

Kettering, Northants

<https://isevalleykettering.u3asite.uk/>

Charity Number 1179738

**JUNE 2026 ISSUE**

## Chair's chatter

Good afternoon everyone. I hope you are all managing to cope with this lovely weather – for one I am very pleased that there is air conditioning in the Eden Centre!!!. All the reports of the trip to Audley End have been very good, they looked after everyone and a thoroughly good time was had by all.

On Saturday seven of us manned the stand at the Kettering Volunteer Fair. Joy,



Anne, Alison, Shirley, Jessie, Julie and myself. Despite the hot weather many people attended with a good many taking our leaflets and past Newsletters! The response exceeded our expectations I am pleased to report. Many of them said they would like to come along – perhaps we might reap the rewards of our labours with some new members!

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to all the volunteers for turning out on such a hot day.

*The stall at Kettering Volunteers Fair.*

*Penny*

**This Month's Speaker**

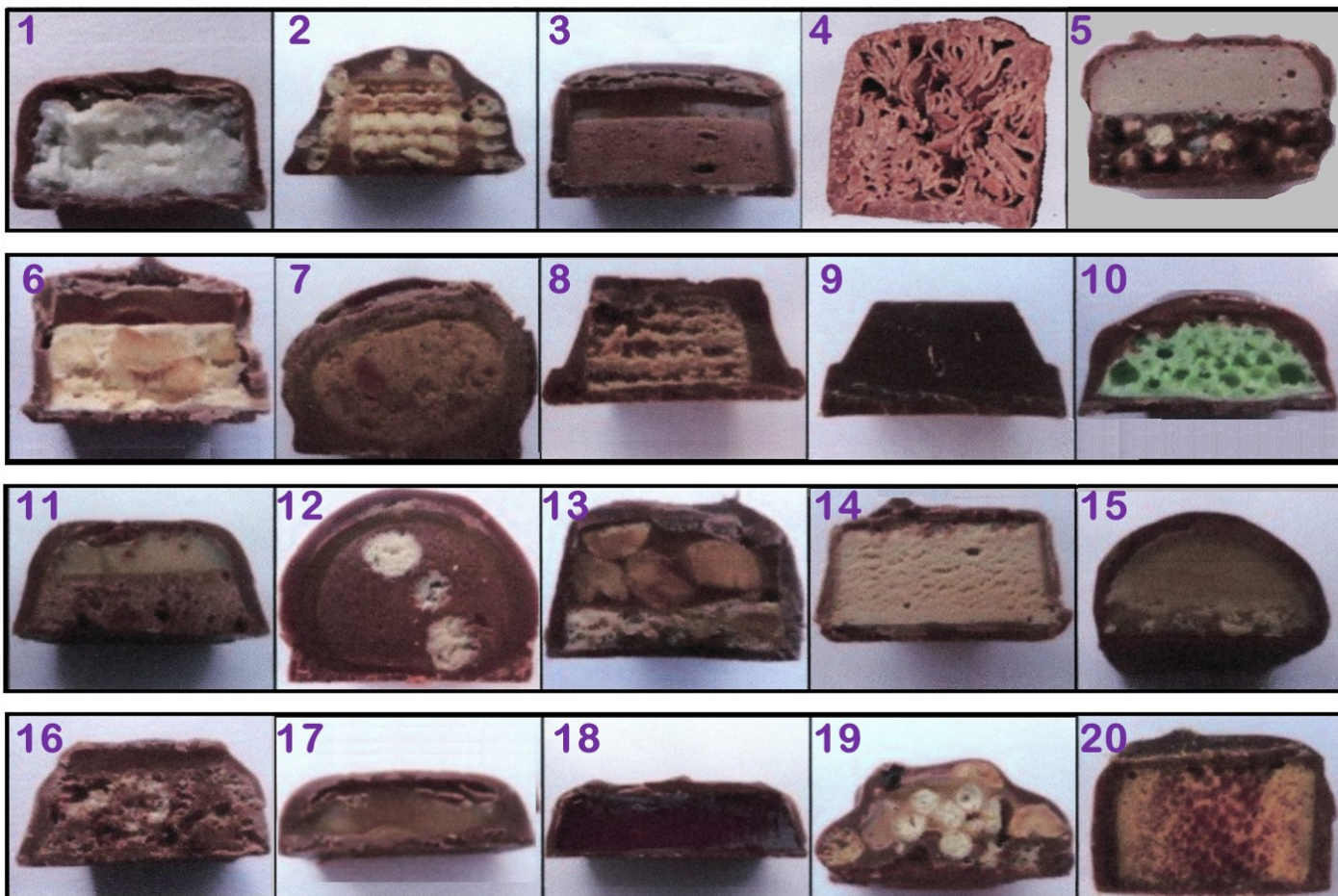
The month Mike Burton will be talking on Abraham Lincoln's America.

