

## Next Meeting at Great Oakley Village Hall

**Wednesday 24th August 2022**

**Carly-Jane, a singer with a great voice, to get your feet tapping and entertain you with songs you know so well.**

### Message from the Chair

A lot has happened since my last message to you all.

We had the picnic in the park in June which a fabulous day, the weather was kind, but hot, which meant we were all searching for shade, but so much nicer than searching for a brolly!!!!

Everyone had a wonderful time, sharing good food and wine amongst friends and being entertained by Ash who sang a great medley of songs that we could all tap our toes too. The two cakes were so delicious and very relevant to the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

I think the real highlight was having the Corby Mayor, **Cllr Tafadzwa Chikoto** who is normally known as **Taffy** join us and help celebrate this special day and he sent the following message:

**"I was delighted to be invited and attend such a wonderful event. I would like to thank the organizers on a well-attended and fun gathering. It was a real pleasure meeting the members who all made me feel extremely welcome. The Great Oakley and District U3A is a great place to meet new friends with monthly outings and social events"**

**Kind regards**

My personal thanks go to Sue, John, Damian and Doreen for making this such a memorable event, without their dedication and kindness this Picnic would never have happened.

## Trip to Althorp

In July 32 of us took the Coach trip to Althorp in July, what a magnificent day, the House was stunning, the many paintings in the house gave a picture (no pun intended) of the Family History, the guides were knowledgeable, the gardens beautiful and the Lake where Princess Diana rests, had a unique aura, that was impossible to describe, a serene peaceful area, that is so fitting for such a beautiful person.

On the way to Althorp, Damian, gave us a potted history of the family and the house, which in true Damian style was fascinating, and a good insight of what to expect.

The highlight for me on this trip, was at the end of the day, when everyone met up in the courtyard, enjoying some Coffee, sitting at tables talking with friends, whilst waiting to board the coach home. Simply Magical!

Again, may I thank Sue, John, Damian and Doreen for making this trip so special

## So ..... what else?

We have a number of events planned during the year, and they are listed on our Great Oakley and District U3A website

<https://u3asites.org.uk/great-oakley/events>

Take a look!!!!

Until we meet again in August, take care of yourselves, keep putting that sun screen on, and enjoy the marvelous weather.

Take Care – Peter Moden.

**Message from Newsletter Editor**  
**Contributions and stories are welcome. Please forward to**  
[vicechairgou3a@gmail.com](mailto:vicechairgou3a@gmail.com)

## Special Event for all u3a in Northamptonshire

This u3a day has been postponed several times for a range of reasons and our walking group has put in many, many miles onto the Mile-a-Member challenge. Chester house is well worth a visit having undergone a complete refurbishment since 2004. It has a fine café and is the home of an ARC (Archeological Resource Centre) which can be visited by booking. I know at least 1 of our members who has visited the site on 3 occasions and is going back again. It is not far from Higham Lakes, a Retail Therapy site which should be avoided unless you have a pre-arranged Bank Loan. Chester house has 2 parking areas, 1 being for Blue Badge holders and can be found at Claudius Way, Wellingborough NN8 2DH with more information on this link.

[Home - Chester House Estate](#)

**Northants Network of u3as**  
In association with



**Celebrate**



**September 21st 2022**  
**12.00pm – 4.00pm**

Music provided by Ukulele Groups • Tai Chi demonstrations • Microscopic users • Displays of Craft and art work • The culmination and celebration of the Mile-a-Member Challenge • Chester House offers beautiful walks • Free parking • Tours of the Estate and ARC • Courtyard shopping • Hog Roast and Pizzas • Free parking • Café and picnic areas •

**u3a** learn, laugh, live

### **Walking Group**

The group has completed 4 walks since the last update. April saw us back at Barnwell for a short, but pleasant walk to Wigsthorpe, returning to the wonderful Montagu Arms for lunch.



In May we were saw a great display of bluebells on the Hambleton peninsula, Rutland Water with lunch at the Finch's Arms.



June took us to Wadenhoe where we walked out to Lyveden New Bield and had lunch at the King's Head.



The July walk was from Bulwick out in the direction of Blatherwycke past Hostage Wood. It was a hot day so there were plenty of water stops and the drink in the Queen's Head afterwards was most welcome.



Our monthly walks have now added 327 miles to the "mile a member challenge" and individual members from the walking group have added a further 1,700 collectively between our monthly walks

More walks are planned for the summer & autumn, the next being from Nassington.

