

# Heybridge U3A News Sheet No. 8/2015 September 2015

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

# Registered charity number 1160360

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 11<sup>th</sup> September. The diaries should be available by the November meeting.

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# Your Committee

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# **NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

#### From the Chairman

Not all of our current members will have known Ruth Tyler, who died in August. Ruth was the person with the foresight and ability to plan ahead who set up Heybridge U3A. It was Ruth that chose the Plantation Hall as our venue and it was Ruth that organised a constitution and a committee in the first year.

After that Peter Thorpe was elected Chairman.



Sadly Ruth's health had been poor for several years. When I went to see her in hospital a couple of weeks before she died, she was delighted at the number of cards that she had received and also the number of people who had been to visit her in hospital. On the day that I was there she was particularly happy because her son, who she had not seen for several years, was at her bedside.

The Funeral is at 11.30 on September 14<sup>th</sup> September at Chelmsford Crematorium.

The East of England U3A Region is putting on a seminar on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in St, Cedd's Hall in Chelmsford. Topics are, 'U3A and the Law', 'The nature of learning in the U3A', 'U3A

Research and Shared Learning projects' and 'Current NEC developments'. The cost is £5 for the day. If you would like to attend, please book via the website at: - http://u3asites.org.uk/code/u3asite.php?site=640&page=3

The seminar is open to all U3A members.

Joyce Woodham

Chairman Heybridge U3A

#### From the Editor

The design of the Heybridge U3A News Sheet, and the reports that it contains, continues as a full-page layout. I would ask contributors to limit their updates to 400 words or 300 words and one photo please as space is becoming an issue. 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 September and October.

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 and copy Tina at <a href="mailto:tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk">tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk</a> with any diary updates.

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 and one returning member in August. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 <a href="membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk">membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk</a>

#### **Future Heybridge U3A Monthly Meetings**

I have now confirmed the speakers for September, October and November.

This month Helen Beard will be bringing her black Labrador Wren, to give us a talk on **Pets as Therapy.**This is a very different approach to talks we have had previously on **Partner Dogs for The Non Blind**.

On 9<sup>th</sup> October William Tyler is returning to give his presentation on Winston Churchill's earlier years. The title is **Churchill: A Study in Failure? 1874 -1939.** 

For 13<sup>th</sup> November we will be having Chris Dingley from *Collective Legal Solutions* giving a talk described as *Tax, Care and Toy Boys*.

This is intended to be a factual but light hearted introduction to some of the very recent changes by The Government to the financial implication for property owners who find that they are no longer able to live by themselves.

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

#### From the Events Secretary

#### Planned Events

- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2015, a trip to the Royal Dockyards at Chatham, on their 'Back to the 40s' weekend with Lodge Coaches.
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October, a day trip to Bletchley Park.
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November -.a social evening with fish & chips. Please note change of date.
- January 'Guys & Dolls' at the Savoy Theatre. All tickets sold
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016. 'Jersey Boys' at the Piccadilly Theatre London. All tickets sold.

Ideas for 2016- trips in the pipeline to visit Hever Castle, Kensington Palace and Canterbury Please see page .13.for further details

# GROUP REPORTS

#### **Art (Painting) Group**

After a fairly thinly attended and unusually quiet meeting on August 21<sup>st</sup>, some members came to the conclusion that 'silence is golden' when it comes to creativity - and some appeared more than usually satisfied with their efforts.

But to be realistic, one can't expect to keep the mirth and merriment levels down for long.

After all, U3A Painting is as much about meeting friends, having a chat and a laugh and admiring each other's work as about keeping one's head down and getting on with it.

So, to those who have missed a meeting or two because of holidays or more pressing engagements, we say: Come back, all is forgiven!

Gill Carpenter

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

# **Bird Watching Group**

here was no meeting in August.

We will be meeting on Sept.26<sup>th</sup> and going to Fingringhoe Wick.

