



Maldon and District

Newsletter



Garden Group visit to Kamala—photo by Brigitte Whiteing

Membership renewals are now due, see page 3 for details

August 2024

www.maldonu3a.co.uk

Registered Charity 1086182

FROM THE CHAIR



I must start by saying what an excellent monthly meeting we had in July with our afternoon tea. Good music, good tea and good company. What could be better? Thank you to everyone involved.

We are all aware that the older generation is the prime target for scammers. We grew up in an age when we trusted one another – sadly, now a bygone age. The scammers are getting more sophisticated. Their spelling and grammar have improved, and I am no longer promised a tax refund of an unlikely precise round figure. Their industry of deception and fraud is growing. Our talk next month is by a member of the Cybercrime Protection Team, together with an Essex Police Cybercrime Police Officer and we are also planning to organise a seminar to help all of us avoid the scammers tricks.

Is the Emergency Information on your mobile phone up to date? If you should collapse or faint, it is important that a First Responder can find relevant information about you. This information can be entered on your smartphone and the First Responder will be able to access this even if the power is turned off and even though he, or she, may not have your passcode.

The information can include your Name, Date of Birth, Medical Notes, Allergies and Reactions, Medications, Blood Type and Emergency Contacts. It is also suggested that mobile phone numbers for emergency contacts are entered. If you have difficulty entering the data, and cannot find someone to help, then do ask one of the Committee.

It is difficult to ignore what is going on around us when the world and the UK are in such turmoil. This may seem to have no impact on our u3a, but we should keep other u3a in our thoughts as many will have seen rioting in their area and may be feeling insecure.

Ken Hazell

Maldon & District u3a
1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025
Membership Subscription Renewals

Subscriptions: are due by no later than 31st August 2024

Please use our web site maldonu3a.co.uk and complete the forms under Membership Renewal. If you are unable to do this then renewal forms are available from the Membership Secretary. **Each member must complete a separate form.**

Annual subscription is **£20.00 per person**, which can be paid by bank transfer into Barclays Bank. Account name – **Maldon U3A; sort code 20-54-30; Account number 53198995**, the reference you use MUST be your forename and surname – with no space e.g., johnsmith. If you wish, you can pay by cheque which should be made payable to **Maldon & District u3a**, or you can pay by credit/debit card (please contact the Membership Secretary if you wish to pay by this method).

Using the web site and paying by Bank Transfer is the preferred way

The completed form(s) together with your payment must be made before the **31st August 2024**. We do not accept cash. The forms together with your cheque (if paying by cheque) MUST be returned to the Membership Secretary at 30 The Spinnaker, South Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford. CM3 5GL.

Data Protection Law and Data Base: The renewal forms are used to check our database, please indicate on the form if your details are unchanged from your original renewal. If there are any changes then please advise the Membership Secretary.

Emergency Contact: Where couples are both members, please avoid using each other as emergency contacts. Please also ensure that you have the consent to use the name and telephone number of the person/s named as your emergency contact.

Gift Aid: Please indicate on the form “I want to Gift Aid” if you able to gift aid your subscription.

DO IT NOW: you do not have to wait until the end of August

Membership cards have already been sent to you (white plastic bar coded credit card size) in May 2020 or when you joined if after this date.

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday 16th September

Wickham Bishops Hall

Doors open at 1.15pm for 1.45pm start

Our talk this month is by

Barry Linton,

Police Support Volunteer, Cybercrime Protection Team,
together with an Essex Police Cybercrime Police Officer

on

Staying Safe Online

They will talk about the key risk areas and the latest scams being reported to the Essex Police, particularly those most affecting older people

Please note the change of previously listed speaker

Please remember your membership card

MONTHLY SPEAKER SCHEDULE 2024/25

21st October	AGM Andrew Wiltshire	Beatrix Potter—The London Art Critic? Andrew will tell us about another side to this author’s young life. Decoding her secret journal on the paintings she viewed and very strongly criticised.
18th November	Tim Turner	Going, going, gone A history of auctions. Tim returns to delight us with this history of the world of auctions.
16th December	Christmas Event	Musical entertainment, and afternoon tea
20th January 2025	Gainsborough’s House	A talk on the recently extended and refurbished house in Sudbury and on the painter, Thomas Gainsborough.
17th February 2025	Blesma: The Limbless Veterans Brian Chenier	Blesma, The Limbless Veterans, is an Armed Forces charity dedicated to assisting serving and ex-Service men and women who have suffered life-changing limb loss or the use of a limb, an eye or sight. We support these men and women in their communities throughout the UK.
17th March 2025	The 1952 Lynmouth Flood Disaster Philip McKinder	

If you know of any speakers that you can recommend please contact our Speaker Secretary: Theresa Byles theresabyles@btinternet.com

July meeting—Afternoon Tea

Our thanks to everyone who helped to make the afternoon such an excellent event. From the setting up and clearing down, catering, providing delicious cakes, a quiz and all those facts you didn't know about how to drink your tea, and to all the background workers. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.



