

**August, 2025**

Hello everyone!

Many thanks to all those who attended the AGM. Good news on the new website - it is hoped that it will launch on 1st September - just one or two niggles to sort out. May I thank Roger Payne for updating the website, which will now look more modern and is more user friendly.

Roger is also taking over as Newsletter compiler from 1st September, again thank you Roger. I would also like to thank out- going compiler Joy Knight for all her efforts.

Penny

**PLEASE NOTE DOORS ARE NOT OPEN UNTIL 1.30  
IF YOU DO ARRIVE EARLY YOU WILL BE ASKED TO WAIT IN THE FOYER  
WHILST WE ARE SETTING UP THE HALL  
THANK YOU**

## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

From next month (September) I will be taking over the Newsletter from Joy, so please can your group reports and other material for the September newsletter be sent to me. As usual by 30th of the month please but early submissions are always most welcome. Please send your contributions to me at [u3a.ise.valley@gmail.com](mailto:u3a.ise.valley@gmail.com)

Thank you, in anticipation

Roger Payne

### **Speaker Info**

The speaker for August is Monica Ozdemir from the Civic Society. She will be talking about William Knibb and also the Kettering Coat of Arms. We shall also hear why Kettering was known as "The Holy City". This is the talk that was cancelled due to the pavement fire earlier this year.

### **Future Speakers**

10th September. PC Joanne Barlow. Security  
8th October. Jon-Paul Carr. Northamptonshire Inventors and Inventions  
12th November. Adrian Perkins . Haunted Northamptonshire and Beyond  
10th December Christmas Party . Sammy Dean Vocalist  
14th January To be confirmed  
11th February. Dr Pienkowski. The Reinroduction of the Red Kite.

Penny

## **Short Walks**

Hi everyone

Well after all the dry sunny weather. What did we get? Hot, sticky rain. Really unpleasant but some had wet weather gear and some just had an umbrella. Teddy wasn't impressed either, he soon looked like a drown rat.

However, the group started the walk in high spirits. This is a popular walk. Through a farm, across a sheep field then down through Woodford , passing horses in the fields. Then moving on by the river and turning for home after a short stop as the rain eased. Wet weather gear came off stuffed into bags only to come out again as we started to walk again towards the Mill for refreshment.

It was enjoyable if a bit wet. Teddy shared Bob's bacon sandwich.

Wanda, Bob and Teddy

## **Advanced Camera**

Just 4 of us at July's gathering. The heat was affecting us and holidays. We looked at our 'Bokeh' photos, a subject which aims to blur the background of a photograph so that the subject stands out clearer. It hadn't been an easy task as you will see from our examples. Then Steve gave us his interpretation of our next theme, which is to find unusual features of buildings, gargoyles, windows, architectural additions to photograph. We look forward to seeing these next month on the 18th.

Jenny

## Ten Pin Bowling.

Another good session with plenty of spares and strikes eventually. The highlight of the week was a personal best for June, one of our new members. Dypsey was again on form, with another score of over a hundred. New members are very welcome. Please talk to Dai at the meeting to find out more.

Dai Johnson

## Lunch Club

There will be no Lunch Club in August as last year proved to be a disaster because of holidays and babysitting duties. So our next Lunch Club will be on October 15th at the Ringstead Mill, where we had a nice meal recently . We shall take bookings at the October main meeting with a £5 non-refundable deposit per person.

At the November meeting we will be taking bookings for the Christmas Lunch. We hope to book at the Queen Vic in Burton Latimer as last year, as no other suggestions have been made.

Pat and Dai Johnson.

## Beginners Camera Group

We hope you all enjoyed our varied selection of post box photos at the last meeting. This month our topic was Music. Quite a difficult subject but Joy managed to talk about different ways that we could interpret the topic. So we are now going to try our best to take some interesting photos. Please have a look at them at the August meeting. Our next topic is Insects on flowers. We have space for one more person to join us if anyone is interested. Please speak to Pat at the next meeting.

Pat Johnson

## Singing for Pleasure - End of year report

We have had a great year. There has been the enjoyment of singing great songs; the camaraderie of the group; the support that the group has shown to members who have needed it; the great meals out; entertaining others in retirement homes. What more can you ask for from a group.

Our group has grown with new singers joining us. We now number 24 with more asking to join in September. St John's Hall is gradually being upgraded and we are very comfortable although a tad cold in the winter. Still, we are resourceful and with extra heaters and the odd blanket we manage.

