

Heybridge U3A

News Sheet No. 2011/11

November 2011

Contacts: Peter Thorpe Chairman 01621 850828
Brenda Dewar Secretary 01245 400492

From the Chairman

We were honoured to have Margaret May attend our October Monthly Meeting. Margaret is the Chairman of the Association of Essex U3As and had come to Heybridge to present our Quiz Team with an engraved trophy declaring them as "Brains of Essex". Six of our eight person team, wearing their medals, were at the meeting to receive the award. To celebrate the occasion, at tea time, the usual plate of biscuits was replaced with a trolley of assorted cakes, to the delight of all members present. We were very pleased that Margaret stayed for the remainder of the meeting and participated in the questions to the speaker after his talk.



Author Peter Thorpe

Michael Baim, the Corporate and Community Fundraising Manager of the Helen Rollason Cancer Charity, gave us an interesting and thought provoking talk on the work of the Charity.

Cancer touches many of us on different levels and the Helen Rollason charity offers support to families as well as patients. It is small, efficient, well loved and local, being based in Chelmsford. Michael explained how the money the charity receives is spent and how it also depends on the dedicated work of volunteers to do a large proportion of its' work. Apart from his speaker fee Michael was able to take back with him a generous donation spontaneously given by our members.

After the speaker had finished, several members commented to me that they could not hear what the speaker was saying because of general chatter in the hall. I assume that it was the subject of the questions asked after Michael's talk that reminded members of their own experiences involving cancer care. We have plenty of time for chat with or after tea and, to show polite respect, we should refrain from personal discussions whilst the speaker is talking.

Paddy Lacey is coming to our November Monthly Meeting (See Monthly Meetings on page 2.)

I look forward to seeing you on November 11th - usual time - usual place.

Email thorpe101@btinternet.com or phone 01621 850828.

Peter Thorpe.

From the Editor

Due to the volume of material this month I have, again, had to reduce the text size to 9pt.

This advance copy of the November News Sheet, by the time that you read this column, will have been circulated to all members who have provided their email addresses to the Membership Secretary. If you have an email address and have not received an emailed copy of this News Sheet please let me or the Membership Secretary know, preferably by email (Email address below). A limited number of printed copies of the News Sheet will continue to be available at each Heybridge U3A Monthly Meeting for those who do not have access to email.

The Diary on the last page has been updated to the end of December 2011. It is important that you, as COG's, members of Groups or just members of Heybridge U3A, keep me up to date. If anyone has an interesting story, relevant pictures and anything that relates to The Heybridge U3A or the U3A movement as a whole, then please contact me with the information so that it can be included in the News Sheet. This is especially true when activities or a visit is planned or confirmed and relates in some way to their group.

I repeat that I must have the bulk of your copy by the last Friday of the month to enable me to assemble the News Sheet for delivery by email approximately five days before the Monthly Meeting. If space becomes tight, as it did earlier this year, late submissions may not be included in that month's News Sheet. Please continue to send details to me, preferably by email, at ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk with 'Heybridge U3A' in the title. Alternatively talk to me at the Monthly Meeting.

Back numbers of the Heybridge U3A News Sheets can be read on our WEB SITE

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

It is considered that communication via this News Sheet, the only method that reaches all members, will ensure that all Heybridge U3A Members, especially those who have recently joined us, can also have the opportunity to participate in any of our activities. The News Sheet can also be used to sound out the views of other members on any relevant subject.

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

Ian Newman.

Heybridge U3A Monthly Meetings

The next Monthly Meeting is on Friday 11th November starting at the normal time of 14.00, in the Plantation Hall, Heybridge. At the forthcoming November Monthly Meeting Paddy Lacey will give us one of his local historical talks. This talk will be illustrated by proper film slides in a traditional projector!

A list of other potential subjects for the following Monthly Meetings are as follows:

- December 2011: Talk & Songs
- January 2012: The Secret Lives of Garden Birds
- February 2012: M.J. Scollan. Stories from a former Police Officer.