And to the Purleigh Philharmonic for keeping us entertained throughout the afternoon.





Were you checking your answers to the quiz ?????

Committee members

We continue to look for volunteers to join our committee. Would you be willing to spend a couple of hours a month to attend committee meetings and to assist at monthly meetings ?

Please give this some thought and contact one of our committee members if you feel you could help. Thank you.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to our new members:

Melanie Price Richard Creak

SUNDAY STROLLERS

On the 21st July twelve Strollers gathered at The Green Man pub ready to commence our 4 mile walk around Wickham Bishops.

Although we have previously joined a few of these Sunday walks it was the first time we had the responsibility

of arranging a walk. On reflection we were rather over cautious with our planning, checking that our first aid kit was up to date should we need it and we had stocked up on antihistamine cream just in case we came across a swarm of bees, in the event, we are pleased to report no injuries at all.

After an early short rain shower, we were blessed with perfect weather for the circular walk.

We walked through the village turning right into Mope Lane until we joined a waymarked footpath at the side of Thistle Hall which led us through footpaths across the Benton Hall Golf Course onto to Isham's Chase. Further along we reached Glen Chantry where we admired the beautiful garden. We walked across open fields into woodland and onto Witham Road where we had good views over open countryside.

In no time at all we had reached The Green Man having worked up a good appetite. The food was excellent, as was the company and lunch was enjoyed by all.

Sue and Frank Golden



18th August

We have planned a walk in Mundon taking us passed the Petrified Oaks and down to Mundon Creek and back.

We will be lunching at The White Horse pub in

Mundon, where they will open from 10:00 am to allow us to park and pre order lunch. The walk will commence at 10:30 so please get there by 10:15.

The White Horse pub post code – CM9 6PB

Please let me know if you will be joining the walk and whether or not you will be staying for lunch by no later than 9th August.

Robert Heal



September 15th

The walk will start from the The Star pub, The Street, Steeple, CM0 7LF. Please arrive for 10:00 when we will be able to pre order our lunch. The walk will start at 10:30 and is some 4 miles across farmland and up onto the sea wall with views across the Blackwater and the mud flats. We will continue through woods and farmland with part being on public roads before returning to the pub for lunch. Cars can be parked in the pub car park.

Please let me know if you will be coming on the walk and if you will be staying for lunch by no later than the 9th September.

Malcolm Case

Future dates for the Sunday Strollers group are: 20th October, 17th November

STROLLERS TOO

Tuesday 27th August - Boreham 3.75 miles

The walk takes us on an outward route above the valley bottom, past Paper Mill Lock, along the river Chelmer and through fields. Please meet and park on the road (free parking) outside the Queen's Head Pub, Church Road, Boreham CM3 3EG at 10:00 for a 10:30 start. Lunch is available.

Please let me know if you are coming/require lunch by Monday 19 August.

Gill Stone

Tuesday 24th September

The walk will be at Goldhanger; a circular walk starting at the Chequers pub. We proceed through the churchyard, across fields to the sea wall. We will walk along the sea wall back to the Chequers. It is approximately 4.9 miles. Please meet at 10:15 for 10:30 start. Parking is available at the Chequers car park which is opposite the pub. Lunch will be at the Chequers afterwards.

Please let me know by email if you are walking/walking and having lunch.

Margaret Harker

Future dates for the Tuesday Strollers group are: 22nd October, 26th November.

GEOLOGY GROUP

After our summer break in August the Geology Group will resume meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 18th September** at 2pm at West Maldon Community Centre when aspects of Geology are looked at with the help of books, and the Internet.

Members are invited to do their own research to add interest to the afternoon's proceedings. New members are always welcome.

Sylvia Cousins

Most wildlife films set in Africa feature big game animals with small white herons on their backs. These are cattle egrets which, until some 25 years ago, were more likely to be seen in the tropics than at Tollesbury. They arrived in Britain in 2008, breeding here for the first time in spring that year – and eleven members were lucky enough to view a pair when they visited the 600-acre Tollesbury Wick reserve on 7th July.



Cattle Egret

They are the third – and smallest – egret species after the little and great egret, to colonise southern Britain. From our vantage point in a hide, we viewed cattle and little egrets side by side. The former have yellow legs and beak, and gold crown, while little egrets have black beaks and legs with yellow feet. They arrived



Cattle Egret, Heron and Little Egret

in Britain in significant numbers in 1989 and first bred in Dorset in 1996.

