

Kettering, Northants

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

Charity Number 1179738

## MAY 2026 ISSUE

Chairs chatter

Hello Everyone by now you will all have received the email (*see below*), about the on-going search for a new Chair please think about this as it is a good opportunity to try before you buy!

We are still looking for volunteers to help at the stall on 30th May at the Kettering Volunteer Fair, which will be held from 1am - 4pm on the Market Place. All it involves is handing out leaflets and chatting to people. If you can spare sometime (even 30 minutes) it will be much appreciated - enabling those who will be there for longer sessions to have a sit down, have lunch and take comfort breaks!

I will put the begging bowl away now and hope you are all enjoying the better weather!

The speaker this month is Steve Dimmer who will be talking to us about Victoria Wood, through her many classic sketches and amazingly clever songs. Our speaker for June will be Mike Burton on Abraham Lincoln's America.

*Penny*



As you already know we are looking for a new Chair person. One of our senior members has come up with an idea that I and the committee think is very helpful. As you know we older members are looking to hand over to a slightly younger group of people to keep our group moving forward. This member is willing to share the Chair person position with someone in order to mentor the newcomer and show them the ropes.

They will be in charge when the mentor is unavailable for whatever reason and vice-versa. Then hopefully 12 months of Chair-share will give the newcomer the confidence to take over.

Well worth thinking about as those members over 80 have put a great deal into this group and deserve a very well earned rest.

As you also know we are looking for a new secretary - not an onerous task as it mostly involves taking minutes at the committee meetings.

To find out more about the above please talk to Penny or Joy

**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**

## May Quiz - Collective Nouns

We say a Gaggle of Geese and Murmuration of Starlings but can you match these creatures with their collective nouns. Answers later in this newsletter

### CREATURES

1. Alligators
2. Baboons
3. Badgers
4. Butterfly's
5. Crows
6. Dogs
7. Finches
8. Gulls
9. Hippopotamus
10. Leopards
11. Lions
12. Lizards
13. Owls
14. Oysters
15. Pelicans
16. Ponies
17. Porcupines
18. Rattlesnakes
19. Spiders
20. Storks

### COLLECTIVE NOUNS

- a. Bed
- b. Bloat
- c. Cete
- d. Charm
- e. Clutter
- f. Colony
- g. Congregation
- h. Flutter
- i. Leap
- j. Lounge
- k. Murder
- l. Mustering
- m. Pack
- n. Parliament
- o. Pod
- p. Prickle
- q. Pride
- r. Rhumba
- s. String
- t. Troop



## Group Reports



### Short Walks

For April's walk we were spoiled by the beautiful purple & yellow carpet of bluebells, aconites & primroses in Cransley Wood and the sight & sound of a skylark. We did a circular route there from Mawsley. It was a dry but windy morning which was pleasant for walking.



The next walk will be on Thursday 21st May setting off at 10am from the car park by the cricket club & village hall in Geddington (NN14 1AA) and returning to Cafe Oak for refreshments afterwards..

*Helen Hicks*

### Book Group

The Mothers Secret By Kathryn Croft

The book begins with these words – We all make mistakes, do things that can't be undone no matter after how much we wish we could retrace our steps, to pause for a single moment and consider the consequences of our actions.

Storyline switches between the central character Eves life both before and after having daughter Kayla.

Why she walked away from her husband and newborn baby and what drove her to take such drastic action.

Two years later Eve wants to make amends, to reconnect with her little daughter and husband Aidan and to punish the person who drove her to abandon her family.

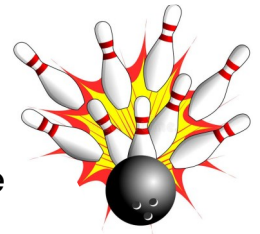
A burglary, a murder and an intriguing twist at the end of this Book Club choice for April



*Linda Benbow*

## 10pin Bowling

We had a big turn out this month, with lots of spares and strikes. Steve's score equalled his personal best , so well done to him. We can still welcome new members to the group. Who would like to try a new activity, or revive memories of their youth



*Daí Johnson*

## Beginners Camera Club

Our topic for March was Abstract, and there were some interesting photos. Unfortunately, we didn't meet until after the April meeting, so you will be able to see our photos in May. At our April meeting, Helen gave a very good presentation on the subject of Clouds so we hope to be able to take some Cloud photos this month.



