

November 2024

Merry Christmas to All,

I hope you have a great Christmas and look forward to a happy and productive New Year.

As you should know there is no meeting this month as its our Christmas lunch, so those who come to the meetings, see you in January 2025. December becomes a busy month.

An important item I must remind everyone is that we need someone to step forward to volunteer to be the next Rutland u3a secretary from our AGM in June. We are asking this now so the volunteer can shadow Hedley for the months in between.

Further re volunteers, a person has come forward to help in running the Social secretary position, but would want others to help in organising events. So if interested please come forward in the January or February meeting.

Merry Christmas once again.

Stuart.



Keep in touch with your u3a:

<https://rutland.u3asite.uk/>

Facebook

Rutland U3a is also on Facebook: for all the latest news, click [Facebook](#).



This is your newsletter, so if you want to publicise your group and its activities, please let me know. Even if you do not need new members, it may give others ideas for groups they can set up.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this month's newsletter.

Please send items for December to Jill at rutlandu3a.info@gmail.com or via the website

The final date for submissions is 20 December.

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Next monthly meeting - Thursday 9 January 2025
The National Memorial Arboretum - a presentation by Sir Henry Every

The UK registered charity and 150-acre visitor site is on the edge of the National Forest in Staffordshire. It is part of the Royal British Legion, but a separate legal body, that exists to ensure that:

- the unique contribution of those who have served and sacrificed is never forgotten;
- the baton of Remembrance is passed on through the generations;
- there is a year-round space to celebrate lives lived and commemorate lives lost.



November Meeting

At our meeting in November members were entertained by Geoff Harris who entertained us with stories of his life as a toastmaster starting with running away from his life as a teacher to join the circus. He explained about the training he undertook to take on the role and about the clothing he wears when working. He went on to amuse us with recollections of some of the events he had presided over.

A thoroughly enjoyable morning.

All monthly meetings are free to members and a good opportunity to hear a good speaker, find out about your u3a and socialise with members. There is no meeting in December but the details of the January meeting are above.

Ad Hoc Dining - December

The next Ad Hoc dining meeting will be on Wednesday 18th December at 6.30pm at the Buttercross.

Everyone is welcome to join us for a meal and drink with friends but for December the Buttercross is offering a limited Christmas menu so you must contact Diane or Helen in advance.

We can then confirm numbers with the Buttercross so then we can all be seated together!

Contact Diane or Helen if you would like to attend.

Diane Case 07887 990906

Helen Shea 07919 273192



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We are already looking further varied programme forward to:



forward to 2025 and have a of exciting speakers to look

6 March	David Smith	The actor as dramatist: a view of the work of John Osborne
3 April	Lucy Lewis	The first female bomb disposal expert
1 May	Nigel Lowey	George Gilbert Scott
5 June	Denis Kenyon	Leicestershire and Rutland 'at risk' war memorials project
3 July	Paddy Lambert	Priors Hall Romano-Celtic Temple
7 August		TBC
4 September	Julie Kinnear	Coco Chanel
2 October	John Thomas	Rutland's Roman Mosaic and Villa - an update
6 November	Susan Gossey	Policing and Financial Crime in Regency London

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KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE



The Rutland U3A is a thriving organisation with over seven hundred members and more than seventy different groups addressing a myriad of subjects. It provides a great deal of enjoyment for the retired people of Rutland and vital social interaction.

Our U3A is a registered charity which claims Gift Aid refunds, is bound by HMRC rules and follows guidance laid down by the national U3A governing body. They also provide insurance cover for all members.

For these reasons we need an Executive Committee to ensure all these functions operate legally and effectively. Without this committee Rutland U3A would have no option but to close.

Your Committee comprises the Chairman Stuart Mason who runs the committee meetings, liaises with the volunteer members and runs the monthly meeting at Victoria Hall. He is supported by the Secretary, Hedley Greaves, who manages the club business, administration and records and is ably assisted by the Minutes Secretary Flic Brewster.

