The University of the Third Age

MALDON AND DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER

Thursday, 7th June
Summer Spanish BBQ at
Langford Village Hall

May 2018

Reg. Charity No. 1086182

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

FROM THE CHAIR

May is upon us but I think most people have already cast a clout with this long awaited sunshine. No one has shown any interest in starting a gardening group which I think is a pity.

However, judging by our last meeting, most groups are thriving and there are plenty of trips planned. Please remember, if you plan to use WMCC for pick up and drop off, you must inform the park rangers. (they do not call themselves this now but the number is 07771935330. They will normally lock up at the same time as the Prom unless you inform them.

Kathy Goff has kindly volunteered to represent us on the WMCC committee. Want a job done, ask a busy person!

Ten Pin: David has something in mind for those of us who are not so young anymore so look out for his news.

Our AGM will soon be on us so if you wish to make a proposition or raise a point please inform the secretary in good time.

Please keep well and attend the monthly meeting if possible.

Brian Johnson.

Newsletter pick up at Reeves, High Street, Maldon.

Due to the new Data Protection Regulations, from June, we are now unable to leave these newsletters at Reeves. Malcolm Case has agreed to post the newsletter to those members who collect from Reeves monthly. Please contact Malcolm if you do not receive your copy.

Strollers

Our next walk will be on **Sunday 17th June**. Please meet at 26 Seagers, Great Totham, CM9 8PB for a shortish walk around the village.

As this falls on Father's Day we will be having a bring and share lunch instead of the usual pub lunch. Please let us know if you will be coming and what you are bringing to share by **Saturday 9th June.**
Brenda Heal

Strollers Too

The June walk for Strollers Too is on **Tuesday 26th June** for a walk of approx. 4 miles. The walk is around Feering and is described as "level going". It is a mixture of footpaths, farm tracks and roadway.
We meet at the Railway Tavern, 182 High Street, Kelvedon, CO5 9 JD at 10.15 am where we will lunch afterwards.
Please let us know by **Sunday 24th June** of your intentions.
Sometimes, for reasons beyond our control, the venue of a walk has to be changed after being advertised in the magazine so it is important you let us know if you are coming.
Dave and Linda Ambrose:

Astronomy

There will NOT be a meeting of the Astronomy Group in May – Bank Holiday. The next meeting of the group will be on **Monday 23rd June.** Further details will be in a future Newsletter.

Patrick Forsyth

Aviation

At our last meeting a film on the Royal Air Force "The History 100 years" was well received along with a brief talk on First World War flying ace James McCudden, the highest decorated British Serviceman.

There will not be a meeting in May as we are visiting Royal Air Force Halton and the Trenchard Museum. Leaving WMCC at 9am on **Wednesday 16th May (not Tuesday 15th as was planned)** and picking up at Danbury en route.
Please remember Photo ID is required to gain admission to the Base.
Brian Johnson

Trees

Ash Trees: Several members provided photographs of local ash trees, taken throughout a year, to help in the nationwide survey to discover the extent of Ash Dieback. I am pleased to say that it appears that far more ash trees have survived than feared and at the moment - although many hundreds of trees have been lost - the effect of the disease is not as disastrous as that of Dutch Elm Disease, which destroyed almost all our native elms, particularly in Essex.
Thank you for your help. Veronica Smith

Botany

We are meeting regularly on Friday afternoons. The next meeting following today's Monthly Meeting will be on **Friday 8th June** v.t.b.d.
Weather permitting, we shall be outside and anyone is welcome to join our walk. These are always slow as there is so much to stop and see.
Please contact me for details of location.
Veronica Smith

Discussion Group

We are delighted to tell you that the Discussion Group is re-starting on the first Thursday of the month, 2pm - 4pm, meeting at members' homes.
We discuss topical issues and are a lively, friendly and welcoming group so feel free to come along.
Co-ordinator: Bryan Jones

Proposed new Golf Group

I am proposing to start up a Golf Group and would therefore like to know if any of you would be interested.
I am already a member of both the Kings and Jubilee Course at Three Rivers Golf Club, Cold Norton and would anticipate that maybe our first meeting would be at the Jubilee Course as it is a tad easier. Once I know who might be interested and how many then I will negotiate a price for either breakfast or coffee and biscuits before the golf and some lunch when we get back in.
I know other U3A have Golf Groups which eventually would be great to participate with them. If anyone is interested then please email me directly at jenniewilson@btinternet.com.
I can in the future also arrange matches at other clubs in the area.