Our May meeting has a change of venue. It will be at The Stirrup Cup in Barton Seagrave , at 2pm on 12th May. The topic will be Sports and Pastimes, led by Michelle.

*Pat Johnson*

## Lunch Club

This month's Lunch Club was held at the Dukes Arms in Woodford. Such a welcoming pub with good food to match.

Everyone seemed to enjoy their meal, especially the Spotted Dick, which was the dessert of the day at £2.50! There will be no Lunch Club in May but In June, Jill Burgess is very kindly organising the meal at The Stirrup Cup in Barton Seagrave. This will be on Wednesday 17th June. Jill will take orders and deposits at the main meeting on the 10th June. Everyone is welcome.



*Pat and Daí Johnson*

## Play Reading Group

We met to read 'Birds on the Wing' a farce by Peter Yeldham.



Two young attractive women travel all over the world conning various business men, usually bed hopping with them, often the same men at the same time, whilst persuading them to supposedly invest large sums of money. They get into all sorts of situations many of them unbelievably farcical, but always manage to extricate themselves in an amusing and entertaining way. We all thoroughly enjoyed reading this farce and look forward to the next meeting on Wednesday 27th May.

*Carlene Lee*

## Camera Group

Our theme was 'Hidden' which we interpreted in different ways. Look at our photos on show at the meeting; hidden children, lambs, flowers. Pat went on to prime us for next month's topic of 'Windows'; looking at or through them. We meet again on Monday 18th May. Don't forget to bring your cameras.



*Jenny*

## Art Group

We had Mel with her mountains and lake watercolour lesson with hints on painting water with reflections on the 30th March. No art on Easter Monday then another 2 sessions before another class with Mel with her demo on collage background, painting a bird using watercolour, pencils and fine liners or birs.

Photo of our work attached. A real mixed media session.



We're very pleased to welcome back Gary Archer who has had to have time off so our group is now full. We have decided not to meet on the 2 May bank holidays so Mel's next lesson will be June.

*Tessa Bellamy*

## Rummikub Group

It is early days for this club, but so far so good! We met on April 9th at the Stirrup Cup with 15 attending. On April 23rd we met at Barton Seagrave village hall - 9 people attended - thoroughly enjoyed! Unfortunately we will not be able to meet there regularly so our next meeting will be at the Kino Lounge on May 14th (2nd Thursday of the month). I will keep you update on progress with venues!



*Viv Hole*



## Craft n Coffee

Unfortunately several members could not attend this month however we still had a pleasant morning chatting and crafting. This group is currently full but if you want to go on the waiting list please let me know.

We are next meeting on 26th May.

*Joy Knight*

## Singing for Pleasure

We still have a few places for any members to join us if they feel that they would enjoy singing. We are a few singers down due to age and illness at the moment so would welcome anyone who would like to sing. We meet on alternative Fridays at St John's Church Hall on the Grange estate, so free parking!

The next meeting is on 15th May, 10am-noon



*Sylvia Dale*

*A man asked God, "Is it true that to you a billion years is like a second?"*

*God replied "Yes", so the man asked, "Is it also true that to you a billion pounds is like a penny?"*

*God again replied "Yes.", so the man said, "God, can I have a penny?"*

*And God replied "Just a second."*

# LOCAL EVENTS YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN

## Hope UK QUIZ NIGHT



WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY

7 PM – 9 PM

HOPE UK, 50 GOLD STREET, KETTERING

Gather together all your smart friends into teams of 6 and join us for a mind-boggling, brain-teasing evening of quizzing fun!

