

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

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

# Heybridge U3A News Sheet No. 2012/7 July 2012

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

# From the Chairman

I do not understand how it can be the time for me to write some more notes for the News Sheet. Today is almost mid-summer and I am enjoying some rare, but warm, sunshine as I scribble a few words in the garden.

The committee decided (following the suggestion by Gill Thorne, our Interest Groups Co-ordinator) that we should arrange a little meeting at Tom's Tea Rooms (on the road to Tiptree) with our CoGs. The idea was to say "thanks", on your behalf, for all the hard work that they so willingly do in organising the meetings and events offered to our members. The longer I am in this U3A, the more I appreciate what a friendly group of people we are. A cup of coffee and a slice of cake is all it takes to start many conversations going (simultaneously!). The time passed all too quickly and what an enjoyable couple of hours they were; thanks Gill.

I am still amazed at how many people of our age (and those a little younger) who have no idea what the U3A is or what it offers to it's members. One of our newer members (already a CoG) told me that he used to think that the "U3A" sounded like a religious sect – until he joined us and became "truly enlightened". I apologise for repeating myself, but the U3A is unique, because it's members are free to form an interest group for any topic they choose. Most other clubs only cater for a single interest – such as golf or a choir. In the U3A you can enjoy sharing a wide variety of interests but, with the same friends.



Hylands - East Façade; Author – Peter Thorpe

We were lucky to have Ceri Lowen visit us as our speaker at the June meeting. Ceri's excellent talk on the History of Hylands House was fascinating and was presented in a professional, but easy, style. She illustrated her talk with "real slides" and demonstrated her deep knowledge of the house and of the many wealthy owners who had lived there. Her passion for Hylands House was obvious (she is currently responsible for it's safe keeping, restoration and use on behalf of the present owner – The City of Chelmsford). The smaller original red brick house remains inside the current building, which has been constantly enlarged over the centuries. The military owned it for a while and it is possible that they left an interesting legacy - caches of munitions that could still be buried in the grounds, so take care when poking around as you walk through the trees!

I look forward to being with you all again at our next meeting on Friday July 13<sup>th</sup> when we look forward to being entertained by students from the Plume school.

Email thorpe101@btinternet.com or phone 01621 850828.

Peter Thorpe.

#### From the Editor

I would like to draw your attention to page 7 of the News Sheet where there are a number of articles that are associated with U3A members and, if interested, please speak with the contributors.

The Diary on the last page has been updated to the end of August 2012. Please keep me up to date with any interesting stories, relevant pictures or anything that relates to The Heybridge U3A or the U3A movement as a whole. 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. Printed copies will be available, as usual, at each Monthly Meeting.

Email <u>ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk</u> or phone 01621 891184

lan Newman.

#### **Membership Secretary**

We were pleased to welcome one new member in June, giving us a current membership of 154.

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 jennyparker14@hotmail.com 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		
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		
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		

# Heybridge U3A Monthly Meetings

The next Monthly Meeting is on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July starting at the normal time of 14.00, in the Plantation Hall, Heybridge. This month we have a dramatic presentation by Plume School Drama Department.

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

- August 2012: Stow Maries WW1 Airfield. presentation
- September 2012: Chris Thornton, Local History.

- October 2012: Mike Logan, Auctioneer.
- November 2012: Journeys to Antarctica by Roger Slade
- December 2012: Lynda Scoles with 'God rest ye Merry?'

# From the COGCo (Group Co-ordinator)

Would someone please tell me where the days and weeks are going? It is five weeks since my last article and I had to read my diary to see what I have done, i.e. a regular coffee morning, a visit to Woodlands with Weekenders, a lunch, a Computer Group session, a garden visit and a scrabble game. We also had a CoGs coffee morning as a thank you. However, the highlight for me was a visit to a vineyard at Boxted where, after walking round the growing vines, and a tasting, we sat outside on the terrace with wine glasses in hands, eating a delicious picnic supplied by Jackie and Maggie. It was the best weather that day and very restful sitting in the sun overlooking a lake. Thank you so much.

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

Gill Thorne.

#### REPORTS

# Art (Painting) Group

June saw two tutoring visits to the Heybridge painters by watercolour artist Jenny French from Maldon. Jenny is pictured here at the June 22<sup>nd</sup> session in the Claydon Room, demonstrating her technique for painting boats moored in water.



