

**u3a** learn,  
laugh,  
live

Maldon and District

**Newsletter**



**January 2026**

[www.maldonu3a.co.uk](http://www.maldonu3a.co.uk)

Registered Charity 1086182

## FROM THE CHAIR

On behalf of the Executive committee, I wish all our members a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Last month's Newsletter gave the final report of the Birdwatching group which has disbanded after 25 years. We extend a big thank you to Mike Bagshaw and Peter Gaywood who have run this group for the whole time. What an achievement!

Last month I went to a Christmas concert by a folk group called St Agnes Fountain, held at Maldon Town Hall. These musicians get together for a tour each December and they have been coming to Maldon for over 20 years. It is well worth attending. Whilst there, I overheard some members of the audience talking enthusiastically about their u3a activities. I asked which branch they belonged to (one of the other branches in our locality) and the man I spoke to said, quite spontaneously, that the u3a had saved his life. There was no time for any other conversation, but that comment has stayed with me. How lucky we are to belong to a thriving branch where we can find friendship, society, learning, participation in physical activities and entertainment. The u3a plays a big part in combatting isolation amongst retirees, particularly important if, like me, you do not have any family nearby.

And we do it for ourselves...nothing would happen without the voluntary efforts of group coordinators, the executive committee, the social group and catering team and the heavy lifters at the main meeting who set out and pack up the chairs and tables. Thank you one and all. I do hope we see some new faces coming forward to help run things in 2026.

Theresa Byles

Chairman



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](http://www.thesilverline.org.uk)

## What's new?

We have had several announcements over the past few months about new groups and we will continue to report on what goes on.

Meantime, lists are available at the main meeting for people to sign up to potential new groups that have been suggested. These currently include:

- Book (reading) group
- Poetry (reading) group
- Climate change group
- Walking football group
- Wine tasting group (an additional one as the existing one is full)
- Knitting/crochet group.

None of these have a workable number yet, though some need only one or two more to make them viable.

There are also several groups can take more people. These currently include:

- Astronomy (which meets on the 4th Monday of the month)
- Geology (which meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month)
- Writing for fun (which meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month)

Coordinators for these groups are listed in the back of the newsletter and if any other groups would like to be listed here, please say.

Patrick Forsyth

## SPANISH CONVERSATION

Is there anyone out there that would be prepared to start a Spanish Conversation group? We have two members that are really keen to learn and there are probably many more that haven't come forward. It can be held in a member's house or at a local coffee house. Please contact Patrick Forsyth.

## MONTHLY MEETING

**Monday 16th February**

Wickham Bishops Hall

Doors open at 1.15 for a 1.45 start

**A Schoolgirl's War**

**Mary Smith**

Mary's talk tells the story of school life during WW2, arising from two fascinating recent discoveries. The first was the uncovering of an extensive set of tunnels used as underground classrooms, and the second the discovery of an exquisite set of paintings created as the war unfolded. These are the work of a wartime art teacher who set out to document the lives of school pupils and their teachers in paint and pencil as the war unfolded. Her paintings and sketches provide a unique and intriguing insight into wartime school life.

## WELCOME

We are pleased to welcome our new members:

Paula Jacobs

Roger Restell

Mike Bohannan

Heather King

## 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 Wednesday 4th February. Kris Newsletter Editor [news.maldonu3a@gmail.com](mailto:news.maldonu3a@gmail.com)

