



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Heybridge U3A

News Sheet No. 6/2015

July 2015








<http://www.heybridgeu3a.org.uk>

Registered charity number 1160360

Your Committee

**We still have vacancies for
Vice Chair & Coordinator of COGs.
Speak to a Committee member if
you are interested.**

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New Groups!!!

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NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

From the Chairman

The June monthly meeting was quite unlike anything that we have had before. We celebrated Magna Carta in our very own way. Some members of the committee got together and gave us, not only loads of facts, but we had a recitation and an interactive video. The whole presentation ticked all the right boxes for a U3A activity. Our own members did the research, gathered the facts together, made them a cohesive, entertaining whole and presented the information with panache. It was great fun and very much a 'first' for us. I do not recall a monthly meeting which involved the whole audience so well and had us in fits of laughter. Thank you so much, Linda, Jenny and Pat and all those who gave extra pieces of information and suggestions.

If any members feel that they would like to do such a presentation on any topic of their choice, we would be delighted. Perhaps the new music groups could get together?

Today, 29th June, I met with the Chairs of the other three U3As in Maldon. It was a very useful meeting and we shall continue to cooperate and share information. Two of the Chairmen had only recently been elected and so it was good that we could talk about the various skills that our members possess. We all would still like to make use of the Plume facilities, particularly the use of the computer suite. We shall pursue that as a shared facility.

There was also a feeling that, as an organisation we should not only publicise ourselves more actively, but we should also consider older people who may be lonely.

As these ideas become facts, I will share them with you.

Joyce Woodham

Chairman Heybridge U3A

From the Editor

The design of the Heybridge U3A News Sheet and the reports that it contains continues as full-page layout. Information about the Committee Members and their reports can be found in the first few pages with a contents column, to aid in finding the parts which you wish to read first, on page 1. The back page (p16) shows the Diary for the months of July and August.

Please keep the Editor up to date with any interesting stories, relevant pictures or anything that relates to the Heybridge U3A, the Association of Essex U3As or the U3A movement as a whole. Please send details to me by email with 'Heybridge U3A' in the title

Contact me, Geoff Hadley, on any issue raised in the News Sheet by phone 01621 852494 or by

Email editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Membership Secretary

We were pleased to welcome one new member in June. New members are always welcome. If you are not a member and would like to find out more about Heybridge U3A, you are welcome to attend a monthly meeting (held in the Plantation Hall at 14.00 on the 2nd Friday of each month) as a guest. There is no need to book – just turn up and sign in.

For any queries relating to membership, please email membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

Future Heybridge U3A Monthly Meetings

For Friday 10th July Ralph Springett, a shipwright and carpenter, who has, and continues to work on Carol Greenhalgh's barge, is coming to talk to us about some of his experiences with *The Emergency Disaster Team* including the Japanese Tsunami disaster.

John W Harrison: phone 01621 854851 or Email speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Events Secretary

Planned Events

- Friday 17th July, a trip to Audley End House and Gardens.
- Sunday 19th July. An Elizabethan Musical Extravaganza at Layer Marney Tower.
- Wednesday 5th August. A chance to see "Annie" at the Cliffs Pavilion, Southend, with Boon's coaches.
- Sunday 20th September 2015, a trip to the Royal Dockyards at Chatham, on their 'Back to the 40s' weekend – with Lodge Coaches.
- Wednesday 21st October, a day trip to Bletchley Park.
- **NEW!** Wednesday 18th November -.a social evening with fish & chips.
- **NEW!** Tuesday 2nd February 2016. See 'Jersey Boys' at the Piccadilly Theatre London.

Please see page 13 for further details

GROUP REPORTS

Art (Painting) Group

The end of June's extreme heat failed to distract those keen Friday painters meeting in a clammier than usual Claydon Room.

If anything, blooming June has brought forth many a gardenful of inspiration in the form of giant roses, ripe strawberries and all manner of horticultural lusciousness.

Maybe we should dedicate one Friday afternoon in July to recording in paint the results of our collective green-fingered talent.

Watercolours or acrylics would serve equally well.

Come on chaps, give it a go!

