

### Autumn Newsletter Sep/Oct/Nov 2025

#### From the Chairman -

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter! First off, a big thank you to all of you who turned up for the AGM. Let's be honest—they're never going to win any prizes for excitement—but as we're a registered charity, we've got to have one each year to keep everything official and above board.

I'm honoured, absolutely delighted (and a bit daunted ) to be your new Chairman. I've got a tough act to follow after Di's amazing seven years in the role. Huge thanks to her for steering the ship so brilliantly—and she's not allowed to put her feet up just yet, because she's kindly taken over my Membership Secretary role and volunteered to be Vice Chairman too. Thanks, Di, you're a star!

Luckily, all of the committee have stuck with me (what a relief!). Tony has stepped back from his Vice Chairman role, though he's staying on the committee—so we still get to keep him around. Thanks again Tony.

A big cheer too for Malcolm Eales, Les Cottington, and Cyril Young, who have bravely taken on the job of sorting out the AV bits from me at our monthly meetings. That's a huge help and much appreciated!

Really, our u3a only works because so many people give up their time to help. If you fancy pitching in—whether it's joining the committee or just helping out now and then—please have a word with any of us. We'd love to have you on board.

We have a new venue for our Christmas lunch this year. Details on page 9.

And just before I go—a quick reminder: subscriptions are due on **1st November**. You can renew at the October and November meetings. It's still £17 (yay for no price rise!) I have confirmed with HMRC that we **no longer** need a new Gift Aid form each

year as it's an ongoing agreement. We get an extra £4.25 from HMRC, which really helps us keep fees down. Just remember to tell us if you change address or no longer pay tax. See page 7.

**PHEW!!** That's my very first Chairman's introduction done—hopefully without too many typos or "speelingg errorzz"!

Let's have some fun going forward and not take life too seriously.





Registered Charity No. 1108614

### **Monthly Meetings**

Sep 16 Life on the License Fee by Alex Leger Challenges and changes at the BBC

Oct 21 Mary's Meals, Global Charity by Jane Wright

+ Membership renewals

Nov 18 Kibworth Harcourt Windmill by Graham Watts

+ Membership renewals

Dec 16 Christmas Party

# www.u3aKettering.co.uk

#### **Group Leaders Information**

Check that all members of your group are fully paid-up members of the U3A. Ensure that you have:-

- Checked their current membership card. (Ask the membership secretary to check if you are unsure)
- The name and telephone of each member's In Case of Emergency contact. (ICE)
- The post code of your venue will be required by the emergency services if you need to call them.
- Send articles, reports and photographs about your group to the Newsletter Editor. Copy deadline for the newsletter is 2 Saturdays before the monthly meeting.
- Advise the Group Coordinator and Newsletter Editor of any changes to your group arrangements, e.g. venue, timing, etc.

### **Members Information**

- Advise the Membership Secretary, in writing, of any changes to your address, post code, telephone number, email address or ICE contact.
- If you are unable to attend your Group's meeting, please advise your Group Leader in advance.
- If you know one of our members has a special occasion ahead, e.g. important birthday, anniversary or if they are ill and you feel a card from the U3A would be appreciated, please contact the social secretary.
- Bring your membership card with you to the meeting and have it available for checking in.
- If you cannot get to the monthly meeting for any reason to collect your quarterly newsletter, you can get a copy from either Kettering Library or the Tourist Information desk, Manor House Museum, Kettering or online at www.u3akettering.co.uk
- View & Download the newsletter (in glorious colour) from web site, www.u3aKettering.co.uk & click on the links. Select DOWNLOAD LATEST link or to look back for older issues, click newsletter image or any other newsletter links.
- Membership year runs from 1st November to 31st October and is £17 a year

**Richard Boyles** 

- Half year 1st May- to 31st October £9. More details and membership form on the web site
- Payments can be via cash, cheque, credit/debit card

### **Future Monthly Meeting Dates & Speakers**

Jan 20 Shakespeare Country—Mike Burton

Feb 17 Scotland's Bridge Building—Bruce Keith

Mar 17 100 Years of Auntie, The BBC-Dave Andrews

Apr 21 A Policeman's Lot—Alan Rogers MBE

May 19 A Toastmaster's Tale-Geoff Harris

Chairman/Programme Sec.

