



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Heybridge U3A

News Sheet No. 9/2014

October 2014

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

WE ARE SUCCEEDING

Help for the Editor

FOUND

'Meeters' & 'Greeters'
Found - more needed

Publicity

More help needed

(For more information see page 3)

Members Social Evening £8.00









Saturday 25th at 18:30

(See page 10 for more details)

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NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

From the Chairman

One of the topics which exercises the minds of our committee is making a decision on whether an activity is 'social' or 'educational', because according to the Charity Commission rules, we must not subsidize 'social' events. The monthly meeting is never considered to be anything other than 'educational' and this month's meeting was certainly that. I think that we all learnt more about 'Fire in the Home' and some of us were ticking off the list of do's and don'ts that we were given. It was all very well presented and certainly educational.

Activities such as the 'Fish and Chip Supper' do not fit well under the heading 'educational', but it could be argued that for a disparate group of people to get together and agree to play a variety of board games (Dominoes, Bridge Mah-jong) is a learning experience in itself. Maybe it is in the form of learning a new skill or taking on the responsibility of organising a team. Refreshments in the form of fish and chips will add to the occasion.

Joyce Woodham: phone 01621 841066 or Email woodham359@btinternet.com.

From the Editor

The layout of the Heybridge U3A News Sheet and the reports that it contains, remains the same as that produced earlier in the year. I have had some limited feedback about reading the text on line. To assess your needs I requested in last month's News Sheet your comments between one and two columns. I have had a very limited response (in single figures) with no notable combined preference. With no real preference for change, I will therefore leave the layout for the News Sheet as it was produced in August and September.

Information about the Committee Members and their reports can still 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. Does this layout and content provide sufficient detail for you as the Members of the Heybridge U3A, to understand what the Committee Members and Group Leaders (CoGs) do and how your money is spent? In addition, copies of the Committee Meeting Minutes are being established and the most recent ones can be seen at the Monthly Meetings in a ring clip folder near the check in table.

The back page (p12) shows the Diary page, which has been updated to the end of November 2014.

Please keep me up to date with any interesting stories, relevant pictures or anything that relates to

The Heybridge U3A or the U3A movement as a whole. Continue to send details to me, preferably by email with 'Heybridge U3A' in the title. Alternatively talk to me at the Monthly Meeting.

An early warning to CoGs. As last year, there will be no January issue of the News Sheet. The November issue will need to cover the period November 2014 through to February 2015 especially as it relates to the Diary.

Following my appeal for an assistant in last month's, News Sheet, I can now report that Geoff Hadley has agreed to assist me in this activity. It has been hard work for Geoff in slotting quickly and smoothly in with the production needs and the time frame that has developed over the years. We both wish to maintain the standard that you, as members of the Heybridge U3A want.

Contact me, Ian Newman, on any issue raised in the News Sheet by phone 01621 891184 or by Email ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk or speak to me at the Monthly Meeting.

From the Membership Secretary

Although we welcomed five visitors to the monthly meeting, there were no new members in September so membership remains at 160. It may be that new members are waiting until 1st October when the membership fee reduces to £10 for those joining in the second half of the membership year.

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

Jenny Parker.

For any queries regarding membership, please

Email jennyparker14@hotmail.com or phone me on 01621 843581. Or, If I am not available, please contact Angela by Email angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk or phone on 01621 850310.

From the Events Secretary

Planned Events

- Saturday 25th October. An autumn social evening at Plantation Hall. **Please see additional attraction!**
- Wednesday 25th February 2015. A tour of the Tractor Plant at Basildon.

- Friday 20th March 2015. A tour of the UK Supreme Court in Westminster. Now fully booked, but see page 9.
- Monday April 27th 2015. A coach trip to Kew Gardens.

Please see page 9 for details.

Heybridge U3A Monthly Meeting held on 12th September 2014

Secretary's note

Joyce enquired whether any members were drivers for Viking Transport as the committee were considering using it for U3A group visits and Linda Chaplin and Dave Mason were already drivers. Gill Thorne is unwell so COGs can contact any member of the committee for help or advice.

