

Rutland u3a newsletter

June 2023

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

u3a learn, laugh, live

A note from the Chairman

I am embracing this beautiful weather albeit mostly under an umbrella in a shady part of my garden. It's a great excuse for just relaxing with a glass of wine and a good book.

By now you will have received the paperwork for our AGM on July 6th. Many thanks to all those who have come forward to join the committee.

Please take a couple of minutes to vote.

Last month we had a very interesting talk about someone who was completely unknown to me. The number of attendees was slightly lower than normal, probably because we had moved the meeting to the second Thursday of the month but those present gave Tony Waldron a warm welcome. I was amazed when he told me that he had suffered a stroke that affected his speech only a few years ago. Public speaking was part of his rehabilitation and it certainly worked!

Our speaker following the AGM on July 6th will be Barbara Meyer who will talk to us about Wildlife in Sherwood Forest.

Doors open as usual at 10am and the AGM will begin at 10.30.

Refreshments are available before the meeting for £1.

Guests are always welcome to attend one meeting free of charge.

Sadly, the social committee have had to cancel Pétanque in August and the planned trip to see Evita in January 2024. Hopefully, we will be able to offer similar events soon. We are always happy to hear from you with any ideas for social events.

With all good wishes

Ros Kenny



Thank-you to everyone who contributed to this month's newsletter. If you have run or taken part in a U3A activity we would love to hear about it. Please send items for July to: rutlandu3a.info@gmail.com or via the website

The deadline for publication for the next edition of the newsletter is 20 July 2023.

Rutland u3a newsletter

June 2023

**Monthly Meeting at the Victoria Hall
Thursday 6 July 2023 10.00 for 10.30am**

Presentation Barbara Meyer.

Wildlife in Sherwood Forest

Barbara was given her first camera at the age of only 4 years, but photography didn't become a serious interest until much later; when she was countries around the world during holidays.



For her, photography was never about evidencing that she was in exotic places, but about sharing the impressions that caught her eye. From the start, her focus was on wildlife and nature.

In March 2008 she took redundancy from a job in banking, and after obtaining a diploma in photography, she started to take what had been a hobby to a more professional level. A trip to South Africa at about that time provided her with the opportunity to observe and photograph a leopardess and her two cubs. This in turn led her to her decision to use photography to help leopards and other big cat species. Barbara has now extended her commitment to include British wildlife.

Barbara's talk will cover the wildlife species she has been able to record as part of her camera surveys in England's most famous forest. She explores their distribution, the sequence of seasonal events and records her observations, of their behaviour in relation to humans and the other species in their environment.



Rutland u3a newsletter

June 2023 - Social Events

Ad Hoc Dining

The Old Buttercross continues to be the venue for our monthly social 'get-together' over a meal and a drink. Thank you all for your support and we look forward to meeting again at 6.30pm on the 19th July. If you are new just let one of us know if you are coming so that we can look out for you.

Diane Case and Helen Shea.

Diane Case 07887 990906 Helen Shea 07919 273192



A message from the Social Team

Unfortunately all future events organised by the Social Team have been cancelled for the foreseeable future, including 'Evita'.

However, the Toilethorp visit, in August, to see 'Lady in the Van' will still go ahead as we have paid for and are in receipt of the tickets which are currently held by Lynne Costello until the day of the performance.

We are sorry for any disappointment this action may cause but we hope to be active again in the not so distant future.

Thank you in anticipation of your understanding.

Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

New groups and those with vacancies

GROUPS SEEKING ADDITIONAL MEMBERS:

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP 2 We currently have vacancies. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Sharon Pratt via Rutlandu3a.groups@gmail.com or on 07796931818. We meet in The Snug at The Wisteria Hotel in Oakham at 2.00pm on the 3rd Monday of each month. We welcome new members of all levels of ability to the group and we encourage members to work together in critiquing one another's contributions. Some of the areas that we have written about are:

- Childhood memories
- Something that makes our heart sing or we are passionate about
- Finding a missing child
- A character for creative writing
- A Private Investigator
- A day in which everything goes wrong and you have a deadline to meet
- A trip to the museum

The piece of writing for our June meeting is about the day in the life of a pet. Why not come and join us and share your work?

RAVENS WALKING GROUP Raven's (3rd Thursday) walking group, can accept another 10 or so new members. Please contact Helen Czasznicka via the group page if you are interested.

