

# Heybridge U3A

## News Sheet No 11

### December 2020

#### Your Committee

<https://u3asites.org.uk/heybridge>

Archive

[www.heybridgeu3a.org.uk/archive/news.html](http://www.heybridgeu3a.org.uk/archive/news.html)

**Registered charity number 1160360**

#### New in December

Zoom Main Meeting

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December

2.00 pm

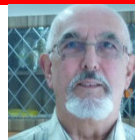
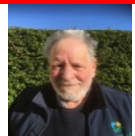
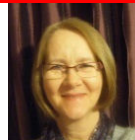
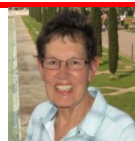

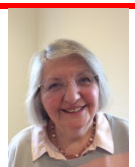



Speaker: Alan Hains

Mad Musicians & Crazy Dancers

Check your email for the link to the Zoom meeting.

**Advance Notice: Annual General Meeting 2021**

See Page 3

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## NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

### Chairman's report



**C**rikey! Where did November go? Now coming out of lockdown into!!!!!!!!!!!! and an uncertain future, let us all hope that the vaccines being developed are run out soon, might just give us all the shot in the arm we need!.

There are still a few brave plants in flower(very few), whilst now in the greenhouse the Amaryllis are under way, hopefully in flower for Xmas, one was a bit premature has bloomed and finished already, the others due to come into the house now.

Do not forget to join the monthly Zoom meeting 2.0pm Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, when Jan has laid on entertainment for all, please supply your own drinks and nibbles.

All that remains is for me to wish you and yours a very happy Christmas and a prosperous, healthy, happy and safe New Year, and I look forward to seeing you all in 2021.

Norman Cumming Chairman

### Notes from the Secretary



**A**n all-time first for Heybridge U3A - the November Main Meeting was held on Zoom! I am the 'host' because I set up the meetings on the Heybridge U3A Zoom account, while Jan Brown, Speaker Secretary, is co-host to help with getting people into the meeting.

It was so good to have over 30 people joining the meeting to listen to Eve Regelous talking about Royal Weddings. Some stayed on for a bit of a chat having got to grips with the technology. We are all gradually getting the hang of switching on video, commenting in 'chat' and locating the all-important 'mute' button. Occasionally someone's internet connection dips so we lost our Chairman, Norman Cumming, a couple of times - but he came back! Philippa Moody, in her role as membership secretary, asked everyone to check their name was showing correctly so we helped a few to find the 'rename' button. Well done to those who persevered, especially on mobile phones.

Looking forward to the December meeting, we would love more to join us so if anyone would like to have a trial run on Zoom, or feel they need more practice, please email me on [secretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk](mailto:secretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk) to let me know and I will set up a session or give one-to-one help over the phone. Meantime, locate that Christmas jumper, Santa hat, Antlers, light-up bow tie or sparkly earrings, have a cuppa or a glass of something to hand and maybe even a mince pie.

The CoGs also had their own virtual meeting earlier in the month and it was good that so many of them joined in. Any group can have a Zoom meeting set up for them if you contact me. The Photography group are dab hands at this already.

If I don't see you or speak to you, here's wishing you the compliments of the season and here's to 2021. Linda Etherton

## Advance Notice: Annual General Meeting 2021



**U**nder section 13 of the Constitution of Heybridge U3A the Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of March in each year or as soon as practicable thereafter but not later than 15 months after the preceding Annual General Meeting.

The Committee have taken the decision to postpone the meeting due in March 2021 to June 2021, due to the uncertainty about whether current restrictions to meeting numbers during the Covid-19 Pandemic will be lifted enough to allow for a quorum of members to attend in person.

The current committee members due to step down can continue in their posts, but any vacancy arising may be filled from the membership. Any such appointee would then be eligible for re-election at the next AGM.

### Membership Renewals

We will not be asking current members to renew their membership before June 2021.