If you would like to join us please get in touch with Maureen on 01621 869871 or email symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk

## New Bridge Club

f 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 7<sup>th</sup> October at 14:00

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

#### **Computer Group**

The number of Computer Group members attending the August Meeting was six including myself. If you have problems as a user or potential user (thinking of buying one) of using a laptop, a tablet, an iPlayer or a smart phone and the like or have some special knowledge about some aspect of computing across part or the full range of computer communication equipment, then please come along to a Computer Group Meeting and share your knowledge with us. Alternately contact me by phone or email (See below).

The subject covered for the month of August was a subject requested by the group members entitled 'Simple ways of sorting and saving Photographs'. This was well received with some searching questions and lively discussion.

The main subject for the September Meeting will be an introduction to the 'Formatting of Documents' using the WORD program. Reference will be made to the similarities to other communication equipment will also be covered. We try and cover subjects with which you wish to be more familiar and knowledgeable about, building up from your current level of knowledge.

The subscription, to pay for the room hire, has stayed at £7 for the third quarter of 2015 and will be reduced to £5 as it has been decided that no December Meeting is to take place. At the November meeting a discussion on the finance of the Computer Group and a decision will need to be taken to either raise the subscription (to £8, £9, £10 per quarter), to find a new cheaper or no cost venue to hold the meeting or to stop holding computer group meetings altogether (Use it or lose it).

The Computer Group Meetings are for those wishing to be more proficient at using the computer, in any of its forms, PC, Laptop, Tablet, Ipad or smart phone 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.

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#### **Creative Writing Group**

Most of the group decided to leave this month. The group is not folding; one choice for the subject of our writing was "I'm leaving ..."! A variety of writing, both stories and reminiscences, kept us amused. We also heard a fascinating account of a social occasion at Windsor Castle.

Our next subject is "A Rainy Day", although I hope this title will not be too prophetic. Our next meeting is on 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

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

# **Croquet Group**

"Alice thought she had never seen such a curious croquet-ground in all her life; it was all ridges and furrows; the balls were live hedgehogs, the mallets flamingos, and the soldiers had to double themselves up and to stand upon their hands and feet, to make the arches."

Thankfully the croquet lawns at Forrester Park do not resemble this one from Alice in Wonderland, although we have previously had to contend with clover that slowed the balls down and a few rabbit scrapes (these have now been rectified by the greenkeepers). The last session was after some rain and slightly squelchy underfoot, but the valiant members of the group carried on. Some fiendishly good shots were played - and some downright ropey ones - but it's always enjoyable and the company is good. We meet from Spring to Autumn on the first and third Thursdays of the month, starting at 10.00 for 2 hours at a cost of £3.00 for use of the mallets and equipment and help at hand if you are a beginner. The September sessions are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September

We do need a CoG to liaise with the Croquet Club who supply us with a helper each time, and to keep in contact mainly by email with group members, so please let the committee know if you are willing to undertake this not onerous task.

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

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

Of us met at Linda's house on 21<sup>st</sup> August. It was good to see so many together as holiday commitments and other appointments had meant smaller meetings recently. Linda baked some lovely cheese scones which we certainly appreciated. As usual the conversation was mixed, both lively and thought provoking. We spoke about Ruth Tyler and Carole Overy our two U3A colleagues who both sadly passed away this month, remembering the shared times.

Our next coffee morning will be at 11.00 on Friday 18th September at Yvonne West's house

Margaret Brown: phone 01621 854885 or Email <a href="mbandmeg@btinternet.com">mbandmeg@btinternet.com</a>

#### **Family History Group**

ur next meeting will be on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September at my house as usual. From 11.00 to 13.00 Lesley Pomphrett: Phone 01621 817733 <a href="mailto:lesleypommy@hotmail.com">lesleypommy@hotmail.com</a>

#### **New** Beginners Family History Group

ave you ever fancied tracing your family tree, but don't know where to start? Then this group is for you. We will be starting right from the beginning and looking at how to access information online, what records are available, how to 'build' your tree .... and much more! There will be hand-outs and worksheets to help you with your research at home and lots of help along the way.

