



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Heybridge U3A

News Sheet No. 10/2015

November 2015

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

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Your Committee

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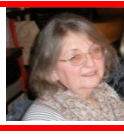





Friday 20th November See Page 11

Social evening with games

Fish & Chips. £5 Bring a Friend

Transport required? Ring Pat Smith

01621 856569

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NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

From the Chairman

Since I wrote my last report, I have been to two U3A Meetings. The first was a Regional Meeting, held in Cambridge. The region comprises Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge, Herts and, of course, Essex. There are more U3As in Essex than in any of the other counties as we have 51 U3As. Most of the discussion concerned communication between Head Office, Regional Office and the various counties. There is now a Regional web-site, but, at the moment Essex is not linked into it, as soon as that is available, we will let you know.

My second meeting was earlier this week, when I met up with the other three Chairmen in Maldon. One of the topics we discussed was the potential of using the Plume School facilities in the evenings. We are also considering another Study Day in October 2016, the only problem that we have for that, at the moment, is that we need someone to transfer the data from the application forms onto a spreadsheet. It is not a difficult task, but is very time-consuming. If anybody is willing to take on this task, please let me know.

To try and attract younger people to join U3A, it was suggested that we explore the possibilities of dry slope skiing, dinghy sailing, possibly at the Blackwater Sailing Club. Any suggestions are welcome!

Joyce Woodham,

Chairman

From the Editor

The design of the Heybridge U3A News Sheet, and the reports that it contains, continues as a full-page layout. I would ask contributors to limit their updates to 400 words or 300 words and one photo please as space is becoming an issue. Information about the Committee Members and their reports can be found in the first few pages with a contents column, to aid in finding the parts which you wish to read first, on page 1. The back page (p16) shows the Diary for the months of November and December. There will be a News sheet in December but not January, so reports for the February News sheet will be needed by 29th January.

Please keep the Editor up to date with any interesting stories, relevant pictures or anything that relates to the Heybridge U3A, the Association of Essex U3As or the U3A movement as a whole. Please send details to me by email with 'Heybridge U3A' in the title and copy Tina at tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk with any diary updates.

Contact me, Geoff Hadley, 01621 852494 or by Email editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Membership Secretary

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

U3A Third Age Matters Magazine

Unless you have asked to be unsubscribed, you should shortly receive the November issue of the above magazine through the post. If you don't receive it, please let me know. It may be you have moved but not told me, in which case it would have been sent to your old address.

May I please remind all members to advise me of any change in contact details - e.g. postal / email address / telephone number – to ensure that you continue to receive all relevant information.

For any queries relating to membership, please email membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

Future Heybridge U3A Monthly Meetings

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

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

The Meeting in December will be a party event.

Help is requested to setup the PC for the Speaker to display Presentations at Monthly Meetings.

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

Secretary's notes from the Main Meeting

We are pleased to announce that Barbara Barbrook has been co-opted onto the committee to act as Interest Groups' Co-ordinator.

Liz Cawdell has kindly agreed to assist Pat Smith with running the Events.

A new advertising leaflet is being prepared that will include photographs of members taking part in U3A activities. If anyone does not wish their photograph to be used in this way please inform the committee..

U3A Diaries were available to collect at the October meeting: if you were not able to attend please collect in November.

From the Events Secretary

- Friday 20th November - a social evening with fish & chips.
- January 5th 2016 'Guys & Dolls' at the Savoy Theatre. All tickets sold,
- Tuesday 2nd February 2016 'Jersey Boys' at the Piccadilly Theatre London. **One ticket returned. Please contact me if you know anyone who would like it – just £24.50 to pay.**
- Visit Hever Castle on 21st April 2016.
- **NEW** – Discover Newmarket in March 2016

Please see page .11 for further details

GROUP REPORTS

Art (Painting) Group

Our thoughts are turning already to Christmas and the venue for our annual seasonal get-together. This year's choice is the William B in Hatfield Peverel, the time 12 noon, and the date Friday, December 4th. Menus will be decided nearer the time.

If you are a U3A painter and you have missed a meeting or two, this may come as news to you.

