The University of the Third Age

MALDON
AND DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER

Gold Sovereign
11th November 1918

November 2018

Reg. Charity No. 1086182

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

FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Members,
One highlight of last month was the joint Essex Police/U3A Cyber Crime presentation on 24th October at West Maldon CC. This meeting was organised by committee members of the Maldon area U3As and notably Shirley Macro from our group. Those who went along know how useful it was. A booklet was distributed entitled "The Little book of Cyber Scams". I was told that the slides are available to download but have not located them yet.
Now a report on Brian our Chairman: as announced last month he was taken ill again on 8th October and spent some days in hospital. He has been at home for a few weeks but due to various problems is not able to go out unaided. However, his treatment continues- also he has taken delivery of a new "buggy" and should be mobile again once a hoist is fitted to his car. We wish him well.
Alec Fraser—Vice Chairman

Aviation

"The next Aviation Group meeting will be held at the Purleigh Cricket Pavilion on **Tuesday, 20th November** at 2 pm. That's TOMORROW if you are reading this at the November monthly meeting! All regulars have already been notified by email.
Geoff Cotterell is kindly providing us with a recently released DVD entitled "Spitfire" which tells the story of this famous flying machine in an exciting and dramatic way.
Well recommended by those who have seen it!

Our Chairman and Aviation Group co-ordinator Brian Johnson sends his best wishes - he is unfortunately still indisposed at the present time but hopes to see you all before too long.

Family History Beginners

The next meeting will be held on **Friday. 30th November** at 58 Augustine Way, Bicknacre, CM3 4ET commencing at 10.00 am. Any member wishing to attend please let me know There will be no meeting in December.
Alan Buck

TEN PIN BOWLING AT CHRISTMASTIME

Our Christmas lunch will be held at Henri's on
Wednesday 19th December at 12.30 after bowling.

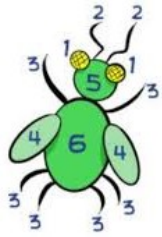
All members of the U3A are very welcome to join us. Please let me know if you are coming.
There is no bowling on **Wednesday 26th December**, Boxing Day, but extra lanes have been booked for Thursday 27th so all members can come along to get some exercise after the indulgences of Christmas. You may be bored with playing with your new toys by then.
Please let me know if you hope to be there so that we can be sure of having enough lanes.
Back to normal in the New Year. If you are not a bowler yet consider making a New Year resolution to join us and have some good fun throughout 2019. Why not?
David Arnold

PS Message to bowlers: If your family would like to buy you a nice Christmas present ask them to buy you your own custom-made bowling ball rather than socks, bath salts, etc.

WALK FOR BBC CHILDEN IN NEED SUNDAY 4th NOVEMBER

This walk was completed on Sunday 4th November with five of our U3A strollers group together with friends and family taking part. In total, with sponsorship and donations we raised £450.00. Thank you to everyone who took part in the walk and to everyone who sponsored us and also to those who gave donations. This amount will now be sent to the BBC Children in Need Appeal.

Beetle Drive



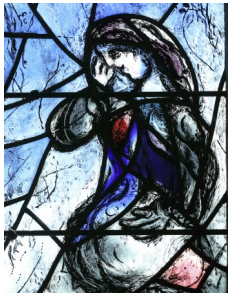
Oh what fun we all had, waiting for the elusive six for a body to start and then the five for a head etc. Thirty eight members met at Langdon Village Hall and there was so much laughter, plus the lovely cakes and refreshments laid on by the Social Committee to finish. Mave Studholme was the overall winner. If you have never participated in a Beetle Drive, you do not know what you have been missing! We had some new members join us and they were amazed at the fun we had, it takes us all back to our childhood.

Art Appreciation

The Group met in Judith Johnston's house to discuss their favourite or least favourite paintings. Many thanks to Judith for her hospitality.
There will be no Art Group meeting in December.
Thanks also to all members of our friendly little Group, who have offered their houses and provided cake for our meetings and supported us throughout the year.
Next meeting **Tuesday 8th January 2019** at Andy's house.
Andy Simmonds

KENTISH CURIOS—September 24

Further to the report on the trip to Kent, herewith a detail of the famous stained glass window by Marc Chagall at the All Saints Church at Tudeley.



Weeping woman

Asylum for the Verbally Insane Author unknown

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.
You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,
Yet the plural of house is houses, not hice.

