

August 2026

Hi All,

Hope you all weathered the hot conditions of the summer. This will be a short message just to reinforce the actions required in the forthcoming election of Committee members in order that Rutlandu3a can operate. You will in due course receive an email containing reports and how to vote using your unique number. All I ask is that you fill in the election slip, as this method is instead of all members attending the AGM to vote in person. We do require a percentage of the whole membership to have voted otherwise we get the same result—no committee.

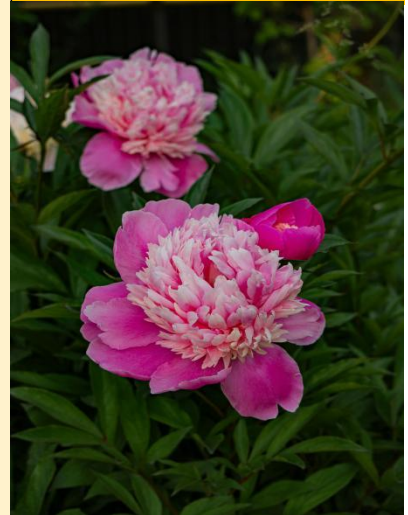
For those attending the meeting, it's the Second Wednesday in September, the 9th and the AGM is first at 10am with the talk at 10.30am as normal. Tea and coffee as usual is free.

Stuart

Keep in touch with your u3a:

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

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 the next newsletter to Jill at: rutlandu3a.info@gmail.com or via the website

The final date for submissions is 20th September..

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August Members Meeting

AGM followed by talk

Wednesday 9 September

Venue: Oakham Baptist Church

The AGM is at 10.00am with the talk following at 10.30am

The Speaker: Mike Burton:

Mike is a former newspaper journalist and teacher, now retired. He spent many years in New Zealand, working as a reporter for the national daily newspaper. Much of his teaching career was at Uppingham School, where he was Director of Studies and taught History.

The Talk: The Bayeux Tapestry Story:

Two centuries ago the world woke up to the amazing survival of a beautiful, ambiguous and occasionally rather funny historical record, which has returned to England for the first time since its creation less than 20 years after 1066. A giant embroidery, a medieval comic strip which tells the story of one of the most important events in English History. But the so-called tapestry has itself had an action-packed life, did an impressive English Queen, a brilliant embroiderer, subtly manipulate the story it tells in order to dampen Norman triumphalism and uphold the reputation of the English?



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Monthly Meetings

We hold a general monthly meeting open to **all** members on the first **Wednesday** of each month. These are now to be held at Oakham Baptist Church (Melton Road LE15 6AY) and doors open at 10.00am for a 10.30 start. There is no charge to members for attending the meeting.

At each meeting we announce the latest notices for members and also have an invited speaker. These talks cover a wide variety of subjects of interest and usually finish between 11.30 and noon.

The monthly meetings provide an opportunity to talk to members of the Committee, group leaders and fellow members, as well as reviewing notices about groups and events on our notice boards.

Details of the next meeting appear earlier in this newsletter.

The speaker programme is below but in view of the change from Thursday to Wednesday for our meetings there may be changes.

7 October	Tony Perkins	Medieval Pilgrimage.
4 November	Jack Perks	Britain's rivers in crisis.
2 December	Tracey Akenhurst	Festive Feasting

July Members meeting:



On Wednesday 5 August, Ru3a members who attended the monthly meeting at the Baptist Church enjoyed a welcome return visit from Jim Stebbings who this time talked to us about the influence of American culture on post war-Britain. He reminded us how drab and grey life was in late 1940s and early 1950s Britain and how imports from America hinted at the possibility of a brighter, more glittering future.

Jim took us on a journey from the chocolate and chewing gum in American GI's daily rations, the music of Glen Miller provided for their entertainment through to Spam (spiced ham), TV cowboy shows, block buster films like Gone with the Wind and South Pacific, the Everly Brothers, the beginnings of Rock and Role and on to the ultimate in glitter and glamour, Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley. Even for those of us who lived through this period, a reminder of the extent and speed of the Americanisation of our way of life was quite dizzying. Remember that all members are welcome to attend the monthly meetings at no extra charge. We enjoy interesting speakers and a chance to meet and chat with other members over a cup of tea or coffee.

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Ad hoc dining.



EVERYBODY WELCOME!

New to U3A?.....just arrived in the area?.....on your own?.....or simply would like to come and have a meal amongst friends then come and join us!

We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 6.30pm, at The Old Buttercross pub on Panniers Way, Oakham, to enjoy a drink and a meal together in a friendly, social atmosphere.