We are very fortunate to have a new Treasurer, Keith Townsend, who has rationalised the complex accountancy function which is crucial to our administration. Also, our new Membership Secretary, Janice Ferguson, works hard to keep track of so many members.

Arranging our monthly talk is done by the Speaker Secretary Wanda Allen and Health and Safety and Data Protection is looked after by Caroline Henry.

The Committee meets every 6/8 weeks and despite the need to conduct serious business it is a very informal and social affair!

We are working hard to find a Social Secretary as we know many members appreciated the trips that were arranged by the previous social group.

Ideally there should be coopted members to gradually learn how the committee works and take over roles as members retire. In view of the large membership and the enjoyment people get from their participation, this remains a major problem and a threat to the future of the club.

In recent newsletters we have been asking for this additional support. If we do not receive this soon the club may be in a serious position. Please contact the Secretary if you can help.

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New Website for Rutland U3a

The Rutland U3a Website is an important tool to keep in touch with members and advertise the range of opportunities available through joining U3a

Our previous website had been around for many years and was showing its age, and didn't let us communicate the full depth and breadth of Rutland u3a activities.

From Monday November 18th, Rutland U3a has a new website.

The new web address is

<https://rutland.u3asite.uk/>

This has been the result of several months of work from different members of the u3a community, and their efforts should be recognised and thanked. New technology is impacting everyone these days, and understanding how the new website will operate has been quite a challenge. However, it does open up new opportunities to make the website a great deal more useful to members and we will be working on new ideas in the coming weeks and months.

Do please take a look at the new site and provide any feedback you may have. The information on the site has been converted from the existing site, so will initially look very familiar in content and layout.

Please contact Mike or myself if you have any concerns or questions on the new website

Best wishes

Phil Grimley/Mike Shea



[Home](#) [Welcome](#) [Latest News](#) [Groups](#) [Events](#) [How to join](#) [Contact](#) [Documents](#) [Help](#)

Search ...



In 1996, a group of enthusiastic people in their third age got together to form **Rutland u3a**. In the first year the membership was 25 and, over the years, has grown to nearly 700. We are a friendly bunch - lots of us moved here in retirement and found u3a a great way of making friends and pursuing interests.

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November 2024 - News from the Groups

Here is a list of Groups seeking new members. If you wish to join a group please send a message to the Group Leader by 'clicking' on the highlighted text below. Detailed Information about all our groups is available on the Groups page on the Rutland u3a website: <https://rutland.u3asite.uk/groups/>

Church Visits Group. Please contact the Group Leader, [Mary Wright](#)

English Country Dancing. Please contact the Group Leader, [Pam Hornby](#)

Friday Scrabble Group. Please contact the Group Leader, [Debbie Rose](#)

Indoor Bowls. Please contact the Group Leader, [John Wilson](#)

Mah Jong. Please contact the Group Leader, [Alan Costello](#)

Mindfulness. Please contact the Group Leader, [Sushila Raja](#)

Ravens Walking Group. Please contact the Group Leader, [Helen Czasznicka](#)

Scrabble Group 3. Please contact the Group Leader, [Sue Powers](#)

Striders Walking Group. Please contact the Group Leader, [Stewart MacDonald](#)

Tai Chi. Please contact the Group Leader, [Julia Haynes](#)

Tuesday Morning Walks. Please contact the Group Leader, [Ros Kenny](#)