I hope to have your feedback fairly soon to get some dates booked in.

Jennie Wilson

Table Tennis

We are a regular group of table tennis enthusiasts who play every Tuesday from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm.

We have access to four tables at West Maldon Community Centre and would particularly welcome new members.

Some of our players have formed teams under the banner of Maldon U3A and have entered two teams in the Burnham and District Table Tennis League. They had a successful campaign over the Winter and I am pleased to say that we came third in the final league positions.

Louis Gunn

Summer Spanish BBQ
Thursday, 7th June

Langford Village Hall
Doors open 6.00 for 6.30 until 9.30 pm

Entertainment:

Maldon Ukulele Band
and Quizzes to keep you entertained

Tickets £13 from Barbara Byam Shaw

Food will be a choice of:
BBQ meats, paella (fish or veg) or a mix of all three

All dietary needs can be catered for, just let Barbara know when you buy your ticket.

Bring along your table and chair, knife, fork, spoon, plate, bowl and your own drinks and glasses

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

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Local History

There will be NO MEETING of the Group on **May 28th** as it is a Bank Holiday. The next meeting will be on **Monday June 25th** when we have our Walking Tour of Chelmsford.
Some members who have booked have yet to pay, so please bring your cheque books to the next Main Meeting on **Monday May 21st** to ensure your place.
For those of you who went to Newmarket we hope you are studying form for a possible Derby Winner!
Kathy, Jane and Sylvia
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2018 CALENDAR—Dates for your Diary

Events and Outings during the year

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

Thurs. June 7	U3A Essex Quiz 2– 4 pm
Thurs. June 7	Evening BBQ - Langford VH— Social
Mon. June 11	Balti Night
Tues. June 12	Visit to Dulwich Picture Gallery—Art Appreciation
Thurs. July 5	Visit to RHS Hampton Court Garden Show
Fri. July 13	Visit to Henry Moore Studio, Much Hadham
Mon. Aug. 6	Chatham Dockyards & Medway Queen—Maritime
3/6 Sept	4 day trip to North Norfolk—Maritime
Fri. Oct. 12	Beetle Drive—afternoon at Langford VH
Wed. Nov. 28	Social Evening with Entertainment by Marshall King
2019	
Feb 28	Posh Frocks Do

Art Appreciation

We had an interesting home viewing of the Venetian Master Titian this week. He was a contemporary of Michelangelo and after Raphael, and for his time 1485 - 1576, one of the first painters to actually produce truly realistic scenes and portraits. He painted masterpieces for many of the European kings and princes and was one of the most famous men at the time. Arguably his most famous work was a sensual reclining nude, "The Venus of Urbino" which was later slated by Mark Twain and is said to be the precursor of the modern day pin-up.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday June 12th** with a day trip visit to The Dulwich Picture Gallery, travelling in a 16 seater coach driven by one of our members. There are just a couple of seats left, so call me if you are interested in seeing this magnificent collection.

Andy Simmonds

Local History

On the 23rd April fifty members boarded the coach to Newmarket.
On arrival we were met by a member of the museums staff who guided us to a lecture room where coffee and teas were available after which our guide spoke to us about the history of the Palace House and how horse racing arrived at Newmarket. We then went outside to the Rothschild stable yard to see and learn about the work carried out by the ROR (retraining of retired race horses) charity and it was wonderful to see the horses going through their daily retraining programme. The rest of the day was spent browsing the various galleries within the museum complex. There was a very nice restaurant where many of us enjoyed a very good lunch.
Several members fancied themselves as jockeys and tried out the horse riding simulator which was great fun.
I think everyone who came on the trip will agree that it was a great day and thoroughly enjoyable.
Kathy Goff

Reading Group

U3A Book Group is as old as our Maldon U3A. We have been meeting and talking about books every month since 1998. If you love reading and having a friendly chat with others about the latest book, please come and join us. The variety of opinions is stimulating and enjoyable. Some of us are the original members and we would welcome new blood.
We never know what to expect which is part of the fun of being in the Group.
Sheila Epps

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the twentieth Annual General Meeting of Maldon & District U3A will be held on Monday 18th June 2018 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 29th May 2018**. 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 29th May 2018.** Forms will be available at the May meeting or, if requested, by post. There are vacancies for three Committee Members.

