

# Heybridge U3A News Sheet No. 2012/3 April 2012

Contacts: Peter Thorpe Chairman 01621 850828 Brenda Dewar Secretary 01245 400492

# http://www.heybridgeu3a.org.uk

#### From the Chairman

The 2012 AGM was held at the start of our March meeting. It was, by most AGM standards, very short and concise. The seven members of the committee were willing to continue in office and therefore there was no requirement for any nominations from members. The next AGM in 2013 will be different. My three year term as Chairman will have been completed and we will elect another Chairman to take my place.

Although I always prefer a "light-touch" to the essential formalities of important meetings, imagine my surprise when I discovered that the long committee table that I had requested to be at the front of the hall had been covered with "memorabilia" and dressed-up teddy bears. The AGM is the only occasion when the whole committee is "on parade". I felt that we must have looked as though we were running a fair ground stall!

There was however, a very good reason for this large display of books, artefacts, and stuffed toys. They all belonged to our excellent speaker Helen Leonard. Helen had, at a previous meeting introduced us to her unusual early childhood growing-up in her family home within the

her father was a Yeoman Warder. As soon the **AGM** had finished, in her amusing and easy style of presentation, Helen told us more tales of life and special problems. this time teenager, living а home which, locked-up within the walls of the "Tower".

walls

Tower

of

London, where

of

Helen Leonard

Author – John Howchin

Our well attended 2012 AGM concluded in laughter, chat, cups of tea and an overall feeling that all was well with the Heybridge U3A.

I look forward to being with you all again at our meeting on Friday April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Email <a href="mailto:thorpe101@btinternet.com">thorpe101@btinternet.com</a> or phone 01621 850828.

Peter Thorpe.

# **MAUREEN BALDWIN**



Sadly, this was too late for the March News Sheet, and although it was announced at the AGM, I am sure you will appreciate why I felt the need to provide this tribute.

We are very sorry to advise you of the death of Maureen on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Maureen was one of the first members of the Heybridge U3A and in fact won the competition to name the co-ordinators of groups, now known by everyone as COGs. She joined the Coffee Morning Group from the beginning and those of us in that group found her charming and amusing. She attended many lunches in the three years and was a regular member of Weekenders. was one of the first members of the Computer Group, although, as she explained, her role in the beginning seemed to be that of coffee or tea maker, but continued until the end of last year, proving herself to be a very keen member. She also belonged to the Photography Group and had several photos printed in the Maldon and Burnham Standard. Maureen was a very good bridge and keen golf player and her sense of humour and sense of fun will be sorely missed by her many friends.

Gill Thorne

#### From the Editor

The Diary on the last page has been updated to the end of May 2012. It is important that you, as COG's, members of Groups or just members of Heybridge U3A, keep me up to date. If anyone has an interesting story, relevant pictures

or anything that relates to The Heybridge U3A or the U3A movement as a whole, then please contact me with the information so that it can be included in the News Sheet. This is especially true when activities or visits relate in some way to their group.

Please may I have your copy by the last Friday of the month to enable me to assemble the News Sheet for delivery by email approximately five days before the Monthly Meeting.

Printed copies will be available, as usual, at each Monthly Meeting. Please continue to send details to me, preferably by email (see below) with 'Heybridge U3A' in the title. Alternatively talk to me at the Monthly Meeting.

Back numbers of the Heybridge U3A News Sheets can be read on our Web Site. The link can be found under U3A Logo on page1.

Email <a href="mailto:ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk">ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk</a> or phone 01621 891184

lan Newman.

## **Heybridge U3A Monthly Meetings**

The next Monthly Meeting is on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April starting at the normal time of 14.00, in the Plantation Hall, Heybridge. This month we have Oldies Music with Ray Spiller.

A list of other potential subjects for the following Monthly Meetings are as follows:

May 2012: Air Ambulance.

June 2012: Hyland Park.

July 2012: Plume School Drama Department.

#### **Membership Secretary**

We are pleased to welcome seven new members as of 1<sup>st</sup> April, taking the number on our membership list to 175. However, thirty-eight members have yet to renew their membership. If you are one of them, please may I remind you that your 2012/13 subscription is now due. If you wish to continue your membership, please bring your enrolment form and payment to the April monthly meeting, or post them to me at the address below. If you do not intend to renew your membership, please let me know so that I do not chase you for payment.

Thank you to all those who have paid their subscriptions. Please remember to collect your membership card at the next monthly meeting if you do not already have it. If you are not a member and would like to find out more about the Heybridge U3A, you are welcome to attend a monthly meeting (held in the Plantation Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at 14.00) as a guest. There is no need to book, just turn up and sign in.