Your opinions are welcome on this decision: please email the Secretary at [secretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk](mailto:secretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk) or telephone (see committee listing)

### From the Editor



**T**he design of the Heybridge U3A News Sheet, and the reports that it contains, is a full-page layout of 16 pages in a large font. Information about the Committee Members and their reports can be found in the first few pages. The next News sheet will be in February so send items by last Saturday in January 2021. I am very grateful to all the people who send material for inclusion. Have you anything to say? Please send it to me and I will include it. Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

Geoff Hadley

[editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk](mailto:editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk)

### From the Membership Secretary



**M**embers are continuing to renew memberships by cheque or bank transfer. If you are not sure if you renewed your membership earlier (life got a bit complicated in March!), please get in touch and I will let you know. Of course, for those who did not, from 1<sup>st</sup> October the rest of the membership year can be covered for £10. However those who renew only for half the year will not be eligible for the discount on next year's renewal which was mentioned in last month's newsletter.

Another new development is a **Heybridge U3A Facebook page** which we hope will be another way for us all to keep in touch. It is a private group, available only for paid up members so no posts or photos will be visible to anyone else. If you already use Facebook, put Heybridge U3A into the search box and then apply to join the group. If you have any difficulty in finding the group via a search please get in touch with me.

If you wish to renew your membership download the enrolment form from the website or email me to be sent one. Let me know if you have no printing facilities as I could post one to you. You need to complete the form and post it back to me (address is on the form) either with a cheque for £18 (or £10 after 30<sup>th</sup> September). Dual Members pay £13. Or you could do a Bank Transfer:

Payee name: Heybridge U3A

Sort Code: 30-91-85

Account number: 00395708

You must give your name as reference or we will not know it is you who has paid.

For this year at least I will still need you to complete a form, and this must be posted to me.

Philippa Moody [membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk](mailto:membershipsecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk)

### **Interest Group Co-Ordinator Report**



**F**estive Greetings to every one of you. I hope you are all keeping safe and warm indoors. November has gone by with no groups being able to meet up at all so the news that we may soon have a vaccine for Covid 19 will be very welcome to most of us. Thank-you for staying with us. I wish you a wonderful Christmas hopefully with your loved ones and please stay safe until I see you all again in 2021.

Hilary Furniaux [groupsco-ordinator@heybridgeu3a.org.uk](mailto:groupsco-ordinator@heybridgeu3a.org.uk)

### **Monthly Meeting Speaker Programme**



**O**n Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November we had our first speaker on Zoom. Eve Regelous' talk was titled 'The Invitation to a Royal Wedding. Eve's talk was full of interesting information about Royal Weddings over the past 80 years. I didn't realise how many royal weddings there have been over that time and how traditions play an important part in them. Unfortunately, I do not think there are any royal weddings on the horizon, which is a shame.

We had an audience of 32 members. For some it was their first experience of Zoom. Well done to them for having a go. Thanks also should go to Linda for providing opportunities before the meeting to have some training on using Zoom.

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December we have a light hearted talk on Zoom 'Mad Musicians and Crazy Dancers' given by Alan Haines. Our first one of 2021 is on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January and will be an interesting talk, given by one of our members, Chris Rose 'A garden seat called 'Arthur'...A Lockdown recycling project.

I look forward to seeing you on Zoom in December. Don't forget to wear your special Christmas jumper/earrings for the occasion and have something nice to drink and eat.

Hope you enjoy the quiz, which I have included for amusement only, that can be found on page 12 and answers on page 14.

Jan Brown [speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk](mailto:speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk)



My mother taught me about BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION.

Stop acting like your father!.

My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION

'Just wait until we get home.'

My mother taught me GENETICS.

'You're just like your father.'

My mother taught me about ENVY.

'There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do.'

My mother taught me about RECEIVING.

'You are going to get it from your father when you get home!'

My mother taught me about MEDICAL SCIENCE.

'If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way.'

My mother taught me ESP.

'Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?'

My mother taught me HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT.

'If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up.'

My mother taught me about my ROOTS.

'Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?.'