A request was made to the members that helpers are still needed for the Study Day on 28th October at the Plume School.

September 2014 Speaker

On 12th September Les Nicholl of Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, Dovercourt was due to give us a talk about "*Fire Safety in the Home*". Unfortunately, he was not able to come. In his place, Sue and Karen from the Essex Fire and Rescue Service Community Safety Department gave very helpful advice on reducing risks from fire in the home with the emphasis on prevention, detection and escape. The importance of smoke alarms in the role of detection was emphasised and the Fire Service will visit homes and fit smoke alarms for free. To arrange a free home fire safety visit call 0300 303 0088 or email webmaster@essex-fire.gov.uk

Future Heybridge U3A Monthly Meetings

The speaker at our next Monthly Meeting on the 10th October is William Tyler who will be returning to give us another of his fascinating and colourful historical talks. This time the subject is Winston Churchill.

On 14th November Dr. Vivien Newman, author of several books about *First World War Women* will give us a talk about "Women who Refused to Go Home and Sit Still".

In December, at the Monthly Meeting, Peter King, who describes himself as 'An Entertainer', will come to give

a talk entitled "A Life on the Road with Peter King" about his life as an actor on stage, film and TV.

In the New Year, William Marriage, Chairman, and Dudley Courtman of The Chelmer Canal Trust will be coming to give us a talk on some of the many aspects of The Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation. I am awaiting details of their talk and whether it will be January or February.

John W Harrison: phone 01621 854851 or Email johnwharrison@sky.com.

From the COGCo (Group Co-ordinator)

Jill is currently in hospital and is recovering steadily. Should any CoG or Member wish to discuss any topic that is normally covered by Jill, please do not hesitate to speak to one of the Committee (See page 1 column 2 for contact details).

From the Publicity Sub-Committee - We need your help!

Earlier this year, a Publicity Sub-Committee was set up with the aim of raising awareness of our U3A locally in order to attract more members from the Heybridge area. The four existing members of the sub-committee - Angela Pleasance, Linda Etherton, John Harrison and Jenny Parker - already spend time on U3A work as part of their main Committee roles. We would therefore welcome an additional pair of hands to undertake such tasks as leafleting, putting up posters and arranging advertising in local publications.

If you could spare some time and would like to know more, please contact one of us (*contact details on page 1*).

We are also seeking more 'meeters and greeters' to help welcome new members and visitors to monthly meetings. Two members have already volunteered but having a pool of 4-6 people would ensure that we have cover in case of absence.

Finally, COGs may be interested to know that we have now purchased a laminator and trimmer. If you would like to borrow these items to laminate items for your group, please contact Linda Etherton Contact details on Page 1).

GROUP REPORTS

Art (Painting) Group

The painting group is rapidly getting back to 'full house' as the autumn chills drive us all indoors.

However, we are missing one vital element - our much-loved pal Lois who had a bad tumble while gardening recently and was taken by ambulance to Broomfield Hospital with a serious hip injury.

What we feared would be an emergency op for an artificial hip actually turned out to be a pinning exercise, much like her other hip which was pinned following a fall a few years back.

Lois is now convalescing, under a deluge of 'get well' cards, at her son's home in Ongar. We are all missing her and wishing her a speedy recovery.

Meanwhile, the autumn colours of garden, countryside, estuary and sky will hopefully inspire us all to produce better and better masterpieces.

Report by Gill Carpenter

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

Bird Watching Group

We had hoped to visit Minsmere this month but with a misunderstanding about the cost and only four of us able to go we visited Chigborough Lakes instead.

It was a lovely morning as we arrived, but not many birds around. Chigborough has large groups of Herons and Little Egrets but today we only spotted one Heron. We watched the Swans for some time and what a lovely sight it was to see one gathering speed and taking off. I hope you enjoy the photograph Jill was able to take of this swan. There were also Black Headed and Herring Gulls, Little and Great Crested Grebe, all on the lakes, with a few Greylag Geese in the fields.