Fear not. Michael has booked plenty of places, so speak to him at our next meeting and he'll add your name to the list

Gill Carpenter

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

Ballroom and Latin Dance Group

Several members have enquired whether we will resume dancing soon. Gloria and I are willing to give it another try if sufficient interest is forthcoming. Our proposal is to start in January through to say May - your input is welcome.

If you are interested please call me on 01621840158 or email dossod@fsmail.net. Alf Bell

Bird Watching Group

This month we travelled to Minsmere and what a great day we had. We started by taking the coast trail it is a circular walk taking in four hides.

We had only walked a few yards before we had our first sighting, nothing to do with birds; it was a Water Vole, so cute what a treat for us.

There was a lot of activity on the scrape as we arrived at the hide, Avocets, Shovellers, Widgeon, Grey Heron, Black-tailed Godwit, Cormorant, Spotted Redshank and Egret and so many more.

A Kestrel was spotted overhead as we walked along by the shore also lots of Linnet so well camouflaged on the stones it was not easy to see them. We made our way back for a welcome lunch break before going out once again on the Woodland trail this time and the Bittern Hide, We were so lucky to see a Marsh Harrier flying around near us, always so pleased to see them as they are one of our larger birds of prey



Autumn Kestrel



Godwit in Winter Plumage

Hope you like the pictures this month of the Kestrel and Godwit.

Next month we are going to Old Hall. If you would like to join our group, please get in touch by phone 01621869871 or email symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk Maureen

Cards and Paper Crafts

The next meeting is 2nd December at 2pm

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

Computer Group

As Ian was away on a mystery trip, Ian asked if we wanted to do a self-help meeting and the rest of the group said that they would do that. There were four of us and Barbara had offered to do a session on printing out labels ready for Christmas Cards. These can then be saved and the following year opened in a

saved document and with a few alterations, perhaps a few deleted and a few added can then save a lot of writing each year. Barbara had some sheets of Handy Tips saved from a course on the Word programme and we all opened our laptops ready to begin. The Handy tip on doing these labels tells us to open Word and find tools, then Letters and Mailings, then envelopes and labels. We clicked on options, chose Avery L7160, giving us 21 labels per sheet. Barbara had brought some sheets of adhesive labels, but as we did not have a printer the idea was to take them home, follow the Handy Tips sheet and print them. The time went very quickly, so after refreshments, there was just time for us to practise what we had learnt, as we found that you could do a sheet of the same label or a sheet of different addresses.

Barbara Barbrook

The Computer Group Meetings are for those wishing to be more proficient at using the computer, in any of its forms, PC, Laptop, Tablet, Ipad or smart phone starting at any stage. The subjects covered are tailored to those that attend the monthly meetings. The meetings are held in the Claydon Room in Plantation Hall on the third Thursday of each month at 2pm, when you will be made welcome. Just come along. You can always contact me by phone or email before, if you so wish.

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

Creative Writing Group

Our title for the October meeting: "A Regret", brought about a variety of choices, many of which resonated with the feelings of those in the group, and everyone managed to finish on a positive note as requested.

Our next meeting on 25th of November, will be a light hearted look at Christmas Customs at Home and Abroad.

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

Croquet Group

Just five of us met for our last croquet session for this season. Although it was not raining, the air felt damp but the lawns were still ok to play on. A couple of the players had sensibly worn gloves, the rest of us wishing we had! It was great to have Rita Gorrie join us for the morning. Once again a member of the Maldon Croquet Club turned up to assist and give us some very useful advice; hopefully we might still remember it next year! After one game we adjourned to the clubhouse to warm up with hot chocolate and coffee.

We will start playing again hopefully next year in April, if anyone would like to come along and join us you will be most welcome, the emphasis is on gentle exercise and fun in good company.

Anne Newson: phone 01621 858807 or email annenewson@uwclub.net

Discussion Coffee Morning Group

Our meeting on 16th October was at Anne Newson's house. Although I had to leave early I found time to sample the tasty refreshments kindly provided by Anne.

It seems I missed an interesting discussion about clocks. One thing that evolved was the fact that some people find the sound of a ticking clock quite relaxing but others find it very irritating!