For any queries regarding membership, please

Email <u>jennyparker14@hotmail.com</u> or phone me on 01621 843581.

Or, If I am not available, please

Email <u>angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk</u> or phone Angela on 01621 850310.

Jenny Parker.

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

Group Name	Co-ordinator (COG)	Telephone Number	
Art (Painting)	Michael Kempen	01621 892974	
Ballroom Dancing	Joint with Maldon Jo Robson *	* 01621 828236	
Bird Watching	Maureen Lenoir	01621 869871	
Coastal & Marine	Brenda Dewar	01245 400492	
Coffee Morning	Margaret Brown	01621 854885	
Computer	Tina Abeysekera	01621 858635	
Creative Writing	Angela Pleasance	01621 850310	
Family History	Lesley Pomphrett	01621 817733	
French Conversation	Jenny Parker	01621 843581	
Gardening	Pat Yates	01621 892866	
Italian	Janice Slight	01621 853393	
Local History	Carol Greenhalgh	01621 840339	
Luncheon	Dave Mason	01621 858635	
Petanque	Barbara Barbrook	01621 855605	
Photography	Peter Thorpe	01621 850828	
Reading & Books	Ann Lees	01245 225153	
Scrabble	Ruth Tyler	01621 856212	
Technical Computing	Colin Mason	01621 854906	
Ten Pin Bowling	Janette Lett	01621 879697	
Theatre			
Threads & Fabrics	Anne Thorpe & Pat Newman	01621 850828 & 01621 891184	
Walking	Elizabeth Eastwood	01621 850618	
Weekenders	Marilyn Corbett	01621 817518	
Wine Group	Jackie Jones	01621 817117	

#### From the COGCo (Group Co-ordinator)

Oh dear, I do seem to have had a lot of mentions in the last News Sheet, but I do attend at a lot of Group meetings! You may be interested to know that the 7 letter word I used to end that particular game of Scrabble in February was DIVERSE which was very appropriate as it actually sums up what our interests are in the various U3A groups.

I am sorry to advise that Gill Brindle and Janet Morley have given up their roles as joint COGs of the Theatre Group due to other commitments, which is completely understandable. They thank all who have supported them in the past. My grateful thanks go to both of them for all their hard work, and I wish them the very best for the future.

This does however lead me to ask if there is a member(s) who would like to take on this role as I know many of you enjoy visiting the theatre, whether for musicals or dramas. I would love to hear from you if you are interested.

Email gillthorne2@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01621 852294.

Gill Thorne.

#### **REPORTS**

#### Art (Painting) Group

Spring was in the air when the U3A painters met for their last Friday session before Easter. A colourful collection of ornamental eggs and chicks, spring flowers plus a ceramic frog - all in bright shades of green and yellow and all provided by Lois - proved a popular subject for a seasonal still life. Other members are still enjoying experimenting with the various watercolour techniques demonstrated to us by local artists. All had an enjoyable and creative time..

The Friday Painting Group meetings resume on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Gill Carpenter

Email m.kempen@sky.com or phone 01621 892974.

Michael Kempen

# **Bird Watching Group**

This month, we went to Tollesbury Wick Reserve. We were a small group, who on a sunny morning, met up with Jonathan who is the warden there. Jonathan told us about the changes they have been doing to improve the conditions near the new hide hoping to attract the birds to nest and bring up their young. We had not moved far along the path towards the hide before we saw a lone Curlew sitting in the field as if waiting for us to come along.

There has not been a hide at Tollesbury before and we were honoured as Jonathan had only opened it that morning and we were going to be the first group to use it.



As seen from the new hide at Tollesbury.

Author Jill McGregor

We saw a selection of Waders, Ducks and Geese on the lakes and islands from the comfort of the hide, to name just a few there was Black Tailed Godwit, Little Egret, Avocets,

Pochard, Shoveler, Red Shank and a large group of Brent Geese. Suddenly they all took to the sky and we looked around to see if a bird of prey was around, it was a Marsh Harrier circling above us. Jonathan had earlier pointed out a Merlin to us, which belongs to the Falcon family.

We spent over an hour in the hide with Jonathan before he had to go and check up on the cattle and sheep. He is responsible for their welfare as well as running the reserve. We finished our morning by going back along the seawall to watch the wading birds along the waters edge as the tide came in.

Next month we will meet at Chigborough Lakes car park at 10.00 on the 27<sup>th</sup> April. Hope to see you there.