From the COGCo (Group Co-ordinator)

Four of the men who attend the Computer Group plus two others have formed a new group, called Technical Computing. The COG is Colin Mason who has put a small piece about the formation of this group in this News Sheet. This is for those who know about the workings of a computer rather than people like me who just work in the various programmes, i.e. e-mails, photographs, power point, facebook and games!!!

One of our new members lived in Italy for a couple of years and is willing to help members with their Italian conversation, or even to start them off (and practise herself). So, if you are interested, please contact me and a small new group can be started.

I am hopeful that we can continue the French group with a few members and have a small Italian group. Groups do not need to be large, in fact the criterion of the U3A is that people with a shared interest get together to learn together.

Email gillthorne2@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01621 852294.

Gill Thorne

Membership Secretary

We were pleased to welcome three new members in October, taking our total membership to 163. If you are a non-member who 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.

May I remind all existing members to please let me know of any change in your contact details (address, phone number or email) so that I can update your membership record. If you have not yet received your 2011/12 membership card please collect it at the next monthly meeting or ask someone to collect it for you. Alternatively, if you send me a SAE, I will post it to you.

For any queries regarding membership, please

Email jennyparker14@hotmail.com or phone me on 01621 843581.

Or, If I am not available, please

Email angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk or phone Angela on 01621 850310.

Jenny Parker.

REPORTS

Art (Painting) Group

Last Friday we welcomed Pam who, we hope, will become a regular member to replace Charlie who left the group recently. Pam chose a good week to start as we had invited local

professional artist Sue Spiers to give us a demonstration of her brilliant techniques. Sue kept the whole group riveted for two hours as she created a watercolour view of Maldon's Fullbridge, using a photograph and a sketch taken from the river bank on the Tesco side of the road, an area generally less frequented by artists.

Afterwards, we were invited to attempt the same view from photographs in our own time. Sue agreed to come back and discuss our work.

These occasional visits by talented local artists give added zest to our increasingly popular Friday sessions.

Gill Carpenter.

For further information, email m.kempen@sky.com or phone 01621 892974.

Michael Kempen

Group Names, Co-ordinator, Contact Telephone

Group Name	Co-ordinator (COG)	Telephone Number
Art (Painting)	Michael Kempen	01621 892974
Ballroom Dancing	Joint with Maldon Jo Robson *	* 01621 828236
Bird Watching	Maureen Lenoir	01621 869871
Bridge	Lisbeth Bazzard	01621 843208
Coastal & Marine	Brenda Dewar	01245 400492
Coffee Morning	Margaret Brown	01621 854885
Computer	Tina Abeysekera	01621 858635
Creative Writing	Angela Pleasance	01621 850310
Family History	Lesley Pomphrett	01621 817733
French Conversation	TBC	
Gardening	Pat Yates	01621 892866
Local History	Carol Greenhalgh	01621 840339
Luncheon	Dave Mason	01621 858635
Petanque	Barbara Barbrook	01621 855605
Photography	Peter Thorpe	01621 850828
Reading & Books	Ann Lees	01245 225153
Scrabble	Ruth Tyler	01621 856212
Technical Computing	Colin Mason	01621 854906
Ten Pin Bowling	Janette Lett	01621 879697
Theatre	Gill Bridle & Janet Morley	01621 892587 & 892626
Threads & Fabrics	Anne Thorpe & Pat Newman	01621 850828 & 01621 891184
Walking	Elizabeth Eastwood	01621 850618
Weekenders	Marilyn Corbett	01621 817518
Wine Group	Jackie Jones	01621 817117

Bird Watching Group

We had a great day for our return visit to Blue House Farm where Tim, who had agreed to walk round with us again, met us. It was a lovely walk along the sea wall to the first hide; along the way we stopped to admire a Little Egret, Curlew and Lapwings plus one little Wren. When we got to the hide we were disappointed as the fresh water area was bone dry because of the lack of rain this summer.

