The University of the Third Age

MALDON
AND DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER

AGM 17th June

June 2019

Reg. Charity No. 1086182

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

FROM THE CHAIR

From the Vice Chair:
Hello Everyone
We wish a Happy 21st Birthday to this wonderful branch of the amazing U3A. But you don't need me to tell you how good it is- your continuing membership is evidence of that.
I will not be at the party but will be helping to celebrate the special birthday of a friend. Last month's meeting was actually on my birthday and what a good one it was!
We are hoping that our Chairman Brian will be able to be with you to help cut the cake.
This is my last contribution as vice chair. But, subject to your approval at the AGM I hope to remain on the Committee which has proved to be fun and rewarding- the same can't be said of all committees! Some notable members will be leaving the Committee so please give them all a warm round of applause for their good work.
Also subject to your approval we have a great team taking over and you will be in good hands.
Don't forget to put up your hand and volunteer for one of our committee vacancies such as compiling the Newsletter or booking the speakers.
Go ahead and enjoy the celebration which you have earned by your much valued support.
Alec Fraser
Vice Chairman.

CANASTA

We are a friendly group who meet on alternate Friday afternoons in Maldon to play Canasta. We now have space for a couple more people to join us. Some knowledge of the game would be useful, however, we are willing to teach anyone with a keen interest to learn.

If you are interested, please ring Iris Slaney

MARITIME GROUP

A reminder to those going on the Maritime trip to North Wales, final payment is due to be received by Just for Groups by no later than 15th July 2019. The amount to pay and address to send your cheque is on your letter of confirmation.
Malcolm Case

ASTRONOMY GROUP

The next meeting of the group is on **Monday 24th June**, starting at 7:30 pm at Chigboro Fishing Club, Chigborough Road, Heybridge CM9 4RE. Joe Marshall will be running an Astronomy Quiz. This will be an interesting, informative and fun evening, so please join us.
Malcolm Case

JUST JAZZ

The last meeting of Just Jazz before the summer break will be on **17th June** in the Maldon Little Ship Club at 7.30pm.
There will be a bar and a film.
Jim Light

MALDON U3A SOCIAL GROUP
PRESENT
AN AFTERNOON SUMMER BUFFET FEATURING
“KIND OF BLUE”
THURSDAY 25TH JULY – 2 - 4:30pm
AT THE BELL PUB – MAIN ROAD, WOODHAM FERRERS, CM3 8RF
EXTENSIVE BUFFET WITH LIVE MUSIC
TICKETS ON SALE AT £10

Rosemary Case, Phone 01245 329435
Email: rosemarycase@talktalk.net

2019 CALENDAR—Dates for your Diary

Events and Outings during the year

Mon. July 1	Bawdsey Radar Museum - Maritime
Thurs. July 25	Afternoon Buffet with Entertainment by "Kind of Blue"
Mon. Aug. 5	Tour the Sussex Seaside—Maritime
Sat. Aug. 17	Ukulele Concert—South Woodham Ferrers
9/13 Sept	5 days holiday to North Wales—Maritime
11th Oct	Beetle Drive, Plantation Hall
Fri. Nov. 29	Film Show with Afternoon Tea

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

Holiday Insurance

We recently had to cancel at the last minute going on the U3A Wine Trip to Alsace on medical grounds.

As we had holiday insurance, we put in a claim to our insurance company. We had to prove we had booked, paid for and cancelled the holiday (easily obtained from the tour company) and get a medical certificate signed by our doctor (again easily obtained on payment of a fee) and then within five days of submitting the claim we were reimbursed our costs minus an administration fee.

Having always taken out holiday insurance, thankfully this was the first time we have claimed.

This proves the necessity of insurance and we were very impressed with the claim's procedure.

Malcolm & Rosemary

STROLLERS

July 21st Boreham: CM3 3EG

10:15 for 10:30 am start
Please park in the road near The Queen's Head.

This walk of 3.75 miles is full of interest, with an outward route above the valley bottom followed by a return along the river itself.
Please let me know by Monday 15th July if you are coming/require lunch. Sometimes, for reasons beyond our control, the venue of a walk or lunch has to be changed after being advertised in this magazine. If you do not tell me you are coming I cannot advise you of any last minute changes.
Gill Stone

FAMILY HISTORY

The next meeting will be held on **Friday 28th June** commencing 10.00 am. Members wishing to attend should let me know by e-mail or telephone

DISCUSSION GROUP

Nine of us gathered this month for a very lively discussion covering many different topics - political, social and local.
Our next meeting will be in Wickham Bishops on **Thursday 4th July** 2pm - 4pm. All are welcome.
For details please contact Bryan Jones

Annual Essex U3A Quiz

On June 6th fourteen teams of eight, of U3A members from across Essex, met for the Annual Quiz.
Waltham Abbey were once again the winners, followed by Stanford Le Hope, and we were **THIRD**.
Our sincere thanks to our team for their very creditable effort, and for flying the flag for Maldon and District U3A.
Sylvia Cousins

A Sad Sad,Story About Nobody

This is a story about four people, named: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job, Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that EVERYBODY blamed SOMEBODY when NOBODY did what ANYBODY could have done

Bob and Grahams Big Balti Night.