It has to be said, water is not the easiest of subjects to portray. However, most members coped admirably and all their efforts showed the effects of light and movement on water in interesting and different ways.

During a quieter June session, while various members were away on holiday, we found spare chairs for two visitors, Pat and Tomiko, both curious to see how we spend our Friday afternoons!

Article by Gill Carpenter

For information about the group:

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

Michael Kempen

#### **Bird Watching Group**

We went to Abberton Reservoir for our last meeting before we take a break for the summer. It was a cold morning as we started out for the first hide which was in the area that has the Owl boxes. We did see a large bird leave the box but it didn't look like an Owl. We stayed around for a time but left still not sure if it was an Owl we had seen.



As we walked along the pathway to the next hide we had the Skylarks all around us and it was wonderful to see a posing baby Skylark.

Skylark on a stick:

Author; Jill McGregor

It was quite a walk and, apart from the Skylarks, we only saw Gold Finches and a solitary Crow.

As we approached the hide, which overlooked the water, we hoped, like us, the Ducks and Waders would brave the cold and windy weather and they did. The water was choppy with spray hiding the smaller Ducks from view. The more we watched the more we realised there was lots to see. There were large groups of Greylag and Canada Geese, one with six young in tow. A Heron flew along the waters edge before he settled down to catch his lunch. The Little Terns were hard to see as they spend time under the water but were also hidden by the height of the waves.

We decided to finish early and enjoy a hot drink and wonderful cakes at the Gallery Tearoom at Birch. Well worth a visit.

Our next meeting will be on the 28<sup>th</sup> September; hope to see you then. Have a great summer.

For further information, email <u>symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk</u> or phone 01621 869871.

Maureen.

#### **Computer Group**

The computer group met in the Claydon room in Plantation Hall. There were eleven members including two new ladies, Pat and Joan. We started the afternoon discussing our contribution to the Heybridge U3A web site and all agreed a picture of an open lap top would be a very iconic image of the computer group. It was a very lively and busy afternoon with some of our more experienced members helping our new members with their laptops.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July in the Claydon Room at 14.00. We aim to have a short introduction to Power Point and the uses of e mail.

If you would like to learn any more on these subjects or just increase your overall knowledge of your computer please come and join us. For further information: Email tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk or phone 01621 858635.

#### Tina Abeysekera

#### **Coastal and Marine Group**

What a fantastic day we had aboard Centaur, out on the Blackwater for over twelve hours and the time just sailed by! Centaur is a magnificent barge owned, and sailed, by the Thames Sailing Barge Trust and, on that Wednesday, it was just for us! We were shown the ropes and encouraged to join in and "help" to sail this gentle giant. This included the hauling up and down of the sails and steering the barge. We were very fortunate with the weather, although it felt as though we could have touched the Bradwell Barrier before we saw it through the mist. However, we did see a porpoise and a seal! By the time we dropped the anchor for lunch it was hot enough to sunbathe but, as we headed for home, precipitation was in sight! We have Pat, Jane and Janet to thank for a constant supply of tea, coffee etc. I think I can say that the day was a great success and a pleasure to be the guests of Centaur.

Unfortunately, the visit to the historic Dockyard at Chatham on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June has been cancelled due to lack of interest. Perhaps there will be more enthusiasm for our lazy day at the Naze, (Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July) although I am sure that the weather will decide whether to go or not! A crossing on the "Mersea" ferry is planned for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> August, more information next month or just telephone me.

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

Brenda Dewar.

#### Creative Writing Group

A small but lively meeting heard a selection of stories and autobiographical pieces. One story in particular made us all gasp and started a discussion about what we had each taken from the tale. It made me realise how a story can stimulate the imagination in a way that television or film does not.

We agreed that, in future, we would talk more about the writing process, to help us develop our skills. Towards this aim, we set the project for the month as a descriptive piece. This could be about a known place, object or person, or something imagined. The object is to paint a picture with words.

The next meeting is Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July, 14:30 at my house. If you would like to join the group please let me know. It is not necessary to write something every month!