My mother taught me WISDOM.

'When you get to be my age, you'll understand.'

My father taught me about JUSTICE.

'One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you'

My father taught me HUMOUR.

'When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me,'

Alf Bell



Christmas cometh.

1993 is still poignant. Ever the consummate needle-woman with most skills mastered, Mum loved knitting the most. Unfortunately arthritis plus kidney failure had taken their toll, needles became impossible to hold or use, also wheelchair bound she relied totally on Dad. Her last Christmas she wanted to spend in her own home, not going a couple of miles to my sisters' as usual. She said so to those at Lowestoft, naturally they poo-pooed. I walked in to find her beaming, and so happy. Mother/son empathy? We both knew she was right, she didn't want another year. The celebrations were joyous, but before the end of January she serenely left us. I know, I was with her.

One of my first memories is of being afraid to get out of bed to spend a penny, a gazunder in those days, Santa might arrive, see me awake so not leave me a stocking of "Santa presents"! Then when I was somewhat poorly, over 6 weeks confined to my bedroom and a pile of presents I couldn't play with, hard for a 6/7 year old. Then the Great Aunt who always gave a large bar of Peter's chocolate, black and very bitter, wound it down and of course, the compulsory "Thank-you" letters!

Time moves on, the magic wanes until one's own children arrive, so before they did and working on a farm with stock I volunteered for Xmas and Boxing Day feeding and littering. Silage was preloaded but snow and frost could make it difficult and cold, still, morning only, back in time for dinner, goose giving way to turkey by then. Remember the supermarket frozen Butterball turkey? Another place, years later the goose returned!

Parenthood brought new and exciting magic, Yuletide through your children's eyes! Problems too, like my daughter not going to sleep until we discovered that she was afraid of a strange man going into her room. We moved her stocking from inside the room to outer door handle and she was asleep in minutes. Stress too! Like the year I was asked to be Santa Claus at the Heybridge playgroup party, the regular guy was unavailable but lent me all the costume, whiskers too. One problem, my youngest went to that playgroup! We pulled it off, he never suspected, even telling me all about it when I got home from work! So, so, many wonderful memories.

Peter

### **Best-ever Christmas present**



I must have been eight or nine when I was given my best-ever Christmas present. My sister, twelve years my senior, had a Brownie box camera which I thought absolutely wonderful. One year, when asked what I wanted for Christmas, I replied 'Gillian's camera!' Much to my surprise she gave it to me. That camera provided me with lots of memories that I still treasure. Not all of the people captured on film have all of their heads, or feet, and the processing was too expensive for me to snap away as much as I would have liked, but the moments of time that were recorded are precious.

Since that day I have been lucky enough to be given lots of lovely presents, but none can quite equal the surprise and delight of that long-ago Christmas morning. Angela

## A Poem for our time



I won't arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,  
I'll sanitize the doorknob and make a cup of tea.  
I won't go down to the sea again; I won't go out at all,  
I'll wander lonely as a cloud from the kitchen to the hall.  
There's a green-eyed yellow monster to the north of Katmandu  
But I shan't be seeing him just yet and nor, I think, will you.  
While the dawn comes up like thunder on the road to Mandalay  
I'll make my bit of supper and eat it off a tray.  
I shall not speed my bonnie boat across the sea to Skye  
Or take the rolling English road from Birmingham to Rye.  
About the woodland, just right now, I am not free to go  
To see the Keep Out posters or the cherry hung with snow,  
And no, I won't be travelling much, within the realms of gold,  
Or get me to Milford Haven. All that's been put on hold.  
Give me your hands, I shan't request, albeit we are friends  
Nor come within a mile of you, until this trial ends.

## GROUP REPORTS

### Bird Watching Group



**W**e have come to expect disappointments this year so it was no great surprise to find we were unable to go bird watching as a group in November. Now we are back in Tier 2 we should be able to meet up as groups of 6 somewhere out of doors. Look out for an email from Maureen to say where and when.