At one time we seemed to be surrounded by four types of Geese; Canada, Brent, Barnacle and Greylag. They like the lush grass, provided for them on two fields, which keeps them together and away from the farmers' fields. This is a good idea as they are a noisy bunch!". A Marsh Harrier or Buzzard was soaring in the distance. Unfortunately it did not come near enough for us to be sure.

The best part of the day for us was two birds that we had not seen before as a group. They were a Meadow Pipit and a Wheatear. If Tim had not been with us I don't think we would have been able to say for sure what we had seen.



Wheatear (author Graham Parker)

Blue House Farm has no tea room or shop but it is worth a visit.

We will be visiting Stow Maries Airfield on the 25th November. If you need any information call or email.

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

Maureen.

Bridge Group

Unfortunately, I have not had a report from the Bridge Group. Please, therefore, contact Liz Bazzard (See below) Editor.

Email lisbethbazzard@talktalk.net or phone 01621 843208.

Computer Group

Fourteen people attended the computer group on a lovely sunny October afternoon when Chris Denham introduced the Skype program to us. This is a program that enables people from the next street, or anywhere in the world, to talk to each other face to face if both computers have cameras in them (You can still use this program but the person at the other end does not see you). It is also a way of connecting several people of like minds to hold discussions. It was all very interesting and obviously very useful as another means of communicating with others. However, I feel that for most of us coping with email and the intricacies of our computers is as much as most of us can handle.

Our next meeting will be held on 17th of November at 14.00 in the Plantation Hall. Please come along if you would like to learn more about using your computer.

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

Tina Abeysekera

Coastal and Marine Group

A big "thank you" to all of you who came along to the 'Blue Boar' with your great ideas. We have decided that we are all in favour of outings, visiting places together, all sorts of nautical places!! Ideas so far include some inland waterways trips, perhaps a return visit to see how the barge 'Pioneer' is progressing. Will it be available in which to go sailing? We may be able to get 'on board'. How about a narrow boat trip for a day? Then there are those wonderful paddle steamers!

We shall be meeting on Friday 20th January 2012 at 14.00, again at the 'Blue Boar'. At this meeting we hope to put together a programme for the Spring and Summer. We need as much information as possible so that we can book events and then print a programme. If you are interested in "coming on board" we look forward to seeing you then.

Email brendadewar@btinternet.com or phone 01245 400492.

Brenda Dewar.

Creative Writing Group

Our subject for October was 'ghosts' and we had some thought provoking articles and stories, as well as the next instalment of the gripping Sci-Fi/fantasy saga which I mentioned last month.

The group is a friendly one with a wide range of experience. We do not criticise a piece of writing except at the author's request. Although we have a subject each month, it is not compulsory and we welcome any writing. If you would like to come along, perhaps just to listen at first, please let me know.

We will not be meeting in December so our subject for the November meeting is 'Christmas'.

We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 14:30. If you would like to join the group, please contact me.

Email angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01621 850310

Angela Pleasance

Discussion Coffee Morning Group

Seven of us enjoyed a pleasant morning, Margaret Clark provided us with tempting refreshments. We welcomed Anne, a new lady, to our group.

The next meeting will be at 11.00 on Friday 18th November at Linda Etherton's house, details will be provided at the next Monthly Meeting.

Please contact me if you are interested in joining us.

Email mbandmeg@btinternet.com or phone 01621 854885.

Margaret Brown.

Family History Group

October's meeting date was moved so that Angela Pleasance's sister Gillian could join us, and what a gem she turned out to be. Gillian has been researching family history for thirty years and a great deal of her research has been achieved without the use of the internet. This is an amazing feat. One of the things she talked about was Wills and how much information can be gained from them, not just clues for family trees but also about family life. Gillian showed us some really interesting references books. One of which showed all the Parishes in England, Scotland and Wales. This was a wonderful book and is invaluable when you need to trace Parish Records. I did not even know that it existed. I have now bought it! Gillian has also written and had published a book on her family history. I cannot record here everything she talked about at this meeting. Gillian explained things so clearly and I think everyone left the meeting with a little bit more knowledge. She really was a font of information.