Our grateful thanks go to Lynda who not only plays for us but produces the songs and 'concerts'! She has just had an operation on her shoulder and we all wish her a speedy recovery - we would be lost without her.

We are looking forward to September and enjoying more of the same.

Sylvia Dale

**Northamptonshire Police**  
**Speaking up for Domestic Abuse**  
**Family member, colleague or friend.**  
**A domestic abuser could be closer than you think. If you know someone who is affected and don't want to speak to the police> You can contact the charity Crimestoppers anonymously. Your voice could make a difference**  
<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/keeping-safe/personal-safety/domestic-abuse>

Taken from an email sent by the Police

## Book Group Update

This month we decided each member would read their favourite book which had either inspired or have some lovely memories in the past. It was an interesting mix of a books from childhood to the present day.

The Thorn Birds - Coleen McCullough

Treasure Island - R.L.Stevenson

A Peep Behind the Scenes - Mrs O.F. Walton

The Hundred Year Old man who climbed out of the Windows and Disappeared - Jonas Johansson

Evening Class - Maeve Binchey

Outlander - Diana Gabaldon

The Midnight Rose - Lucinda Riley

The Post Mistress- Sarah Blake

Conclave- Robert Harris

We enjoyed a delicious lunch everyone had contributed to.

**No meeting in August at the village hall.**

Next meeting third Monday in September at 11 am

Margaret Turnbull

## Craft n Coffee

Well another pleasant morning crafting and nattering. Joan was completing a project that her neighbour had started and Doreen was pleased with the amount of knitting she completed. Next month's meeting is at a member's house on the 26<sup>th</sup> August (email will be sent out with all the details)

Joy

## Activity Group with Spaces

The following groups have vacancies so if you are interested in joining please contact the relevant Group Leader.

**Ukulele  
Book Club  
Playreading  
Recorders  
Ten Pin Bowling**

## Free to all Vehicles & Enthusiasts

Wheel Nuts at Sywell Aerodrome

Post Code NN6 0BN

First Tuesday of every month 12 – 2pm

For more information contact Reg Baxter

07860461058 or

email [baxterreg@gmail.com](mailto:baxterreg@gmail.com)

Food & Drinks are available in the Pilots mess and Hotel bar

## AUGUST QUIZ

1. Who wrote Uptown Girl?
2. What year did ABBA win Eurovision?
3. What is the name of Dua Lipa's 2020 album?
4. Matt Goss, Luke Goss and Craig Logan made up which band?
5. In what year did The Beatles split up?
6. When did Big Brother first air on Channel 4?
7. Who was the first presenter of the X Factor in the UK?
8. Which actor played the Ninth Doctor in Doctor Who?
9. The Simpsons was the spin-off show of which American sketch series?
10. Gillian Anderson plays a therapist in which hit Netflix show?

## **Free Mature Drivers Roadshow – 16 September 2025 - Daventry**

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 every-day 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.

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 Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/northants-mature-driver-roadshows-4099083>

The event is being held at The Icon Innovation Centre, Eastern Way, Daventry NN11 0QB ([what3words.com/reduce.stealthier.handbags](https://what3words.com/reduce.stealthier.handbags)) with two sessions, 9.30am and 1.00pm.

## **Theatre Trip Report**

19 members attended Calamity Jane on the 10<sup>th</sup> July and overall everyone enjoyed the performance singing along to such well known songs. Thanks to Roy's Minibuses for their efficiency.

Jude Walker

Do you like rock and roll? Do you enjoy live music? Why not come along to the Rifle Band Club in Havelock Street on the third Thursday of the month and enjoy an afternoon of free entertainment. They have a jam session for amateur musicians from 2 till 5 and it is a step back to the 60's. Anyone can come along and join in singing along or getting up to dance. Why not join us in an afternoon of nostalgia?

Hope to see you there!

Sylvia Dale

## **Playreading**

The playreading group met on Wednesday 30 July to read.

A Death of Convenience by Ron Hutson. It starts with a visit to the Country Estate of his parents Lord and Lady Chestle from Geoffrey with his wife Lydia who hates the country, also his business partner and his wife, to discuss business and ends with a series of events where his wife gets tragically but conveniently electrocuted as he discovers he has a son Barry, who is a handyman at the estate, from a relationship with the much-loved long term family housekeeper Ruth. Was it murder or an accident? We were two members down so an interesting afternoon of doubling up on parts in the play. the next playreading will be on Wednesday 27 August.