ASTRONOMY GROUP Currently have three vacancies. GROUP LEADER: Keith Townsend. Please contact him via the hyperlink on the group page. We meet from 13:30 to 15:30 on the first Wednesday of every month in The Snug at The Wisteria Hotel, Oakham. There is an expectation that those attending will purchase a tea or coffee. This group is led by Keith Townsend who is a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society. The group is open to folk who are interested in the sky and what's going on at the minute - whether they are amateurs or experienced astronomers; all will be welcome as prospective group members.

BOOK GROUP 4 We currently have 2 vacancies. For more information please contact Rosanne Greaves via the hyperlink on the group page. Book Group 4 meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:30 in members' houses.

INDOOR BOWLS - We meet at Melton Indoor Bowls Club on Thursdays' at 1.45pm for a 2.00pm start, with a refreshment break at 3.00 ish. We have vacancies at all levels and experience, but play mainly for social pleasure.

Please contact the Group Leader, John Wilson, via the hyperlink on the group page.

Mah Jong - We meet in the Library room at The Admiral Hornblower on Wednesdays' from 9:30 to 11:30. We have three vacancies. Please contact the Group Convenor, Alan Costello, via the group page.

Android Tablet Users Group - We currently have vacancies. Please contact the Group Leader via the hyperlink on the group page.

IPad Users Group - We currently have vacancies. 15:00 to 16:00 on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Please contact the Group Leader via the hyperlink on the group page.

Tai Chi - We meet weekly on Thursdays at 2.30pm. Please contact Janet Bilby via the hyperlink on the group page.

Creative Writing - We meet in a private room in The Admiral Hornblower. We usually meet on the last Friday of every month at 2.00pm. For more information please contact Sylvia Raven via the group page.

British History - We are a friendly group who meet once a month, on the second Tuesday of the month between 2pm and 3.30pm, in The Snug at The Wisteria Hotel in Oakham. There is an expectation that a tea or coffee is purchased. We are interested in the different aspects of British History and their impact on Society, ranging from the Stone Age to the last decade. Two or three members research a topic in detail and report back to the group on the aspects of the work that have interested them. Friendly and informal discussion then takes place. Topics recently considered include: The Romans, The Industrial Revolution and Bletchley Park. Interested? Please contact Sharon Pratt via rutlandu3a.groups.com. Or phone 07796931818.

Scrabble Group 3 - GROUP LEADER: Ralph Carter. We currently have vacancies - new members are most welcome to come along and join us. No experience necessary. Currently meeting at The Lord Nelson pub, Oakham at 2.00pm on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. There is an expectation that a tea or coffee is purchased at The Lord Nelson.

English Country Dancing - We are a friendly group who meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 2pm at Langham Village Hall. No prior experience necessary. Members are required to wear flat, soft soled shoes and there is currently a charge of £2 per session to meet the cost of the hall; paid in advance as part of a bank transfer prepayment scheme. Interested? Please contact Pam Hornby via the hyperlink on the group page.

Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

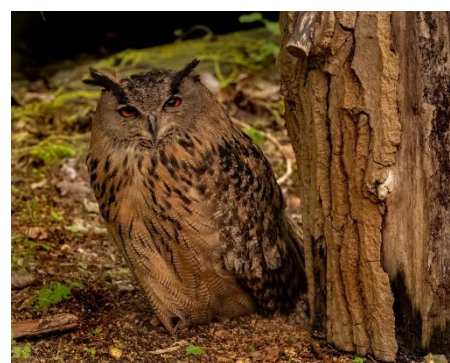
News from the groups

This month we have some varied and interesting photographs from the talented members of the photography group.



Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

News from the groups



Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

News from the groups

Rutland u3a Outdoor Bowling Group

The Outdoor Bowling Group held its first meeting on Monday 15th May with seven people in attendance.



The weather was sunny but not too hot; ideal bowling conditions. Two of the members had never bowled before and so we spent a lot of time describing the bowls, their bias, how to hold them and most importantly the delivery.

By the end of the session both people had grasped the basics but mostly were having fun.

Lawn bowls is a low-impact, therapeutic exercise that can improve fitness, coordination and confidence. So come and enjoy the summer weather whilst keeping fit. No experience necessary, tuition will be given. The only equipment you need is flat soled shoes, trainers are acceptable, everything else is supplied by the Club.

See Groups page for further information,

Alan Costello, Group Convener

New Sunday Lunch Group

This group is to meet on the 2nd Sunday each month at 13.00 starting from Sunday 13 August.

