

# Rutland u3a newsletter

September 2023

**u3a** learn,  
laugh,  
live

**u3a** learn, laugh, live

## A note from the Chairman

This is the last time that I will be writing the introductory note to our newsletter.

I have really enjoyed my time as Chairman of Rutland u3a and I would like to thank you all for your support over the last 3+ years.

October's speaker is Geoff Harris who will be telling us about "The London no one tells you about".

As usual it is 10 for 10.30 on the first Thursday of the month (the 5th) and tea and coffee will be available for £1.

Finally, if you can, consider helping your u3a. If the Committee is not for you there are other ways that you can participate in the running of it. I have never regretted being on the committee and have met lots of lovely people because of it.

With all good wishes to you all and farewell,

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 September to Jill at [rutlandu3a.info@gmail.com](mailto:rutlandu3a.info@gmail.com) or via the website

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

# Rutland u3a newsletter

## September 2023

### Monthly Meeting at the Victoria Hall Thursday 5 October 10 for 10.30am

#### Speaker - Geoff Harris

Geoff started his working life as a teacher and taught in a variety of secondary schools all over the UK for ten years before giving it all up and becoming a clown. Really, that is what he did. The clowning led to other performance areas and he has been on a variety of stages and screens ever since.

Ten plus years ago he started to train as a Toastmaster and is now a Fellow of the National Association of Toastmasters, working in some of the grandest hotels and houses in the country. Geoff's enthusiasm for this work and his love of history is reflected in his presentation style which seeks to be vivid, amusing and engaging.

#### The Talk - The London No-one Tells You About

...Is just that, the London no-one tells you about: the Necropolis Railway, the lost rivers and why Americans don't own their embassy to mention just a few of the not so well-known details Geoff will bring to life during his talk.



Postman's Park By Simon Burchell - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=117391954>

# Rutland u3a newsletter

## September 2023

RUTLAND u3a – HEALTH AND TECHNOLOGY PROJECT



### PROJECT UPDATE

In line with the plan we described in last month's newsletter, we launched the Health and Technology survey at September's monthly meeting. We have had a good response, with over 140 replies to date. We would like to thank all those of you who have responded so far, as well as those who helped to review and test the survey before launch.

If you haven't done the survey, we would encourage you to do so - to help you access it, there's a QR code below that your smartphone or tablet can use to open the online survey. There is also a link to the survey on the website (see the Latest News page) and we have paper versions available if you would prefer one.



QR code for H&T survey

We will be holding the survey open, both online and via paper copy, during October and November and plan to start analysing the responses in December. We'll have paper copies of the survey available at the next two monthly meetings (October and November).

Thank you for your interest in and help with this project.

Sue Morecroft, Rutland u3a  
Mike Shea, Rutland u3a

19<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2023

# Rutland u3a newsletter - September 2023

## Ad Hoc Dining

The Old Buttercross continues to be the venue for our monthly social 'get-together' over a meal and a drink. We had an enjoyable evening in September and as always the staff at the old Buttercross were very helpful & welcoming. We look forward to meeting again at 6.30pm on the 18<sup>th</sup> October.

People who would like to join us MUST let either Helen or Diane know that they would like to come.....this is simply because we reserve the correct number of seats at the Buttercross so that we can all sit together and so that we can welcome people as they arrive.

Diane Case and Helen Shea.

Diane Case 07887 990906

Helen Shea 07919 273192



## Date for your diary:



Rutland u3a Christmas lunch at  
the Barnsdale,

Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup> instead of  
the monthly meeting.

More details to follow



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## New groups and those with vacancies

### GROUPS SEEKING ADDITIONAL MEMBERS:

**TUESDAY MORNING WALKS** (2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings each month). Leaders for each walk are volunteers from within the group, they choose the length of walk which is usually between 4-5.5 (with, as far as is possible, a maximum of 6 miles), they will survey a route prior to the walk and will provide a suitable description of the walk in terms of length and difficulty (terrain, stiles etc.) plus ensuring suitable arrangements for lunch. These arrangements will be e-mailed to members. We meet up annually to review the walks we have done and discuss changes we want to make in light of our experiences.

We now have some vacancies in this group. Please contact the Group Leader, [Judy Phillips](#) if you are interested.

**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 this email hyperlink. 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 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.

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

**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 Wisteria Hotel, 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.

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.

See our website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/rutland/home> if you would like to join us, or if you would like more information.



# Rutland u3a newsletter - September 2023

## News from the groups

### Papercraft Group

As the shops are starting to display Christmas goodies the Papercrafts group set to and made a start on their Christmas cards. We made two styles, a mock envelope card and a fence front card. If you receive a card from one of the group members look out for one of these landing on your doormat.