This group will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month (no meeting in August) from 10 00. – 11.00. at Lesley Pomphrett's house. The current Family History group will meet after the beginner's class from 11 00. – 13.00

Our first meeting will be Thursday September 24th

For more details please contact Liz Cawdell, 01621 843264 or email ecawdell@btinternet.com

#### **French Conversation Group**

In August, we perhaps did more listening than talking. One of our members had been on holiday to a delightful villa in Normandy with their family. It was all they could have wanted, until our member suffered a medical emergency. Their daughter phoned for an ambulance. To their surprise, when it came it was staffed by three large firemen. They started to try to sort out the problem when someone arrived. He turned out to be the local mayor who had heard the siren of the ambulance and wondered if he could be of any help. He shook hands with everybody present, including the patient, as the French do. Soon after a second car arrived, with three doctors and they decided that our member had to be transferred to hospital. At the hospital the problem was dealt with and after a night under observation our member was returned to their family.



The picture with this article is the one they took of their dinner, with their mobile phone. Any member of our U3A, who has been in a local hospital recently, can look at it and contemplate the difference to our NHS's offerings.

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

Author – Member of French Conversation Group

For details of this Group please contact;-

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

#### French Improvers - Joint Blackwater / Heybridge Group



Having recently returned from holidays in France where they had tried to practise their French, two of our members said how frustrating it was when French people persisted in speaking English to them. Nonetheless, we enjoy trying, unlike the English couple who owned the gîte where one member stayed. Apparently they spoke very little French and seemed to have no interest in village activities, preferring to socialise only with other English ex-pats. We will continue our efforts next month when we meet at 14.00 on 28 September chez Peter.

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

#### **Gardening Group**

Twelve people came to the private visit to Paternoster House, so many thanks for your support. It was a large country garden, carved out from a bramble-infested wilderness and planted with many unusual trees and shrubs, with a pretty flower garden near the house. Our hosts gave us an interesting tour, and delicious tea and cakes in the barn afterwards, even bringing out their prizewinning cats to show us.



Paternoster House Garden

The last visit for this year is to 37 Underhill Road, Benfleet, on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 14.00. Details are in the Yellow Book and the programme, and I will be happy to give a lift to anyone who needs it.

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

#### **Italian Conversation**

This Italian Conversation Group meets twice a month, usually on the first and third Monday of the month, at 10 00 at my house. We are a small but friendly group of varied abilities who meet to practise speaking Italian.

The next meetings will be

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October

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

#### **Local History Group**

The sun did not shine on us in Wivenhoe but the rain could not dampen our enthusiasm, and enjoyment, throughout our guided walk of this historic gem. Our guide, Doreen, is a local, and certainly knows her town and how to share its stories with her audience.

Dates for the diary:

15<sup>th</sup> September – Stow Maries Aerodrome. 21 people have booked and paid and this is now full. Meet there for 14.00.

20<sup>th</sup> October - Robin Carpenter: This is now a guided walk of Silver End, near Braintree. Meet there for 14.00. Contact Carol if you wish to come.

17<sup>th</sup> November – planning meeting

Carol Greenhalgh: phone 01621 840339 or Email <a href="mailto:george.smeed@virgin.net">george.smeed@virgin.net</a>.

#### **Luncheon Group**

As the Ballroom dancing is not running now, I thought it might be possible to arrange a lunch on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September, alternatively Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September; this latter doesn't appear to clash with much in the September diary.

I propose a visit to Bartellas at Margaretting. He is running a *Prix Fixe* lunch again this year, similar to the one we took last year, with one course (main) for £9.50, two courses for £12.50 or three courses for £15.50.

I will put a list and copy of the menu in the Committee Room on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September. The menu can also be seen on the Bartellas web site.

Please come and join us indicating which date is preferable.

