

Rutland u3a newsletter

May 2021



A note from the Chairman

It's May 17th and I am so looking forward to the relaxation of restrictions that come into force today.

I have been in contact with the manager of Victoria Hall and, wisely, she doesn't want to make any concrete plans for the resumption of large meetings yet. I know some of you don't want to meet in person yet but, equally, there are those who really need the contact. It may well be that future meetings will be a combination of having some meeting in Victoria Hall with other members joining in remotely. We will continue having our monthly meetings via Zoom and take it month by month.

Our June speaker on Thursday 3rd is Richard Adams who's talk has the title "Memories are Made of This". The talk will include photography and music with a local bias. This is special as he is a founding member of our u3a who gave the inaugural talk in April 1996 and it's great that he's been kind enough to speak as we celebrate our Silver Anniversary.

The invitation will go out nearer the time.

We will have a short AGM before he speaks. Thank you to all who have read the reports and voted on them and a big thank you to Bob Bennett and Hedley Greaves for their hard work putting it all together.

u3a Day Wednesday June 2nd

We are going to have a stall in Oakham Marketplace from 9-12. You won't miss us as it will be festooned in blue and yellow with the odd bit of silver.

As I said in my recent e mail to you all there will be a free Tombola. Thank you to those of you who have donated for this. If anyone would like to donate a bottle for the Tombola you can drop it off (not literally; please!) at 3 Barmstedt Close.

Our Ukulele group have kindly agreed to entertain us during the morning.

Do come along to support us!

Just to remind you quizzers that there is a Light-hearted Zoom quiz at 7pm on u3a day thanks to Roger Prescott, our Network Coordinator. If you would like to join in please contact him at: coordinator@landru3a.org.uk by 5pm on Wednesday June 2nd.

It's free!

Looking forward to seeing you on the day

With all good wishes to you all, Ros



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The birth of Rutland u3a : March 1996

Twenty five years ago a group of enthusiastic people living in Rutland were looking for something to fill the gap left after retiring from an active professional working life. They wanted to make the most of their Third Age which is defined as -Time for yourself, freedom, recreation and leisure.

The University of The Third Age began in Toulouse in 1972 following a ruling in France that educational facilities were to be made available to all senior citizens.

The first u3a was set up in Cambridge in 1982 with no formal links to education and no government funding. The idea was for members to share knowledge and experience with each other. Physical as well as academic subjects were encouraged. Social activities being considered just as important as learning.

The planning meeting of The Rutland Third Age Group was held on Thursday 7th March 1996 at the Vale of Catmose College in Oakham. Among those present at that meeting was Philip Payne who was chairman of Stamford Third Age Group that had been founded in 1987.

Also present at that meeting was Peter Tunnicliffe, Vice Principal of Vale of Catmose College who offered a room in the college for the group to meet in and Cecil Parry who was a member of the u3a National Executive Committee. The then mayor of Oakham, Jean Stewart and two members of Voluntary Action Rutland, Kathy Braddock and Linda Baines also attended.

The first committee consisted of 6 people, one of them, Richard Davies, is still a member and well known to many of us for his great contribution to our u3a.

The group began with 25 members and initially met at The Vale of Catmose College.

There were 7 groups, Ambling, Cookery, Flower Arranging, Starting in Painting, Conversational French, Literature and Bowling

The first speaker on Thursday April 4th was another well known member, Richard Adams.

We have so much to thank our founding members for, not least that they took the trouble to get Rutland u3a off to such a great start that has gone from strength to strength.

Ros Kenny

Zoom Meeting - Thursday 3rd June

Richard Adams is known to many of us for his beautiful calendars showcasing scenes of Rutland and raises money for the Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust.

For our meeting Richard will be presenting "Memories are Made of This : a talk based around photography and music with a local bias.



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u3a continues to offer on line learning opportunities including events with the National Gallery, Royal Institution, Guildhall Art Gallery, and the British Library.

The following are all free events available in June:



- Wednesday 2nd June 10am - Rosa Parks & the Montgomery Bus Boycott
- Wednesday 2nd June 10am - A talk with fashion designer Esme Young
- Thursday 3rd June 2pm - Geology of Britain in the Mesozoic Age
- Friday 7th June 10.30am - Marine Wildlife
- Friday 11th June 10.30am - A guide to climate change
- Tuesday 15th June 10.00am - Rembrandt and the Third Age
- Monday 21st June 10.30 am - A cookery demonstration of alfresco food

As you can see the events cover a wide range of topics and are continually being added to.