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

#### Angela Pleasance

#### **Discussion Coffee Morning Group**

We met on the 15<sup>th</sup> June at Margaret Clark's house. She was, as usual, a perfect host and produced delicious home made rock cakes. Our next get together will be at 11.00 on

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July at my house. Details will be available at the next monthly meeting.

Email <u>mbandmeg@btinternet.com</u> or phone 01621 854885.

Margaret Brown.

#### Family History Group

A productive meeting was held in June. Dorothy & Jackie both came with problems. After much discussion, and suggestions from Marjorie & Angela after using the Ancestry and Free BMD websites, Dorothy had lots more ideas to investigate. Jackie's problem proved a little more difficult. Jackie showed us the "Life Story" her father had written, which was very interesting. We also talked about keeping records of ALL our investigations so that we do not keep repeating ourselves, which is so easy. Our next meeting will be Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July at my house 10.30 to 12.30 as usual.

Email lesleypommy@hotmail.com or phone 01621 817733.

Lesley Pomphrett.

#### **French Conversation Group**

Five of us met up on the second Wednesday morning in June, when the conversation flowed, sometimes staggered with much use of dictionaries and occasional repetition in English when the concepts became tangled. The Jubilee Celebrations were still on our minds, especially the boats that had gone up to London from this area. I am still not sure if a sailing barge is a "péniche", in French or not. Our other topic of conversation was education and the problem of bullying. Appropriately, the word for bully in French is "brute". The meeting was not as organised as when Jenny is with us as we ended up paddling out of our depths a few times, but it certainly increased our vocabulary. Next month, personally I am looking forward to our normal more structured format, although our June meeting was fun.

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

Report: Pat Newman

For further information please:

Email jennyparker14@hotmail.com or phone me on 01621 843581.

Jenny Parker.

#### **Gardening Group**

Below: Peony at Shrubs Farm: Author - Linda Etherton



Shrubs Farm was a delightful place to spend an afternoon/evening outing, the owners had gone to a great deal of effort to make it enjoyable and informative for us. As well as the garden there were many acres

of meadowland and woodland devoted to providing a natural habitat for wildlife and for their many grandchildren, lucky kids! The owner has planted many different kinds of oak trees, mostly grown from acorns, and we were surprised at how quickly they had grown. Black skies threatened in the morning but, soon after we arrived, the sun came out and it couldn't have been nicer.

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

Pat Yates.

#### **Italian Conversation**

The Beginner's Italian Conversation Group met on the 30th May, a few days earlier than usual, so that those who wanted to could follow the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. As Gill had not long returned from a holiday in Italy, she told us about her time there and the chances she had had to use her Italian. She brought back some delicious 'pasticini', which we enjoyed when we had a cup of coffee. After that we did a rather more challenging task of trying to match up a list of various adjectives and adverbs in Italian with a list of English translations. We also read through a short story to familiarize ourselves with the use of two of the past tenses used in Italian.

The Beginner's Italian Group will meet on the first Monday of the month.

The Advanced Italian Conversation Group met on Monday 25th June, and we managed to spend a good deal of the time speaking in Italian. To start the meeting we all took turns at saying what we'd been up to since the previous meeting, which is always a good way at loosening up the tongue and waking up the mind. After that, we read out and translated an article that spoke about the Islands around Sicily and how Italians tend to be very 'parochial' in their allegiance rather than 'National', (except for when it comes to football). An Italian would generally say he is a Roman, a Venetian, Neapolitan etc, then that he is from Lazio, Veneto, Campania etc, and only then would say he is Italian. After the rather taxing translation we worked on a slightly more relaxing scenario of a conversation with a barman in a hotel, supplying suitable responses to the barman's remarks.

The Advanced Italian Conversation Group will next meet on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

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

Janice Slight.

#### Local History Group (LHG)

We are looking forward to our July meeting when we shall be having a guided walk with local historian Stephen Nunn. Please note the start time for this visit is 18.00 (6 p.m.) yes, an evening outing!

There will not now be a meeting in August.

