

Registered Charity Number 1179738

March 2019

Chair's Chatter

Thank you to all those – and there were a lot – who made the extra effort to come to the Athletic Club last month. It was a squash but there was a great atmosphere and I think we all enjoyed the talk.

As it was a bit of a squeeze and a job to see everything we are again putting out the Re-gifting table for donations to Home Start. Next month the Gardening Club will have a table for all garden related things.

We are pleased to welcome onto the committee Bob Moffatt who has agreed to become our Safeguarding Officer.

You will notice a bit of a change around the trips desk. The ladies are being overwhelmed with members asking to go on trips so we thought we would have a notice board where the trips are displayed for you to look at. There will also be flyers for you to take, and a BOOKING FORM. Fill the form in and give it to the ladies with your deposit or balance for the trip you are interested in. Only go to the trip desk with the form and they will be able to help you much quicker (we hope)!

As usual we value your feedback. For the next few months the tea and coffee will be free. We are working with the Eden Centre to trial this – so please enjoy but don't have too many cups!

The Quiz with fish and chip supper tickets are selling fast. A maximum of 6 people to a table. The cost is £6 if you want the supper and £2 if you just want the quiz. This is on 15th April which is a Monday night, at the Athletic Club. Quiz starts at 7.30pm.

Again, if anyone has some place they would like to go on a coach trip (perhaps even lead it as a one-off) please let us know. We are always looking for suggestions and are happy to cost them out.

Sylvia

Book Club

This month we were a little depleted in numbers, but we still had a lively discussion on the month's chosen book 'Two Caravans' by Marina Lewycka, the follow on book of Two Tractors.

This is supposedly a funny book, but managed to show the cruel side of migrant workers and how many are exploited within their own kind. We join the characters in a field busy picking strawberries with several interesting characters introduced to the reader. The description of the living arrangements is very precise, with a caravan for the ladies and one for the men. Maria Lewycka draws out her characters and you feel that you know them personally. Especially the cooking arrangement, ably presented by Marta who created mouth-watering dishes with very little. Of course reading this book did bring the discussion of Brexit in focus and what the outcome will be for the many migrant workers who rely on seasonal work within Fruit picking and Chicken factories.

Margaret Turnbull

Short Walks

We planned a "clean" walk in February, so we went to Rushden Lakes where the paths are good and parking is easy and free in the shopping centre. Seven of us and of course Teddy came along. He loves meeting up with his now, old friends. The walk was a bit longer than usual but it was flat and we took our time. There was a chilly wind and cloud at the start but by the time we finished, clear blue sky with bright, warm sunshine. It was glorious, we saw our first yellow brimstone butterfly of the year. There were lots of wild fowl to be seen and the hedgerow was noisy with birds getting ready for nesting. Helen had her binoculars with her and it was a real pleasure to be out. Who says February is dull and dreary? Later in the summer we plan to do another walk that takes in the river side when it's dried out. Next walk will be East Carlton Park, Corby, on the 21st March. I'm told the cafe there does yummy bacon sandwiches. Ummm!

Wanda Moffatt

Garden Club

During our February meeting at Chris and Peter Ditri's home we spent our time planning the programme for the rest of the year. This includes practical work, discussions on various aspects of gardening and visits to garden centres and members' gardens. We also gave some thought to the next plant stall at the April meeting. Our morning session ended with tea, coffee and some of Chris's delicious home-made stollen.

Just thinking about the seasons ahead and all the enjoyment we get from our gardens (as well as the hard work!) was enough to renew our enthusiasm to get planting again.

Greta Cheshire

Travel Group

Our second meeting this year was well attended. Pat showed us photos about a short holiday in Shropshire, based in Ludlow. It highlighted some of the delights of our own country. She also showed us film of the Green Man festival in May in Clun. Brian also showed us a longer version of his Armistice Day video. Our next meeting is on the 19th March at 2 pm.

Geraldine

Spanish

We are progressing well through Pasos 1. We have now arranged the tables differently so we all have eye contact with our teachers Bob and Bill. With a much larger group this aids listening which is so important when learning a language.

Geraldine

Singing for Pleasure

We have welcomed new members this year and will soon need more chairs!!! We are enjoying the new programme which include a number of new-to-us comedy songs. Our thanks go to Lynda for playing for us and making sure that we sing the best that we can.