Lift Off: Author Jill McGregor

We did hear the Robin and Long tailed Tit in the trees and bushes but were not able to see them. It's a great place to visit and even better when ending the morning with a chat and a snack at the nearby café.

We have sorted out the problems and hope to visit Minsmere next month on the 24th October.

If you would like to join our friendly group get in touch with me.

Maureen: Email symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01621 869871.

Computer Group

We met, as usual, in September when we asked ourselves how we should search for and get answers from the WEB. We went through various topics that could cause malicious and virus embedded programs to access our PCs or laptops. We looked at ways to identify potential problems including looking at the actual hyperlink and comparing it with the words and description on the WEB page or in an email.

The BBC WEB site gave us a variety of ways to help keep us safe.

We finished the Session with Do's and Don'ts. A number of web sites had been used and a list of these, together with their hyperlink references, were sent by email to members of the group who had attended the meeting.

The meeting confirmed that there would be no December meeting and that the November meeting all would bring along a specific issue or subject to discuss in small groups. As part of that meeting the text for the December News Sheet would also be produced.

If you would like the help of a more experienced computer user to enable you to get more from your own computer please come along to our next meeting. The Computer Group 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.

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

Creative Writing Group

Several members of our group had difficulty making a Wish. However, we heard a variety of writing on the subject and had plenty of laughs.

May I please say a big "thank you" to my group for the beautiful hydrangea they gave me. It was a

lovely surprise and at time of writing I am still considering where to plant it to show it off to best advantage.

Our assignment for the next month is to take inspiration from a picture. I gave out postcards for those group members who were at the meeting and have plenty left if any other member would like one. Otherwise, please find a picture that inspires you.

The next meeting will be at 14:30 on 22nd October.

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

Croquet Group

Again the weather was good to us through September. I can't recall a single instance of rain preventing play this season! Unfortunately the playing season's coming to an end, although we may fit in one more session. Hopefully, we will find plenty to occupy us through the winter months before the 2015 season begins towards the end of April, when we can build upon the skills acquired in recent months. By means of the newsletter and monthly meetings I will advise, in good time, when play will be resumed.

John Gorrie. Email gorries@jprag.myzen.co.uk or phone 01621 854006

Discussion Coffee Morning Group

The September coffee morning was hosted by Jean Murray. It was a smaller gathering than usual due to holidays etc. Refreshments were kindly provided and enjoyed.

The next meeting will be at 11:00 on Friday 17th October at Lesley Pomphrett's house.

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

Family History Group

The report for September will be included with the October Report.

Lesley Pomphrett: phone 01621 817733 or Email lesleypommy@hotmail.com.

French Conversation Group

At our September meeting we looked first at our homework. It had been 'a filling in the gaps' exercise, about two young men and their camping holiday. One had wanted to go to a Youth Hostel and the other to borrow a tent and spend the week on a campsite. Economy won, but on the first night there was a terrific storm and they spent the night sleepless, cold and wet. They then retreated to a

Hostel. We were then given a conversation in English between a green grocery stall owner and his customer. We then, speech by speech in turn, translated this conversation into French. This caused much hilarity as we stretched our brains to try to translate 'in real time' without too many wild guesses. It was high points for communication, but not for accuracy. We finally calmed down with another grammar exercise.

As usual an enjoyable, brain-stretching session.

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

Report by Pat Newman.

For further information please contact:

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

French Improvers: Joint Blackwater / Heybridge Group

This is a new group aimed at those who can 'get by' in French but want to develop their conversational skills. The idea arose after I met Val Wilson, COG of the Blackwater French Group, during a Maldon Town Twinning visit to Villeparisis. We talked about our respective groups and saw that the formation of a joint group would benefit members in both U3As.

Seven members attended the inaugural meeting on 22nd September and a further four are signed up but were unable to attend. After working in pairs to exchange basic personal information, we introduced our partner to the group so that, by the end of the session, we were all better acquainted.