Jun 16 The Comic Life of a TV Journalist—Bharat Patel



richard@boyles.co.uk

### Your Kettering U3A Committee 2025-2026

01536 744 753

, 0	,		<b>C</b> ,
Newsletter/Data Protect	ion/Web Master/E-mails	1	
Vice Chairman/Membership	Diane Tebbutt	01536 392 556	di_tebbutt@hotmail.com
Secretary/Group Co-ordinator	r Jane Slack	01536 516 116	janeslack121@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Ruth Gunn	01536 482 581	ruthgunn@hotmail.com
Assistant Treasurer	Chris Gunn	01536 482 581	gunn.vdloo@btinternet.com
Social Secretary	Brenda Boyles	01536 744 753	brenda@boyles.co.uk
Committee Member	Tony Loft	07725 190 518	tonyloft@me.com
Committee Member	Sue Perkins	01536 519 438	lazygirl_tresham@yahoo.co.uk
Committee Member	Maralyn McLennan	01536 521 322	maralyn.mclennan@ntlworld.com
Committee Member	Pat Stokes	07845 737 679	patriciamstokes@outlook.com

### News — Interest Groups — Visits and Reports

### Our meetings at the Eden Centre, 21, Montagu Street, Kettering Format of the meeting:-

1.30 – Doors open – Sign in

FREE Refreshments

Buy raffle tickets

Browse the group notices

Have a chat with friends

Sign up to groups and trips

## 2.15— Chairman's notices followed by this month's Speaker

3.45 (approximately) Meeting ends

Wheelchair disabled access is available at the rear of the building by ringing the door bell or phoning 01536 484 800



### **Newsletter DEADLINE**

is 2 Saturdays before the monthly meeting.







You can read and download the newsletter in FULL COLOUR from

our internet page at

www.u3aKettering.co.uk

### **ARE YOU A GROUP LEADER?**

Group leaders are required to...

- Have a copy of your members "In Case Of Emergency" (ICE) details with you so you can contact family or friend
- 2. Have the postcode location of your meeting so you can direct the 999 emergency services
- 3. Check that all members of your group are fully paid-up

members of the U3A so they are covered by the U3A insurance





### **EDITORIAL + PROGRAMME**

I thank the group leaders who have contributed to this newsletter, but wish we had more groups.

Come on everyone, get your thinking caps on!

I am also programme secretary and you can see what's planned on the web site www.u3akettering.co.uk on the MONTHLY MEETINGS page. As always, if you have any suggestions for speakers, let me know. It's always preferable to book someone who has seen and recommend them.

A BIG, BIG thank you to the new AV crew.



Cyril, Les and Malcolm



In addition to announcements at the monthly meetings, for those of you with internet access I have continued to regularly **e-mail** you with updates as well as keeping the **web site** and **Facebook** up to date. So keep reading the e-mails and updates on the web site and please pass on any news to anyone you know who does not have internet access.

### Richard

www.u3aKettering.co.uk

#### **Bookworms**



In June we read *Dead Letter Drop* in his first published novel, Peter James introduces us to Max Flynn MI5 agent, who is despatched to USA to track down a rogue agent. Our readers were very disappointed, as the book is far-fetched and contains some unpleasant sex scenes and violence. The book published in 1981 was 're-released in 2014 and contains a foreword by the writer – take it with a pinch of salt, and don't

In July we read Val McDermid's *Report for Murder*. Lindsey Gordon, a freelance journalist, who travels to Derbyshire to cover a fundraising gala. The star attraction is found garrotted with her own cello string. Lindsay finds she is investigating a vicious murder. Mixed reactions from our readers, one described it as "Famous Five Jolly Hockey Sticks murder". I have to agree. Val McDermid also writes the *Wire in the Blood* and excellent Karen Pirie books, both adapted for television.

And *Don't Judge Me Too Harshly* is hard to believe this is the same author behind the Roy Grace crime Novels.