The next meeting will be Thursday 24th November 10.30 to 12.30 at my house.

Please phone if you need information or directions.

Email lesleypommy@hotmail.com or phone 01621 817733.

Lesley Pomphrett.

French Conversation Group

Unfortunately, two members of the French Conversation Group (one of which was me) were unable to attend the get together to sort out this group so I regrettably cancelled and will be re-scheduling soon.

Email gillthorne2@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01621 852294.

Gill Thorne

Gardening Group

Our last visit for this year was to Writtle College where we had an interesting walk and talk on autumn colour.

If you have any ideas for talks or meetings, before we get together again next March, please let me know. Cambridge Botanic Garden has a wonderful winter garden, which I visited in early February, but I think it would be a mistake to organise a trip on a certain day, because the weather might be bad, as this really needs to be a spur-of-the-moment outing on a sunny day.

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

Pat Yates.



Writtle College Trees in Autumn (Author Ian Newman)

Local History Group (LHG)

During our meeting in September we came up with plenty of ideas for places to go, things to do and people to talk to us. We now have some good information with which to put together a programme for the months to come.

Beryl gave us another extract from the book she is working on and we learned about the Heybridge business of Bentalls, thriving under the guidance of Edward Hammond Bentall. We also heard something of Mr Bentall's colourful personal life. Gill had made a selection from books by the notable historian F.G. Emmerson. These were of court records for the Maldon district in Elizabethan times. What a rascally lot they seemed to be and some not at all lovable.

We finished the meeting by passing round a few mystery objects. Some intrigue here but our clever members made good attempts at unravelling the puzzles.

We are going to the Chelmsford Museum in November. Details will be available at the next Monthly Meeting. There will be no meeting in December but we hope to have speakers for our January and February meetings.

Email george.smeed@virgin.net or phone 01621 840339.

Carol Greenhalgh

Luncheon Group

This month there were thirteen of us booked to go to 'The Wheatsheaf' in Hatfield Peveral. Only twelve of us attended which is (if you are at all superstitious) quite lucky. The car park was very full, the sign of a good pub or maybe some of the cars were to do with the caravans parked at the very rear of the car park. (Dale Farm, perhaps). The menus and specials board were nicely displayed with, to my mind, a good vegetarian choice. The service was very good, as was the food, and very good value too. The only down side was the seating arrangement. I felt we were all a bit far apart and the two newcomers seemed to be left out on a limb. However, they did not seem too perturbed by the situation and have already booked for our next lunch, which will be at The Bell in Tolleshunt Major on Friday 25th November when we look forward to seeing some old and new faces.

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

Dave Mason Luncheon Group – Temporary COG

Petanque Group

We all looked very smart in our purple polo shirts to play a match against Blackwater U3A Petanque Group but, unfortunately, we lost our match by 1-4 games. The Blackwater U3A Petanque Group are, in fact, training ready to join a league which play against pub teams in the Braintree area. We are not going down that road at the moment. Some of us are having a break now until the Spring, but those who want to play will be continuing if the weather is suitable. Therefore, we are only partially hibernating this Autumn. Some will continue to enjoy the even fresher air in the winter months. We shall be starting again



playing weekly from the middle of March. So watch this space, and have a Happy Christmas.

Petanque Group in their Colours

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

Barbara Barbrook.

Photography Group

The idea of members taking photographs specifically for an “assignment” is continuing to be very popular. The subject for viewing at the October meeting was “Flying Objects”. We also saw several objects that could fly but were stationary when photographed. Subjects varied from superb shots of insects (not many flying) to aircraft, with birds, balls, flags, kites and even dresses in between.

We have a very creative membership and I am certain that we all benefit from the stimulation of looking for original shots to illustrate a specific subject.

The subject for viewing at the November meeting is to be a single picture viewed as: colour, monochrome and sepia. There are several ways of producing the photographs; it will be interesting to discuss how the images were created and whether the effect improved the finished picture.