The joint group will meet at 14:00 on the 4th Monday of the month. The Blackwater Group is used to meeting fortnightly, so will continue to meet on the 2nd Monday as well. Heybridge members of the joint group are invited to attend. In line with group preference, meetings will be held in members' homes. This means that, as the group is already large, we cannot accommodate any further members at present. If you would like to be notified when a vacancy arises, please contact me.

For further information please contact:

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

Gardening Group

Our last visit for this year was to Woodpeckers, near Burnham – on - Crouch. We had been there a few years ago, but agreed that it was even nicer this time. By the end of September most of us have let our gardens go a bit, but Woodpeckers put

us to shame. It was looking beautiful and still full of colour. The weather was warm and sunny, and we had our tea and excellent cake in the garden.

That's all from me until next March, when we will have our planning meeting. Many thanks to those who come every month, making our visits such nice social occasions.



Woodpeckers, near Burnham – on - Crouch

Author: Pat Yates.

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

Italian Conversation

Currently it is not possible to resume the Italian Conversation Meetings. As soon as it is practical, Members will be advised as to what is happening to the Italian Conversation Group.

Ian Newman (Editor).

Local History Group (LHG)

Eleven of us had an enthralling evening with Stephen Nunn to hear his theories and reasoning as to the location of the Battle of Maldon. He thinks there is no evidence to support the official view of the location being near to Northey Road but much evidence to suggest it could be elsewhere. Stephen outlined his thoughts on this and mentioned some of the difficulties and bad feeling he has encountered through promoting these ideas. Clive McPherson was also on hand to describe the method of combat in Viking times and we had a real surprise when he produced a real Viking sword found locally very recently, in a secret location. The raffle prize was a mounted replica of this. I think our members were quite relieved not to have won it! The evening was one of the series of charity fund-raising events that Stephen is arranging as part of his mayoral term. It was very well organised with excellent buffet and

master of ceremonies duties performed by Tony Shrimpton, a previous mayor.

This month the group have also visited Bourne Mill in Colchester. This building started off as a fishing lodge in Elizabethan times, a place for leisure. It then became a fulling mill, then both a fulling and flour mill and finally a flour mill. We were treated to seeing the water mill at work and to a very enthusiastic and comprehensive story of the place both past and present. I think we had all previously known very little of Colchester's time as a centre of an extensive and flourishing cloth industry. Now some of us will be trying to get the word 'baize' into our scrabble games!



U3A visit to Bourne Mill: Author Linda Etherton



U3A visit to Bourne Mill and Pond:

Author Linda Etherton

We next meet in October for a talk by Elphin Watkin on 'All Saints Spire and Adventures with Cecil Hewet'.

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

Luncheon Group

As detailed in the September News Sheet, and on the list of all dates e-mailed to all Group members early in this year, our planned September was today, the 26th September. (day of report writing)

A list was in the Committee Room in Plantation Hall at the Monthly meeting on 12th September, and although quite a few members were present, not one indicated on that list their intention to participate, or not to participate. Likewise only one member spoke to me expressing their likely participation as requested in my News Sheet report, but later telephoned to withdraw because of family commitments. No one e-mailed me. Consequently there was not a Heybridge U3A lunch on Friday 26th September 2014.

Unless I hear from a significant number to the contrary, I conclude that “lunching” is not what appeals to Heybridge U3A members and I do not intend to continue as COG. Anyone wishing to take on the COG role should e-mail Joyce Woodham and Linda Etherton, contact details on the front page of the News Sheet, and talk to me if you like.

Any queries please speak to me at Friday’s meeting on 10th October, phone or e-mail at any time.

John W Harrison: email johnwharrison@sky.com or phone 01621 854851.

Patchwork Group

The next meeting of the Patchwork Group will be in the Claydon Room on Monday the 13th October at 14.00.

Anne Thorpe; Email Anne.thorpe@btinternet.com or phone 01621 850828.

Petanque Group

The middle of September saw us playing Petanque in idyllic conditions sunny and quite warm but not too hot. We had thirteen members to play and that included three new members who stated that they enjoyed it and want to continue. We had two teams of two by two and one of two by three which means that two use three boules and three people use two boules. Our games were very close and we also enjoyed the refreshments afterwards.

