

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

Maldon and District

Newsletter



February 2026

www.maldonu3a.co.uk

Registered Charity 1086182

FROM THE CHAIR

I am writing this on 1st February, with that lovely feeling that January is behind us. Searching for inspiration on the internet, I found this quotation:

Short but sweet, February dances on the edge of Winter's end and Spring's beginning.

The lighter mornings provide more energy and for me, February is full of anticipation. Planning for our Garden visits is underway and spring bulbs are just beginning to show through.

In January I was made welcome at the German conversation group, a small gathering of members who appreciate the opportunity to speak German. They were most patient with me, as my facility with that language is much diminished.

At the monthly meeting, we were entertained and enlightened on the subject of cartoons by our speaker Harry Venning. He was not just a clever artist, but a natural speaker.

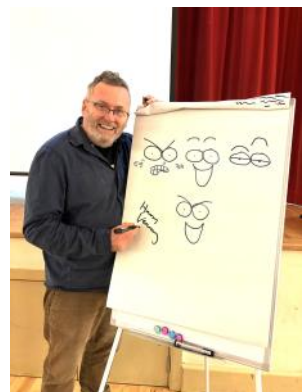
There are lots of interesting free online talks and courses available for u3a members via the national u3a website. I do hope you have signed up to receive the monthly email newsletter which lists what is going on and how to enrol. I noticed that there are four talks on 12th March for British Women's History Day.

What good value for an annual subscription of £21.

Theresa Byles

Chairman

Cartoonist Harry Venning



What's new?

NEW GROUPS

Groups collecting start up members are currently:

Book (reading)

Poetry (reading)

Climate change

Walking football

Spanish conversation

Wine tasting – an additional one

Knitting/crochet

Spanish conversation.

ALSO: Groups currently with vacancies include:

Astronomy

Geology

Writing for Fun

MEETING: there will be a meeting for all those signed up to the potential new groups on **Friday 27th March at 10.30 at the Oak House, High Street, Maldon** to explore where we are, who wants what and how we go forward. All are welcome to attend. Meantime do sign up for potential new groups at our monthly meetings or email membership_maldonu3a@outlook.com

If you want to join an existing group, just contact the coordinator (see pages 22/23).

And remember: if you have not tried something new recently, check your pulse... you may be dead!

Patrick Forsyth

WELCOME

We are pleased to welcome our new members:

Graham King

Lesley Beale

Tim Wright

Robin Beeson

Helen Cave

Alexander Robson

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 March. Kris Newsletter Editor news.maldonu3a@gmail.com

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday 16th March

Wickham Bishops Hall

Doors open at 1.15 for a 1.45 start

The Life and Strife of Honey Bees

Stuart Overton-Smith

Stuart has always had an interest in wildlife and the way that all animals have fascinating lives that we may not always have the time to see or appreciate. 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

MONTHLY SPEAKER SCHEDULE 2026

20th April

**From Titanic to
Batman: The Highs &
Lows of a
Stuntwoman's Life**
Lucy Allen

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.

18th May

**Borley Rectory, the
most haunted house
in England**
Bryan Thurlow

Following a visit from a professional ghost hunter in 1929, a national newspaper declared, 'Borley Rectory, the most haunted house in England.'

15th June

Copped Hall
Philip McKinder

Following on from his excellent talk on the 1952 Lynmouth Flood Disaster Philip returns to tell us about Copped Hall, a fine Georgian Mansion currently under restoration.

20th July	Summer entertainment	Music and Memories—the return of Steve Scruton & Ian Wyatt with a trip down memory lane. Afternoon tea
17th August	Action for Family Carers <i>Rebecca Loader</i>	Action for Family Carers is a local charity which has been supporting carers in Essex for decades.
21st September	Maldon's Lost Railway <i>Stephen Nunn</i>	Stephen will take us on a pictorial adventure from Witham to the end of line at Southminster and all stops in between.
19th October	The Commonwealth War Graves <i>Barrie Sears</i>	Barrie will talk about the important work of the CWGC and its educational charity, the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation
16th November	AGM followed by a Quiz	A quiz from our own u3a member, Linda Allen
21st December	Musical Entertainment <i>The Purleigh Phil</i>	They're back by popular demand with Christmas music & songs. Festive afternoon tea

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

Reminder

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

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

Message from the Essex u3a Network

Essex County Council is keen to understand why people are using Concessionary bus passes less than before, and are carrying out a survey. The survey asks about people's travel habits and views on using the bus, so the Council can help understand how to better improve services for residents across the company.