Carlene

## **Art Group.**

A quiet month this month as lots of us had things on. Our last session was 28th July with just 6 of us but a relaxing time with a wonderful cake made by Penny who had a birthday so treated the lucky few with her homemade cake.

We aren't meeting in August but back on Monday 1st September at 2pm.

Looking forward to having sessions with Mel who hopefully will still be available after her time with her family in South Africa.

Tessa

**Do you use Telecare Alarm?  
If so check with your phone  
provider to ensure it will work  
after the digital change over  
with the land lines changing to  
digital.**

**More information on  
[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)**

### **Change of Details**

**Please note as existing members will not  
be filling in new form for renewals can  
you please ensure that you inform the  
committee of any changes to your ad-  
dress or phone numbers to ensure our  
records are correct.**

**Thank you**

## **July Quiz Answers**

1. 9
2. 42
3. Cheese and Onion
4. Belsize Park
5. Time
6. Wile E Coyote
7. 238,000
8. The Church of England
9. Nautical mile (it's 1.15 miles)
10. Prunes

## **August Quiz Answers**

1. Billy Joel
2. 1974
3. Future Nostalgia
4. Bros
5. 1970
6. 2000
7. Kate Thornton
8. Christopher Eccleston
9. The Tracey Ullman Show
10. Sex Education

## Activity Groups and Leaders

Day/Group	Leader	Telephone	Venue	Frequency	Time
<b>Monday</b>					
Art Group	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864632	St Andrews Church Hall	Weekly on Monday	2-4pm
Book Club	Margaret Turnbull	01536 511139	Village Hall Barton Seagrave	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	11.30 to 1.00pm
Camera Club (advanced)	Jenny Goddard Pat Johnson	01536 482972 07816 939198	Member's home (Ise Lodge)	Monday following Monthly meeting	2pm- 4pm
Mah Jongg/scrabble	Linda Law	01536 659091	Barton Seagrave Village Hall	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday	1.45 - 3.45
Play reading group	Rosalind Bridges	01536 741455	Venue and date vary	Normally 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	2pm- 4pm
Recorder Group	Mary Cooper/ Sue Hartley	01536 420336/ 077871877 28	Member's home (St Mary's Road, London Road end)	Usually the 2 & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mondays but sometimes changed due to Bank Holidays or to suit group members	2.00- 3.00
<b>Tuesday</b>					
Camera Club (Beginners)	Pat Johnson	07816 939198	Member's house (Ise Lodge)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	2pm
Ukelele Group	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Member's house (Grosvenor Road, Barton Seagrave)	Fortnightly	10-12
Craft n Coffee	Joy Knight	07535 446758	Stirrup Cup Barton Seagrave	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	10.30- 12
<b>Wednesday</b>					
Lunch Club	Pat & Dai Johnson	07816 939198	Varies	Alternative Months 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	12.00 for 12.30
<b>Thursday</b>					
Ten pin bowling	Dai Johnson	07816 939198	Thunder bowl	Following monthly meeting	12 midday
Coffee Morning	Sylvia Dale	07419 837379	Stirrup Cup Barton Seagrave	Every Thursday	10.00a m
Spanish	Pauline McCready	077315558 73	St Andrews Church Hall	Fortnightly	2-4pm
Short Walks	Wanda & Bob Moffatt	01536 659236	Varies	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	10am
<b>Friday</b>					
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**

Theatre trips            Jude Walker 07941 352190

## **Timings at the Eden Centre**

Main meetings – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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## **Newsletter Editor – Roger Payne**

Please send contributions by 5pm, 30<sup>th</sup> of the month to [u3a.ise.valley@gmail.com](mailto:u3a.ise.valley@gmail.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 – 2025-2026**

Chair	Penny Smith	07772 237077
Acting Deputy Chair	Joy Knight	07535 446758
Treasurer No 1 a/c	Jude Walker	07941 352190
Treasurer No 2 a/c	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864632
Membership Secretary		
Groups Co-ordinator	Joy Knight	07535 446758
Speaker Seeker	Penny Smith	07772 237077
General Duties	Anne Chandler	07734 963682
Beacon Admin	Dave Walker	07910 224768

**If anyone is interested in joining the committee you are welcome to attend a committee meeting as a visitor prior to joining. Please speak to Penny for details.**