Sylvia Dale

Camera group

After describing how we had composed our "sweet photos" and whether we had used photoshop elements to enhance them, we had a session led by Geraldine on how to remove unwanted objects from photographs. It was good to find we could do this on our iPad's as well as on a normal computer. Our homework is to provide 2 photos, one original with an unwanted object, and one with the object removed.

Jenny Goddard

Music Appreciation

We met on Thursday 14th February to celebrate Valentine's Day, with music appropriate for the occasion. We started with "Funny Valentine", followed by "Valentina" and lots in similar vein from artists such as Frank Sinatra, Maurice Chevalier, Mel Torme, Matt Monroe and Billy Eckstein. Other styles included opera by Massenet and Bizet (Carmen), film music by Mancini, Blues by B.B. King, Jazz from Chet Baker, Errol Garner and Miles Davis plus lots more.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 14th March (2:00 to 2:15 pm start), to play music associated with Shakespeare.

Ken Bridges

Play Reading

Most of us joined Ros to read our play for the month 'W. Somerset Maugham's play The Sacred Flame'. A story of love, longing and betrayal, ending in the tragic death of poor Maurice, who had previously been crippled in an aeroplane crash. Who brought about his death? We still only have our solitary man Ron, any men brave enough to join would be very welcome. Usual tea and biscuits completed the afternoon.

Carlene Lee and Rosalind Bridges

Painting for Fun

We have been somewhat depleted in numbers for a week or so, so it was a pleasure to welcome two new members, Sheila and Daphne to the painting group. We hope they will enjoy our chatting and painting, apart from our usual enjoyable painting together, Catherine joined us to further our acrylic experiences. We all had a go at painting floral pictures with varying degrees of success but all good fun. Next time she is going to help us learn more about charcoal and pencil drawing.

Carlene Lee

Knit and Natter

We met at Yvonne's house for a change this month and had a pleasant afternoon putting the world to rights! Knitting and crocheting projects are all coming on in leaps and bounds and we have a number of finished articles to donate to various charities.

Sylvia

Which letter is silent in the word 'scent', the S or the C?

Discussion Group

We met on Wednesday 6th February at 2pm and there were 6 of us present. Tony is still recovering from his operation – get well soon Tony.

We attempted to discuss ‘Would we go into space with Richard Branson?’; the NHS; electric cars and Liam Neeson. Somehow we ended up talking about completely different things!! We will have to be better organised next month! Mind you, I think everyone enjoyed the good chinwag, and even Ted managed to get the odd word in.

Next meeting will be on Monday 6th March at 2pm.

If anyone would like to join us, please do give me a ring.

Linda Miller

Computer Club

We are looking at bookmarking sites on our browsers and using a password manager to store our passwords (this allows us to have a different password for each site.

If anyone would like to join this group there is currently space available. Ring me on 01933 350147

Alan

Ukulele Group

We are practicing hard for a half hour gig at Thorndale House. As the ukulele is an accompanying instrument this involves singing! If anyone would like to join this group there is currently 1 space available. Ring me on 01933 350147

Alan

MEDIUM WALKING GROUP FEBRUARY WALK REPORT.

12 walkers met in the car park of the Stag at Maidwell just as the overnight frost was giving way to the unusually sunny weather that had been the norm for the previous few days.

After ordering lunch we walked through the village and onto the Macmillan Way across some fields and a stream and past the village sewage works which is located next to the stream. This proximity brings to mind the old cavalry maxim “ Always drink upstream of the horses”.

Standing in glorious isolation on the old railway line we passed an old cast iron footbridge.

Following the Macmillan Way, on a gently rising slope, we arrived at the village of Draughton. By this time the sun had emerged in all its glory and garments were being discarded. An undulating minor road was followed for some distance and at the top of the undulations superb views over the west of the county were to be had, albeit with a slightly hazy tinge. The road was notable for a long straight stretch perhaps a relic of some ancient Roman activity.

Pausing just before Lamport for our banana break again we enjoyed superb views. A downhill stretch on the Northampton to Market Harborough road brought us to the site of an old level crossing where we turned right and joined the Brampton Valley Way for some distance. This is a really enjoyable footpath but we can't credit Dr. Beeching for creating it as the line didn't close until 1982.