Little egrets are now fairly common in the south as a breeding species and winter visitor. The great egret is the rarest of

the trio in the UK, with

only around 12 breeding pairs and fewer than 100 overwintering birds. Other birds to be seen out on the scrape overlooked by our hide included a flock of greylag geese – Britain’s only resident species of goose – shelduck, tufted duck, oystercatcher, and lapwing.



But the cattle egrets were not the only birds to really grab our attention. A pair of marsh harriers were quartering the reserve at low level, their wings held in a distinctive upward V as they hunted for any unwary wildfowl, mammals, or rodents. The largest of our three harriers – the others being hen and Montagu's – the marsh harrier was rendered extinct by persecution in the 19th century. The current population has grown from a single breeding group in Suffolk in 1971 and have doubled their breeding range in the last 50 years – a remarkable recovery.

Mike Bagshaw

Peter Gaywood



No meeting in August. Our next destination will be Maldon prom on **Saturday 7th September**, meeting 10.00 by Rossi's ice cream kiosk.

6th October	Heybridge Basin	Meet in the car park
2nd November	Walton on the Naze	Meet in the Visitor Centre car park
1st December	Hanningfield Reservoir	Meet in the Visitor Centre car park

From Chelmsford u3a

Dear u3a Members,

We are pleased to report that the Am Dram Group is now up and running. They have had 2 meetings already and are developing ideas for 3 plays which they will whittle down to one to go ahead with.

You do not have to have any previous drama experience to participate.

We are offering Visitor Membership at no charge to join the group.

The group currently has about twenty-five people but would like to have more.

Most members are from Chelmsford, but there are a couple from SWF and one from Galleywood.

There are numerous roles available for people to help with, not just on-stage.

I am still looking for any u3a members that would be interested in:

Script writing Set design Directing and producing

Musical backgrounds Costume design Make-up

Set construction Lighting Stage crew

Narrating Health and Safety on stage

Not forgetting any budding Thespians.

The next meetings will be held on **Monday 2nd September** and **Monday 7th October** at **2pm** in Christ Church, New London Road, Chelmsford, with more to be scheduled on the 1st Monday of each month The fee is £3 per session to cover hall hire and refreshments.

If you are interested, please drop me an email @ alan.caddy@btinternet.com

GARDEN GROUP

At the end of July, the Garden Group visited a beautiful garden in Hawkwell. In size, this garden was relatively modest in comparison to some of the gardens we have visited. However, the smaller canvas allowed the owner to pack the garden with plants; she herself was concerned that the indifferent summer had delayed planting out and some of the plants, particularly the dahlias, had not yet reached their best, but it all looked lovely to me! It was rare to see so much colour in an Essex garden by this time in the summer. It was a sheltered site with an undulation in the land which gave added protection to the more tender plants and Karen, the owner, had succeeded in producing a lushness that is rare in our county.

I loved the way the dahlias were scattered throughout the garden. Highly scented lilies had been planted in an area where the scent was not blown away. Visits to this



garden can only be made by arrangement, so we may make a return visit next year.

Photos by Brigitte Whiteing

In contrast, earlier in the month, some of us had joined with the Aviation group to travel out to Norfolk. The garden contingent was dropped off at Bressingham, whilst the aviators went on to Flixton Air Museum. Bressingham provided us with a very pleasant day out, walking around the many acres of garden with many trees and flower beds, and having a ride on a little steam train. Some in the group also enjoyed a ride on the Carousel, sparking memories of childhood summers at the seaside!

Our next visit is to 59 East Street, Coggeshall on **Tuesday 10th September**. Visits later this year are in the planning stages and will be notified in forthcoming issues

There is a new entry to the National Garden Scheme in Maldon. It's called Old Timbers , opposite St Mary's Church down by the quayside. They have an open day on **Friday 16th August** from 11-4.30. Admission £5.

Best wishes

Theresa Byles

Kris Taylor

POETRY GROUP

The next meeting of the group is on **Thursday 5th September**, starting at 2:00pm in a member's house. The poet for discussion is **Pam Ayres**, a British poet, comedian, songwriter and presenter of radio and television programmes. Her 1975 appearance on the television talent show Opportunity Knocks led to appearances on other TV and radio shows, a one-woman touring stage show and performing before the Queen.



Pam has written several very popular poems such as "They should have asked my husband", "Down the line", "Yes I'll marry you my dear" to name but a few.

