



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

# Heybridge U3A

## News Sheet No. 2012/11

### November 2012

Contacts: Peter Thorpe Chairman 01621 850828

Brenda Dewar Secretary 01245 400492

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

#### From the Chairman

An auction is both an ancient and modern (eBay) techniques to determine the appropriate price to be paid for goods or services. What is fascinating about an auction is that the auctioneer does not have to know much about what he is selling. He does, however, have to know how to sell for the highest price and to understand that at the sound of his gavel, a legally binding contract has been made between the buyer and the seller.



Mike Logan-Wood

Author; Peter Thorpe

Mike Logan-Wood was the speaker at our October meeting and he let us into his life as an auctioneer. On leaving school, Mike was unsure how he was going to earn a living, but as a boy he was interested in the activities at the local market where the farmers brought their livestock to be sold. Mike's father secured him a position as a trainee with a local auction house and supported him throughout his period of training. Mike has a very likeable personality, he smiles as he talks, he engages with his audience, he does

not labour his points and he speaks clearly and concisely. As an auctioneer he had to work quickly, often at the rate of 100 lots per hour and he was still able to enthral us with his own style of the fast and musical form of bidding-up (in old money of course - pounds, shillings and pence!). With such a short time available for bidding, he would start at a price and drop it until he had his first bid. By carefully watching his audience, but not looking at anyone in particular, he would start bidding himself until he received a genuine bid, hoping that he could get the bidding up to the reserve price. All very theatrical stuff. In fact, he thought that a course at RADA would be the best qualification for an auctioneer.

Those of us who address meetings such as ours could learn a lot from Mike's approach. He said that no matter what difficulties occurred during bidding, he had to stay calm and be in total control of the situation. This could not have been easy when the adrenaline was pumping furiously and at the fall of his gavel he had made a legal and binding contract between the buyer and the seller!

Email [thorpe101@btinternet.com](mailto:thorpe101@btinternet.com) or phone 01621 850828.

Peter Thorpe.

#### From the Editor

As there is no January 2013 issue of the Heybridge U3A News Sheet I expect there will be the need for additional text to be inserted in the December issue. I would therefore request that all text is with me by the 23<sup>rd</sup> November so that I can accommodate all your reports. This also means that the December issue will need to contain planning information about December 2012, January 2013 and February 2013. This will enable us to have all the information that you require to be included in the Diary Page that relate to these three months.

By the time you read this News Sheet the Study Day will have come and gone. A short report on the Study Day has been included in the section on page 7 of this News Sheet. A fuller report will be produced for inclusion in the December edition. If you wish to share some of your thoughts on the Study Day, please let me have them.

I have to announce that Janette, the reader of the draft issues of the monthly News Sheet is not able to undertake this job in the future. Can I take this opportunity to thank her for her help in getting so many issues out, especially on many occasions when it has been very difficult for her to do so.

Can any Heybridge U3A Member fill this gap? Help in any form in producing the monthly News Sheet, a historical record of the activities of the Heybridge U3A, would be

appreciated. Please speak to me at the monthly meeting or phone/email me as detailed below.

The Diary on the last page has been updated to the end of December 2012. 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. Please continue to send details to me, preferably by email with 'Heybridge U3A' in the title. Alternatively talk to me at the Monthly Meeting. Printed copies will be available, as usual, at each Monthly Meeting.

Email [ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk) or phone 01621 891184

Ian Newman.

#### Group Names, Co-ordinator, Contact Telephone

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 891183
Creative Writing	Angela Pleasance	01621 850310
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
Petanque	Barbara Barbrook	01621 855605
Photography	Peter Thorpe	01621 850828
Reading & Books	Ann Lees	01245 225153
Scrabble	Ruth Tyler	01621 856212
Solo Whist	Dave Mason	01621 858635
Technical Computing	Colin Mason	01621 854906
Ten Pin Bowling	TBA	
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

#### Membership Secretary

We were pleased to welcome six new members in October, taking our current membership to 168.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at 14.00) as a guest. There is no need to book, just turn up and sign in.

For any queries regarding membership, please

Email [jennyparker14@hotmail.com](mailto:jennyparker14@hotmail.com) or phone me on 01621 843581.

Or, If I am not available, please

Email [angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk) or phone Angela on 01621 850310.