If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
If I speak of my foot and show you my feet,
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?
Then one may be that, and three would be those,
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.
We speak of a brother and also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren.
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine the feminine: she, shis and shim!

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England We take English for granted, but if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square, and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham.
If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? Sometimes I think all the folks who grew up speaking English should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane.

In what other language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? We ship by truck but send cargo by ship. We have noses that run and feet that smell. And how can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out, and in which an alarm goes off by going on.

So if Father is Pop, how come Mother isn't Mop?

And that is just the beginning--even though this is the end

'Something to look forward to in November'

Social Evening

Wednesday, November 28

Maldon Town Hall

Entertainment by Marshall King who has famously been voted ITV's best Elvis tribute act, but there is far more to this entertainer than meets the eye.

6.30 for 7.00 pm until 10.00 pm

Please bring your own plate, knife, fork, spoon, glass, drink and nibbles.

A choice of Supper is available.

Tickets £15

Tickets from Barbara Byam-Shaw,

Tickets available from the November meeting.

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POSH FROCKS DO

Thursday, 28th February 2019

at The Bull, Gt. Totham

6.45 for 7pm

With a menu choice for a 3 course meal.

A drink on arrival

Entertainment by Diane Moore,

Tickets £35 on sale now from

Barbara Byam-Shaw at the November Meeting

Do not forget to make your Menu Choice!
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2018/19 CALENDAR—Dates for your Diary

Events and Outings during the year

Thurs. Nov 22	Classical Spectacular— Royal Albert Hall - Theatre
Sat. Nov. 24	Join Waltham Singers Chelmsford Cathedral
Wed. Nov. 28	Social Evening with Entertainment by Marshall King
Wed. Dec. 6	Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch at Forester Park
Mond. Dec. 10	Balti Night
Wed. Dec. 19	Bowlers and U3A members Christmas Lunch at Henri's
2019	
Feb 28	Posh Frocks Do at The Bull, Gt. Totham

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

APPEAL ON BEHALF OF THE SEAFARERS CENTRE TILBURY

The Centre is asking for donations for seafarers at Christmas. They ask for knitted socks, scarves, gloves, hats, jerseys etc., any colour and all sizes. They are also asking for toiletries suitable for male and female, toothbrushes etc. Also for chocolate bars and sweets.
Donations – please give them to Malcolm Case who will ensure that they are delivered to the Centre – Thank You.

Discussion

We meet at 2pm on the first Thursday of the month and the next meeting will be on **6th December** at Wickham Bishops.
New members are always welcome to join our lively and friendly group.
Any topic is open for discussion.
Please phone or email Bryan Jones for
We welcome new members.

Bryan Jones

Lovers of Music and Drama

Many people who love an outing to the theatre in London and are put off by the cost of tickets and the time spent in travel, may not be aware of the marvellous opportunity to see the best of performances very nearby. I am talking about the National Theatre, the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden (ballet too) – and the Metropolitan Opera from New York. These live streamed performances can be seen at Cineworld, Freeport and parking right by the cinema is free.
Over the past 9 years or so, friends and I have had wonderful evenings of the highest quality and great enjoyment. We have seen traditional and original plays and the whole range of operas – most of which I personally had never seen before. The cost is around the £15 mark.
Go on line at www.cineworld.co.uk and insert NTLive or Opera in the search space top RHS and you will see coming performances.
Cineworld do not seem to make the best of their publicity machine so if you have difficulty give me a ring for help.

As a matter of interest, would those who are not keen on driving at night be interested in having a minibus? We could investigate this.

Sheila Epps

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Join Waltham Singers
Chelmsford Cathedral
Saturday, 24th November
at 7.30 pm

Join Waltham Singers and the Orchestra of St Paul's Sinfonia along with excellent guest soloists for Dona Nobis Pacem by Ralph Vaughn Williams.

The concert includes other items remembering the end of the First World War 100 years ago.
Tickets from Veronica Smith at £18.00 (centre) £16.00 (side) £14.00 (concession)
Veronica Smith
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Egyptology

There will be no Egyptology meeting in December.
We will meet on **Tuesday January 8th** as normal.
Kathy Goff

Strollers/ Strollers Too

There will be no walks in December.
Gill Stone

Cribbage

Cribbage **Friday, 23 Nov**.
No meeting in December.