The subject for viewing in December is “Autumn” with “Christmas” for January!

If you are interested in digital photography, come and join us. Our aim is to enjoy and to improve our photography, together.

Email thorpe101@btinternet.com or phone 01621 850828.

Peter Thorpe



Hot Air Balloon (Author – Ann Lees)

Reading and Books Group

This month's book gave rise to differing levels of enjoyment. 'The Taste of Sorrow' by Jude Morgan is a well written, but unusual book in that it seemed to take the form of a novel, but the author used the lives, and times of the Bronte family as the substance of the story.

She provided a shocking insight into the treatment of girls, in particular, from a middle class educated background but living in the mid 19th century without the benefit of a middle class level of income. We were able to see how the harshness of their lives and the times in which they lived, was alleviated for the children by a rich fantasy life which, in turn, gave rise to the stories so many of us have enjoyed, both in the past and today.

Some of us found the story somewhat harrowing as the family coped, with what we would regard now as neglect and mistreatment of children, compounded by the sadness of the untimely deaths of the mother, sisters and brother. The loyalty and love that the family had for each other was heartening, but viewed as it has been by us, from the 21st century, some of us found it a sad and difficult narrative.

However, this story did give rise to much interesting discussion about the roles played by men and women in the present day, as opposed to that of the mid 19th century. The consensus of the group being that family life today is greatly enhanced, in our opinion, particularly by the much more loving and involved role fathers play in family life.

We have decided to live it up a little in December, by celebrating Christmas together and enjoy ourselves at a local restaurant.

Our next meeting will be on November 16th at 14.30 at Plantation Hall, Heybridge.

Please contact me if you wish to join us.

email: annlees@yahoo.com or phone 01245 225153.

Ann Lees.

Scrabble Group

Our October Scrabble afternoon was enjoyed by seven players, plus Beryl, who managed to call in for a short while. We are a group of very mixed ability but all have the same enthusiasm. We have lots of chatter during the game, which continues when the teapot comes out. Some approach the game in a very professional way while others just play along for the fun of it. We all agree it is a very pleasant afternoon and if only we could remember the following month the new words that we had learned the previous month we should all be champions!!!

We have no meeting in December so Tuesday 22nd November will be our last for 2011. We get to the Hall well before 14.00 which gives us time to get organised and fit in two games with a break at half time. We shall be pleased to see anyone, who might like to "give it a go" at any time after 13.30.

Why not come along and say hello, and then you may feel you would like to join in 2012 – all are welcome.

Email r.tyler936@btinternet.com or phone 01621 856212.

Ruth Tyler

Technical Computing Group

Hello Heybridge U3A members. My name is Colin Mason and I have been asked to be the CoG of new Technical Computing Group. The purpose of this short introduction is to let people who may be interested know that a new Technical Computer Group is in the process of being formed. It should be noted that this group is in addition to the normal Computer Group Meeting that is currently held at the Plantation Hall on the third Thursday of each month. The purpose of this new group is to bring together people who are interested in more in-depth computing, such as programming, web design, maintenance of computers etc.

At present, we have six members and intend to meet in members houses on the second Thursday of each month on a rotating basis. Any one interested can contact me for further information. Our first meeting is on the 10th November. I will, in the December News Sheet, provide an update about the group.

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

Colin Mason.

Ten Pin Bowling Group

Six of the group met on the 11th October. We hired two lanes and played three games each which is something we could not have done four months ago. We still seem to be having trouble with the splits (bowling skittles, not people) but, all in all, we had fair and pleasing scores. As usual, we had coffee and a chat after.

The next group will be held on Tuesday, 8th November usual time of 13.45. If you would care to have some fun please join us. We would love to have you there.

More information can be obtained from me.

Email lettsnooks@talktalk.net or phone 01621 879697.

Janette Lett

Theatre Group

I still have a few tickets to give out for our trip to 'War Horse'. I hope to be able to confirm at the November Monthly Meeting that we will be able to leave our cars at the Plantation Hall on the day of the trip.

