



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Heybridge U3A

News Sheet No.8/2018

September 2018

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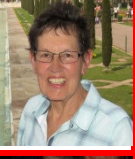





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Refreshment Group Rota

September	Painting 2
October	Petanque
November	Photography
December	Reading & Books

Please provide 3 people to serve refreshments

Your Committee

Chairman	Jenny Parker	
chairman@heybridgeu3a.org.uk		
01621 843581		
Secretary	Linda Etherton	
secretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk		
01621 843702		
Treasurer	Jill McGregor	
treasurer@heybridgeu3a.org.uk		
01621 842595		
Membership Secretary	Philippa Moody	
membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk		
01245 381379		
Events Secretary	Liz Cawdell	
eventssecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk		
07902 294741		
Groups Co-ordinator	Hilary Furniaux	
groupsco-ordinator@heybridgeu3a.org.uk		
07411 450634		
Speaker Secretary	Jan Brown	
speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk		
01621 856989		
News Sheet Editor	Geoff Hadley	
editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk		
01621 852494		

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

From the Chair

Why is it that time seems to pass so much more quickly as we get older? I can remember as a child crying myself to sleep on my birthday as it was a whole year until the next one. Now they come round with alarming frequency, and the same applies to AGMs. As most of you know, our AGM (Annual General Meeting) takes place every March. This is when, amongst other things, we need to elect new committee members to replace those who are standing down. March may seem a long way off, but we need to start planning now.

At the August monthly meeting I advised that, for family reasons, Liz will be standing down as Events Secretary at the AGM, so we will need someone to replace her if we are to continue offering the outings and trips which many of you enjoy. I too will be standing down, having done six years as Membership Secretary and two as Chair. I've enjoyed my time on the Committee, but think eight years is enough!

You're probably wondering why I'm telling you this now, when the AGM is not until March. The fact is, without a Chairman, our U3A would have to close. As we have no Vice Chair who could take over, we have six months when those who might be interested could attend committee meetings to find out what's involved. If you know someone who would be a good candidate for either vacancy, please encourage him/her to contact me. Many thanks.

Jenny Parker

From the Editor

The design of the Heybridge U3A News Sheet, and the reports that it contains, is a full-page layout of 12 pages in a large font as several groups didn't meet last month. I would ask contributors to limit their photos to pictures of U3A generated activities and not copy pictures from Websites as, when published, this may be contrary to Copyright laws. Information about the Committee Members and their reports can be found in the first few pages. The back page 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' as the subject..

Contact Geoff Hadley editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Membership Secretary

Membership continues to climb steadily but as current members are our best advertisement, please continue to spread the word. I have "In Case of Emergency" contact cards for your use so please collect one from me at a monthly meeting.

If you have any special need about which we could help, please let me know in confidence. It could be an obvious sight or hearing loss or perhaps something less visible. We will do our very best to help and ensure that you get the most out of your membership.

Philippa Moody E-mail membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

Interest Groups Coordinator

The Gardens Group will not be continuing as from March 2019. It has been going for nearly 10 years but the group have run out of ideas and decided that it is time to end.

I visited only 1 group during the Summer holidays, the Books and Reading Group. It was interesting to hear how people viewed the book they read quite differently! We also had a discussion about various authors and genres. I hope to be able to book visits to some of the remaining Groups from September.

Hilary Furniaux groupsco-ordinator@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

Monthly Meeting Speaker Programme for September to December 2018

Fri Sep 14th Colchester Zoo its history, modern day role and conservation arm 'Action for the Wild'

Fri Oct 12th History of Surnames - Charlie Haylock

Fri Nov 9th History of Harrods - Eve Regelous

Fri Dec 14th Heybridge Xmas Party U3A Ukulele Group

I always welcome your comments, if you enjoyed a speaker, or not. Feel free to speak to me at our monthly meeting or send an email to the address below. It helps me to plan future meetings. Please let me know of any talks you may have heard and think others would find interesting

Jan Brown E-Mail speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

GROUP REPORTS

Art Group

The end of August coincided with the resumption of normal summer weather. This affected the artists in this group in two ways. In the very hot weather we had problems with paint, especially watercolours drying too quickly, but also the quality of light was different. In the very hot sunny weather the pale, delicate colours we normally favour looked insipid, but now the stronger colours used during the days of strong sun look unenglish. One realises why the Victorian watercolourists normally painted in the early morning when venturing abroad.