In August we joined the Stitchin' Time group for our annual Afternoon Tea at The Blitz in Kettering.

Contact: Pauline Parkin 01536 799 197

#### Bake It or Fake It

The Bake It group continues to meet regularly at group members homes on the 3rd Friday each month. The group now has a



mascot, a tea pot that was part of our late member Mary's very large collection, it is brought to the party by Terry, who has custody of it. We take it in turn to "bake it or fake it", the cakes. are always delicious and the chat covers many topics.



Contact: Bridget Ling 01536 521 250

### **Card Playing**

This friendly group meets every second and fourth Thursday of the month at Kettering Bridge Club from 1.45 until 4.00. The cost is £2 which includes tea, coffee and



biscuits. Everyone is welcome and no previous knowledge of any of the games is needed as there is usually someone there who can give some instructions on how to play. There is plenty of room at the Bridge Club so if anyone would like to start or attend a Board Games Group this could be arranged if there was enough interest.

The next meetings are on September 25<sup>th</sup>, October 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, November 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> and December 11th. If you are interested then just come along or email me.

Contact: Di Tebbutt 01536 392 556
di\_tebbutt@hotmail.com

### Canasta

# CANASTA

WEEKLY every MONDAY

AT THE BRIDGE CLUB, RETTERING 1.30-4.00PM Tony Loft 07725 190 518 tonyloft@mg.com



Contact: Tony Loft 07725 190 515

tonyloft@me.com

#### **Creative Cards**

## Creative Cards

Second Tuesday of the month

Home 1.30-3.30 pm Maggi McGuire 01536 392 716



We are a small group and we meet on the second Tuesday of each month.

Unfortunately we do not have any vacancies at the moment due to the size of the room we use.

Contact: Eileen Mason 01536 725 925 eileenm1935@gmail.com or Maggi McGuire 01536 392 716

### What is Gift Aid and how does it work?

Gift Aid is a government scheme that lets charities and 'Community Amateur Sports Clubs' claim tax relief on the donations that you make to them.



### **Creative Writing and Poetry**

# CREATIVE WRITING & POETRY 1ST TUESDAY AT 13.30 IN KINO LOUNGE ALF HOWES 07546 464 924



The creative writing group continues to be well supported with a good exchange of both verse and prose in a variety of styles.

Contact: Alf Howes 07546 464 924

alfh64233@gmail.com

### **Discussion Group**

### PISCUSSION GROUP

SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH ST.ANDREWS CHURCH ROOMS 2-4PM

Pavid Clayton 01536 520 965

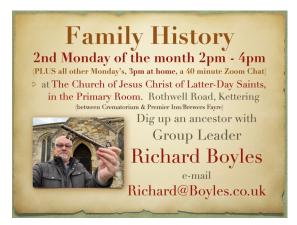


The car park entrance is at the rear in Crown St. If you are coming from Rockingham Rd., turn into Regent St., and the first turn right into Crown St. The entrance to the car park is the very last gate on the right. Topics are varied, and suggested by the members.

Contact: David Clayton 01536 520 965 clayton472@btinternet.com



### **Family History**



We continue researching our family history with a few talks about various research methods and how people overcome finding that elusive ancestor.

The latest big development in the FH world is using Artificial Intelligence which has helped us find some obscure and un-indexed records.



We have plenty of room for new members thanks to the superb FREE facilities offered by the LDS church. New members are welcome to join our weekly Zoom chats too.

We regularly have workshops where we help each other and have the advantage of a resident professional family history expert to help as well.

The u3a Family History meetings are held on the second Monday, 2-4pm in the Primary Room of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS), Rothwell Road, Kettering next to Brewers Fayre/Premier Inn.

We are continuing our 40 minute Zoom chats at 3pm on all other Mondays with a regular attendees.



Click on the Family History link on the u3a website for more details and useful videos to watch.

Contact: Richard Boyles 01536 744 753 richard@boyles.co.uk

### FREE BEGINNERS TALK Monday 13th October

Learn how to start your family history and get back nearly 200 years in 20 minutes.

