ISE VALLEY NEWS

Kettering, Northants

https://isevalleykettering.u3asite.uk/

Charity Number 1179738

OCTOBER 2026 ISSUE

Chair's Chatter

It has been a busy month. A number of members signed up for the book binding and glass fusing classes and although not enough were interested in the book binding the glass fusing is going ahead. There is one spare place on that now. The date is Sunday 18th October at 10am – 1pm. Venue is Eckland Business Park, Desborough Road, Market Harborough. A lift is available if needed.

It appears that not many are interested in jigsaws so that might have to be dropped.

Please remember that your membership cards have to be collected at the monthly meeting. It is too expensive to use the post these days so if you cannot get to the meeting, either arrange for a friend to collect for you or get a sae to Alison so that she can send it to you.

Can I remind you to let us know if you move or change your phone number/ email address. It is important to keep these details up to date.

I am still waiting for you to volunteer to be on the committee. We are struggling to run it on minimal volunteers. If you would like to try it to see how it runs, please contact me. I NEED HELP!!

Christmas party tickets are on sale this month. The cost is £5. We should have a great time, with lots of things planned. Only 100 tickets are available so don't forget to get yours.

To All Members

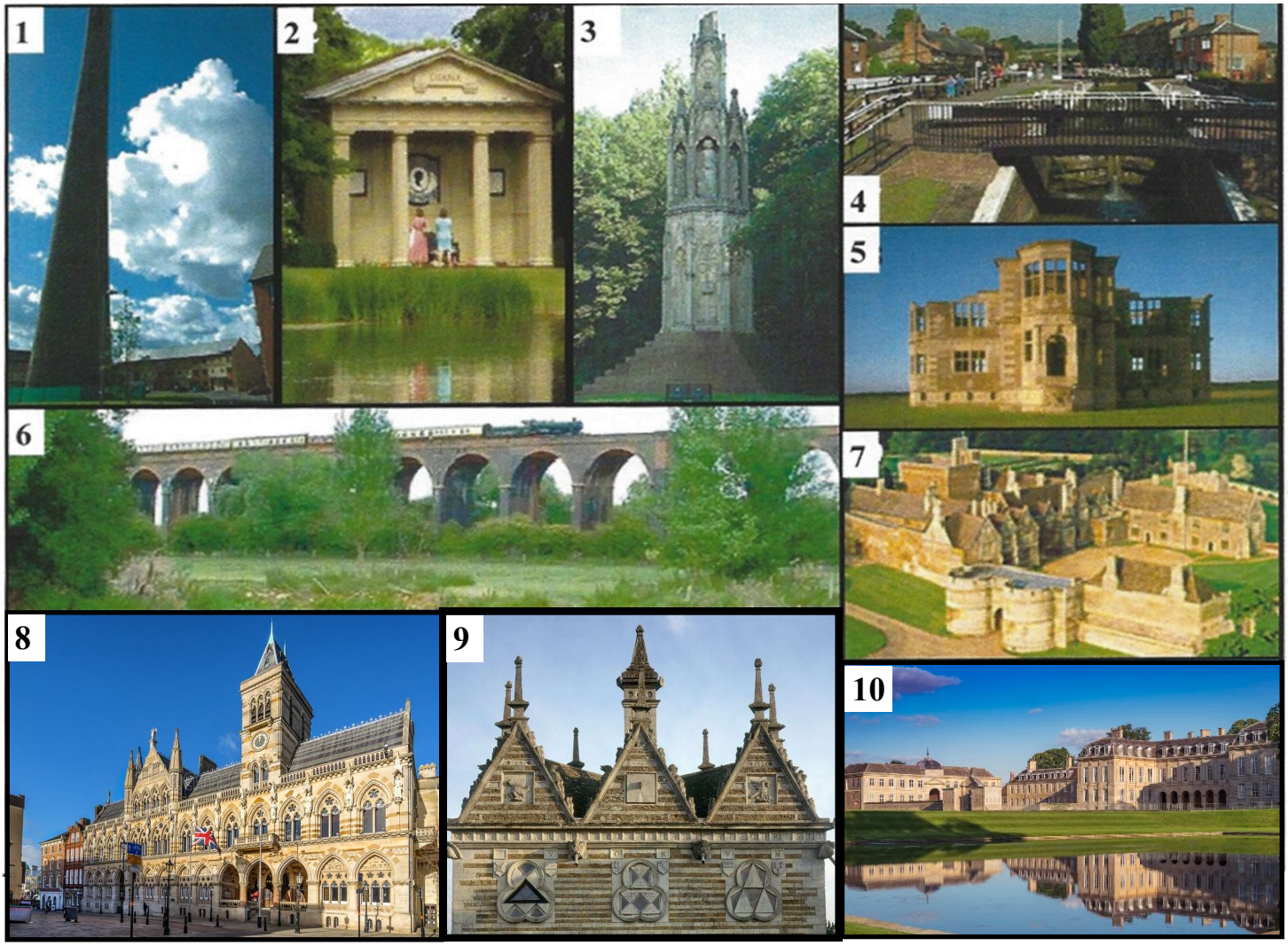
If you are aware of anything affecting one of our members, such as important birthdays, anniversary or illness and feel that a card from the u3a would be appropriate, then please contact one of the committee.