## MONTHLY SPEAKER SCHEDULE 2026

<b>16th March</b>	<b>The Life and Strife of Honey Bees</b> <b>Stuart Overton-Smith</b>	The more that we have learnt about the lives of honey bees, the more in awe we have become. They are so important to the ecosystem that we, and they, are part of. Other bees are discussed too, specifically the solitary bees that are easily kept in your garden
<b>20th April</b>	<b>From Titanic to Batman: The Highs &amp; Lows of a Stuntwoman's Life</b> <b>Lucy Allen</b>	With over 30 years experience, Lucy reveals the thrills, challenges, and behind the scenes secrets of stunt work—plus, enjoy a 10-minute film of Lucy in action.
<b>18th May</b>	<b>Borley Rectory, the most haunted house in England</b> <b>Bryan Thurlow</b>	Following a visit from a professional ghost hunter in 1929, a national newspaper declared, 'Borley Rectory, the most haunted house in England.'
<b>15th June</b>	<b>Copped Hall</b> <b>Philip Mckinder</b>	Following on from his excellent talk on the 1952 Lynmouth Flood Disaster Philip returns to tell us about Copped Hall.
<b>20th July</b>	<b>Summer entertainment</b>	Musical Memories—the return of Steve Scruton & Ian Wyatt with a trip down memory lane.

If you know of any speakers that you can recommend please contact our Speaker Secretary: Margaret Harker

A few photos from our December meeting when we were entertained , once again, by the Purleigh Phil



Thank you to Patrick for his Christmas Tale. As entertaining as ever.

Ian, the conductor and teller of truly awful Christmas jokes !!



A big thank you to all who helped with the setting up, the catering and the taking down. We couldn't do it without you.

*Thanks to Brigitte Whiteing for the photos*

## MEET & EAT GROUP

The Meet & Eat Group is a small friendly lunch group that meet on the **2nd Wednesday** of each month at a different venue chosen by each of the members. We are a mixed group of male and female members. The group is full at the moment but if you are interested in finding out more you can contact me.

We do not exceed 12 in the group to enable us to get bookings in most restaurants. If you are interested please contact me and if I get a good response I would consider starting a second group.

Joan Cummins

## GUITAR & UKULELE GROUP

The Guitar and Ukulele group's first meeting of 2026 was on Tuesday 6th and considering the very cold weather we had a good turnout. We welcomed new members along with our growing number of regulars.

We work on new material while also playing our favourite songs, each person can choose the songs they would like to play from our growing playlist. For once I actually had time in one song to take a look around the room and see the enjoyment that this was bringing people! This group is about having fun, laughing and making music.

We are still welcoming new members and even if you would just like to come along and sing you would be made welcome. Steve

Our meetings are on the **1st and 3rd Tuesday** of each month from **10.00 until midday** in the Linton Room at the WMCC. There is plenty of free parking and each two hour session will be £3.

Contact **Steve** if you would like to join.

Steve Collis



## AVIATION GROUP

Hello everyone,

We had a great end of year meeting in December and now look forward to a full programme of meetings, visits to museums and other events in 2026.

We start our programme on **Friday 30th January** with a superb film from the early 1950's. The film is an adaption of one of Nevil Shute's great stories entitled ***No Highway in the Sky***. Charting the trials and tribulations associated with bringing a new aircraft to the market of a typical post-war British aircraft company. Starring James Stewart as a "boffinish" structures scientist based at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough in the immediate post WW2 era of British Civil Aviation. Co-starring Marlene Dietrich and Jack Hawkins.



Nevil Shute started out as an Aircraft Engineer/Designer before his writing career took off. He worked on Airships prior to moving to fixed wing aircraft and formed the Airspeed Aeroplane Company with others.

Meeting at **Woodham Mortimer Village Hall at 11.00**, doors open at 10.30 for coffee, biscuits, gossip etc.

**Friday 27th  
February**

Speaker: **Capt. Pete Hewitt – *A Lifetime with my Head in the Clouds***

Pete's talk commences in 1980 with his first job at London City Airways, through to his last post as a senior captain on the B747-400 "jumbo jet" for British Airways.

From flying the Royals and famous faces, to rising through the ranks in aviation leadership, he has gathered unforgettable stories from around the world – many now honed into vignettes, waiting to be shared.

He has also carved out a parallel career in theatre and music, performing in a Goon Show and recording an album.