In the meantime, I have still been taking my exercise near to where there are lots of interesting birds. With the largest number of ducks, waders, geese and others that you have ever seen on the waters of Abberton reservoir this has been a favourite spot for me. There are literally thousands of tufted ducks, pochard, teal and shovelers. If you look at the rafts of birds carefully you can usually spot the odd goosander, golden eye and scaup. For the last couple of weeks there has been a very striking 'white cheeked pintail' up at Layer Breton. Must be an escapee as his home is in the Bahamas and S America. Still about there are up to 23 great white egrets and half a dozen cattle egrets. Their homes were always well south of the UK until this century and a noticeable shift in temperature.

Hope to be able to see everyone in December. If you would like to join our group then please contact Maureen at [symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:symockturtle@yahoo.co.uk) . Happy Christmas and a good birding New Year to you all.



## Croquet Group



The croquet season has now finished for the Winter. Hopefully we will be able to start playing in April next year, depending on the weather, the lawns being available and COVID! We are most appreciative of the Maldon Croquet Club who allow us to play on their lawns, at the Forresters Golf Club.

The aim of the group is gentle exercise, fresh air, good company and fun. We play on the first and third Thursday morning of each summer month. If you would like to join us please contact me, my details are on the back page. Anne Newson

## Discussion Coffee Morning Group



Another month gone by. I went to an appointment at Moorfields Eye Hospital in City Road, London which was originally scheduled for March. I had been dreading travelling on the train and London Underground but I actually had a train carriage all to myself from Chelmsford to Liverpool Street. The underground was different but not at all crowded so it was easy enough to be socially distanced. If there had been any chance of parking in London I would of course have driven!

I hope there will be good news for all of us on the horizon soon; it has been an unusual year to say the least. With very best wishes to everyone for a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

Best wishes, Margaret Brown

## Family History



This month's story comes courtesy of family history member Diane Cox who recently discovered an aunt on her fathers' side who was a bigamist - not only a bigamist - but the lady in question married a bigamist. You have to wonder if either of them (at that time) was aware of the other ones' history!

James G Spencer born around 1898 married his first wife Elizabeth King in 1928 in Berkshire England. The union, we assume to have been a fairly happy one as they were still together when in 1939 he joined the Royal Berks regiment for war service. He told the court, on his return home on leave, he found his wife's conduct 'very unsatisfactory'! He ceased to visit her again, but the lack of funds prevented him taking divorce proceedings.

In September 1944 he went through a form of marriage with Diane Cox's aunt, Rosina Grace Maloney, of Gosport Hampshire – who had married an Edward Foyle in 1933 in Gosport Hampshire, but didn't live with him.....keep up!

In 1949 the accused and Maloney took up residence in Stanwell Australia. It didn't last long as he left her, because of her 'conduct' with another man.

While at Bushley? he met Ivy Ellen Smith (no: 3) and in February 1950 married her in Rockhamton. He had told her he was 41 years of age and a bachelor, when he was 51 and married (twice)!

At the time of the court case he was still living with Ellen.

He told the judge "I'm sorry it occurred".



The accused was regarded as an honest worker. Justice Sheehy sentenced him to 9 months imprisonment with hard labour, to be suspended on him paying £100, plus 12 months good behaviour.

So, what happened to Auntie Rosina? It seems she got away with it, as no case against her has been uncovered. In 1950, obviously unrepentant she went on to marry farmer Norman Charles Wongung, (No: 3) and eventually died in Australia of a brain aneurysm.

Aren't families' fun?

Take care Jean Rogers

## French conversation - Noël en France



As in the UK, Christmas in France is a time to celebrate with family and friends. This year, due to Covid restrictions, plans on both sides of the Channel may be somewhat altered. However, here is an account of how the French would normally spend Christmas.



Parts of North and Northeast France celebrate Christmas on December 6<sup>th</sup>. This is the feast day of Saint-Nicholas, when le Père Noël (Father Christmas) brings the children sweets and small presents. In accordance with French custom, Saint-Nicolas is assisted by the le Père Fouettard (the Whipping Father). Dressed in black, he decides which children have been good and deserve their Christmas presents, and which have been bad and deserve a spanking.