On reaching the old footbridge again we re-traced our way back to the Stag where we were joined by John C for a most enjoyable lunch. The faggots from the butcher at Rothwell are to be recommended.

Thanks to John S for organising and leading a most enjoyable walk in brilliant sunshine.

Details of the March walk will be available at the next meeting.

David Hamilton.

Maybe oxygen is slowly killing you and it just takes 75-100 years to fully work.

Ten Pin Bowling

Another good session was had by all our bowlers. We celebrated every success with high fives and applause and commiserated our near misses. Very well done to one of our newer members, Jenny, who achieved a new Personal Best.

We would still like to welcome new members. We meet at 10 am on the Friday after the main meeting, at the Bowling alley in Rockingham Road, Kettering. Cost £2 . Please enquire at the next U3A meeting.

Dai Johnson.

News From The Groups

The new Keep Fit class has started and meets every Wednesday morning at the Civic centre in Burton Latimer. The class caters for all abilities and aims to increase fitness and balance. They would like more members to join them, men or women.

There are vacancies in the Monday morning Art Group if any of you would like to develop your art skills. There is tuition once a month.

Please could all the people who signed up for the Cinema Group stay behind for a short meeting at the end of the March meeting, so that we can fix a date for the first visit to the cinema. We tried to meet after the last meeting but only one person turned up!!

Thank you to all those groups who send in regular contributions to the Newsletter. As our membership is growing we will need to form more new groups. If you have any ideas for a new group please let us know. We would like to set up a birdwatching group but don't seem to have any "twitchers" amongst you.

Pat Johnson and Rosalind Bridges.

Beginners Camera Group

The next meeting for the Beginners Camera Group will be on the 12th March at the usual venue, and the subject is "Contrasts". Start time 2.00pm.

Julie Bates

Trip News

Belton House and Boundary Mill trip on March 21st. There are still a few places for anyone who hasn't booked. Go to the Trip desk for further information.

Black Country Museum on May 7th. Payment now being taken. Bookings forms are available near the noticeboard so please fill one in and take it to the trip desk.

Willersley Castle and Cromford Mill on 23rd July. Booking forms are available near the noticeboard. Deposits are being taken if you want to pay in two stages.

Help!!!

As a number of you know I am having problems with my eyes and need cataracts removing in the next couple of months. I need someone to take over the newsletter while I recover (or take it over permanently). If you are used to working in Word and are interested in this then please speak to me and I can tell you what it involves. Not a lot of time, the occasional reminder and just collating the information given is really all there is to it – and trying to make sure that you have it all! Lynne, our Secretary, checks it for typos and grammar before it goes out.

Sylvia

Citizen Advice Witness Volunteering

The two main roles that we recruit volunteers for are court-based and outreach volunteers. Our court volunteers support witnesses and their friends and family when they come to court. They give practical information about the process, as well as emotional support to help witnesses feel more confident when giving evidence. Our outreach volunteers provide additional support as well as this, they support vulnerable or intimidated witnesses by meeting them in a safe place to give them information and support prior to their visit to court. The roles require a training and induction process but are supported throughout the entire process and have multiple opportunities to shadow other volunteers when they first start.

The full role descriptions, application process and FAQ's can be found at the following link: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/support-us/volunteering/volunteer-with-our-witness-service/>

Kettering Symphony Orchestra

is holding its **Spring Concert**

on Saturday, 6th April

at Kettering Science Academy,

Deeble Road, Kettering, NN15 7AA,

at 7.30 p.m.

The programme is:

Force of Destiny Overture - Verdi

Piano Concerto No. 1 - Tchaikovsky with soloist
Jill Morton

Les Biches - Poulenc

Firebird Suite - Stravinsky

Tickets are £11, Students and 12-18s £6, under
12s free when accompanied by an adult. These
can be booked online at

www.kettsymphorch.co.uk or can be bought on
the door subject to availability.

FLY

With

Welland Gliding Club

And soar over our beautiful
countryside.

We are located at Lyveden
airfield, a mile east of Brigstock
off the A6116. We operate each
weekend throughout the year,
weather permitting.

Your flight will be in a 2-seater
dual-control glider and you will
be encouraged to take the
controls yourself, guided by a
qualified instructor.

Cost is £50 per person. If you
are interested please put your
name on the sheet on the
committee desk and we will see
if we can get enough people
interested for a days' gliding.