The next coffee morning will be held at 11.00 on Friday 20th November at Yvonne West's house.

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

Family History Group

For our October meeting the Beginner's joined forces with the Advanced group and enjoyed a tour of the Essex Records Office. After introducing the facilities at the Records Office and demonstrating how to order documents for viewing we were shown some historical maps of Heybridge. It was fascinating to see how the village has grown over the years.



We were then taken 'behind-the-scenes' to see the temperature-controlled store rooms housing thousands of documents, maps, books and letters all telling the rich story of our county. A particular highlight of the tour was a visit to the Conservation Room where an enthusiastic (and under-funded!) team, including volunteers, were working hard to restore damaged documents ready for storage.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 26th November 2015 (at Lesley Pomphrett's house)

Beginner's 10.00 – 11.00 hrs Advanced 11.00 – 13.00 hrs No meetings in December

For further information: Liz Cawdell 01621 331944 or ecawdell@btinternet.com

French Conversation Group



Six of us spent an enjoyable morning practising our French at Barbara's house in October. Rosemary gave us an interesting account of her recent trip to China, after which we read an article about a bearded New Zealander called Nigel Richards who recently won the French Scrabble championship, despite not being able to speak a word of French. He achieved this feat by spending 9 weeks learning by heart all the words in the Official French Scrabble dictionary, even though he had no idea of their meaning. Clearly, this is not the way to learn a

language if you want to be able to speak it!

Continuing with the theme of eccentricity, Georges produced a French newspaper article about an Englishman called Ronnie Pickering. According to the article, everyone in England now knows all his personal details plus the fact that he has a plastic dog and a flowerpot full of cigarette butts by his front door. This was news to us, but then none of us 'do' You Tube. Ronnie had apparently exploded into a fit of road rage when a scooter rider overtook him at a roundabout. Unfortunately for Ronnie, the whole incident was filmed by a camera attached to the scooter driver's helmet. When the scooter driver uploaded the film to the internet, it went viral.

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 10.00 – 12.00. Our next meeting is on 11th November chez Pat N. Jenny Parker: email jennyparker14@hotmail.com or phone 01621 843581

French Improvers – Joint Blackwater / Heybridge Group



Our theme for the October meeting was time – asking about opening / closing / departure / arrival times and, importantly, understanding the reply. Using the 24 hour clock provided plenty of opportunity to practise numbers.

Meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month from 14.00 – 16.00.

The next meeting (the last one of 2015) will be on 23rd November at my house. For further information on either French Group, please contact Jenny Parker: jennyparker14@hotmail.com

Gardening Group

There will be no more visits this year, but keep on the look-out for ideas for next year's planning meeting. I think we will change the name to Garden Group, because we don't actually do any gardening together.

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

Italian Conversation

The Italian Conversation Group meets twice a month, usually on the first and third Monday of the month, at 10 am at my house. We are a small but friendly group of varied abilities who meet to practise speaking Italian. This time, amongst other things, we discussed the inconsistencies in fashions in films and plays portraying the 60's and 70's compared to the actual memories of the members of the group. This tested our knowledge of Italian words for various items of clothing as well as make-up. The clothing and make-up actually worn was much more subdued than those portrayed in films and on stage.

The next meetings will be: Monday 16th November Monday 7th December Monday 21st December

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

Local History Group

What a glorious day we had for our walk around Silver End. Robin has so much expertise in the history and unique architecture of the area that he was able to share with us along the way. One added bonus was that Alan, the owner of what is probably the best kept of the modernist properties, came out to invite us into his garden.



This gave us a real feel for the house from all its angles and Alan gave us an insight into the careful restoration that has taken place. Even a new addition was constructed using original materials. The delightful garden was a second bonus.

We next meet at 3 p.m. on 17th November at the Plantation Hall, Heybridge, to make plans for the year to come. Please let Carol know as follows:

If you wish to come [space is limited]

If you have ideas for our future but cannot come

If you are able to bring an item or story of interest to share at the meeting

If you have any queries This will be our last meeting until the New Year.