Bird Watching— meeting points

Dec.1st Abberton Reservoir
Jan 5th Heybridge Basin
Pat Clements

Wine Group 3

There will not be a meeting in December.

Astronomy

The next meeting of the group is on **Monday 27th January**.
Further details will be in future Newsletters.
Malcolm Case

Maritime

The next meeting of the group is on **Monday 3rd December**, please note that this meeting will start at 11:00 am at The Blackwater Sailing Club, Heybridge Basin.
Malcolm Case

Gt Baddow U3A offers an unforgettable Florence, Lucca and Siena visit

25th April 2019 for a 6 night tour

Discover some of what the stunning region of Tuscany in Italy has to offer. Join us for our very own bespoke tour where we include time to enjoy the fascinating city of Florence, one of the most beautiful cities in Italy and centre of Italian Renaissance. You will also visit Lucca, a spectacular city with secret places behind its city walls. Guided tours will show you the Uffizi & Boboli Gardens where you can see for yourself the Italian garden style that eventually became a model for many European courts. Our final day tour is to Siena, the historic centre of which has been declared a Unesco World Heritage site.

Fly from London City at 11:00 and arrive in Florence at 14:05. Transfer to your hotel, Hotel Palazzo Ognissanti where you will be based for the next 6 nights.
Thursday 25th April - 2 hour private tour of Florence. Welcome dinner at a local restaurant.
Friday 26th April - Morning at leisure. Lunch in Florence before an afternoon guided tour excursion to the beautiful walled city of Lucca followed by an evening Puccini concert at the San Giovanni Church.
Saturday 27th April - 3 hours guided tour of Accademia Gallery. Visit the Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral and grounds including the Dome, Baptistery of St John, Giotto's Bell Tower, The Crypt of St. Reparata and The Museum of Duomo. Your entrance ticket is valid for 72 hours should you wish to return another day. Dinner at a local restaurant.
Sunday 28th April - 6-hour private guided tour in Florence to visit Uffizi and Boboli Gardens. Minivan transfer back to hotel for dinner at a local restaurant.
Monday 29th April - Day at leisure.
Tuesday 30th April - 3 hour morning guided tour of Siena followed by time at leisure. Dinner at local restaurant in Florence.
Wednesday 1st May - Transfer from hotel to the airport. Your flight leaves Florence at 14.45 arrive London City 15.55.

Prices are £1376.00 per person sharing a twin or double room, for a smaller single room £1322 per room and for a double room for single use £1627.00 per room. Deposit of £150 per person is required to reserve a place. The deposit is non-refundable with the exception of numbers not being met for the tour to take place.

All prices for U3A include flights, travel throughout, 6 nights hotel on bed and breakfast basis, with extra dinners and lunch only as stated above. A welcome drink on arrival, licenced tour guides and tour escorts as stated are also included, along with headsets throughout and entrance fees during stated visits.

Important information: Gratuities are not included and Tourist city tax in Florence €1.40 per person per night. If anyone has any special requests, dietary requirements, or medical needs please make us aware at your earliest convenience.
Booking forms and deposits to be completed and returned as soon as possible.
For more information contact Sylvia Perry on 01245 474356

Table Tennis

Maldon U3A Tuesday Table Tennis section continues to have a popular membership.
From 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm we enthusiastically play double and where tables permit sometimes singles.
Our group caters for new players and the experienced, some of whom play in the local Burnham and District Table Tennis League, who along with its co-ordinator, a licensed table tennis coach, can give help to those wishing to develop their game. Or not.
Sensible participants stop at around 3.30pm for a well earned coffee and biscuits.
There is a charge of £2.00 to cover the cost of hall hire and the more often than not triple choc biscuits, but the first is a free taster including biscuits.
Louis Gunn

Local History

Our last meeting for this year is on **Monday November 26th** for an entertaining talk by the well-known author and broadcaster from Suffolk, Charlie Haylock, who will explain "The History of Surnames", and for examples, will use names from the list you submitted in the Spring.
Light refreshments will follow the talk.
There will be NO MEETING in December but a copy of the 2019 programme will be available at the November meeting.
All meetings are held at Maldon Town Hall at 2pm at £2.00 per session.
Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.
Kathy, Jane and Sylvia

Why was Guy Fawkes an important part of history?