### **FAMILY HISTORY**

### **FREE Beginners Talk**



**Learn how to start researching your family history**Search back nearly 200 years in 20 minutes.

Open to anyone - Bring a friend.

Monday 13th October 2-4pm in the Primary room of the LDS Church, Rothwell Rd. Kettering NN16 8GA

### Click link on www.u3aKettering.co.uk

### Family History Centre

The u3a Family History Group meet in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) in Kettering.

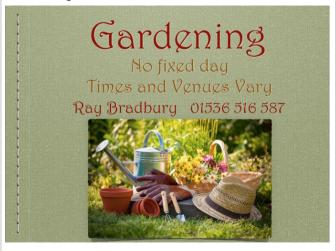


The LDS have started **FREE** family history workshops where you can go along and get 1–2–1 help from Katrina Friess, a professional genealogist.

On the Tuesday evening sessions, **Richard Boyles**, **the u3a family history group leader**, who has 35 years of experience, is also there to help.

On the Wednesday morning sessions, **Pat Jones**, a u3a family history group member is also there to help. Before this centre opened, the nearest LDS family history centre was in Northampton or Leicester.

### Gardening



Contact: Ray Bradbury 01536 516 587 prbrad@live.co.uk

### Friday Pop-In



We meet every Friday at 10am in The Kino Lounge on the Market Square. There is no agenda, simply an informal gathering to enjoy an hour or so in pleasant surroundings. Accompanied guests are welcome, as are four legged ones. The group is getting popular, and we now have 10 – 15 people every week. If you are a new U3A member then this is a simple way to get to know our group, and meet other members. Just simply Pop In, and say hello.

See you on Friday !!!!

Contact: David Clayton 01536 520 965 clayton472@btinternet.com

# REMINDER MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS – £17 DUE 1st NOVEMBER

You can renew at the October and November meetings or online via bank transfer

Lloyds, our bank, are now charging charities for most transactions so credit charges are as follows and

	Charges	from your £1/ we get
Bank Transfer	Free	£17.00
Cash	75p per £1	00 <b>£16.87</b>
Card	43p	£16.57
Cheque	50p	£16.50

If you choose to pay via Bank Transfer please include **your name in the reference field**.

Sort Code 30 98 97

Account Number 84317662

Account Name Kettering u3a No 1 Account

Cheques payable to "Kettering u3a"

#### Heartbeat

## **HE RTBEAT**

A Short Walk to Improve Fitness 2nd Wednesday at 10am at Various Locations Bridget Ling 01536 521 250



Our group continues to grow. We have met each month and enjoyed our brisk walk and the coffee and company afterwards. The hot weather and family commitments prevented quite a few from coming to the August walk, however those who did meet, agreed that we were out early enough in the morning to avoid the extreme heat.



The timetable for the forthcoming meetings are: 10th September, Wicksteed Park, NN15 6NJ, meeting point The Ticket Office.
8th October, outside Cranford Village Hall NN14 4JE.

12th November, Prologis Park, NN14 1UB, meeting in the car park.

10th December, 14 Hall Lane, Kettering NN15 7LJ meeting at the drive way.

14th January, Wicksteed Park NN15 6NJ meeting point The Ticket Office.

Contact: Bridget Ling 01536 521250

### **Knit and Natter**





Twiddle muffs created by a Knit and Natter group of ladies that meet on the first and third Monday of the month. These are being distributed to Avery House residential home.

Contact: Annette Chidwick 01536 523 867 annette.chidwick@tiscali.co.uk

### **Lunch Club**



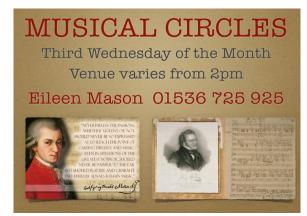
This is now meeting regularly on the fourth Tuesday of the month which means that people can sign up at the monthly meeting.

I would like to thank Brenda Boyles, Ruth Gunn and Ray Bradbury for sorting lunches in June, July and August.