Concessionary bus passes let people aged 66+ and people with certain disabilities to use the bus for free between 9am and midnight (or all weekend). Improving Concessionary bus pass use is important because:

Using the bus helps older people and those with disabilities stay connected to friends and family, and access health and care facilities, and high streets and retail centres

The funding bus providers receive from Concessionary bus passes is vital in helping services retain commercial viability. Fewer trips by concessionary pass holders can threaten the sustainability of routes across the network, affecting communities throughout Essex.

Here is a link to the survey: www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/EssexBusSurvey/

The link closes at the end of February.

Teapots, Cups and Saucers wanted

If buried deep in a cupboard or sitting at the back of a shelf you happen to have a medium sized teapot or some cups and saucers you no longer need, I'd be very pleased to take them off your hands. Some of our regular monthly meetings involve afternoon tea with teapots on the tables and these events are so popular that we need extra teapots and crockery.

Please get in touch or bring them along to the monthly meeting if you can help, and I'll give your unused crockery a new lease of life !

Thanks, Shirley Macro

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 continues to thrive with more new members joining each month.

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. This group is about having fun, laughing and making music.

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

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.



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

AVIATION GROUP

Hello everyone,

We started our programme for 2026 with a showing of the film *No Highway in the Sky* adapted from one of Nevil Shutes' stories.

It had a strong aviation theme relating to the trials and tribulations associated with bringing a new aircraft to the market of a typical post-war British aircraft company and it was great to see some of the stars of the time such as Glynis Johns, Kenneth More, Marlene Deitrich and a 12 year old Janette Scott as well as James Stewart in the lead. Smoking and fur coats in all directions! Even Pete Murray who was an actor before he became a DJ had a small part!

Our next meeting is on **Friday 27th February**, when we have an illustrated talk from ***Capt. Pete Hewitt – A Lifetime with my Head in the Clouds*** Pete's talk commences in 1980 from 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's 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.

May and June Visits

If you wish to join us on the visit to Brooklands in May or Duxford in June, please let me know soonest as the coaches are filling up—note that we are combining with the Gardens Group on both occasions.

Friday 27th March 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

Thursday 21st May Visit to **Brooklands Museum** combining with the Garden Group who will go to RHS Wisley.
Coach cost---£30pp; Group entry cost---£19.99 (based on 10+); 1 hour guided tour---£5pp (based on 12 in group)

Sunday 24th May We plan to have members with classic cars or motor bikes at the **Wings & Wheels show at Stow Maries** on Sunday 24th May. Let me know if you wish to join us---drivers of the classic get in free but passengers have to buy a ticket.

Monday 22nd June Visit to **IWM Duxford** combining with the Garden Group who will go to Audley End house and garden. Coach cost---£25pp; Group entry cost---£23.10 (based on 15+ in group); self guided trip.

Friday 31st July TBA

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

JUST JAZZ GROUP

Our next meeting is **Monday 16th February** 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

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.

FILM GROUP

Following our seasonal break it was good to get back together for a chat about films.

Mr Burton – this 2025 film based on the relationship between a young Richard Jenkins and his inspirational teacher, Philip Burton, received mainly positive comments all round. It may have been a little too long and possibly lacked a bit of emotional punch, but otherwise it was considered a very good film. Superb acting from Toby Jones as Mr. Burton, Harry Lawley as Richard, and Lesley Manville as the kindly landlady. As well as exploring the relationship between teacher and student, it covered the prejudices of the time for the poor working class, the difficulties faced getting into higher education and the expectation that a job in the mines was all that would be available. After being “sold” by his father, Richard was adopted by Philip and took the name Burton. Despite this there were difficulties with the relationship, but they did stay close throughout Richard Burton’s career. **Score: 9**

Operation Mincemeat – this film is based on true events in WWII, involving a plot to deceive Nazi Germany into believing the Allies would invade Greece. The film was enjoyable, however the love interest did seem to be totally unnecessary and possibly made some of the characters seem a bit wooden in their acting. All very British and stiff upper lip! It was certainly a wild idea and why it worked is amazing, but it does go down as one of the greatest deceptions of the War. **Score: 7**

Our next offerings are:

Allelujah – 2022 British drama based on Alan Bennett’s play of the same name.

Among the stars are Jennifer Saunders, Derek Jacobi and Judi Dench. The story revolves around the Bethlehem hospital, a small geriatric hospital in Wakefield, which is being threatened with closure. A local television programme is invited to document a volunteer-led effort to save it.

