



OPEN MEETINGS 2025

**Open Meeting: 19th September
KEC 10:30am**

Speaker: Lucy Allen – From Titanic to Rocketman – a Stuntwomen’s Life



Lucy Allen graduated with a BA Hons in Drama before working for some years as a circus performer and an actress before she started her career as a stunt artiste. Lucy Allen has been a Stunt Woman for over 30 years and performed numerous stunts for film and tv including tv favourites Casualty and East Enders as well as the Oscar winning films of Titanic and Braveheart. In her talk she reveals the work that stunt people do, how she got into such work and the highs and lows that are part of the profession. As a professional performer she likes to add a bit of drama and excitement into her talks to keep them as lively and interesting as possible.

Remember to bring along £2.50 so that you can support the Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning (and eat cake 😊)

Dates for your diary

17th October	Roger Neuberg – Mary’s Meals
21st November	John Vigar – Superior Seats, The remarkable story of seating in Churches
19th December	Xmas Special – Sean Moyes, The Banjo Man Followed by Christmas Refreshments, Quiz and a Raffle



For more information, and the dates of the forthcoming Open Meetings, click on the [Open Meetings](#) link

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Information, Misinformation, Disinformation and Artificial Intelligence

It was once believed that if people had access to more information, they would make better choices and decisions. Current news items appear to contradict this.

When the Internet was first launched, I thought it was a miracle. You could rapidly read articles, news items and research papers from across the world. Information was being made available to everyone. Businesses, academics and others could share their knowledge and inform people rapidly and reliably.

And then it all went wrong. Everyone decided that they should also start sharing their ideas and opinions. The pub bore, the village idiot, the crooked politician could share their thoughts with the whole world instead of just the few poor people who bumped into them. Flat-Earth, crazy conspiracy theories, extremist propaganda, hate, snake-oil, deep-state, scapegoats... everything was published, shared and promoted. MySpace, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and the others opened their doors freely to whoever wanted to say anything, without controls or peer reviews. You no longer had to pay a ghost-writer and find a publisher to tell the world what a wonderful, smart, generous person you were, and everything wrong was because of the others – you could write it a publish it immediately to the whole world.

Disinformation is when you say something blatantly false; many populist politicians have built their careers on this. Misinformation is when you believe them and repeat it without realising that it is a lie. Slowly, the word spreads. Modern technology allows for the easy use of doctored or misused photography to reinforce the disinformation. Then along comes Artificial Intelligence (AI). Computers are reading all this misinformation, disinformation and information and creating a new version of it without any sanity checks or limits. We have already had students who have found that believing AI gets them into trouble, as they quote papers that were never written by respected scientists. But most people still tend to believe a lot of what they read on the internet. A while back, I asked four different AI tools to tell me about myself; three of them gave me very serious complete nonsense biographical data, including one that included a completely false summary of things I have written and published in the past. As AI continues to spread more false information, it self-analyses its own texts and gives them more credibility and visibility by quoting itself.

Please beware of what you are reading. What are the sources? Who originally said this? What is their bias? What are they trying to achieve? What benefit will they get from your buy-in? I have written about this previously on the website (<https://chatteris.u3asite.uk/chair-notes/#Miscommunication>), but I feel the problem is only getting more urgent....

Regards
Peter

IMPORTANT REQUEST FROM THE CHAIR

Your u3a is run by volunteers with the support of volunteers. Personally, I will be stepping down from the chairmanship this Spring, at our next AGM. I wanted to do so last year but agreed to do one more year. This does not mean that I am leaving the u3a or even the committee, but I believe it is critically important to have a changeover and new ideas and new energy to keep things moving. Some other members of the committee also feel that they have done their fair share. If we cannot find someone to step in and take over, u3a Chatteris will be required to close down next year. If you value what you get from the organisation, I need you to suggest names or perhaps you would like to step up and take on some trustee responsibilities. Please start considering options and alternatives now so that we are ready.

