

Heybridge u3a

August 2022 News Sheet

Your Committee

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

Archive

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

Registered Charity number 1160360

Next Main Meeting – Plantation Hall

Friday 12th August at 2.00 pm

Speaker Amanda Sutherland

- *My Creative Journey*

Next Committee Meeting – Plantation Hall in




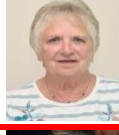




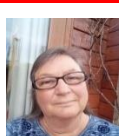


The Claydon Room

Friday 2nd September at 10.00 am

Main Meeting Refreshments Rota

August – Cards & Paper Crafts

September – Discussion Coffee Morning Group

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From the Editors

Hello and welcome to your August News Sheet.

You will not need reminding that summer is well and truly under way! We've experienced the hottest day of the year on record, and as Jackie mentions below, our gardens are suffering.

Since the last News Sheet we have held two successful events. The first was the CoGs displays in June, followed by the Cream Tea and Jubilee afternoon in July. A big thank-you goes to Moira who organised both events, and to everyone who helped out.

We have included reports for June and July where they have been submitted. Thanks to all CoGs for your contributions.

Lorraine & Brian editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

News from the Committee

From the Chairman

July has seen more than our ice creams melting in the heat and most of us will be hoping that our gardens will revive in the next month or so. Perhaps we should think about starting a gardening group so that we can swap plants with one another to replace the ones that succumbed to the heatwave.

I hope you are all enjoying the summer with friends and families at home or abroad and thinking about any new hobbies or interests that you would like to try out within our u3a as there is a whole world of opportunity waiting for us in the autumn of our years.

Jackie Jones chairman@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Membership Secretary

We currently have 114 paid members. Fifty two members and two visitors attended the June main meeting, and around 40 attended the Cream Tea meeting in July. Jan is working hard to find interesting speakers, so there is plenty to look forward to in future.

Philippa Moody membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Speaker Secretary

I really enjoyed looking at all the group displays at our June meeting. We have so many talented members. In July we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and 40 years of the u3a movement in England, with a lovely afternoon tea, thanks to Moira and her helpers. On these occasions I know we have a thriving u3a as all you can hear is the sound of people's laughter and animated conversations.

In August we resume having a speaker at our main meeting on 12th August. Amanda Sutherland will be telling us about her 'Creative Journey' Part 1. Here is a taster of 'her journey'. There is a lot more to come.

After completing a combined four-year BTEC and HND in fashion design at the London College of Fashion I launched into my working career as a head buyer at London's Royal Opera House in Covent Garden.

After mastering the workings of ballet and opera I proceeded to continue the journey within the West End by working on productions including Jesus Christ Superstar as well as various fringe theatre productions and commercials for the BBC.

After her talk Amanda will be selling hats, eco jewellery including necklaces and brooches, natural flower and leaf jewellery, neckwear and wrist warmers. She has already had lots of people buying Christmas gifts so it's never too early to start planning. Amanda can accept cash and card payments.

In September Dr Jane Pearson will be speaking about 'Getting an Education in Essex 1700 – 1900. I think she has visited us before and is well known in Essex for giving interesting talks on different aspects of life in Essex. Dr Jane Pearson used to teach at Essex University.

In October Ray Clark, BBC Essex and Radio Caroline presenter, and author, will be telling us about 'Radio Caroline, The True Story of the Boat that Rocked', also the title of one of his books.

In November our main meeting conveniently falls on Armistice Day, 11th November. Neil Richardson is coming to tell us about the work of the Commonwealth War Graves.

On Friday 9th December we will be celebrating Christmas and be entertained by Uke3A. A local ukulele band who originally started in our u3a.

Hope to see you at the August meeting.

Jan Brown speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Events Secretary

Unfortunately there was limited interest in the events previously advertised so they will not be running. However if you have any suggestions for the future, please contact me.

Lizzie Cawdell eventssecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Interest Groups Co-ordinator

June and July have seen us having quite an eventful time for the Interest groups. And I for one have been very pleased on how they have turned out!

The displays by the CoGs at the main meeting in June were marvellous; below are some photos from the afternoon.



Also the Cream Tea in July was much better than I hoped for, considering that I thought there were going to be only 27 attending, and it ended that we had about 40! Thank you to all of you on the committee for your help for both events.



Moira Penhallow groupsco-ordinator@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

News from around the Groups

Art

I'm happy to report that the Friday afternoon Art Group is now well into its stride again after such a horrendously long break during the Covid lockdowns.

Despite the holiday season we are regularly seeing the attendance of eight or more painters – and I am pleased to say that we still have room for a few more.

A special welcome is extended to any of the Monday painters who were also getting back into the swing of things before the sad loss of our dear pal Barbara.