There are still places if you would like to join us on our visit to Layer Marney Tower in September. Please see Gill Carpenter at the July Monthly Meeting or email Carol who will get back to you on return from holiday. In June, we had an interesting visit to Hollytrees in Colchester. This was a free visit to a fascinating museum, with excellent displays, in a beautiful Georgian town house. It was a bit disconcerting to find several exhibits that we remember being used at home in our younger days! As we finished at Hollytrees, we drifted over to take a look at the Firstsite building [sometimes known as the Banana!]. This is somewhat of a contrast to Hollytrees and drew varying comments from our group, but you can get good coffee there!

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

#### Carol Greenhalgh

#### Luncheon Group

For our June meeting, nine of us ate at the Chequers in Goldhanger. This included one new member, Roy, who was made most welcome.

The menu was extensive and included a large range of starters, mains, sweets and a good vegetarian section. However, one drawback is you have to walk round most of the pub looking at the different menus on various walls to see all of them. The food came out in good time, was tasty and good value for money. I thought, the only complaint, on which we all agreed, was that the portions were on the large side. We all had a good chat and left in good spirits.

The next luncheon will be at the Chequers in Wickham Bishops CM8 3NN on 27<sup>th</sup> July at 12.30. Get there early as the car park is quite small, looking forward to seeing everybody there.

An advance note for your diaries

I know this might seem a bit premature but the Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch will be at the Chequers in Goldhanger on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December. The time, menus and costs will follow later.

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

Dave Mason.

#### **Petanque Group**

Last Monday, in between all the wind and rain we have had recently, we had a lovely afternoon with perfect weather. We had several members return from holidays, and a new member, so we had a full complement of 12, which made three matches of four doubles players. It was very exciting in places and a good time was had by all. By the time you read this we will have had two chances of good weather and will be well into July. We will be arranging a match against Blackwater in September so with July and August ahead we should have two months to practise and hone our skills.

In spite of the recent horrible weather, we had a lovely day on the following Monday and enjoyed our petanque in Heybridge Basin. We had two very exciting games followed by a Raclette tea party in the garden where we ate a very satisfying two course meal. We made sure that everyone knows about the study day and hope that most of us will apply. After several hours of chatting we made our way home and wish to thank our hosts for a lovely afternoon.

The District Council installed a lovely long bench right beside the Petanque Terrain so anyone who is free on Monday afternoons may come and watch and we will be glad to see you.



Author Jenny parker

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

Barbara Barbrook.

#### Photography Group

We were discussing photographic composition at our June meeting. Once again, we considered the question: "Is photography art or science?" This time we examined the art side of the question and considered why some photographs appeal to us more than others.

We have previously looked at the technicalities of creating a correctly exposed and focused photograph. We have also agreed that modern digital cameras, set to "auto", are generally good at making these technical adjustments. The more difficult "art" is deciding when to press the button and, that final responsibility always remains with the photographer. Some people have a natural flare for seeing a good shot and need no guidance. Others can produce attractive photographs once they have learned about the established "rules of composition". The analogy is with grammar. A piece of writing is easier to read if it has been correctly written (I am on dangerous ground here!).

Our next assignment is to create one photograph, which we consider to be attractive to look at because of the way that we have composed it.

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

Email <u>thorpe101@btinternet.com</u> or phone 01621 850828.

Peter Thorpe.

#### **Reading and Books Group**

This month we had our meeting on one of the rare sunny days which cheered us all up.

This month's book was The Child Inside by Suzanne Bugler. As a teenager, Rachel lived through the tragic death of a friend and discovered that even the most enchanted of lives can be shattered. When tragedy strikes her own life as an adult, and she loses her unborn child, Rachel ought to turn to her husband for support. However, in trying to protect one another, she and her husband end up further apart than ever and Rachel finds herself resentful and lonely. Haunted by the past, she contacts the brother of her old friend and the two of them are drawn into a dangerous and destructive affair. Betrayal comes at a high price and having lost one child how can she bear to lose another.

This was supposed to be a gripping psychological thriller, but it was not. We agreed and, indeed, some of us lost patience with the story line and the characters and did not finish the book. Overall, it was considered a somewhat trite and shallow story with not enough depth and substance to it. Written for popular appeal and not really worth the effort required to read it was the overall opinion of the group.

We have space for two more members in our group so if anybody wishes to join us please contact Ann Lees.

The next group takes place at Plantation Hall Heybridge on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 14.30.

Ann Lees.

