

Rutland u3a newsletter

March 2023

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

u3a learn, laugh, live

A note from the Chairman

I've just come back after a lovely but extremely muddy walk with Raven's walking group. What a great county Rutland is!

Many thanks to all of you who have already renewed your membership.

Lots of you enjoyed last month's speaker as did I. Sometimes a subject doesn't really appeal but the speaker is so engaging that they hold your attention and Julie Kinnear was definitely one of those.

Our speaker for our April meeting on Thursday 6th is Eric Farthing. His talk on Hitler's British Family Connection sounds most intriguing.

Tea and coffee will be available beforehand as usual. The charge for this will be £1. You will appreciate that, having decreased the membership fee to £1, we are no longer able to provide this free of charge.

As usual it will be 10 for 10.30am in Victoria Hall.

Our social team continue to work hard to provide their programme. They just need you to participate! If the offerings don't appeal to you, please give them ideas that will. As with everything that we, the committee and our helpers, do we really need your feedback to keep us on the right track.

With all good wishes,

Ros



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 20 April 2023.

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

Presentation from Eric Farthing: Hitler's British Family

An exploration of the link between Hitler's family and their residence in the UK between about 1900 and 1940 and the resultant life of Hitler's English relative, William Patrick Hitler.

The presentation covers the period from about 1900 until about 2003 and explores the Hitler family's life in Liverpool, London and the USA and their relationship with 'Uncle Adolph'



Welcome to Rutland

New members are invited to an initial meeting with the Chairman of Rutland u3a.

These take place each month at The Wisteria Hotel in Oakham.

For more information please contact Sharon Pratt,

Ru3a Groups Coordinator, via Rutlandu3a.groups@gmail.com or phone 07796931818.



Hairspray:

There will be no more bookings for this event as so few members had booked, therefore the coach element was cancelled. Some members are willing to make their own way to Kilworth House, so have had their coach fare refunded. They will receive their tickets very soon. Others have been fully reimbursed.

We may try again next year but unless we can fill a coach it is just not feasible.

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March 2023 - Social Events

FISH AND CHIP QUIZ NIGHT



Market Overton Village Hall LE15 7PL

Thursday 13th April

6.45 for 7pm start

Teams of up to 6 players

Tickets **£12** including freshly cooked fish and chip supper

Bring your own drinks, glasses, cutlery and condiments.



No team? We can find one for you.

u3a Members only

This will be a 'fun' evening and we hope lots of you will book tickets and ideally form teams of 6. Don't worry if you are not in a team – we can put you in a team.

You can book at the April meeting and also on-line.

Do come and join in!

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March 2023 - Social Events

Ad Hoc Dining

The next get-together will be at the Old Buttercross Pub in Oakham on Wednesday 19th April at 6.30pm, just let Helen Shea or me, Diane Case, know if you'd like to come.

It's lovely to meet up for a meal and a drink in good company. This month 17 of us were there and welcomed two new members, Angela and Edward. We hope to see them again next time. See you there, Diane Case and Helen Shea.

Diane Case 07887 990906 Helen Shea 07919 273192



Tolethorpe Hall Theatre.

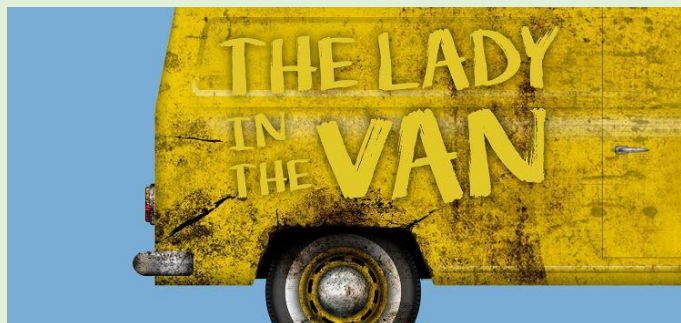
Alan Bennett's poignant and hilarious play "The Lady In The Van."

I have reserved a small number of tickets for Saturday 12th August 2023 at 11:30am, which is the new matinee time. The price is £21 pp.

Those of you who like to picnic are welcome to do so after the performance. Can I remind you that we don't provide transport for this event.

If you would like to book tickets they will be available at each monthly meeting starting March until May.