On Christmas Eve, French children traditionally leave their shoes by the chimney, waking on Christmas Day to find them stuffed with small gifts and the Christmas tree full of fruits and nuts. Most children open their Christmas presents on Christmas Day, but many adults wait until New Year's Eve. The Christmas tree (le sapin de Noël) is the main form of decoration in most houses, and is traditionally decorated with apples, ribbons and paper flowers. Mistletoe (le gui) is hung above the doors to bring good fortune for the coming year.

A nativity scene (une crèche) is another common Christmas decoration, with figurines of the Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph and other more unusual figures, such as bakers, fruit and vegetable sellers, local noblemen, a blind man, a woman selling fish, a scissors grinder and a roast chestnut seller. The scenes are often displayed until February 2.

Many French people still attend Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, and then return home for a celebratory feast called *le Réveillon*. This typically includes a starter of snails, oysters, seafood or smoked salmon, followed by a main course of roast goose or turkey, all washed down with copious glasses of wine. The traditional Christmas dessert is a Yule Log, usually made from chocolate sponge cake with chestnuts. Care is taken to make the table look festive, with special ornaments used as decorations.

Some French families exchange their gifts on January 6<sup>th</sup>, the twelfth day of Christmas. Traditionally, a pastry called la galette des rois (cake of kings), which has a charm hidden inside, is eaten on this day. The person who finds the charm is named King or Queen for the day and has to wear a paper crown.

In the south of France, families traditionally burnt a wine-soaked log on their fire from Christmas Eve until New Year's Day. This was meant to bring good luck. Nowadays, most people eat a chocolate Yule log instead.

**Jenny Parker**



**Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année**



**A**fter a diversion to a general selection last month, in November we returned to our alphabetic list so we heard tracks with connections to the letters T and U.

There was plenty of choice as there are many composers whose names begin with T although I could only find one whose name begins with U (Anton Urspruch). In early music there is Thomas Tallis, Giuseppe Tartini, John Taverner, Telemann and Torelli. Tchaikovsky provides the middle ground while there are many modern composers such as Deems Taylor, Dobrinka Tabakova, John Tavener, Michael Tippett, Mark Anthony Turnage, Michael Tilson Thomas and Randall Thompson. Finally a well-known song which was composed and sung by Mel Torme - did you know he wrote 'The Christmas Song', also known as 'Chestnuts Roasting on a Open Fire'?

Instruments featured included the trumpet, trombone and triangle and the ukulele represented the letter U. Performers featured included Paul Tortellier and Bramwell Tovey. So, a very varied and interesting playlist this month.

Anyone who would like to know more about this music or the Music Appreciation Group is welcome to contact me Philippa Moody

### **Needlecraft Group Report\_**



**O**ur little group have been busy this month. Between us we have been altering curtains, knitting another dolls cape (for my granddaughter - thank you Lesley - as I can't knit!), sewing personalised gift bags to put Christmas gifts in, big Stars as a decoration to hang up, wallpaper stripping (oops, how did that get in here – lol), a cross stitch of the 12 days of Christmas and I have dug out a pom pom Christmas Wreath I started last year. Hope you all have a lovely Christmas and I wish you good health and happiness for the New Year.

Hilary Furniaux

### **Painting 2**



**I** really hope that you have all found some time to wet those paint brushes and found something that you enjoy painting. I am still hooked on Portraits and recently been inspired by the latest Portrait artist of the Year on Sky Arts. I have had some help from members, to tell me that if you cannot get Sky Arts, 122, you can get it on Freeview 11 or Freesat 147 also Virgin 123. This Series has 10 weeks to run and a 4 hour programme is condensed into 1 hour, but really interesting to see how the painters start their portraits and some even take photos to help them with the close up work, some using a series of squares to help with the dimensions of the faces.