Monday 12th August

7:00 for 7:30pm.

At Balti Bhujon, 24 Mill Rd, Maldon.

Please contact

Graham Evans 01621 742524 or

Bob Gowers 01621815482 for details

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Hylands House Flower Show

Some fifteen of us were able to go to this show over three days at Hylands House, using the discounted tickets that I was able to get. It was very good, with a large number of nurseries displaying and selling a very wide variety of plants, and many other 'fringe' dealers selling things relating to the garden and the countryside. Unfortunately, when Sheila Epps and I arrived on Friday afternoon, the heavens opened and we were grateful for shelter in the several marquees, before enjoying the superb flower arrangements in the main house. It was a hugely popular event, but the large site meant that the crowds were spread widely.

Veronica Smith

Stollers Too

Tuesday 23rd July - Little Braxted

This is a 4 mile circular walk around Little Braxted and Wickham Bishops farmland and woodland on paths and roads. Steep going in some places.

We will meet in the car park at The Green Man, Green Man Lane, Little Braxted CM8 3LB at 10:15 for a 10:30 start.

Lunch will be available at The Green Man. Please let me know if you are coming on the walk and if you are having lunch, no later than **Monday 15th of July.**

Sometimes, for reasons beyond our control, the venue of a walk or lunch has to be changed.

David & Margaret Griffiths -
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RHS Chelsea Flower Show Tuesday 21st May

Just six of us managed to get tickets to go up on the first day of the show, and travelled very comfortably in the community minibus driven superbly by David. He dropped us off and picked us up near the Bullring entrance on the Embankment, which was so convenient for us. The show itself was tightly packed with garden designs and floral exhibits of the very highest standard. We enjoyed particularly the large show gardens down the Main Avenue and I think that we agreed with the People's Choice of winner, the Welcome to Yorkshire Garden by Mark Gregory which included an actual lock. The general planting theme this year was naturalistic planting, which perhaps might encourage us all not to bother mowing the grass, deadheading or tidying up - very much better for wildlife of course.

Some of us spotted various 'celebrities' in the crowd, but although I watched the screening on Wednesday evening of the BBC's report, I did not see any of us featured. No doubt we were all just out of shot, not being quite famous enough.

As usual, the Floral Marquee, an absolutely gigantic tent, was crammed with some breath taking displays. It is always interesting looking to see which of the various awards each exhibitor was awarded that morning by the judges. They all looked perfect to us, so why don't they all get Gold? It was interesting to look at Grenada's wonderful stand knowing that our February speaker, Susanne Gaywood, is no longer responsible for it. Going later in the day was definitely a good idea, and I might consider arranging a similar trip next year – but we MUST book our tickets early. Veronica Smith

Gilbert & Sullivan Festival

So far I have had very little interest shown in visiting the G & S festival at Bury St. Edmunds on 13/14th September, to see one of the shows being performed over the two days. There is a possibility of getting some kind of discount on our tickets, but I believe a certain number is required for this to apply.

Unless more people come forward, I shall tell the organiser - our speaker last April, Bernard Lockett, - that we shall not be going.

Veronica Smith

Local Events in June/July

June 22/30th	Burnham Art Trail
June 22/July 7th	Maldon Festival
June 23	Blackwater County Show, Chigborough Rd.
June 28	Talk by Christine Walkden "A Gardeners Tale" at Beth Chatto Gardens, Boxted from 10 am
June 28	"A Star is Born" Musical on a giant screen at Memorial Park, Wickford at 7.30 pm
June 29	Jazz on a Summer Evening at RHS Hyde Hall Gardens 7-9.30 pm
June 30	Vintage Fair at Cresssing Temple Barns from 10.30 am
June 30	Japanese Vehicle & Culture Show, Museum of Power, Langford, 10-4pm
July 12/14	Nashville Country Music at Hylands Park, Chelmsford.
20/21 July	Crouch Valley Festival of Food & Drink, Riverside Park, Burnham on Crouch.

Geology

The Geology group recently had an interesting visit to Hadleigh Country Park to view the Bagshot Sands exposed on the side of a former quarry at Sandpit Hillin Hadleigh Country Park.

