



Heybridge U3A

News Sheet Number 5

July 2009

Contacts:	Ruth Tyler	Chairman	01621 869865
	Peter Thorpe	Vice Chairman	01621 850828
	Lisbeth Bazzard	Membership	01621 843208

From the Chairman

We really do seem to be having some splendid Monthly Meetings. The last one on June 12th was a complete surprise to many of us, as we envisaged seeing lots of interesting buildings when we had Chris Edwards from the National Trust to talk to us. We were very surprised when one building came up on the screen and he told us that was the only one we would see!! The rest of his time flashed by with an in depth talk about Operation Neptune, the National Trust's extensive plan to protect and save our coast line, with particular reference to our East Anglian coast. I really had no concept of the importance of salt marshes and the part they play in sea defences.

Joyce Woodham is planning the future programme, but do feel free to talk to her or any of the committee if there is a particular subject you would like her to explore.

From the Editor

I have had to pull myself in from the garden during the week before publication. It has been beautifully warm, some will say hot, but putting pen to paper, should I say fingers to the keyboard, has been extremely difficult. I can live with the temperature but my plants in the garden look a little wilted.

Most will know the publication procedure but just a reminder, copy should be with me by the last Friday of the month preceding the month meeting. Some copy was a bit late this month. Please continue to send details by email to 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.

Diary of meetings, events, visits etc., as usual, can be found on the last page.

Heybridge U3A Meetings

The date of next meeting is Friday 10th July starting at the normal time of 14.00. in the Plantation Hall, Heybridge.

The speaker at the July meeting will be David Stephenson, the Head Teacher at Plume School. His talk is to be about the new initiatives in vocational courses which will be taught in the proposed building on Primrose Field.

In August, Brian Curtois will talk about the BBC. The talks in September and August will be about the Carers Centre at Brick House Farm and the Terracotta Warriors respectively

Notice Board

The Notice Board will again be at the front of the Hall during the monthly meeting and onto which notices can be attached. Do not forget that the News Sheet reaches all the Heybridge U3A members and you as a member can contribute.

From the Group Co-ordinator

For those of you who enjoy the company of friends and the pleasure of coffee, we now have a group for you. Margaret Brown has agreed to organise a regular coffee morning on the fourth Friday of each month, with the next meeting on 24th July. If you would like to join them, please contact Margaret at the July meeting.

Ruth is very keen to get a "Weekender" group started for those people who for various reasons find Saturdays and Sundays difficult and lonely. I am certain that several members will relate to this situation and welcome the opportunity of enjoying some companionship at weekends.

Competition: "Co-ordinator" – who wants it?

We are having a competition to select a more suitable title for the person who is the focus of our various **Interest Groups** to replace the pompous "co-ordinator".

A small prize awaits the author of the best suggestion. Please submit your alternative to **Peter** by email, phone, letter or chat. The choice will be announced at the August Meeting (14/08/09).

Group Names, Co-ordinator, Contact Telephone

Group Name	Co-ordinator	Telephone Number
Ballroom Dancing	Joint with Maldon Jo Robson *	* 01621 828236
Bird Watching	Maureen Lenoir	01621 869871
Coffee Morning	Margaret Brown	01621 854885
Gardening	Pat Yates	01621 892866
Local History	Carol Greenhalgh	01621 840339
Luncheon	Beth Jeffries	01621 853403
Painting	Michael Kempen	01621 892974
Scrabble	Ruth Tyler	01621 869865
Theatre	Viv Frostick	01621 858639
Walking	Elizabeth Eastwood	01621 850618
Woodturning	Peter Thorpe Joint with Blackwater U3A (Charlie Middleton)	01621 850828

Co-ordinators Needed

Co-ordinators are still needed for:

- Art
- Bridge
- Country Dancing
- Languages
- Marine and Coastal
- Music
- Photography
- Pilates
- Reading & Books
- Swimming
- Ten Pin Bowling
- Whist & Cards

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

Membership Cards have now been issued to all members for the year 2009 – 2010, If you, for any reason have not received your membership card, please speak to Lisbeth Bazzard.

If you are not a member and wish to join, please contact Lisbeth Bazzard on 01621 843208 or by email lisbethbazzard@talktalk.net You can also write to

her at 2, Silver Street, Maldon, Essex. CM9 4QE or speak to her at the monthly meeting.

From the Treasurer

There is nothing to report this month.

Secretary

There is nothing to report this month.

GROUP REPORTS

Bird Watching

We had a great time at Hanningfield Visitor Centre, It is a lovely area that the Essex Wildlife Trust has created there.

Again we saw the Geese, Ducks, Moorhen, Cormorant and Coot's. We expected this as the hides are placed overlooking the lake which were clearly signposted. All the time we were at Hanningfield we were surrounded by birdsong which was wonderful to hear but because the trees and bushes were covered in their summer foliage we couldn't see any of the birds. However we did identify some of their songs (we have some very knowledgeable members in the group). We enjoyed our visit and hope to go again when the trees and hedges are bare.

