

Heybridge u3a

June/July 2022 News Sheet

Your Committee

<https://u3asites.org.uk/heybridge>

Archive

www.heybridgeu3a.org.uk/archive/news.html

Registered Charity number 1160360

Next Main Meetings – Plantation Hall

Friday 10th June 2022 at 2.00 pm

Displays by Interest Groups Co-ordinators

Friday 8th July at 2.00 pm

Queen's Platinum Jubilee and

u3a's 40th Anniversary Cream Tea

Next Committee Meeting – Plantation Hall in

The Claydon Room




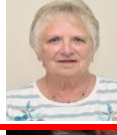




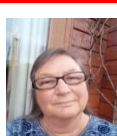


Friday 1st July 2022 at 10.00 am

Main Meeting Refreshments Rota

June – Bird Watching Group

July – Cards and Paper Crafts

August – Discussion Coffee Morning Group

Chair	Jackie Jones chairman@heybridgeu3a.org.uk 01621 817117	
Vice Chair	Peter Radford vicechairman@heybridgeu3a.org.uk 01621 843543	
Secretary	Marilyn Corbett secretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk 01621 827518	
Treasurer	Elizabeth Eastwood treasurer@heybridgeu3a.org.uk 01621 850618	
Membership Secretary	Philippa Moody membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk 01245 381379	
Publicity Officer	Linda Etherton publicity@heybridgeu3a.org.uk 01621 843702	
Groups Co-ordinator	Moira Penhallow groupscordinator@heybridgeu3a.org.uk 07984 357804	
Speaker Secretary	Jan Brown speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk 01621 856989	
Events Secretary	Lizzie Cawdell eventssecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk 07902 294741	
News Sheet Editor (Joint)	Lorraine Jeapes editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk 01621 890128	
News Sheet Editor (Joint)	Brian Jeapes editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk	

From the Editors

Hello and welcome to your June News Sheet.

June is, of course, the month containing the longest day of the year and the official beginning of summer, plus this year it was the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Quite an eventful month. Those with gardens will no doubt see their flowers and vegetables begin to burst into life, and who knows, we may have some sun in between....

There will be no July News Sheet next month, but we will be back in August. If you have any items you would like included in future editions please send them to us at the email address below. We would ask that all CoG reports for the August news sheet be submitted by the last Saturday in July. Please combine your July and August reports if necessary.

Lorraine & Brian editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

News from the Committee

From the Chairman

Thank goodness we have had some rain to water the garden but let's hope the sun shines on 10th June when we will be showcasing all our group activities with displays in the Plantation Hall. This will be a great opportunity for all our members to bring along a friend to learn about the benefits and interests that u3a has to offer. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Jackie Jones chairman@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

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.

The subscription can be paid by cash at a meeting, cheque (payable to Heybridge U3A) or by bank transfer (contact me for the bank details).

Philippa Moody membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Speaker Secretary

Martyn Garwood was our speaker for our April Main Meeting. Martyn's career was as a Police Dog Handler and he told us about the training that for example an explosives search dog would have and how a dog's olfactory glands are so much better than ours at detecting scents. We heard about some of the scenarios faced by both handler and dog where the dog certainly seemed to come out as the superior being. Eventually Martyn retired and having decided not to have another dog when his black lab died, he found himself talking to someone training a 'Guide Dog' puppy and soon enough the family found themselves with a puppy. The 'trainee' stays with the family for about a year and then goes on to be assessed and have further training before being paired with an applicant. The reward is in hearing how the dog eventually can change a person's life, giving them fantastic support and new-found confidence. All this comes at a price however and it costs £57,000 to train and care for a Guide Dog throughout its life. If you would like more information this can be found at www.guidedogs.org.uk (Report by Linda Etherton)

Jan Brown speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Events Secretary

Please see below details of some events that may interest you.

BURY ST EDMUNDS

Unfortunately, due to low numbers, the Bury St Edmunds trip has been cancelled.

LAURISTON ORGANIC COMMUNITY FARM, Goldhanger

Friday 22nd July

Cost: £5 pp (to include tea and coffee)

Some of you may remember a talk we had by Spencer Christy from Lauriston Farm. The farm is run on bio-dynamic principles and planting according to the moon cycles. We now have the opportunity of a guided walking tour of the farm to see more of these fascinating practices.

Afterwards, we can lunch at The Chequers in Goldhanger (not included in the price)

***Please note that this will be a self-drive/car-share event**

Minimum number x15

SEAL WATCHING BOAT TRIP FROM HARWICH

Thursday 25th August 11.00 a.m.