For further information, email <a href="mailto:symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk">symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk</a> or phone 01621 869871.

Maureen.

#### **Computer Group**

Twelve members met on 15<sup>th</sup> March at the computer group where we welcomed a new member Joyce Rutter. We continued on the theme of saving our work and controlling our files so that we will know where and how to retrieve our work. A very useful lesson as I know myself, together with other members, have a great deal of work that we can never find easily. Ian also asked us to consider any ideas we could put forward for our web page. The Technical Computer Group would then convert this on to the web page. Our next meeting will be in the Claydon Room on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April. If you need help conquering your computer please come along and we will all try to help.

Email <u>tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk</u> or phone 01621 858635.

Tina Abeysekera

# **Coastal and Marine Group**

Our first outing of the summer on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April is a visit to the Docklands Museum to uncover London's history as a port. Entrance to the Museum is free and it is open from 10.00 to18.00. Probably the easiest means of travel is to let the train take the strain! Suggested timing is from Witham at 09.30 and Chelmsford at 09.41. (this will give those using the Park and Ride enough time) Those already on the train can look out for us at Chelmsford! Then it is change at Stratford for the DLR to West India Quay Station. I think that it is out of the station and turn right, but I am sure that it will be signposted!

I do not think that the Museum is very large, but I suggest that we meet up at the Coffee Shop at about 10.30. If using a travel card, please remember that we must either catch the 4.17 or 6.38 trains to return home. I would be grateful if you could ring and confirm with me if you are going to come along, so that we can all meet up. Let's hope that it is as interesting as it sounds!

Email <u>brendadewar@btinternet.com</u> or phone 01245 400492

Brenda Dewar.

# **Creative Writing Group**

We have decided that we should limit the number in our group so that everyone has a chance to read their work. After some discussion, it was agreed that the existing membership of 10 is a good number. However, I will be keeping a 'waiting list' of other people who might be interested in forming a new group or replacing any of our members who drop out, so please still contact me if you are interested in creative writing.

Last month's project produced some lively, and very diverse, stories. It was amazing how you could have an estate agent, a therapist, gullible and desperately shy people, an over-bearing relative, a bus stop and a discarded car tyre in so many very different stories. There was, as usual, lots of laughter.

We liked the idea behind this project so much that our next one has a similar theme; this time we shall try to include the words skip; femininity; nobody; perturbed; correspond and wind.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April at my house when we are reverting to the usual time of 14:30.

Email <u>angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk</u> or phone 01621 850310.

Angela Pleasance

# **Discussion Coffee Morning Group**

Our meeting at Margaret Clark's house was enjoyed by all with interesting conversation and plenty of laughter. To complement our tea/coffee we were treated to some very tasty homemade cakes. The next meeting will be at 11.00 on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April at Linda Etherton's house. New faces are always welcome.

Email <a href="mbandmeg@btinternet.com">mbandmeg@btinternet.com</a> or phone 01621 854885. Margaret Brown.

#### **Family History Group**

There was no meeting in March. There will not be an April meeting at the house as six members are linking with Blackwater Family History Group for a visit to Essex Records Office in Chelmsford.

Our next house meeting will be Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May when Kay, from Blackwater, will join us again to show us 'Rootsweb' and to re-visit the Family Search site. If any group members have any questions or problems, make sure you bring names, dates and any other information you have and Kay will try to help. We meet at my house 10.30 to 12.30.

Please phone if you need information or directions.

Email <u>lesleypommy@hotmail.com</u> or phone 01621 817733.

Lesley Pomphrett.

# **French Conversation Group**

Bonjour/Good Day. Our March session started with what we could remember of that morning's news items and continued with a memory testing game. We each in turn

picked up a face-down card with a verb written on it. Then we threw a dice. (1=I/je, 2=you/tu, 3=he/il etc.) and had to remember the present tense to go with the number which certainly was memory stretching. I, personally, am going to have to do some Devoirs (Homework) before our next meeting. The reading session about the lives of some French people was interesting, especially Kyo the couturier who has very expensive tastes in clothes (Bond Street). Again, a very enjoyable morning.

We meet regularly at 10.00 on the second Wednesday of the month.

Pat Newman and Jenny Parker.

For further information please:

Email <u>jennyparker14@hotmail.com</u> or phone me on 01621 843581. Jenny Parker.