Interested? For more information please contact:

Madelaine at baytreerutland@gmail.com

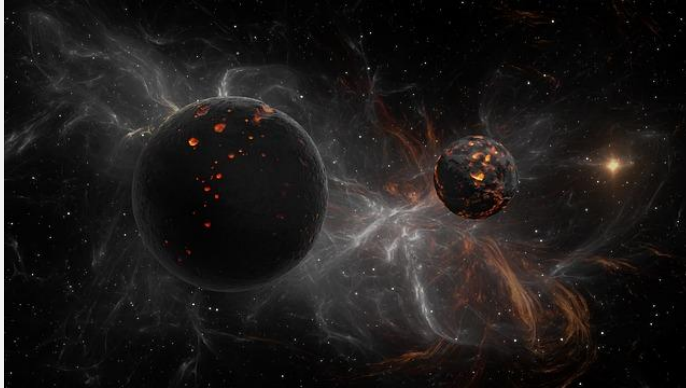


Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

News from the groups

ASTRONOMY - This group has vacancies

This group is led by Keith Townsend who is a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society.



The Astronomy Group meet monthly in The Snug at The Wisteria Hotel in Oakham from 13:30 to 15:30 pm on the first Wednesday of every month. There is an expectation that a cup of tea or coffee will be purchased.

The group is open to folk who are interested in the sky and what's going on at the minute - whether they are amateurs or experienced astronomers; all will be welcome as group members. For more details/to express an interest in joining this group contact Sharon Pratt, Rutland u3a Groups' Coordinator, via rutlandu3a.groups@gmail.com or email the Group Leader, via the hyperlink on the group page on the Rutland u3a website.

English Country Dancing - New members Welcome



This group meets at Langham Village Hall at 2pm on the first and third Wednesday of the month.

Interested in joining them? For more information contact the group leader Pam via the groups page on our website or contact Sharon Pratt, the groups coordinator via rutlandu3a.groups@gmail.com

Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

News from the groups

New Group: Camera and photography Group

This group aims to enable folk to:

- learn and practice how to use manual camera settings rather than use automatic function;
- learn about photography software and it's useful functionality;
- learn about new developments in camera and photography techniques.

For more details please contact Sharon Pratt (Group's Coordinator) via rutlandu3agroups@gmail.com



The Science and Technology Group



This group celebrated their 10th anniversary with a trip to Isaac Newton's home at Woolsthorpe Manor.

We each researched and shared an aspect of his life and works and had an enjoyable visit in the sunshine, finishing at the famous apple tree.

Rowena Langtry

Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

News from the groups

Church Visit Group

All Saint's Church Tinwell, Grade 2 star listed, C13 and earlier

On Wednesday 12 April 2023, 14 people from the Church Visits Group enjoyed an afternoon at All Saint's Tinwell and listened to a most interesting talk given by June, a former Church Warden.

The present church was built about 1420 and is probably on Saxon foundations. It is generally understood that the Saxons built their churches with a descent into them, but the Normans with an ascent.

In the chancel is an interesting series of stone corbels in the form of human heads supporting the nave roof, those on the north side apparently being the originals inserted in the re-erected wall. There are Royal Arms over the chancel arch used by George 1st after his accession to the throne in 1714.

The church has a distinctive saddle back roof, the tower is the oldest part and houses 4 bells which are reached by a turret staircase.

Memorial to Air Crash July 8 1944: Inside the church is a memorial to Polish paratroopers and American airmen. The paratroopers had previously trained in Scotland, but moved south for final training before deployment to Arnhem. On the late evening of July 8 two C47a Dakotas carrying Polish paratroopers and American airmen touched wings and fell to the ground with the loss of 34 lives.

Since 1945 there was a hand drawn memorial in the Church which has been moved to a museum in Krakow and has now been replaced by a brass plaque in the Lady Chapel, dedicated in 1998. In the display case is a folder compiled by John Collier recording this event and the loss of a Boulton Paul Defiant aircraft on March 4, 1941.

A crucifix was found by a British Army chaplain on the WW1 battlefields. He later became the vicar of Tinwell. On Remembrance Day 2018 the church was commemorating the centenary of WW1 and the village priest asked if there was anything interesting in the church. The congregation suggested the crucifix which they knew from records had come from a village called Doingt which was destroyed in the war. A 16 year old boy in the congregation said, 'shouldn't we send it back?' From then there was research to locate the village. They found that the church and village had been rebuilt. There has been much communication with the Doingt mayor and shortly some Tinwell parishioners will make the long journey to return the crucifix to the church.

