

u3a

# ISE VALLEY NEWS

learn, laugh, live

Kettering, Northants

Charity Number 1179738

**January 2023**

Hi

Happy New Year to you all.

Looking back over 2022 we have done well. We still have a good number of groups going strong - although we are looking to start new ones as soon as members give us some idea of what they would like to try!!

We had a successful trip to the Curve in Leicester to see Sister Act and are looking forward to our next one in February to see Pretty Woman in London. Any suggestions as to what you would like to see please let us know.

The u3a Open Day was a great success and we look forward to more inter-action with other u3a groups.

What we do need from our faithful members is more ideas on what they would like. So please let us know how you want 2023 to progress. Our January meeting is a social one so please come and speak to us if you have any ideas.

Jill

A graphic with the words "Happy New Year!" in a bold, blue, 3D-style font. The text is surrounded by several colorful, swirling streamers in shades of green, purple, pink, and yellow, giving it a festive and celebratory appearance.

Remember - Ise Valley members,  
<http://www.isevalleyu3akettering.org.uk/> is  
OUR site:-

Please send me anything you would like on the site (pictures, items of general interest, breaking news, useful links to other websites etc) email me, the Webmaster, and keep our website interesting. Camera Groups please note: The round robin of view of Kettering is an old one consisting of photos taken by the photographic group. Could really do with putting together a new one!!

Alan

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### Christmas Party

We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas Party. We tried something new this year – with a nod towards contamination on open platters – we thought the box idea was good. You certainly seemed to like it! The Christmas cake and the ham were cooked by our Chair Jill, and a big ‘Thank You’ goes to Erika Beecher and Lynne Franklin for their help in preparing it all.

The entertainment – Dave Moylan – was brilliant, with just the right amount of comedy, magic, funny songs etc. Altogether an afternoon to remember.

I mustn’t forget to say ‘Thank you’ to the Eden Centre staff as they put all the tables out for us which is a huge help.

Thank you’s must also go to Pat Johnson who got a magnificent raffle for us and with Jenny Goddard made the beautiful table decorations.

Thanks to all of you who actually told us that they had enjoyed themselves. That is a bonus to know that we are doing well!!

Sylvia

### Book Group

Our U3a book group meets on the third Monday of the month at Barton Seagrave Village Hall at 1-30 until 3-30 pm winter hours.

We would very much look forward to welcome any new book lovers who wish to join us.

Please contact me on

Email [margaretny1212@gmail.com](mailto:margaretny1212@gmail.com)

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### Art Report

We enjoyed our classes before Christmas at St Andrews having Melanie Henson for one of the sessions. She introduced us to oil pastels and we produced some interesting festive pictures of Robins and winter scenes.

The few of us who met on the 19th celebrated with chocolate biscuits kindly brought by Gary.

We will be starting back on the 9th January in the Jacques room, St Andrews as it’s a nice bright warm room with the car park off Crown Street at the back. We will be staying at this venue now.

Hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas.

Tessa

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### Singing for Pleasure

The group had a very pleasant Christmas lunch at the Palmichael in Burton Latimer.

We had 4 ‘concerts’ this year and it was good to go out again and entertain.

We return on 13<sup>th</sup> January and are happy to welcome new members. We are looking forward to singing songs from the musicals in the new year and some different songs. We may even be able to go out occasionally to entertain again!

Sylvia

## Craft & Coffee

Craft n Coffee met on 20th December for a pre Christmas get together, 12 people plus 1 visitor attending having an enjoyable chat with some crafting involved.

Next meetings are 24th January and 28th February, 10.30 - 12.00 at Stirrup Cup, Barton Seagrave

cheers

Joy

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## Scrabble and Mahjong.

This friendly group met on the second and fourth Monday of the month starting at 1.45pm in the café at Barton Seagrave Village Hall, Bertone Road off Powell Lane NN15 6WF. There is good car parking at the hall and the 47,48,49 and 50 bus services leave from the Horsemarket bus station and stop in Polwell Lane.

All abilities are welcome. If you have never played either game this is a good chance to learn a new activity and you will be most welcome.

Linda Law

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## Ukelele Group

The Ukulele Group, helped considerably by friends, entertained at Tudor Court to great acclaim. All thanks to Maria who organised the event. We are now heartily sick of practising Christmas music and welcome a return to normality when we restart on the 10th January. Several new numbers await our attempts to play them including one from our Christmas Party speaker (who was excellent) about a bazaar in Cairo (never let it be said that we only play the modern stuff!)

Alan

## Camera Group

Camera group met on the Monday before Christmas to eat mince pies and, of course, to discuss our themes for next year- 2023 AD. We also showed our photos of 'shoes'

 , some arranged theatrically, some muddy, etc. You will see them at the January meeting. Our next topic is entitled 'Abstract in the home' and we meet again at 3, St. Mary's road on 16th January.