For information about the group contact, Michael Kempen: Email m.kempen159@btinternet.com or Phone 01621 892974.

Ballroom & Latin Dancing Group

Our faithful duo were the only attendees today (26th June 2015), who are making very good progress now in the Waltz and Tango. Today is the last meet until September 25th, by which time other U3A's in our area will have received our invite for their members to join us. Indications are that we will have to put a cap on numbers.

Those of Heybridge U3A who are interested in joining us again please let us know by the end of July, thereafter we will prioritise other U3A's.

Thank you

Gloria and Alf

Alf Bell. Email dossod@fsmail.net or phone 01621 840158

Bird Watching Group

This month we parked at the Abberton Visitor Centre and walked the new circular route that joins the two causeways about 3 ½ miles and enjoyed by us all.

On the walk over the fields we saw Goldfinch, Yellowhammer and Reed Bunting. There were also Skylarks singing way above us.

When we arrived at Layer Breton causeway, we had so much to see, a large group of Canada Geese, Swans, Shovellers, Tern and Lapwing. There were lots of Egyptian geese and some rare Swan geese and, very rare around here, a Red Crested Pochard. We were told there are only three on the water here so it was great to be able to add a sighting to our list.



We watched a fox walk along by the edge of the water in front of these three large birds Jill was able to take this lovely picture of the Little Egret, Heron and a Cormorant with his wings drying in the sun.

Next month we are going to visit Heybridge Basin. If you are interested to join us email symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01261 869871.

New Bridge Club

If you would like to join this new group, please contact

Elizabeth Eastwood E-mail e.m.e@talktalk.net

Cards and Paper Crafts

The next meeting is 5th August at 14:00

Please contact Lesley for details. Phone 01621 858135 e-mail Lindawoonton@sky.com

Computer Group

I am pleased to report that we have had further new members join the group this month. Their interests and knowledge are quite varied. A couple of people came specifically to hear and talk about tablets, iplayers and the like. However, even with the increase in numbers, the subscription will need to stay at £7 for the third quarter of 2015. Those who had previously been members were asked to pay £3 for this session. All new members to the Computer Group have not been charged for attending their first Computer Group Meeting, as in the past. It is hoped that we will encourage attendance of those who are only interested in one topic or subject associated with one meeting to attend that meeting when a single £3 subscription will be requested. For existing members of the Computer Group it will still be cheaper to pay quarterly and if the numbers go up then the cost to these members will also go down.

Following the Computer Group June Meeting, we advertised at the Heybridge U3A Monthly Meeting using a single sheet flyer, which provided details about the group. A presentation was produced and given by Colin Mason, on the topics related to the many mobile forms of communication and computer use that we know as the Tablet / iPad. A report on that presentation can be found in a following paragraph.

The existing Computer Group Members do not want to lose the Laptop part of the Group Meeting. This will be reflected in the topics that will be covered at each of our forthcoming meetings where we will try and cover the pros and cons of the different types of communication hardware and software as it relates to the subject in hand. The inclusion of this new aspect of communication and new subjects can be and are sometimes new to me and your help in the one to one after the coffee interlude is proving to be in the true ethos of the U3A Movement. My thanks go to these group members.

If you as a user or potential user (thinking of buying one) of tablets, iplayers and the like, would like a specific subject or problems covered and can either help or would like to attend, please contact me.

As part of the initiative proposed last month we had a short talk on the Tablets/iPads at our June meeting. The following is a summary of that meeting.

Introductory Talk on Tablets, iPlayers, etc.

Given at the June Meeting

By Colin Mason

He had brought with him a number of different type of tablets / iplayers that he has and together with those brought to the meeting by group members we were able to show quite a varied collection. Colin then went on to explain the differences between the Operating System (Ios, Android, Hudle (Tesco), Windows, (etc.). The similarities and differences of the different operating systems were identified. In addition, tablets are more portable, can be used anywhere (with a mobile or Wi-Fi Connection), take photographs (forward looking for Photographs and facing the user for video calls such as Skype and view them on a large screen). Usually there are limited external connections and no provision for hardware such as DVD Drives. Nearly everything is down loaded from the internet. You can still deal with your emails and they can be stored longer term on your PC or your laptop. Some can have mobile phone facilities. Memory can be expanded and games, reading, writing or other forms of self-expression can be part of the tablet's repertoire. The terminology is different. Programs are called Apps and there are thousands available with a large number free. The normal costs for a new tablet, ipad etc., range from £75/£100 up to £500 but some even exceed £1,000. They are cheaper than the equivalent laptop with the Apple brand being quite a

bit more expensive but to a slightly higher specification to those produced by manufactures who have adopted the Android Operation System.