Peter

TRIPS / THEATRE VISIT



SANDRINGHAM CHRISTMAS CRAFT, FOOD & GIFT FAIR FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

***OVER 250 STALLS OFFERING HAND-CRAFTED ITEMS AND GIFTS.
AN ARRAY OF FOOD AND DRINK FROM BOTH REGIONAL AND NATIONAL
PRODUCERS AND RETAILERS.***

**£35 (INCL COACH FARE)
PLEASE CONTACT THE TRIPS TEAM TO SIGN-UP.**

Remember that trips using a coach can only go ahead if we get a minimum of 30 people signing up.

- *The latest news and information about these and proposed outings can be found on the [Trips/Theatre](#) webpage.*
- *For tickets and information, please email the Trips/Theatre Team via their link on the [Contact Us](#) webpage.*

Quote of the Month

"All the months are crude experiments, out of which the perfect September is made."
Virginia Woolf

Who said...

"My mama always said you've got to put the past behind you before you can move on."

Answer on page 8

Quiz Questions

- 1) Which is the largest Country in Africa?
- 2) Whose voice told UK audiences for years that Heineken *"Refreshes the parts other beers cannot reach"*?
- 3) If you were flying to Incheon International Airport, in which country would you be arriving?
- 4) What was the previous name for the car manufacturer, Audi?
- 5) Where was the last refuge of Boudica?

Answers on page 8

INTEREST GROUPS

National Theatre "Innings"



Puppetry, magic and storytelling combine in a unique, Olivier Award-winning stage adaptation of the best-selling novel. After a cargo ship sinks in the middle of the vast Pacific Ocean, a 16-year-old boy named Pi is stranded on a lifeboat with four other survivors – a hyena, a zebra, an orangutan and a Royal Bengal tiger. Time is against them, nature is harsh, who will survive?

Crafts, Arts and Things Group
Next Meeting –
September 20th Crystal Art

Living Well Meetings
September 26th – Harrison Coley –
Optician

German Conversation Group
If you are interested in joining, then
sign-up at the September Open
Meeting.

Do you know what I am?



Read the latest Nature Group
report to find out.

The Jewellery for Fun group will not
be meeting in September and will
re-start in October.

The Jigsaw Group will be re-
starting on Tuesday 16th September
from 2–4pm at the Small Hall,
Emmanuel Church. Everyone
welcome 😊

Are you a Rummikub fan? Or
perhaps you just like board games?
Then come along to the KEC every
3rd Wednesday 7–9pm (starting 17th
September) to join us.
Remember other board games are
available 😊

For This Month Only
The Art Group will be meeting on
Thursday 11th
The Quiz Evening will be on Monday
29th

Bereavement Group

Coping with loss can be incredibly painful. It takes time to understand your feelings and adjust to what has happened. Whether yours was a recent loss or it happened many years ago, there is no time limit on grief. Your loss will always be a part of you and there may be times when you struggle with your feelings of sorrow.

If you have been affected by a bereavement, it can help to become part of a support group so that you can talk about your feelings and listen to others who have been through similar experiences.

Look out for more news about the Bereavement Support Group at our next Open Meeting or contact Brian Windsor via the Contact Us page on our website.