#### **Gardening Group**

Just three of us were at Beth Chatto's to enjoy a beautiful afternoon in the garden. We were unable to resist buying lots of plants from the nursery and, of course, having the tea and cake. Next month is our first private visit, so please do come. This will be on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 14.30 to Peacocks at Margaretting. Details are in the programme. There will be a list to sign at the next monthly meeting. Please pay £6 then.



**Author Pat Yates** 

Email pat.yates@tesco.net or phone 01621 892866.

Pat Yates.

# **Italian Conversation**

We now have two groups, one for beginners and one for those who can already speak Italian.

Our Beginner's Group met on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March. To start, we introduced ourselves in Italian, and then described our homes and families, even though most of the group have done little if any Italian before. We went on to learn the infinitives and the present tense of some verbs. The idea is to try to make some simple sentences using these verbs for

our next meeting. Overall, we had an enjoyable time, with everyone speaking a surprising amount of Italian.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> March, the Advanced Italian Conversation Group met at Gill's. Despite many of us having done little practical Italian for a number of years it was surprising how quickly it started to come back. We endeavoured, within our own limitations, to say as much as possible in Italian about our various experiences in Italy. We had a productive morning and by the end of the meeting, we were speaking more confidently than we had been at the beginning. At the next meeting, we will try to translate an Italian newspaper article.

The next meetings will be a Beginner's Conversation: 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

Advanced Conversation: 23<sup>rd</sup> April (The fourth Monday, not the usual third Monday).

Email janice.slight@tiscali.co.uk or phone 01621 853393 Janice Slight.

## **Local History Group (LHG)**

The group recently enjoyed an excellent illustrated talk about Great Totham and surrounding areas, given by Clive Potter. We gleaned many interesting facts and saw views that remain unchanged and many that are now just photographic records.

Our visit to Stow Maries WW1 Aerodrome is to go ahead as planned on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April. Please let me know as soon as possible if you plan to join us. We can take up to 25 people. They hope that we can car share as much as possible, so please also let me know if you need a lift or can give one. I understand that the aerodrome has come a long way since we were last there, including the establishment of the museum. The cost will be £3 including refreshments.

We shall be going to the Essex Police museum in May.

Email george.smeed@virgin.net or phone 01621 840339.

Carol Greenhalgh

#### **Luncheon Group**

Thirteen of us met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the Royal Oak in Hazeleigh. I thought thirteen was a bad number and that proved to be the case. Probably our worst venue (I will say no more) The day did not improve when that evening we told that Maureen Baldwin had passed away she will be sadly missed. On 30<sup>th</sup> March, ten of us met at The White Swan in Bicnacre, a much better venue that the last one. A reasonable menu, not too long to wait for our food and good value for money. Our next lunch will be 27<sup>th</sup> April at The Chequers in Wickham Bishops CM8 3NN at 13.00, where we will be looking forward to seeing regular and perhaps some new faces.

Email <u>tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk</u> or phone 01621 858635.

Dave Mason.

## **Petanque Group**

We have been lucky with very good weather for our first two weeks of our summer season of Petanque so our weekly trips to the Terrain at the Prom have been very enjoyable. Please note that we shall not be there on Easter Monday April 9<sup>th</sup> or on the May Day holiday May 7<sup>th</sup>. We are trying to improve our technique for pointing and shooting. This week the men won two games to the ladies one game. Next time we shall try even harder or we may decide to have mixed teams. It all ended very amicably with coffee at the kiosk so until next time when we meet, keep practising!

Email c.barbrook@sky.com or phone 01621 855605.

Barbara Barbrook.

## **Photography Group**

I would like to thank Alex for standing-in for me at the March meeting. The assignment was "still life" and once again the members used both Flickr and USB memory sticks to submit their photographs for projection. Considerable skill and creativity was used to produce a wide variety of pictures of carefully arranged objects photographed under controlled lighting.

Alex also introduced the members to the manual controls available on their cameras. As there is not a photo assignment for April, we will devote the whole meeting to discussing how we can over-ride the "auto" setting to take back control of our camera settings ourselves!

If you are interested in digital photography, come and join us. Our aim is to enjoy and to improve our photography, together.



**Red Shoes** 

Email thorpe101@btinternet.com or phone 01621 850828.

Peter Thorpe.

## **Reading and Books Group**

Our book this month was 'Pretty Dead Things' by Barbara Nadel. This is a detective story set in modern day Istanbul with plenty of local colour and history. First there is a missing woman, then a woman's skeletal remains are found on the Kamondo Steps (a local landmark) and the two

investigations become inter-linked. The police inspectors, their assistants and the local residents, Muslims and Jews, are an interesting cast of characters but some of us struggled with the many Turkish names.