Jenny Parker

#### Heybridge U3A Monthly Meetings.

The next Monthly Meeting is on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November starting at the normal time of 14.00, in the Plantation Hall, Heybridge. This month we have as our speaker, Roger Slade, who will give us a talk on Journeys to Antarctica

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

- December 2012: Lynda Scoles with 'God rest ye Merry?'
- January 2013: Pat Rennoldson Smith presenting the story of the 1953 Essex Flood Disaster, as told by the people.
- February 2013: Brian Carline with amusing accounts of life in our schools.
- March 2013: AGM followed by Roger St Pierre with it isn't all champagne. The trials and tribulations of a travel writer.
- April 2013: Lynda Holdaway on the National Garden Scheme
- May 2013: John Frankland's talk on "Plotlands", including the land given to returning servicemen after both World Wars.

#### From the COGCo (Group Co-ordinator)

Having recently returned from holiday, I was sorry to be told that Janette cannot carry on as the COG of the Ten Pin Bowling Group due to other commitments over the next 8-9 months. She has worked hard with this group and there is a good atmosphere at Madison Heights. Those of you who attend know that having set this up, now it is a matter of booking the lanes, sorting out the teams, keeping scores and doing a small piece for the news sheet. I am therefore asking one of the players to take on this task, i.e. taking over a successfully run group.

Email [gillthorne2@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gillthorne2@hotmail.co.uk) or phone 01621 852294.

Gill Thorne.

#### REPORTS

##### Art (Painting) Group

Christmas lunch is on the minds of members at the moment. The popular choice for our pre-Christmas lunch is the 'Chequers' at Goldhanger. While not advocating sketchbooks in pockets on the day, I hope someone will

remember to bring a camera to capture the scene if it happens!

While not wishing for bitter winter weather, it has to be said that a smattering of snow on the roof of this traditional English tavern would surely be an inspiration to all us painters.

Meanwhile, a pile of unwanted travel brochures provided colourful ideas for some at the 26<sup>th</sup> October painting session, plus an armful of bright autumnal cuttings from Michael's garden. We were spoiled for choice!

Report by Gillian Mariner

For information about the group please contact Michael Kempen:

Email [m.kempen@sky.com](mailto:m.kempen@sky.com) or phone 01621 892974.

### **Bird Watching Group**

Our visit this month was back to Fingringhoe Wick for another look at this lovely area. We made our way to the first hide which is called 'The Scrape' which is a small lake. It was raining by now so not a lot going on so we made our way to the first of the estuary hides. We were too early as the tide was still high but we still had Mallards, Brent Geese, Cormorant, Shelduck, Great Crested Grebe, Redshank and Dabchick to hold our interest. As the tide went down we saw the Oystercatchers and Curlews feeding at the water's edge with Little Egrets and a lone Heron feeding on the salt marsh just outside the hide. Herons always look so stately standing as if on guard duty.

Today I think I can add another first for the group. We were able to identify a Spotted Redshank. The books came out, and with Alex and Grahams Scopes in action, we were confident to say, yes, that was a Spotted Redshank! As a group we have not seen them before so decided for us it was a rare sighting!!!



Grey Plover at Fingringhoe.

Author: Jill McGregor

I hope you enjoy Jill's pictures of the Grey Plover and if you want to join a small friendly group give me a call if you are interested. Our next meeting will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. November, not sure where yet.

For further information, email [symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 01621 869871. Maureen.

### **Computer Group**

The October meeting of the Computer Group was again poorly attended. It was decided by those attending that after the November meeting we would not meet again until February 2013

At our October Group Meeting we were competently presented with the first half of the presentation of the talk to be given by Pat Smith on the 1953 flood that we will see at our January 2013 Monthly Meeting. A meeting not to be missed.

Should anyone who has only a PC and no laptop wish to attend, a laptop is available for use by any U3A member.

We normally meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month in The Claydon Room at Plantation Hall. Any one who would like to expand their knowledge of computers and their uses will be warmly welcomed.

Ian Newman

Email [ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk) or phone 01621 891184.

### **Creative Writing Group**

It was a small but friendly group this month. We had not enjoyed the subject set last month but between us we managed to produce two good stories and a piece of doggerel (mine!) on the subject. We also heard a passage from an interesting travel tale that will eventually be a book.

It was agreed that in future we would have an alternative project each month, although I would encourage the group to write what they want to write. The projects are only there to set the imagination going if inspiration fails.

For the first project we played the Fiction Square game again. This produced characters of a teenager and a scientist, with 'creepy' and 'lonely' as their traits. The conflict is a boundary dispute; the setting a high street and the object some blood stained clothing. Can you think of a story incorporating that lot?

The previous month I had shown some paraprosochians - figures of speech in which the latter part of the sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and frequently humorous. The alternative project is to include one of these in the piece. If you need some examples please let me know.