The other American programme, The Joy of Painting, is still running but his work is always landscapes and his use of large brushes is something that one can learn from and the trees are fascinating.

Well, in the New Year, with luck and all vaccinated, we may be meeting once a month again to enjoy our painting experiences together. In the meantime, have an enjoyable Christmas and hope to see you in the not too distant future.

Barbara Barbrook

### Papercraft Group\_



For a very small group we are quite productive! A total of 15 sleigh boxes have been made and filled with chocolates for orders, personalised greetings have been put on loads of Christmas cards. A few Birthday cards have also been made, a unicorn has been decoupaged, more Christmas cards have been made and even some stamping has been done. Not a bad achievement by only 3 people!! Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas whoever you are celebrating with and let's hope 2021 is a better year. Lesley Woonton

### Patchwork Group



Here is the correct photograph of the finished Charity quilt that the group have designed and created for the Helen Rollason Cancer Research Unit raffle, which due to the current situation, has been postponed until next year.



I hope we will soon be able to meet and enjoy our sewing together again.

Happy Christmas everyone, Anne

### Petanque Group



Well, here we are again folks in another lockdown and no more games for a few weeks.

We have enjoyed our time playing teams of 6, with social distancing of course. One session at 10am and another at 11.45, and we have been so lucky with the weather.

Let's hope once we get past December, we will be able to start playing again.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, and I do hope 2021 will be a better year for everyone.

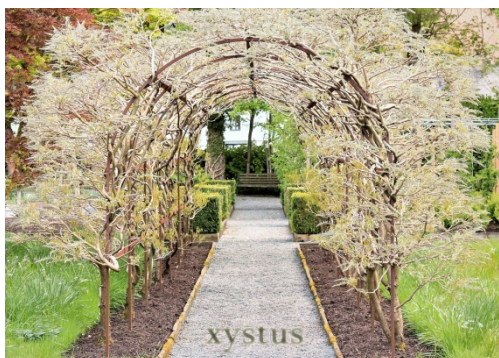
Take care now all of you, and stay safe. Moira Penhallow.

## Photography Group



Once again we held another successful Zoom meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November our seventh so far with 13 members and 2 guests participating.

We started the meeting by watching a slide show of the photos taken by our members during the month. The subject for the month's assignment being "Photographs the subject starts with the letters X,Y or Z". There were some excellent interpretations of the subject by our members including photos representing the words xystus (A Roman Archway), xylopyrography (Burning pictures onto wood) and Yaffle (Old English name for a Woodpecker). We then held a general discussion for the rest of the meeting.



Xystus



Yaffle



xylopyrography

It was then decided that the assignment for the next meeting would be to continue this theme with "Photos where the subject starts with the letters "V or W".

We will continue to hold Zoom meetings on the first Thursday of each month until we are able to meet again as a group.

For those who were unable to join the meeting all of the photos submitted have been uploaded to our page on Flickr (Heybridge U3A) where you will be able to view them. If you would like a link to them please contact me.

If anyone is interested in joining our group and participating in our assignments please contact me.

Norman Grove

## Scrabble Group



Here is the answer to last month's puzzle: the best score on a first move using these letters

F	L	Y	P	L	A	T
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

would be 32 unless you know better.

		F	L	A	T	L	Y		2L	
--	--	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	----	--

What common word can be made from this more unusual one?

Z	E	S	T	I	L	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Linda Etherton



## ***Mistletoe and Wine!***

1. In which year was 'Mistletoe and Wine' Christmas number 1 for Cliff?
2. Cliff had another Christmas Number 1 in 1990 with which song?
3. Who 'fixed' Christmas number one in the year 2000?
4. In 2011 who helped the 'Military Wives' to the top spot at Christmas?
5. Which singer had a 'Perfect' Christmas?
6. 'Driving Home for Christmas' was a 1988 hit single for which singer?
7. On the 7<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas my truelove sent to me.....?
8. Who was 'Lonely this Christmas' in 1974?
9. Which song by Queen reached number 1 in 1975 and 1991?
10. Whitney Houston was number 1 at Christmas 1992, with which song?