**Friday 27th March**

Speaker: **Andy Strange** – Speaker Andy Strange – Andy will give us an illustrated talk entitled ***The Battle of the Beams***, about the rapid advances in electronic guidance of both attacking and defending airforces during WW2 and their bearing on modern aviation practices.

**Friday 24th April**

Speaker **Andrew Colley or John Neil** – ***The Man Who Tested Parachutes***—details to follow

All our meetings, unless stated, are held at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall at 11.00, doors open at 10.30 for coffee, biscuits, gossip etc.

Chris Samson

## PADEL TENNIS

The session is every **Wednesday** from 2.30 to 4pm at Padel United, Park Drive Health Club, Maldon. We cater for between 3 and 10 members without anyone having to sit out for more than a few minutes.

If any one interested in joining the Group or perhaps having a taster session please contact: Ken Hazell

## JUST JAZZ GROUP

Our next meeting is **Monday 19th January** 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.

Some of you have mentioned concerns over lack of parking close to the Club. Permits are available to park on 'the Hard' in front of the Club. Please ask David on arrival.

Pete Condon

David Coombes

## FILM GROUP

There was no meeting in December, but we have reviewed a couple of films ready for our next meeting on **Wednesday, 28th January at 7.30pm via Zoom.**

**Mr Burton** – a 2025 biographical drama about the early life of Richard Burton (Jenkins) and his relationship with his mentor Philip Burton, the school teacher who had a profound effect on the life of his pupil and became Jenkins' legal guardian, resulting in Jenkins changing his name to Richard Burton. It stars Harry Lawtey as Richard, with Toby Jones as Philip Burton, and Lesley Manville.

Available on BBC iPlayer now

**Operation Mincemeat** – subtitled The True Spy Story that Changed the Course of World War II, is a 2021 war drama based on a 2010 book also called Operation Mincemeat. It stars Colin Firth, Kelly Macdonald, Matthew Macfadyen, James Fleet, Penelope Wilton, Johnny Flynn and Jason Isaacs. It tells the fanciful but amazing real-life wartime plan to fool the Germans about the proposed site of an Allied attack in 1943, which sent them to defend Sardinia, when the landings were actually made in Sicily.

Available on BBC iPlayer now

If you would like to join us, please just get in touch.

Shirley Macro

## ROYAL HISTORY GROUP

Our next meeting is **Thursday 12th February** at 10.00 at the WMCC. We are now moving onto the Windsor era, the period following on from the death of Edward VII until now looking at not only the royal families but also events that were happening in the UK and around the world at this time



Why not join us? Kathy Goff

## HANDICRAFT GROUP

We are a small, very friendly group who meet on the **second Monday** of each month, **10.00 – 12 noon** in the Linton Room, WMCC. We are now up to full numbers. However, if you are interested in joining the group in the future we are running a waiting list. Please contact us for further details.

Marian Manning [nathilda.marian@gmail.com](mailto:nathilda.marian@gmail.com)

Brenda Heal [bjheal@btinternet.com](mailto:bjheal@btinternet.com)

### Donation to the Little Princess Trust

Shirley Lloyd, one of our u3a members donated 12 inches of her hair, in December, to the Little Princess Trust who make wigs for children and young people with cancer.

The cost of a wig is around £500 and Shirley is fundraising for this very worthwhile cause. You can donate online through the Little Princess Trust website:

<https://www.littleprincesses.org.uk>

or call 01432 352359 to make a donation over the phone

## Reminder

Don't forget that there are many on-line learning events on the [national u3a website](#).

Zoom talks currently listed include: A Voyage through the Scottish Hebrides, Artificial Intelligence News, and Why snails might hold some answers to age-related memory loss.

Another site is [Friends Extra](#) which lists discounts available to u3a members.

Just click on the links on our web page [www.maldonu3a.co.uk](http://www.maldonu3a.co.uk)

## LONDON WALKS

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

We meet a professional guide at **11.15** 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.