Email: annlees@yahoo.com or phone 01245 225153

#### Scrabble Group

We had a quiet but enjoyable afternoon at Scrabble this month; due I am sure to the lovely sunny day.

We meet next on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July, and all are welcome.

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

#### Ruth Tyler

#### **Technical Computing Group**

The latest meeting took place at my house on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> June. A detailed discussion took place by the members to agree on the layout of our page within the Heybridge U3A web pages. Peter who, I think we all agree made an excellent job, subsequently uploaded the result onto the web site. We commenced discussing various aspects of routers, their use and the method of access to the set-up pages via a web browser. It was suggested that a more in depth review of these, and other items of computer equipment, will form the basis of our discussions at the next meeting which will be on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July.

Email <u>colin@mason20.wanadoo.co.uk</u> or phone 01621 854906. Colin Mason

#### **Ten Pin Bowling**

Due to many people being on holiday, only seven of us (including one new member) played at the June session.

We had three and four of us in two groups playing three games each. A good time was had by all with quite a few strikes and several spares. The next game is on Tuesday  $10^{th}$  July at the usual time of 13.45 for 14.00.

Gill Thorne.

Email lettsnooks@talktalk.net or phone 01621 879697.

Janette Lett.

#### **Threads and Fabrics Group**

As we met on the second day of the June Bank Holiday we were in festive mood, despite the wet weather. Our mood was enhanced by the Jubilee themed items that we had been challenged to make to take to the meeting. They



ranged between the highly practical (cushion covers, a peg bag and a sewing kit) to the simply fun (badges and the most nattilv dressed teddv bear that I have seen in a long time), all in red, white and blue.

Colourful Jubilee: Author - Gill Carpenter

As the photo shows, our members produced a display of work to be proud of to celebrate a truly Royal event, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Thank you everyone.

If anyone is interested in joining us please contact Anne Thorpe or Pat Newman.

Anne by Email <u>anne.thorpe@btinternet.com</u> or phone 01621 850828.

Or Pat by Email <u>ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk</u> or phone 01621 891184.

#### Walking Group

Given the muddy conditions underfoot, and having been interested by the talk on Hylands House at the Monthly Meeting, we decided to switch the planned June walk to Hylands Park.

A dozen or so of us met at the Writtle Road car park and followed the lower estate walk along the gravelled paths, through the south wood and along the lower belt. This was a little muddy in places so we found a higher path that was drier underfoot. The tracks took us around part of the perimeter and past the impressive Hylands House to the stables centre where we adjourned for the obligatory tea break before continuing past the flint cottage back to the car park after another most enjoyable outing.

As I am now not able to drive out to check car parking, I propose our next walk be from paper mill lock, where I know there is ample parking available. We will follow the 'Worlds End and Damases' Lane ' walk, around 4 miles.

We will meet at the Paper Mills car park at 14.00 on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July. Please let me know if you can join us and if you can share or need transport.

Email e.m.e@talktalk.net or phone 01621 850618.

#### Elizabeth

#### Weekenders Group

There is not much to report this month only that we have tried out a couple of new venues for our coffee mornings and particularly liked Woodland Tea Rooms. I would like to thank Gill for organising the COG event there, it was a great success and gave the opportunity to meet everyone perhaps not known to some of us and to have some lovely cake and a good chat. Please repeat! I have sent emails to the Weekenders who are going to Whitstable and Herne Bay on the 24<sup>th</sup> July to let me have the £16.50 at the U3A meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>, either in cash or cheque made out to Stan's Coaches, so this is just a final reminder.

Dates for your Diary

- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July at The Lock Café;
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August at Oliver's Nursery;

Email mars42@btinternet.com or phone 01621 817518.

Marilyn Corbett.

#### Wine Appreciation Group

Luckily, the sun shone on our tour of Carters Vineyard in June and after our stroll round the vines we were given the opportunity to taste and/or buy some of the wine produced in Boxted. We then enjoyed a picnic in the garden overlooking the lake. Before we left, we purchased a bottle of their award winning sparkling wine, which we plan to drink at our next meeting. This will be on Wednesday 18th July, at my house in Tiptree. We will be learning about Berry Brothers, one of the oldest and finest wine merchants in the world. We will discover how they choose the wines and run their business making contacts throughout the world from the vineyards of Burgandy and Bordeaux to the troubled landscape of South Africa. This will be followed by a bbq in my garden (or indoor food if raining). New members welcome.