John W Harrison: e-mail johnwharrison@sky.com

#### **Musical Variety Group**

Heather Lealen is rethinking the format of this group. 01621 857678 E-Mail heather@facetsoflove.co.uk

#### **Patchwork Group**

he next meeting of the Patchwork Group will be in the Claydon Room on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 14:00.

Anne Thorpe E-mail <a href="mailto:Anne.thorpe@btinternet.com">Anne Thorpe E-mail</a> <a href="mailto:Anne.thorpe@btinternet.com">Anne Thorpe E-mailto:Anne.thorpe@btinternet.com</a> or phone 01621 850828.

#### **Petanque Group**

The weather in the month of August was compatible for us to play and only one week was very , very hot. Then at the end of the month came the rain and as it poured all the morning and gently rained all the afternoon we could not play. Blackwater U3A had asked if we wanted to play in an all-day tournament the next day, and they must have had a lovely sunny morning but the rain came again in the afternoon raining nonstop until almost 4pm as I write this. As it was, with some members on holiday in faraway

places we could not raise a team so it would have been a short day. However we have had between 9 and 14 members each week so that has been a good number playing regularly except for holidays. The next Monday will be a Bank Holiday with no play for us, it will be September when we meet again and then we should have six more weeks to try and improve our skills. We are at the terrain on the Promenade on Monday afternoons from 14.00 to 16.00 with refreshments afterwards so come along if you would like to have a go. We shall be there until the middle of October when we shall hibernate again until March

Barbrook <u>c.barbrook@sky.com</u>

#### **Photography Group**

The meeting was held in the Jubilee Lounge at the West Maldon Community Centre with 11 members attending.

The assignment subject for the August meeting, which had been agreed at the July meeting, was "A Face (Animal, Vegetable or Mineral)".

Members managed to provide some interesting photos ranging from People's faces, sundials, statues and ornaments among other interpretations. Each member commented on their photos and we discussed the attributes of the photos and where and how they had been taken. We also discussed problems encountered when printing photos.

During the meeting we decided that for the next meeting the subject matter for our photos would be "a Street Scene"

Everyone is welcome; whatever type of camera you use, whether you are a phone snapper, a SLR user or if you use any other camera.

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 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

# Carole Overy

t is with great sadness that this group has learnt of the death of our group organiser Carole Overy.

Carole had been a member of the group for 6 years and organiser for the past 2 years. She was always organised, well informed and kept us in order with her dry humour. Carole loved to read and over the years we have shared many interesting discussions about the books we have read. Carole was always modest, independent and determined. I doubt that many in this U3A were aware that she had, during her younger years, whilst working and bringing up her family, obtained an Open University Degree.

As a very stable happy group most of us have known Carole for the 6 years we have met together to discuss our books. We are grateful to have had Carole in our midst and we will all miss her.

We met this month as you may appreciate with considerable sadness to discuss Hannah Kent's book Burial Rites.

Set in Northern Iceland in 1829 it told of a woman condemned to death for murdering her lover.

Of the family forced to take her in and the priest tasked with absolving her.

Only she can know the truth, but time is running out, winter is coming and with it the execution date.

This month, with this book, we had a story enjoyed by all, and we found it gripping and well written. A debut book for this young author, she provided both atmosphere and tension, creating an enjoyable read and a certain amount of admiration from us for her first attempt at authorship.

We went on to make some decisions about the list of books we want for the coming year and each of us will obtain information about named books from the internet and next month we will discuss our findings and compile a list for the librarian.

This month's meeting will take place at Plantation Hall Heybridge on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 14.15.

Any enquiries about the group can be made via Ann Lees 01245 225153.