Jo Robson

LONDON WALKS

London Walks take place on the **3rd Tuesday** of the month.

We meet a professional guide at 11.00 to be taken on a 2 hour guided walk. The distance walked is not vast as we stop many times to be told interesting and entertaining information. After the walk you are free to join others for coffee/ lunch or plan other things to make the most of your day in London. Travel arrangements are made by yourselves. (I personally find a good option is to use the Park & Ride at Sandon to get to Chelmsford station).

Our first walk took place on 16th July, entitled Past the Palace. Twenty-two of us met at Embankment Underground Station, and we wandered through Charing Cross, Haymarket, Pall Mall, passing by Trafalgar Square (not a pigeon in sight) and onto St. James's Palace. Stopping several times along the way, our guide imparted fascinating historical facts and, quite frankly, hardly believable facts, about the morality (or should I say immorality) of the Royals past and present.

The mistresses of Charles I, assassinations involving cow horns and red hot poker, secret meetings between Hitler and the King – just a few of the juicy stories told to us by our 'colourful' guide. More recent jaw dropping stories of Elizabeth II and Prince Philip and their children left us not knowing whether to laugh or cry especially when accompanied by photos.

The scandals apart, we learnt so much about past centuries of Royalty, relating them to properties, statues, and palaces that we passed.

I believe a lovely day was had by all, helped greatly by the rain holding off, and our guide who held us enthralled throughout.





Forthcoming Walks:

Tuesday 20th August inside Covent Garden is the theme.

Tuesday 17th September we will explore Unknown East End.

Tuesday 15th October we are off on A Soho Saunter.

Tuesday 19th November sees us exploring The Old Palace Quarter.

Tuesday 17th December we find out about Christmas food in Eating Christmas.

The cost for each of the walks is £10 per person, except for the September walk which is £11.

Payment by cheque in advance please – payable to Maldon & District U3A.

One cheque per event please.

To reserve your place or any further info please contact:

Julie Lake

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Over the centuries a series of landowners in and around Mayland included the New England Company that sold 600 acres of land to entrepreneur Joseph Fels at the end of the 19th Century.

He became involved with members of the Fabian Society, and with the help of another entrepreneur, Thomas Smith, encouraged people to move out of London and become self-supporting through a communal form of small holdings, including cloche gardens.

After WW1, another entrepreneur, William Everitt, developed the riverside area by selling leisure plots which people made their permanent homes.

Along the riverbank, is an area now called Maylandsea. It was here that Mayland Yacht Club evolved, initially as a barge and later to a permanent Clubhouse. Boat building and shipbuilding became an important industry, especially in WWII when motor torpedo boats and various other ships, including a hospital ship were built for the Admiralty.

From the 1950s in both Mayland and Maylandsea most wooden buildings were converted into permanent brick-built homes, and shipbuilding is now mainly for leisure craft.

From such humble beginnings, Mayland/Maylandsea is now most certainly on the map.

THERE IS NO MEETING IN AUGUST

Our next meeting at the Town Hall is on **Monday 23rd September** at 2p.m. for a talk entitled *Saint Roger of Beeleigh*. As you may know, Beeleigh Abbey is up for sale, so our talk will be topical.

It will be given by local historian Stephen Nunn, who explains "this illustrated talk is about the late 12th/early 13th Century Essex churchman, who was born at Beeleigh, and climbed the ranks of the established church to become Bishop of London. He was involved in many adventures at home and abroad and was often in dispute with the King and other powerful figures of the time.

Referred to as a "Saint" after his passing, there is great mystery and intrigue associated with his remains."

FINALLY, please note we are still looking for new **COORDINATORS** for our Local History Group.

As you have seen and heard over the last few months there is plenty of material for the Group to investigate and how many can recall hearing about St Roger in March 2007 the last time we heard a similar talk?

Best Wishes Kathy and Sylvia

ASTRONOMY

The next meeting of the group is on **Monday 23rd September** starting at 7:30 pm at Chigboro Fishing Club, Chigborough Road, Heybridge. CM9 4RE.

Roger Pittock will be giving a talk on *My journey through Astronomy*. This is a very interesting talk which will include some of the Astro photographs that he has taken, using his own telescope which he has set up in an observatory in his garden.



Roger will also say how he got interested in Astronomy and where this interest has taken him. This talk was given to Anglia Ruskin University a few months ago.

THE BIG BALTI

The next curry night will be held on **Monday 30th September** at the Balti Bhujon restaurant, Mill Road, Maldon. 6.30ish start.

To add your name to the list please contact:

Graham Evans Bob Gowers

AVIATION GROUP

Hello everyone,

What a day we had at the Norfolk and Suffolk Air Museum at Flixton!