Christmas Lunch will be on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>
December at Kettering Golf Club and will cost £30
which includes the lunch, a raffle ticket and a tip.
Choices and a deposit of £10 (cash if possible), can
be made at September's meeting so please make
sure you sign up if you want to come. My thanks to
Jane Slack for sorting this out.

Contact: Di Tebbutt 01536 392 556
di\_tebbutt@hotmail.com

### **Musical Circles**



We are still meeting the 3rd Wednesday every month, we play all types of music also have coffee with a snack and an enjoyable time. If any one would like to join us they would be most welcome, just give me a ring.

Contact: Eileen Mason 01536 725925 eileenm1935@gmail.com

### **Play Reading**



We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Kettering Bridge Club from 10.30 until 12.30 and the cost is £3.50 which includes tea, coffee, biscuits and rental for the plays. Our next meetings are on September 4<sup>th</sup>, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup>. We have just finished reading Comic Potential by Alan Ayckbourn which is set in the future and is about the relationship between humans and androids and what happens when androids begin to show human emotions. Our next play is Relative Values by Noel Coward. We still have room for a couple more people to join us.

Contact: Di Tebbutt 01536 392 556
di\_tebbutt@hotmail.com

#### Stitchin' Time



June and July - lots of knitting and stitching took place, with some excellent things produced.

August - we met with the Book Worms for Afternoon Tea.

Contact: Pauline Parkin 01536 799 197

### **Painting & Drawing**



We have not been meeting since Easter but we shall begin our meetings for the Autumn Term on September 12th, 2pm-4pm at the North Park Pavilion. We are pleased to welcome more people who have requested to join us. With these people, I think we shall be at maximum numbers to accommodate all in the available space. Details from Jo Beaver either at the general meetings or...

Contact: Jo Beaver 01933 224 474 beaver.jean@yahoo.co.uk

Christmas Lunch at Kettering Golf Club Tuesday 2nd December. £30 including raffle and tips. Reserve your place today





### Sing (and Laugh) Out Loud



We meet every other Friday at Christ the King Church in Deeble Road from 10.30. We have welcomed several new members recently which has been great. My thanks to Sarah for hosting our yearly Garden Lunch in August. We all had a lovely time.

We continue to sing along either accompanied by the ukulele players or music on my phone and have lots of fun. We sing, talk, laugh and sometimes cry. Our next meetings are on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October, 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> November and 12<sup>th</sup> December.

We will start our preparation for performing at this year's Christmas Party soon, so if anyone has suggestions of songs or carols they would like to sing let me know. Come along and join us, you will be very welcome and don't forget that singing is very good for your mental health.



Our annual summer get together.

Contact: Di Tebbutt 01536 392 556 di\_tebbutt@hotmail.com

### Travel and Theatre Group



Following an interesting talk in January, we planned a trip to Bletchley Park on 9th September. Initially 20+ people said they were interested, but the actual number reduced to 10.



Contact: Tony Loft 07725 190 515

tonyloft@me.com

### **Walking Group**



Contact: Jackie Rowson 01536 515 959

### Recorder Group-Ise Valley U3A

The group is open to anyone who plays, or would like to learn to play the recorder.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday at 2.00 to 3.30 at a

member's home. We would love to have some more players.

Contact: Mary Cooper (Ise Valley)

cooperm1@btinternet.com

### Singing For Pleasure—Ise Valley U3A

We are meeting at St. John's Church Hall on alternate Fridays 10–11.45. It is good to be able to sing with friends old and new.

Singing For Pleasure
Alternate Fridays 10.00-11.45
at St. John's Church Hall
in conjunction with Evilay (23)
Linda Harris 01536 529 410

Recorder Group

Member's Home

Contact: Linda Harris (Ise Valley) 01536 529 410

### Short Walks—Ise Valley U3A

3rd Thursday.

Venue and time varies



Contact: Wanda Moffatt (Ise Valley) 01536 659 236

### Spanish—Ise Valley U3A

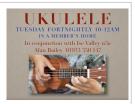
Fortnightly on Thursday 2-4pm at St. Andrews Church Rooms.