Cost £20 pp (boat trip only)

There are currently up to 250 seals in the Walton backwater, a healthy breeding population which has risen from only 5 in 1986. We sail from Harwich through the backwaters to Oakley Creek where the seals enjoy resting on the mudbanks.

In addition to seals, a variety of birds can be spotted including the Wigeon, Pintail, Ringed Plover, Curlew, Sandpipers and Gannets.

This trip should appeal to the Birdwatching group and the Photography group!!

***Please note that this will be a self-drive/car-share event**

Minimum number x25



Please contact me for bookings; email address as below, or phone 07902 294741 if you do not have internet access.

Lizzie Cawdell eventssecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Interest Groups Co-ordinator

May was a busy month, liaising with the CoGS regarding their displays for the monthly meeting, and with Plantation Hall to discuss the layout. However everything is taking shape, so thank you to everyone for their assistance.

At the 8th July meeting, we are going to celebrate the Queen's 70 years on the throne. I know we are doing this later than most on the 2nd and 3rd of June, but we are combining this with the u3a organisation's 40th Anniversary. We are going to have an afternoon tea of scones with jam and cream and more, plus a quiz. I do hope that many of you will come and join us on this wonderful occasion, and if you wish to wear something to celebrate then please do so. Because we need to know how many to cater for, we are going to ask people book a place for this event. Please email me at the address below by 30th June if you would like to come along – I hope you do.

I am looking forward to seeing you all on the 10th June to look at our lovely displays.

Moira Penhallow groupsco-ordinator@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

News from around the Groups

Croquet

At last the croquet season has started; unfortunately not a good start!! Our first session, which Chris very kindly covered for me with Graham's help as I was unable to attend, was rather wet and only four managed to make it but, being a hardy lot played for a while until rain stopped play. On the second session five managed to play, the weather was very overcast and cold plus it threatened to rain. After two games it was decided to finish for the day, as we put everything away and locked the shed, the sun came out! Hopefully the weather next month will improve and more of us will be keen to get back to playing! If anyone would like to join us we play at 2 pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons of each summer month at Forresters Golf Club. We are a friendly group and play for gentle exercise, good company and fun.

Anne Newson

Discussion Coffee Morning Group

We met on Friday 20th May at Linda's house.

The conversation at this time of the year naturally turned to the subject of summer holidays. In particular cruises, both Chris Norris and Leslie Pomphrett have frequently enjoyed cruises and we listened to their enjoyable experiences. We had tea, coffee and biscuits courtesy of Linda.

Unfortunately Jean Murray was not able to join us this month having spent three weeks in hospital after a nasty fall in the street and still recovering, now at home. She will be back with us soon.

The next coffee mornings will be on Friday 17th June at Chris Norris's house and Friday 15th July at Lesley Pomphrett's.

Margaret Brown

Eat the World

This month it was my choice so we went to China for our lunch on Thursday 19th May.

A lovely meal was enjoyed at the House of Delight in Maldon. For those who are not familiar with the restaurant, it lies back from the pavement at the lower end of the High Street and is well worth a visit. We all made different choices, mine was sizzling chicken with green peppers in black bean sauce with plain rice; delicious. Mixed vegetables could be a side dish to accompany it.

We look forward to the June food outing, not yet arranged.

Margaret Brown

Painting 2

Following the very sad news that Painting 2 had lost our CoG, Barbara Barbrook, on 30th April, both current and former members of the group were invited to attend the May meeting. It was a nice way to remember Barbara over a cup of tea and a biscuit, I'm sure she would have approved. We were pleased to see a few of her more recent watercolour portraits of the Queen and chose one to show at the display of the group's work in June.

Barbara would have liked us to continue the group and there is a possibility that one or two members may rejoin and help to keep it going. If anyone would like to come along for a dabble, all levels of ability are welcome to join us on the second Monday of the month at the Plantation Hall, at 2.00 pm in the Claydon Room. The next meetings are planned for the 13th June and 11th July.

For more information please contact Linda Etherton: my details are on the front page of the News Sheet

Linda Etherton

Patchwork

The group spent a very enjoyable afternoon working on a variety of projects with many focussing on items for the Jubilee celebrations. It is hoped that some of our work may be on display at the June U3A members' meeting.

Anne advised that the patchwork quilt made by the group during lockdown has been donated as a raffle prize to a very worthy local charity - The Liam Taylor Legacy. The charity supplies bleed control kits to pubs and community groups. We hope that the lucky winner will enjoy using it as much as we enjoyed making it.