### ***Now try and solve these festive(ish) anagrams***

11. *Let a four backstage (dessert)*
12. *No handy car (wine)*
13. *Loftier ropes (dessert)*
14. *Or bet Noel (chocolates)*
15. *Hitlers fryer (dessert)*
16. *Try quiet tales (chocolates)*
17. *Don till rind (chocolates)*
18. *A smug vino (wine)*
19. *Erase nuts (wine)*
20. *Fill a cherubim (wine)*

Jan Brown

## Walking Group



**A**lthough we have all been suffering from the restrictions that have been in place all through our walking season, I understand that many of us have been taking local walks, often alone, but where restrictions have allowed, we've walked in pairs. As in previous years, our walking has been suspended through most of the winter months. Obviously that is the same this year. We shall resume our walks as soon as it is safe to do so, but, in any case, it won't be before mid March. We shall all have to make our own decisions about where and with whom to walk and I hope to be able to organise walks again once the restrictions are properly lifted without having to restrict numbers.

In the meantime, I hope everyone will be able to meet up with friends and/or family over the Christmas period and that early in the New Year will see a return to 'normal' life. Happy Christmas and a Healthy 2021.

Good luck to us all and stay safe Linda Wells.

## Weekenders Group



**W**ell another month has passed by and the lock down is nearly over for a while. I do hope you are managing to have a chat with friends and family during these challenging times and also making some plans to celebrate Christmas.

It seems so strange to think that prior to Christmas last year the Weekenders had a lovely meal together at The Bell in Woodham Walter. Also a group of us went to the Bury St Edmunds Christmas Market and Carol Concert. Myself and friends saw the New Year in by going to a wonderful Viennese concert at the Barbican. Such special times.

The garden is almost winter ready now. Just a few leaves are left clinging to the trees. The begonias have lasted well but will make way for winter bedding. A robin is still singing well into the evening.

Enjoy some treats - a coffee and cake from time to time! Take care all of you.. June Rawlings

## Answers



1.1988 2.Saviour's Day 3. Bob the Builder 4.Gareth Malone 5.Ed Sheeran 6.Chris Rea 7.7 Swans a-swimming 8.Mud 9.Bohemian Rhapsody 10.I Will Always Love You 11,Black Forest Gateau 12. Chardonnay 13.profiteroles 14.toblerone 15.Sherry Trifle 16.Quality Street 17.Lindt Lindor 18.Sauvignon 19.Sauternes 20. Liebfraumilch

Jan Brown.

## Do you use Facebook? Why not join the Heybridge U3A group.

**W**e now have our own group on Facebook. Our Facebook group is a closed one; Philippa is the administrator who acts as the gate-keeper. Please see her report for more details. The Facebook group will supplement the news-sheet, not replace it.

### National Newsletter

**A**ll members can sign up to receive the National Newsletter by email. Just go to the website <https://www.u3a.org.uk/email> and put in your email details and 'East of England' as the Region. You can also look on the website for lots of activities taking place all over the country that might inspire you.

### Third Age Trust Online Forum

This is now to be found at <https://forum.u3abeacon.org.uk> there are 3 forums:  
Learning, Our U3A Community, Beacon

### U3A Diaries for 2021

**T**here has only been one request for a diary, and as they have to be ordered in sets of 5 I have not sent for any so far. Apologies to that one member as I have mislaid their name so I can't let them know in person

Linda Etherton

### Essex Fraud Alert

**I**f you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud, please call Essex Police on 101.

Report fraud or attempted fraud by contacting Action Fraud at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040.

And finally remember **ABC**:

Never **A**ssume they are legitimate.

Never **B**elieve they are legitimate.

Always **C**onfirm using a trusted number or asking friends and family.

Many thanks,

Chloe Rudd

Prevent & Protect Fraud Officer

Essex & Kent Serious Crime Directorate

Rayleigh Police Station