Next month we will be looking at placing characters within a setting.

We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month, 14:30-16:30 at my house. No charge! New members welcome, no experience is necessary, just a sense of humour.

email [angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk) or phone 01621 850310.

Angela Pleasance

### **Discussion Coffee Morning Group**

We met at Linda's house this month where we sampled her very tasty homemade fruit cake. The conversation flowed and covered topics, both past and present. It's odd, but we always seem to get on to holiday stories at some point which usually proves good fun.



The next meeting is at Gills house on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00. If you would like to join us please either put your name down on the list, displayed at the Monthly Meetings, or come and talk to me for more information.

Email [mbandmeg@btinternet.com](mailto:mbandmeg@btinternet.com) or phone 01621 854885.  
Margaret Brown.

### Family History Group

After a two month break because of holidays, the Family History Group is up and running again. At this meeting Dorothy informed us that she has unfortunately come up against a wall concerning her ancestor who might have had a connection with a Harwich Lighthouse Keeper. Although we all came up with ideas most of them she had already tried. It is so frustrating when you just cannot find the answer you need to make the link.

We talked about keeping records on the computer. Norman showed us how he keeps all the information he has gathered and also things he still needs to investigate. There were mountains of information all kept on a spread sheet. His family tree was also quite impressive but is kept separately.

Chris showed us the Legacy website, which he uses for his family tree. Chris also talked about keeping your family tree and information on a site called Dropbox. We had not heard of this site, but I am sure we will look into it again. At our November meeting Chris will tell us about using "wild cards"!! More about that next month.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November from 10.30 to 12.30 at my house as usual.

Email [lesleypommy@hotmail.com](mailto:lesleypommy@hotmail.com) or phone 01621 817733.

Lesley Pomphrett.

### French Conversation Group

In October we started to explore a new way of talking about things in the past. We had been given some sheets with sentences which contained both continuing and single actions, for example "It was.....all day, when.....happened". We had to decide which verb ending to use. Slightly trickier than it sounds! Then we read about an elderly lady talking about her rural childhood when most of her clothes were the farmer's children's cast-offs. This led to a discussion of the meaning of the word occasion, how for us it suggests something special, but for a French person it suggests something second-hand. Another of our false friends!

Report: Pat Newman

For further information please contact Jenny Parker by

Email [jennyparker14@hotmail.com](mailto:jennyparker14@hotmail.com) or phone on 01621 843581.

### Gardening Group

We, both the Gardening and Walking Groups, will be having another snowdrop walk at Marks Hall in February 2013. The date will be emailed to members nearer the time. Pat Yates.

Email [pat.yates@tesco.net](mailto:pat.yates@tesco.net) or phone 01621 892866.

### Italian Conversation

The Beginner's Italian Conversation Group met at the beginning of the month of October and began with various members discussing the holidays they had taken. This is always a good way to practise a language, as notes can be written in advance to assist. However, questions by other members mean that we are put on the spot and have to think, which is always a struggle, but fun and productive. After a cup of coffee and biscuits everyone was given printed sheets of the regular verb conjugations, plus the auxiliary verbs and a few irregular verbs, concentrating on just a few of the more useful tenses for now. These sheets should help as a quick reference guide if we are uncertain of the verb endings. Before the next meeting we hope to make use of them to help us form sentences in various tenses.

The meeting for the Advanced Italian Conversation Group had to be postponed until Monday 29th October, too late to be included in this issue of the Newsletter.

The dates in the Diary are all subject to confirmation.

Email [janice.slight@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:janice.slight@tiscali.co.uk) or phone 01621 853393

Janice Slight.

### Local History Group (LHG)

Although we were not sufficient in number to get group rates, we had a very good visit to Colchester Castle when



the excellent guide took us through its history, from its origins as a Roman temple to its uses in more recent times. We were then able to view the current displays and a temporary Chinese exhibition. The visit was timed perfectly as the castle is soon to be closed for repair and refurbishment.

Colchester Castle's Very Old Tree

Author:- John Harrison

Email [george.smeed@virgin.net](mailto:george.smeed@virgin.net) or phone 01621 840339.

Carol Greenhalgh

### Luncheon Group

Fourteen of us met on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012 at 'Le Bouchon' in Heybridge for our October lunch. We had the private room which was well laid out for our party. Our menu selections had been made in advance and this enabled a slick and prompt service. Many compliments were made about many aspects, the décor, the very

friendly service and attention to us all, the food and it's presentation. We were also appreciated as customers.