'Abraham Lincoln's America' is a close-up study of one of the most remarkable men in history – and of the dynamic and explosive world into which he was born. His warm personality was the key to controlling and sustaining that change, and finally to getting to grips with the ultimate challenge – destroying his country's crime against humanity. It required brilliant strategy, precision timing, and possibly the most beautiful of all political poetry. But it allowed him substantially to shape not just his own country, but also to set the agenda for our modern world.

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

## June Quiz -

Can you name these chocolate bars - Answers later in this newsletter



u3a learn,  
laugh,  
live

### Group Reports

learn,  
laugh,  
live u3a

#### Trips

We had our first trip this month. The destination was Audley End, a Jacobean manor house near Saffron Walden. The weather was just right and we were met by Volunteer guides who showed us where to go and what was available to us. We could wander around the house where there were a number of guides to answer our questions. There were also tours available if we wanted to hear more about the history of the house. We were all amazed to find that the coal was kept on the top floor! A walk around the outside of the house found a wheelbarrow full of tulip bulbs for us to help ourselves to. Altogether, we had a lovely day which was just long enough and got back to Kettering about 5.30. Food from the cafe was very good as well.



All trips are now fully booked so if you would like to go on the waiting list please contact me. There are often places available at the last minute.

I update you regarding cancellations, via our Facebook page which is Ise Valley u3a. It is a closed group and only open to members. Ask to join and you will be able to keep up to date with what is going on.

Don't forget that if you have signed up for St Albans, Barnum and Sylvia, then payment is due in June.

*Sylvia Dale*



## Short Walks

This month's walk was from Geddington along a track, out through woods & across fields. The highlight being a walk through very pretty purple flax in full bloom.

We rounded off the morning at the ever welcoming Cafe Oak.

*Helen Hicks*

## Craft n Coffee

Another pleasant morning, Penny brought her weaving and Anne brought some diamond painting – It is always interesting to see other crafts. Lovely to see Josie after her trip, and we had some good team work with Jayne helping Alison unpick a jumper and rewind the wool. The next meeting is 23rd June.

Best regards



*Joy*

## 10pin Bowling

More highs than lows made for an enjoyable session for eleven of us.

Steve was our winner of the week by achieving a new personal best and Tony had the overall highest score with the last bowl of the session. Well done to them both.



In June, Richard has kindly agreed to look after the group so please make sure you sign up with him at the meeting. We can still welcome new members, just give me a ring.

*Daí Johnson*

## Beginners Camera Club

Our May meeting had a change of venue , The Stirrup Cup in Barton Seagrave. The topic, led by Michelle, was Sports and Pastimes. You can see our photos at the June meeting. The June meeting will also be at The Stirrup Cup, and Joy will give a presentation on the subject of Water.

*Pat Johnson*



## Lunch Club

There was no Lunch Club in May. The June meal will be at The Stirrup Cup. Jill

Burgess will be organising this one, so many thanks to her. Jill will take the orders at the June meeting with a non refundable deposit of £5. So please sign up with Jill and we hope you all have a lovely meal.

*Pat and Daí Johnson*



## Play Reading Group

The group met on Wednesday 27th May to read the play 'Afternoon at the Seaside' a short one act play by Agatha Christie. Set on a beach, with a beach hut, the plot follows Detective Inspector Foley as he attempts to find the person who has stolen a priceless emerald necklace. The suspects include Percy Gunner and his nagging possessive mother, George Crumb, who is determined to help Percy escape his domineering parent, a glamorous bikini clad girl and several couples. Of course the jewel ends up in the most unlikely place. Slight but great fun to read on a hot May afternoon.

Next meeting 6th July.



*Carlene Lee*

## Book Group

The Dictionary Of Lost Words by Pip Williams – Two stories threading together throughout, one fact, one fiction. Esme Nicoll is the main character in the fictional story. It tells of her life in the scriptorium, where the first Oxford English Dictionary was compiled, this is the factual story.