Activity Groups and Leaders

Day/Group	Leader	Telephone	Venue	Frequency	Time
Monday					
Painting for Pleasure	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864632	Mind Centre	Weekly	10-12
Book Club	Margaret Turnbull	01536 511139	Varies	3 rd Monday	2pm
Camera Club (advanced)	Jenny Goddard Pat Johnson	01536 482972 01536 483396	Home	Monday after main meeting	2-4pm
Canasta	Margaret Hall	01536 512215	Kettering Bridge Club	Weekly	2-4pm
Knit and Natter	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865	Members home	fortnightly	2-4pm
Mahjong/Scrabble	Linda Law	01536 659091	B.S Village Hall	2 & 4 th	2-4pm
Play Reading	Rosalind Bridges	01536 741466	Varies	1 st Monday	2-4pm
Swimming	Isabel Collins	01536 520971	K. Swimming Pool	Weekly termtime	9-9.45
Maths for Fun	Chris Crick	07490 591224	Home	2 & 4 th	10-12
Recorder Group	Mary Cooper Sue Hartley	01536 420336 01536 357676	Central Methodist Church School Lane, Kettering	2 nd & 4 th	2.30-3.30
Yoga Group	Annette	01536 513234	St Andrews Church Rooms	Weekly termtime	11.15-12.45
Tuesday					
Walking (medium)	John Sumpter	01536 722198	Varies	Last Tuesday	10am
Ukelele group	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Home	Fortnightly	10am
Travel	G. Hardwick	01536 481203	Member's home	3 rd	2pm
Camera Club beginners	Julie Bates	01536 745538	Home	2 nd	2pm
Computer Club	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Members home	Fortnightly	10-12
Wednesday					
Keep Fit	Katie Reynolds		BL Civic Centre	Weekly	9.45-10.30
Country Dancing	Janice Angles	07768 169490	St Andrews Hall	2 nd & 4 th	10.45
Discussion Group	Linda Miller	01536 483773	Home	1 st	2pm
Gardening Club	Chris Ditre S Tecklenberg	01536 723145 01832 733419	Varies	1 st	10am
Thursday					
Short Walks	Wanda Moffatt	01536 483773	Varies	3 rd	10 am
Music Appreciation	Ken Bridges	01536 741455	Home	Varies	2-4pm
Spanish	G Hardwick	01536 481203	Hertford C Centre	1 st & 3 rd	2-4pm
Friday					
Making Music	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Home	Weekly	2-4pm
Singing for Pleasure	Jill Dee	01536 514054	Fuller Church	Fortnightly	10am
Ballroom Dancing	Pat Johnson	01536 483398	St Edwards Church	Weekly	11.45
Ten Pin Bowling	Dai Johnson	01536 483398	Thunder Bowl	Friday after meeting	10 am

Speakers

This month's Speaker is Tricia Thompson with Don't Dilly Dally – the history of the Old Time Music Hall April 10th A Teller of Tales told by Maria Dziedan.

Trips

Day trips June Mason 01536 726654
Theatre Visits Joyce Williams 01536 482566 and Jean Issitt 01536 513218

Timings at the Eden Centre

Main meeting – 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Eden Centre
Doors open – 1.15
Chair’s Chatter – 1.55
Speaker – 2.05
Raffle – 3pm
Finish – 3.15

To all members

If you are aware of anything affecting one of our members such as an important birthday, anniversary or illness and feel that a card from the U3A would be appropriate please contact Lynne on 01536 618001



Newsletter Editor:

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



Webmaster Alan Bailey 01933 350147



Committee – 2018-2019

Chairperson	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865
Vice Chair & Assistant Group		
Co-ordinator	Rosalind Bridges	01536 741455
Treasurer	John Cousens	01933 664602
Secretary & Assistant Speaker		
Secretary	Lynne Franklin	01536 618001
Membership Secretary	Pauline Bailey	01933 350147
Group Co-ordinator	Pat Johnson	01536 483398
General Duties & committee desk	Tony Reed	01536 481733
Speaker Secretary	Helen Checkley	01536 418616
General Duties & raffle	Linda Miller	01536 483773
General Duties & New Members	Jill Burgess	01536 515045
Safeguarding Officer	Bob Moffatt	01536 659236

