



The University of the Third Age

# MALDON AND DISTRICT

## NEWSLETTER



Petanque

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 Ten Pin Bowling Wine Circle Swimming	2 Petanque 10 am Ballroom Dancing Continuing French Discussion	3 Canasta Making Music	4	5 Bird Watching Abberton
6 Petanque 2 pm Mary Rose Dinner	7 Table Tennis Snooker Petanque 5.30 pm Luncheon Club Reading Maldon Film Club	8 Ten Pin Bowling Spanish Painting Bridge	9 Petanque 10 am Ballroom Dancing French Conversation Country Dancing Essex Rivers Reading	10 Mah Jong Sing for Pleasure	11	12
13 Table Tennis Handicrafts Petanque 2 pm German Photography Whist	14 Table Tennis Snooker Petanque 5.30 pm	15 Ten Pin Bowling Clock Repairs Swimming	16 Petanque 10 am Ballroom Dancing Continuing French	17 Canasta	18	19 Strollers
20 <b>Meeting 1.30 pm</b> Petanque 2 pm	21 Table Tennis Snooker Petanque 5.30 pm Aviation Gardeners Plant Swap Maldon Film Club	22 Ten Pin Bowling Spanish Painting Bridge	23 Petanque 10 am Ballroom Dancing Computer 1-3 pm French Conversation Country Dancing Essex Rivers Music Appreciation Poetry	24 Mah Jong Sing for Pleasure	25	26
27 Table Tennis Handicrafts Petanque 2 pm German Whist Astronomy Local History	28 Table Tennis Snooker Petanque 5.30 pm	29 Ten Pin Bowling	30 Petanque 10 am Continuing French	31 Canasta		

I try my utmost to get the calendar correct each month, but I would advise you to always check with your co-ordinator as to the date of your next meeting.

Newsletter Editor: Mrs. Jan. Robertson, 6 Blenheim Close, Danbury, CM3 4NE  
Tel. 01245 225657 email Jan8085@aol.com

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Web Site: [www.maldonu3a.idps.co.uk](http://www.maldonu3a.idps.co.uk)

## FROM THE CHAIR



### Family History

Our next meeting will be on the 24th September at 2.30 pm and will be held at 56 Augustine Way, Bicknacre.

Please bring your queries, researches and personal histories.  
Frank Stokes

### Music Appreciation

A reminder to all members of the Music group that the first meeting of the new season is on Thursday 25 September at 2 pm at Enid's house when we shall be exploring different aspects of the music of Mendelssohn. We are really pleased that this group has retained its membership so well and look forward to another series of stimulating and enjoyable sessions.  
Enid Hall and John Skuse.

### Astronomy:

No meeting in August, Sept 22nd (7.30, WMCC) we welcome Andy Mowbray from Castle point club speaking about "Strange things in the Sky", so more of a fun evening, not so hard on the brain!  
Molly Tring

The last few weeks have once again had two successful events organized, one to the Globe theatre to see Midsummer Nights Dream and a picnic at Heybridge Basin. Fortune smiled on the U3A as the rain held off for both events and even the sun was occasionally seen.

We are still trying to find someone with storage space to house our AV equipment so, if any member has a secure storage room that is accessible, please let a committee member know.