The picture this month is of a very English watercolour of a house in contrast to August's picture which had more southerly origins.

For information about this group contact Tina Martin

Bird Watching Group

There was no meeting in August and the next outing is on Friday 28th September
For more information, please contact Maureen Lenoir

Cards and Paper Crafts

We had a full house of paper crafters this month. Between us we finished 2 special Birthday cards and several Christmas cards. A couple of members decided that November was early enough to make Christmas cards! But since one member makes these cards for a regular order it had to be started early. We enjoyed a drink with some delicious shortbread biscuits and had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon catching up with each other.

Linda Lesley Woonton

Creative Writing Group

There is no new report this month as we did not meet in August, but reminders that the next assignment is a piece including the words perpendicular; procrastinate; splintered; secret; fabric; iota; and bamboozled. The September meeting will be at Barbara's house and I hope to host the October one, although that might have to be altered if my drive is still full of scaffolding

For information about the group, please contact Angela Pleasance.

Croquet Group

August was a mixed month, fifteen of us played on the first Thursday on a rather hot day, no one did anything spectacular, the lawns still looking a little 'golden'. We were quite glad to have a refreshing drink in the club house after play. The second Thursday we played was very different, it was much cooler and only thirteen of us turned up, during the second game it started to drizzle but, we played on. Everyone wanted to continue for a third game during which as the lawns became wetter so the balls moved faster, Yvonne managed a 'hoop in one' (well done), the umbrellas came out but, we eventually had to abandon the game, pack up quickly and beat a hasty retreat, some straight home to dry off and a few of us to the club house for a hot drink. We play for gentle exercise, good company and fun.

Anne Newson:

Discussion Coffee Morning Group

We met on 17th August at Jean's house and had a good morning. Jean provided tasty duck pate bites and biscuits which kept us happily chatting.

Our next meeting will be at 11am on Friday 21st September at Anne Newson's house

Margaret Brown

Family History Group

There was no meeting in August, but I will see you on 27th September in the Claydon room, Plantation Hall. Jean Rogers

French Group

French Conversation



Nine of us attended the August meeting at Pat Newman's house, where we discussed an article from a French magazine which claimed that children's position in a family affects their personality. The eldest, being the only one to benefit from his/her parents' sole attention, was said to be a perfectionist, the best behaved and the most responsible. The middle child was considered the most flexible, diplomatic and conciliatory, while the youngest (*le benjamin*) was deemed to be creative and carefree, used

to being indulged by the others. This provoked a lively discussion and it was generally agreed that the analysis was pretty accurate.

As we are now 11 in the group, it has become increasingly difficult to fit into members' homes. I have therefore booked the Claydon Room at the Plantation Hall for the next three meetings (Sept/Oct/Nov) as a trial. Our first meeting there is on Wednesday 12th September, 10.00 – 12.00.

French Improvers

The joint Blackwater / Heybridge French Improvers Group did not meet in August because of the Bank Holiday. We next meet on Monday 24th September, venue TBA

For further information about either French Group, please phone Jenny Parker

Gardens Group

Our last visit for this summer will be on Sunday 16th September at 2pm to Sandy Lodge in Halstead. This is a three-quarter acre garden, very peaceful, with stunning views over the countryside.

Pat Yates.