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

Patchwork Group

The next meetings of the Patchwork Group will be in the Claydon Room on Monday 9th November and Monday 14th December at 2pm.

Anne Thorpe E-mail Anne.thorpe@btinternet.com or phone 01621 850828.

Petanque Group

We have now completed the 2015 season with some very good sessions at the Promenade Park Terrain, and only lost a few Mondays owing to the weather being bad as no-one wants to play in the pouring rain. However we did have six people left for the final game on 19th October after having 12 people for a very good meal at Henri's Steak Bar. Everyone enjoyed their meals with lovely food and very good service. As we have about 14 active players I hope that they will all continue, as the date will be 4th April 2016 (after Easter next year). Do have a lovely winter and see you in 2016. There will be a reminder in the March Newsletter so enjoy Christmas, New Year and Easter.

Barbara Barbrook c.barbrook@sky.com

Photography Group

There were twelve members at our October Meeting in the Jubilee Lounge of the West Maldon Centre.



The photographic assignment for this meeting was "Bridge(s)". Most photographs were images of structural bridges over roads, rivers or railway tracks. Some were of famous bridges like the huge steel bridges over Sydney Harbour and the spectacular Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. Others photos were local, simple wooden structures, in gardens and parks. There were ancient stone pack horse bridges over streams and canals in very picturesque landscapes in the far north west of the United Kingdom. One member showed us the five famous bridges over the River Tyne at Newcastle. Other members explored different bridges like those on glasses, ships and stringed musical instruments. We had so many photos submitted that projecting and discussing them took the whole session. We decided to limit the number of assignment images to three per member for future

meetings to give us some time to discuss other topics like problems with our cameras and the importance of lighting and composition in our photographs.

"Mirror" was agreed as the assignment for the November meeting.

Why not join us? We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 2.00 p.m.

By regularly meeting together and sharing our photos, we learn how to get better results from our own equipment. Our aim is to make all of our meetings entertaining, friendly and informative.

Anyone interested in joining or coming to see what we do can contact Norman Grove on 01621 842805 or by email norman.grove@gmail.com

Reading and Books Group

This month's book was Sacred Hearts by Sarah Dunant.

Set in 1570 in the Italian city of Ferrara, a young woman is ripped by her family from an illicit love affair and forced into a convent. Although gifted with a beautiful singing voice she refuses to sing or obey the rules of the convent and is determined to leave.

The Abbess is equally determined that she stay and finds her new charge has unleashed a power play – rebellion, ecstasies and hysterias – within the convent.

Whilst not a popular book with the group as a whole several of the group enjoyed the book greatly.

It certainly gave rise to considerable conversation about the place of women in society over the ages and the burden of oppression women have experienced over centuries past. A burden which we concluded is still experienced in some cultures in the present day.

We now have two places available in the group so if anybody wishes to join us could they please contact Ann Lees 01245225153 for information or come along to the next group meeting. This will be held at the Plantation Hall Heybridge at 2.15pm on November 18th.

Scrabble Group

A reminder to all Scrabblers that the November 24th meeting is the last one for the year so the next one after that will be on the 26th January 2016. Time flies when you're having fun and the two hours certainly flitted past at the last meeting. Why not come and have a game with us on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 2.00pm in the Claydon room at Plantation Hall. £2.00 per session covers the room hire with a hot drink and biscuit.

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

Solo Whist

4 of us met at Tina's and mine for our October session of Whist. It never ceases to amaze me how different the sessions can be. This time one of our players seemed to call and win everything including solos, abundances and misère as well as a misère ouvertes. But this player has hardly had a call let alone a win for several months, so they deserved all the luck and skill that they had on that day. Alright the rest of the group had the odd call and win. During the interval Tina served us tea & coffee with a delicious homemade lemon drizzle cake.

The next session will be at 2pm on 11th November when we have two new players joining us (great news) and this again will be at Tina's and Dave's place.