Alan Buck  
Email: alan-buck@talktalk.net

## CO-ORDINATORS

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Alan Buck</b>	<b>01245 227709</b>	Maritime History	Malcolm Case	01245 329435
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	<b>Beryl McDonell</b>	<b>01621 842093</b>	Music Appreciation	Enid Hall John Skuse	01621 891618 01245 224059
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Pamela Turnbull</b>	<b>01376 510084</b>	Music Making	Valerie Lyndon	01621 851769
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Rosemary Case</b>	<b>01245 329435</b>	Painting	Joyce Stokes	01245 223579
<b>Membership Sec. Committee</b>	<b>John Robson</b>	<b>01621 828236</b>	Newsletter Editor	<b>Jan Robertson</b>	<b>01245 225657</b>
	<b>Joyce Cotterell</b>	<b>01621 858287</b>	<b>Social Committee</b>	<b>Dorothy Denmark</b>	<b>01245 223960</b>
	<b>Paul Costa</b>	<b>01621 853893</b>	Astronomy	Molly Tring	01621 854732
	<b>John Almond</b>	<b>Ex. Dir.</b>	Aviation	Bill Fancourt	01245 225569
	<b>Jan Robertson</b>	<b>01245 225657</b>	Ballroom Dancing	Jo Robson	01621 828236
			Bird Watching	Pat Clements	01245 223427
			Bridge	Sheila Epps	01621 850467
			Canasta	Marian Manning Margaret Dale	01621 828605 01268 765239
			Clock Repairs	Stanley Clements	01245 223427
			Computers-	Jan Robertson	01245 225657
			Discussion	Ray Harman	01621 891736
			Environmental Studies	Fred Lane Bill Fancourt	01621 816181 01245 225569
			Essex Rivers	Beryl McDonell	01621 842093
			Family History	Frank Stokes	01245 223579
			Continuing French	Sylvia Carpenter	01621 854905
			French Conversation	Bill Stichbury	01621 855828
			Gardeners	Jan Robertson	01245 225657
			German	Jenny Plumb	01245 226112
			Handicraft	Jan Robertson	01245 225657
			Local History	Mary Burd Alfred Couldrey	01621 843020 01245 226259
			Luncheon Club	Mike Wood Paul Costa	01245 222839 01621 853893
			Mah-Jong	Molly Polden	01621 856507
			History	Malcolm Case	01245 329435
			Music	Enid Hall John Skuse	01621 891618 01245 224059
			Music Making	Valerie Lyndon	01621 851769
			Painting	Joyce Stokes	01245 223579
			Petanque (Boule)	Barbara Arnold	01621 853866
			Photography	Mary Richardson	01621 857829
			Poetry	Jo Robson	01621 828236
			Reading		
			1st Tuesday	Christine Elgin	01621 858146
			2nd Thursday	Sheila Epps	01621 850467
			Scottish Country Dancing	Shirley Grummett	01621 853288
			Singles Dining	Ray White	01621 891598
			Sing for Pleasure	Sylvia Carpenter	01621 854905
			Snooker	Bill Fancourt	01245 225569
			Spanish Conversation	Wilma Turner	01621 851510
			Strollers	Gill Stone	01621 853948
			Swimmers	Gill Rowsell	01621 740619
			Table Tennis	Gordon Hardy Julie Doidge	01245 223012 01621 841205
			Beginners	Beryl McDonell	01621 842093
			Ten Pin Bowling	David Arnold	01621 853866
			Tai Chi	Susan Oram	01621 856899
			Theatre Group	Enid Hall Sheila Epps	01621 891618 01621 850467
			Weekenders	Beryl McDonell	01621 842093
			Whist	Molly Polden	01621 856507
			Wine Circle	Zandra Cardy	01621 828984
			Writing for Fun	Pat Sizer	01621 892201

## EASEL BOARDS

U3A artists please note that I do make table-top art easel boards which can be used for many purposes such as drawing, painting, calligraphy etc. They are wood A3/A2 size with a working surface fully adjustable and retractable carrying handle.

I can modify them to suit any special requirements.  
Please contact Ray Harman 01621 891736

### Stitch & Craft Jumble Sale

Saturday, 27th September

11—1 pm

Purleigh Village Hall

In aid of St. Clare's Hospice

(If you have any material for the above  
can you please contact me  
Jan on 01245 225657)

### BLACKWATER U3A

Contact:  
Dorreen Linton, Chairman  
01621 853428

### SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS U3A

Contact  
Rosemary Dorado, Chairman  
01245 321102

### NATIONAL OFFICE

19 East Street, Bromley, Kent BR1 1QH  
Tel 020 8466 6139 Email [national.office@u3a.org](mailto:national.office@u3a.org)  
Web site [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)  
Resource Centre: email: [resource.centre@u3a.org.uk](mailto:resource.centre@u3a.org.uk)

Deadline for next newsletter: Friday, 8th October

## Maritime

Our meeting in **November** is on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>** starting at 10 am in The Little Ship Club, The Hythe, Maldon. It is a planning meeting for 2009 and into the beginning of 2010. We are already planning two trips for 2009, one to Scotland in August and one to Poole and Southampton in September. All members are very welcome, please come along with your ideas of things to do and places to visit.  
Malcolm Case.

## Gardening

Our visit to the garden of Paul Spracklin on the 19th August had to be cancelled due to the weather—the second time this year which is a first for us.

### Tuesday, September 23

Visit to Markshall, Coggeshall, CO6 1TG. Over 100 acres of arboretum and gardens. Guided tour arranged

### Tuesday, October 21 at 2.30 pm

Plant Swap at the home of Liz & Bryan Jones, 36 Acacia Drive, Maldon  
01621 857031

## Strollers

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30 a.m.  
We meet at The Hoop, Stock for a walk of 4 miles.  
Sunday lunch available as well as snacks.  
Contact Gill Stone: 01621 853948 for further details.