If you would like find out more, or to join us at any of these meals, please contact.

Helen Shea

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chezshea54@icloud.com

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Rutland u3a newsletter August 2026 - News from the Groups

Groups seeking more members & new 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 group's link below. You will then be shown the group's page, which will include a link for sending a message to the group leader.

Detailed information about all of our groups is available on the Groups page on the Rutland u3a website at [this link](#).

[Book Club 4](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Rosanne Greaves

[Church Visits](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Mary Wright

[Current Affairs 2](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Diana Mothersole

[Dog Walking](#) - Please contact the Group Leader, David Richardson

[English Country Dancing](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Kathy Andrews

[Friday Scrabble](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Debbie Rose

[Indoor Bowls](#) - please contact the Group Leader, John Wilson

[Italian Conversation](#) - please contact the Group Leader - Melanie Cortese

[Mindfulness](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Sushila Raja

[Play Reading](#) - please contact the Group Leader, John Meera

[Scrabble Group 2](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Norman Walton

[Scrabble Group 3](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Norman Walton

[Shakespeare](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Marilyn Oliver

[Striders Walking Group](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Charlie Massey

[Talking Technology](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Sue Moorcroft

[Tuesday Morning Walks](#) - please contact the Group Leader, Ros Kenny

Rutland u3a newsletter August 2026 - News from the Groups

As you know, we have sheets at our monthly meetings inviting members to sign up to join existing groups and to make suggestions for new groups. Members would normally join existing groups via our website; however, they are able to fill in the forms at our meeting and I pass this information onto the leader of the chosen group.

This is not the case for groups being set up. My dilemma is that, whilst individuals do sign up to join groups being set up, each group does need a group leader. Leading a group is not an onerous task but it is a role that somebody has to take on. So, if you do sign the sheets to join such a group could you also indicate whether you're prepared, initially at least, to lead the group,
Thank you.

Christopher Clark
Groups Co-ordinator

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

- ✓ Antiques
- ✓ Archaeology
- ✓ Art Appreciation 4
- ✓ Bridge for Beginners
- ✓ Gardening
- ✓ German
- ✓ Music Appreciation
- ✓ A second Photography Group
- ✓ Spanish (advanced) and
- ✓ Spanish Conversation

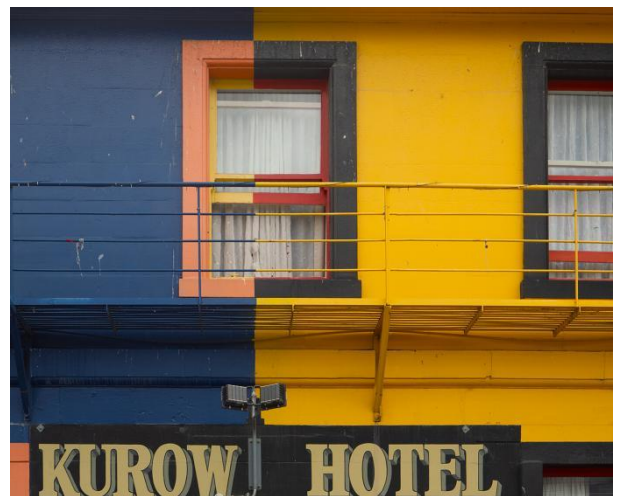
If you want to express an interest in joining one of these new groups please send an e-mail to Christopher Clark, the Groups Co-ordinator, via the [Contact](#) page on our website.

It could be that you may wish to start a group. This is relatively straightforward and full guidance / support is available for those wishing to do so. If you are interested then, again, send an e-mail to Christopher Clark, the Groups Co-ordinator, via the [Contact](#) page on our website.



Rutland u3a newsletter August 2026 - News from the Groups

Images from this month's meeting of the photographic group:



letter August 2026 -
News from the Groups



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2025/26

Committee Members

Chairman

Stuart Mason

Company Secretary

Caroline Spark

Treasurer

Keith Townsend

Data Protection

Vacancy

Groups Coordinator

Christopher Clark

Membership Secretary

Janice Ferguson

Speaker Secretary

Wanda Allen

Social Secretary

Vacancy

Committee advisers and helpers

Hall set up and AV

Michael Seccombe

IT

Mike Shea

Ted Philips

Minutes

Flic Brewster

New Member Support

Noticeboard

Caroline Stark

Printing

Margaret Macpherson

Publicity

Jill Stacey

Website

Phil Grimley