Please continue to refer to [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com) for the details of each Walk.

Please note the **NEW TIME of 11.15**

After the Walk you are free to enjoy London as you wish.

Travel arrangements are made by yourselves.

For our December Walk we met at the later time of 3.30 at Tottenham Court Road for our festive Music Tour. This Walk involved several stops while our brilliant guide, Adam, imparted interesting information about the musical history of the area. At each stop we then sang a carol or song related to the artiste that Adam had talked about. What made it very special for us was that Adam was accompanied by his wife, Karen (also a wonderful guide), and friend Peter; all 3 accompanying us singing with guitars. We had several people taking photos of our 'professional' choir or stopping to join in! With mulled wine and mince pies we certainly felt festive.



We visited Denmark Street, the home of music, known as Tin Pan Alley. It was in a recording studio here that the Rolling Stones recorded their first record. Mels Music, the famous music publisher in the 1960s was here, known for turning down hits by Paul Simon and employing a young Elton John. Denmark Street itself remains a hub for guitar shops and music history, frequented by legends like Bowie, the Beatles, and Hendrix for instruments and recording. We learnt of the New Musical Express, established in 1952, which published the first British Singles Charts.

Of course, we were in 'theatre land' and were reminded of the closure of theatres by Cromwell

and then the replacement of them by Charles II; also the consequent naming of theatres and pubs with royal nomenclature.

We found an amazing quiet garden – Phoenix Garden – on the site of a WWII bomb site. It was here that a scene from the film *Last Christmas* was filmed. In fact, throughout our Walk, Adam showed us many settings used in the film. He was so enthusiastic about it that I watched it on iPlayer when I got home!



We talked about George Michael and how we only learnt about his immense acts of charity after his death.

Standing in Shaftesbury Avenue we saw the now derelict Odeon Covent Garden. Formally the Saville Theatre, it now stands empty. But a 40m frieze on its facade depicts the History of Drama through the Ages and it is hoped that this will be preserved.

Outside the Lyceum we were reminded of John Lennon's last gig there. First built in 1765, it received its licence in 1809. In 1945 it was converted into a ballroom and for many years the Miss England contest was held there. Refurbished in 1996 it has been host to the *Lion King* since 1997.

Of course, London Walks guides will always include a Blue Plaque! In Maiden Lane we saw the Plaque for Fred Gaisberg who started the first disc recording studio in Europe in 1898. In 1930 he was the first person to realise that recordings could be made on both sides of the record which led to the establishment of EMI.

Standing near the Savoy Hotel we were reminded how the chef Auguste Escoffier had named Melba toast and Peach Melba after the famous Australian soprano, Dame Nellie Melba, who used to dine there.

As always, there is so much to learn from our lovely guides, and combined with song and Christmas fare, it made a lovely end to our year of London Walks.

## LONDON WALKS CONTD.

The itinerary for 2026:

17th March	The Quack Doctor's Tour	Meet at Southwark Cathedral
21st April	The Famous Square Mile	Meet at Monument Station
19th May	Hampstead Village & Heath	Meet at Hampstead Station
16th June **	All day outing – a 45 minute guided boat trip from Little Venice to Camden. Lunch at Andy's Greek Taverna, followed by a 2-hour London Walk entitled Old Camden Town. Our day will finish in Camden at about <b>5pm</b> .	Meet at Warwick Avenue Station. <b>Note meeting time of 11.00</b>
21st July	Darkest Victorian London	Meet at Monument Station
18th August	The Blitz	Meet at St Paul's Station
15th Sept	Rock 'n' Roll Covent Garden	Meet at Tottenham Court Road Station
20th October	Revolting London	Meet at Tower Hill Station
17th November	London's Secret Village	Meet at St Paul's Station
15th December	Charles Dickens A Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions Meeting	Meet at Tower Hill Station

The cost for each Walk is **£11 per person**.