Local History Group

We had an afternoon feeling a bit like we were on the film set for the Harrison Ford film "Raiders of the Lost Ark", or maybe something suitable for a murder scene for an episode "Midsommer Murders". Yes, our imaginations were a bit wild but the brickworks at Marks Tey certainly fuelled this with its out-of- this-time set up of clay mills, sand heaps, trollies on rails etc. The company was begun in 1863 and although some things are done mechanically the majority of the individual bricks are hand-formed in the way they always have been, mostly of clay from the on-site clay pits. The very small workforce, two in the office and three in the works, manage to produce enough bricks to fill the kiln for firing about every three weeks, that's about 18,000 bricks. Each maker produces approximately 2,750 bricks per week. The average three-bedroom house takes about 13,500 bricks. Wooden moulds are constructed to individual requirements and they have a great store of these so that bricks may then be replicated. [We saw some marked for Eton College].



Handmade Bricks

Wooden Brick Moulds

We are going to Willingale in September, for a guided visit to its two churches that share the same church yard. Then in October we are back at West Maldon Community Centre for a talk by Kate Cole, on 'Al Capone's car and the Southend Kursaal'.

Please contact Carol for more information. Carol Greenhalgh

Music Appreciation Group

Unfortunately the building work at my house prevented the group meeting in August. I hope very much that conditions will improve and allow us to meet on 19th September

Philippa Moody

Needlecraft

Our 2nd meeting went really well with 5 of us attending. We had a mix again of cross stitching, crochet and hand sewing. Three members had finished the projects they were working on last month and had started new ones. One member had been struggling with her cross stitch and was helped by another member of our group, which is what it's all about. We all had a lovely chat over a cuppa, I decided I really hate hand sewing, a bit of crochet was unpicked and re-done – but we all enjoyed our time together.

Hilary Furniaux

Painting 2

When we meet next on September 10th Linda will be looking after you and answering any questions that you may have. She will also be asking for volunteers to make the tea as she will be bringing the T bags etc. We are also making the tea at the next Main meeting and I have already asked for three people to help me on 14th September when our group has been allocated to make the tea for that meeting. I hope that you will have finished your pieces of Art work, if they were not finished at the last meeting, and I shall be looking forward to seeing them. We shall soon be in the situation of the falling leaves following them turning beautiful colours of yellow and brown when trees are making your landscapes in amazing colours. You can use your colour mixing charts for this purpose. At the moment the Sky Arts programmes are showing past programmes of "The Portrait Artist of the Year", but soon they will also be showing "The Landscape Artist of the Year". That is usually on Tuesday evenings. There is also an exhibition of local Artists at the Maeldoon Centre in Maldon; I hope you will have seen that advertised. So keep up the good work and I will see you soon

.Barbara Barbrook

Patchwork Group

We are on our summer break during August and our next Patchwork meeting will be on Monday September 10th at 2:00 pm at the West Maldon Community Centre.
For more information contact Anne Thorpe.

Petanque Group

Another month flown by, time flies when you are having fun.....which we have been, playing on the Maldon Prom.....good attendances and good games , well done everyone! A big thank you again to Roger and Chris who kindly stood in for me again, whilst I moved house. With Autumn just around the corner, the weather man has promised an Indian Summer, so hopefully lots more sunny games to come. Just a reminder, we now play on after October, and through the winter months, so Petanque can be enjoyed all year round Dian

Photography Group

We did not meeting during August. Our next meeting will be on the 6th.September 2018 when the assignment subject is to select of "three of the best" images taken since our July meeting. We expect a wide range of interesting photos to be included in this sequence.

If you are interested in photography or want to understand more about your camera or cameraphone, you are welcome to come along and join us. We meet in the West Maldon Community Centre on the first Thursday of each month at 2.00pm.

Peter Thorpe

Reading and Books Group

We discussed the book we had read as usual, although several members did not like it at all. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 19th September at 2pm at Jean's home in Gt. Totham. We will be discussing "The Moment" by Douglas Kennedy which has been described as "controlled and gripping, bittersweet and romantic" and "a morally complex page turner

If you are interested in joining the group, please email or telephone Margaret Hurst

Scrabble Group

The group did not meet in August but will resume at 2.00 pm on the 25th September, I won't now be able to host the September meeting, but ask that another member of the group will be able to do so.