Due to time constraints last month, the subjects 'How to set up an email account' and 'An introduction to WORD' will be included in future meetings. With the inclusion of Tablets and similar into the monthly meeting the subject for next month will be 'An Introduction to the various forms of writing (Word Processing) programs/applications available on the PC's, Laptops, Tablets, ipads etc'. At future meetings and as previously requested by group members, we also plan to cover 'Simple ways of sorting out Photographs' and 'Basic Label Making'. We try and cover subjects that you wish to be more familiar with and knowledgeable about, building up from your current level of knowledge.

The Computer Group Meetings are for those wishing to be more proficient at using the computer, in any of its forms, PC, Laptop, or Tablet, starting at any stage. The subjects covered are tailored to those that attend the monthly meetings. The meetings are held in the Claydon Room in Plantation Hall on the third Thursday of each month at 14:00, when you will be made welcome. Just come along. You can always contact me by phone or email before, if you so wish.

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

Creative Writing Group

Our challenge for the month produced a mixed reaction. Some people relished the research into the Roman occupation of the area, while others were less enthusiastic. I don't think the local history group will have any rivalry from us.

We are not setting ourselves any writing project for next month, just a culinary one, as we will be having our raclette party on 22nd July. I will be emailing the group members, to remind them of the arrangements, nearer the time.

Angela Pleasance angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk or tel: 01621 850310

Croquet Group

It is with sadness that we have to announce the death of John Gorrie, the Croquet CoG, on the 14th June. John's enthusiasm and expertise were greatly valued by the U3A members who joined the group and we have had many happy hours playing under his and his wife Rita's kindly tutorship. I am sure you will join me in offering any support we can to Rita and family at this difficult time.

Please address any queries about the group to me, but as far as we are aware at present the sessions will be able to continue with help from the Croquet Club.

Linda Etherton Telephone: 01621 843702 Email: ethertonbikes@aol.com

Discussion Coffee Morning Group

There was a last minute change of venue for the June meeting, Lesley Pomphrett kindly stepped in for Linda Etherton. Although I was away at the time, I have been reliably informed that the small gathering had a very pleasant morning of discussions and thoroughly enjoyed the refreshments, thank you Lesley.

The next coffee morning will be at 11:00 on Friday 17th July at Marilyn Corbett's house.

Margaret Brown: phone 01621 854885 or Email mbandmeg@btinternet.com

Family History Group

Our next meeting will be on Thursday July 23rd 10:30 to 12:30 at my house as usual. Please note that there will not be a meeting in August due to holidays.

Lesley Pomphrett: Phone 01621 817733 lesleypommy@hotmail.com

French Conversation Group

Most of our June meeting was taken up with us telling in turn, the other members, what we had been up to during the previous few weeks. There had been meetings with friends, outings and one lucky person had been on holiday in France and told us about some May celebrations which she had seen in Alsace. She was very impressed with the traditional costumes that local groups were wearing, especially the ladies who had black head-dresses formed like gigantic bows over lace trimmed white blouses, wide skirted dresses and very fancy embroidered aprons.



We then discussed how getting the pronunciation of words wrong can get you into all sorts of trouble. The example given being "la gare" and "la guerre", the former being the station, which you quite likely might want to visit, and the latter being war, which you wouldn't want to go anywhere near. Finally we discussed how to describe a scone in French, for someone who had never seen one. The dictionary was of little help as it seemed to consider it to be a sort of bread roll, rather than an eggless cake.

Alsace Costumes Pat Newman

Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday in each month starting at 10:00.

Pat Newman For further information please contact:

Jenny Parker: email jennyparker14@hotmail.com or phone 01621 843581.