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November we plan to go to 'Miller and Carter' in Chelmer Village. (It was previously the 'Beefeater', next to the 'Fox and Raven') There is easy access and plenty of parking space. Some car sharing can be arranged, contact me. The list and a copy of the current menus will be available on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December we are going to 'Le Bouchon' in Heybridge and having the Fixed Price Christmas Menu, 3-Courses plus coffee for £19.95. The date is as previously advised but everyone present at the 12<sup>th</sup> October meeting, after viewing the menus, chose 'Le Bouchon'. The present list, together with the menu, will be available on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November for anyone who wishes to join the fourteen already listed. Menu selection and a deposit of £2.00 per person are required by the 9<sup>th</sup> November. The menu is available on their website or you can contact me by email or phone.

For Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2013 we plan to go to the recently refurbished, with change of ownership, 'The William B', in Hatfield Peverel. A list and a copy of the current menu will be available on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November, the menu may well have changed by January, but will be similar.

Looking ahead to February 2013, 'The Ship' at Tiptree is the venue in mind.

Any queries please speak to me on Friday, phone or email.

Email [johnwharrison@sky.com](mailto:johnwharrison@sky.com) or phone 01621 854851.

John Harrison.

### **Petanque Group**

After waiting three weeks for a Monday when it was not raining, we managed to meet at the Promenade for our match with Blackwater U3A. It did in fact drizzle but we played through it and before we left it did actually stop completely. The match was very interesting and at times exciting and we did improve from last year. The result was a three games all draw. So, it was well worth the effort of waiting and all had a very enjoyable afternoon. Now that

Blackwater play in a league as well as with the U3A group, we were quite pleased with ourselves and hope to do even better next year.



Petanque Group after the match with Blackwater U3A

From the 5<sup>th</sup> November we will not be playing regularly but those hardy souls who wish will get together to play in the winter, if they are moved to do so. We will be commencing in the Spring in the middle of March to play weekly i.e Mondays from 14.00 to 16.00 and then to the café for a drink and a chat. If by any chance you wish to play in the

winter, please phone Alf Bell who would be willing to organize it. (01621 840158)

Email [c.barbrook@sky.com](mailto:c.barbrook@sky.com) or phone 01621 855605.

Barbara Barbrook.

### **Photography Group**

We started our October meeting by viewing our assignment pictures, with the theme of abstract images, developed into pattern photos. This subject made the creative juices flow and it was very satisfying to see the wide variety of excellent pictures captured by the group members. They were taken from nature, still-life objects, street scenes and a pictorial pun. It is always difficult to choose one photo to illustrate the range of work presented, but a view of a glass of sherry "hit-the-spot". It was very carefully composed, correctly exposed and well seen. It is truly great to see how our members see their environment through a "photographer's eye".



Pattern

Author – Pat Yates

Our next assignment is to choose a photograph that you particularly like and to share it with the group. The photos can be of any subject and we will be interested in why you have chosen your image.

If you are interested in digital photography, come and join us. You will be made welcome whether you are completely new, experienced or just want to find your "photographer's eye". Our aim is to enjoy and to improve our photography, together.

Email [thorpe101@btinternet.com](mailto:thorpe101@btinternet.com) or phone 01621 850828.

Peter Thorpe.

### **Reading and Books Group**

Sarah Waters is the author of 'The Little Stranger', the book chosen for this month. She is an author we have read and appreciated before.

The story was something of a departure from her previous novels but, once again, has chosen a period which she was able, as in her other novels, to depict with clarity and authenticity.

In a dusty post-war summer, in rural Warwickshire, a doctor is called to a patient at the lonely, 'Hundreds Hall'. Home to the Ayres family for over two centuries, this Georgian house, once grand and handsome, is now in decline. Its masonry is crumbling, its gardens choked with weeds, its owners, mother, son and daughter, are struggling to keep up appearances in a changing society. But are the Ayres haunted by something more sinister than a dying way of life. Little does Dr. Faraday know how closely, and how terrifying, their story is about to become entwined with his.

This is Sarah Waters attempt at a spine chiller where she skilfully ratchets up the suspense as events at 'Hundreds Hall' grow ever more highly charged, even downright chilling.

We all seemed to enjoy the story, but like so many other modern novels, it was considered too long. We blame the publishers who seem today to be asking novelists to provide us all with thick books! It would seem they do not ask the reader what they want if our group is anything to go by!