Jackie Voyez

Petanque

Well we are five months already into 2022, I just don't know where time has gone, but still we have been very fortunate with the weather that we haven't had to cancel many games.

We mostly have 18 each week, and we have lots of fun while we play, and if we have time we go for coffee or ice cream afterwards.

If anyone would like to come and join us and just see what we are about, then please come down to Maldon Prom at 10 am Mondays.

Moir Penhallow

Photography Group

Our May meeting was held on the 5th May with 11 members attending on Zoom. The assignment subject was “Photos taken since the previous meeting”. This again proved to be both popular and interesting with 33 excellent images for us to view. The subjects chosen varied from: The Mud Race, Flowers, Buildings and an Infrared photo. The discussion on each of these photographs with their authors was both informative and entertaining.



Double Tulip - Linda Etherton



Wisteria – Ken Russel

The members decided to continue with Zoom for the June meeting and it was decided to have this a week later on the 9th due to the new Bank Holiday and the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

The assignment for the next meeting was to be “Any photo taken between this and the next meeting”.

For those who were unable to join the meeting, all of the photos submitted have been uploaded to our page on Flickr (Heybridge U3A) where you will be able to view them. If you would like a link to them please contact me.

If anyone is interested in joining our Zoom meetings to see what the group is about, please contact me and I will forward you a link to our next meeting. All members of the U3A are welcome.

Norman Grove

.....

Reading & Books

In May we received a light-hearted travelog by Tim Moore, “Continental Drifter”

The meeting in June will be on Wednesday 15th and the following month on Wednesday 20th July.

Jackie Jones

.....

Scrabble

Never let it be said that life gets in the way of playing Scrabble! However very few were available in May but no doubt other ways were found to exercise the little grey cells. Online Scrabble and Words with Friends are available, but come with a health warning as can become addictive. You can't beat playing in person, as with any u3a group the social element is important.

Just for fun, can you work out which of the letters **A, B, O, P** can be hooked onto the following words to make a valid 4-letter word? The letter may be before or after the word. Which letter will be left over?

F	R	O
4	1	1

G	A	R
2	1	1

R	E	D
1	1	2

If you are interested in joining us please contact me: details are in the list of groups towards the end of the news sheet.

Linda Etherton

.....

Ten Pin Bowling

Just to confirm that the 9th June and 23rd June lanes have been booked at Madison. I will be around on the 9th but not the 23rd. Chris has kindly 'volunteered' to look after the group while I am away from the 21st June to the 12th July.

Just a short comment on our frames on the 19th May. The boys managed to pick their game up after a poor first frame but well done Jenny for winning all three frames in the girls contest.

See you on the 9th June.

Peter Harvey

.....

Walking

Our original May walk was postponed as there were only three of us and instead we had a walk on 26th May. Five of us met at Danbury Common and enjoyed a meandering walk around the common, including a bit of Backwarden and passed the houses on Horne Row. We had lovely weather and plenty of gentle chatting as we walked the open spaces of the common. We called in at White Elm Garden Centre for a cup of tea and more chatting on the way home. The first time since before lockdowns in 2020 that we've had the opportunity to meet for a drink after the walk. Our next walk will be on Thursday June 9th starting at 2 pm around the Essex Wildlife Trust's property at South Hanningfield. Details will be emailed to those in the group.

Our July walk will be held on Thursday 14th July and led by Chris around Tiptree. Details will be emailed nearer the time to all those registered with the Walking Group.

Linda Wells

.....

Weekenders

Peartree Pantry near Doe's Corner proved to be a welcoming venue for the May Weekenders meeting. Some of the regulars were missing either due to recovering from injuries or going away on a jaunt, so look forward to catching up next time.

I am pleased to report that the Witham Amateur Operatic Society did not disappoint with their production of 'Betty Blue Eyes' in April and indeed delighted those who went with some excellent performances in this less well-known musical.

The next meetings will be on Saturday the 18th June at Oliver's Nursery and on the 16th July at Osea View at the usual time of 10.00 am. Tea or coffee and a toasted teacake anyone? Please contact Linda Etherton to let me know if you will be coming.

Linda Etherton

.....

Other News

Blackwater u3a have arranged a visit to the Brooklands Transport Museum, Weybridge on 30th June. The price is approximately £35 and full details are available on their website or by contacting Frances Butcher on fabbutcher@talktalk.net or phone 01621 853352.

Remember 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:

[ClusterGroupActivitySchedule.pdf \(maldonu3a.co.uk\)](#)

Covid 19 Reminder

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

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