We now just have four more weeks to play Petanque. For the following months, another monthly 10 pin bowling date has been arranged, making one Monday and one Tuesday per month. This will keep the group in contact during the winter months. It is very easy to learn the rules but not so easy to throw the boule in exactly the right spot next to the cochon. Practice helps.

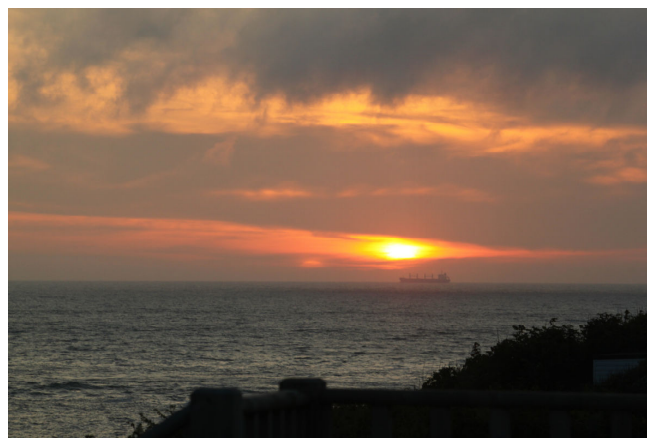
Barbara Barbrook. Email c.barbrook@sky.com or phone 01621 855605.

Photography Group

At our September 4th meeting, we repeated the “Print Judging” exercise of last month, though this time with a lesser number of judges (6). We were pleased to welcome back Peter Thorpe as one of them.

As before, opinions on the merits of particular prints were varied, but we did find two particular favourites.

We also had our regular exercise to capture images of a particular subject, this month’s being “Dawn or Twilight (Dusk)”. With the wonders of the Internet, at least one submission came from a member currently visiting USA.



Dawn: Author: Norman Grove



Dusk: Author: Norman Grove

At our next meeting our project will be “Artistic Manipulation (via Software)”, using whatever software (free or otherwise) members use or are familiar with. Members will illustrate “before and after” versions of their photographs. We can also cover the merits of different techniques or different software, and whether a “legitimate” photograph can be the result.

Peter has asked Norman Grove and Alex Lees to take over the roles of joint CoGs for the Photography Group which they agreed to do. Contact by telephone 01621 842805 or Email norman.grove@gmail.com.

Peter was thanked for his dedication to the Group and hoped that he would be able to attend many more meetings in the future.

Reading and Books Group

At our meeting in September we discussed the 'Kashmir Shawl' by Rosie Thomas. All the members of the group enjoyed the book, although some felt that the story would have benefited by being shorter because some aspects of the storyline seemed unnecessary.

The story concerns two women separated by 70 years but linked by a shawl and a lock of hair. Mair never knew her Grandmother, Nerys, who died before she was born. After the death of her Father, Mair inherits a beautiful shawl inside of which is an envelope containing a lock of hair. Mair travels to India to discover the origins of both the shawl and the hair. Her journey and that of her Grandmother are revealed in alternating timelines. We all found the descriptions of Kashmir atmospheric and one member who has recently been to India, felt they were accurate and realistic.

The next book group meeting is to be held in Plantation Hall on Wednesday 15th October. More details are available from Carole Overy at caroleovery@sky.com or 01621 893450

Scrabble Group

Playing Scrabble is totally absorbing, we decided at the September meeting, but although we remained focused on the game there was still time for a good chat over a cuppa ("slang contraction of "cup of", believed to be Irish in origin" - just in case you were wondering!). Scores can be bumped up if a high scoring letter such as Z scoring 10, can be placed on a triple letter or word square. Thus ZEN could yield a score of 32 or 36.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 28th October at 14:00 in the Committee Room at the Plantation Hall. If you would like to join us do contact me. See details below.

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

Solo Whist

We reconvened after our summer break on 3rd September at my house.