Judith Johnston
Business Secretary

Eligibility for Office and to vote – All fully paid-up members for the year 2018/2019 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 Forms for Committee Members 2018

Position	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by	Nominee's Signature

Knitting Teddies, Hats and Scarves for Charity

It was wonderful to receive so much wool at last month's meeting.
I have a black sack full now (enough for the moment) – which I will bring to the Monday meeting so that interested members can delve into.
I have needles too. Some of us are making Teddies for children in Broomfield Hospital. Fun to do and can be completed in a weekend.
The children love them – a comfort in a strange place. Pattern included here. We have also found that Care Homes like them for their dementia residents.
Other members make warm hats and stripey scarves for deserving Merchant Seamen who are badly paid and far from home for months on end.
Sheila Epps

Knitted Teddy Bear Pattern—Medium 8 inches

Teddies can be made in a variety of styles. The pattern describes a teddy with pants and a shirt, but the pattern can be varied. The important thing is that the teddy has a personality of its own! 8 ply wool (no angora or mohair)
Needles: No. 9 (3.75 mm) or No. 10 (3.35 mm) needles.
Leg 1 Cast on 8 stitches. Knit 30 rows. Leave stitches on needle.
Leg 2 Same as Leg 1
Pants : Join both legs by knitting across both legs. Knit 14 rows to finish pants

Shirt : Change colour for shirt. Knit 14 rows
Sleeve: Cast on 8 stiches at the beginning of the next two rows. Knit 12 rows
Next 2 rows cast off 8 stitches (this forms the arms)
Head : Knit 22 rows.
Cast off.
Repeat this procedure to obtain the other side of the Teddy.
FINISHING
Sew on face
Join up leaving a gap at the top of the head for filling
Fill with toy filling
Sew top of head together.
Gather around the base of head to form neck.
Pinch corners of head and sew to form ears.
(You can always give him boots or socks, stripes on his shirt and buttons etc)

Maritime

The next meeting of the Maritime Group is **Monday 4th June** at the Blackwater Sailing Club, Basin Road, Heybridge Basin, starting at 10:00am for a talk by Pam Bathurst on the "Medway Queen", its history up to present day.

Paddle Steamer Medway Queen was built by the Ailsa Shipbuilding Company of Troon, Scotland in 1924, for the New Medway Steam Packet Company of Rochester. The Medway Queen is the last of the estuary paddle steamers that were built to take passengers on day trips on the Thames and Medway Estuaries.

At the outbreak of the Second World War she was commissioned into the Royal Navy and became a minesweeper, joining the 10th mine-sweeping flotilla. As HMS Medway Queen she was now armed with a twelve pound gun and two Lewis guns. On the 27th May 1940 she was ordered to the beaches of Dunkirk "to embark some troops that would be waiting there". During the next few days the Medway Queen rescued in excess of 7000 men, completing seven trips, a record for a ship below the size of a destroyer. At the start of her final return to England, with almost 500 French troops on board, she sustained significant damage in a collision. After the war she was refitted and then returned to her peacetime role and took place in the Naval Coronation Review of 1953.

After the summer of 1963 she was withdrawn due to diminishing business and was sold to a shipbreaker. Following an outcry from the public, a campaign was set up by the Daily Mail and she was saved and became a night club on the Isle of Wight. She was then replaced by a larger vessel and was left to become derelict. Over the next years she encountered many problems but in the summer of 1985 the Medway Queen Preservation Society was formed and the campaign to save this little ship started in earnest.

Any U3A members are most welcome to attend.
Malcolm Case

Summer Concert

'The Waltham Singers and the Orlando Consort'

present

'The Field of the Cloth of Gold'

including French and English music.at Great Waltham Church at 7.30pm

on

Sat. 16th June 2018.