French Improvers: Joint Blackwater / Heybridge Group

Due to holidays and childcare commitments, we were a small but select group this month. We decided to read a magazine article written (in French) by an English woman who moved to a village called Bidet in



South West France, much to the amusement of her British friends. Resisting the modern trend to get rid of bidets, she gave hers pride of place when her bathroom was renovated. Her grandchildren washed their hands and sailed boats in it; her husband kept his beer there and she used it to bath the baby, soak the washing and even to defrost the turkey at Christmas. So fond was she of her bidet that she bought five more which she used as flower pots and bird feeders. Hoping to create an identity for the village, she tried to persuade her French neighbours to follow suite, without success. After a while, she found out why. For the locals, the word 'bidet' signified something quite different – a small farm horse which was traditionally used to work the land. If you're wondering why they share a name, she suggests you think about the way you sit on them! Our next meeting is on 27th July chez Val.

Jenny Parker: email jennyparker14@hotmail.com or phone 01621 843581

Gardening Group

Rayne Hatch Farm garden was well worth a visit, there was so much to see. It was a large garden divided up into many different 'rooms', so many in fact that we kept losing each other. There were dozens, if not hundreds, of different rose bushes, and practically every rose and shrub were chosen for their scent. We were told that the garden was maintained by one lady with no help, so henceforth I will stop complaining about mine!



The visit on Sunday 12th July at 14:00 is to Rayleigh Open Gardens, details of which can be found in the Yellow Book. If you need a lift, please phone me

Everyone is welcome, especially if you have never come on a garden visit before. I think our group has the wrong name, as we don't do any gardening together; it's just people who love a stroll in beautiful surroundings followed by delicious cake! Please phone me if you need a lift.

Pat Yates: Email pat.yates@tesco.net or phone 01621 892866.

Italian Conversation

We met twice this month, and discussed a variety of subjects. Given the time of year, the summer holidays that the various members have planned, featured quite highly as a topic of discussion. We also ventured on to the thorny subject of the problem of the illegal immigrants that is affecting southern Italy and Sicily in particular. We didn't come up with any solution but it did test our Italian quite effectively.

The next meetings will be:

Monday 6th July

Monday 27th July

Monday 3rd August

Monday 17th August

Note: the second meeting in July is not on the third Monday as it would normally be as I am away that day, so the meeting is on the fourth Monday instead

Janice Slight E-Mail janice.slight@tiscali.co.uk

Local History Group

We received a very warm welcome at the Museum of Power and given the undivided attention of their staff and two of their expert volunteers. We were able to go into the depths below the steam pumping engine 'Marshall' and to see it in action. It was intriguing to know that Southend still receives water along the same pipes from Langford as it did in the heyday of the Langford Steam Pumping Station, albeit now via the 'new' electric pumping station.

We are off to Coalhouse Fort for the afternoon of the 21st July and would welcome others to join us. Please contact Carol for further information.

Other dates for the diary:

18th August – Wivenhoe history walk

15th September – Stow Maries Aerodrome

Carol Greenhalgh: phone 01621 840339 or Email george.smeed@virgin.net .

New Musical Variety Group

Heather Lealen would like to hear from you if you yearn to perform in a Variety Show

01621 857678 E-Mail heather@facetsoflove.co.uk

Patchwork Group

The next meeting of the Patchwork Group will be in the Claydon Room on Monday 12th October at 14:00.

Anne Thorpe E-mail Anne.thorpe@btinternet.com or phone 01621 850828.

Petanque Group

We have had a mixed bag of weather this month with hot, cold and wet during June and we are hoping for better in July. With holidays ahead to be booked, we are earmarking 3rd August for our Raclette meal in Heybridge Basin at the usual time of 14:00 to 16:00 but, judging by the last two years, we may not be finished promptly at 16:00. Please ask Barbara for the address if you are not sure, and parking is available there. Until then there are no more Bank Holidays before the 3rd August but there will be one at the end when play is not possible on the Terrain. Please also wear your polo shirts at the Basin meeting in August, if you have them, as, in our photo last year, everyone looked very smart. If you do not have one, any purple T-shirt will do.