Contact: Pauline McCready (Ise Valley)
01536 485 416

### Ukulele Group-Ise Valley U3A

The group meets fortnightly on Tuesday mornings 10–12. We are all beginners and are sort of following a course from the internet. Training videos and



song sheets are available and with practice you will quickly get to our standard! There is even a spare Uke if you want to "try before you buy"

Contact: Alan Bailey (Ise Valley) 01933 350 147

### a3a Kettering Interest Group Timetable

### Please contact group co-ordinator for more information before joining a group

Day No fixed day	Co-ordinator	Tel.no	Venue	Frequency	Time
Gardening	Ray Bradbury	01536 516 587	varies	varies	varies
Travel & Theatre	Tony Loft	07725 190 515	varies	varies	varies
Monday					
Knit and Natter Canasta	Annette Chidwick Tony Loft	01536 523 867 07725 190 518	Member's Home Kettering Bridge Club	1st & 3rd Mondays Every Monday	10.00 – 12 noon 1.30–4.00pm
Family History	Richard Boyles	01536 744 753	LDS Church, Rothwell Road + Online via Zoom	2nd Monday + 1, 3, 4th Mondays	2.00 - 4.00pm 3.00 - 3.40 pm
Tuesday					
Creative Cards	Maggi McGuire & Eileen Mason	01536 392 716 01536 725 925	Member's Home	2nd Tuesday	1.30-3.30pm
Creative Writing 7 Poetry	Alf Howes	07546 464 924	Kino Lounge	1st Tuesday	1.30pm
Discussion Group	David Clayton	01536 520 965	St. Andrews Church Rooms	2nd Tuesday	2.00 - 4.00pm
Lunch Club	Di Tebbutt	01536 392 556	Varies	4th Tuesday	12.00 – 2.30pm
Wednesday					
Stitchin' Time	Pauline Parkin	01536 799 197	Home—Salisbury Street	1st Wednesday	2.00 - 4.00pm
Walking	Jackie Rowson	01536 515 959	Varies	1st Wednesday	10.00 start
Musical Circles	Eileen Mason	01536 725 925	varies	3rd Wednesday	2.00pm
Bookworms	Pauline Parkin	01536 799 197	varies	4th Wednesday	2.00 - 4.00pm
Thursday					
Play Reading	Di Tebbutt	01536 392 556	Bridge Club, Field Street	1st Thursday	10.30-12.30pm
Card Playing	Di Tebbutt	01536 392 556	Bridge Club, Field Street	2nd & 4th Thursday	1.45-3.45 pm
Painting and Drawing	Jo Beaver	01933 224 474	North Park Pavilion	2nd & 4th Thursdays	2.00 – 4.00 pm
Friday					
Sing (& Laugh) Out Loud	Di Tebbutt	01536 392 556	Christ The King, Deeble Road	Alternate Fridays	10.15-12.00
Strictly Seated	Katy Ellis	07713 550 177	Christ The King, Deeble Road	Alternate Fridays	10.30-12.00
Friday Pop In	David Clayton	01536 520 965	Kino Lounge, Market Place	Every Friday	10.00 - 11.30am
Bake It or Fake It	Bridget Ling	01536 521 250	Member's Home	3rd Friday	2.00-4.00pm

### Meetings below with Ise Valley u3a

The following groups are in conjunction with Ise Valley u3a. Please contact THEIR group co-ordinator before joining a group

Day	Co-ordinator	Tel.no	Venue	Frequency	Time
Monday					
Recorder Group	Mary Cooper	01536 420 336	Member's Home	2nd & 4th Mondays	2.30-3.30 pm
Tuesday					
Ukulele	Alan Bailey	01933 350 147	Member's Home	Fortnightly Tuesday	10.00-12.00
Thursday					
Short Walks	Wanda Moffatt	01536 659 236	Varies	3rd Thursday	varies
Spanish	Pauline McCready	01536 485 416	St. Andrews Church Rooms	Fortnightly	2.00 - 4.00pm
Friday					
Singing For Pleasure	Linda Harris	01536 529 410	St. John's Church Hall	Alternate Fridays	10.00-12.00

12 RJB/2025