## Environmental Studies

We did not hold a meeting in September but a meeting has been arranged for the group on Friday 3 October in the Maldon Town Hall. We plan to start at 10.00 as usual. The main aim of the meeting is to determine whether there is still sufficient interest in the subject for it to continue in the form that we followed last year.

Although we can get some external speakers to give us a talk we felt that we also needed our own members to do some research themselves on the many aspects of the environment and to present their findings to the other members. If you are still interested please come along and let us know how you think we should proceed and what topics we should try to cover.

We are trying to arrange a speaker and/ or a video for this - maybe our last - meeting.

Bill Fancourt/Fred Lane/David Arnold

## Proposed 2009 Gardening Trip

Notes

I am, along with Mike and Liz Wood, proposing to organise a four day gardening trip to Worcester and area from the **9th to 12th June 2009**.

We have provisionally booked a 3 star Fownes Hotel, [www.fownesgroup.co.uk](http://www.fownesgroup.co.uk) in Worcester for Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. The price will be in the region of £290

The Fownes Hotel is just a two minute walk from Worcester city centre, It offers a prime location for exploring the historic city and the expanse of surrounding countryside.

Formerly a Victorian glove factory, situated by the Worcester to Birmingham canal, the hotel offers outstanding service and comfort. The Fownes' canopied entrance gives it the air of an elegant town house and a warm welcome awaits visitors on arrival.

### Itinerary:

Tues. Maldon—Hidcote Manor Garden for lunch and Kiftsgate Court pm

Wed. Hampton Court Gardens am and Westonbury Mill Water Gardens pm

Thurs. Blue badge coach tour of Worcester early am and Spetchley Park Gdn  
Afternoon free in Worcester

Fri. Coughton Court, lunch and then home to Maldon

If you think you would be interested in joining us on this trip, can you please sign up at the meeting or give me a ring on 01245 225657. This will give us some idea of the numbers before we finalise the booking.

Jan Robertson

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## Newsletter Costs

We are very concerned at the escalating costs of the newsletter, with the printing increasing by 13% to 63p a copy.

The postage is now 27p a copy plus envelopes and labels amounting to virtually £1 a copy posted. This is a large slice out of our Subscription Fee each year.

Can we please ask everyone who attends the monthly meeting to tick the sheet and then deliver copies to friends and neighbours in your area

You can also have a PDF copy emailed direct, which can be either read on line or printed off for free.

**Your help with this would be appreciated**

## **LUNCHEON CLUB VENUES -**

Times 12.15 pm

**TUESDAY 7th October** at Queens Head, Tolleshunt Darcy  
Co-ordinator: Mike Wood Tel. 01245 222839

**WEDNESDAY 22nd October** at IZUMI's Chinese Restaurant  
at 12.30 pm  
Co-ordinator: Paul Costa Tel. 01621 853893

Note: If you sign up for the lunches and then find you are unable to attend for any reason, can you please notify the Co-ordinator as soon as possible,



## Proposed New Groups

### Table Tennis for Exercise and Fun

We would like to start a group for Beginners, or for members who may not have played since they were Teenagers . No leagues, no teams, just fun with friends.

It is proposed to hold the sessions twice monthly on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at the W.M.C.C.10 am till 12 noon. Our first session was on Sept. 8th and was announced at our last Monthly Meeting, but it was too late for the Newsletter. However there is still room for more members!

We are not impinging on the well established Tuesday players and we have spoken to Gordon.

Obviously we will have to bring our own Bat and ball, but before rushing out to buy them, do get in touch with us, as it is possible we may be able to purchase a job lot on line, which could be cheaper!!

Barbara Arnold and Beryl McDonell on 01621 842 093

### Weekenders'

This could be of interest to members who do not have a partner and do not have regular family commitments.

If you would like to be in at the beginning and so help it to evolve, do get in touch. Only one thing is certain at the moment, and that is that you will be warmly welcomed.

Beryl McDonell. 01628 842093

### Tai Chi

We have been offered the chance to have our own slot at the Maldon Tai Chi Group, London Road, Maldon on a Monday afternoon, either 1-3 pm or 2-4 pm. The fee would be £3 or £4 according to numbers per session.

If you should be interested, could you please sign the form at the Monday meeting or ring Susan Oram on 01621 856899 who has agreed to be the co-ordinator.

*Dear Editor*

I love U3A, and I love your monthly newsletter too.