In the meantime here are some random Scrabble facts:

- If all the Scrabble tiles ever produced were placed end to end they would reach the equivalent of eight times round the Earth
- more than one million missing Scrabble tiles are *somewhere* in the world

If you would like to join us please let me know: we have several Scrabble boards available and are happy to encourage new players. My contact details are on the list of CoGs Linda Etherton

Technical Computing Group

Our last meeting was held at Ian's house, where the majority of the two hours was spent discussing how we were going to suggest to the Chairman the proposed method of making the archive file of old News Sheets acceptably to conform to the new 'Data Legislation'. After considering various options, we decided that (a) we do not want to delete the whole archive or (b) go through the news sheets and delete all members, whether past or present, from the news sheets. While it is an implacable suggestion, we, in the end, decided that we make the archive files password protected. This was our recommended suggestion.

In last month's newsletter I mentioned about a members problem with an external drive. As an update on this I can say that it proved to be a faulty caddy, not the hard drive itself. A new caddy was purchased, the old drive installed, and all worked satisfactorily.

I would like to thank Pat & Ian for their kind hospitality. Next meeting is on September the 13th

Colin Mason

Ten Pin Bowling

We decided that Madison Heights would be invaded by children during August so there was no meeting last month. Our next session will be on Tuesday 11th September at the usual time of 1.45pm for 2pm start. New members always welcome. We pay the concessionary price of £4.75 for up to two hours play with shoe hire. This is followed by tea or coffee and biscuits, bargain!

Please ring me if you would like to join us, you will be most welcome. Lynne Morrison

Ukulele Group UKE3A

Our Musical Director has now safely returned from her trip to Australia and the group will be meeting as usual on the first Wednesday of each month from 2-4pm.

Barbara Barbrook

Walking Group

There was no walk in August. The next walk will be on Thursday 13th September around Tiptree. Linda Wells.

Weekday Lunch Group

The Group met on 7th August at the Ship Pub in Tiptree. This is an excellent venue. The food is very good and very reasonably priced especially for those of later years!

We had a very pleasant lunch with loads of chat and news of holidays recently taken and those to come.

We will be meeting again on the 4th September at 12.30 at the Lock Café Heybridge Basin for our next get –together.

Jean Perrott

Weekenders Group

We met at the up-market West Street Vineyard this month and it was lovely to sit outside on a really nice Saturday morning. The grounds are quite extensive with row upon row of English wines. The restaurant specialises in locally grown produce and is modern, light and airy. Unfortunately, on that day, they were unable to offer the usual variety of coffee types. However nine members found their way there and enjoyed a lively discussion.

Dates and details of our next meetings.

Saturday 15th September – We meet at the Osea View Café at 10.00. I shall be at the main meeting on Friday 14th but not at this meeting.

Saturday 13th October – This time we meet at the Sunny Sailor on the Fullbridge, Heybridge at 10.00.

Please contact me if you need directions or a lift.

Pat Smith

Yoga Group

Reminder. Wednesday 19th September. This is the date for the first meeting of the continuing session of five weeks of Yoga in the Plantation, beginning at 2pm.

Bette Cumming our teacher and I look forward to welcoming previous members and our new members. Just one vacancy available, please contact me for information

Following dates are 26th Sept. Then 3rd-10th and 17th October.

Contact Gloria Bomford COG YOGA.

REMINDER

Cyber Crime Presentation

Wednesday, 24th October 2018, 10.00 – 12.00, West Maldon Community Centre.

Many of us now use on-line banking, emails and credit cards and can, if we're not careful, become victims of cybercrime. You may have heard reports in the press or seen News items on the television about different scams and tricks used.

To help explain how we may be affected by these, Barry Linton of Westcliff U3A and David Gibb from Essex Police have put together a presentation showcasing the various methods criminals use and how we can protect ourselves.

As this event is a joint venture with the other U3As in the Maldon area, places are limited. If you would like to attend this very informative talk, either: **email Jill McGregor at**

treasurer@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

or phone her on 01621 842595 to book a place.

