The University of the Third Age

MALDON
AND DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER

May Blossom

MAY 2017

Reg. Charity No. 1086182

Web Site: **www.maldonu3a.co.uk**

FROM THE CHAIR

We have been approached as a group to get involved with the debate about Bradwell Nuclear Power Station.
I must stress that as an organisation we are non political and as such have no opinion in such matters.

Concern has been raised by some members about the audibility in the hall at our monthly meeting. It is very difficult given the size of the hall and the equipment we have to get uniform sound distribution. I would please ask anyone with impaired hearing to sit at the front of the hall.

As usual I would ask you to make use of the newsletter and our web site to keep abreast of all that is going on in our groups.
Please use them or risk losing them.

Best wishes to everyone and I hope you have an enjoyable Summer.
Brian Johnson

Afternoon Tea on Easter Thursday, April 20

My congratulations to the Social Group who organised such an enjoyable afternoon at the West Maldon Community Hall.
The entertainment from Barry Jamieson was excellent and then we had the marvellous food. scrumptious sandwiches and then all the home made scones and cakes baked by the ladies of the Social Group.

If you did not join us you missed an excellent afternoon.
Jan Robertson

Maritime

The next meeting of the group is on **Monday June 5th**, meeting at The Blackwater Sailing Club at 10:00am for an illustrated talk by John Johnson Allan on the use of "Hospital Ships during the War". The First World War was a global conflict and therefore Britain needed to move troops to battlefields around the world. It was also necessary to remove wounded troops for treatment either to
hospitals or on specially equipped ships. The Merchant Service
(as it was known at that time) provided the troopships and hospital ships. The size of the Merchant Service at that period made this possible, as in 1913 Britain's merchant fleet was 47% of the world's
merchant fleet – effectively every second ship that was seen flew the British Red Ensign. The Admiralty paid tribute to the men of the merchant fleet after the war: – "The Mercantile Marine", from the beginning, faced this unprecedented form of warfare with
indomitable courage, magnificent endurance and a total disregard of danger and death, factors which the enemy had failed to take
into account and went far to defeating his object.
Any U3A Member is very welcome to join us.
Malcolm Case 01245329435

Art Appreciation Group

We met again at Andy and Chris Simmonds house to view a DVD of
'The Story Of Women And Art'.
Presented by Amanda Vickery it covered women artists from the Renaissance to the early 20th century including Lavinia Fontana, Elisabeth Vigee Le Brun, Sofonisba Anguissola, Artemisia
Gentileschi and many other hugely gifted artists.
It was a very Interesting film, revealing the less well known history of women artists and what a massive contribution they made in a world dominated by men, often in the face of male opposition and gender based prejudice.
The next meeting of the Art Group will be **Tuesday 6th June** at 2pm.

Aviation

By the time we go to print our trip to the Shuttleworth Air Show will be over, just pray we have good weather.
The list for Duxford in September is filling up so please get your name down early.
At our meeting last month, the subject was "The meeting of the Giants" presented by Brian Austin and was about the two Lancasters.
The one from Canada and the one from the memorial flight which flew together. We had a surprise guest, Ralph Tyrall , who flew 30 missions over Germany 1943/45.
Next month our speaker will be Roger Smith who will talk about the Air War over Essex 1914/18.
Hope to see you there. Purleigh Pavilion **Tuesday May 16th** at 2 pm
Brian Johnson

Strollers Too

Our next walk is on **Tuesday 27th June;** 10:15 for a 10:30 start. It will be a circular walk of just under 5 miles starting from The Hare and Hounds, Layer Breton, CO2 0PN. I am intending that part of the walk will be through the Abberton Reservoir Visitor Centre and Nature Reserve. Entrance is free with the option of making a donation. Please arrive in time to pre order your lunch. A table is booked for 13:15. Please let me know by **Thursday 22nd** if you are coming/want lunch.
David Griffiths email: djmmgriff@yahoo.com

