

Rutland u3a newsletter

March 2021



A note from the Chairman

As I write this we are halfway through March and it's still rather cold out there but we have had a few days (well, a couple!) that have been pleasant enough for me to get out into my garden to assess the damage done to my plants by the frost (why do I never learn to protect them!) and to sweep up the never ending leaves. I'm hoping that the clocks going forward at the end of the month will herald glorious spring weather.

Last month's talk was most enjoyable. I did get feedback that some attendees weren't able to ask questions as they weren't unmuted by the speaker. I will host the meetings in future to prevent this happening again.

Next month's talk on Thursday April 1st by Graham Keal sounds fun.

The invitation will, as usual, go out a few days before. If anyone is unsure about how to join the zoom meeting I'm very happy to do a practice run one to one.

Thank you to all who have already renewed your membership and a warm welcome to our new members.

We do want to hear what you want from Rutland u3a so please let us know by emailing me at rutlandu3a@gmail.com. It is always helpful to hear from you.

With all good wishes to you all,

Ros Kenny

Zoom Meeting - Thursday 1st April "Terry Wogan's hair weave"

Ex-showbiz journalist Graham Keal developed his flair for entertaining audiences early, compering student revues, appearing at folk clubs and auditioning for Opportunity Knocks.

Graham recounts more hilarious tales of celebrity encounters from his 35 years as a showbiz journalist.

So just why did Graham think he was being propositioned by the manager of the Crossroads Motel? What was Pat Phoenix's desperate secret? Was Ernie Wise as funny as Eric Morecambe in real life? Was Wogan's hair ever truly alive? .

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u3a members featured in ITV's Tonight Programme on 11 March



Martin Kemp talked to u3a members and CEO Sam Mauger about positive ageing in a virtual coffee shop discussion. It was good to hear ITV highlighting the benefits of u3a.

If you missed the programme you can watch "How to age Well" on the ITV hub:
<https://www.itv.com/hub/tonight/1a2803a9309>

Calling all folk who are interested in joining the digital age - sending/receiving emails or learning how to use Zoom



Following the success of 2 of our members, who have benefited from using their loan scheme, Age UK are looking for more Ru3a folk to loan android tablets to try out for a few weeks. The successful applicants will get an android tablet and a Digital Champion to assist them free of charge.

If you are interested please contact Sue Morecroft as soon as possible (first come first served) via rutlandu3a.digital@gmail.com



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 next month to:

rutlandu3a.info@gmail.com or via the website

The deadline for publication for the next edition of the newsletter is 20th April 2021

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Leicester&Rutland Network

Group Leaders/Coordinators Zoom Coffee Morning on 18.03.21

Many thanks to the three dozen or so Group Leaders/Coordinators who joined the first Zoom Coffee Morning with Ros Kenny, (Chairman), Bob Bennett (Treasurer) and Sharon Pratt (Groups' Coordinator). It was a great opportunity for us to meet one another and share ideas and good practice. Now that there is at last some light at the end of the tunnel, a great thank you to all Group Leaders who have put so much effort into keeping their groups afloat during such difficult times. Ros, Bob and Sharon used the meeting as an opportunity to update folk on our new initiatives which include a Facebook page, updated website and move from paper into the digital age when paying fees and submitting forms.

To maintain a healthy u3a there are things which all members can do:

Renew your membership promptly

Help us to recruit new members:

- ✓ Advertise via word of mouth - tell your neighbours and friends about the Rutland u3a - new members are our life blood
- ✓ When COVID restrictions permit think about asking a neighbour or friend to join you when you watch the monthly meeting via Zoom
- ✓ Let us know if you are happy to display a Ru3a poster in your house window (see email address below)
- ✓ Join us on Facebook

Members of the Photography group have sent in some lovely photographs. We would love to receive more from members if you will give permission for us to display them on our Facebook page and webpage. Remember - learn, laugh and live is what we are about.

When you return to your group meetings, why not take a friend along for a taster session

Help us make the forthcoming u3a day in June a real success

Please email Sharon via rutlandu3a.groups@gmail.com if you have an hour to spare before, during or even after 2 June

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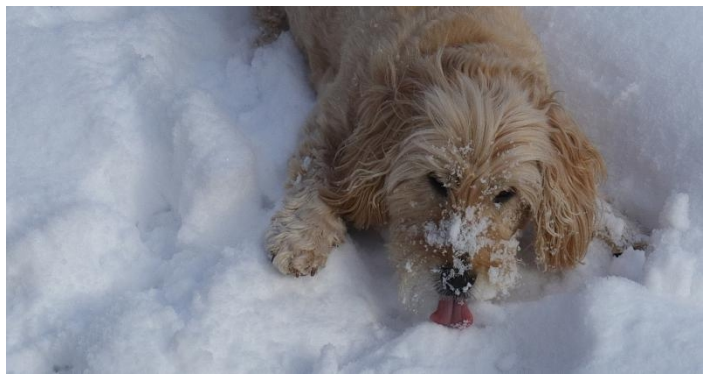
News from the groups

The photographic group continues to be active, meeting on Zoom during lockdown and have produced another lovely collection of photographs, looking back at the snow we had in beautiful Rutland.