We were once again blessed with warm sunshine, and how the museum had managed to collect, collate and present so much in such a small space is admirable.

Their mission is to preserve and enhance the history of aviation in East Anglia and they succeed that in so many ways.

Well worth a regular visit, I think.

We aren't meeting this month, but I am planning to invite folks, via ZOOM, on a flight with me on my simulator at **11.00 on Friday 30th August**. The route, and plane etc to be confirmed soon.

Please can you confirm if you are interested, I will then send you the Zoom link closer to the time.

**This invitation to open to all Maldon &
Maldon cluster group u3a members**

Chris Samson

- Friday 27th September Opening meeting after the summer break with an illustrated talk by Joe Marshall about the wartime incident when a Hurricane force landed at Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome followed by some flypast gems from the past.
- Meeting at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall at 11.00
- Friday 25th October Illustrated talk about Operation Exodus & Dodge by Chris Samson and fellow member David Gillespie. These operations were put in place to airlift and repatriate thousands of Allied POWS as their camps were overrun by the Allied Armies.
- Meeting at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall at 11.00.
- Friday 22nd
November Illustrated talk about the history of RFC Goldhanger by local historian David Newman.
- Meeting at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall at 11.00.
- Friday 20th
December Meeting at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall for an Aviation related quiz with Christmas nibbles followed by a light lunch at a venue to be determined.

BRIDGE GROUP

We have availability for Bridge players on the first and third Wednesdays of each month starting at 9.30 until 12.15 at the West Maldon Community Centre. If you would like to join our very friendly social group of players, please contact Gill Cory

MARITIME GROUP

At the group's meeting on Monday 1st July, we had a very interesting, and at times amusing, talk by Linda Cook from the RNLI.

Linda told us how the RNLI started back in 1824, when Sir William Hillary's vision for a service dedicated to saving lives at sea became a reality in Bishopsgate's trendy City of London Tavern on 4th March. In the early 19th century, there was an average of 1,800 shipwrecks a year around our coasts. And the danger of shipwreck was an accepted way of life at sea. But Hillary refused to sit by and watch people drown and was determined to start a National Institution for the Preservation of Lives and Property from Shipwreck. At the heart of this institution would be 'a large body of men; in constant readiness to risk their own lives for the preservation of those whom they have never known or seen, perhaps of another nation, merely because they are fellow seafarers in extreme peril.' The priorities of the institution would be 'firstly, the preservation of human life from shipwreck, secondly, to provide assistance to vessels in distress, thirdly, the preservation of vessels and property, fourthly, the prevention of plunder and depredations in case of shipwreck, fifthly, the succour and support of those persons who may be rescued, and sixthly the bestowing of suitable rewards on those who rescue the lives of others from shipwreck or who assist vessels in distress.

On 5 October 1854, the Institution's name was changed to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution – the RNLI – as it is known today.

Linda also told us that the RNLI receives no state or public funding and relies entirely on donations from the general public and also from money left to the RNLI in people's wills. It costs the RNLI a staggering 188 million pounds to operate in just one year and this sum is raised from voluntary donations.

We were also shown the various lifeboats and RIBs used by the RNLI and Hovercraft which are used where there are mud flats, such as off Shoeburyness. The Southend Lifeboat station is equipped with a Hovercraft.

97% of lifeboat crews are volunteers. There were more than 5,700 in 2022 and they are supported by more than 4,000 volunteer shore crew and station management. The beach lifeguard service is mostly seasonal paid staff but

there were 119 volunteer lifeguards in 2022.

The RNLI have a training College in Poole where new crew volunteers are trained in survival and rescue, plus a simulator which gives the volunteers experience in navigation, boat handling etc.

The latest lifeboat is the Shannon Class, currently being deployed to the RNLI fleet to serve the shores of the British Isles. The Shannon class is due to replace most Mersey-class lifeboats and some Trent-class lifeboats.



Shannon class lifeboat which can travel at 25 knots

There also RIBs.



Atlantic Class RIB



D class RIB, the workhorse of the RNLI for over 50 years

So please continue to support the RNLI though donations, and please keep saving your 5p and 20p coins. They can be given to either Mary Burd or myself and we then send them on to the Maldon branch of the RNLI.

Malcolm Case

MARITIME GROUP

The next event for the Maritime Group is on **Monday 2nd September**, with a visit to Chatham Historic Dockyard.