The book painted a very different view of Islamic life to that depicted in our previous month's read. It provided insights, possibly unwanted, into necrophilia and was not universally liked by the group, although some of us enjoyed it.

We also had an outing this month. After an excellent Indian meal we went to hear Barbara Erskine talk about her work. She is a novelist who interweaves a modern setting with a historical one. Barbara talked about the way she works and then gave a reading from her latest, as yet, unpublished, book. It was a most enjoyable evening.

Our next meeting is at 14:30 on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April at Plantation Hall when we will be discussing 'God on the Rocks' by Jane Gardam.

Report by: Angela Pleasance

Group leader: Ann Lees

Email: annlees@yahoo.com or phone 01245 225153

## **Scrabble Group**

At our March meeting, we had eight players, despite the glorious weather, which might have kept them in their gardens. Once again, the spotlight fell on Gill, who came up with the seven letter word ELATION, which, although it did not end the game, helped Gill to be the runner-up on her board.

Please can we have a few fresh brains!! We play at least two games, with a break for refreshments and a chat finishing about 16.00. All are welcome. Arrive in time to get started by 14.00 please.

Email r.tyler936@btinternet.com or phone 01621 856212.

Ruth Tyler

## **Technical Computing Group**

A very interesting meeting took place at Alex Lees house on Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. At this meeting, an in-depth discussion, with video content, took place about the method of adding text to the Heybridge U3A new web page. It is now possible for other groups to have their own page on the main web site, Peter Thorpe and Norman Grove demonstrated how members of the Technical Group could do this. Further information will be distributed in due course.

We thank Alex for his hospitality at this meeting.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 9th of April at lan's house when the main discussion will be 'backing up' the hard drive, both completely, and incrementally.

Email <a href="mailto:colin@mason20.wanadoo.co.uk">colin@mason20.wanadoo.co.uk</a> or phone 01621 854906.

Colin Mason.

# **Ten Pin Bowling Group**

We met on the 13<sup>th</sup> March with 11 players of mixed abilities. We split into three teams and played three games. The scores were very respectable.

Our group has been going a year now and, in that time, we have increased three fold. We have regular players and players that just pop in now and again. Everyone has a fun time and we are always looking towards improving our games. To this end, at the next session, we are going to look at various techniques so, if you would like to join us on the 10<sup>th</sup> April please do so. We will be playing at 10.00 until 12.00 (noon) then going to Izumi for a meal to celebrate Easter.

The May session will be back at the normal time of 14.00 until 16.00.

Email <a href="mailto:lettsnooks@talktalk.net">lettsnooks@talktalk.net</a> or phone 01621 879697.

Janette Lett.

#### **Theatre Group**

See Group Co-ordinator Report.

## Threads and Fabrics Group

At our March meeting, we had almost a full group. Lots seemed to have happened since we met in February. Many of our members had been to exhibitions or attended study days learning new things which they will share with us in the future. Anne brought in a tray of pretty flowers that she had made which a couple of us attempted to copy. I had a go, but was all fingers and thumbs. I think that they will be my next project, after I finish my net embroidery. There is not much more to do as long as I resist my inclination to tweak things. I am including a photo to prove that things are actually progressing.



Embroidery on net: Author

Author: Pat Newman

If anyone is interested in joining us on the first Tuesday of each month please contact Anne Thorpe or Pat Newman.

Anne by Email <a href="mailto:anne.thorpe@btinternet.com">anne.thorpe@btinternet.com</a> or phone 01621 850828.

Or Pat by Email <a href="mailto:ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk">ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk</a> or phone 01621 891184.

#### **Walking Group**

Our March walk was around the pretty village of Pleshey on yet another fine dry afternoon. Parking at the village hall, we passed the church and turned into Pump Lane from which we could see the earthworks of the motte and bailey castle for which Pleshey is renowned. We then followed tracks and bridleways, passing Fitzjohn's Wood (only getting lost once!) before looping back into the village. Altogether a very pleasant outing.

As spring has again come early this year, I propose our bluebell wood walk take place in April rather than later. Those of us who went to Hanningfield last year expecting to see bluebells were disappointed as they had finished by May.

Hillhouse Wood near West Bergholt is recommended as particularly beautiful at this time. See the Woodland Trust website for details.