**£10 PER PERSON  
INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS**

All funds raised will support Hope UK's drug education work

To book your place, visit [hopeuk.org/events](http://hopeuk.org/events) or scan the QR code



## ROYAL DERNGATE & NORTHAMPTON

19-21 Guildhall Road, Northampton  
NN1 1DP Box Office 01604 624811

May 12th-16th  
**Six the Musical**

Sunday May 10th  
**Thank You for the Music**  
*The Ultimate Tribute to ABBA*

Friday May 22nd  
**Fever: Ballet Of Lights**  
*Sleeping Beauty like never before  
in a dance and lights show.*

Saturday May 23rd  
**Madama Butterfly**  
*Northampton Opera Group*



For details or to book tickets visit  
[ketteringartscentre.com](http://ketteringartscentre.com)



Sat 10th May 7:30pm  
**THE PANTALOONS**  
Sherlock Holmes & the  
Hound of the Baskervilles  
Ticket £15 under 16 £6

Sat 23rd May 7:30pm  
**ALL THINGS MCCARTNEY**  
Ticket £15 under 16 £6



Like us on Facebook

**The Rifle**  
**VINTAGE**  
Jam & Jive

Regular House Band  
Predominantly 50's & 60's  
Guest Singers & Musicians  
Feel Free To Join In & Jam Along!

Every **THIRD**  
Thursday  
of the  
Month

**The Rifle Band Club** Kettering - Northants - NN16 9QA

## THINGS HAPPENING IN MAY

National Walking Month, Local and Community History Month,

- 1st May Day, National Space Day, International Workers' Day
- 2nd World Tuna Day, Harry Potter Day
- 4th Star Wars Day
- 5th World Asthma Day, Cinco de Mayo
- 6th International No Diet Day
- 8th VE Day, World Red Cross Day
- 9th Europe Day
- 10th National Children's Day, World Fair Trade Day
- 11th Mental Health Awareness Week
- 12th International Nurses Day
- 13th World Cocktail Day
- 15th International Day of Families
- 16th Men's FA Cup Final Eurovision Song Contest Final,
- 20th World Bee Day
- 21st World Meditation Day World Day for Cultural Diversity,
- 22nd Biological Diversity Day
- 23rd Spring Bank Holiday
- 28th World Blood Cancer Day
- 31st Women's FA Cup Final

## OUR SPEAKERS FOR THIS YEAR

- 10th June 26 Mike Burton - Abraham Lincoln's America
- 8th July 26 AGM
- 12th August Chris Stanbury - 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 - Where Do Novelists Get Their Ideas?

## ANSWERS TO THIS MONTH'S QUIZ

- 11q Pride of Lions
- 12j Lounge of Lizards
- 13n Parliament of Owls
- 14a Bed of Oysters
- 15o Pod of Pelicans
- 16s String of Ponies
- 17p Prickle of Porcupines
- 18r Rhumba of Rattlesnakes
- 19e Clutter of spiders
- 20l Mustering of Storks



- 1g Congregation of Alligators
- 2t Troop of Baboons
- 3c Cete of Badgers
- 4h Flutter of Butterfly's
- 5k Murder of Crows
- 6m Pack of Dogs
- 7d Charm of Finches
- 8f Colony of Gulls
- 9b Bloat of Hippopotamus
- 10l Leap of Leopards

## 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 Pat Johnson	01536 482972 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 Sue Hartley	01536 420336 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
Ukelele 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 McCreedy	07731 555873	St Andrew's Church Rooms	Fortnightly	2-4pm
Rummikub Group	Vivien Hole	vivien.hole@gmail.com	Varies	2nd & 4th Thursdays	1:30-4pm
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 & Lunch Club

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

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

**New groups Rummikub & Colour, Relax and Chat**

# 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
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 & Newsletter Editor	Roger Payne	07799 177378

## **Non Committee Officer**

Safeguarding Officer      Bob Moffatt 07970 896519

## **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*

*The editor reserves the right to edit articles to aid clarity or to fit the available space*