Although Guy Fawkes wasn't the main conspirator in the Gunpowder Plot, he probably had one of the most important roles. ... Ironically, the cellar that the gunpowder was stored, and the Houses of Parliament themselves, were later destroyed in a fire in 1834.

November 5 is traditionally Bonfire Night, when we celebrate the foiling of Guy Fawkes' attempt to blow up the King and the Houses of Parliament. In 1605, he was found with a large amount of gunpowder, after hatching a detailed plot to kill the monarch.

What did Guy Fawkes believe in?

According to writings in the Spanish archives, Fawkes believed the English king was a heretic who would drive out his Catholic subjects. Fawkes also apparently expressed strong anti-Scottish prejudices. By 1605 Fawkes was calling himself Guido rather than Guy.

The Gunpowder Plot of 1605, in earlier centuries often called the Gunpowder Treason Plot or the Jesuit Treason, was a failed assassination attempt against King James I of England and VI of Scotland by a group of provincial English

Catholics led by Robert Catesby.

Guy Fawkes, a Catholic, was arrested, tortured and executed for his part in the plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament. Hence many Catholics are more restrained in their celebration of this day.

Steve Galler International Banjo Entertainer

Steve Galler is one of the UK's most sought after speciality entertainers, with 35 years or more in show business. He accompanies himself singing with his virtuoso banjo playing, and his blend of humour and music delights audiences of all ages. He has frequently appeared at London's famous Brick Lane Music Hall, and travelled the world entertaining on many well known cruise lines. We are very pleased to have been able to book him for our 2018 Christmas Meeting.

17th December Christmas Meeting
Wickham Bishops Village Hall at 1.30 pm
Speaker: Steve Galler

Bob & Graham's big Balti Night

Monday 10th December

at 7:00 for 7:30pm

at BALTI BHUJON 24 Mill Road, Maldon.

Please contact Graham Evans or Bob Gowers to book or

Email u3amaldonbalti@btinternet.com

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U3A 2019 DIARIES

Available at the November and December meetings

Price: £2.50, correct money please

Colour: Maroon.

If ordered, please collect.

Jan Robertson

LUNCHEON CLUB VENUE

Times 12.15 pm

WEDNESDAY 6th December—Christmas Lunch at Forrester Park for Luncheon Club members

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.
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BLACKWATER U3A
Contact
Peter Harden, Chairman
01621 858506

HEYBRIDGE U3A
Contact
Mrs. Jarvis
01621 843581
Chairman@heybridgeu3a.orgt.uk

LIMEBROOK U3A
Contact
Christine Dove, Chairman

Your Committee

Chairman	Brian Johnson
Vice Chairman	Alec Fraser
Vice Chairman	Shirley Macro
Secretary	Judith Johnston
Treasurer	Graham Webster
Membership Sec.	Malcolm Case
Newsletter Editor	Jan Robertson
Speaker Secretary	Veronica Smith
Committee	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
52 Lant Street, London, SE1 1RB
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, 10th December
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CO-ORDINATORS

Antiques	Awaiting new members
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
Croquet	Shirley Macro Jean Healey
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. Eat & Meet 2nd Wed	Paul Costa 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 Rummikub 2	Colin Beckett 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 Wine Circle No. 3 Wine Circle No. 4	Graham Boswell Mary Burd Paul Costa Ann Goody
Writing for Fun	Patrick Forsyth

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1 Bird Watching Abberton	2
3 Whist Maritime	4 Table Tennis Geology	5 Ten Pin Bowling	6 Ten Pin Bowling Discussion Poetry Rummikub 2 Luncheon Group Xmas Lunch	7	8	9
10 Handicrafts Whist Balti Night	11 Table Tennis Egyptology	12 Ten Pin Bowling Luncheon Group	13 Ten Pin Bowling French Conversation History—Tudors Reading Rummikub 1 Scottish Country Dancing	14 Sing for Pleasure	15	16
17 **Meeting 1.30 pm** **Just Jazz**	18 Table Tennis Aviation	19 Ten Pin Bowling Xmas Lunch at Henri's	20 Ten Pin Bowling	21	22	23
24 XMAS EVE	25 XMAS DAY	26 BOXING DAY	27 Ten Pin Bowling French Conversation Music Appreciation	28	29	30
31 NEW YEARS EVE						

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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,