There were only three of us playing and because of this no misères or misère ouvertes were called, not too surprising as they are very difficult to achieve playing three handed. However, the winning hands of all sorts were far more evenly spread than at our last meeting.

Chocolate and plain refreshments were enjoyed by all, thanks to Tina.

Our next and subsequent meetings will now take place on the 2nd Wednesday in the month, so our next one will be on 8th October at Margaret Brown's home.

Dave Mason: phone 01621 858635 or Email tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk

Technical Computing Group

Due to members holiday arrangements, it left only two members to attend the September meeting. A decision was made to cancel this month's meeting. The next one should resume, as normal, in October.

Colin Mason

Email colin@mason20.wanadoo.co.uk or phone 01621 854906.

Ten Pin Bowling

A much reduced group of 6 regulars (due to the others being on holiday) was delighted to be joined by returning player Helen to make a total of 7 players.

We decided that the three boys would take one lane and the four girls the other which seemed to work well, although probably too much conversation with the ladies meant that we only played three games to their four!

After a slow start in the first game Simon suddenly took off and achieved a "turkey" (three strikes in a row) which gave him a personal best of 181 in that game. The rest of us were not so lucky but an enjoyable afternoon was had, as always.

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

Please note from November we will also play on the 4th Monday of each month. November dates will be Tuesday 11th and Monday 24th.

New members always welcome to join us for a 2 hour play followed by tea/coffee and biscuits for the bargain price of £4.75.

Lynne Morrison. Phone 01621 891288, Email lejmorrisson@gmail.com (m. 07771 880757).

Threads and Fabrics Group

September, being a favourite month for holidays, was a quiet, but enjoyable month, which still brought a few surprises. Our picture this month shows one of them. It is a bag made with very exact curves and angles. Those who liked geometry at school will appreciate how difficult the pattern would be to draw, let alone sew. It is defiantly a work of art. The members of this group surprise me every time. I wonder what October will bring.



The Bag: Author: Pat Newman

The Threads and Fabrics Group, which is held in one of the member's home each month, cannot accommodate more members. The use of a member's home for the meeting is central to the core of this group. However, members of this group would be happy to assist anyone to start another group on the same or similar theme. We will be keeping a list of interested people.

The meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month starting at 14:00. Please speak to Pat on this subject.

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

Walking Group

The September walk in pleasant, warm conditions, took us along the canal to Beeleigh Falls and back along the river. Some of us then walked up into Maldon for the customary tea and cake.

The October walk will be in Danbury, taking in Blake's Wood and Lingwood Common. The walk will be about 4 miles and, from past memory, rather hilly, so, be prepared!

Meet at the Danbury Community Centre car park 14:00 on Thursday 9th October. 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

Due to holidays, there is no Weekenders Report. The next Weekenders Group meeting will take place at the Wilkins Jam Factory commencing at 10:00, on Saturday 11th October.

Wine Appreciation Group

The next meeting of the Wine Appreciation Group will be on Wednesday 15th October. This will be the last meeting of the group for this year. We will meet at my house in Tiptree where we will discuss wines of Spain. There will be time to discuss our options for next year with some Spanish style tapas. The Meeting will starts at 14:00 as usual..

New members always welcome.

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

U3A Third Age Matters Magazine

An updated mailing list was submitted to the magazine distributors in mid-August and, unless you have asked for your name to be removed from the list, you should recently have received your copy of the autumn edition. If not, please let me know.

Jenny Parker (See contact details on page 1).

Detail of Events

Further Information and Details of Events

The following events are planned for this and next year. Please note that in future members will be 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.

OCTOBER 2014. A Social Evening. Plantation Hall is booked for Saturday 25th October, 18.30 -21.30. As part of our social evening you are invited to come

along and join in a thirty minute taster session of Latin American Dancing - Cha Cha and Rumba will be demonstrated for you to follow. This will commence at 18.40 sharp and the board game playing will continue alongside. So come along to watch, or join in the dancing and / or play the old and new board games.