Dave Mason C O G 01621 858635 or e mail tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk

Technical Computing Group

We had another interesting meeting, where amongst other things we discussed the known short comings of Windows 10. Again we warn U3A computer users to be cautious before installing Windows 10 upgrade from the invite on the task bar of Vista or Windows 7 computers. If you do download it, and find some of your add on equipment such as printers do not work, you can revert to your original operating system within a month of the upgrade.

We then discussed the first computer we all had, from in my case, a Vic 20 with **3 Meg of Ram!!** Etc, all of us had various early computers, which in those days cost more than a month's salary.

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

Ten Pin Bowling

Please note: We will be playing twice a month during the winter months except December when we will only meet on the earlier date.

Dates as follows: Tuesday 13th October, Monday 26th October

Tuesday 10th November, Monday 23rd November

Tuesday 8th December.

It is helpful to me for players to arrive 15 minutes before we start so that I can allocate bowlers for the lanes we are using. Lynne Morrison 01621 891288 lejmorrisson@gmail.com

Threads and Fabrics Group

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month starting at 2pm

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

Ukulele Group

The group has started rehearsing a set of well-known and more obscure seasonal songs to perform at the U3A Christmas do on Dec 11th. This will be our first performance together. Members are practising like mad and are eager to show off their newly-acquired strumming skills.

Although the group will not be at full strength, due to illness, etc, there will still be enough of us to make a hearty yuletide noise!

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

Walking Group

A group of about 10 of us enjoyed the Over Hall walk from Earls Colne in the October sunshine. After finding ample free parking (always a bonus) in the town centre, we headed out of the town, across the golf course, over the river Colne and into the Colne Valley countryside, experiencing some wonderful views as we walked.

The only downside was finding the town tearoom had closed when we returned! However, we did manage to find drinks at a local pub.

The November walk will be around West Mersea

Meet at the Coast Road car park near the yacht club - not sure if there are charges- at 2:00 pm Thurs 12th November, to follow the Strood Channel walk (approx. 3.5 miles).

Please let me know if you will be there and if you need or can offer transport

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

Weekenders Group

Our planned events are well underway. The Christmas lunch has been booked and deposits paid. The tickets for 'The Producers' at Witham Public Hall have also been booked and paid for so another something to look forward to as Winter approaches.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 14th November Coffee at Wilkin's Jam Factory, 10am

Saturday 12th December Coffee at Perrywoods, 10am

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

Wine Appreciation Group

Have you ever wondered “What is the difference between Champagne and Prosecco”, apart from the country of origin? Both are ideal for special occasions and both require a second round of fermentation to provide the bubbles but, while this happens in the bottle for Champagne, Prosecco's takes place in steel tanks. Tank fermentation is cheaper as it's less labour-intensive, the bubbles are more frothy and spritzy and the sweet fruity taste is retained. Champagne requires a more elaborate process with attention to every bottle, resulting in a greater depth, finer bubbles and a biscuity flavour making it more expensive to produce.

Watch this space for more news Jackie Email jachjones@tiscali.co.uk or phone 01621 817117

Further Information and details of events

Please note that to enable our meetings to run as smoothly as possible, all sign-in forms for future events (including Newmarket, Hever Castle, Kensington and Canterbury) will, now be found in the committee room. A table in the main hall will be set aside solely for payment of events and collection of tickets. Thank you!

The following events are planned for this and next year. Please note that members are asked to pay for outings in full, six weeks before the trip date. If the trip later proves not to be viable, the money will be refunded in full.

November Can you solve these riddles -24 = H from T? -and-1588 = D of the S A? The answer is the connection between the number and the initials. e.g. - 16 = O in a P- .Answer,16 = ounces in a pound.

Plenty more of such to tax your memory at our social evening where you will also enjoy -

- A good plate of fish and chips
- A free raffle with excellent prizes
- Testing your skill at Scrabble, Dominoes, Jenga; Whist or any other board game.
- Learning a new game. How about Mah-jong? Angela will be there to help.
- Last but not least a good evening with like-minded companions in the local hall you know well

Meet at Plantation Hall on Friday 20th November from 6.30pm until 9.30pm. The cost including the meal is just £5.00. Bring your own drinks and glasses.

Please sign up and pay by 14th November and please, to help in planning, let us know, via the form, which board games you like to play and whether you will bring a game to share.

