



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

# Heybridge U3A

## News Sheet Number 1

### March 2009

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	Peter Thorpe	Vice Chairperson	01621 850828
	Lisbeth Bazzard	Membership	01621 843208

#### From the Chair (Ruth Tyler)

May I offer a warm welcome to all members, who join our new U3A at the birth of the Group. It was with some trepidation that I took the Chair, but I am heartened by the wonderful response and enthusiasm at the first meeting in January.

At the February meeting the Steering Committee, comprising of Barbara Malkin - Secretary, Beth Jeffries - Treasurer, Lisbeth Bazzard - Membership, Peter Thorpe - Vice-Chairman and Groups' Co-ordinator, and myself, was voted in to serve until the first AGM in March 2010. During the meeting we received more names of members willing to fill other positions, and we now look forward to making progress. Ian Newman offered his services as Editor, and has produced this first news sheet.

When we embarked on this exciting venture we were all very unaware of the magnitude of the task we had undertaken, but gradually things are falling into place. Already twelve Groups have Co-ordinators, and they are currently contacting those members interested in joining the various activities, and meetings will soon commence. The larger groups will take more organising, and we still require co-ordinators for many, before they can go ahead. Eventually we shall have many activities offering a wide range of educational, physical and social recreations, which fulfil the aims of U3A.

We aim to have a Speaker at our monthly meetings, held on the second Friday in each month in the Plantation Hall, at 2.0 pm, after which there will be time for refreshments, and discussions between the Groups. I am sure this U3A will fulfil a need in our area for social interaction and friendships, and I look forward to getting to know you all.

#### Meetings

Date of next meeting is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March at The Plantation Hall, Heybridge at 14.00. The April Meeting will be on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April starting at

16.30. **Please NOTE (date and time).** The second Friday in April is Good Friday and the Hall is not available

The speaker at the next meeting (March) will be Roger Smith with a subject Victorian Work Houses. The subject for the April meeting will be 'A journey into print for readers, travellers (armchair or actual), potential or actual', speaker, Patrick Forsyth.

#### From the Editor

This first news sheet has been produced by the Editor with input from the Steering Committee. We would like future issues to contain information that you want to read about. We would like the next issue to contain reports, news, progress that has or is to occur within the various Groups. Your views on what the news sheet could contain and what format could be adopted will be welcomed.

To assist in rolling out the various groups this news sheet contains information about the groups already active, who to contact and when they meet.

It is proposed that initially a monthly news sheet will be produced. Also, to minimize the cost of circulating and printing and especially to speed up the process of publishing, the news sheet will be emailed to those who have an email address. Hard copy will also be available at the monthly meeting.

Could co-ordinators, or one of their group, please produce articles that can be included in the next or future issues. If more articles are received or are longer than space permits then they will be published, in part or whole, at the discretion of the Editor.

Publishing the news sheet will take place on the first Friday in each month. Copy will be required by last Friday of the preceding month. Please send detail by email to [ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk) with U3A in the title. Alternatively phone Ian Newman at 01621 891184 or see the Editor at the monthly meeting to decide other methods of providing copy.

### From the Group Co-ordinator

Members have so far expressed interests in a total of 28 subjects and 12 people have agreed to be co-ordinators of 12 of these topics. It has become clear that some of the groupings cover too wide an interest range and these will be split and renamed to suit the requirements of the group members. It is very encouraging that so many interest groups will be operational in the next few weeks. Below are the groups details that have so far been formed.

#### Group Names, Co-ordinator, Contact Telephone

Group Name	Co-ordinator	Telephone Number
Walking	Elizabeth Eastwood	01621 850618
Local History	Carol Greenhalgh	01621 840339
Gardening	Pat Yates	01621 892866
Outings etc.	Joyce Woodham	01621 841066
Ballroom Dancing	Alf Bell	01621 840158
Bird Watching	Maureen Lenoir	01621 869871
Bridge	Barbara Malkin	01621 843346
Ten Pin Bowling	Diane Farrant	01621 854707
Painting	Michael Kempen	01621 892974
Scrabble	Ruth Tyler	01621 869865
Whist & Cards	Rita Maskell	01621 859215
Woodturning	Peter Thorpe	01621 850828

Group Name	Meeting Day and Start Time
Gardening	Second Monday at 14.30

#### Co-ordinators Needed

Co-ordinators are still needed for the following topics:

- Theatre
- Luncheon Club
- Reading And Books
- Family History
- Craft
- Photography
- Music
- Golf
- Languages
- Art

- Swimming
- Marine and Coastal
- Vintage Car Club
- Country Dancing
- Pilates

Could those interested in the above and are willing to be the co-ordinator please contact Peter Thorpe on 01621 850828 or speak to him at the monthly meeting.

#### Membership Secretary

To join, please contact Lisbeth Bazzard on 01621 843208 or by email [lisbethbazzard@talktalk.net](mailto:lisbethbazzard@talktalk.net) or write to her at 2, Silver Street, Maldon, Essex. CM9 4QE or speak to her at the monthly meeting.

At our second monthly meeting, we enrolled 25 new members and since then I have received a great deal of interest bringing our actual membership up to 48. Our current potential of people indicating that they would like to become members is now in excess of 70. This is very good for a new club. Good luck to all the group coordinators in attracting further members.

#### From the Treasurer

The cost of joining the Heybridge U3A is £20 per person of which a £2.50 fee has to go to the U3A (next year it will be £3.50). We have received, as a start up grant, a cheque for £100 from the U3A.

The general expenses of running the Heybridge U3A are the cost of hiring a hall, charges or donations associated with speakers, expenses for paper, ink, postage etc.

Two bank accounts have been established. The first being the main account where all subscriptions are deposited and from which the running expenses are paid. The second account is for the interest groups, which will be self financing. From this second account, co-ordinators may hold petty cash. Payments made to these interest groups will need to pass through this account,

An audit will be made both for the group account and for the main account each year.

#### Members HELP!!!

Your views and input is needed for all future editions of the news sheet. Can we increase the April Edition to four pages?

It is hoped that this news sheet will help the various co-ordinators in attracting further members to their group or in forming new groups.