The photograph was taken in early June when it was colder and we needed hot drinks at the kiosk afterwards.

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

Photography Group

The meeting was held at the Combined Military Services Museum with 8 members attending.

The assignment subject for the June meeting which had been agreed at the May meeting was "to print a copy of our favourite photo size 7" x 5" for discussion".

Members managed to provide some interesting photos ranging from flowers, birds, landscapes and other subjects. We then discussed the photos and commented on the ones we preferred.

During the meeting we decided that for the next meeting the subject matter for our photos would be "Summer" photos to be submitted by email in order to load them on disc ready for viewing at the next meeting.

Following the ongoing discussions within the group on the venue for our meetings and how we could further improve on what we do as a group with possibly including more outside visits and possibly linking with other U3A photography groups. Those present at the meeting together with the views of members that could not attend it was decided to change our venue.

We are Moving

Come along to our new venue in the Jubilee Lounge of the West Maldon Community Centre, Sunbury Way, CM9 6YH with its own spacious car park, comfortable and relaxing seating and excellent projection facilities.



Everyone is welcome, whether you are a phone snapper, an SLR user or if you use any camera in between.

By regularly meeting together and sharing our photos, we learn how to get better results from our own equipment. Our aim is to make all of our meetings entertaining, friendly and informative.

Why not join us? We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 14:00.

Anyone interested in joining or coming to see what we do can contact Norman Grove on 01621 842805 or by email norman.grove@gmail.com.

Reading and Books Group

For the time being Ann Lees is taking over the running of the book group from Carol Overy as she is unwell.

This month's book, *Oryx and Crake* by Margaret Atwood, was not received well by most members of the group, most of whom do not take kindly to fantasy/futuristic stories even when they are well written, as this one was deemed to be, by the two people who had actually read the book.

We decided that we must not complain about our books, several of which have not been to our liking recently. But that we will get together in September with a list of our favourite authors whom we would each recommend to others to read. Then we will need to persuade the library to get the books we want.

To be fair they have a very difficult job and in Maldon, they have about 20 book groups to cater for, so we will see what can be done.

Carole had hoped to be able to do something like this so we will follow her lead in this matter.

The next group meeting will be run by Nicky as Ann is on holiday.

It will take place at Plantation Hall on Wednesday 15th July at 14:15.

If you have any queries or wish to consider joining this group please ring Ann on 01245225153 after 30th July.

Scrabble Group

The June meeting saw a select few taxing their brains: although the tiles were not in everyone's favour. Sometimes it's good to put down a word you like even if it doesn't get a very high score - surely a love of words has to be encouraged. Why not come and have a game with us on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 14:00 in the Meeting room at Plantation Hall. £2.00 per session covers the room hire with a cuppa and biscuit. Linda Etherton Telephone: 01621 843702 Email: ethertonbikes@aol.com

Solo Whist

On the 10th of June 4 of us met at Margaret's house for our monthly session of Solo. I'm always quite surprised at how different each session is, this time a *misère ouverte* was called and won on the very first deal, (unusual I would say) During the session there were a good few abundances called and won, also several Solos, but unfortunately (as seems often to happen) one of our group had very few calls and even less wins. I have no idea why this happens.

The excellent refreshments were provided by Margaret which were enjoyed by all.

We decided that we would not meet in July and August, so the next meeting will be at 14.00 on the 9th September at Geoff & Margaret's.

I would like to wish everyone in the U3A a very enjoyable summer whatever you are doing and perhaps see some new faces in September.

Dave Mason C O G

.Anybody new wishing to play please contact me Dave Mason (CoG) on 01261 858635 E-mail tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk

Technical Computing Group

Our recent meeting was again varied and very interesting, we started by discussing various digital cameras, and the manner they interface with a computer, and the programs available to assist in the manipulation of the images, (you can see we are not dedicated computer buffs alone-), the discussions then turned to one of our group who is experiencing trouble with rouge emails, about 20 a day, varied advice was given on ways to try to stop these, we hope to hear positive results at the next meeting.

I would like to thank Ann and Alex for their hospitality.

As usual, anyone interested in joining our group, please contact me in the first instance.