*Thank you, we aim to please.*

Sure, it's factual, pertinent, practical, and useful and usually there is not a single inappropriate sesquipedalian in sight - but don't you think it's, well ... just the tiniest bit dull.

*Dull?*

Yes, what it needs is some items that are a bit less serious.

*But keeping U3A's members informed is a serious business.*

Well, that's as maybe but, after all, my group's called "Writing for fun" so can't it be fun too?

*How do you mean?*

Well, think about meetings. U3A has lots of those. In business it is said that the ideal meeting is two with one absent; that's the only way to get things done. Ours aren't like that of course. Ours get lots done. They start on time. If we have speakers then they are good ones – not nervous shrinking violets who hang onto the lectern so tightly their knuckles go white with fear. That reminds me of something I heard just before a presentation. The speaker was asked if he was nervous. *I don't get nervous before a speech*, he replied, *I call the feeling "creative apprehension"*. A woman on the committee immediately responded, *If you aren't nervous - what were you doing just now coming out of the Ladies?* His nerves were then probably made worse by the Chairman saying, *"Are you going to speak now, or shall we let everyone enjoy themselves for a bit longer?"*

But I digress; what the newsletter needs is something a tad less serious.

*Like what?*

Something neither brash *nor* pretentious, not too long, not too short, something relevant and that takes a more tongue-in-cheek approach. Of course, it would need to be compulsive reading, cutting through the admin, exposing contentious issues, taking a topical, sensitive and, where necessary, fearless line that will balance the other factual items and present a really fresh approach. It needs to be written by a wordsmith though, not just any old hobbledehoy.

*I'm really not sure, we have to think of our reputation, you know.*

Go on. Try something – just one piece. What's the copy date for the next newsletter? How many words? We'll even waive the fee; though some believe getting a cheque through the post is part of the fun in Writing for Fun. Okay, we need a theme ... and a title ... and a prime position, not hidden away at the back or anything. We'll give it some thought – watch this space.

(A writer for fun)

## THEATRE OUTING

The Mercury Theatre, Colchester

Tuesday, 14 October

### **TALES OF HOFFMAN** **by Jacques Offenbach**

Mid Wales Opera presents, for one night only, Offenbach's story of the loves of the poet, Hoffman. When the evil Lindorf plots to steal the object of his affections, Hoffman is persuaded to recount the tales of his three love affairs – with an automaton, a courtesan and an innocent girl who lives to sing but whose art leads to her death. Offenbach's trademark wit is in evidence throughout and fabulous melodies, including the famous Barcarolle and The Doll's Song, feature in this story of passion, comedy and tragedy.

**Tickets: £19.**

If you would like to go, please sign the list at the General Meeting or telephone Enid Hall on 01621 891618 as soon as possible, please.

Cheques payable to Maldon U3A should be sent to Enid Hall, 34 Chapel Road, Gt. Totham, Maldon, CM9 8DA. *no later than Friday 26 September.*

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Rosemary Case

## 2008 CALENDAR—Dates for your Diary

List of Events and Outings during the year.

|               |                                                          |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Fri. 19 Sept. | <b>Quiz</b> —Social                                      |
| Mon. 22 Sept  | Visit to St. Albans Cathedral & Verulamium—Local History |
| Tue. 23 Sept  | New Members Coffee Morning 10.30—12 noon                 |
| Wed 24 Sept   | <b>GRAND INTER U3A's QUIZ</b>                            |
| Mon. 6 Oct    | Dinner, theme 'Mary Rose' at Little Ship Club—Maritime   |
| Sat. 8 Nov.   | Jazz Evening—Social                                      |
| Sat. 29 Nov.  | Beetle Drive— Social                                     |
| Wed. 10 Dec   | Combined Xmas Luncheon Club Lunch                        |
| Fri. 9 Jan    | Ceilidh –Social                                          |
| Mon. 2 Feb.   | Film Show "Bombs at Teatime"                             |
| Fri. 20 Mar.  | Social Evening with a difference                         |
| Fri. 24 Apr.  | St George's Day celebration-Social                       |

Further details of the above events available from your Co-ordinator or in the Newsletter.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

After our healthy entertainment in the open air in July and August, this month sees a return to something more intellectual - our popular quiz, set, as usual, by Malcolm and Rosemary Case, on Friday 19 September in the Town Hall.