Esme's father is a lexicographer, her mother is dead. She realises very early in her life that lots of words are discarded, she secretly collects them. She collects other words from some, lets say interesting characters. thus, The Dictionary of Lost Words. The story both fact & fiction is a fascinating read, touching on the rise of suffrage, the first world war. A book packed with interest.

*Cheryl Davies*



## Camera Group

At the meeting we pointed out that taking photos through windows caused problems with reflections. Sometimes these enhanced the picture but could also be a nuisance. You can judge these for yourselves at June's u3a.



Richard then gave us some pointers for the next task which is to take interesting photos of different textures.

We meet at St. Mary's road on June 15th.

*Jenny*

## Rummikub Group

We met at Kino Lounge on May 14th – 6 people attended.

Then on 28th May we met at Barton Seagrave Village Hall – 8 people came. All seemed to enjoy themselves. I think we are settling down, but would like more people to come. The next two meetings (June 11th & 25th) will be at the B/S Village Hall 1:15 – 3:30.

*Viv Hole*



## Art Group

Not a lot to report this month as we've had two bank holiday Mondays and as we meet on Monday afternoons we decided to cancel the two sessions this year as some of us have a lot going on at the moment. It's good to meet up to continue our art work with ideas and encouragement from the rest of the group. We have another session with Melanie Henson on the 15th June probably revisiting the use of Acrylics in a landscape unless Mel comes up with another choice.



*Tessa Bellamy*

## Monthly Raffle

Many thanks to Penny Payne for agreeing to organise the June Raffle as Pauline and Pat are not available.

Just to remind you too, if you are leaving early please leave your tickets with someone else in case you win, as we have had several unclaimed prizes.

For those who don't know, the small profit from each month's raffles help to provide the free refreshments for the AGM.

Many thanks to those who support us regularly.

*Pat Johnson & Pauline Mc Cready*

## LOCAL EVENTS YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN

Saturday 13 June, 10am to 10pm

### **KETTFEST 2026**

#### **Music, Arts & Culture Festival**

Main Stage – Market Place:

Clock-tower Stage – Lower Street:

Acoustic Stage – The Yards

DJ Event & Party – The Old Market Inn

Community Stage –

St Peter's & St Paul's Church

Spoken Word/Theatre –

Manor House Gardens

Art, Sport & Have-a-go Activities –

The Yards

and Surprises Around Every Corner

<https://www.ketteringtowncouncil.gov.uk/kettfest>

An Extraordinary one off performance by Paterson Joseph, exploring the life of Ignatius Sancho, Butler to the Montague Family & the first Black person of African descent known to vote in a British election.

With musical performances by Ben Park

### **SANCHO & ME**

**St Edmund's Church, Warkton**

**Thu 18th June 2026 at 7:30 pm**

Light refreshments available

Tickets £20.00 (concession under 16: £15)

from: Edward Lamb c/o Lamb & Holmes,  
West Street, Kettering NN16 0AZ

Tel: 01536 513195

OR

Michael Moore, 1 Horrocks Way, Kettering

NN15 5DH Tel: 01536 483505 or 07887

845778 e-mail: [operalad@me.com](mailto:operalad@me.com)



### **HARMONY IN JUNE SACRED WORKS AND FOLK TRADITIONS**

Featuring Pergolesi's Stabat Mata and works  
by Purcell, Schubert & Vaughan Williams

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH EARLS BARTON**

Sat 20th June @ 7pm

Ticket £15 (concessions £10)

Available on the door or

email [amicorumsingers@outlook.com](mailto:amicorumsingers@outlook.com)



Ticket/details [ketteringartscentre.com](http://ketteringartscentre.com)

**20th June**

### **BRIDGERTON INSPIRED CANDELABRA CONCERT**

3:30pm All ages inc children .

7:00pm 8yrs and over

Ticket £29.99 Under 16s £14.99

**Sat 27th June 7pm**

### **BELCANTO & MASQUERADE A Choral Celebration**

Ticket £10 under 16s free

**Sat 4th July 7pm**

**KETTERING MUSIC CLUB**

**Cransley Hospice Community Choir.**

### **SONGS FROM THE SHOWS**

**Salvation Army Citadel, Rockingham Road, Kettering**

**Friday 10th July 2026. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start**

Tickets £7 including refreshments

from the Cransley Hospice Fundraising Office on 03000 274040 or

The Cransley Hospice Charity Shop, Dalkeith Place, Kettering on 01536 414343.