Colin Mason (Cog) colin@mason20.wanadoo.co.uk 01621-854906

Ten Pin Bowling

Our meeting on 9th June was attended by a group of 10 players over 3 lanes.

Some got off to a good start with Jenny achieving 122 in her opening game, making her the top ladies scorer. Roger didn't get off to a great start (his words not mine!) but found his form in the 3rd game, just as the rest of us were ready for tea and biscuits! He achieved a personal best of 155 and just missed a turkey (3 strikes in a row).

It was a good afternoon with a lot of laughter and everyone scoring at least 70 or over in each game.

Next meeting at Madison Heights on Tuesday 14th July, 13.:45 for 14:00 start.

More players needed! Please come and have fun every 2nd Tuesday of the month. The cost is only £4.75 for up to two hours play and free tea/coffee and biscuits.

Lynne Morrison lejmorrisson@gmail.com 01621 891288

Threads and Fabrics Group

Our June meeting was, as usual, very pleasant. It is amazing how much work can be done in such an enthusiastic company. Everybody was doing something different and therefore the room was a medley of beautiful colours and patterns. I always look forward to our meetings because they inspire me to try something new. This time I was wearing a new skirt which I had been tacking at our previous meeting. It is in the crossover tied style which has been in the shops this Spring. Very retro! I first made a similar one, when they were in fashion, 20 years ago.

When in a certain fabric shop in Tiptree, the lady in front of me in the queue was buying a similar pattern. I thought that I would go down my box and see if I still had the one I used before. I found it and that is when the fun began. Sadly I have no longer the same dimensions that I had 20 years ago, whatever the scales might say (no heavier than before). So I had to look at the multisized pattern and add a bit to the largest size. After adding a scary amount to the width of the paper, I ended up with a skirt which fitted. Personally I blame gravity and not chocolate biscuits. But, that's my reasoning and I'm sticking to it



Our picture this month is of an appliquéd sampler in Autumn colours, sitting on the pattern book. It is going to be very pretty and we are all looking forward to seeing it when finished

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month starting at 14:00

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

Ukulele Group

The first meeting of the Ukulele group was on June 3rd. All attendees enjoyed their first lesson.

The next meeting will be on 5th August at 14:00 at Barbara Barbrook's house: Beginners Welcome

Robin Carpenter E-Mail robinrcarpenter@yahoo.co.uk

Walking Group

A small group of us enjoyed a walk through Chalkney Wood in June, definitely a place to revisit when the bluebells are in flower.

We will do the circular river walk in Wickham Bishops in July, hoping it will be sunny and pleasant along the Blackwater. Meet at St Bartholomew's Church car park 14:00 Thurs 9th July.

Please let me know if you will be joining us.

Elizabeth: Email e.m.e@talktalk.net or phone 01621 850618. Mobile 07581029816

Weekenders Group

I have nothing to report this month as half of the time I spent sunning myself in Majorca but I shall look forward to seeing you at the next meeting. Dates for your diary

Coffee morning at White Elms Nursery, Bicknacre at 10:00 on Saturday 11th July

Coffee morning at Wilkin's Jam Factory, Tiptree at 10:00 On Saturday 15th August

Marilyn Corbett: Phone 01621817518 or email mars42@btinternet.com

Wine Appreciation Group

I am trying to arrange a group tour to Giffords Hall Vineyard on Sunday 26th July. Giffords Hall is at Hartest, which is situated between Bury St Edmunds and Sudbury. As well as the chance to walk around the vines and taste the wines, there is a well-stocked shop selling local produce and refreshments available on site, including cream teas and lunches. The cost of a guided tour and talk is £5.00 per person and has to be paid in advance. This is open to all U3A members. Anyone wishing to visit Giffords Hall on 26th July please contact me and I will make the booking. Please contact me by email.

More details can be found on the Giffords Hall Vineyard website. Jackie Jones:

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

Further Information and details of events

The following events are planned for this year. Please note that members are asked to pay for outings in full, six weeks before the trip date. If the trip later proves not to be viable, the money will be refunded in full.