\*\*16th June £10.20 for the boat trip plus £11 for the Walk. Lunch is extra.

Payment by cheque in advance please –payable to Maldon & District u3a. No later than 8 days before the Walk please.

**ONE CHEQUE PER EVENT.**

Julie Lake

## STROLLERS

## STROLLERS TOO

The next meeting of the **Strollers** group is on **Sunday 18th January**, starting at **10:30** and meeting upstairs at The Oak House, 35 High Street, Maldon, CM9 5PF, to discuss our 2026 programme of walks.

The next meeting of the **Tuesday Strollers** is on **27th January**, meeting at **10:30**, at the same venue as the Sunday strollers meeting, again to discuss our 2026 programme of walks.

Please come along to either one or both.

Malcolm Case

## GEOLOGY GROUP

Our first meeting for 2026 is on **Wednesday 21st January** when we will continue looking at the Tertiary Period starting a mere 65 million years ago when Essex geology began to come into its own and we can learn about the ground beneath our feet which for so long had been under water.

We would be pleased to see interested new members with or without geological knowledge. We are all asked to do some research especially via the internet in readiness for discussion at our monthly meetings.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at West Maldon Community Centre, so why not come along and meet our friendly Group for Geology, tea and biscuits.

Sylvia Cousins

## THE BIG BALTI

The next curry night will be held on **Monday 26th January at the new venue of Bengal Nights, Heybridge Square**

To add your name to the list please contact the following.

Graham Evans      Bob Gowers

## GARDEN GROUP

### Possible day trip Thursday 23rd July

Looking for possible visits for the Garden Group, I found that the RHS is holding a **Summer show at Sandringham**. I am wondering whether there are a sufficient number of us to make a day trip by *coach viable*. *Tickets for these shows sell out quickly, so I would need to make a firm booking quite soon*. Assuming we could find a minimum of 30 members to go, we can get a group booking. RHS members also pay to attend these events. At 30 people, the cost would be approximately £72 – £35 for the entrance fee and £37 for the coach seat. If we had more members, the cost would go down. I understand that it is difficult to commit oneself so far in advance, but that is the only way we can be sure of getting tickets. The journey is approximately 2 1/4 hours plus a comfort stop.

We have some members interested in this visit, but not quite sufficient yet. I shall advertise it to neighbouring branches in the new year, so please do let me know if you wish to come.

**Please let me know if you wish to join this visit.**



#### **RHS Sandringham Flower Show 22 – 26 July 2026**

Held in the grounds of the royal family-owned estate, RHS Sandringham Flower Show is an exciting new RHS Show coming to Norfolk in July 2026. Expect coastal-inspired

show gardens, fruit and vegetable competitions and fabulous florals, all nestled within a countryside setting.

Get take-home gardening tips from the Long Borders, learn about climate change mitigation at the Grow Forward Gardens and enjoy timeless picnics on the lawn... all whilst taking in the beauty of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla's private retreat.

Theresa Byles

## GARDEN GROUP

Our Garden Group members enjoyed an excellent Christmas lunch at RHS Hyde Hall in early December.

Planning for our 2026 garden visits is underway including a couple of joint coach trips with the Aviation Group again.



*Thanks to Brigitte Whiteing for the photos*

Theresa Byles

Kris Taylor

## TENPIN BOWLING

Do you fancy a chat and a cup of coffee with some tenpin bowling thrown in? We play every **Wednesday** and **Thursday mornings** from 09.45 – 12 noon at Madison Heights, Park Drive, Maldon. The cost is £9 per session which includes shoe hire and tea/coffee & biscuits..

If you are interested, please contact:

Alan Buck

David Coombes



## BRIDGE GROUP

If you would like to play Bridge we meet on the **first and third Wednesdays** at the WMCC starting at 9.15 for 9.30. We play social Bridge in a friendly atmosphere.