Please complete a booking form and pay by cheque or card. The booking forms will be available at the Victoria Hall Meetings or on the Rutland U3A website:



<https://u3asites.org.uk/rutland/events>

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New groups and those with vacancies

GROUPS SEEKING ADDITIONAL MEMBERS:

Birdwatching Two We currently have 3 vacancies. Birdwatching Two is a group formed in early 2019 to accommodate further members with a birdwatching interest. We are all amateurs with limited expertise in birdwatching, but we are keen to learn more.

We meet at birdwatching sites within Rutland, once or twice twice per month, at 9.30am for approximately 2 hours.

The site for each meeting is selected and advised to members a few days before the meeting, agreeing exactly where to meet and on any car parking arrangements. Binoculars (or telescopic cameras) and outdoor footwear and clothing are essential requirements as only a few sites have sheltered hides and most meetings involve some country walking. You are advised to bring water to drink and consider head protection on hot sunny days. On colder days please wrap up well as the hides can be cold and windy, or we may be out in the open and staying relatively still. For more information please contact [Malcolm Boyd](#).

BOOK GROUP 4 We currently have 2 vacancies. For more information please contact [Rosanne Greaves](#) via the link.

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.

Evening Book Group – We have one vacancy. If you are interested please contact [Anna Oliver](#) via the Ru3a Message Page.

The Evening Book Group meets about every 6 weeks, usually on a Thursday. Members take turns to choose a book and host a meeting. We can sometimes obtain copies of books from the library if we order in advance depending on what we choose.

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News from the groups

Outside Flat Green Bowling Group



This is a newly proposed group for members who are interested in Flat Green or Lawn Bowls.

It is intended to use the Facilities at Chater Bowls on Pinfold Lane, North Luffenham, commencing May 2023.

Both new and experience bowlers are welcome.

For more information/to register an interest please contact Sharon Pratt (Groups' Coordinator) via rutlandu3a.groups@gmail.com or on 07796931818. There will be a sign-up sheet available at the March meeting.

or

Contact Alan Costello at chaterbowls@gmail.com or 07835421547

If sufficient people are interested, a meeting will be organised to answer any questions.

Interest Groups Online (formerly *Trust u3a*) is an online u3a community that gives you the opportunity to join groups, talks and courses from the comfort of your home.

Like with a u3a, the activities are run by members and are a great way to meet people from all across the u3a movement.

It costs £12 to join for the year, equating to £1 per month. Membership runs from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024. Membership and your groups are managed via the u3a Beacon Members Portal. Please note, this membership is for *Interest Groups Online* only, it does **not** include membership to local u3as.

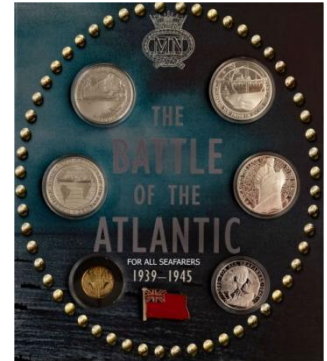
To see the groups available:

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/interest-groups-online>

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News from the groups

This month we have some more stunning photographs from the photography group.



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Walking Group



After our winter break, the group met up for a Planning Meeting at Barnsdale Gardens Cafe and volunteer leaders are now signed up for all our walks until September!

We did an easy 4 mile walk at the end of February to get us back into the swing of things. We walked from the Rutland Village Garden centre near Ashwell down the canal to Oakham and back.

The Radish café did some great food, which was very welcome after a drizzly stretch when we took shelter in the cemetery!



The 5.3 mile walk this week was from Exton to Fort Henry, a lovely walk which was remarkably mud free, despite all the recent snow and rain. In fact, we had lovely sunshine!



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Community News

Spectacular textile art at Peterborough Cathedral: eight million stitches to create the world!

'Threads through Creation' is an astonishing textile art exhibition showing at Peterborough Cathedral from 22nd March to 30th April. It's a real treat for anyone interested in the applied arts, textile art and sewing.