In October you are being left to your own devices, but in November we have the biggie! The Hugh Rainey Jazz Band are returning for an evening of pure bliss. This fine bunch of musicians, with their Special Guest John Crocker, will perform a programme of golden oldies. No room for dancing, I'm afraid, but you'll be able to relive the days of your youth without even getting out of breath! So don't miss out. Get your tickets (£8.00 - same as last time) from Janet Buck (01245-227709) soon, because space in the Town Hall is limited

For the last word in "intellectual" don't forget the Beetle Drive at the end of November. More of that next month!

dd

### *Picnic at the Basin*

Hey if you did not join us for our Annual Picnic you missed a good time. Around 24 stalwarts arrived. Admittedly the weather report was gloomy, but hey, they got it wrong again because we had scorching sunshine for most of the afternoon. Mick was there at the head of Heybridge Lock to shepherd us, all laden with our goodies, to the picnic tables. Annette Porte brought two friends from New Zealand who are visiting her, so they could see how mad dogs and U3A members behave. Some of us managed to wait a whole half an hour before food began to be consumed. After all when one is used to regular mealtimes, one's hunger can make one rather tetchy. Just like our 3 year old grandson! When the picnic food was eaten, games were produced and boules and sticky bat tournaments ensued. Not taken terribly seriously I might add, if the shrieks and groans were anything to go by. What the yachtsmen on the canal thought, I do not know. What I do know is that it is lovely to enjoy the company of so many friends.

Pat Fancourt



Have a look at John Bowen's excellent photos of this event and Heybridge Basin on our website  
[www.maldonu3a.idps.co.uk](http://www.maldonu3a.idps.co.uk)

Also have another look at the July BBQ photos, John has added lots more, see if you can find yourself!!

I hope I am correct in saying that there has not been a dissenting voice in the praise of this year's production and I am sure that we now know why two of us were making a return visit!

Here are your comments\_\_\_\_

A wonderful imaginative production acted with energy and style.

Westside Story meets Shakespeare.

A "dream" of a play in a wittily pointed production, well costumed, which held the audience throughout. Bottom was the foundation of it all!

A brilliantly acted and directed fast paced romp, combining modern and traditional interpretation for an afternoon of laughter.

A hilarious and brilliantly acted performance for my first experience of the Globe. The absolute concentration and obvious enjoyment of the audience must have been a delight for the actors.

I loved Bottom and his antics and the imaginative acting of Titania

It took me back to my school days.

Shakespeare's audience would have loved the riotous, bawdy actions and words between Bottom and Co! and so did I

Such exuberance and talent from every single performer and even the pigeons joined in!

The weather gave of its best with just enough breeze to gently stir the soft blue curtains which brought to life the magic of the wood.

The first time was enjoyable but the return visit was even better.

What a splendid contemporary version of Shakespeare's comedy. It was innovative and superbly directed!

What an appreciative audience! And I don't just mean U3A.

This performance certainly didn't disappoint!

The Globe always exerts its magic and this production certainly held the attention of the audience.

Bawdy humour but not overdone. Never seen "Wall" portrayed quite like this!

Superbly acted by every member of the cast and they deserve top marks for their facial expressions.

A superb production of a well loved comedy

Hilarious! I laughed till I cried

This last comment sums up how we all felt at the end of this really great performance.

Your personal thanks to me for organising this visit are, as always, very much appreciated.

Beryl Mc.Donell



## U3A 2009 Diaries

Size 3¼” x 6”

Price £1.90 per diary

Please **order and pay** for your Diary at the September onwards Meetings or contact me, Jan Robertson, on 01245 225657.

Early booking recommended as supplies are limited at Head Office

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### Report from August Executive Committee Meeting

Business secretary nominations needed for Regional Officers and Trustees Membership still 30 on the waiting list.

10th Anniversary Celebration. Many compliments and words of appreciation to the committee for such an enjoyable afternoon.

Arrangements for the New Members Coffee morning discussed.

People not to be encouraged to join one U3A Group to go to another, which happens when there are long waiting lists. Presently only Chelmsford has vacancies in the area.

.....  
**JAZZ NIGHT on 8th November 2008**

Please reserve me ..... Ticket(s) @ £8.00 each

I enclose my cheque for £.... made payable to 'Maldon & District U3A'

Name(s) of Member(s) ..... Phone No.....

### U3A members only

### Association of Essex U3A's

In November we hold a meeting of our Association of Essex, to which the Chairman or representatives of your U3A are invited,

This year's May meeting was the AGM and was opened with a welcome and an address from the Chairman incumbent. For the past two years, this has been Pat Brown of the Chelmsford U3A. It had been brought to our attention however, that the Representative of Essex, the position I have held, and Chairman of the Association, according to the Essex Constitution, should have been one and the same person. At this AGM the situation has been rectified. Pat elected to become Vice Chairman and was voted to the post, and I accepted the post of Chairman/ Representative, voted likewise.