Strollers - **Sunday 18th June**

Meet at 8 Beeches Road, Heybridge CM9 4SL at 10.15 for a 10.30 start.
Distance: approx. 4.5 miles.
Description: (as in Essex Walks) The Loquacious Lowdown:
This Labour-of-Love is not for Lazy Lounge-Lizards. Only the Lively Lithe-Limbed will Lope around the Loop that Lends itself to this Lengthy Lexical Leviathan! Leading from your Limousine's Location, Leave the Lapping BLackwater and Locomote Languidly across the Levels. Leap over the Lawn-Like Landscape, Luxuriate at the Lapping Liquid of the Lakes, then Lollop along the Long Leafy Lanes and Levees, wherever your Lodestone Leads. As you Loosen your Ligaments, Listen for the Larks, Locate the Lovable Lop-eared Lapin and the Lustrous Lepidopterae and Libellulidae, and Look out for the Lupines Lurking in the Lumber. Let your Legs Lift you aLong the Laid out Line through this Lovely Locality, and Linger Lastly at the Langford Location.
As it is Father's Day we are having a bring and share lunch, so please let me know if you are coming, and what you intend to bring, by **Monday 12th June.**
Gill Stone: gillstoneuk@yahoo.co.uk

Botany

The new botany group has got off to a very good start especially since at this time of year plants are bursting into flower and there is so much to look at. The next meeting will be on **Friday 26th May** when we shall meet out somewhere for a botanical stroll, and then every alternate Friday morning from 10.00 am until 12.00pm during the summer.
Anyone is welcome to come along.
Veronica Smith 01245 225608
new email: vjsmith8696@gmail.com

Geology

Tuesday 2nd May - Members of the Geology Group took a trip out to East Mersea. The cliffs at Cudmore Grove Country Park provide superb exposures of gravels laid down by the Thames-Medway River during a glacial period 300,000 years ago. Organic sediments at beach level sometimes yield fossilised wood and mammal bones. We were hoping to come across some shark teeth but were unlucky this time although we did manage to collect some interesting rock samples. Also exposed on the foreshore are deposits from a more recent interglacial period, the Ipswichian interglacial (120,000 years old), and known as the 'hippo site' due to the presence of hippopotamus bones. (Did not find any of these either – just as well as they probably would not fit in the car!) This area is one of the most important geological sites in Essex, fossils having first been discovered in 1906. The cliffs were then stable with plenty of vegetation but coastal erosion has revealed layers of sand and gravels which can clearly be seen. A very pleasant morning was followed by an enjoyable lunch in the Dog and Pheasant pub nearby.
Thanks to Sylvia for organising the trip.
Shirley Macro

Architecture

A visit to the Greek Orthodox Monastery has been rescheduled for **Friday, 9 June.** Numbers are limited, so if you would like to join us, please contact Sheila Epps on skepps@talktalk.net. There will be a small charge for this visit.

London Walks & Talks

David Williams is our speaker on **Wednesday, May 17th**. The talk is entitled "The Changing Skyline" and will begin at 2.30 p.m. at West Maldon Community Centre. Entrance fee is £2.

Information about the visit to Rotherhithe Village in London on **Wednesday, June 21st** will be available at the May meeting and bookings for the June visit will also be taken at this meeting.

The talk on **Wednesday, July 19th** is entitled

"The Lord Mayor and The City of London".

As there will be no meeting in August, bookings for our September visit to "The Royal Parks" --- will be taken at the July meeting.

Janeen Trew
Christine Speed

Family History

The next meeting will be held on the **24th May** at 58 Augustine Way commencing at 2.30pm.

Family History Beginners

The next meeting will be held on **the 26th May** at the above address commencing 10.00am.

For members wishing to attend please let me know either by e-mail or telephone.

Alan Buck

Astronomy

The next meeting of the group is on **Monday 22nd May**, there will be a DVD and discussion on the "Hubble Deep Field Images".

All meetings are held at Chigboro Fishing Club, Chigborough Road, Heybridge. CM9 4RE starting at 7:30pm.

All U3A Members are very welcome to join us.