Gill

Email dennis-morley@tiscali.co.uk,

gillianbridle@btinternet.com or phone 01621 892626.

Threads and Fabrics Group

Our October meeting was on one of the last warm sunny days of the late summer heat wave, but already our minds were turning to making tiny items in wool in large quantities for recipients at home and abroad. My picture this month is of some of the tiniest hats that I have ever seen; in fact, they were smaller than some doll's clothes and will soon be on their way to a premature baby unit.



(Author Pat Newman)

Another lady is still knitting little vests for India.

Looking back to the summer the stained glass window tapestry which many of you admired on our exhibition table is progressing well. The highlight of the afternoon was when our hostess demonstrated how to make braids and fancy cords from various thicknesses of threads. She was also making mats and bowls from washing line and strips of spare or recycled fabric wound tightly round them. We had seen examples at craft markets without realising how the "ethnic" items were actually made. It was amazing how new patterns were formed as the bowls were built. The patterns melding into abstract designs as the diameter of the item increased. Definitely something to try.

If anyone is interested in joining us, please contact Anne Thorpe or Pat Newman.

Anne by Email anne.thorpe@btinternet.com or phone 01621 850828.

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

Walking Group

A group of about 15 people enjoyed the Roman River Valley walk from Layer de la Haye on October 13th. Our route took us along lanes and through the Essex Wildlife Trust Reserve, through ancient woodland and around marshland and fields affording us splendid views of the surrounding countryside.

This is definitely a walk to be repeated in spring to appreciate the flowers and trees.

We finished off a most enjoyable afternoon with a visit to the Birch Tea Room and Gallery for the much-appreciated tea and cake!

The November walk has had a change of plan (again!). The farm walk cannot take place on our walk date so we will try a Danbury woods walk instead, around Lingwood Common and Blake's Wood. As the afternoons are now shorter, we will meet earlier to ensure at least getting back to our cars in daylight.

Meet at the Danbury Community Centre Car Park at 13:30 on Thursday 10th November.

Please let me know if you can join us and if you need transport or can car-share.

Email e.m.e@talktalk.net or phone 01621 850618.

Elizabeth

Weekenders Group

At the coffee morning at Peartree Pantry members thought a meal at Izumi's would be a good idea and the date will be Saturday 19th November. This should be a change before the start of the turkey dinners. Margaret Brown, who is deputising for me, will have a sheet at the next Heybridge U3A Monthly Meeting. She will need to have definite names, as she will be booking the table numbers. I hope those who are going to see 'Godspell' at Witham will enjoy the performance and those on the trip to Windsor with Stan's Coaches on the 15th November will have a great day.

Dates for your diaries:

- Saturday 12th November Coffee Morning at Hyde Hall at 10.30. Please note the time.
- Saturday 19th November lunch at Izumi at 12.00 for 12.15pm.
- Saturday 17th December Coffee Morning at Oliver's Nursery at 10.00.

Email mars42@btinternet.com or phone 01621 817518.

Marilyn Corbett.

Wine Appreciation Group

At the October meeting seven members enjoyed an Italian inspired lunch of Lasagne with a choice of white Pinot Grigio or red Il Papavera from the Veneto area of Northern Italy. Despite mistakenly serving cheese from Denmark (I was in a hurry at the supermarket and it looked Italian and no-one complained) the conversation was lively. Everyone tasted both wines and chose a preference, providing their opinions on these and other Italian wines, as well as discussing their experiences of visits to vineyards in other countries including Australia, where they supply tastings free of charge.

Our November meeting will be a visit to Langford Village Hall for some Christmas Wine Tasting at an event to that is to be held by the wine merchant "Grape Passions". There will be an entrance fee of £5.00, which includes a choice of many wines for tasting. The date is Saturday 26th November 2011 and we plan to meet at the event at 14.00. As usual, car sharing, which will be arranged nearer the date. Please ring me for details, all members welcome to join us. Do not forget to put your name on the sheet, which will be available at the next Monthly Meeting.