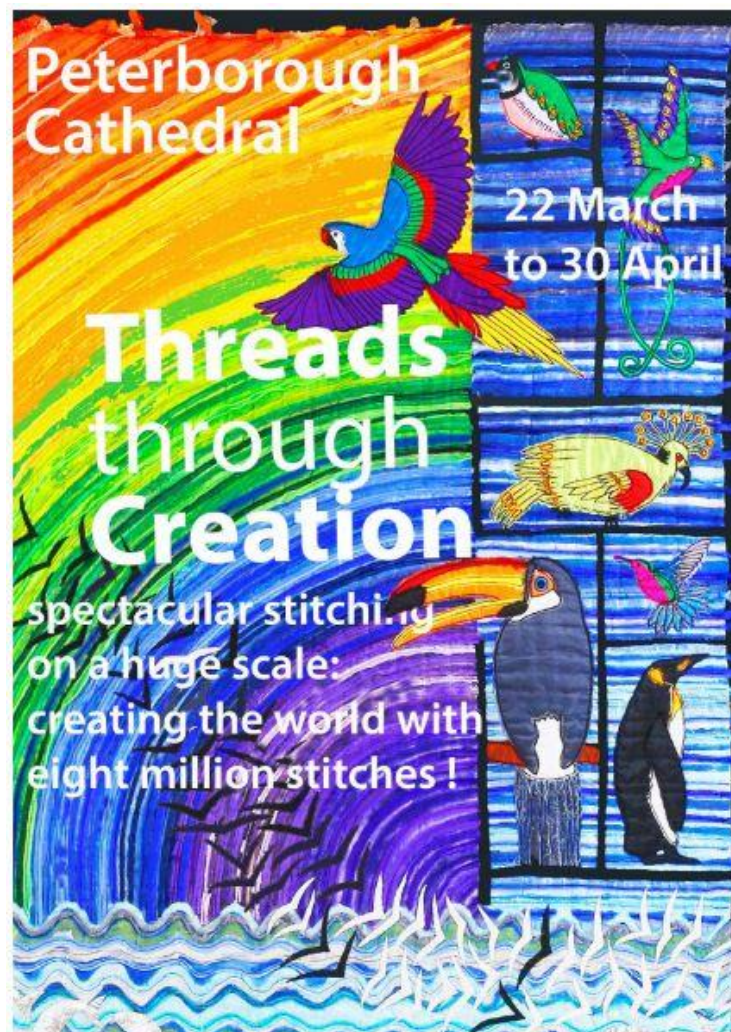
The show is touring twenty cathedrals, and consists of twelve beautiful huge silk panels re-imagining the story of Creation from the bible.

You'll find the huge scale, vibrant colours, complex designs and spectacular stitching truly breath-taking. Some of the panels are quite abstract, others figurative.

The panels are extraordinary – 2.7m high, from 1.5m to nearly 4m wide. It's one of the largest textile art projects by a single artist, ever. It took textile artist Jacqui Parkinson three years - and eight million stitches.

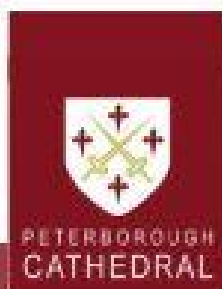
Further info: www.peterborough-cathedral.org.uk www.creation-threads.co.uk

Free PDF – whether or not people get to see Threads through Creation, they can get a very interesting 24page PDF entitled 'Behind the scenes' giving a lot of extra background information especially for stitchers: people can download it free by visiting the website www.creation-threads.co.uk



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Community News



Threads through Creation

spectacular scenes in silk by Jacqui Parkinson

A vibrant combination

This is an astonishing display of twelve huge embroidered panels. Inspired by Genesis, the first book in the Bible, textile artist Jacqui Parkinson retells its wonderful story in a vibrant combination of silks, hand-dyed materials, metallic leathers, gold leaf – with eight million stitches!

Twelve huge panels

Jacqui has a national reputation for spectacular, large scale work. Her exhibitions have been displayed in many cathedrals and attracted hundreds of thousands of visitors. This exhibition is touring twenty cathedrals. The panels are nearly 3m high and up to 4m wide. They start with strong elemental pieces illustrating the first 'days' of creation; then they become more complex and exuberant, as the story takes us into the Garden of Eden.



Perfect for family, friends and schoolchildren

You'll find the work eye-catching and very attractive. Children love it. And it's especially fascinating for anyone who stitches, seeing close up Jacqui's unique techniques.

USUAL OPENING TIMES

Monday to Saturday - 10 to 4
Sunday - 12 to 3

Please check Cathedral website for opening times and for dates when there is limited or no access.

peterborough-cathedral.org.uk
creation-threads.co.uk

Entry for visitors is by donation

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2023/24

Committee Members

Chairman

Ros Kenny

Company Secretary

Hedley Greaves

Treasurer

Bob Bennett

Data Protection

Bryan Howard

Digital Inclusion

Sue Morecroft

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