a place where backing onto the tracks is a row of houses where she used to live with Tom. She observes another couple in a neighbouring house and fantasises about their seemingly happy life. She still has feelings for Tom and phones him often and occasionally gets off at the station for his road.

She has been drinking so heavily one Saturday night that she experiences a blackout and can't recall how she became injured in the road where Tom and Anna but also Megan and Scott, the fantasy couple, live. The mystery then evolves as Megan goes missing that same night and after many twists in the story, we discover many of the characters are not what they first seem. Rachel feels she has information which may help find the killer.

This was a book with a slow start but gathered pace quickly as we discovered who was the guilty party which surprised many of our group.

Our next Meeting at Barton Seagrave Village Hall is on Monday 19th February

Linda Law

Monthly Raffle

We would like to thank all of you who support our raffle each month. Thank you too for your generous donations of raffle prizes. This all helps us to provide some interesting prizes.

Pauline Mc Cready and Pat Johnson

Small Jobs Assistance

We all have small jobs which are difficult to get a tradesperson to come out and deal with so do any of our members have any particular trades/talents they are happy to offer their services for please let the committee know.

Thank you

Singing for Pleasure

Our first session started on 19th January and despite challenging temperatures the majority of the group turned up, we just put on an extra layer and turn up to sing. We have a new programme of songs chosen mainly by Lynda with some contributions from the floor, and we all seemed to enjoy the programme. Our best wishes to the injured and indisposed.

Velda Robinson

Speaker Information

This month's speaker is Cathy Barry from Wilson Browne Solicitors, and she will be advising us about wills, trustees, and other services which solicitors offer and may be of use to us. (As they say on TV other solicitors are available!)

March:

The speaker is Nick Dobson who will be giving a talk entitled Agatha Christie, Queen of Crime.

April:

Author, Seaker and Raconteur by Philip Caine

May:

Mindfulness – The Art of Happiness by Anne Leach

June:

60 years of Entertainment by Vince Eager

July: Annual General Meeting

August: Arsenics Toxic Legacy by Neil Dickinson

Please remember if you have any suggestions for any speakers or entertainment please let me know

Penny

Photo from the Art Group



Craft n Coffee



Another enjoyable morning spent crafting and laughing. Angela brought the EMR Logo "Miles" that she had made and also his girlfriend. Does anyone know her name?

Anyone is welcome to join us on 27th February at the Stirrup Cup, Barton Seagrave between 10.30 – 12.00. It is not compulsory to craft whilst you are there.

Joy

Short Walk Group

This walk was around Fineshades Wood. 14 came and we set off at the slightly later time of 10.30. The weather was exceptional. Bright, bright sunshine, not a cloud in the sky and the temperature was around minus 2-3C. Very chilly but we were all dressed for the weather. Teddy didn't seem to mind and after the usual excitement he settled down.

A little confusion finding the start point then we were off. The paths are very good and in no time the cold was forgotten. In fact, as we returned some were complaining about being too warm!

2 1/2 to 3 miles and about 8000 steps and we were back to the car park.

Afterwards we adjourned to the cafe' for refreshments and chats.

All in all a successful walk.

From Wanda, Bob and Teddy.

Playreading Group

We've started the New Year with a classic - "Arsenic and Old Lace" by Joseph Kesselring was written in 1939 and made into a film (starring Cary Grant) in 1944. Two sweet elderly sisters- with a brother digging the Suez Canal in the basement of their house! Insanity rules - and so do the laughs _ just don't drink the home-made wine!!

Our next meeting is on 6/02/24

Rosalind Bridges

Spanish Group

On Thursday 25th January it was our first Spanish meeting of the year. There were five of us at the meeting. Three members of the group didn't attend.

For the first part of our session, we looked at the past tense in Spanish. We also looked at the names for materials, shape, size, design and colour.

For homework we had to translate an article about Dynamo that was given to us by Bill our Spanish tutor. In the session we had to take turns in reading the script in Spanish about Dynamo. Then we had to translate into English.

It was an enjoyable meeting. Our next meeting is on 8th February 2024

Pauline Mccready

Art Report

It was good to get back to our regular weekly sessions. Most of us were too busy over Christmas to do much painting so great to get the paints out again. We have lost a couple of people but have one new member. We're getting on with our own subjects with the different materials of our choice. No Mel this month as she spends Christmas back home in South Africa but looking forward to when she's here on the 26th March.

As not everyone is able to meet every week we could squeeze in another person if anyone wants to contact me.

Tessa Bellamy

Purple Hands (story by Aidan Coyle)

When I was a small child my grandparents would take me blackberry picking. It was usually late August when the blackberries had full ripened. Grandad would drive us in his old van. Despite not being comfortable or particularly safe, Grandad's vans had a character you would not find in a sleek new car complete with the latest innovations and a silent engine. Being seven or eight at the time, I always enjoyed a trip as we bounced along to our destination.

My grandparents always chose the same spot. Wild blackberry bushes stretched along the roadside as far as the eye could see in both directions. The road overlooked a small pitch and putt course. On such sunny summer days it was always full. Golfers ambled sedately from hole to hole and the crack of metal striking ball was a constant accompaniment.

Several hours of picking berries ensued. Nana warned me not to eat any until they had all been washed but turned a knowing blind eye while I gorged anyway. I also helped myself to the occasional unripe red berry as I had a particular taste for anything bitter. The fully immature green berries proved a step too far for even my pallet and were merely unpleasant.

When at last we were finished the bright scenery had turned to lengthy shadows and the afternoon had elapsed into evening. Grandad hauled a bin bag half full of berries back to the van. Juice bled slowly onto the ground. Nana would later make apple and blackberry tarts and fill several jars with jam. When I reached the van my stomach hurt from too much fruit. My hands stung from constant thorn pricks and were stained dark purple. I always enjoyed those days.

February Quiz

1. Who wrote the book Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang: The Magical Car?
2. In which part of your body would you find the cruciate ligament?
3. What is the name of the main antagonist in the Shakespeare play Othello?
4. When was the movie the Titanic released?
5. What element is denoted by the chemical symbol Sn in the periodic table?
6. How many of Henry VIII's wives were called Catherine?
7. What was the most popular girls name in the UK in 2021?
8. What is the name of the 1976 film about the Watergate scandal, starring Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman?
9. Which comedian was the second permanent host of Never Mind the Buzzcocks after Mark Lamarr?
10. What is the capital of Finland?

Answers for January Quiz

1. Water
2. Helium
3. Gotham
4. Three
5. V
6. Red
7. Right
8. Gandalf
9. 1914

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	1.45pm
Camera Club (advanced)	Jenny Goddard Pat Johnson	01536 482972 01536 483398	Member's home (Ise Lodge)	Monday following Monthly meeting	2pm- 4pm
Tuesday					
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
Wednesday					
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
Thursday					
Lunch Club	Pat & Dai Johnson	01536 483398	Varies	Alternative Months 3 rd Wednesday	12.00 for 12.30
Friday					
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
Singing for Pleasure					
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 – 1.15
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 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
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 Seeker	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