January 2016 The 15 members booked to see Guys & Dolls at the Savoy Theatre on 5th January will be collected by Paul's minibus from the bus-stop at Tesco's at 09.00. I have the theatre tickets – Heybridge U3A tickets will not be needed. The price does not include a tip for the driver.

February 2016. Transport to and from the theatre on Tuesday 2nd February to see *Jersey Boys* will be by Ford coaches, who will collect us from the bus stop at Tesco's at 09.00. A tip for the driver is included in the cost.

March 2016 Join us on a trip to Newmarket on Monday 14th March 2016, and be part of 260 years of racing history! We plan to join their 'Short Head Tour', which includes visits to the Newmarket gallops and a top Newmarket trainer's yard; followed by tea / coffee at The National Stud and finally a tour of The National Stud. The morning ends at 12.30 when we can have lunch (details later), before we leave at 15.00. The complete cost of the tour will be approximately £30.00 pp. Late risers be aware – we must meet at 06.45 and leave promptly at 07.00 as the tour starts at 09.00. Please sign up to show interest and pay by 13th February 2016.

April 2016 A visit to Hever Castle in Kent, the 13th Century childhood home of Ann Boleyn is now booked for Thursday 21st April 2016. As well as the usual and very interesting panelled rooms with fine furniture and antiques, there is a rare collection of Tudor portraits. But my favourite exhibition is a group of life-sized costumed figures which almost bring the Tudor times to life. Entrance fee is £11.65. More details later. Travel will be with Ford's Coach and will cost approximately £15.00. Please let me know by January 15th whether you wish your name to remain on the list and please pay by March 11th.

May 2016 In May a visit to Kensington Palace is planned but not yet booked. This Palace was the home of the young Princess, later Queen Victoria and later still, the home of Princess Diana. The trip may include a look at the famous statue of Peter Pan, by the Serpentine, as well as the Diana Memorial playground. We shall also be close to the Royal Albert Hall, The Albert Memorial and even Exhibition Road. Please sign up to show your interest and remove your name if you later find you are unable to join the trip.

June 2016 In June we may visit the historical cathedral city of Canterbury. At the end of the 6th century AD the city of Canterbury was the capital of the kingdom of Kent, ruled by the powerful Anglo-Saxon King Ethelbert. During his reign Christianity was re-introduced by Augustine a monk sent from Rome by Pope Gregory the Great. Canterbury was thus established as the centre of Christianity in England. The Cathedral is a must see! Please sign up to show your interest and remove your name if you later find you are unable to join the trip.

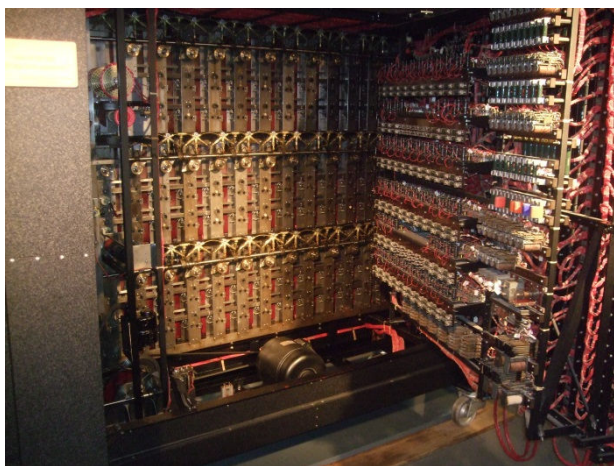
Please contact me with any queries.

All cheques should be made payable to Heybridge U3A

PAT SMITH; 01621 856569 E.MAIL patcleary98@sky.com

BLETCHLEY PARK – Home of the Codebreakers

Neither a slow-moving M25 nor a damp and drizzly day could dampen our enthusiasm for a day at Bletchley Park!



This manor house in Buckinghamshire was Britain's main decryption establishment during World War Two. Cyphers and codes of several Axis countries were decrypted including, most importantly, those generated by the German Enigma and Lorenz machines.