Jenny

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## Travel Group

After a lovely Christmas meeting when we brought photos of favourite places and completed a Northamptonshire quiz we have decided to change our format a bit and take a topic for each meeting. This month will be Austria which John will lead with his films of our U3A holiday many years ago. Contributions are welcome in any form, photos, postcards, and souvenirs etc. Guests are welcome as we are a decreasing group but please contact me first to see if we have room. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 17th at 2pm. Contact Geraldine on 01536 481203

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## Spanish

We start again at St Andrews on the 5th January. We do have room for a couple of members who are above beginner level. It has taken us a long slog to get where we are. Please ring me if you are interested. We need to rent the room which is very roomy and there is a car park. We meet fortnightly and share the cost. We use text books designed to promote holiday Spanish and a magazine with up to date information about Spanish life. Contact Geraldine on 01536 481203

## **A Big Thank You**

**I would like to thank the committee for the excellent Christmas party. The food, entertainment, and raffle made it so enjoyable. At the same time I would also like to thank Pat and Dai for arranging the Christmas lunch at the Olde Victoria with great food and service. Well done all of you,**

**Geraldine**

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## **Book Group**

### **Raven Black by Ann Cleeves**

This is the first of the popular Shetland series which have been turned into a BBC programme however the main character, Jimmy Perez, is described as dark, tall and untidy. Completely different from the actor Douglas Henshall who plays the detective on T.V.

The story begins on New Year's Eve with a lonely outcast named Magnus Tait who stays at home waiting for visitors. The next morning the body of Catherine Ross, 16 year old daughter of a local teacher, is discovered nearby by Fran Hunter, an English artist, and suspicion falls on Magnus. A team of detectives arrive from Inverness to lead the investigation, and with Perez they interview various people.

Catherine, who was an incomer to the island, had been filming project based on a poem "Fire and Ice" which involved many local characters. This documentary had gone missing

The final chapters of the book describe the events that occurred during the Up Helly Aa celebrations in Lerwick when Cassie, Fran's daughter goes missing.

As in most crime mysteries the murderer is eventually caught but in case Members are interested enough to read the book we will not reveal who it is. The group as a whole enjoyed the book and many of them are reading more of Ann Cleeves many novels

Linda

## Short Walks Group December 2022

Hi Everyone,

The weather forecast was bad again. We have had one last minute cancellation and one very wet walk that Robert MacGregor, Bob and Teddy did. They got soaked. Heroes! So, I thought we would meet up at the Fox & Peony for our near Christmas walk and if the weather was bad we could go inside for coffee and chat. That was what we did. Good choice as it was wet and cold again. We had a lovely time in the warm and dry. Sad for Trevor joining us for the first time not to have the walk but he got to meet us. Teddy wasn't impressed not getting a walk either but would hate getting wet and cold again.

Let's hope we can meet up and walk in



January. Happy New Year to you all

A picture of Teddy by popular request.

Wanda, Bob & Teddy



Enjoying ourselves at the Fox & Peony.

Wanda, Bob & Teddy

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### TV Quiz Answers – December

1. 2000
  2. Kate Thornton
  3. Christopher Eccleston
  4. The Tracey Ullman Show
  5. Sex Education
  6. Erinsborough
  7. 1985
  8. Nelson Mandela House
  9. John Noakes (12 years from 1965-1978)
  10. Gareth Keenan
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### Coffee Morning

This continues to be well supported by members. We have a good half dozen men who regularly attend and have their own corner of the room! Ladies continue to dominate but with a lot of interaction between the two tables. A thoroughly enjoyable couple of hours for anyone who wants to join us. Thursday mornings 10-11.30 at the Stirrup Cup in Barton Seagrave.

### Speakers for 2023

**8<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Endurance 1914-1916. 'In my Grandfather's footsteps' with Alan Wardle

**8<sup>th</sup> March** – Hearing dogs for the deaf with John Allison

**12 April** – A day above the Canary Islands with J Nowell

**10 May** – Coast to coast with Rachael Thompson

**14<sup>th</sup> June** – RNLI with Mike Alcock.

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1. From which language is the word 'ketchup' derived?
  2. Which is the country with the biggest population in Europe?
  3. Who portrayed Edward Scissorhands?
  4. What are made and repaired by a cobbler?
  5. What is an endoscope used to examine?
  6. Apart from womanizing and producing films, what was the other passion of Howard Hughes?
  7. What colour are the four stars on the flag of New Zealand?
  8. How many states make up the United States of America?
  9. Which English football team plays its home matches at Old Trafford?
  10. Mr. Carson is the name of the butler in which popular TV costume drama?
  11. Comedy duo Ant and Dec are originally from which English city?