Patrick Forsyth

2017 CALENDAR—Dates for your Diary

Events and Outings during the year

Tues. 16 May	"An American in Paris" Dominion Theatre - Theatre visit
Thur. 8 June	U3A Essex's Annual Quiz night
Fri. 9 June	Visit to Greek Orthodox Monastery — Architecture
Mon. 26 June	Walking tour of Colchester — Local History
Tues. 27 June	Fun Day with Croquet - Gill Stone
Fri. 30 June	Fun Day with Croquet - Gill Stone
Sat. 1 July	Fun Day with Croquet - Gill Stone
Mon. 3 July	Day trip to Kingston upon Thames — Maritime
Thurs. 13 July	BBQ at Langford Village Hall - Social
Mon. 7 Aug.	Trip to Harwich to see replica of "Mayflower" - Maritime
4/7th Sept.	Four day trip to Portsmouth etc. — Maritime
Sund. 23 Sept.	Visit to Duxford IWM — Aviation
Mon. 25 Sept.	Walking tour of Canterbury — Local History
Tues. Oct. 24	U3A Study Day at Plume School
Thurs. Oct. 19	Posh Frocks Do at The Bull, Totham - Social

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

BBQ

Thursday, 13th July

Langford Village Hall

Doors open 6.15 for 6.30 until 9.30 pm

Entertainment

Tickets £12 from Barbara Byam Shaw

Food will be a variety of BBQ fare served with salad etc.
All dietary needs can be catered for, just let Barbara know when you buy your ticket.
Please bring your own tables and chairs, knife fork and spoon, drinks and glasses

DO COME AND JOIN US IT IS SUCH A MOST ENJOYABLE ANNUAL EVENT

Local History

The next meeting will be held at the Town Hall at 2.m. on
Monday May 22 when Christine Whybrow will give a talk on
"Broomfield's Princely Burial Site".
Much has been written about the Burial Sites at Sutton Hoo and Prittlewell, but very little about Broomfield.
Hear how Christine, whom some of you met at Galleywood Heritage Centre a few years ago, tracked down, through intensive research, details of the burial, its history, and the actual site in Broomfield.
The following meeting on **Monday June 26th** will be our ***Walking Tour of Colchester***, and Kathy has details for those who have booked.
We are very pleased that you enjoyed your visit to Knebworth, where even the weather was kind.
Kathy, Jane and Sylvia

Monday, 24th April – Trip to Knebworth House and Gardens. Once we had negotiated the morning traffic on the M25, we arrived at the handsome Knebworth House situated in the Hertfordshire countryside. The house is approached from a long driveway through an avenue of lovely trees. The house has a romantic exterior with turrets, domes and many gargoyles. This property has stood for many years longer that the Victorian façade might indicate and the stucco hides a red brick house dating back to Tudor times. There has been a building here since Domesday times but nothing remains of this. Knebworth House has been in the ownership of the same family since the land was purchased and building work started. Every generation of the Lytton family has left its mark on Knebworth and this could be seen
throughout the house. We were treated to an excellent tour by very knowledgeable guides on a day when the house was opened especially for us. Most importantly, the café was also opened for us and we were able to get plenty of refreshments and a lunch of fish and chips appeared to be very popular. The grounds are extensive and cover 28 acres of formal landscaped gardens, including a Dinosaur Trail, which we all found great fun.
Knebworth House is well worth a visit; it is well known for its music concerts and has been the location for several films and television programmes.
Many thanks to Kathy for organising yet another great outing.
Shirley Macro

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the nineteenth Annual General Meeting of Maldon & District U3A will be held on **Monday 19th June 2017** in Wickham Bishops Hall at 2:15pm. Any items that you wish to be included on the Agenda must be notified to the Business Secretary by Tuesday 23rd May 2017.

The Nomination form is below and, if you wish to nominate someone as an Officer or Committee member, please complete the form and return it to the Business Secretary by **Tuesday 23d May 2017.**

Forms will be available at the May meeting or, if requested, by post.

Vacancies for Secretary, Membership Secretary and one Committee Member.

Kym Marshall
Business Secretary

Eligibility for Office and to vote – All fully paid-up members for the year 2017/2018 are eligible to stand for Committee, and to attend and vote; except under the terms of our Constitution, where only one member from any one household shall serve on the Committee at one time.

Ordinary June monthly meeting – this will take place before the AGM at 1:45pm for the purpose of announcements and registering for events.

Nomination Form for Officers & Committee Members 2017

Position	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by	Nominee's Signature

(Secretary, Membership Secretary and Committee member)

INVITATION

Maldon Croquet Club invite you to a taster session of croquet, with the opportunity to start your own interest group if you wish.
Heybridge U3A have been doing so for the past three years.