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

Jackie Jones.

#### From Dave Mason - Solo Whist

It has recently come to my attention that there is interest in playing solo whist. I have, therefore, tentatively booked a date of the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in the month starting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October from 14.00 to 16.00. There will be a sheet about it on the table at the next Monthly Meeting. Anyone who is interested in playing or learning to play, please put your name down.

# "In and around Heybridge in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries" by Beryl Claydon

Beryl's book will be on sale from Hills of Heybridge and at the Museum of Power in Langford from Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July priced £15.

#### From Maldon U3A

"Can we do it? Yes we can!" The Maldon U3A, Sing for Pleasure Group has been taking Bob the Builder's motto on board for the last few sessions. Our very able Co-ordinator, Sylvia Carpenter, has had family priorities taking her away from us. While we very much look forward to welcoming her back, we have proved we don't fall apart when left to our own devices.

Our next session on July 6<sup>th</sup> will be our last before we take a break for the summer. We shall be back in the Claydon Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday (10.00 to 12.00) starting in September. Sylvia Carpenter can answer any queries and confirm the dates when the room has been booked. The invitation stands so come and give Sing for Pleasure a try!

For Sylvia phone 01621 854905 or:

Email <u>angelamaldon@hotmail.com</u> or phone 01621 850764. - Angela Smith

#### The Essex Association of U3As Study Day.

The Study Day will be at The Plume School, Maldon on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012 at a cost of £10 for the day.

Final information and Booking Forms have been issued by email (Hard copies available at the July Monthly Meeting). The deadline for applications on 15<sup>th</sup> September.

For further information, please contact Ian Newman.

Email ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk or phone 01621 891184

or Joyce Woodham.

Email <u>woodham359@btinternet.com</u> or phone 01621 841066

#### On the Notice Board

Due to lack of space the Notice Board items have been reduced to a simple list.

- 2012 U3A AGM is to be held at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester on September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.
- The U3A has joined with the Royal Geographical Society to organise a competition relating to walking and learning about our landscape titled 'Discovering Britain'.

For more information contact me, or see the notice board.

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

#### From a Heybridge U3A Member

Cruise Holidays; Would any lady like to join me on a Cruise Holiday in the future. My name is Jean Murray and can be contacted on 01621 842718 or email; <u>murray.j@live.co.uk</u>

# Diary of Meetings and Visits.

For details see articles and co-ordinators above.

Week Commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9th July	9 Petanque 14.00	10 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	11 French Conversation 10.00	12 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	13 Monthly Meeting 14.00	14	15
16th July	16 Petanque 14.00	17 Local History (See text)	18 Wine Tasting 14.00 Book Group 14.30	19 Computer 14.00	20 Painting 14.00 Coffee Morning 11.00 Coastal and Marine	21 Weekender Coffee at the Lock Café 10.00	22
23rd July	23 Petanque 14.00 Advanced Italian 10.00	24 Scrabble 14.00 Weekender Whitstable	25 Creative Writing Group 14.30	26 Family History 10.30	27 News Sheet Copy to Editor Painting 14.00 Luncheon 12.30	28	29
30th July	30 Petanque 14.00	31	1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	2 Photography 14.00	3 Committee Meeting Painting 14.00	4	5
6th August	6 Petanque 14.00 Beginners Italian 10.00 Gardening 14.00	7 Threads 14.00	8 French Conversation 10.00	9 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	10 Monthly Meeting 14.00	11 Weekender Coffee at Oliver's Nursery 10.00	12
13th August	13 Petanque 14.00	14 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	15 Wine Tasting 14.00 Book Group 14.30	16 Computer 14.00	17 Painting 14.00 Coffee Morning 11.00 Coastal and Marine	18	19
20th August	20 Petanque 14.00	21	22 Creative Writing Group 14.30	23 Family History 10.30	24 Painting 14.00 Luncheon 13.00	25	26
27th August	27 No Petanque	28 Scrabble 14.00	29	30	31 News Sheet Copy to Editor Painting 14.00	1 <sup>st</sup> September	2