So, if any of you are missing the friendly atmosphere and banter which comes with painting in a group, and you can spare a Friday afternoon or two each month, please call our COG Tina on 01621 858646 and she will do her best to fit you in.

Gill Carpenter (for Tina Martin)

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Bird Watching

We all met up on Friday, knowing that there are not many birds about at this time of year. Many are hiding away whilst they moult and others are not yet back from their breeding locations. Were we dismayed? No way. Meet at the Basin and sit in the sun drinking coffee and chatting!! Many of the group were away on holiday but we had a lovely morning.

There are lots of birds at the Lock café waiting for crumbs so we did see something.

Next month Erica has very kindly invited us to her house on Mersea and there are always birds to see on Mersea.

If you enjoy informal friendly bird/nature watching do get in touch. By September the migration will be on and there should be lots to see. Contact jill.mcgregor@btinternet.com
Oh, and if you go to Abberton reservoir at present you can see Spoonbills and their babies, little egrets, cattle egrets and great white egrets. A couple of years ago you would have had to go to the south of France!



Baby starling sunbathing

What, no crumbs?

Jill McGregor

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Cards & Paper Crafts

As this month the weather was unbearably hot, so we decided to have a long chat regarding Xmas gift labels over a couple of much needed cold drinks. Hilary mentioned she had some new ideas which she shared with us. It was a quiet afternoon but we enjoyed each other's company.

Lesley Woonton

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Croquet

For various reasons only a few of us managed to play croquet in June however, the numbers went up in July on both Wednesday afternoons. Everyone is getting into the swing of play, Jackie managed a 'hoop in one', well done. We also welcomed four new players during July, John and Pauline Boyt and Hilary and John Furniaux. The lawns have been looking rather dead through the lack of rain, not unlike my own lawn! This all makes playing rather fast and different. Hopefully we will be able to continue playing into October.

We play on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon of each summer month at Forresters Golf Club, Gt Totham. We play for gentle exercise, good company and fun. If you would like to join us please contact me.

Anne Newson

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Discussion Coffee Morning Group

We met on 15th July at Lesley Pomphrett's house. We enjoyed a lovely elevenses / lunch spread of sandwiches, cakes and biscuits, plus our tea /coffee choices. Lesley certainly made sure we didn't leave hungry, thank you Lesley.

We talked for a bit longer than usual, covering many different topics. Linda updated us on the u3a afternoon cream tea event which seemed to go well. I had a ticket for the Hampton Court Flower Show which was the same day so I missed the cream tea this year. For those who haven't been to HC flower show it is well worth a visit. Apart from the actual show, if you choose to do so, you can take a trip on the boat which takes you from near the station practically to the entrance. It was a particularly hot day, not ideal for the walking element of the show, but with plenty of opportunities for a drink and a snack, a good day out. We always see lots of plants, some very large, travelling on the trains home after the show!

The next Discussion Coffee Morning will be on Friday 19th August but the venue is not yet confirmed. All those who are coffee morning members will be notified separately.

Margaret Brown

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Family History

June

The end of June saw six serious faced ladies trying to unravel the story of Arthur Brown - there are millions of them I can hear you say - and there are!

Very uncivilized of him not being Zachariah Algernon Ponsonby, it would have been a doddle.

F/H member Diane was brought up, like so many of us with a family story. Her one was of Uncle Arthur, who according to her mother died aged 5. No other information.

He is listed with the family in the 1911 census, but no age was given, which usually means the child is under one year old. If this was the case Arthur's birth would possibly be 1910/1911.

And so, an enjoyable two hours went very quickly, with a great deal of suggestions and laughter.

July

One month later and Arthur had been found. His appearance on the census came about by a mistake made by his father, who assumed he had to list all his seven children, dead or alive hence no age included, but realising his error he crossed out the entry.

I began a new search starting from his parent's marriage, and found Arthur had actually been born 1899, ten years before our misguided estimate. He was the second of seven children (at the time) born to his parents Thomas and Elizabeth.

Sadly, at the moment no death for Arthur has been located. He is not listed in the 1901 census, so he may have died before he was aged two.

A satisfying end to the Arthur Brown saga – part one.

Jean Rogers

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French Conversation



Many of you will have visited France to enjoy its towns, monuments, countryside, mountain scenery and magnificent coastal areas.

If you've never been to France, il vaut la peine ! (It's worth the pain!) For many people, one of the biggest attractions is the gastronomie – the French certainly enjoy their food, not to mention le vin!



Sightseeing is de rigeur – whether you wish to visit the main cities and monuments , head off to the beach for a day in the sun, or take the cable car to the top of the mountain, make sure you end the day in a 4 star restaurant .