If you would like to join us the next get together is 24th July. 10.00 at The Fingringhoe Centre email Maureen at symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01621 896871 for details.

Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be on Friday 24th July at 11.00 at Margaret Clark's house (90 Crescent Rd, Heybridge). All of those who have included their names on the list will be contacted by me nearer the time to see if they will be joining us, unless I hear from them first. I can be contacted on 01621 854885.

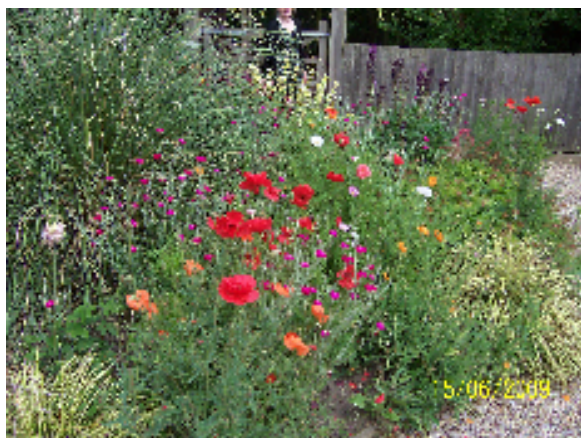
Computer Group

A most constructive meeting of those members who wish to form the "Computer Group". Our thanks go to Ian and Pat Newman who opened their house and hosted the meeting. Fifteen people of various levels of experience with computers attended and decisions were made as to the preferred format of group meetings. Peter Groves agreed to analyse Ian's detailed questionnaires, which had been completed by all present. Peter Thorpe agreed to continue with his initial contact with a local organisation SWANS regarding the possibility of using their facilities. Peggy Mackenzie agreed to assist Peter and to organise venues and meetings associated with SWANS once a satisfactory arrangement had been achieved. Maureen Baldwin agreed to be the link for members to

email with problems they were having using their computers and to compile a list for discussion at meetings. It was considered that this approach would best achieve the aims of the U3A by group members teaching and learning together. High hopes that this approach will result in a strong and useful interest group. I think that shared "leadership" may also be the format for getting other groups up and running.

The date for the next meeting will be on Wednesday 22nd July at 14.30. The venue will be at Margaret Clark's. Please ring Margaret on 01621 842878 to confirm your attendance and location of venue.

Gardening Group



We had another successful afternoon when we visited two gardens near Manningtree recently. The owners showed us round, and provided tea, and we couldn't disappoint them so we had two lots! (Well, some of us did anyway). Although thunderstorms were forecast they conveniently held off until we got home, so we had beautiful weather yet again. Can it last? Our next visit is on Monday July 27th at 2.30 pm, to Orchard Cottage in Rayleigh. More details from the garden visit programme, the Yellow Book or from me (Pat Yates) on 01621 892866 or pat.yates@tesco.net.

Advance notice for the meeting on Monday August 10th at 14.30 at Moverons, Brightlingsea CO7 0SB. A beautiful and peaceful country garden with stunning estuary views.

Local History

Visit to the Maldon Museum.

Thirteen Members of the Local History Group assembled in the warm sunshine in the Promenade Park, chatting quietly as they waited for 2.00 pm and the arrival of Paddy and Pam Lacey with the keys to the Museum. We were not disappointed - Paddy and Pam entertained and informed us with facts and anecdotes as they lovingly showed us the exhibits within. The delightful building was originally the Park Keepers house, but it had also been used as

apartments before its present use as a museum. The small rooms were able to be given themes and were full of every-day items from Victorian times through the war years and up to the recent past. Even though the museum is small, it is packed full of fascinating objects (all given by the people of Maldon) which are expertly displayed in settings showing how they were used. The major employers (now passed – Sadd's and Bentall's) had examples of their products and pictures of how their factories looked, together with some of the tools of their trade. Shops, hospitals, schools and homes, together with a splendid scale model of the impressive Maldon East station were also to be enjoyed.

This little gem is another source of information for those of us who are interested in studying the history of our town.

The July meeting will be 21 July at 14.00 at the Blue Boar. We will have a speaker for this. Could all who wish to come give their name to me or Sue Spero for this. We have to pay for the room so a charge will be made.

We need to get hold of a white board or flip chart and board at least for our July meeting. Can anyone help us with this? Please advise Sue Spero or Carol Greenhalgh if you are able to help.

Luncheon Group

On Friday 3rd July we are going to Southend for Lunch at The Roslin. This lunch should have taken place by the time you read this News Sheet.

We have had two lunches so far and everyone seems to have enjoyed them. The next luncheon dates will be Tuesday 21st July, and Thursday 6th August. Venues to be posted on notice board at the next meeting Friday 10th July.