If you wish to order a meal, -fish (or chicken) with chips, the cost is £8.00 and is now due. Please be sure to sign up or ask Pat for more information.

NOVEMBER 2014. Thursford Christmas Spectacular 2014. Full details will be sent to travellers as soon as I have them.

FEBRUARY 2015. A guided tour of Basildon Tractor Plant has been arranged for 13.00 on Wednesday 25th February 2015. The tour will last approximately three hours and will cost £6.00 each, including tea / coffee and biscuits on arrival. There is a large car park, but please car share if possible. More details later. Please sign up early to avoid disappointment as fifteen is the maximum number for this trip.

MARCH. UK Supreme Court. All 25 places for this tour on Friday 20th March have been taken. A coach has been booked to take us from Tesco in Heybridge to Westminster, and there are a few seats still available for any members who wish to join us for a day in London. The cost for coach and tour will be approximately £22.00 and for the coach alone £18.50. Payment will be due by 6th February 2015.

APRIL. Kew Gardens. I have provisionally booked a visit to Kew Gardens for Monday 27th April 2015. Cost approximately £28.00. You may like to take a tour of the site on the Kew Explorer land train - hop on/off at any of the seven stops on the site; £3.50 for the day (booked in advance). The National Archives at Kew are adjacent to Kew Gardens so anyone wishing instead to study there could join the group for the day. Admission to the Archives is free, so cost would be for coach only. Details to be confirmed later. Please sign up to show interest so that I can make a firm booking by October 2014. Payment will be due in March 2015 if the trip goes ahead

Also planned for 2015.

- visit to the beautiful English Heritage property Audley End House, near Saffron Walden.
- A day cruise on a Thames Barge from The Hythe.
- A trip to London from Tilbury on the Pocahontas

Please sign up for the events and contact me with any queries.

All cheques should be made payable to Heybridge U3A

Pat Smith; Email patcleary98@sky.com or phone 01621 856569

Association of Essex U3As

Association of Essex U3As Study Day 2014

The Association of Essex U3As Study Day Information is now out and has been distributed. Once again it is to be held at the Plume School on Tuesday, 28th October 2014.

The question now is what happens next after we get to the end of September. The answer given by the Organizing Committee is as follows:

Study Day applicants should receive an allocation email or letter by the end of September. These will contain details for the Day, a map and directions on how to get to the Plume School in Maldon. After these have been sent out anyone with any queries on their group should ring Gill Harryman on 020 8508 3454

Association News

There is no other news to bring to your attention this month.

Joyce Woodham (See page 1 for contact details).

On the Notice Board

Including Items from the Third Age Trust

Items from the latest mailing that might be of interest to members.

- A list of 8 'talking days' across the UK for the House of Lords Event (previously advertised)
- A new photography competition, yoU3A, asks for photographs of members engaged in activities that will communicate the essence of the U3A. These will be used for publicising the U3A.
- A seminar 'Publish your own books' to be held on 18th November in London, £35 inc lunch.
- 'Managing Growth', a seminar to be held on 20th November in Doncaster. £5 inc lunch. Attendance limited to 2 members from each U3A.
- The ballet Cinderella will be screened at the Odeon, Covent Garden on Wednesday 19th November, £14 pp.
- The U3A Christmas Concerts are on 10th December at the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy,

£18.00 per person, includes mulled wine and mince pies.

- A flyer advertising a second U3A study day at the National Gallery on 26th November 2014.
- A flyer giving details of a screening of Cinderella, a production by the Dutch National Ballet, on 19th November 2014 at the Odeon Covent Garden.
- Information on a new series of dates at the Brooklands Museum in 2015.
- A newsletter from Alastair Sharp, our National Subject Adviser for German.
- House of Lords Chamber Event 28th November 2014

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

Co-operation between Maldon Area U3As

Details of the ways in which we can work more closely for the benefit of all members, continues. This is illustrated by the new joint U3A Group for French Improvers.

Contact Joyce Woodham for further details. (See page 1 for contact details).