The French Group meets from 10 – 12 a.m on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. If you would like more information, please give me a ring:

Jenny Parker 01621 843581 French Group Co-ordinator

Jenny Parker
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Painting 2

In June only a few of the group were able to come along and it was sadly decided that the continuing low numbers meant the group is no longer viable. Thank you to those who were members in the past, I have enjoyed your company and do keep on painting! Who knows, we may get more interest to revive the group.

In the meantime anyone wishing to join the Friday Art Group should contact Tina Martin, please see the list of groups for her contact details.

Linda Etherton
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Patchwork

The July meeting took place on a very hot afternoon, and we were thankful for the very efficient air conditioning. The group worked on a variety of projects including a bed runner made of hexagons, wall hangings with applique and a lap quilt. Sadly, one of our members was unable to sew due to a broken wrist. It was good to see her, and we wish her a speedy recovery.

The next meeting will be on Monday 8th August.

Jackie Voyez
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Petanque

We have had some good fun at Petanque lately and the weather has been wonderful, even though I did have to cancel one time because it was too hot.

In June I don't think I have ever seen three games played so quickly, they took under 30 minutes, so well done to Graham and Ray!

We also had some great shots recently by the all-girls team, Chris, Dian, Jenny and Linda, see photo below.



But I don't think it beats mine, where they jumped on top of each other.

It was great to see Norman back playing and hopefully we will see Clive and Alf sometime as we do miss them.

If anyone is interested then please come down to Maldon Prom at 10.00 am Monday morning, right by Mrs Salisbury's.

Moira Penhallow

Photography Group

Our June meeting was held on the 2nd June with 9 members attending on Zoom. The assignment subject was "Photos taken since the previous meeting". This again proved to be both popular and interesting with 27 excellent images for us to view. The subjects chosen varied from: The Cycle Race, Flowers, Young Farmers Show and other interesting photos.



Baler by L Etherton

Bikes by K Russell

The July meeting was held on the 9th July, with the same assignment subject, again with 9 members attending on Zoom. This time the subjects chosen varied from: Stow Maries Airfield, Classic Cars and Days out plus other interesting photos.



Dog by J Guiver



Scotney Castle by N Grove

The discussion on all of these photographs with their authors was both informative and entertaining.

Norman Grove

Reading & Books

In July we read “Invisible Girl” by Lisa Jewel. You can always rely on Lisa for an interesting book and I recommend “The Family Upstairs” as well.

For August we have something completely different, “The Secret Life of Bees” by Sue Monk Kidd. At the heart of this story is Lily, who has always believed that she was responsible for her mother’s death when she was four years old. Now a teenager, she flees her strict upbringing on a peach farm in South Carolina to run away with her only friend, a black servant girl, to find a new home with three beekeeping sisters. Over eight million copies of this book have been sold and enjoyed in the last twenty years.

I have a spare copy if anyone else would like to read it.

The next meeting of the Book Group will be at Perrywoods Nursery Tea Rooms, in Tiptree on Wednesday 17th August at 2.00pm

Jackie Jones

Scrabble

Sometimes one Scrabble game seems to work out more easily than another, but our players are always up for a challenge. It really is a lot to do with chance, depending on what tiles are drawn from the bag. There have been moans about drawing a set of seven consonants or a whole row of vowels, but the thinking cap goes on and somehow the player makes a word, even if only scoring a few points. It's good to try and play letters like Z, scoring 10 points, before the end of a game so you don't get left with it: if someone else uses up all their tiles and play is finished the points on the tiles you have left are totted up and taken off your score.

In the last edition's the puzzle was to work out which of the letters **A, B, O, P** could be hooked onto the following words to make a valid 4-letter word. The letter could be before or after the word as below. The letter will be left over is the **P**.

A	F	R	O
1	4	1	1

G	A	R	B
2	1	1	2

R	E	D	O
1	1	2	1

The Scrabble meetings take place at a member's house and are on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 2.00pm. The next meeting is on the 23rd August at Angela's. 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

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Ten Pin Bowling

On 14th July with six attendees there was a good battle between myself and Graham and unusually I accomplished a 2 frames to 1 win. Good scores of 166 and 171 between us.

Hilary showed the ladies the way with a top score of 133.

On the 21st July Graham looked after proceedings for me in my absence for the 6 attendees. Graham peaked in the 4th frame with a more than respectable 183 with Linda topping the ladies with 127.

There will be no more bowling until after the school holidays but I will let you know when we are in action again. Graham advises me that there has been a change in the booking arrangements in that we don't pay per frame but by time. This should not affect us but this will depend on the number of participants.