Anyone wishing to join us and not attending the monthly meeting, please ring Beth on 01621 853403.

Scrabble

Our scrabble players continue to enjoy their monthly game sessions. Unfortunately I, Ruth Tyler, was unable to host the June meeting, but Elizabeth Eastwood stepped in and had a small group at her home. Thank you Elizabeth. I really am the phantom co-ordinator, as I haven't been able to attend one meeting yet!! The July meeting has already taken place, as it fell on the 1st, and Beryl Claydon tells me they had a particularly pleasant afternoon, with five players. These are non-competitive, fun games, and we really would like just a few more players. Please contact me if you would like to join us.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 5th August at 14.00 at Elizabeth Eastwood's house. Telephone 01621 850618. {Please note the earlier permanent starting time of 14.00 hours.}

The following month will be Wednesday 2nd September at Pam Archer's house. Telephone 01621 815379.

Please ring the hostess of few days prior to all meetings.

Threads and Fabrics

We (Anne Thorpe and Pat Newman) hope to make this a group for people who like to make things, decorative or useful; using cotton, silks, wool or any other yarn, by hand. If you already enjoy, or want to try embroidery, knitting, crochet, macramé, patchwork or anything else you fancy; join our self-help, skill sharing group.

We are proposing to have our initial meeting on Tuesday 7th July at 14.00. The venue will be at Pat Newman's house.

Phone Anne on 01621 850828 or Pat on 01621 891184 to confirm attendance and venue details.

Walking

Our June walk took place on the 11th, a perfect warm Thursday afternoon. We met at the Paper Mill lock in Little Baddow and followed the canal and then the River Ter, looping back across fields (public footpaths cunningly hidden by farmer!) to our starting point. A most enjoyable outing, made all the more enjoyable by being able to consume tea and cake at the tearooms by the car park on our return.

The next outing will be Thurs 13 August (no July walk, myself and others otherwise occupied) to complete the other half of the 'two rivers walk. We will meet again at the Paper Mill Lock car park Little Baddow at 2:00 pm to follow the canal in the opposite direction to Boreham and back across country. All welcome, please contact Elizabeth on 01621 850618 if transport required

Woodturning Group

It is unlikely that this group will survive for much longer. If you have experience in the delights of woodturning; have a lathe; or are seriously considering buying (or otherwise acquiring) a lathe

and are interested in sharing your interest please contact Peter Thorpe.

Tea and Coffee Rota

The following people will be preparing the Tea and Coffee for the monthly meetings:

July: Velma Howchie and Anne Thorpe

August: Brenda Dewar and Audrey Coulson

Any additional helpers would be appreciated.

Thank you to all the above from all the Heybridge U3A members.

Letters to the Editor

12.06.09

Dear Editor

To me, U3A means spending interesting time with like-minded people learning new skills and improving old ones. On Fridays, the Painting Group is a delight – a relaxed workshop comprising different skills and abilities.

Once a month, Bird Watching sees us out in the fresh air, observing and learning together. Great venues so far! Also monthly, visiting beautiful gardens is very popular, proving some inspiration for our own efforts – not to mention the delicious cakes!

Being a Scrabble freak, I enjoy our friendly, monthly meetings and we always learn a new word or two.

Many thanks to our reliant Committee and all the co-ordinators.

Yours sincerely,

Lois Wilmot.

Members HELP

Your views and input are needed for all future editions of the news sheet. This can be in the form of reports about activities undertaken, activities to come, letters to the Editor or anything else that you think may interest other members.

Disclaimer

This News Sheet is produced by the Heybridge U3A. The views expressed in this news sheet are not necessarily those of the U3A. The U3A accept no liability for the accuracy of its contents.

Program of Meetings and Visits

Week Commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6 th July	6	7 Threads and Fabrics 14.00	8	9 No Walking this month	10 Monthly Meeting 14.00	11	12
13 th July	13	14	15	16	17 Painting 14.00	18	19
20 th July	20	21 Woodturning 10.00 Luncheon Group Local History 14.00	22 Computer Group 14.30	23	24 Bird Watching 10.00 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00	25	26
27 th July	27 Gardening Orchard Cottage 14.30	28	29	30	31 Painting 14.00 Submit News Sheet text	1	2
3 rd August	3	4	5 Scrabble 14.00	6 Luncheon Group	7 Painting 14.00	8	9
10 th August	10 Gardening Merons 14.30	11	12	13 Walking 14.00	14 Monthly Meeting 14.00	15	16
17 th August	17	18 Woodturning 10.00 Local History 14.00	19	20	21 Painting 14.00	22	23
24 th August	24	25	26 Computer Group 14.30	27	28 Bird Watching 10.00 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00	29	30
31 st August	31	1	2 Scrabble 14.00	3	4 Painting 14.00	5	6

For details see articles and co-ordinators above.