### Art Appreciation Group 1

The art appreciation group (1) continues to meet monthly which each member researching and reporting back on either an artist or a work by a given artist.

This month we looked at The Skagen movement which were a group of Scandinavian artists, including Anna and Michael Ancher who gathered in the village of Skagen, the northernmost part of Denmark, from the late 1870s until the turn of the century. The artists were attracted by the light and influenced by the French Impressionists. The works they produced were new to us and made us want to know more.



Skagen, Denmark



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## News from the groups

The photography group continues to be busy and has produced these impressive images





# Rutland u3a newsletter - September 2023

## News from the groups



# Rutland u3a newsletter - September 2023

## Community News



Oakham in Bloom's



# QUIZ

## Night



**SAT 18TH  
NOV  
7PM**

**£12.50  
PP**

Our annual quiz night is back! Join us at All Saint's Church Hall for a fun night for friends and family. Fish and chip dinner provided (veggie option available).

**PRIZES - DRINKS - FUN**

[www.oakhaminbloom.org/quiz](http://www.oakhaminbloom.org/quiz)

[pbuxton44@outlook.com](mailto:pbuxton44@outlook.com)

Registered Charity: 1139693



# Rutland u3a newsletter - September 2023

## Community News

### THE WORLD OF GILBERT AND SULLIVAN



There will be a great treat in store for G&S fans on Saturday 21 October when 'The Wandering Minstrels' make a return visit to Oakham Parish Church for THE WORLD OF GILBERT AND SULLIVAN.

They will sing, act and dance their way through many of the Savoy Operas including 'The Yeomen of the Guard', 'The Gondoliers', 'The Pirates of Penzance', 'Patience', 'The Mikado', 'Iolanthe', 'HMS Pinafore', 'Utopia, Limited' and 'The Sorcerer'.

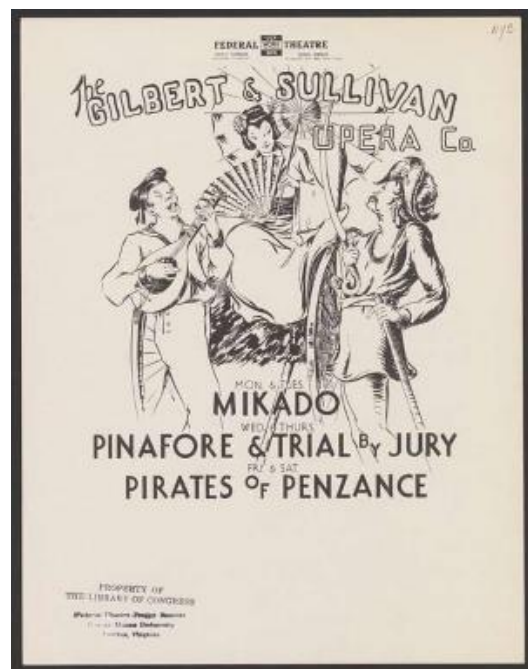
Concert tickets are £12.50 each and are available on 01572 720506, from Oakham Wines, High Street, Oakham or on the door.

Refreshments will be served during the interval.

The concert begins at 7.30pm and proceeds from the evening will go to Oakham Parish Church.

This is the company's seventh visit to Oakham. The concert will consist of two hours of Savoy favourites, combining the biting wit of W. S. Gilbert and the enchanting music of Sir Arthur Sullivan.

**Don't miss what promises  
to be a fun-filled evening!**





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## 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 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### 'Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris' (PG)

A widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress, and decides that she must have one of her own..

Director : Anthony Fabian – Starring : Lesley Manville, Isabelle Huppert, Lambert Wilson, Rose Williams and Jason Isaacs.

All are welcome – tickets are available in advance from Oakham Wines or online via [WeGotTickets.com](https://www.wegotickets.com) (Booking Fee).

Tickets can usually be purchased on the door, however they have occasionally sold out.

Wine and other refreshments are available before the film showing.



# Rutland u3a newsletter - September 2023

2023/24

## Committee Members

### Chairman

Stuart Mason

### Company Secretary

Hedley Greaves

### Treasurer

Keith Townsend

### Data Protection

Bryan Howard

### Groups coordinator

Christopher Clark

### Membership Secretary

Janet Bilby

### Speakers Secretary

Wanda Allen

### Social Secretary

Vacancy

### Committee Members

Tony Bianchi

David Leary

## Committee advisers and helpers

### Publicity

Jill Stacey

### Minutes

Vacancy

### Website

Phil Grimley

### Hall set up and AV

Peter and Jane Hammond

Michael Seccombe

### IT

Mike Shea

Mike Pearson

Ted Philips

### Noticeboard

Caroline Stark

### New Member Support

Jane Gillon

### Printing

Margaret Macpherson