Directions: From the A12 or Tollgate

- take the A1124 Halsted Road at Eight Ash Green, cross the roundabout (2nd exit);
- approx 300m turn right into Spring Lane;
- approx 500m at crossroads turn right into Argents Lane;
- approx 500m at T-junction turn left into Newbridge Road;
- approx 300m turn left into Cook's Hall Road.
   Follow to the end (limited parking) then there is a short walk to the wood.

Meet as usual at 14:00 on Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> April. Please let me know if you can join us and if you need or can share transport.

Email <u>e.m.e@talktalk.net</u> or phone 01621 850618. (mobile 07581 029816).

Elizabeth

# **Weekenders Group**

There is not much to report other than that we have arranged quite a few trips with Stan's Coaches, which I mentioned last month. Anyone wishing to join any of them, the sheets will be available at the next U3A monthly meeting. A reminder that we meet for the coffee morning at Hyde Hall on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30.

Our May Coffee Morning will be at a new venue, The Loft-Tea by the Sea, Tollesbury on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May.

Email mars42@btinternet.com or phone 01621 817518.

Marilyn Corbett.

## Wine Appreciation Group

The details of the April meeting have been changed from the usual date and time. Instead, we will be visiting Lawford Village Hall on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April to attend the Spring Tasting Weekend organised by Grape Passions. Some of us enjoyed our visit there in November for the Christmas Wine Tasting and the spring event sounds just as good. The entrance fee is £5 per person, which is fully refundable against all orders placed over £25. There will be over 60 wines and spirits available for tasting with fun food and wine matching sessions. There are always some special offers at these events. Car sharing is recommended and we will meet up in the car park at 11.00 on the day.

The May meeting will be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, one week later than usual with the "Wine Growing Areas of Spain" as the subject.

Email jachjones@tiscali.co.uk or phone 01621 817117.

Jackie Jones.

#### **Update Re. Essex Association Study Day**

The Study Day will be on Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> October at The Plume School, Maldon. For further information, please contact Ian Newman or Joyce Woodham.

#### On the Notice Board

The following items of News can be seen on the Notice Board at the next Monthly Meeting or have been available at a recent Monthly Meetings.

Every month we receive information from Head Office keeping our Group informed of events happening throughout the UK. Details will be on the notice board.

If you are interested in anything and would like further information please contact me:

Email <u>brendadewar@btinternet.com</u> or phone 01245 400492.

#### Brenda Dewer

If you are planning to put something on the notice board that is not group related, and it is available prior to the first Friday of the month, the Editor would be pleased to include it in this section of the News Sheet. If it is something that takes a whole page this can easily be sent out with the Monthly News Sheet.

#### **Other Notices**

If you are interested in helping children with their reading, Maldon Primary School may well be interested in you. You will need to be able to commit to a regular afternoon and to train for the role. A CRB check will be necessary.

In the first instance please contact Carol Greenhalgh or Joyce Woodham. Both are Heybridge U3A members and both are governors at the school.

# Diary of Meetings and Visits.

For details see articles and co-ordinators above.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9th April	9	10 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	11 French Conversation 10.00	Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	13 Monthly Meeting 14.00	14 Weekender Coffee at Hyde Hall 10.30	15
16th April	16 Petanque 14.00	17 Local History 14.00	18 Book Group 14.30	19 Computer 14.00	20 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00 Coastal and Marine	21	22
23rd April	23 Petanque 14.00 Advanced Italian 10.00	24 Scrabble 14.00	25 Creative Writing Group 14.30 Gardening 14.30	26 NO Family History house meeting	27 News Sheet Copy to Editor Painting 14.00 Bird Watching Luncheon Wickham Bishops	28 Wine Tasting 11.00	29
30th April	30 Petanque 14.00	1st May Threads 14.00	2	3 Photography 14.00	4 Committee Meeting Painting 14.00	5	6
7th May	7 Beginners Italian 10.00	8 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	9 French Conversation 10.00	Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	11 Monthly Meeting 14.00	Weekender Coffee at the Loft 10.30	13
14th May	14 Petanque 14.00	15 Local History 14.00	16 Book Group 14.30	17 Computer 14.00	18 Painting 14.00 Coffee Morning 11.00	19	20
21st May	21 Petanque 14.00 Advanced Italian 10.00	22 Scrabble 14.00	23 Wine Tasting 14.00	24 Family History 10.30	25 News Sheet Copy to Editor Painting 14.00 Coastal and Marine Luncheon TBC Bird Watching	26	27
28th May	28 Petanque 14.00 Gardening 14.30	29	30 Coastal and Marine Creative Writing Group 14.30	31	1 <sup>st</sup> June Committee Meeting Painting 14.00	2	3