We will depart West Maldon Community Centre at 08:30, please park your cars at the far end of the car park. Traffic permitting, we should arrive at the Dockyard by 10:00, where tea/coffee will be provided. Walk through tours of the submarine *Ocelot* will be at 11:15 to 11:30 and 11:30 to 11:45 am (two groups). There is also a tour and demonstration at the Ropery starting at 12:15 to 12:45. There are two cafes on the site. Tours of the National Maritime Museum models will begin at 2:00pm in groups of 11 (further details on this will be given on the day).

We will depart Chatham at about 4:30 pm.

There are still spaces on this trip, if you would like to join then please contact Malcolm Case. Cost pp is £40 including coach and entry.



Malcolm Case

Monday 7th October

Talk by Gordon Davies on **Emigration 1850 style**. In the 1850s over a third of a million people left the UK for a new life in Australasia, travelling there by sailing ship on a voyage likely to take 3 or 4 months. Who went? Why? What were their experiences en route? What support did they have?

Monday 4th November

Talk over Zoom by Roger Butler, with a colourful introduction to all aspects of **Waterway Heritage**. Roger will include fascinating engineering and architecture, historic boats, and plenty of unusual landmarks. He will also weave in some archive images as well as important contemporary features such as the Falkirk Wheel in Scotland. Aspects include grand warehouses and quirky cottages, tall lock flights and sweeping aqueducts, deep tunnels and a vast array of bridges and even tiny bollards. Many such buildings and structures still reflect the work of the original distinctive canal companies, including of course, the famous Roses and Castles canal boat artwork.

Monday 2nd December

Talk by Julie Hobby and Chaplain Ruth on the work of the **Seafarers' Centre**, Tilbury. The talk will cover all aspects of their work for seafarers and will include details on how your donations to the centre are used. The talk will be followed by some Christmas cheer, nibbles and discussion on our 2025 programme.

This is how our Membership Secretary/Group Coordinator celebrated his ?? Birthday.

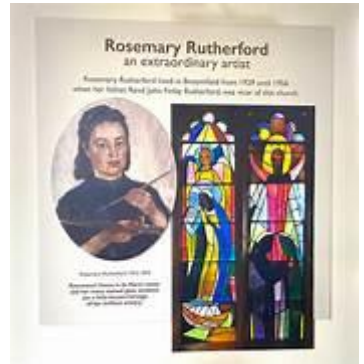
Not just once, he went back for a second go !!



ART APPRECIATION GROUP

For our July meeting, Maldon members joined with members from Blackwater u3a for a talk, given by Rosalind Mercer, on Rosemary Rutherford, an extraordinary, but largely forgotten, local artist.

Rosemary Rutherford (1912–72) was the daughter of the Revd John Rutherford, vicar of Broomfield during the war years. She studied in Chelmsford and at the Slade in London in the 1930s. She also trained in the art of the true fresco. She was a VAD (Voluntary Aid Detachment) during the war and created a large portfolio of sketches and paintings of all she observed in hospitals, both at home and in Sri Lanka. She learned stained glass making and created forty windows, including four at Broomfield Church, and replaced those shattered by bombing. She attended the East Anglian School of Painting and Drawing at Benton End run by Cedric Morris, where she painted flowers and landscapes. Her paintings have regained renewed interest, not least because she was one of only a few women war artists.



There is no Art Group meeting in August. Our next meeting is a return visit to the Christchurch Mansion in Ipswich, a car share trip, on **Wednesday 11th September**. A superb Tudor mansion that boasts many period rooms and the biggest collection of Gainsborough and Constable paintings outside London.

Judith

Andy

JUST JAZZ GROUP

Our next meeting is **Monday 19th August** from 7.30—9.30pm, in the Little Ship Club, Hythe Quay, Maldon. The bar will be open so pop in for drink, some music and a chat. We look forward to seeing you.

Pete Condon

David Coombes

As in previous years I am planning to host my annual coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. This year it will be on **Friday 27th September**.

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

As usual I would ask that you book in to a time slot to help me manage and cater on the day. The times are 10.00, 11.00 or 12 noon.

Please email me on maryburd43@yahoo.co.uk or ring to book in. I look forward to seeing you but if you are unable to attend the following link enables you to donate to my total and obviously all donations are very welcome.

<https://www.justgiving.com/CM24007696>

Last year with your help I raised £730. This means my total fundraising since 2002 is £9175. Quite something I think you will agree.

Once again let's have an enjoyable morning – coffee/tea and cakes will be provided!!

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mary Burd

If you are unable to make it to Mary's gathering, the Mayor is also holding a Macmillan Coffee

Morning in the Town Hall, Market Hill between 10.00 and 12 noon on Friday 27th September.