#### **Scrabble Group**

The Scrabble group members were so engrossed at the last meeting that we scarcely noticed the rain; such was the level of concentration. We frequently grumble about the tiles we have picked up, the words we *nearly* made and how someone has put a word down just where we had thought to put our own. This is usually accompanied with gales of laughter and at the end of the session we feel we have had a good time. Why not come and have a game with us on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 14.00 in the Claydon 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**

We decided that we would not meet in July and August, so the next meeting will be at14.00 on the 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

.Anybody new wishing to play please contact me Dave Mason (CoG) on 01261 858635

E-mail tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk

# **Technical Computing Group**

This was another very successful meeting when a mixture of items were discussed, we started by talking about the new Windows 10 operating system that is now available as a free download to computers running Windows 7, or Windows 8, or 8.1, our opinion and advice is to think very carefully before upgrading to Windows 10, as some of the features you are used to, may not be included in 10. You do have the chance after installing 10 to revert to your original operating system for **one month**, but after that time you will need the installation disks you had to re-download, also all your data will be lost, so our advice is **To Think Carefully** before installing Windows 10. I will be only too pleased to give free telephone help to any U3A member who may be having a problem after upgrading to Windows 10.

We also discussed different ways of manipulating photos in the Photoshop program, and the various ways in which email can be worked.

Our next meeting is on Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> of September at my house, when any new members are most welcome, please contact me first, either by email or phone.

I would like to thank Norman, and his wife for their hospitality, and the lovely homemade cake, and biscuits.

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

#### **Ten Pin Bowling**

Considering the time of the year, there was a good turnout of 11 players. "Cannon Ball" Graham achieved the amazing score of 192 which is a U3A record and his personal best. Congratulations! Nevertheless the equipment on his lane had to be taken out of service after the session for repair and restoration, only joking!!! It was a day for record breaking scores - Gloria scored her personal best at 136 and Simon achieved a "turkey" (three consecutive strikes).

Regardless of any personal score, we always have a good laugh and the emphasis is on the social side of things rather than individual bowling technique or ability.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 13.45 for 14.00 start. New players always welcome.

It is helpful to me for players to arrive 15 minutes before we start so that I can allocate bowlers for the lanes we are using.

Lynne Morrison 01621 891288 lejmorrison@gmail.com

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

Our August meeting, on a pleasant, sunny afternoon, was joined by a surprising visitor. We were sitting around a table when an assured character entered the room, obviously considering himself to be a potential member of the group. But, as we were neither engaged in hunting or eating, he twitched his whiskers, put up his tail and stalked back out into the garden. After much laughter we settled down to work. As usual the work being done was varied and colourful. One of our new members was quilting some very pretty pictures of trees with mottos, it will be interesting to see them when finished.



Table mat Photo Pat Newman

The picture this month is of an unusual tablemat, using a perforated, insulating plastic core, instead of the usual canvas, and therefore being both decorative and useful.

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

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

#### **Ukulele Group**

Can I please ask those who applied to join the Ukulele group, then failed to turn up after their first meeting without explanation, to let me know if they no longer wish to attend?

I don't like to read the riot act but, as places in the group are limited to ten and we regularly receive calls from would-be strummers, we must be certain of who is, and who is not, a member.

Also, as Barbara is kind enough to allow us to meet in her lounge and to provide refreshments for all, she needs to know how many to cater for.

A quick phone call to 01621 859060 will suffice.

We still welcome calls on the above number from anyone interested in joining us as spaces become available.

Meanwhile, the speed at which our 'regulars' are learning new numbers is quite astonishing.

All are more than competent in half a dozen or more songs and tunes, and at each session new ones are added to the repertoire.

Our work in progress currently consists of around a dozen widely differing numbers, ranging in mood from 'The Sloop John B' to 'Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue.'

Quite an achievement after just three monthly sessions, - plus a lot of practice at home. Well done all!

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

# **Walking Group**

here was no walk on which to report in August.

The September walk will be in and around Great Leighs, distance given as 3 1/2 miles.

Take the Boreham Road into Great Leighs and park at the village hall. at 14.00 Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Map and description found "healthy life Essex.co.uk - Sandy Lay and Moat Woods

Please let me know if you will be joining us and if you need or can offer transport.