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News from the groups



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Lockdown 3 Activities

Third Age Trust Events

Grinling Gibbons - Thursday 8th April 10am-11am

Grinling Gibbons is probably Britain's most famous woodcarver of all time. From 1671 to 1721 Gibbons shaped wood into the most memorable creations. His trademark baroque sculptures are instantly recognisable: a cascade of flowers, fruits, leaves, fish and birds that captivate the viewer with their intricacy. His work can be seen at Hampton Court, Windsor Castle, St Paul's Cathedral, the National Trust's Petworth House and St James's Church, Piccadilly.

St James's Church, Piccadilly in central London has three unique examples of Gibbons' work: a marble font (where William Blake was baptised), a limewood reredos and an organ case. To explore the power of these sculptures, St James's Church, Piccadilly has filmed curators, a sculptor, a woodcarver and a master carver discussing Gibbons enduring legacy in the 21st century.



For free tickets see:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/grinling-gibbons-the-michelangelo-of-woodcarving-tickets-145851922025>

As well as the above course there are a number of free lectures on topics as diverse as well-being, geology, Egyptology and cyber security. These are being continually added to so why not look and see if there is something that interests you. For more information and to book see:

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

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Community News



Volunteers needed to listen to children read in primary schools

Could you become a Schoolreaders volunteer and help children catch-up on vital reading skills?

The impact of Coronavirus on education means that thousands of children won't have had the opportunity to practice reading during lockdown. In a normal year, one in four children leave primary school unable to read well. Estimates suggest that many primary school children have fallen further behind in reading, with the most disadvantaged pupils now 7 months behind their peers. Children who struggle with reading are more likely to live in poverty and be unemployed as adults.

Schoolreaders needs more volunteers, especially in Coalville, Leicester and Loughborough, to support children's reading and help them catch up on their lost education. If you want to make a difference to a child's life, apply to become a Schoolreader. No qualifications are needed; just a love of reading; some spare time each week and a willingness to go where the children need you most. The process to become a Schoolreader takes a few weeks, so please apply now so you can be ready to start as soon as it can be arranged.

To join us, please visit the website

www.schoolreaders.org/volunteer-application-form or call 01234 924111 for further information.

*This picture was taken before social distancing rules were introduced. All of our volunteers must adhere to school and government guidelines when in school.

Charity Number: 1159157



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Community News

Notice of the publication of the Submission Draft Oakham and Barleythorpe Neighbourhood Plan under Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (as amended) 2012

I am writing to inform you that Rutland County Council is inviting representations on the Oakham and Barleythorpe Neighbourhood Plan, which has been formally submitted by Oakham Town Council.



The Neighbourhood Plan sets out how Oakham and Barleythorpe should be developed over the period to 2036 and has been prepared by Oakham Town Council and Barleythorpe Parish Council following consultation with the local community. It includes policies covering design, affordable housing, the town centre and visitor economy, employment and business development and historic heritage and character.

You are invited to make comments from **Friday 12th March** until **5pm on Friday 23rd April 2021**

The submission plan and supporting documents are available on the neighbourhood planning webpages of the Council's website at <https://www.rutland.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplans/>. If you would like to view a hard copy of these documents then please contact: Oakham Town Parish Council, telephone: **01572 723627**. Further information is available on their website at www.oakhamnp.org.uk

Representations must be made in writing and we encourage the use of the response form which can be downloaded and can be submitted in the following ways:

- Emailed to: localplan@rutland.gov.uk
- Posted to: Planning Policy, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP

Any representations may include a request to be notified of the Local Planning Authorities decision to "make" the Plan under Regulation 19 (bringing it into legal force).

All comments will be publicly available, and identifiable by name and organisation (where applicable). Please note that personal information will be processed in line with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018.

Once the consultation has closed, all representations and comments received will be passed to an independent examiner who will consider the representations and recommend whether the Neighbourhood Plan should be put to a community referendum.

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2021/21

Committee Members

Chairman

Ros Kenny

Secretary

Hedley Greaves

Treasurer

Bob Bennett

Data Protection

Bryan Howard

Digital Inclusion

Sue Morecroft

Groups coordinator

Sharon Pratt

Membership Secretary

Lucy Marsland

Speakers Secretary

Tony Dunne

Social Secretary

Diane Case

Committee advisors and helpers

Publicity

Jill Stacey

Minutes

Diane Case

Website

Phil Grimley

Hall set up and AV

Peter and Jane Hammond

Michael Seccombe

Beacon

Vic Newland

IT

Mike Shea

Events

Lynne Costello

Joy Kelly

Noticeboard

Lynne Costello

New Member Support

Kath Rolison

Janet Bilby

Jenny Wilce

Jane Gillon

Printing

Margaret Macpherson