Requests have been received to set up the following new Groups: -

A Bridge beginners Group

A third Spanish Group

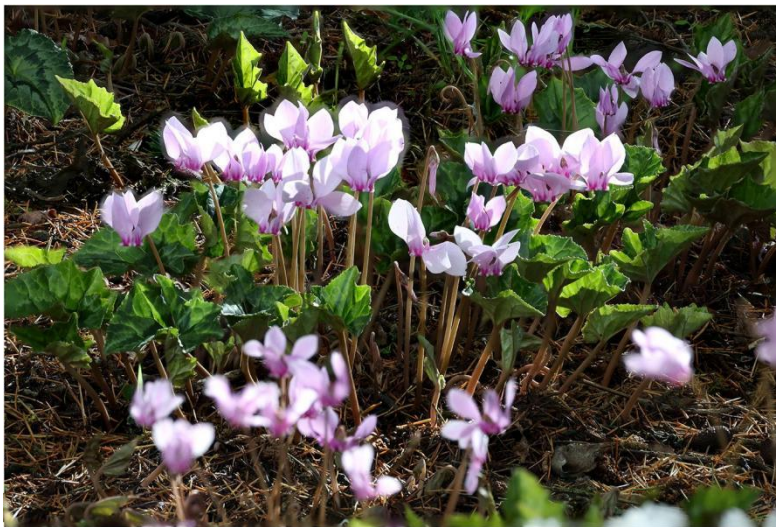
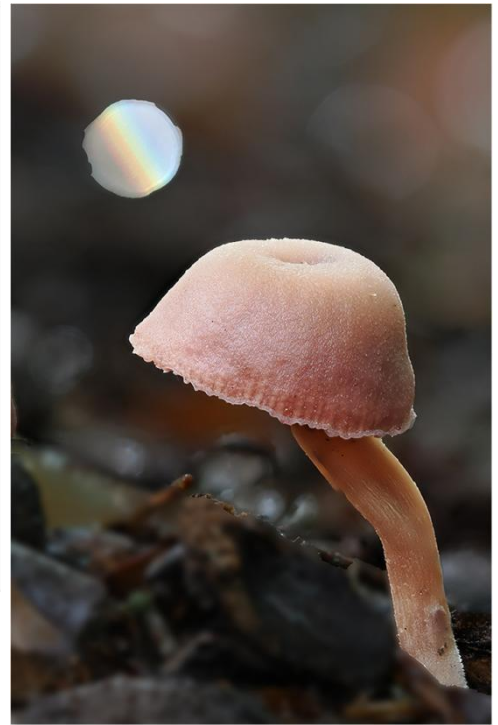
A second Photography Group

If you are interested in setting up one of these groups then please contact [Christopher Clark](#), the Groups Co-ordinator.

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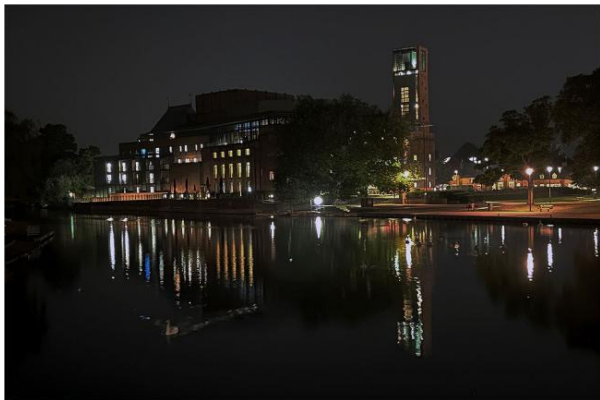
November 2024 - News from the Groups

Below are the last images for 2024 from the photography group. We look forward to seeing more in 2025.



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Thursday Walking Group 2

From one challenging 'ford' following rain (but we dodged the storm!) in September, to October's glorious sunny day walking near Tolethorpe.



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Community Christmas Day Service Ham Meal 12 noon

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON CHRISTMAS DAY?
ARE YOU ON YOUR OWN OR CAN'T AFFORD TO
COOK CHRISTMAS DINNER?

THEN COME AND JOIN US.

IT'S FREE, BUT BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL.

Email: admin@oakhambaptist.org.uk

or call: 01572 724990



*Community
Christmas celebrations*



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Free IT help!

Free “drop in” sessions from Age UK to help you use a smartphone, tablet, I-Pad or laptop computer.

Never used a computer?
No problem!
We can lend one to get you started!

Drop in for a chat with our friendly experts.