One Life – 2023 biographical drama based on the true story of Nicholas Winton, who successfully helped 669 predominantly Jewish children in German occupied Czechoslovakia to hide and flee in 1938–39. It stars Anthony Hopkins as the older Nicholas and Johnny Flynn as the younger man.

Available on BBC iPlayer until 25th February 2026

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, 25th February** at 7.30pm via Zoom.

We would welcome one or two new members to join us, so please just get in touch.

Shirley Macro

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

Brenda Heal

GEOLOGY GROUP

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 18th February** when we will continue to look at the geology of the last 65 million years with emphasis on the UK and especially Essex, but showing how this area was affected by worldwide events at this time.

We meet at the West Maldon Community Centre at 2p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month and would be pleased to see interested new members with or without geological knowledge. We are all asked to do some research, usually via the internet, in readiness for discussion at our monthly meeting.

Why not come along and meet our friendly Group for Geology, tea and biscuits

Sylvia Cousins

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



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 for the details of each Walk.

Please note the **NEW TIME of 11.15**. (In December Greater Anglia changed the conditions of travel for off-peak trains depending on whether you have an off-peak return or an off-peak travel card. The later start time of our walks allows for the changes).

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

Travel arrangements are made by yourselves.

There are no Walks in January and February, but I have many bookings for future Walks. Please book as soon as you can to ensure your place.

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 5pm .	Meet at Warwick Avenue Station. Note meeting time of 11.00
21st July	Darkest Victorian London	Meet at Monument Station
18th August	The Blitz	Meet at St Paul's Station

15th September	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	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

First Aiders—new qualifications

Congratulations to our u3a members Shirley & Geoff Macro, Andy Simmonds, Christine Pinder and Alec Fraser who, funded by our u3a, recently completed an advanced First Aid Course, and are now qualified NUCO Emergency First Aiders. Our thanks to Jane Williams, also a first aider, for facilitating the course..

Well done and thank you.

GARDEN GROUP

Even though the first signs of Spring are appearing in our gardens the rain is ensuring we don't get too excited. So to cheer us up here is this year's current programme of visits. There are more in the pipeline, to be advised in due course.

Tuesday 14th April at 2pm **£15 pp inc refreshments**

Mayfield Farm, Hungerdown Lane, Arleigh, CO7 7LZ

Mayfield Farm is a seven-acre garden which only a few years ago was largely a field, with a huge glasshouse and polytunnels. Now filled with many beautiful beds and borders, the owners have also created a secret garden and planted yew hedging for topiary. Over 100,000 bulbs have been planted in the garden during the past few years to create a wonderful spring display.

Thursday 21st May – all day **£30 pp for the coach**

Visit to RHS Wisley/Brooklands

We anticipate that there will be enough RHS members with joint membership so there will be no entrance charge. If this is not the case we will advise you nearer the date.

As before, we would leave WMCC at 8.30 and be dropped off at Wisley before the Aviation Group go on to Brooklands. We would return to Maldon 17.30/18.00.

Tuesday 9th June at 2pm **£10 pp inc refreshments**

Ransomes, Wigborough Road, Peldon, CO5 7RA

A two-acre country garden with a focus on biodiversity. The colourful cottage garden leads to a meadow and young tree shelter belt. Wildflower meadows, dead hedging, log piles and a large lily pond create a haven for wildlife. An orchard, soft-fruit garden, an apiary and a productive vegetable garden with greenhouse and potting shed provide both homegrown produce and a plant nursery for the garden.

Tuesday 14th July at 2pm **£10.50 pp inc refreshments**

Keeway, Creeksea nr Burnham on Crouch CM0 8PL

Large, mature country garden with stunning views over the River Crouch. Formal terraces surround the house with steps leading to sweeping lawns,

mixed borders packed full of bulbs and perennials, formal rose and herb garden with interesting water feature. Further afield there are wilder areas, paddocks and a lake.

Cheques payable to Maldon & District u3a with the name of the trip on the reverse can be handed over at the Main Monthly meeting or posted to Theresa or you can pay online. If you are paying by bacs please let us know when you have made the payment.

Nat West: Maldon & Dist U3A Sort code: **60-13-37**

a/c **49774476** using the reference **gardens –(name of garden)**

Monday 22nd June—all day Please note the revised date of this visit.

Visit to Audley End/Duxford

£25 pp for the coach—This is an English Heritage venue and we hope that there will be sufficient uptake (15+) to qualify for the group rate of **£20.12 pp**, making a total of **£45.12pp** (unless you are a member of English Heritage).