Peter Harvey

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Walking

Seven willing participants arrived at Chris' house ready for the Tiptree experience. As it was so hot, Lesley Pomfrett kindly agreed that we could park on her drive, which is close to the tiny footpath to Pods Wood. Thank you Lesley. We took two cars and had a lovely walk around the fishing lakes and a circular walk through Pods Wood of about 3.5 miles, which was quite enough for a hot day. We finished at Albany Terrace for cold drinks, tea and biscuits. We hope our new members enjoyed themselves and look forward to seeing them again next time.

Reminder: The next walk will be on Thursday 8th September at 2.00 pm. Information about where it will be will be sent out to all walkers about two weeks beforehand. The dates for future walks this year, if you would like to make a note in your diaries, will be 13th October, 10th November, and our Christmas walk and lunch will be on December 8th, subject to the weather.

Linda Wells

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Weekenders

In June the Weekenders went to Oliver's Nursery for a welcome cuppa and it was nice to be joined by Moira Penhallow the Co-ordinator of the Interest Groups, who has been trying to visit all the groups and see what we get up to. Then in July we were grateful to be on the upper storey of the Osea View Cafe with the big glass doors open onto the estuary. As ever a few missing due to illness or other commitments, but we still managed to have some lively conversations and do a bit of forward planning.

Marilyn drew our attention to the next performance by the Witham Amateur Operatic Society, called the Flames of Injustice, that has been especially written for them. Their productions are very professional, why not give them a try? Look them up on www.waos.org

We will be going to the Lock Cafe at Heybridge Basin for our next meeting at 10.00 am on Saturday 20th August. In September we hope to return to Braxted Bakery, at 10.00 am on the 17th.

Linda Etherton

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Other News

Are you interested in archaeology? Would you like to learn more about the subject and how to get involved? There is a training day for members on Saturday 10th September, being organised by Burnham-on-Crouch u3a, at the Old St. Barnabas Church, Mayland Hill, Althorne. Places are limited, and must be pre-booked by emailing sjrspiers@gmail.com. A £10 donation on the day is suggested. Full details are on the attachment to this News Sheet.

On the subject of archaeology, we have been advised by East of England u3a about the possibility of a special day on and around Hadrian's Wall, in the spring of next year. Whilst it is still very much in the planning stage, please have a look at the attachment and if of interest please notify the contacts shown, or any of the committee.

There is a Car Boot Sale at Morris Farm, Woodham Road, Stow Maries on Sunday 11th September at 9.30. Proceeds are going to St Mary and St Margaret Church and The Smythe Hall, Stow Maries. Please see attachment for further details.

Recycling is something in which we can all play a part. Following the u3a Cream Tea in July we recycled as much as possible; plastic forks and spoons were washed for future use, the small Tiptree Jam pots and lids were washed and recycled, and as much paper as possible was salvaged and put in recycling bags. Did you know that Tesco stores in Maldon and Tiptree now accept “Soft Plastics” for recycling? This includes items such as crisp packets, fruit and vegetable packaging, bread bags and salad bags. Don’t bin it – recycle!

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 \(maldonu3a.co.uk\)](https://maldonu3a.co.uk/ClusterGroupActivitySchedule.pdf)

Finally, please find attached the latest News From The East magazine giving news from our regional u3a team.

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

Covid 19 Reminder

- *Consider wearing a face covering indoors in crowded, enclosed spaces*
- *Let fresh air in, if meeting indoors*
- *Get tested if you have Covid 19 symptoms and stay home if positive*
- *Be prepared for any venues to be well ventilated, and wear warm clothing*

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

Group Name	Co-ordinator (COG)	Telephone Number & Email
<i>Art</i>	<i>Tina Martin</i>	01621 858646 martin.christine@sky.com
<i>Bird Watching</i>	<i>Jill McGregor</i>	01621 842595 jill.mcgregor@btinternet.com
<i>Cards and Paper Crafts</i>	<i>Lesley Woonton</i>	01621 858135 lesleywoonton@gmail.com
<i>Coffee Morning</i>	<i>Margaret Brown</i>	01621 854885 mbandmeg@btinternet.com
<i>Croquet</i>	<i>Anne Newson</i>	01621 858807 annenewson@uwclub.net
<i>Eat the World</i>	<i>Liz Cawdell</i>	07902 294741 ecawdell62@gmail.com
<i>Family History</i>	<i>Jean Rogers</i>	07852 154405 jeanrogers1@hotmail.co.uk
<i>French</i>	<i>Jenny Parker</i>	01621 843581 jennyparker14@hotmail.com
<i>Needlecraft</i>	<i>Hilary Furniaux</i>	07411 450634 Hilary.Furniaux@btinternet.com
<i>Patchwork</i>	<i>Anne Thorpe</i>	01621 850828 anne.thorpe@btinternet.com
<i>Petanque</i>	<i>Moira Penhallow</i>	07984 357804 moirapen@hotmail.co.uk
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