10am to 12 noon
the first 3 Thursdays each month
At Oakham Library
Catmose St, Oakham LE15 6HW
NO NEED TO BOOK – JUST DROP IN!

Age UK Leicester Shire & Rutland is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales (registered charity number 1146649 and registered company number 7844309)

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**CHANGING
CONNECTIONS**

Live in Rutland?

**Struggling with your
mental or physical health?**

Not sure where to turn?

We can help you to build new
connections with people, groups, and
services in your local community

To find out more contact Ruth

ruth@ruralcc.org.uk | 078 58 818479



Rutland u3a newsletter November 2024 - Community News

**Could you lay an extra
place at your table
this Christmas?**

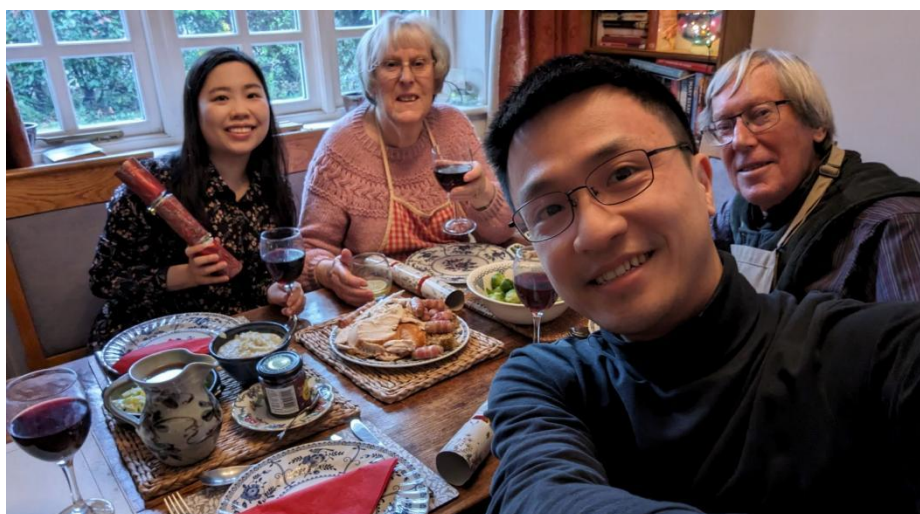


Experiment in
International
Living UK

UK charity seeks hosts in Leicestershire to share Christmas or New Year with an international university student far from home.

Could you lay an extra place at your table this Christmas for an international student? Each year our charity, EIL UK, receives hundreds of applications from international students studying at British universities hoping to experience Christmas or New Year in a British home.

If you live in Rutland or Leicestershire and could offer friendship and host an overseas university student for a 3-night stay between 20th December 2024 and 5th January 2025, drop us a line at host@eiluk.org to find out more about this rich and rewarding experience and how you can be part of the HOST UK programme.



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'Joy to the World'

**A Christmas Concert of Favourite Carols
& Michael Bublé Classics**

Conducted by Peter Davis

Uppingham School Chapel

Saturday 14th December 2024
at 7.30pm Doors Open at 7pm

**Tickets: Adults £12.50 Children £7.50
Including an interval drink**

Tickets available from
<https://wegottickets.com/event/633040>

Please scan the QR Code for more details



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2023/24

Committee Members

Chairman

Stuart Mason

Company Secretary

Hedley Greaves

Treasurer

Keith Townsend

Data Protection

Caroline Henry

Groups Coordinator

Christopher Clark

Membership Secretary

Janice Ferguson

Speaker Secretary

Wanda Allen

Shadow Speaker Secretary

Caroline Henry

Social Secretary

Vacancy

Committee advisers and helpers

Publicity

Jill Stacey

Minutes

Flic Brewster

Website

Phil Grimley

Hall set up and AV

Michael Seccombe

IT

Mike Shea

Mike Pearson

Ted Philips

Noticeboard

Caroline Stark

New Member Support

Jane Gillon

Printing

Margaret Macpherson