FILM GROUP

Starting with ***The Railway Station Man***, starring Donald Sutherland and Julie Christie, the general view was that this was a rather strange film. Not entirely sure what it was supposed to be about, it didn't really seem to get going and nothing really happened until the very end – which was also quite odd. The acting was somewhat stilted, although they didn't really have much to work with. Score: 4.5

Our second film under review was ***The Wife***, starring Glen Close and Jonathan Pryce. Although mostly enjoyed, it was obvious from the start what the background to the story was. A successful novelist awarded the Nobel Prize of Literature was really a fraud, and his wife was the one writing the books. He was also a philanderer and hard on his son, also a writer. The ending did provide a twist of sorts though. Glen Close, as usual, was very good, but we did think that Jonathan Pryce wasn't quite right for the role, although also a fine actor. Score: 5

We are not meeting in August but will be back with another review in September.

Our next meeting is **Wednesday, 25th September** 7.30pm by Zoom, as usual. If you would like to join us, please get in touch.

Shirley Macro

PADEL TENNIS GROUP

The session is every **Wednesday** from **2.30 to 4pm** at Padel United, Park Drive Health Club, Maldon. There are three indoor courts plus an outdoor court, and we normally have the use of two courts. We cater for between 3 and 10 members without anyone having to sit out for more than a few minutes and things have gradually evolved such that we get just about the right number.

If anyone is interested in joining the Group or perhaps having a "taster" session, please contact Ken Hazell.

TENPIN BOWLING

Do you fancy a chat and a cup of coffee with some tenpin bowling thrown in? The bowling, although it is good exercise and a chance to improve your coordination skills, it is not the main reason for coming. In fact, when the group was originally envisaged more than 20 years ago it was as a social group to meet



for coffee with the bowling an added extra., and that has remained the case. A good morning is not necessarily a high score, but did you enjoy yourself?

We play every **Wednesday** and **Thursday mornings** from 09.45 – 12 noon at Madison Heights, Park Drive, Maldon.

If you are interested, please contact:

Alan Buck

David Coombes

MAHJONG

Mahjong has vacancies for new members. We are a small , very friendly group that meet every other Friday in the Linton Room, West Maldon Community Centre.

If you haven't played Mahjong before we are very happy to teach you. Our next meeting is on **13th September** from **2–4pm**

For more information, please contact Mags Pell. 01621 842316

GERMAN CONVERSATION

Please note that our next meeting is **Tuesday 3rd September**.

Please contact me prior to the meeting if you will be attending.

Howard Broadbridge

CROQUET GROUP



This group is now fully subscribed. There is not space on the lawns to take any more.

However, there is space with the Heybridge u3a group who meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays. If any one is interested in joining this group please get in touch with Geoff Macro in the first instance.

Geoff Macro

PETANQUE GROUP



The group meets **Thursday afternoons**, start time 2.00 p.m. until around 4.00 p.m.

We play on the Petanque pitch opposite the Marine Lake at the Promenade Park, Park Drive, Maldon CM9 5JQ.

No charge is made to play but you must be a member of Maldon & District u3a or one of the Maldon u3a cluster groups.

New players are always welcome to come and give it a try, so why not come along and have a go. Car parking is available at the park, but please note that Maldon District Council make a charge. We may be able to loan you some boules to get you started, but you will need to purchase some of your own to play regularly.

We only play if the weather is dry. The season is April to October.

For more details please contact:

Jack Veash

Geoff Macro

DONATIONS for the SEAFARERS CENTRE, TILBURY

The centre is asking for donations of – knitted items – hats, scarves, gloves, jumpers, socks, any size any colour. They are also requesting coats suitable for male and female (must be clean). Toiletries suitable for male and female. DVDs, Jigsaws, and sweets with a long use by date. All donations are gratefully received and appreciated by the Centre.

If you can give a donation of any of the above, please bring them to the monthly meeting, or to the Maritime group meetings, or contact me and I will arrange for any donated items to be collected. On behalf of the centre, thank you.

Malcolm Case



Have you logged onto our website recently ? On the left hand side you'll see **Links to other websites**

This will take you to many links, not only to other local and national u3as but online courses, general information on how to, and in particular to a sign up for u3a Friends, a monthly email, and to a sign up for **Friends Extra**.

u3a Friends Extra – is a new range of benefits, offers and services exclusively for members of our u3a Friends community. The benefits include discounts for shopping, travel, insurance and more – and we hope really add to your u3a experience.

The Silver Line is the only free confidential helpline providing information, friendship and advice to older people, open 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

0800 4708090 www.thesilverline.org.uk

The Silver Line
helpline for older people

First Aid

Following on from our well attended First Aid Courses earlier in the year, we are looking to arrange a further course later this year for those who were unable to attend. We have also had interest from our Cluster Groups in joining us.