Sylvia

OUR SPEAKER

Our speaker this month is Andy Smith. He is a performance poet, entertainer, author and former business communicator who has two artificial limbs, a wonderful wife, three fine children and a whippet. He talks and engages live audiences with stimulating poetry and related commentary, interspersed with humour, thought-provoking insights and the occasional smattering of history.

DOORS ARE NOW OPEN AT 1.15PM. YOU ARE WELCOME TO COME INTO THE HALL, BUT PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU SIGN IN WITH THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.



Can you identify these Local Landmarks
(answers later in the newsletter)



Seen in the back window of a car
'I'm not drunk, I'm just trying to avoid the potholes'

GROUP REPORTS

Play reading Group



We met on Tuesday 1st September to read 'After September' a play by Jimmie Chinn, set in a girls boarding school. Returning for a new term the teachers reach tension breaking point when they have to face a catalogue of problems. Someone has written anonymous letters to the government inspectors defaming the school, if the school is closed where will they all go? Who has betrayed them? It was an interesting and amusing play which everyone enjoyed reading. Provisional date of next meeting Tuesday 13th October.

Carlene Lee

Trips

We chose a very good day to go to see Barnum as it was wet and miserable! The show did not disappoint. There were acrobats, jugglers, an amazing number of musicians, as well as some excellent singing. It was very slick and well presented. If anything, there was too much to look at!



The coach got us home while it was still light so that was a bonus.

The last show of the year is on October 1st when we will be seeing Sylvia. This is a new production about the Pankhursts.

Looking forward to see you all then.

Sylvia

Book Club

This month book was **'No One saw a Thing'** by Andrea Mara. The story revolves around a family from Ireland over in London for a reunion of the father's (Aaron) student friends. After changing the meeting venue the mother (Sive) travels to the underground station with her 3 children, Faye, Bea and baby Toby in the pram. The girls run ahead and just as the train pulls in Sive's mobile rings, she answered it and the train doors shut with her two girls inside and she is still on the platform. Sive contacts the underground staff and they say they will get the girls off at the next stop but only Bea gets off.



This story is about the parents search for their daughter and is full of sub plots and red herrings but moves along at a fair pace. The book group felt that although the story holds your interest, there were too many people and sub plots involved, but all enjoyed the story.

Lynda Kirbyshire

10pin Bowling

This month due to holidays there were only six of us playing, so each team had to take it in turn to play dypsey causing much fun and laughter. Sadly no one beat their personal best this month but Penny and Richard came close.



Anyone interested in joining contact Dai Johnson, You do not need to be an expert just come along and give it ago.

Richard Burgess

Craft n Coffee



Eight of us attended, and most of us actually did some crafting whilst chatting. Angela told us about a train trips she took including a visit to a museum which included a tapestry made of knitted squares.

Our next meeting is 27th October.

Joy Knight

Lunch Club

The next Lunch Club will be on Wed 21st October at The Star in Geddington.

We shall be taking bookings , plus a £5 non refundable deposit at the next U3a meeting on Wednesday 14th October.



At our meeting on 11th November we shall take bookings for the Christmas meal at The Old Victoria in Burton Latimer on Wed 16th December. Cost £27 (2courses) or £34 (3courses), which we need in full and it is non refundable. We have booked 50 places so if you want to come please make sure you book with us at the meeting

Pat & Dai

Rummikub

The group leader has resigned so does anyone else wish to run the group? If you are interested please can you contact me to discuss.