We all enjoyed the interesting social dynamics incorporated in the story all of which had meaning for our age group most of us, having grown up in this period of fast moving social change. We were puzzled by the 'Little Stranger' and did not reach a consensus of opinion about who he/she actually was and the significance of this presence to the story. Although we enjoyed this supernatural tale and its meditation on the nature of the British and its class system, it was not considered to be one of her best books, in spite of the claims on the cover.

We discussed a different approach to choosing our monthly reads for next year and hope to obtain the co-operation of the library.

We welcomed two new members Ann Abbott and Joyce Woodham and look forward to their contributions to our group discussions.

The group now has a full complement of members.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 14.30.

Ann Lees.

Email: [annlees@yahoo.com](mailto:annlees@yahoo.com) or phone 01245 225153

### **Scrabble Group**

My thanks to Pamela who organised the October meeting in my absence. She had ten players, who enjoyed an afternoon of sociable scrabble with a break for coffee and biscuits.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November. We do not meet in December, as our date is too close to Christmas, but we look forward to gathering again on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013, and on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

Email [r.tyler936@btinternet.com](mailto:r.tyler936@btinternet.com) or phone 01621 856212.

Ruth Tyler

### **Solo Whist**

As the Solo Whist Group won't meet until next Wednesday (7<sup>th</sup> November) therefore there is no report this month.

Email [tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk) or phone 01621 858635.

Dave Mason

### **Technical Computing Group**

The October meeting of our group took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> at Peter's house. At this meeting I was able to demonstrate a working version of the new Windows 8 operating system, which is due to be released towards the end of this month. A discussion took place about the reasons for and against this new system. The general opinion is that unless it is absolutely necessary, it is not worth upgrading from Windows 7 or Vista at this time. In addition there are bound to be some 'bugs' with the first release. It may be worth waiting until a bit later on.

Alex gave us a very interesting insight into some of the automated process at the Ford Motor Company at Dagenham, especially in the stores area of the plant.

Our thanks to Anne and Peter for their hospitality.

The next meeting takes place at Alex's house on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November.

Email [colin@mason20.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:colin@mason20.wanadoo.co.uk) or phone 01621 854906.

Colin Mason

### **Ten Pin Bowling**

With Janette and Gill on holiday and others absent due to conflicting engagements, a select group of seven met in October. All, as it happened, were also members of the Petanque Group. The previous week, as it had been too wet to play petanque, some had exchanged boules for bowls and Glenn had scored a record high of 169. Graham nearly managed to beat this, with a top score of 168 and an average over five games of 137. Next came Jenny with an average of 110 and Toni with 107. The key thing, however, is not who scores the most but that each individual should achieve his/her personal goals. Most of us would like to be more consistent – there's nothing more frustrating than wasting a strike or spare by failing to score well on your next turn. If we can work out what we are doing right when we play well, then hopefully we will be able to use that knowledge to improve our individual games.

Jenny Parker.

The next meet is on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> November at 13.45 for a 14.00 start at the usual venue, Madison Heights.

### **Threads and Fabrics Group**

As usual, our October meeting was a time of much laughter. We had a very small visitor (see photo) who we decided to nickname Mrs Hefalump who impressed us with the elegant flowers in her hair. She is the result of a set of very nimble fingers. Another of our members brought along a pretty pink and white baby blanket made from the squares she made when learning to crochet earlier in the year. She was rightly proud of it. I think that one of the things that I most enjoy about our group is that I never know what our members are going to bring next.





Mrs Hefalump

Author:- Pat Newman

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

Anne by Email [anne.thorpe@btinternet.com](mailto:anne.thorpe@btinternet.com) or phone 01621 850828.

Or Pat by Email [ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk) or phone 01621 891184.

### **Walking Group**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October was a cloudy, wet day but a group of a dozen or so hardy walkers enjoyed our tramp around Danbury Common. Conditions underfoot were not too muddy. We only got lost once and the heavy rain held off until we reached the sanctuary of the most excellent tea shop on the Green!

The next walk will be around Terling, a most interesting-sounding village. Meet at 14:00 on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Parking should be available opposite the village hall near the 'Rayleigh Arms' pub, so meet there. The walk length is given as 3.75 miles. Quote from the book of Essex walks "Terling is probably one of the most attractive villages in Essex. The walk explores some of its best features." Please let me know if you can join us.

The December walk will be a morning outing from 'The Bell' at Woodham Walter starting at 10:00 and returning there for lunch at 12:00. Christmas lunch may be ordered or the normal menu will be available. I have provisionally booked for 15 people and the pub car park will be available to us. The landlord has asked that we order food before setting out that morning. Please let me know asap if you intend to join the walk and if you would like lunch so that I can confirm numbers.

