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Registered Charity number 1160360

Next Main Meeting – Plantation Hall

Friday 8th April 2022 at 2.00 pm

Guest Speaker Rev Dr Nicholas Henderson

How to read the English Country Church

Next Committee Meeting – Plantation Hall in The Claydon Room

Friday 6th May 2022 at 10.00 am

Heybridge u3a

News Sheet No 4 - April 2022

Your Committee

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Hello and welcome to a new era for Heybridge u3a!

Following last month's AGM we now have a new committee, as shown on the front page – any missing information will be added as soon as possible. As we are still getting ourselves organised this News Sheet will be shorter than usual. There were a number of technical challenges to overcome – mainly to do with transferring generic email addresses. Nevertheless we will get there in the end, so please bear with us.

Group reports from CoGs will resume with the May edition. Also please note we will be resuming the tea and coffee rota from May, when refreshments will be served by the Art Group. Their COG is Tina Martin, please contact Tina if you are interested in joining the group.

Important message from the Membership Secretary

It is time to renew your membership.

The AGM in March agreed a subscription of £10 for the year which runs from 1st April 2022 until 31st March 2023. As this is a special reduced fee for this year only, there will not be a further reduced price for Dual Members or for those joining after September.

A membership renewal form was attached to the email which sent out the newsletter in February and March (also on the website) so please print a copy, complete one for each member and return it to me, either by post to the address on the form or by email (membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk). If you cannot print a copy please let me know (01245 381379) to post one to you, or you can pick one up at the main meeting.

Philippa Moody membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

Annual General Meeting and Committee Elections 2022

Here are the results of the elections to the committee at the AGM held on the 11th March 2022 at 2.00 pm in the Plantation Hall: it was only at the very last minute that people put themselves forward for the officer posts and thankfully the future of Heybridge u3a has been assured. Congratulations and grateful thanks go to the following:

Chairman - Jackie Jones, proposed by Peter Radford, seconded by Lesley Woonton was elected.

Secretary - Marilyn Corbett, proposed by Peter Radford, seconded by Mick Broad was elected.

Treasurer - Elizabeth Eastwood, proposed by Margaret Hadley, seconded by Gill Carpenter was elected.

Editors (joint) - Lorraine Jeapes and Brian Jeapes, proposed by Moira Penhallow, seconded by Chris Norris, were elected.

Interest Groups Co-ordinator - Moira Penhallow, proposed by Peter Harvey, seconded by Chris Norris was elected.

Events Secretary - Lizzie Cawdell, proposed by Linda Etherton, seconded by Jill McGregor was elected.

Publicity Officer - Linda Etherton, Proposed by Peter Radford, seconded by Philippa Moody was elected.

Thanks are due to those members who have retired from the committee especially after keeping everything going during the pandemic, a difficult time in all our lives. Norman Cumming, former chairman, Jill McGregor, former Treasurer, Linda Etherton, former Secretary, Geoff Hadley, former Editor, Hilary Furniaux, former Interest Groups Co-ordinator and Angela Pleasance, former Publicity Officer and minute taker for the committee. Grateful thanks also to Margaret Hadley who was organising the refreshments and our good wishes to Geoff and Margaret for their move to Norfolk.



Our former chairman, Norman Cumming, recently sent these kind words to the new committee members:

Well miracles do happen after all, well done to all those members who rose to the occasion and my very best wishes to you all, enjoy your time.

I did.

Hope to see you all again before too long.

Stay safe

Norman

Meet the Committee

We asked the new committee members to say a few words about themselves

Jackie Jones (Chair): Heybridge u3a has given me many new interests, hobbies and friends during the last decade and the recent lockdowns and restrictions have made me aware of just how

much we owe to the dedication of the committee who have worked tirelessly to ensure that we were all kept up-to-date during those dark days. This is why I have volunteered to serve on the committee and give some of my time to help keep Heybridge u3a moving forward through this year and beyond. Now that winter is on the way out and spring is tempting us to venture back outside we can all start to enjoy the groups and outings we have missed whilst still being mindful of keeping ourselves and others safe and healthy.

Elizabeth Eastwood (Treasurer): I am an original member of Heybridge u3a, as a retired schoolteacher I have lived in Heybridge Basin for over 20 years. Close proximity to the sea wall has me taking early morning walks to observe to bird life. Playing bridge is my main pastime (any players out there willing to start up a group? A question I've asked many times before!) I belong to the u3a Reading & Books, Scrabble, and Birdwatching and Weekenders groups.

Marilyn Corbett (Secretary): I have lived in Tiptree for nearly 40 years and joined Heybridge U3A at the outset and it has given me the opportunity to make new friends. For seven years I was the leader of the Weekenders group and am still a member as well as the Eat the World group. I enjoy gardening and walking and try to do two walks of 4 miles each week in addition to pilates.

Moira Penhallow (Interest Groups Coordinator): I moved to Heybridge 18 years ago from Harold Hill, after I was made redundant from my place of work in London (Canary Wharf). I joined U3A after reading a leaflet which came through the door, about six years ago I think. Two other friends and I thought we would go along and see what it was about. Regarding the interest groups, I thought Petanque was something completely different and that's why I joined, and I enjoy every minute. After Barbara and Dian who used to be running the group, it's down to me now!

Lizzie Cawdell (Events Secretary): I moved to Heybridge 25 years ago after a wonderful seven years living in The Netherlands. My background is in retail travel, group travel and PR/Event management. A neighbour invited me along to a U3A meeting and when the vacancy arose for an Events Secretary, I jumped at the chance! This will be my third term of office and I am looking forward to getting out and about again with you all, exploring the East Anglian Region and all it has to offer.

Lorraine & Brian Jeapes (Joint News Sheet Editors): We joined Heybridge u3a just over three years ago after moving into the area from Brentwood. We were both newly retired and looking for new pastimes and volunteering opportunities. As well as joining the lively Petanque group on Maldon Promenade we have other interests between us including volunteering with Caroline Community Radio, setting up a writing group for family historians in Maldon library and walking with the Maldon & Dengie Ramblers.

Other News

There is a Cyber Crime Seminar at the West Maldon Community Centre (Main Hall) on Thursday 16th June from 9am to 1pm. Learn how to stay safe from scammers, cyber criminals and the like. If you are interested in attending please contact Jan Brown speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk to book a place.

You may not be aware that Heybridge u3a are part of a "Cluster Group". This is a group of eight local u3a organisations, Maldon, Limebrook, Blackwater, Burnham, Dengie, Crouch Valley and South Woodham Ferrers, plus ourselves. Members of these u3a groups can join in the activities of the others, subject to space availability. Details can be found at:

<u>ClusterGroupActivitySchedule.pdf (maldonu3a.co.uk)</u>

Covid-19 is still with us. When attending meetings please be aware of the following Government recommendations:

Consider wearing a face covering in crowded, enclosed spaces

Let fresh air in, if meeting indoors.

Get tested if you have Covid-19 symptoms and stay at home if positive.

Please be prepared for any venues to be well ventilated, and wear warm clothing.

As mentioned earlier, GOG reports will resume with the May News Sheet. We would ask that all COGs submit their reports to editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk by the last Saturday of the month!

If you have any articles you would like included in the next Heybridge u3a News Sheet please send them to editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

And finally... we would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter, and hope that the easter bunny brings you a chocolate easter egg or two!