Joy Knight

Short Walks

In September we had another lovely walk from Geddington. We headed out to Newton where we were again able to see the alpacas. Although we started in the rain it soon stopped and was quite warm.



Refreshments at the end were at Cafe Oak where it was nice to meet up with Wanda, Bob & Teddy.

Because there are 5 Thursdays in October, next month's walk is not on the usual 3rd Thursday but on 22nd. We'll meet at The Holiday Inn car park off the A43 roundabout at 10am. Refreshments will be at The Bull Pen.

Helen Hicks

Discussion Group

The first attempt at a meeting for the new discussion group was only attended by myself & Alison. I've since had 2 more members enquiring about it.

It's been decided to persevere and to get this started in a central Kettering location if possible - although everyone will need to buy a drink to use the room.

If anyone is interested in joining us please let myself or Joy know. Let us know what day and times you can make it and I'll try to accommodate the majority.

I will be at the October meeting to take details of anyone who may be interested and to hear any suggestions on how we can get this group up and running.

I can be contacted on 07827 889441 or helenhicksk2@gmail.com .

Helen Hicks

Art Group

We've been back for a few weeks now and had our first session with Mel who taught us techniques to paint a variety of trees with watercolours. We did have a similar lesson a while ago but you can never have enough practice painting trees as they are a hard subject. Most of us have continued to practice in our last weekly sessions. Next workshop with Mel is a wax crayon transfer technique also using watercolours, painting cats or animal's eyes. Sounds interesting.



A few examples of our tree paintings

Tessa

Glass Fusing Course CANCELLATION

Due to an operation we have a vacancy for our course on Glass Fusing on Sunday 18th October, starting at 10am. Anyone interested and for more info, please contact me.

Sylvia

T 01933 650496
E enquiries@huxlow.northants.sch.uk
W www.huxlow.northants.sch.uk
Headteacher Mrs K Isaksen

Huxlow Academy
Ambition • Respect • Pride

10 September 2026

Sylvia Dale
U3A

Dear Sylvia

I would like to sincerely thank you for your kind donation towards our food parcels for vulnerable families at Huxlow School.

Your generosity helps us support families in our school community who may be experiencing significant financial pressure, difficult home circumstances, or sudden changes in their lives.

Thanks to your donation, we are able to continue providing this essential support to families on a bi-weekly basis.

Your kindness makes a meaningful difference to our families and helps ensure that they know they are supported during challenging times.

We are truly grateful for your generosity and support.

Kind regards

pp H Lynch (Ethos Lead)

Nadia Hosny
Ethos Team
Family Support Worker

DONATIONS

Many thanks to all those who have raided their cupboards and produced an amazing amount of canned and dried foods for the needy families in this area. Huxlow School were thrilled (see letter above) and they can now restart delivering to those who need it.



1. Express Lift Tower
2. Diana Memorial Althorpe
3. Eleanor Cross Hardingstone
4. Stoke Bruerne Locks
5. Lyveden New Bield
6. Harringworth Viaduct
7. Rockingham Castle
8. Northampton Guildhall
9. Triangular Lodge
10. Boughton House

RECOMMENDED TRADESPEOPLE

A new section where you can recommend tradespeople who have done a good job. Personal recommendations are always worth considering

I recently needed bodywork repairs to my car and used Paint-FX, they were very helpful and did a good clean job for a reasonable price
Tel 01536 510051 Unit 3 Digby Street, Kettering

I used LJN Plumbing and Heating Services to replace a boiler and refit my bathroom. Very pleased, reasonable quote; worked efficiently and cleanly; Gas safe engineer
Mobile – 07713 198145 email: ljnplumbingservices@outlook.com

If you have a tradesperson you would like to recommend please email their details to the newsletter at u3a.ise.valley@gmail.com

THE THINK TANK

Well, this month's meeting at Barton Seagrave village hall was a lot better. Silence reigned!! Apart from our talking, of course.

More pop-up ideas were brought out, discussed and decided upon. This monthly meeting will be interesting. Thinking outside the box again and looking for fun things to do. No, I'm not telling you what was decided. Come to the meeting and find out!.

Don't forget, any member can come to these meetings. If you have an idea, then we want to hear it. The next meeting will be on Monday 19th October, 9.30am at Barton Seagrave village hall. It lasts approximately 1 hour, so doesn't take up too much time. Plenty of parking.