A replacement Crucifix has been made by a local craftsman to keep at All Saints.

The Church Visits Group will meet on the second Wednesday of the months June to October 2023.

If you would like to join us please make contact through the groups page on the Rutland u3a website.

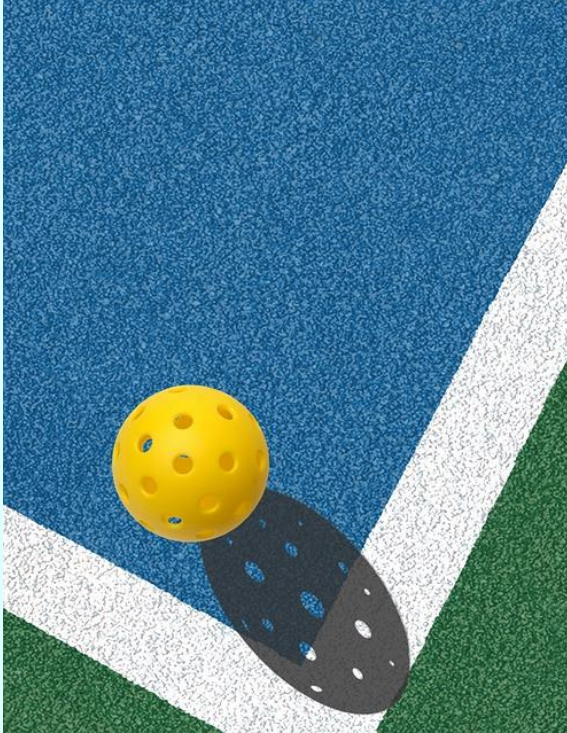
Miriam Tresiddee



Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

News from the groups

Possible New Group - Pickleball



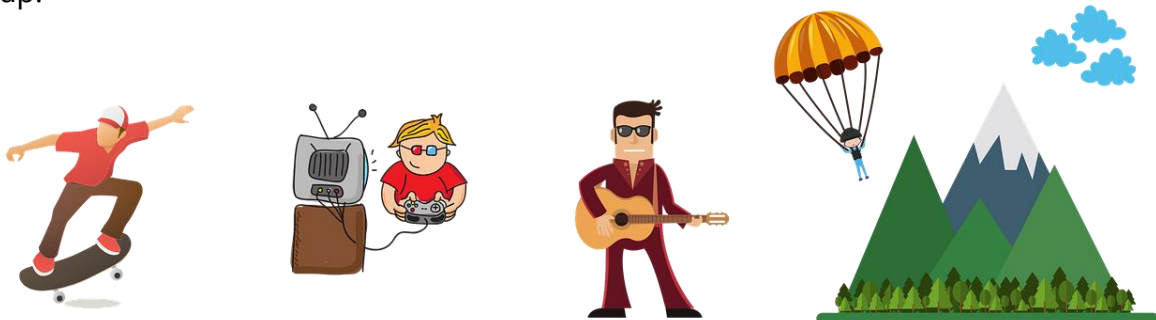
You may have read in a recent national U3A magazine of the increase in the popularity of playing a game called Pickleball. There is a National Pickleball Organisation and I have already played this game and as there is a growing number of U3A groups I am hoping to form one.

The game usually is played on a badminton court with an additional zone near the net. It's a game that can be played as singles but regularly as doubles. The bat is a solid one about double the size of a table tennis bat and the ball is a plastic ball about the size of a cricket ball but has holes in it. It bounces but not as much as a tennis ball. One can view more about the game if you visit U-Tube where there are some introductions to the game.

I'm after names of people who would be interested in playing. If there is sufficient numbers for me to make further arrangements re location, date and time for playing. Please contact me using the email stufossil.mason@hotmail.com

New suggestions for groups are always welcome! You do not have to be an expert to run a group - all that is needed is interest and enthusiasm.

Please remember that you must be a member of Rutland U3A before you can join any group.



Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

Community News



**VOLUNTEER
WITH
US**

**SOCIAL MEDIA, FUNDRAISING,
GARDENERS, MORE!**

Oakham in Bloom has open positions, are you interested in volunteering?

- ✓ Learn as you go
- ✓ Help shape Oakham
- ✓ Meet new people
- ✓ Try something different
- ✓ Boost your CV

No
experience
or
commitment
required!