This is a fun game that anyone can play very quickly. No sporting background is necessary and you do not need to be super fit.
It is a game where men and women compete on equal terms, requiring skill and guile.

Why not give it a try, we are holding taster sessions for all local U3A members from 2 pm. onwards on

Tuesday 27th June
Friday 30th June
Saturday 1st July

at Forrester Park Golf Club, Beckingham Road, Great Totham CM9 8EA.
Just turn up if you are interested.
We look forward to seeing you.
Gill Stone:
Chairman Maldon Croquet Club.

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For Sale

10 PIN BOWLING EQUIPMENT FOR SALE
Ladies shoes, size 5.5 Dexter; Gents shoes, size 10 Brunswick ball (10 lb, large holes)
£10 per item.
Vaun and Eunice Legerton
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Helen Rollason
Cancer Charity

Friday 16th June

Cream Teas on the Lawn

2pm – 5. 30pm

¯Home Made Scones ¯

¯Tiptree jam ¯clotted cream¯

--- Raffle --- Tombola ---

Please come along and bring your friends

31 Acacia Drive Maldon CM9 6AW

Details from: Diana Rogers 01621 853841

diana.rogers2@btinternet.com

Registered charity number:1052861

We will also be holding our usual evening Barbie on the **16th June** after the Cream Teas.
We will be lighting the Barbie at 6pm, and there will be live music later on. We would be very pleased to see you if you would like to come along, please let me know.
We will be asking for a £5 contribution, and the proceeds of the evening will be going to the Essex Air Ambulance.

Study Day, October 24

Please note that the Booking forms will be sent out to the Association U3As at the end of June. I'm afraid I won't be processing any applications until I receive the completed booking forms and cheques.
The possible Study Day groups are now

3 Art Groups—2 Water Colour, Acrylics
Computers—2 different Groups
Country Dancing
Crochet, Lace?
Exploring Drama
Family History
First Aid
Hand Chimes
History?
History of Trains
Writing—Non Fiction and Fiction
Beading
Jazz Appreciation
Latin
Maths
Patchwork
Philosophy
Shared Learning Projects
Trees
Ukulele
Wine Tasting

The Geology leader has now said she will be unable to run the group this year. I did get an offer of someone who could run a Geology group from one of you but cannot find details of who it was. Please let me know if there is someone in your U3A who could help.
Singing was very popular but the leader can not do the group again. Do any of you have anyone who could take it on? I might have found someone but it is still not certain.
Finally, is there anyone in your U3A who could offer something new?
Please give them my email if they would like to ask any questions.
Doug.harryman@talktalk.net

June 19th Meeting
Wickham Bishops Village Hall at 1.30 pm

AGM

Followed by a Strawberry Tea

Village Gardens open to the public for Charity in May/June/July

Boreham	10/11th June
Bradwell	11th June
Brightlingsea	23/25 June
Coggleshall	4th June - Paint Box gardens
Danbury & Little Baddow	11th June
Frinton	1st July
Gt. Totham	17/18th June
Little Waltham	25th June
Sandon	28th May
Springfield	18th June
Witham	2nd July
Writtle	11th June

Enjoy your visits—we all like being nosy!

COELIAC SUPPORT GROUP

Are you Coeliac or following a gluten free diet for health reasons?
Would you be interested in joining a support group and help with fundraising for Coeliac UK?
If the answer to the above is yes please contact Linda Rooney lindarooney1509@gmail.com.

LUNCHEON CLUB VENUES

Times 12.30 pm

TUESDAY 6th June, Queen's Head, Tolleshunt Darcy
Co-ordinator: Eunice Legerton

WEDNESDAY 21st June at Izumi's Chinese Buffet at Madison Heights
Co-ordinator: Paul Costa

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, as places have to be booked at the venues.