If you would like to join us please contact Gill Cory

## MARITIME GROUP



The next meeting of the Maritime group is on **Monday 2nd February at 10:00** at the Blackwater Sailing Club, Basin Road, Heybridge Basin for a talk by **David Griffiths** on ***Working on a North Sea Oil Production Platform***. The talk will cover how a production platform operates, living on the platform, transfers to and from the platform, storing the oil and transferring the oil to ships.

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – talk by Gordon Davies on *the English Channel 1875***. Webb swimming it, cross channel ships designed to help passengers use them without being seasick and the first attempt at creating a channel tunnel.

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April – No meeting – Bank Holiday**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – Trip TBA**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July – talk by Ron Piper on *World War II Merchant Navy Convoys across the Atlantic***, with mention of his father who was on ships in these convoys.

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August – Trip TBA**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September – talk by Roger Butler**, by Zoom, on the tiny archipelago of **St Kilda** which lies forty miles west of the Outer Hebrides – you won't find it on any road atlas! These isolated islands have a unique history, and the last residents were evacuated in 1930.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October – talk by John Johnson-Allen on *Rosslyn Wemyss, Admiral of the Fleet: The Man Who Created Armistice Day***. The life of a Naval officer from 1877 to 1919 through peace, war and then peace who managed the successful evacuation of 140,000 troops from Gallipoli and, later, was the British Naval representative at the Armistice negotiations.

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – talk by Jimmy Byam Shaw on tank testing of ship shapes and design.**

**Monday 7th December – talk by Stephen Nunn on Maldon's links with the Battle of Trafalgar (1805).** Our overwhelming victory over the French and Spanish fleet off Cape Trafalgar on 21st October 1805 gave the Royal Navy its most famous triumph and confirmed a long tradition of naval supremacy.

u3a members are very welcome at the meetings and on trips.  
Malcolm Case

## RNLI Collecting Pots

Thanks goes to everyone who continue to fill their small Tiptree jars with 5p and 20p coins for the RNLI. Our collecting pots last year raised £231 for which the local branch of the RNLI are very grateful.

Thank you again and if you wish to join in jars are always available at the Main meeting or Maritime.

Happy New Year      Mary Burd    Malcolm Case

## DONATIONS for SEAFARERS CENTRE, TILBURY

The centre is again asking for donations of knitted hats, gloves, scarves, jerseys, any colour and size. Coats, clean, are also asked for as ships are coming from warmer climes and the crew do not always have warm clothing. They also ask for jigsaw puzzles (complete), DVDs and books. Also, toiletries suitable for male and female and sweets and chocolates with long use by dates.. All donations are always gratefully received and on behalf of the centre, thank you. If you have any donations, then please give them to me at a monthly meeting or at a Maritime meeting.

Malcolm Case

## ART APPRECIATION GROUP

In January we began studying the paintings of the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. Our next meeting is **Wednesday 11th February.**

Andy Simmonds

Judith Johnston

# Travel

Would you be interested in a 5 day tour, based in the outskirts of Paris, including full day tour in Paris and a visit to the newly re-opened Notre Dame, plus a visit to the Palace of Versailles and Monet's retreat in Giverny?



Departs **Thursday 7th May** with travel by coach and ferry to a hotel outside Paris.



Day 2: Full day tour of Paris and guided tour of Notre Dame.

Day 3: Full day guided tour of the Palace of Versailles



Day 4: Visit to Monet's country retreat at Giverny and the nearby village of Verdon.

Day 5: Return to Calais for afternoon sailing back to Dover and return to Maldon.

Includes: Travel, 4 nights accommodation at Novotel Paris, Saclay, Half Board

From **£749pp** sharing, **£899** sole occupancy

For further information please contact::

Malcolm Case

## ASTRONOMY GROUP

The next meeting of the Astronomy group is on **Monday 23rd February** starting at 7:30 pm at the Chigboro Fishing Club, Chigborough Road Heybridge for a talk by Shirly Macro, further details on this talk will be in the February newsletter. If there are clear skies then we will also be using our telescopes/binoculars to look at planets and constellations.