INTEREST GROUPS

September				
Group	Date	Time	Venue	Leader
ART GROUP	Thurs 11 th	2.30-4.30pm	King Edward Centre	Thelma Millard
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP	Thurs 18 th	10.00-11.30am	Chatteris Library	Peter Leeson
BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE	Weds 3 rd	1.45-4.00pm	Member's Home	Sally Harper
CRAFTS, ARTS & THINGS	Sat 20 th	2.00-4.00pm	Chatteris Library	Jan Fieldhouse
DARTS	Tues 23 rd	1.00-3.00pm	Joe Perry's Snooker Club	Caroline Hooper
FAMILY HISTORY	Thurs 4 th	10.00-12.00pm	Chatteris Library	Georgina Plumb
FRENCH CONVERSATION	2 nd & 4 th Fri	3.30-4.30pm	King Edward Centre	Peter Leeson
GOLF	1 st & 3 rd Weds	Morning	The Old Nene Golf Club	Stuart Newman
JEWELLERY FOR FUN	No Meeting this month	2.00-4.00pm	Group Leaders Home	Caroline Hooper
JIGSAW CLUB	Tues 16 th	2.00-4.00pm	Small Hall Emmanuel Church	Lesley Gibbs
LIVING WELL	Fri 26 th	2.00-3.30pm	King Edward Centre	Lesley Pomfrett
NATIONAL THEATRE	Sat 27 th	2.00-4.00pm	King Edward Centre	Peter Leeson
NATURE GROUP	Sat 6 th		RSPB Titchwell.	Graham Cole
QUIZ EVENING	Mon 29 th	7.00-9.00pm	King Edward Centre	Jeanette Hipkins
RUMMIKUB	Weds 17 th	7.00-9.00pm	King Edward Centre	Georgina Plumb
SCRABBLE	Mon 8 th	2.00-4.00pm	Member's Home	Judith Bradshaw
SINGING FOR PLEASURE	Mon 15 th	2.30-4.00pm	Emmanuel Church	Graham Marsden
WALKING HERE A	Fri 12 th	10.00-12.00pm	King Edward Centre	Phil Green
WALKING HERE B	Tues 9 th	10.00-12.00pm	Furrowfields Car Park	Brian Windsor
WALKING THERE	Weds 17 th	As Arranged	Furrowfields Car Park	John Parry Brian Windsor
WHIST	Tues 9 th	2.00-4.00pm	Member's Home	John Parry
WINE APPRECIATION	Tues 2 nd	6.30-9.00pm	Member's Home	Barry Ransley
LUNCH ON WEDNESDAY	Weds 24 th	As Arranged	As Arranged	Dorinda Franklin
LUNCH ON THURSDAY	Thurs 18 th	As Arranged	As Arranged	Lesley Gibbs
COMPUTING HELP		BY ARRANGEMENT		Neil Shepherd

Please note day/date changes for this month only

- This [Groups](#) link will take you to our list of Interest Groups.
- You can email our Groups Coordinator via her link on the [Contact Us](#) webpage

COME AND JOIN US

“The Family History group now meets at Chatteris Library which gives us the bonus of using their free access to the 'Ancestry' and 'Find My Past' research sites which are almost essential for on-line genealogy.

All abilities are welcome, come along to the Vermuyden Room at the library on the first Thursday of the month, 10am - 12 noon.”

Ken Robson

To find out more about the Family History Group, use the link in Webpage News.

WEBPAGE NEWS

INTEREST GROUPS

Click on the links below to see some recently updated **Interest Group** webpages:

- [Family History](#) – Read about the *Famous (or infamous?) Ancestors* that two group members have discovered.
- [Nature](#) – Read about the group's *Last Outing* and discover where they're going on their *Next Outing*.
- [Book Discussion](#) – Discover *Some Of The Books* that the group spoke about at their August meeting.

LATEST NEWS

Click this [Latest Notices](#) webpage link to see what's in the news at **Chatteris u3a**:

Included in the list this month are:

- **Remembering Eric Midwinter** – One of the three original founders of u3a in 1982.
- **Three potential new Interest Groups** – Church Visits, German Conversation & Rummikub.

Quiz Answers

- 1) Algeria (919,590 square miles or 2,381,741 square kilometres)
- 2) Victor Borges, The Famous Danish Comedian and Pianist
- 3) South Korea
- 4) Auto Union
- 5) Chatteris is reputed to have been the last refuge of Boudica as she fled from the Romans

**Who said....
Forrest Gump
(Tom Hanks)**

CALM

(Come and Learn More)

We provide interesting lectures by inspiring tutors. Have fun and socialise and definitely no homework or exams!!!

Starting Wednesday 17th September 10-12 noon at the King Edward Centre with:

“Writing about war - What is it good for?”

Course lasts 5 weeks and the cost is £30.

Contact Liz on 01354 652160 for more information or find us on Facebook search CALM Chatteris

**Indoor Short Mat
Bowls
starting on the 11th
September at the
KEC 2-4pm**



For General Enquiries email us at u3achatteris@gmail.com or Phone 07873537717

Visit our Web site for the latest Chatteris u3a news chatteris.u3asite.uk



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"TELL ME ABOUT THE OLD DAYS, GRANDPA, WHEN EVERYTHING HAD DIALS INSTEAD OF REMOTES."