There is no charge for this event but please don't delay as seats will go quickly.



CHRISTMAS SPECIAL!

Friday 7th December 2018 – Saturday 8th December

Here is a fantastic opportunity to step aboard Cruise and Maritime's lovely cruise ship, 'THE MAGELLAN'.

No need to worry about sea-sickness! We board the 'Magellan' on Friday afternoon, enjoy a delicious five course dinner followed by a fabulous show. Stay overnight with breakfast the following morning. Included in the price are welcome cocktails and half a bottle of

wine per person with the meal – and all without putting to sea at all!

Twin cabin, inside - £99.00 per person

Twin cabin, outside - £109 per person

Single cabin, inside - £109 per person

Single cabin, outside - £119 per person

For more information, please contact the Events Secretary (details on the front of the newsletter)

Obituary: Beryl Claydon

Those of you who remember Beryl will be saddened to learn that she died last week. Beryl was a member of our U3A from its inception in 2009. A former school teacher, she served on the Heybridge Parish Council and, in recognition of her services, the Claydon Room in the Plantation Hall was named after her.

Beryl was also a keen local historian and in August 2012 she launched her book on the history of Heybridge in the 19th and 20th centuries. Peter Thorpe, Chairman at the time, wrote in the News Sheet:



Many of us have been aware that Beryl was writing a book but few, if any, were aware of the scope and level of detail involved in her research. It is easy to read, as it is written in a style which emphasises the facts in an anecdotal way, as if the topic is being talked about by the people involved at the time. At nearly 300 pages, this is an impressive book and I am sure that it will be an important source of information for those interested in the local history of our piece of Essex for many years to come.

If local history interests you, you might be still able to buy her book on-line

[In and Around Heybridge in the 19th and 20th Centuries..](#)

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

Week Commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
3 Sep	3 Petanque 14.00 Cards & paper 14.00	4 Weekday Lunch 12.30	5 Ukulele 14.00	6 Croquet 10.00 Photography 14.00	7 Committee Meeting 10.00 Painting 14.00	8	9
10 Sep	10 Petanque 14.00 Painting 2 14.00 Patchwork 14.00	11 Ten pin 14.00	12 French Conversation 10.00	13 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	14 Monthly Meeting 14.00	15 Weekenders Osea View café 10.00	16 Gardens Sandy Lodge Halstead 14.00
17 Sep	17 Petanque 14.00 Needlecraft 14.00	18 Local History 14.00	19 Reading & Books 14.00 Yoga 14.00 Music 14.00	20 Croquet 10.00	21 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00	22	23
24 Sep	24 Petanque 14.00 French Improvers 14.00	25 Scrabble 14.00	26 Creative Writing 14.30 Yoga 14.00	27 Family History 10.00	28 Painting 14.00 Bird Watching 10.00	29	30
1 Oct	1 Petanque 14.00 Cards & paper 14.00	2 Weekday Lunch 12.30	3 Ukulele 14.00 Yoga 14.00	4 Croquet 10.00 Photography 14.00	5 Committee Meeting 10.00 Painting 14.00	6	7
8 Oct	8 Petanque 14.00 Painting 2 14.00 Patchwork 14.00	9 Ten pin 14.00	10 French Conversation 10.00 Yoga 14.00	11 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	12 Monthly Meeting 14.00	13 Weekenders Sunny Sailor Fullbridge 10.00,	14
15 Oct	15 Petanque 14.00 Needlecraft 14.00	16 Local History 14.00	17 Reading & Books 14.00 Yoga 14.00 Music 14.00	18 Croquet 10.00	19 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00	20	21
22 Oct	22 Petanque 14.00 French Improvers 14.00	23 Scrabble 14.00	24 Creative Writing 14.30 Cyber Crime Presentation 10.00 wmcc	25 Family History 10.00	26 Bird Watching 10.00 Painting 14.00	27	28
29 Oct	29 Petanque 14.00	30	31	1 Nov	2 Painting 14.00	3	4