BLACKWATER U3A	HEYBRIDGE U3A
Contact	Contact
Peter Harden, Chairman	Angela Pleasance, Chairman
01621 858506	01621 850310

LIMEBROOK U3A
Contact
Christine Dove, Chairman
01621 855859

Your Committee

Chairman	Brian Johnson
Vice Chairman	Alec Fraser
Secretary	Kym Marshall
Treasurer	Graham Webster
Membership Sec.	Alan Clarke
Newsletter Editor	Jan Robertson
Speaker Secretary	Veronica Smith
Committee	Shirley Macro
	Andrew Simmonds
	Judith Johnston
	Sylvia Beckett

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Web Master	John Bowen
	Tony Groves
Social Group	Michael Childs
AV Equipment	Ken Cooper
Essex Assoc. of U3A's Committee	Malcolm Case

NATIONAL OFFICE
19 East Street, Bromley, Kent BR1 1QH
Tel 020 8466 6139 Email national.office@u3a.org.uk
Web site www.u3a.org.uk
Resource Centre: email: resource.centre@u3a.org.uk

Deadline for next newsletter: Friday, 9th June
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CO-ORDINATORS

Antiques	Liz Wood
Architecture	Judith Johnston
Art Appreciation	Andy Simmonds
Aviation	Brian Johnson
Astronomy	Patrick Forsyth Sylvia Beament
Bird Watching	Pat Clements Peter Gaywood
Botany	Veronica Smith
Bridge	Sheila Epps
Canasta	Elaine Bane Gerry Brooks
Computers	Jan Robertson
Cribbage	Pat Clements
Current Affairs Discussion	Linda Rooney
Egyptology	Kathleen Goff Sue Robinson
Family History	Alan Buck
French Conversation	Ray Harman Ann Lester
Geology	Enid Hall
Handicraft	Marian Manning
Just Jazz	Jim Light David Coombes
Local History	Sylvia Cousins Jane Coombes Kathleen Goff
London Walks & Talks	Christine Speed Janeen Trew
London Theatre Outings	Rosemary Case Joyce Cotterell
Luncheon Groups	
1st Tues	Eunice Legerton
3rd Wed.	Paul Costa
Eat & Meet 2nd Wed	Joyce Cotterell
Mah-Jong	Molly Polden
Maritime	Malcolm Case
Music Appreciation	Enid Hall John Skuse
Petanque (Boules)	Jack Veash
Plantagenets	Beryl McDonell
Poetry	Jo Robson
Reading	Sheila Epps
Rummikub 1	Colin Beckett
Rummikub 2	Beryl McDonell
Scottish Country Dancing	Shirley Grummett
Sing for Pleasure	Sue Garnham
Strollers	Gill Stone
Table Tennis	Gordon Hardy
Ten Pin Bowling	David Arnold
Weekenders	Beryl McDonell
Whist	Molly Polden
Wine Circle No. 1/2	Graham Boswell
Wine Circle No. 3	Mary Burd Paul Costa
Wine Circle No. 4	Ann Goody
Writing for Fun	Patrick Forsyth

PROGRAMME – JUNE 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 Current Affairs Discussion Poetry Rummikub 2 Scottish Country Dancing	3 Mah Jong	3 Bird Watching Fingringhoe	4
5 Maritime Whist	6 Table Tennis Art Appreciation Luncheon Group	7 Ten Pin Bowling Wine Group 1	8 **Essex U3A Quiz Night** Ten Pin Bowling Petanque French Conversation Plantagenets Reading Rummikub 1	9 Architecture Canasta Sing for Pleasure	10	11
12 Handicrafts Whist	13 Table Tennis Egyptology Geology	14 Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Luncheon Group	15 Ten Pin Bowling Petanque Antiques Scottish Country Dancing	16 Mah Jong	17	18 Strollers
19 **AGM** **Meeting 1.30 pm** Just Jazz	20 Table Tennis Aviation	21 Ten Pin Bowling Ldn Walks & Talks Luncheon Group	22 Ten Pin Bowling Petanque Computers French Conversation Music Appreciation Wine Group 3	23 Canasta Cribbage Sing for Pleasure	24	25
26 Astronomy Handicrafts Local History Whist	27 Table Tennis Strollers Too Wine Group 4	28 Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Family History Wine Group 2 Writing for Fun	29 Ten Pin Bowling Petanque Scottish Country Dancing	30 Family History Mah Jong		

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

Newsletter Editor: Mrs Jan Robertson, 6 Blenheim Close, Danbury, CM3 4NE eb