Many thanks to the Lesley for this contribution and to the walking group for exceeding what we thought was an ambitious challenge.

### **Sad News - Jean Buchan**

If you had met Jean, you would remember her as a unique and charismatic lady who would never be forgotten.

Although it is true to say that Jean passed away after a short illness, bravely borne that is not how Jean would like us to think of her.

Jean always had a smile and a tale for everyone who met her and was so busy enjoying life that you had to make an appointment to see her.

She was one of the original members of our u3a who joined at the very start in May 2013 and had been a member of too many u3a and other groups to list.

All are welcome at Jean's funeral on 10:30 on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August in the Albert Munn chapel at Warren Hill Crematorium,

Kettering; followed by a celebration of her life at the Everard Arms Corby. If you would like to send flowers, please do, or make a donation to the Samaritans if you want to, but neither are needed. Jean never wanted any fuss.

Jean had a natural ability to make people smile and did so herself in the face of every adversity and that is how we should remember her.

### **Badminton Group**

There are 12 of us on the contact list and most weeks we have enough attending to play on both courts. We meet on Tuesdays from 10:00a.m. to 12:00 Middy, please feel free to join us.

### **Bowls Group**

Bowls is played on a single Indoor Mat and Members are welcome to join the group and play from 10:00a.m. to 12:00 midday on Fridays at Kingswood Neighbourhood Centre for £1:50 with Tea or Coffee.

### **Table Tennis**

Most weeks we play Doubles on both of our tables with a combination of singles and doubles if anyone is having a break. We are still improving and are above Ping Pong standard and do not take the sessions too seriously with the aim being to enjoy ourselves. Join us by coming along to the Kingswood Neighborhood Centre on any Friday at 10:00.

### **Photographic Group**

For our June meeting we took a trip to Wansford and thankfully there was a train running and posing for pictures. A lot of pictures were taken and there was a visit to the Café.



In June we took a Pre-Official Opening trip to Chester house where we went on a tour of the ARC, had a bit of a walk around and tried some awkward targets for our photographs.



An Old lady



This month due to the heat we took a trip to Medbourne and the Neville Arms and the winning photograph for the target of things beginning with P definitely went to the person in the group who forwarded an apology and a picture of their Positive Covid test.



Post, Pole & Chimney Pot

If you are interested in joining the Badminton, Bowls Photography or Table Tennis Groups either come along for a Trial or contact me by e-mail to [Vicechairgou3a@gmail.com](mailto:Vicechairgou3a@gmail.com)

### **Ukulele Group**

The group has a revised meeting time of 10:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. every Monday in the Corby Old Village community Centre.

They do teach folk to play the ukulele but anybody can join so long as they are willing to play an instrument - even if it's just a tambourine.

### **Correct Contact Details**

If you hear that someone who has not received this Newsletter it means that we may not have their correct contact details or it may have gone to Junk in an email account.

### **New Initiatives**

Sue Stachini and Peter Moden are still looking at the format of our Monthly Meetings so please send your views by e-mail to [chair.gou3a@gmail.com](mailto:chair.gou3a@gmail.com).

### **The rest of the year's meetings**

**Wednesday August 24<sup>th</sup>** - Carly-Jane a local singer.

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September** – A Musical Date with our very own Ukulele Group.

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October** – By popular demand a return visit by Scott Little with assistance from others.

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November** – A talk from Peter Hill who is one of our members and is a musician, lecturer in adult & higher education and the author of more than 21 books.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December** – Old Style Christmas Party.

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> December** – A Christmas Get Together for a chat and Cup of Tea or Coffee.

### **Where are They?**

#### **Profiles of Committee Members and Group Contacts.**

I must have got it wrong, after volunteering to put in my profile as everyone suggested that they would like to know more about Committee Members and Group contacts, no one has volunteered to provide their own.

It was requested by several members who did not know who the Committee and Group Leaders are and what they do.

Do not be shy, tell me about yourself so we can tell others.