## Things Happening in June

- 4th & 18th Thursday Morning Talks: At the Northampton Museum & Art Gallery
- 5th/6th – Outdoor Cinema at Burghley House, Stamford
- 6th – Music Barn Festival: music festival in Cranford, live music from 5 stages against a quarry cliff backdrop.
- 7th – European Cultural Heritage Festival: A celebration of folk traditions with music, dance & food–Stanley Park, Peterborough.
- 5th & 6th – “The World’s Quickest Festival” – 14 plays in 48 hours at the Attenborough Arts Centre.
- 5th, 12th & 19th – Friday Art Class: Weekly art sessions – Rooftop Arts Centre, Corby.
- 5th & 6th – Outdoor Adventure Cinema at Burghley House Stamford.
- 6th – Lines of the Land, A creative arts workshop at Wild Rutland, Oakham.
- 7th – Plein Air Day, Outdoor painting at the Manor House in Hemingford Grey.
- 7th – Antique & Vintage Fair: A collectors' fair at The Benn Hall, Rugby.
- from 11th – FIFA World Cup, Canada, Mexico, and USA.
- 12th/13th – Bristol Craft Beer Festival
- 12th–5th July– ICC Women's T20 World Cup, Various venues
- 18th–21st – Isle of Wight Festival, Newport.
- 18th–21st – US Open Golf Championships, Shinnecock Hills, New York.
- 20th – Charles III Official Birthday
- 21st – Summer Solstice and Father’s Day
- Until 22nd – Nevill Holt Festival, A summer arts and opera festival
- 26th–4th July – Wasing Estate Concert Series, near Reading
- 26th – Caterham 7 Driving Experience: High-speed driving at Sywell Aerodrome.
- 26th – NFest 2026, Needingworth’s annual community music and real ale festival.
- 28th – Blaston Show, Rural family show in Market Harborough
- 29th–12th July – Wimbledon Tennis Championships, London.

## PROGRAMME FOR 2026

- 8th July 26 Annual General Meeting
- 12th August Chris Stanbury – The walk of a lifetime, Land's End to John o'Groats
- 9th September Melody Flyte – Forces’ Sweethearts of WW2
- 14th October Andy Smith – ‘Songsmith’ (and other stories)
- 11th November Bobbie Darbyshire – "A Beginning, a Muddle and an End:  
(Where do novelists get their ideas?)

## ANSWERS TO THIS MONTH’S QUIZ



- |                     |                   |                  |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 15. Fudge           | 8. Kit Kat Chunky | 1. Bounty        |
| 16. Toffee Crisp    | 9. Yorkie         | 2. Lion          |
| 17. CDM Caramel     | 10. Aero Mint     | 3. Mars          |
| 18. Turkish Delight | 11. Wisper Gold   | 4. Twirl         |
| 19. Picnic          | 12. Boost         | 5. Double Decker |
| 20. Crunchie        | 13. Snickers      | 6. Topic         |
|                     | 14. Milky Way     | 7. Starbar       |