In December, for our last meeting of the year, we hope to get a group of 10-12 people together to visit the Colchester Wine Centre on Wednesday 14th December, where the staff will provide tastings with a short talk on the wines available. This would be a good opportunity to purchase a special bottle to accompany the Christmas lunch as they have an extensive stock of wines to suit all budgets and knowledgeable staff to help you choose. Please put your name and telephone number on the sheet, which will be available at the next Monthly Meeting if you are interested.

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

Jackie Jones.

On the Notice Board

(Including U3A Head Office Information Notices.)

If you are planning to put something on the notice board that is not group related, and it is available prior to the first Friday of the month, the Editor would be pleased to include it in this section of the News Sheet.

The following items of News can be seen on the Notice Board at the next Monthly Meeting or have been available at a recent Monthly Meetings.

Every month we receive information from Head Office keeping our Group informed of events happening throughout the UK.

- Interested in Chess? Why not join the newly formed Group U3A National Chess by email? You have your own chess board and play via sending and receiving moves by email. It operates via page on the U3A National website – www.u3a.org.uk. For full information email Dick Chapman, of Watford U3A, at dick.chapman@ntlworld.com
- Museum of London. Project involves repacking of artifacts, cataloguing etc. Start 28th September then weekly until 7th December: 10 meetings. Contact valerie.saunders523@btinternet.com for more information.
- U3A Christmas Concert on Wednesday 14th December 2011, at St John's Waterloo, London SE1. (14.30 to 16.30.) A mixture of traditional and contemporary arrangements for The Mosaic Chamber Choir, the Brandenburg Brass and Organ. Tickets - £16 each includes mulled wine and mince pies. Apply to Third Age Trust, 19 East Street. Bromley, Kent. BR1 1QE.
- The Marriage of Figaro by Mozart A new screening date for the film at Odeon, Covent Garden will be on Tuesday, 17th January 2012. 12.45 -16.45. Tickets £12.50; Maximum two per applicant. Address as above.
- The Sixth Shared Learning Project at the British Library – The Restoration of Green London. The Project starts on Monday 9th January 2012 and lasts until April. Afternoon sessions at 2 to 3 week intervals. Applications close 31.10.2011. For more information email Kay.denny@btopenworld.com
- We have also been sent leaflets about "Shared Learning Projects" – interested?

I expect that you are aware of U3A merchandise, badges, bags, diaries etc. again, full details on notice board.

If you are interested in anything and would like further information please contact me:

Email brendadewar@btinternet.com or phone 01245 400492

Brenda Dewer

Diary of Meetings and Visits.

For details see articles and co-ordinators above.

Week Commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7th November	7	8 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	9	10 Technical Computer Group 14.00 Walking 14.00	11 Monthly Meeting 14.00	12 Weekender Coffee at Hyde Hall 10.30	13
14th November	14	15	16 Book Group 14.30	17 Computer 14.00	18 Painting 14.00 Coffee Morning 11.00	19 Weekender Lunch at Izumi at 12.00	20
21st November	21	22 Local History 14.00 Scrabble 14.00	23 Creative writing group 14.30	24 Family History 10.30	25 Copy to Editor Painting 14.00 Bird Watching Luncheon	26 Wine Tasting 14.00	27
28th November	28	29	30	1 st December Photography 14.00	2 Committee Meeting Painting 14.00	3	4
5th December	5	6 Threads 14.00	7	8 Technical Computer Group 14.00 Walking 14.00	9 Monthly Meeting 14.00	10	11
12th December	12	13 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	14 Wine Tasting 14.00	15 Computer 14.00	16 January News Sheet Copy to Editor Painting 14.00 Coffee Morning 11.00 Luncheon TBC	17 Weekender Coffee at Oliver's Nursery 10.00	18
19th December	19	20	21 Book Group 14.30	22 Family History 10.30	23 Painting 14.00	24	25
26th December	26	27	28	29	30	31	1 st January