July. A trip to the beautiful medieval house Audley End on Friday 17th July. Admission to the House and Gardens is free for us as U3A members, courtesy of English Heritage. Fords Coach will collect us from Tesco Extra on the Fullbridge, Maldon at 09:00. We first stop at Saffron Walden to eat our sandwiches, find somewhere for lunch, or just wander about that lovely old town, before journeying on to Audley End. Our visit ends at 16:00. Please collect your ticket at the July meeting or arrange to collect it from me.

July. An Elizabethan Musical Extravaganza is planned at Layer Marney Tower on Sunday, 19th July, from 12:00 till 17:00. Last year we thoroughly enjoyed our afternoon there and hope to do likewise this year, (nb we each take our own picnic though there is a cafe). The cost is £6.00 pp. Car sharing is suggested for this event, so please contact me in good time if you need a lift. If you have not already done so please collect your ticket at the July meeting or contact me. On this occasion you will need your ticket to gain entry to the event.

August In response to members request for more theatre trips we are making a start by booking seats with Boon's Calibre Travel to see the 2.30 performance of the musical "Annie" at the Cliffs Pavilion, Southend on Wednesday 5th August. £59.95 includes a 2 course meal at the venue. Full payment is now due.

September. Sunday 20th September 2015 - a trip to the Royal Dockyards at Chatham, on their 'Back to the 40s' weekend with Lodge Coaches. Total cost £28.50. Full payment by 10th July please. Times and local pick-up points will be announced in August Please sign up in the first place to show interest and remove your name if you later find you are unable to join the trip. Please contact me with any queries.

October Please sign up ASAP for a visit to the world famous Bletchley Park: until recently Britain's best kept secret where the Government Code & Cypher School studied and devised methods which broke the code of German and Japanese communications in WW2. I have made a provisional booking for Wednesday 21st October 2015. Admission is £13.00pp if 12 or more are in a group. Travel to be organised later.

NEW - November A social evening is planned for Wednesday 18th November from 18:30 until 21:30 in Plantation Hall. Come along to play your favourite board game, or to try your skills at another; enjoy a fish and chip supper; take part in a small quiz or simply chat to old and new friends. Unfortunately, Thursday and Friday evenings are fully booked at Plantation Hall! More details later.

NEW - February 2016. I have reserved 15 tickets for the musical *Jersey Boys* at the Piccadilly Theatre London on Tuesday 2nd February at 15:00. The 15 good seats in the stalls will be reserved for us until 20th July - £65.00 tickets for the excellent price of £24.50 each! Please sign up and pay at the July meeting. I will do my best to arrange transport to the theatre.

Please sign up for events which interest you and remove your name if you later find you are unable to join the trip. Please contact me with any queries.

THEATRE TRIPS What's on in London? If there is a show or a play you would like to see please let me know and if others are interested I may be able to get tickets at special rates. All cheques should be made payable to Heybridge U3A PAT SMITH; 01621 856569 E.MAIL patcleary98@sky.com

Association of Essex U3As On the Notice Board

Items from the latest mailing that might be of interest:

U3A 2016 Diaries with a green cover and U3A logo in silver are now available to order and are only £2.00.



Please put your name on the list at the main meeting and give the payment to Linda Etherton by 11th September. The diaries should be available by the November meeting.

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U3A Photography Competition - Britain's Wildlife – closing date 31st August

Some wonderful photographs have already been received, but the Third Age Trust is hoping for lots more especially now the weather is improving at least a little. Details are on the website.

ATG Theatre Card Offer

U3A members can purchase an ATG theatre card for £25, a saving of £10 off the standard price. This gives you a series of benefits including priority booking and savings off tickets in their 38 theatres across the UK. If you are interested go to 'Offers for U3A Members' in the members' area of the website

More details for the above can be found on the Heybridge U3A Notice Board. These and others are also detailed in The U3A magazine 'Third Age Matters'

Maldon U3A Aviation visit

Maldon U3A are organising a trip to the Imperial War Museum, Duxford for Saturday September 19th, departing West Maldon Community Centre at 08:30 and plan to leave Duxford when the flying is over at about 17:30. This late summer Air Show commemorates the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.. The museum gates open at 08:00 and flying starts about 14:00.