The night sky in January and February in Essex.

January Highlights

Planets: Venus is bright in the southwest, appearing half-phase mid-month, while Mars is prominent in Gemini, and Jupiter shines in Taurus, often near the Moon.

Constellations: Look for Orion, Auriga (with Capella), and the prominent stars Sirius and Betelgeuse.

February Highlights

Planets: Venus is best seen as a crescent in the pre-dawn sky, while Jupiter becomes a late-evening object before setting.

Earthshine: The faint glow on the dark part of the Moon, reflected from Earth, is visible, especially mid-month when the Moon is fuller.

Constellations: Orion is still high in the south at sunset, with Sirius (the Dog Star) in Canis Major below it.



Darker Skies: Early and late February offer darker skies for stargazing as the Moon waxes and wanes. Daylight expands rapidly through February and by the end of the month the Sun rises at 6.45am and sets at 5.35pm. Full Moon is on the night of 16th February when we have the 'Snow' Full Moon. The best periods for star gazing in darker skies will be early and late in the month.

u3a members are very welcome at the meeting.

Malcolm Case

## YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairman	Theresa Byles	
Vice Chairman	Alec Fraser	
Treasurer	Steven Clarke	<a href="mailto:treasurer.maldonu3a@gmail.com">treasurer.maldonu3a@gmail.com</a>
Membership Secretary	Malcolm Case	<a href="mailto:membership_maldonu3a@outlook.com">membership_maldonu3a@outlook.com</a>
Secretary	Carol Bates	<a href="mailto:secretary_maldonu3a@outlook.com">secretary_maldonu3a@outlook.com</a>
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Groups Coordinator	Malcolm Case	
Speaker Secretary	Margaret Harker	
Committee	Andy Simmonds Patrick Forsyth	

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## GROUP COORDINATORS

Art Appreciation	Judith Johnston Andy Simmonds
Aviation	Chris Samson
Astronomy	Malcolm Case
Balti Night	Bob Gowers Graham Evans
Bridge	Gill Cory
Canasta	Iris Slaney
Cribbage	Pat Clements
Country Dancing	Diana Rogers
Croquet	Geoff Macro Shirley Macro
Discussion	Pat Jones

Engineering

Film Club

French

Garden Visits

Geology

German

Guitar & Ukulele

Handicraft

History—Windsors

Just Jazz

London Theatre Outings

London Walks

Meet & Eat

MahJong

Maritime

Padel Tennis

Petanque (Boules)

Photos for Fun

Rummikub

Sing for Pleasure

Social Events

Strollers Sunday & Tues

Tenpin Bowling

Wine Circle No. 4

Writing for Fun

## Schedule of Events – February 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sa t	Sun
						1
2  Maritime	3  Guitar/ Ukulele  Engineering	4  Ten Pin Bowling Bridge  Padel Tennis	5  Ten Pin Bowling Rummikub  German Conversation	6  Canasta	7	8
9  Handicrafts  Discussion	10	11  Ten Pin Bowling Meet & Eat  Art Appreciation  Padel Tennis	12  Ten Pin Bowling Royal History Country Dancing  French Conversation	13  Singing  Mahjong  Astronomy	14	15  Strollers
16  Monthly Meeting  Just Jazz	17  Guitar/ Ukulele  Engineering	18  Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Geology Padel Tennis Photos for Fun Zoom	19  Ten Pin Bowling  Rummikub  German Conversation	20  Canasta	21	22
23  Astronomy	24  Strollers   Wine Group	25  Ten Pin Bowling Writing for fun  Padel Tennis  Film—Zoom	26  Ten Pin Bowling  Country Dancing  French Conversation	27  Aviation Singing Mahjong  Cribbage	28	