## Activity Group Details

| Day/Group               | Leader                       | Telephone                    | Venue  | Frequency   | Time              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|-------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>           |                              |                              |  |   |                   |
| Art Group               | Tessa Bellamy                | 07854 864632                 | St Andrews Church Rooms                        | Weekly  | 2-4pm             |
| Book Club               | Margaret Turnbull            | 01536 511139                 | Village Hall Barton Seagrave                   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday  | 11am - 1pm        |
| Camera Club (advanced)  | Jenny Goddard<br>Pat Johnson | 01536 482972<br>07816 939198 | Member's home (Ise Lodge)                      | Monday following monthly meeting  | 2pm               |
| Mah Jongg/ Scrabble     | Linda Law                    | 01536 659091                 | Barton Seagrave Village Hall                   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday  | 1.45 - 3.45pm     |
| Play Reading group      | Rosalind Bridges             | 01536 741455                 | Venue & dates vary                             | Normally 1st Monday   | 2-4pm             |
| Recorder Group          | Mary Cooper<br>Sue Hartley   | 01536 420336<br>07787 187728 | Member's home (St Mary's Road, London Rd end)  | Usually 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday. Can vary for Bank Holidays or to suit members | 2-3pm             |
| <b>Tuesday</b>          |                              |                              |  |   |                   |
| Camera Club (Beginners) | Pat Johnson                  | 07816 939198                 | Member's home (Ise Lodge)                      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday   | 2pm               |
| Ukulele Group           | Alan Bailey                  | 01933 350147                 | Member's home (Grosvenor Way, Barton Seagrave) | Fortnightly   | 10am - 12 noon    |
| Craft n Coffee          | Joy Knight                   | 07535 446758                 | Stirrup Cup Barton Seagrave                    | 4th Tuesday   | 10.30am - 12 noon |
| <b>Wednesday</b>        |                              |                              |  |   |                   |
| Colour, Relax and Chat  | Alison Harvey                | Alison_harvey@hotmail.com.   | Member's home (behind Avery Care Home)         | Last Wednesday of the month   | 10:30-12noon      |
| Lunch Club              | Pat & Dai Johnson            | 07816 939198                 | Varies   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed Alternative Months  | 12 for 12:30pm    |
| <b>Thursday</b>         |                              |                              |  |   |                   |
| Ten pin bowling         | Dai Johnson                  | 07816 939198                 | Thunder Bowl Rockingham Rd                     | Follows monthly meeting   | 12 noon           |
| Coffee Morning          | Sylvia Dale                  | 07419 837379                 | Stirrup Cup Barton Seagrave                    | Every Thursday  | 10am              |
| Spanish #               | Pauline McCready             | 07731 555873                 | St Andrew's Church Rooms                       | Fortnightly   | 2-4pm             |
| Rummikub Group          | Vivien Hole                  | vivien.hole@gmail.com        | Village Hall Barton Seagrave                   | 2nd & 4th Thursdays   | 1:15 - 3:30pm     |
| Short Walks             | Helen Hicks                  | 07827 889441.                | Varies   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday  | 10am              |
| <b>Friday</b>           |                              |                              |  |   |                   |
| Singing for Pleasure    | Lynda Harris                 | 01536 529410                 | St John's Church Hall                          | Fortnightly   | 10am - 12 noon    |
| Trips                   | Sylvia Dale                  | 07419 837379                 | Varies   | Varies  | Varies            |

### Groups who currently have vacancies

Ukulele, Play reading Group, Recorder Group, Beginners Camera Club  
Ten Pin Bowling, Singing for Pleasure, Coffee Morning, Rummikub,  
Colour, Relax and Chat & Lunch Club

To enroll in any groups, please contact the Group Leader.

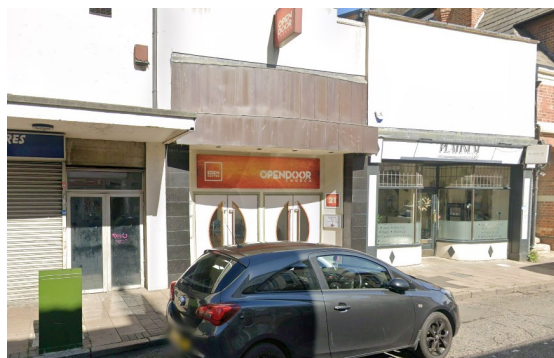
Coffee morning is the exception - anyone is welcome - just turn up.

# The Spanish group is not meeting at the moment as they are looking for a new leader

## **MAIN MEETING** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month

The Eden Centre, Montagu Street

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Doors open      | 1.30pm         |
| Chair's Chatter | 1.55pm         |
| Speaker         | 2.00pm         |
| Raffle          | 3.00pm approx. |
| Finish          | 3.15pm approx. |



## **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   | Alison Harvey   | 07706586000  |
| Secretary              | <b>VACANT</b>   |              |
| Groups Co-ordinator    | Joy Knight      | 07535 446758 |
| Speaker Seeker         | Michael Bristow | 07878 534994 |
| General Duties         | Anne Chandler   | 07734 963682 |
| Information Technology | Roger Payne     | 07799 177378 |

## **Non Committee Officers**

|                      |             |              |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Safeguarding Officer | Bob Moffatt | 07970 896519 |
| Newsletter Editor    | Roger Payne | 01536 722419 |

## **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.

## **OUR WEBSITE**

<https://isevalleykettering.u3asite.uk/>

If you have anything you think should go on the site or if you find links which don't work or other errors, please email me at [u3a.ise.valley@gmail.com](mailto:u3a.ise.valley@gmail.com)

## **NEWSLETTER MATERIAL**

Please email your contributions to me at [u3a.ise.valley@gmail.com](mailto:u3a.ise.valley@gmail.com) by the last day of the preceding month. If you can get them to me earlier, that would be much appreciated.

*Roger Payne*