For up to date details of events available and to register for your free ticket go to:
<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

U3a YouTube Channel

U3a produces a monthly podcast covering talks on various topics including poetry and plays which can be accessed via YouTube here:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheU3a/videos>



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 June 2021

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u3a Network Zoom Quiz

WEDNESDAY 2ND JUNE 2021
STARTING AT 7:30PM FOR ABOUT 1½ HOURS

Open to all u3a Members (& prospective members) in
LEICESTERSHIRE, RUTLAND & NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

BOOK EARLY
AS PLACES
ARE LIMITED

To register:

Send an email with your name and the
name of your u3a (actual or intended) to:

coordinator@landru3a.org.uk

as soon as possible

If places are still available, you'll receive an email confirming
your place in the quiz (normally within 24 hours)

Joining instructions will be emailed to you
a few days before the Quiz

Part of the national
u3aday celebrations



This will be a
FUN QUIZ
Not to be taken too seriously
Specially created for
Singles and Couples
to take part by Zoom

Organised for your enjoyment by:

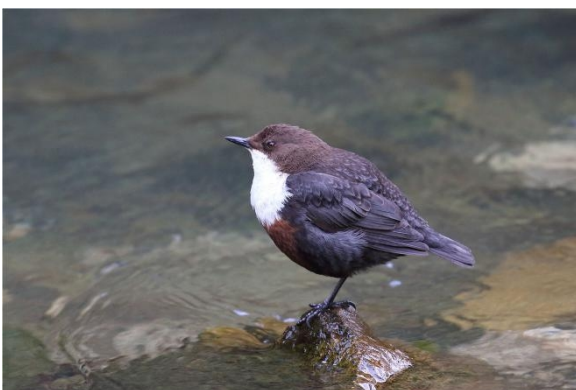
u3a Leicestershire &
Rutland
Network of u3as

& **u3a** Northamptonshire
Network of u3as

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News from the groups

The photographic group has once again produced some lovely photographs reminding us how beautiful is the nature around us.



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News from the groups



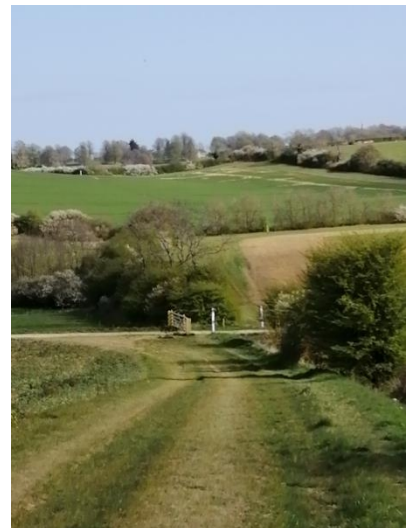
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News from the groups

The Thursday Raven's Walking group

The Thursday Raven's Walking group (3rd Thursdays) enjoyed a first outing in socially distanced groups of 6 along 2 different routes from Cold Overton in April. It was great to be out and catch up with friends again. Landscapes are varied, though you can't beat the sight of lambs gambolling!

This month, we are looking forward to all going out together on a walk from Launde Abbey, followed by a picnic.



New Walking Group

A new Thursday Group, walking on the LAST Thursday morning in each month, has been set up to accommodate new walkers & warmly welcomes anyone wishing to join us. We currently have around 10 members, most of whom have recently moved to the area or retired. Basic details are available on the website and will be supplemented in the next week or so.

Helen Czasznicka

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Community News

Calling all keen gardeners! - Oakham in Bloom



The Oakham in Bloom Community Competition will take place again this year and they hope many of us will take part. Green-fingered residents are being invited to nominate their gardens for this year's Oakham in Bloom community competition.

Judging will be during the week commencing 26th July. Front or Rear Gardens Or BOTH can be entered at no cost and there is no commitment to open your garden to the public.

For further details Tel 01572 755718 or email

altxophilite@gmail.com



Root and Branch Out are looking for volunteers especially but not only to help with the community allotment project at the Rutland Showground.

For more information see:

<https://www.rootandbranchout.co.uk/>

Root and Branch Out engage communities in projects around food and the outdoors, nature and the environment.

They work in different community projects offering a Forest School, allotment/food growing projects, woodland management and crafts and a surplus food shop in both Oakham & Uppingham

They are working with preschools, schools, home educating families, adults of all ages and abilities and the wider community.



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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