The cost per person is £38.50; this includes the coach, driver's gratuity and entrance to Duxford, lunch IS NOT included.

If your members are interested in joining us, can they please contact Malcolm Case on 01245 329435

Group Name, Co-ordinator & Contact Phone Number & Email

Group Name	Co-ordinator (COG)	Telephone Number & Email
Art (Painting)	Michael Kempen	01621 892974 m.kempen159@btinternet.com
Bird Watching	Maureen Lenoir	01621 869871 symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk
Cards and Paper Crafts	Lesley Woonton	01621 858135 Lindawoonton@sky.com
Coffee Morning	Margaret Brown	01621 854885 mbandmeg@btinternet.com
Computer	Ian Newman	01621 891184 ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk
Creative Writing	Angela Pleasance	01621850310 angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk
Croquet	TBA	
Dancing (Latin & Ballroom)	Alf Bell	01621 840158 dossod@fsmail.net
Family History	Lesley Pomphrett	01621 817733 lesleypommy@hotmail.com
French	Jenny Parker	01621 843581 jennyparker14@hotmail.com
Gardening	Pat Yates	01621 892866 pat.yates@tesco.net
Italian	Janice Slight	01621 853393 janice.slight@tiscali.co.uk
Local History	Carol Greenhalgh	01621 840339 george.smeed@virgin.net
Patchwork	Anne Thorpe	01621 850828 Anne.thorpe@btinternet.com
Petanque	Barbara Barbrook	01621 855605 c.barbrook@sky.com
Photography	Norman Grove	01621 842805 norman.grove@gmail.com .
Reading & Books	TBA	
Scrabble	Linda Etherton	01621 843702 ethertonbikes@aol.com
Solo Whist	Dave Mason	01621858635 tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk
Technical Computing	Colin Mason	01621 854906 colin@mason20.wanadoo.co.uk
Ten Pin Bowling	Lynne Morrison	01621 891288 lejmorrison@gmail.com
Threads & Fabrics	Pat Newman	01621 891184 ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk
Ukulele	Robin Carpenter	01621 859060 robinrcarpenter@yahoo.co.uk
Walking	Elizabeth Eastwood	01621 850618 e.m.e@talktalk.net
Weekenders	Marilyn Corbett	01621 817518 mars42@btinternet.com
Wine Group	Jackie Jones	01621 817117 jachjones@tiscali.co.uk

Diary of Meetings and Visits For details see articles and co-ordinators above

Week Commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6th July	6 Petanque 14.00 Italian conversation 10.00	7 Threads 14.00	8 French Conversation 10.00	9 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	10 Monthly Meeting 14.00	11 Weekenders White Elms Nursery 10.00	12 Gardening 14.00
13th July	13 Petanque 14.00	14 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	15 Book Group 14.15	16 Computer 14.00 Croquet 10:00	17 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00	18	19
20th July	20 Petanque 14.00	21 Local History 14.00	22 Creative Writing Group 14.30	23 Family History 10.30	24 Painting 14.00 Bird Watching 14.00	25	26 Wine Tasting Visit
27th July	27 Petanque 14.00 Italian conversation 10.00 French Improvers 14.00	28 Scrabble 14.00	29	30	31 Copy to Editor Painting 14.00	1 st August	2
3rd August	3 Petanque 14.00 Italian conversation 10.00	4 Threads 14.00	5 Cards & Paper Crafts 14.00 Ukulele group 14.00	6 Photography 14.00	7 Committee Mtg 10.00 Painting 14.00	8	9 Gardening 14.00
10th August	10 Petanque 14.00	11 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	12 French Conversation 10.00	13 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	14 Monthly Meeting 14.00	15 Weekenders Wilkin's Jam Factory 10.00	16
17th August	17 Petanque 14.00 Italian conversation 10.00	18 Local History 14.00	19 Book Group 14.15 Wine Tasting 14.00	20 Computer 14.00 Croquet 10:00	21 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00	22	23
24th August	24 Petanque 14.00 French Improvers 14.00	25 Scrabble 14.00	26 Creative Writing Group 14.30	27	28 Copy to Editor Bird Watching 14.00 Painting 14.00	29	30