There will not be a walk in January and the February walk will be as last year, a visit to Marks Hall with the Gardening Group to see the snowdrops. Details to follow next year.

Email [e.m.e@talktalk.net](mailto:e.m.e@talktalk.net) or phone 01621 850618. Elizabeth.

### **Weekenders Group**

We are now looking forward to seeing 'Kiss me Kate' at Witham Public Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> November which I am sure we will enjoy as the productions by the Witham Operatic Society are usually first rate. At the end of the month we are there again to see 'Calendar Girls', which also should be good. Our year will finish with Christmas lunch at 'The Anchor', Runsell Green on the 9<sup>th</sup> December. In between, of course, there are our Coffee Mornings to enjoy. Also planned for February 2013 is 'Sweet Charity' at the Mercury Theatre by the Colchester Operatic Society. They are an excellent company of performers.

Email [mars42@btinternet.com](mailto:mars42@btinternet.com) or phone 01621 817518.

Marilyn Corbett.

### **Wine Appreciation Group**

Our meeting in November will be a visit to the Christmas Wine Tasting organised by "Grape Passions" at Langford Village Hall. We will be meeting at 11.00 in the car park. As usual we will be taking turns at car sharing so let me know if you are willing to be a driver or if you require a seat in one of the cars. I would like to invite all members of the Wine Appreciation Group and anyone else from Heybridge U3A to join me for a glass of prosecco and a slice of pannettone on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December, at my house, any time between 15.00 and 18.00.

Email [jachjones@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jachjones@tiscali.co.uk) or phone 01621 817117.

Jackie Jones.

### **The Essex Association of U3As Study Day**

The Study Day was held at The Plume School, Maldon on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012 and was considered a very successful day and had been enjoyed by all to whom we had spoken. Thanks must go to all who had helped and those who participated in the day.

A fuller report will be found in next month's News Sheet.

For further information, please contact Ian Newman.

Email [ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk) or phone 01621 891184

or Joyce Woodham.

Email [woodham359@btinternet.com](mailto:woodham359@btinternet.com) or phone 01621 841066.

### **On the Notice Board**

Please speak to Brenda about the contents of the Notice Board.

Email [brendadewar@btinternet.com](mailto:brendadewar@btinternet.com) or phone 01245 400492. Brenda Dewar.

### **Other Information**

The Maldon Orchestra is a unique and wonderful group, going for over 60 years, are taking any players who want to join, whatever their standard. They meet in the Friends' Meeting House in Butts Lane, Maldon, Fridays at 19.45. If you are interested, please phone Molly Tring 01621 854732.

## Diary of Meetings and Visits

For details see articles and co-ordinators above.

Week Commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>5<sup>th</sup> November</b>	5	6 Threads 14.00	7 Solo Whist 14.00	8 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	9 Monthly Meeting 14.00	10 Weekender Coffee at Tiptree Jam Factory 10.00	11
<b>12<sup>th</sup> November</b>	12 Beginners Italian 10.00	13 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	14 French Conversation 10.00	15 Computer 14.00	16 Painting 14.00 Coffee Morning 11.00	17	18
<b>19<sup>th</sup> November</b>	19	20 Local History 14.00	21 Book Group 14.30	22 Family History 10.30	23 Painting 14.00 Bird Watching Luncheon	24 Wine Tasting 11.00 Weekender 'Calendar Girl'	25
<b>26<sup>th</sup> November</b>	26 Advanced Italian 10.00	27 Scrabble 14.00	28 Creative Writing Group 14.30	29	30 News Sheet Copy to Editor Painting 14.00	1 <sup>st</sup> December	2
<b>3rd December</b>	3 Beginners Italian 10.00	4 Threads 14.00	5 Solo Whist 14.00	6 Photography 14.00	7 Painting 14.00 Committee Meeting 10.00	8	9 Weekender 'The Anchor'
<b>10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	10	11 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	12 French Conversation 10.00	13 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	14 Monthly Meeting 14.00	15 Weekender Coffee at Olivers Nursery 10.00	16
<b>17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	17 Advanced Italian 10.00	18	19 Book Group 14.30	20 Family History 10.30	21 Painting 14.00 TBC Coffee Morning 11.00 Luncheon Wine Tasting 15.00	22	23
<b>24<sup>th</sup> December</b>	24	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 BOXING DAY	27	28 Bird Watching Painting 14.00 TBC	29	30