The official historian of World War II British Intelligence has written that the intelligence produced at Bletchley shortened the war by two to four years, and that without it the outcome of the war would have been uncertain.

Turing-Welchman Bombe Pat Smith

In 2014, the Bletchley Park Trust began work on the long-awaited £8-million Heritage Lottery Funded restoration programme. This project has seen the resurrection of the derelict wartime code-breaking huts as well as the return of the garden and grounds to their 1940's appearance, enabling visitors to step back in time to the scenery the Codebreakers would have seen.

Work on restoring Bletchley Park is ongoing so a future trip will be well worth while! Thanks to Pat for organising such an interesting day and to our friends from Blackwater U3A for joining us.

Liz Cawdell

Association of Essex U3As On the Notice Board

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

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

New National Subject Advisors:

- Military history - Mike Fox - mike.fox2@ntlworld.com
- Petanque - Andrew Lloyd - petanque@btinternet.com
- Poetry - Ray Solly - dr.rsolly_author@btinternet.com
- All now have pages to be found in the Members' Area of the website under Subject Advice.
- Brooklands Museum "VC10 and Her Royal Connections" - talk and visit, 2016 dates available. Also Writing Workshops for U3A members at Brooklands, 15th & 19th Nov 2015, 14th & 28th Jan 2016, see notice on U3A board at meeting.
- "Stem Cells, Regeneration and Cancer" at the Francis Crick Institute, Thurs 19th November 2015. How are discoveries made, and how do scientists develop new cancer therapies? Free on first come, first served basis. Ticket requests to U3A National Office.
- U3A Christmas Concert with Brandenburg Singers and Organ at the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, Monday 7th December 2015, 14.00 or 17.30 £18.00 per person.

Legal Helpline:

Arc Legal Assistance in partnership with Irwin Mitchell Solicitors Telephone number 0344 770 1040

Quote - U3A Legal Helpline

www.u3a.org.uk

How many of us use the website of the Third Age Trust? Do you want to know more about the organisation, its history and how it works, want to access information, see what comes out in the mailings, look at items for sale in the online shop, see what resources there are available? Set yourself up a Member Login and see what you can find out. In addition we have our own website: www.heybrigeu3a.org.uk. Have a look and give the committee feedback on how it could be developed.

From Other U3As

New Interest Groups

Limebrook U3A is not looking to start a Spanish group now

Regarding potential new interest groups, Janice, from Heybridge U3A, was wondering if there is anyone who speaks, or is learning, Welsh or Danish. She doesn't speak either but would be interested to learn.

janice.slight@tiscali.co.uk

Maldon U3A Proposed Four Day Holiday “Exploring Kent”

5/8th July 2016

Hotel: Holiday Inn, Rochester

Price: £355 p.p.

Insurance £10 Single Supplement £45

Day 1 Am. Chatham Historic Dockyard

Pm. Teapot Island, Yalding

Day 2 Am. Hornby Visitor Centre, Margate

Pm. Shepherd Neame Brewery, Faversham. Lunch and Tour.

Day 3 Am. Walmer Castle and Gardens

Pm. Dover Castle

Day 4 Am. Explore Rochester Town

Pm. Kent County Show

Full details and Booking Form available from

Jan Robertson on 01245 225657 or email: Jan356771@gmail.com

Future Learn

Exploring English - MAGNA CARTA.

Improve your English language skills while exploring the Magna Carta - the 800 year old great charter which shaped the world.

The course starts November 30th for 3 weeks, 2 hours per week study.

For free enrolment go to Future Learn.

Chris Dove - christinedove@btinternet.com

Age UK Essex Annual Prose & Poetry Competition 2016

The charity began holding this popular annual competition in 1955 in order to capture the reminiscences of the older residents of Essex.

Titles which we hope will prompt your memory and get your fingers twitching are –

ON THE BUSES

BETRAYAL

FAMILY PETS

Entries must be received by 29th February 2016.

Each entry has to be accompanied by an application form which can be downloaded from www.ageukessex.org.uk.