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

#### **Weekenders Group**

Following on from our last coffee morning at Wilkins Jam Factory, quite a few events have emerged. Meals out, theatre and bus trips and dare I say it this early but our Christmas Lunch has been booked. Our next coffee morning will be at Peartree Pantry on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> and as we were so busy last month no further meetings were arranged but this we can do in September

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

#### Wine Appreciation Group

After 3 years of visiting local vineyards and Wine Merchants, as well as meetings at which we learnt about wine growing around the world, it is time to put our knowledge into practice and have a break from meetings for a while. Watch out for future meetings and events to be detailed in the News sheet early 2016.

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

#### Further Information and details of events

The following events are planned for this and next 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.

<u>September</u>. – I'm looking forward to meeting all travellers to the Royal Dockyards at Chatham, at the Colchester Road bus –stop (opposite Wood Road) at 08.50 on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

October 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015. The trip to Bletchley Park is booked with members from Blackwater and Maldon U3As joining us for the day. A Fords 53 seater coach has been booked and travel will cost £14.00 per person. Entrance to Bletchley Park is £13.00 for concessions in a group. Pick-up point on the day will be the Tesco bus-stop at 8.30. Tickets will be available at the September full meeting.

November A change of date for the social evening – it will now be on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> 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. Please sign up and let us know, via the form, which board games you like to play and whether you will bring a game to share.

<u>January 2016</u> The cost per person for the minibus to the Savoy on 5<sup>th</sup> January to see *Guys & Dolls* is £14.00, payable by October 9<sup>th</sup>. More details later.

<u>February 2016</u>. Transport to and from the theatre on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February to see *Jersey Boys* will be by Ford coaches. The cost - £14.00 will be due by 9<sup>th</sup> October. More details later.

<u>Ideas for 2016</u> These are a few ideas I have gathered when talking to members. Nothing booked as yet, but please look out for the lists and sign if interested.

#### April 2016

A visit to Hever Castle in Kent, the 13<sup>th</sup> Century childhood home of Ann Boleyn is being considered. As well as the usual and very interesting panelled rooms with fine furniture and antiques, there is a rare collection of Tudor portraits. But my favourite exhibition is a group of life-sized costumed figures which almost bring the Tudor times to life. Entrance fee is £11.65 in 2015. More details later.

#### May 2016

In May a visit to Kensington Palace. This Palace was the home of the young Princess, later Queen Victoria and later still, the home of Princess Diana. The trip may include a look at the famous statue of Peter Pan, by the Serpentine, as well as the Diana Memorial playground. We shall also be close to the Royal Albert Hall, The Albert Memorial and even Exhibition Road

#### June 2016

In June we may visit the historical cathedral city of Canterbury. At the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> century AD the city of Canterbury was the capital of the kingdom of Kent, ruled by the powerful Anglo-Saxon King Ethelbert. During his reign Christianity was re-introduced by Augustine a monk sent from Rome by Pope Gregory the Great. Canterbury was thus established as the centre of Christianity in England. The Cathedral is a must see!

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.

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:

A copy of the 2014/15 Annual Report and Accounts of the Third Age Trust is available including a budget for 2015/2016.

Events Mailing List - you can now sign up to receive this by email.

New National Subject Advisors:

- Military history Mike Fox mike.fox2@ntlworld.com
- Petangue Andrew Lloyd petangue@btinternet.com
- Poetry Ray Solly dr.rsolly\_author@btinternet.com

All now have pages to be found in the Members' Area of the website under Subject Advice.

Herts Network - Magna Carta, Liberty and Democracy - Venue 360, in Luton on 14 October

U3A Explores Science at the RI - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October, admission by ticket only,£20. To book a place visit the Members' Area of the website, www,u3a.org.uk, where you can book and pay online.

Exploring Elgar - 'Sir Edward Elgar and his Interpreters' at the Elgar Birthplace, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015. Places limited to 40, tickets £17 including refreshments. See flier on the noticeboard for more details.