The Chairman had arranged a speaker for this meeting, a Mr. Chris Lambert, archivist from the Essex Records Office Chelmsford, who explained his position there and told the meeting many interesting facts about records they hold, some dating back 400 years.

The ERO would help in the study of many different subjects, and will welcome U3A members to use the archives there. Members will be aware; a Shared Learning Project has taken place at the ERO recently.

Shirley Thew, who was the Association secretary, reported on this project and announced an idea for a new venture, researching the history of *St. John's Hospital, Chelmsford*. If members are interested in joining this project, there is a phone number. where information can be obtained, check with your committee.

*The River Blackwater*, another Shared Learning Project, report was given by Dorreen Linton of Blackwater U3A and Maldon U3A is also involved with this project, led by Beryl McDonell, The two U3As have found the history, and the bio-diversity of the Blackwater fascinating and suggested members could start with a river near them, Roding Valley took up the quest and is thoroughly enjoying the experience, covering the River Roding.

Before starting any project, members should contact the curator of the building they are researching or a library or museum that would accept the findings of the work achieved to add to their archives.

The Association of Essex now has it's own website and the Maldon newsletter is included. Have a look -

**<http://essexu3a.pbwiki.com/FrontPage>**

Iris Mooney .Association Chairman

France

Dear Editor,

When we are in England, people often ask me why we spend so much time in France. Last Friday was a very typical busy day but it might explain how varied our life here is, and the attractive differences.

In the morning I headed for our local Intermarché. The weekend was going to be followed by a bank holiday for Bastille Day so all the shops would be closed. There are fresh vegetables and fruit looking bright and appetising but I prefer to get mine from the local "Producteur" –farm shop. Plenty of the meat and delicatessen is pre-packed but there is an even greater choice at the counter. Everyone gets served and usually in the right order. The staff know all the locals and we get greeted and chatted to whilst the right size portions are cut. They know how many you are buying for so are happy to give you the small piece if that is what you need.

We loaded the car with the tools and material we needed to work on the boat and also some bread, pâté and salad for lunch. I put up some more new headlining and Bryan completed the work on the stern of the boat where we were damaged by a "bumper boat" a year ago. The main job was to take photos of the work to prove it was completed for the insurance claim. We went back to the house and picked up the rest of the insurance paperwork and I printed the photos. I suggested that we took our swimming things with us and our small beach chairs. Next it was a visit the insurance broker. We parked nearby for free and took the papers to Brigitte. We always have a laugh when we go as she speaks very little English and if we don't understand the insurance technicalities she uses the computer to translate. This usually produces so much "double-dutch" that we are better off with our limited French.

Business finished for the day we can, at five o'clock, head over the mountains (La Clappe) to the sea. It always lifts our spirits when we see the Med shining in the sun as we come over the top. Soon we are driving slowly through the small holiday resort and quickly park for free again next to the beach. Twenty five minutes after leaving the insurance office we are sitting on the beach a few feet from the sea. The water is warm and there are a few small waves to splash us.

By half past six we are feeling hungry so after a shower on the beach, we wander past all the resort restaurants weighing up which menu we fancy. Having made our choice we dine within sight of the sea and our car. What better way to end a busy day than a relaxed meal of half a lobster with king prawn salad, followed by chicken and chips, all washed down with a chilled rosé wine.

We were home before it was quite dark, more than ready for a good nights sleep.

No wonder we come back to Maldon for a rest!

Greetings to everyone  
Clare Urry

## QUIZ

**Friday 19 September**  
**Town Hall**

**Doors open 6.30 pm**  
**Start .7.00 pm**

Tickets - £3 - on sale at September meeting  
and from - Maisie Randall,  
27 Bassingham Crescent, Tiptree CO5 0PY.  
Phone 01621-810646 **for this event only**

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## JAZZ NIGHT

featuring

**THE HUGH RAINEY JAZZ BAND**

with

**Special guest JOHN CROCKER**

**Maldon Town Hall**

**Saturday 8 November**

**7.30 p.m.**  
**(Doors open 6.45)**

**Price £8**

Tickets available from:

Janet Buck  
58 Augustine Way  
Bicknacre  
CM3 4ET  
01245-227709  
See overleaf for booking form



Enquiries:  
Dorothy Denmark

01245-223960