# Helicopter Ride

Walter took his wife Ethel to the state fair every year, and every time he would say to her, "Ethel, you know that I'd love to go for a ride in that helicopter." But Ethel would always reply, "I know that Walter, but that helicopter ride is 50 dollars and 50 dollars is 50 dollars."

Finally, they went to the fair, and Walter said to Ethel, "Ethel, you know I'm 87 years old now. If I don't ride that helicopter this year, I may never get another chance." Once again Ethel replied, "Walter, you know that helicopter is 50 dollars and 50 dollars is 50 dollars."

This time the helicopter pilot overheard the couple's conversation and said, "Listen folks, I'll make a deal with you. I'll take both of you for a ride; if you can both stay quiet for the entire ride and not say a word I won't charge you! But if you say just one word, it's 50 dollars." Walter and Ethel agreed and up they went in the helicopter. The pilot performed all kinds of fancy moves and tricks, but not a word was said by either Walter or Ethel.

The pilot did his death-defying tricks over and over again, but still there wasn't so much as one word said.

When they finally landed, the pilot turned to Walter and said, "Wow! I've got to hand it to you. I did everything I could to get you to scream or shout out, but you didn't. I'm really impressed!"

Walter replied, "Well to be honest I almost said something when Ethel fell out but, you know, 50 dollars is 50 dollars!"



## Banoffie Pie

Small packet of Digestive biscuits

Tin of condensed milk

4oz margarine for the base

4oz margarine for the topping

Pot of whipping cream

3 bananas

3oz sugar

1 lemon juiced

Crush the biscuits to make the base. Melt the margarine and mix with the biscuits. Put into a 10" deep round dish.

Melt the other margarine, condensed milk and sugar in a saucepan until it is like custard. Be careful as it gets very hot. Pour this mixture on top of the biscuit base and chill.

Slice the bananas and dip into the lemon juice. Place on top of the pie. Cover the bananas with whipping cream and sprinkle with chocolate strands if you have them.

Enjoy!!

## Activity Groups and Leaders

Day/Group	Leader	Telephone	Venue	Frequency	Time
<b>Monday</b>					
Art Group	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864632	Woodcroft London Rd	Monday	2-4pm
Book Club	Margaret Turnbull	01536 511139	Varies	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	2pm
Camera Club (advanced)	Jenny Goddard Pat Johnson	01536 482972 01536 483398	Member's home	Monday following Monthly meeting	2pm- 4pm
Canasta	Margaret Hall	01536 512215	Kettering Bridge Club	Every Monday	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 741466	Venue and date vary	Normally 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	2pm- 4pm
Recorder Group	Mary Cooper Sue Hartley	420336 357676	Member's home	2 & 4 <sup>th</sup>	2.30-3.30
<b>Tuesday</b>					
Camera Club (Beginners)	Julie Bates	01536 725538	Member's house	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	<b>2pm</b>
Ukelele Group	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Member's house	Fortnightly	10-12
Craft & Coffee	Joy Knight	07535 446758	Stirrup Cup	Monthly	10.30-12
Travel	Geraldine Hardwick	01536 481203	Varies	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	2pm
<b>Wednesday</b>					
Gardening	Chris Ditri and Sandra Tecklenberg	01536 723145/01832 733419	Varies	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	10-12
Music Appreciation	Rosalind Bridges	01536 741455	Home	Varies	2-4pm
<b>Thursday</b>					
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	10.00am
Spanish	Geraldine Hardwick	01536 481203	St Andrews Church Hall	Fortnightly	2-4pm
Short Walks	Wanda & Bob Moffatt	01536 659236	Varies	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	10am
<b>Friday</b>					
Making Music	Alan Bailey	01933 350147	Home	Weekly	2-4pm
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.

Day Trips	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865
	Jill Burgess	01536 515045

### 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.

### Newsletter Editor

Please send contributions by 5pm, 30<sup>th</sup> of the month to [sylviadale@live.co.uk](mailto:sylviadale@live.co.uk) 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..

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

### Committee – 2022-2023

Chairperson	Jill Burgess	01536 515045
Vice Chair	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865
Treasurer No 1 a/c	Tony Reed	01536 481733
Treasurer No 2 a/c	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864632
Membership Secretary	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865
Secretary	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865
Groups Co-ordinator	Jill Burgess	01536 515045
Ass. Groups Co-ord	Joy Knight	07535 446758
Speaker Secretary	Penny Smith	07772 237077
General Duties	Lynne Franklin	01536 618001
General Duties	Erika Beecher	01536 722932
General Duties	Sherida Cocks	01536 520508
Newsletter Editor	Sylvia Dale	01536 411865