As previously, the session (s) will take place at West Maldon Community Centre, Sunbury Way, CM9 6YH. A session lasts approximately 4 hours with a tea/coffee break

It covers:

Resuscitation Bleeding Choking Fainting Nosebleeds Falls

There will be a demonstration of resuscitation using a mannikin plus basic information on the use of a defibrillator should you wish.

Course with Qualification

The NUCO Emergency First Aid at Work Qualification covers all the procedures above plus all candidates must complete CPR and Defibrillation on the floor as well as correctly answering all the questions to gain the qualification.

It is a one day course of 6 hours including a one hour break time (2 x 15 minutes+ 30 min lunch).

The course is valid for 3 years from completion.

(Members who expressed an interest in this qualification course earlier have been noted.)

Any members who wish to participate in either course please email me:

Kris Taylor

FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you for your contributions, please keep them coming and don't forget to include your photographs. The deadline for the next issue is **Tuesday 3rd September**.

Kris

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairman	Ken Hazell	01621 843287
Vice Chairman	Alec Fraser	01621 892138
Business Secretary		
Treasurer	Steven Clarke	01621 892611
Membership Secretary	Malcolm Case	01245 329435
Newsletter Editor	Kris Taylor	07785 998173
Minutes & Speaker Secretary	Theresa Byles	07967 353740
Groups Coordinator	Malcolm Case	01245 329435
Committee	Andy Simmonds	01245 381020
	Carol Bates	01621 743231
Trustee	Geoff Cory	01245 224901
Webmaster	Tony Groves	07983 257868
Social Group	Michael Childs	01621 842687
Publicity	Andy Simmonds	01245 381020
	Irina Vahonina	07904 459805

GROUP COORDINATORS

Art Appreciation	Judith Johnston Andy Simmonds
Aviation	Chris Samson
Astronomy	Malcolm Case
Balti Night	Bob Gowers Graham Evans
Bird Watching	Peter Gaywood Michael Bagshaw
Bridge	Gill Cory
Canasta	Iris Slaney
Cribbage	Pat Clements
Croquet	Geoff Macro Shirley Macro
Discussion	Pat Jones
Engineering	Tony Groves
Film Club	Shirley Macro
French Conversation	Ann Lester
Garden Visits	Theresa Byles Kris Taylor
Geology	Sylvia Cousins
German	Howard Broadbridge
Handicraft	Marian Manning Brenda Heal
History—Victorians	Kathy Goff
Just Jazz	Peter Condon David Coombes
Local History	Sylvia Cousins Kathy Goff

London Theatre Outings	Rosemary Case Sheila Childs
London Walks	Julie Lake
Meet & Eat	Joan Cummins
MahJong	Mags Pell
Maritime	Malcolm Case
Padel Tennis	Ken Hazell
Petanque (Boules)	Jack Veash Geoff Macro
Photography	Tony Groves
Poetry	Jo Robson
Reading	Patrick Forsyth
Rummikub	Janice Martin
Russian Conversation	Irina Vahonina
Scottish Country Dancing	Diana Rogers
Sing for Pleasure	Sue Garnham
Strollers Sunday & Tuesday	Malcolm Case
Tenpin Bowling	Alan Buck David Coombes
Wine Circle No. 2	Graham Boswell
Wine Circle No. 3	Mary Burd
Wine Circle No. 4	Ann Goody
Writing for Fun	Patrick Forsyth

Comment on *u3a matters* via
Patrick Forsyth

Schedule of Events – September 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
						1
2 Maritime Visit to Chatham Dockyard	3 German	4 Ten Pin Bowling Padel Tennis Croquet Bridge	5 Ten Pin Bowling Poetry Rummikub Petanque	6 Canasta	7 Bird Watching Maldon Prom	8
9 Discussion Handicrafts	10 Garden Visit Coggeshall	11 Ten Pin Bowling Padel Tennis Meet & Eat Art Appreciation	12 Ten Pin Bowling Royal History- Victorians Scottish Dancing French Conversation Petanque	13 Mahjong Singing	14	15 Strollers
16 Monthly Meeting Just Jazz	17 London Walks Engineering	18 Ten Pin Bowling Padel Tennis Croquet Bridge Geology Photography	19 Ten Pin Bowling Rummikub Scottish Dancing Petanque	20 Canasta	21	22
23 Local History Astronomy	24 Strollers Wine Group	25 Ten Pin Bowling Writing Padel Tennis Film Wine Group	26 French Conversation Wine Group	27 Aviation Mahjong Macmillan Coffee Morning Singing Reading Cribbage	28	29
30 Curry night						