The sands were formed in shallow tropical seas towards the end of the Eocene period. about 40 million years ago when the area was located near where Naples is now, and covered much of the London Clay which lies beneath. Hadleigh Country Park offers some of the best views in Essex, where the land dips down to grazing marsh, and salt marsh alongside Benfleet Creek.

Beyond Canvey Island and the Thames there are beautiful views of the chalky North Downs of Kent.

We were also able to see parts of the track used for the Mountain Bike Racing at the 2012 Olympics, and the medal podium remains as a lasting reminder of that very successful event.

We finished off a very enjoyable afternoon with tea at the local café.

Sylvia Cousins

MARITIME GROUP

Trip to Bawdsey Radar Museum for a private guided tour and Harwich for a guided tour of the LV18 lightship. Coach will depart from the West Maldon Community Centre on Monday 1st July at 8:30 am prompt, coach will pick up at Eves Corner at 8:40 am. Please park your cars at the far end of West Maldon Community Centre car park, and if possible, please car share. Current plan is to arrive Bawdsey at about 10:00 am, tea/coffee/biscuits on arrival (included in the price) and depart Bawdsey at about 11:45 am. Arrive Harwich about 12:45, lunch at own cost. Meet at LV 18 by no later than 2:15 pm. Depart Harwich at about 4:15 pm to arrive Maldon by about 5:15/5:30 pm.

Malcolm Case

Free to a good home

Old Butlers sink 48*36*30 cm
Ideal for a garden container
Must be collected
Clare Urry 07480845463

July 15th Meeting
Wickham Bishops Village Hall at 1.30 pm

Speaker
Andy Thomas
“The Crop Circle Mystery”

A few jokes

Doctor: You'll live to 60 Patient: But I am 60 Doctor: See! What did I tell you!

My superpower is holding onto junk for years and throwing it away a week before I need it.

I bought a new pair of shoes with memory foam insoles.
No more walking into the kitchen and forgetting why I went in there.

We were working in the garden when my husband got stung by a bee. He's at A & E now, face all swollen and bruised.
He's lucky that I was able to swat the bee away with my spade.

LUNCHEON CLUB VENUE

Times 12.15 pm

WEDNESDAY 17th July meal will be our Croquet Afternoon at Forrester Golf Club . Details to follow."

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.

Your Committee	
Chairman	Brian Johnson
Vice Chairman	Alec Fraser
Vice Chairman	Shirley Macro
Secretary	Judith Johnston
Treasurer	Graham Webster
Membership Secretary	Malcolm Case
Newsletter Editor	Jan Robertson
Speaker Secretary	Veronica Smith
Committee	Andrew Simmonds Liz Jones ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Web Master	John Bowen Tony Groves
Social Group	Michael Childs
AV Equipment	Ken Cooper
Essex Assoc. of U3A's Committee	Malcolm Case

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

Deadline for next newsletter: Friday, 8th July

CO-ORDINATORS

Antiques	Awaiting new members
Art Appreciation	Andy Simmonds
Aviation	Brian Johnson
Astronomy	Malcolm Case
Balti Night	Bob Gowers Graham Evans
Bird Watching	Peter Gaywood Michael Bagshaw
Botany	Veronica Smith
Bridge	Sheila Epps
Canasta	Iris Slaney
Computers	Awaiting new Co-ordinator
Cribbage	Pat Clements
Croquet	Jean Healey Shirley Macro
Discussion	Bryan Jones
Egyptology	Kathleen Goff Sue Robinson
Family History	Alan Buck
French Conversation	Ann Lester
Geology	Enid Hall
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
Tree Identification	Veronica Smith
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

PROGRAMME – July 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Maritime Visit to Bawdsey Radar Museum Whist	**2** Table Tennis	3 Ten Pin Bowling Wine Group 1	4 Discussion Group Petanque Poetry Rummikub 2 Ten Pin Bowling	5 Canasta	6	7 Bird Watching
8 Handicrafts Ten Pin Bowling Whist	9 Table Tennis Egyptology	10 Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Luncheon Group	11 Ten Pin Bowling Petanque Croquet French Conversation History—Tudors Reading Rummikub 1	12 Mah Jong Sing for Pleasure	13	14
15 **Meeting 1.30 pm** Just Jazz Whist	16 Table Tennis Aviation Geology	17 Ten Pin Bowling Luncheon Group	18 Ten Pin Bowling Petanque	19 Canasta	20	21 Strollers
22 Astronomy Handicrafts Local History	23 Table Tennis Strollers Too Wine Grouo 4	24 Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Wine Group 2 Writing for Fun	25 **Afternoon Summer Buffet** Ten Pin Bowling Petanque Croquet French Conversation Music Appreciation Wine Group 3	26 Family History Cribbage Mah Jong Sing for Pleasure	27	28
29 Whist	30 Table Tennis	31 Ten Pin Bowling				

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