From Other U3As

Basildon & Billericay U3A 25th Anniversary

Basildon & Billericay culminate their 25th anniversary celebrations with a day of fascinating talks by four speakers, each talking about various aspects of Essex history. The speakers will be Lord Petre, William Tyler, Vincent Worley and Patrick Denny.

The function will take place at the Mayflower High School, on Stock Road Billericay, between 10:30 and 4pm, with **tickets costing just £17**.

Full details can be found on the Notice Board.

An email copy of the full notice can be sent to anyone interested in attending.

Limebrook U3A

Limebrook U3A Bridge Group are looking to recruit new members. (See last month's News Sheet). For further information please contact the Group Co-ordinator, Brian Hunt 01621 781048, Email brianhunt77@hotmail.co.uk for further information.

The Maldon U3A Local & General History group have organised a trip to Flanders. (See last month's News Sheet). For further information please contact the coordinator - Mary Burd on 01621 843020 or email maryburd43@yahoo.co.uk

Other Information

None

Group Name, Co-ordinator, & Contact Phone Number

Group Name	Co-ordinator (COG)	Telephone Number
Art (Painting)	Michael Kempen	01621 892974
Bird Watching	Maureen Lenoir	01621 869871
Coffee Morning	Margaret Brown	01621 854885
Computer	Ian Newman	01621 891184
Creative Writing	Angela Pleasance	01621 850310
Croquet	John Gorrie	01621 854006
Family History	Lesley Pomphrett	01621 817733
French Conversation	Jenny Parker	01621 843581
Gardening	Pat Yates	01621 892866
Italian	Janice Slight	01621 853393
Local History	Carol Greenhalgh	01621 840339
Luncheon	John Harrison	01621 854851
Patchwork	Anne Thorpe	01621 850828
Petanque	Barbara Barbrook	01621 855605
Photography	Alex Lees & Norman Grove	01245 225153 01621 842805
Reading & Books	Carole Overy	01621 893450
Scrabble	Linda Etherton	01621 843702
Solo Whist	Dave Mason	01621 858635
Technical Computing	Colin Mason	01621 854906
Ten Pin Bowling	Lynne Morrison	01621 891288
Threads & Fabrics	Pat Newman	01621 891184
Walking	Elizabeth Eastwood	01621 850618
Weekenders	Marilyn Corbett	01621 817518
Wine Group	Jackie Jones	01621 817117

Diary of Meetings and Visits

For details see articles and co-ordinators above

Week Starting	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6th October	6 Petanque 14.00	7 Threads 14.00	8 Solo Whist 14.00 French Conversation 10.00	9 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	10 Monthly Meeting 14.00	11 Weekender Wilkins Jam Factory 10.00	12
13th October	13 Patchwork 14.00 Petanque 14.00	14 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	15 Book Group 14.00 Wine Appreciation 14.00	16 Computer 14.00 Croquet 10:00	17 Painting 14.00 Coffee Morning 11.00	18	19
20th October	20 Petanque 14.00	21 Local History 14.00	22 Creative Writing 14.30	23 Family History 10.30	24 Painting 14.00 Luncheon? Bird Watching	25 Social Evening at Plantation Hall 18:30	26
27th October	27 French Improvers 14.00	28 Scrabble 14.00 Study Day (Essex U3As)	29	30	31 News Copy to Editor Painting 14.00	1 st Nov	2
3rd November	3	4 Threads 14.00	5	6 Photography 14.00	7 Committee Mtg 10.00 Painting 14.00	8 Weekender	9
10th November	10 Patchwork 14.00	11 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	12 Solo Whist 14.00 French Conversation 10.00	13 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	14 Monthly Meeting 14.00	15	16
17th November	17	18 Local History 14.00	19 Book Group 14.00	20 Computer 14.00	21 Painting 14.00 Coffee Morning 11.00	22	23
24th November	24 French Improvers 14.00 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	25 Scrabble 14.00	26 Creative Writing 14.30	27 Family History 10.30	28 News Copy to Editor Painting 14.00 Bird Watching	29	30