Group Name, Co-ordinator & Contact Phone Number & Email

Group Name	Co-ordinator (COG)	Telephone Number & Email
Art (Painting)	Michael Kempen	01621 892974 m.kempen159@btinternet.com
Bird Watching	Maureen Lenoir	01621 869871 symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk
Cards and Paper Crafts	Lesley Woonton	01621 858135 Lindawoonton@sky.com
Coffee Morning	Margaret Brown	01621 854885 mbandmeg@btinternet.com
Computer	Ian Newman	01621 891184 ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk
Creative Writing	Angela Pleasance	01621850310 angela.pleasance@hotmail.co.uk
Croquet	Anne Newson:	01621 858807 annenewson@uwclub.net
Family History	Lesley Pomphrett	01621 817733 lesleypommy@hotmail.com
	Liz Cawdell	01621 331944 ecawdell@btinternet.com
French	Jenny Parker	01621 843581 jennyparker14@hotmail.com
Gardening	Pat Yates	01621 892866 pat.yates@tesco.net
Italian	Janice Slight	01621 853393 janice.slight@tiscali.co.uk
Local History	Carol Greenhalgh	01621 840339 george.smeed@virgin.net
Patchwork	Anne Thorpe	01621 850828 Anne.thorpe@btinternet.com
Petanque	Barbara Barbrook	01621 855605 c.barbrook@sky.com
Photography	Norman Grove	01621 842805 norman.grove@gmail.com .
Reading & Books	Ann Lees	01245 225153 annlees@yahoo.com
Scrabble	Linda Etherton	01621 843702 ethertonbikes@aol.com
Solo Whist	Dave Mason	01621858635 tina@tina832.orangehome.co.uk
Technical Computing	Colin Mason	01621 854906 colin@mason20.wanadoo.co.uk
Ten Pin Bowling	Lynne Morrison	01621 891288 lejmorrisson@gmail.com
Threads & Fabrics	Pat Newman	01621 891184 ian.newman@tiscali.co.uk
Ukulele	Robin Carpenter	01621 859060 robinrcarpenter@yahoo.co.uk
Walking	Elizabeth Eastwood	01621 850618 e.m.e@talktalk.net
Weekenders	Marilyn Corbett	01621 817518 mars42@btinternet.com
Wine Group	Jackie Jones	01621 817117 jachjones@tiscali.co.uk

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

Week Commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
26th October	26 French Improvers 14.00 Ten Pin 14.00	27 Scrabble 14.00	28 Creative Writing Group 14.30	29 CoGs Meeting 4pm	30 Copy to Editor Painting 14.00	31	1 st Nov
2nd November	2 Italian conversation 10.00	3 Threads 14.00	4 Cards& Paper Crafts 14.30 Ukulele Group 14.00	5 Photography 14.00	6 Committee Mtg 10.00 Painting 14.00	7	8
9th November	9 Patchwork 14.00	10 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	11 French Conversation 10.00 Solo Whist 14.00	12 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	13 Monthly Meeting 14.00	14 Weekenders 10.00	15
16th November	16 Italian conversation	17 Local History 14.00	18 Book Group 14.15	19 Computer 14.00	20 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00	21	22
23rd November	23 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00 French Improvers 14.00	24 Scrabble 14.00	25 Creative Writing Group 14.30	26 Beg Family History 10.00 Family History 11.00	27 Copy to Editor Bird Watching 10.00 Painting 14.00	28	29
30th November	30	1 st Dec Threads 14.00	2 Cards& Paper Crafts 14.00 Ukulele Group 14.00	3 Photography 14.00	4 Committee Mtg 10.00 Painting 14.00	5	6
7 December	7 Italian conversation 10.00	8 Ten Pin Bowling 14.00	9 French Conversation 10.00 Solo Whist 14.00	10 Technical Computing 14.00 Walking 14.00	11 Monthly Meeting 14.00	12 Weekenders Perrywoods 10.00	13
14 December	14 Patchwork 14.00	15	16 Book Group 14.15	17 Computer 14.00	18 Coffee Morning 11.00 Painting 14.00	19	20
21 December	21 Italian conversation	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27
28 December	28	29	30	31	1 st Jan New Year's Day	2	3