Contact us today

Email us:
chairatoib@gmail.com

Find out more:
www.oakhaminbloom.org

Registered Charity no: 1139693

Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

Community News



"Pilgrims' Progress: A tale of rituals, relics and restoration"



During the last two weeks of July 2023, Hallaton Museum and Hallaton Church Restoration Trust will be running a creative programme of displays & exhibits, discovery walks, informative talks, and the infamous Café in the Church. Visitors to the Festival will delight in two thousand years of history in Hallaton and learn about our plans for the future.

Hallaton has been a destination of interest from Iron Age travellers and medieval pilgrims to modern day 'Bottle Kickers'. Our ambition is to share our heritage and history widely and to make Hallaton a must-visit place for visitors to Leicestershire and Rutland.

- **Our understanding of pre-Roman Britain has changed since the discovery of the late Iron Age Hallaton Treasure.**

Comprising of coins and roman cavalry man's helmet guarded by dogs and buried at a feasting site, find out more.....

- **ULAS described Hallaton's Motte and Bailey Castle as "the finest in Leicestershire".**

Learn why it was built here and then abandoned.

- **Not only was the sole church in the UK, dedicated to St Morrell, built on a hillside outside the village, it was then visited by Pilgrims for over three hundred years.**

We will tell you why we believe that it was a staging point on a long-distance journey from Wales and the West to Walsingham in Norfolk.

- **The trading of Hackney horses, in Hallaton, was a result of all the visiting pilgrims.**

Hallaton became one of the most important towns in medieval Leicestershire. Follow the trail to find its three markets and horse fair where the famous Black Horses were sold.

- **Was William Webb Ellis, credited as the inventor of the modern game of rugby, influenced by the Easter Monday Bottle Kicking and Hare Pie Scramble, one of the oldest football games in the world?**

This year, in St Michael's and all Angels Church, we will be sharing new information about the discovery of St Morrell's Chapel, the skeletons of pilgrims buried there and the proposed reinstatement of the crypt of St Michael & All Angels; we will also be showcasing our initial ideas about a new multimedia exhibition which will form part of a planned future permanent exhibition.

The adjacent Museum will be open with the completely new "Where there's a Will there's a Way", an exhibition telling the untold story of a journey made in 1533 by Hallatonian Edmond Oliver to Walsingham. Alongside this are the insightful Hallaton Treasure and the Bottle Kicking displays.

There are a number of talks including a talk about the discovery of the Hallaton treasure and how this changed our understanding of pre-Roman Britain and a talk on the rise and decline of the Leicestershire village

Village Walks lead by guides will follow the Hallaton Heritage Trail and further walks will go to the rarely visited Hallaton Castle.

Some events need to be pre-booked to ensure that you obtain a place.

For further information see:

<https://www.hallaton-museum.co.uk/festivalofarchaeology>



Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

Community News

The Museum hosts Cinema for Rutland, an initiative by [Arts for Rutland](#).

Cinema showings take place on the first Thursday of the month at the Rutland County Museum.

Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30pm showing
Thursday 6th July 2023 – ‘Living’

Living is a 2022 British drama film directed by Oliver Hermanus from a screenplay by Kazuo Ishiguro, adapted from the 1952 Japanese film Ikiru directed by Akira Kurosawa, which in turn was inspired by the 1886 Russian novella The Death of Ivan Ilyich by Leo Tolstoy. Set in 1953 London, it depicts a bureaucrat in the county Public Works department (played by Bill Nighy) facing a fatal illness.



© CEphoto, Uwe Aranas

Rutland u3a newsletter - June 2023

2023/24

Committee Members

Chairman

Ros Kenny

Company Secretary

Hedley Greaves

Treasurer

Bob Bennett

Data Protection

Bryan Howard

Groups coordinator

Sharon Pratt

Membership Secretary

Lucy Marsland

Membership Shadow

Janet Bilby

Speakers Secretary

Wanda Allen

Speakers Shadow

David Leary

Social Secretary

Diane Case

Committee advisers and helpers

Publicity

Jill Stacey

Minutes

David Leary

Website

Phil Grimley

Hall set up and AV

Peter and Jane Hammond

Michael Seccombe

IT

Mike Shea

Mike Pearson

Ted Philips

Social Team

Lynne Costello

Norma Hardy

Sylvie Raven,

Irene Reay &

Helen Shea.

Noticeboard

Anne Trigg

New Member Support

Jane Gillon

Printing

Margaret Macpherson