What makes great theatre? A day of workshops and debate at Piccadilly Theatre, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015. Cost £35 per person, cut-off date 30<sup>th</sup> September. Book online using PayPal See Events in the Members' Area of the website or see noticeboard for flier.

"Face Value" - Exploring Portraiture, The National Gallery Collection, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015, £18.00 per person. Book online by visiting the events page in the Members' Area of the national website, www.u3a.org.uk

- Brooklands Museum "VC10 and Her Royal Connections" talk and visit, 2016 dates available. Also Writing Workshops for U3A members at Brooklands, 15<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Nov 2015, 14<sup>th</sup> &28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016, see notice on U3A board at meeting.
- "Stem Cells, Regeneration and Cancer" at the Francis Crick Institute, Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015. How are discoveries made, and how do scientists develop new cancer therapies? Free on first come, first served basis. Ticket requests to U3A National Office.
- U3A Christmas Concert with Brandenberg Singers and Organ at the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015, 14.00 or 17.30 £18.00 per person.
- Shared Learning Project at King's College, London, researching Victorian Lives. More details on the flier, requires a commitment to attend weekly on Tuesdays from 6<sup>th</sup> October to 1<sup>st</sup> December, conduct research in own time and contribute to final presentation 8<sup>th</sup> December.

#### From Other U3As

**Blackwater U3A** are running a weekend trip to Kendal, from 30<sup>th</sup> Oct to 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov, £139.00 includes coach travel, 2 full day excursions, 3 nights dinner bed and breakfast at the County Hotel.. Contact Dawn Mundy at <a href="mailto:dawnmundy21@btinternet.com">dawnmundy21@btinternet.com</a>

# Blackwater U3A history group

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October I am organising a visit to Charles Darwin House travelling by coach leaving WMCC at 8.15 it will be an all day visit. £13 for the coach and £9.50 entrance to the house. Email dorreen at **dorreen@ianlinton.demon.co.uk** 

# **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	lan Newman	01621 891184 ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk			
Creative Writing	Angela Pleasance	01621850310 angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk			
Croquet	ТВА				
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	Ann Lees	01245 225153 annlees@yahoo.com			
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 <u>e.m.e@talktalk.net</u>			
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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7th September	7 Petanque 14.00 Italian conversation 10.00	8 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	9 French Conversation 10.00 Solo Whist 14.00	10 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	11 Monthly Meeting 14.00	12	13
14th September	Petanque 14.00	Local History 14.00	16 Book Group 14.15	17 Computer 14.00 Croquet 10:00	18 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00	19 Weekenders Pear tree pantry 10.00	20 Royal Dockyards
21st September	21 Petanque 14.00 Italian conversation 10.00	22 Scrabble 14.00	23 Creative Writing Group 14.30	24 Family History 11.00  Beginners Family History 10.00	25 Copy to Editor Bird Watching 14.00 Painting 14.00	26	27
28th September	28 Petanque 14.00 French Improvers 14.00	29	30	1 <sup>st</sup> October Photography 14.00 Croquet 10:00	2 Committee Mtg 10.00 Painting 14.00	3	4
5th October	5 Petanque 14.00 Italian conversation 10.00	6 Threads 14.00	7 Cards & Paper Crafts 14.00 Ukulele group 14.00 French Conversation 10.00	8 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	9 Monthly Meeting 14.00	10	11
12th October	Petanque 14.00 Patchwork 14.00	Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	14 Book Group 14.15 Solo Whist 14.00	15 Computer 14.00 Croquet 10:00	16 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00	17	18
19th October	19 Petanque 14.00 Italian conversation 10.00	20 Local History 14.00	21 Bletchley Park	22	23 Bird Watching 14.00 Painting 14.00	24	25
26th October	26 French Improvers 14.00	27 Scrabble 14.00	28 Creative Writing Group 14.30	29	30 Copy to Editor Painting 14.00	31	1 <sup>st</sup> Nov