Sylvia

LOCAL EVENTS

Cransley Hospice Community Choir
'SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS',
Salvation Army Citadel, Rockingham Road, Kettering
Monday 7th December 2026 - Doors 7pm Concert 7.30pm.
Ticket £5 from
Cransley Hospice Shop, Dalkeith Place, Kettering on 01536 414343
or the fundraising office on 03000 274040.

KETTERING Arts Centre at St Andrew's Church

3rd Oct MAMA MIA - THE PARTY
featuring local DJ Bill Burton
24th Oct SCOTT BENNET - BLOOD SUGAR BABY
7th Nov THE INCREDIBLE MAKERS MARKET
Details/tickets from *ketteringartscentre.com*

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the lighthouse theatre

1st Oct - BEYOND THE BARRICADES
2th Oct - THE SIMON & GARFUNKEL STORY
16th Oct - THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC
1st Nov - SWAN LAKE BALLET
For full details of all events at The Lighthouse visit
lighthousetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/

ROYAL & DERNGATE NORTHAMPTON

13th-17th Oct - OTHELLO.
20th Oct - LENNY HENRY - 'STILL AT LARGE'
25th Oct - THE MAGNIFICENT MUSIC HALL
28th-30th Oct 'ELF THE MUSICAL'
For full details of all events at Royal & Derngate visit
royalandderngate.co.uk/whats-on

ACTIVITY GROUP DETAILS

Day/Group	Leader	Telephone	Venue	Frequency	Time
Monday					
Art Group	Tessa Bellamy	07854 864632	St Andrews Church Rooms	Weekly	2-4pm
Book Club	Margaret Turnbull	07923 910289	Village Hall Barton Seagrave	3rd 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 Jong/ Scrabble	Linda Law	01536 659091	Barton Seagrave Village Hall	2nd & 4th Monday	1.30 - 3.30pm
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 2nd & 4th Monday. Can vary for Bank Holidays or to suit members	2-3pm
Tuesday					
Camera Club (Beginners)	Pat Johnson	07816 939198	Member's home (Ise Lodge)	2nd 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
Wednesday					
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	3rd Wed Alternative Months	12 for 12:30pm
Thursday					
Ten pin bowling	Dai Johnson	07933 52786	Thunder Bowl Rockingham Rd	Follows monthly meeting	12 noon
Coffee Morning	Sylvia Dale	07419 837379	Stirrup Cup Barton Seagrave	Every Thursday	10am
Rummikub * Group			Village Hall Barton Seagrave	2nd & 4th Thursdays	1:15 – 3:30pm
Short Walks	Helen Hicks	07827 889441.	Varies	3rd Thursday	10am
Friday					
Singing for Pleasure	Lynda Harris	07752 141571	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,
Mahjong and Scrabble, 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 Rummikub group is looking for a new leader

MAIN MEETING – 2nd Wednesday of the month

The Eden Centre, Montagu Street

Doors open	1.15pm
Chair's Chatter	2.10pm
Speaker	2.15pm
Raffle	3.00pm approx.
Finish	3.15pm approx.



COMMITTEE 2025-2026

Chair	Sylvia Dale	☏ 07419 837379
Deputy Chair	VACANT	
Treasurer No 1 a/c	VACANT	
Treasurer No 2 a/c	Tessa Bellamy	☏ 07854 864632
Membership Secretary	VACANT	
Secretary	Lynne Franklin	☏ 01536 618001
Activity Groups Co-ordinator	Joy Knight	☏ 07535 446758
Speaker Seeker	Michael Bristow	☏ 07878 534994
Information Technology Newsletter Editor	Roger Payne	☏ 07799 177378
General Duties	Anne Chandler	☏ 07734 963682
	Jude Walker	☏ 07941 352190

Non Committee

Safeguarding Officer	Bob Moffatt	☏ 07970 896519

JOB VACANCIES

Ise Valley u3a are recruiting members to join our hardworking committee. No experience needed, only willingness to become part of a team and help out at our main meetings and at a committee meeting once a month.

We have at least 4 vacancies within the committee, none of which require a lot of your time, so will **YOU** come and join us? For more information please contact *Sylvia (chair)* ☏ 07419 837379 email sylviadale@live.co.uk

NEWSLETTER MATERIAL

Please email your contributions to 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

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 u3a.ise.valley@gmail.com

Roger Payne