Tickets £16.00 (£14.00 concession, £5.00 under 16s)

from Veronica Smith or www.walthamsingers.org.uk

Bob & Graham's big Balti Night
Monday 11th June
at 7:00 for 7:30pm

BALTI BHUJON 24 Mill Road, Maldon.

Please contact Graham Evans

Or Bob Gowers to book or

Email u3amaldonbalti@btinternet.com

18th June Meeting

Wickham Bishops Village Hall at 1.30 pm

A G M

followed by Strawberries and Cream

Recipe

CHEDDAR CHEESE SOUP

1 Onion
1 Potato
4ozs Carrots
6ozs Cheddar Cheese
10oz Butter or Oil
1 Pt. Veg. Stock
Garlic
Half tsp Thyme
Half tsp Sage
Half Pt Milk
Pepper

Method:

Melt fat, add chopped onion, cook until soft.
Add chopped carrots, potato, garlic, mix together.
Add stock.
Add herbs and pepper.
Cover and simmer until veg. are cooked.
Blend in food processor.
Return to saucepan, add milk and finely grated cheese.
Bring to boil.
Serve and enjoy.

LUNCHEON CLUB VENUES

Times 12.30pm

WEDNESDAY 20th June at Bella's Italian Bistro, Burnham
Co-ordinator: Paul Costa

Note: If you sign up for the lunch 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	Jenny Parker, Chairman

LIMEBROOK U3A
Contact
Christine Dove, Chairman

Your Committee

Chairman	Brian Johnson
Vice Chairman	Alec Fraser
Secretary	Judith Johnston
Treasurer	Graham Webster
Membership Sec.	Malcolm Case
Newsletter Editor	Jan Robertson
Speaker Secretary	Veronica Smith
Committee	Shirley Macro
	Andrew Simmonds
	Liz Jones

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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
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Web site www.u3a.org.uk
Resource Centre: email: resource.centre@u3a.org.uk

Deadline for next newsletter: Friday, 11th June
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CO-ORDINATORS

Antiques	Awaiting new Co-ordinator
Art Appreciation	Andy Simmonds
Aviation	Brian Johnson
Astronomy	Patrick Forsyth
Balti Night	Bob Gowers Graham Evans
Bird Watching	Pat Clements Peter Gaywood
Botany	Veronica Smith
Bridge	Sheila Epps
Canasta	Iris Slaney
Computers	Awaiting new Co-ordinator
Cribbage	Pat Clements
Discussion	Bryan Jones
Egyptology	Kathleen Goff Sue Robinson
Family History	Alan Buck
French Conversation	Ann Lester
Geology	Enid Hall
Golf	Jennie Wilson
Handicraft	Marian Manning
History—Tudors	Beryl McDonell
Just Jazz	Jim Light David Coombes
Local History	Sylvia Cousins Jane Coombes Kathleen Goff
London Walks & Talks	Awaiting new Co-ordinator
London Theatre Outings	Rosemary Case Joyce Cotterell
Luncheon Groups 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
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	Louis Gunn
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 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 Mah Jong	2	3 Bird Watching Fishers Green Lea Valley
4 Maritime	5 Table Tennis Geology	6 Ten Pin Bowling Wine Group 1	7 Ten Pin Bowling Petanque Poetry Rummikub 2 **BBQ**	8 Canasta Sing for Pleasure Botany	9	10
11 Handicrafts Whist Balti Night	12 Table Tennis Egyptology **Art Appreciation** Visit to Dulwich Picture Gallery	13 Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Luncheon Group	14 Ten Pin Bowling Petanque French Conversation History - Tudors Reading Rummikub 1 Scottish Country Dancing	15 Mah Jong Botany	16	17 Strollers
18 **AGM** **Meeting 1.30 pm** Just Jazz	19 Table Tennis Aviation	20 Ten Pin Bowling Luncheon Group	21 Ten Pin Bowling Petanque	22 Canasta Cribbage Sing for Pleasure Botany	23	24
25 Handicrafts Whist Astronomy Local History	26 Table Tennis Strollers Too Wine Group 4	27 Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Family History Wine Group 2 Writing for Fun	28 Ten Pin Bowling Petanque French Conversation Scottish Country Dancing Wine Group 3	29 Mah Jong Family History Botany	30	

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,