### **Suggestions Welcome**

We are always interested in your views on what we are doing. We want to hear about any new activities, ideas or interest in a subject that they would like to know more about or share. Please contact Lynda White, the Group Co-Ordinator with ideas via an e-mail to [vicechairgou3a@gmail.com](mailto:vicechairgou3a@gmail.com)

### **The Executive Committee Members are:**

- **Chairperson** Peter Moden
- **Vice Chairperson** John Bugby
- **Treasurer** Doreen Tracey
- **Assistant Treasurer** Damian Tracey
- **Business Secretary** Shared role.
- **Membership Secretary** Helen Watts
- **Group Co-Ordinator** Lynda White
- **Social Secretary** Sue Stachini
- **Newsletter Editor** John Bugby
- **Web Co-Ordinator** Helen Gibbs
- **Public Relations Secretary** Vacant
- **I.T. Assistant** Helen Gibbs
- **Publicity Assistant** (Vacant)
- **Welfare Assistant** (Vacant)
- **Members Representative** (Vacant)

### **Volunteers Wanted**

We are keen to find individuals prepared to act as Group Contacts / Co-Ordinator's and to be the primary or secondary point of contact for groups and assist with any groups that become over-subscribed to avoid waiting lists.

If you are interested in assisting by being the contact for new initiatives and for forming new groups from those that are currently over-subscribed it would be really good if you could forward any comments to Peter Moden at [Chair.gou3a@gmail.com](mailto:Chair.gou3a@gmail.com)

### **National Office**

You can find information on The Third Age Trust at [The Third Age Trust \(campaign-archive.com\)](http://TheThirdAgeTrust(campaign-archive.com)) This link will allow you to Zoom in to Articles and easily look at other items and you can view information as a leaflet or you can go to <https://www.u3a.org.uk/member-link>

### **Mature Drivers Road show**

Following the success their event in May the Northamptonshire Safer roads alliance (NSRA) are running a second Mature Drivers Roadshow!

As driving has become such an important part of our everyday life the Northamptonshire Safer Roads Alliance (NSRA) are keen to help to keep mature drivers driving safer for longer.

**They are running two FREE roadshows on 13th September (9.30 am and 1pm) at The Goods Shed, 227 John Clark Way, Rushden NN10 0AW.**

The What3Words for the carpark is <https://what3words.com/minority.mows.interrupt>

Our driving ability to drive changes over time for different reasons, especially as we get older. It's important that we recognize whether and how our driving is changing so we can stay safe and protect both ourselves and those around us.

This Mature Drivers Roadshow is aimed at drivers 60+, and will cover all different aspects of driving. There will be a short talk and then plenty of time to meet informally with our many stand holders.

Free advice will be available on:  
Car adaptations,  
Eyesight,

How your prescription medications may affect you, and much more.

There will be a number of FREE IAM RoadSmart Mature Driver Assessments available.

**Their aim is to keep mature drivers driving safer, for longer.**

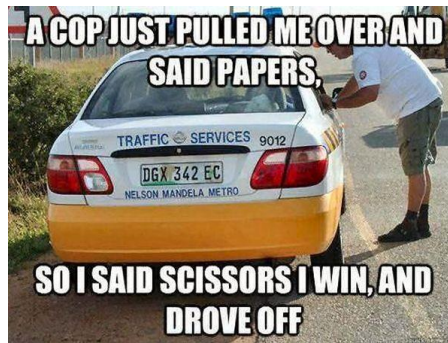
The link for FREE tickets is [mature-drivers.eventbrite.co.uk](https://mature-drivers.eventbrite.co.uk)

Henny Cameron has asked us to circulate the above information to yourselves and would be grateful if you could pass the information on.

### **Driving Stocking Fillers**

New Tesla's do not come with a new car smell.

They come with an Elon Musk.



*I picked up a hitchhiker last night. They seemed surprised that I'd pick up a stranger.*

They said, "Thanks but why would you pick me up? How would you know I'm not a serial killer?"

*I told them the chances of two serial killers in a car would be astronomical.*

**LOOK OFFICER,  
I'M NOT BEING A SMARTASS**



*My partner came home yesterday and said, "The car won't start, but I know what the problem is." I asked what it was and was told it had water in the carburettor. I thought for a moment, then said, "You know I don't mean this badly, but you're not mechanically inclined and you don't know the carburettor from the radiator." I was advised "No, there's definitely water in the carburettor," they insisted.*

*"Ok, I said, that's fine, I'll just go take a look. Where is it?" "In the lake."*

My last relationship ended when I did not open the door for my partner.

Instead, I just swam for the surface.

*If you run in front of a car, you will get tired.*

*If you run behind a car, you will get exhausted.*

My Managing Director arrived at work in a brand-new Rolls Royce. I said Wow, that's an amazing car. He said Yes and if you work hard, put in long hours and strive for excellence, I will get another one next year.



And Finally



*We look forward to meeting you all at the next meeting on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 2:00p.m.*

*Take Care*

*Great Oakley & District NSRA  
Executive Committee.*