At this stage please let us know if you would like to join the trip but do not write your cheque yet.

Theresa Byles

Kris Taylor

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. 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.

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

Theresa Byles

ASTRONOMY GROUP

The next meeting of the Astronomy group is on Monday **23rd February**, starting at 7:30 pm and meeting at the Chigboro Fishing Club, Chigborough Road, Heybridge, Maldon for a talk by Shirley Macro on **Space Facts**, this will include facts that space is silent, that the moon is lemon shaped, that the milky way smells of rum etc, and that a day on Mercury is twice as long as a year to name but a few. If you would like to know more, then please come along to the meeting.

Should weather conditions allow, then we also be night sky observing. There are several celestial objects to observe this month –

The constellation of Orion (the hunter) will be clearly visible in the south-east shortly after sunset, gradually moving towards the south as the month progresses. Another well-known celestial object to look out for in February is the Pleiades star cluster, also known as the Seven Sisters. Located in the constellation Taurus, they are visible shortly after sunset, appearing high in the south to south-western sky early in the month and lower toward the south-west later on.

Pegasus Cluster, also known as M15, in the west is one of the oldest and densest known globular clusters and is a whopping 12.5 billion years old! It can be viewed on clearer nights through a pair of powerful binoculars or a small telescope. It will, however, only be visible above the horizon shortly after sunset in the first part of the month. As you may expect, it's located in the constellation of Pegasus.

Saturn will be visible to the naked eye in the first part of the month for the first part of the night in the south-west, although it may be a bit hard to spot as it will be close to the Sun. Jupiter will also be visible as an especially bright spot in the sky, positioned between the two figures in the constellation of Gemini rising in the east. It will gradually move southward and be visible throughout the month.



On 27th February, Jupiter will be just to the right of the bright waxing gibbous Moon, making it even easier to locate. The ice giants Uranus and Neptune are also above the horizon in the early evening. Uranus is in

Taurus in the south and Neptune very close to Saturn in the southwest.

However, these two beautiful blue worlds are too faint to be seen with the naked eye and so require a pair of powerful binoculars or a telescope to view them in their full glory. You can also view Jupiter and Saturn in this way, to spot Saturn's beautiful rings or Jupiter's largest moons, the Galilean moons.

u3a members are very welcome at the meeting.

Malcolm Case

Possible new group—Knitting & Crochet

One of our u3a members, Paula Jacobs, has offered to start up a new group—Knitting & Crochet. The photo shows an example some of her handiwork —socks, pot holders and blanket squares. She has many more ideas.



Details are still to be determined, it could be at the house of one of our members or, if the numbers prove too great then at a venue in Maldon. It could be just knit and natter or a learning exercise or a combination of both.

If you are already a keen knitter/crocheter and would like to share your knowledge with others or would just like to have try at a new hobby please contact Paula by email or speak to her at the February monthly meeting where she will bring along some of her knitted/ crocheted objects.

Paula Jacobs

Congratulations to our u3a members

Angela Pleasance and Christopher Graebe on their wedding 28th January 2026.

We wish them a long and happy marriage



STROLLERS

Our first walk of 2026, is **Sunday 15th February** from my house, 8 Beeches Road, Heybridge CM9 4SL (please car share if possible) **10.15a.m for 10.30** start.

The walk is approximately 4 miles, it will take us along a peaceful section of the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation, towards Beeleigh Abbey, from there we will meander through meadows. On reaching Maldon High Street, we will stop for lunch at The Oak House, before continuing the walk back to my house.

Gill Stone

STROLLERS TOO

Our first walk of 2026, **Tuesday 24th February** is a repeat of the earlier Sunday Strollers walk. It will start from my house, 8 Beeches Road, Heybridge CM9 4SL, (please car share if possible) **10.15a.m for 10.30 start**.

The walk is approximately 4 miles, it will take us along a peaceful section of the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation, towards Beeleigh Abbey, from there we will meander through meadows. On reaching Maldon High Street, we will stop for lunch at The Oak House, before continuing the walk back to my house. Please let me know if you are coming, and whether you want lunch, by 17th February.

Gill Stone

THE BIG BALTI

The next curry night will be held on **Monday 30th March at the new venue of Bengal Nights, Heybridge Square. Parking available behind the restaurant.**

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

Graham Evans Bob Gowers

MARITIME GROUP

The next meeting of the Maritime Group is on **Monday 2nd March**, starting at 10:00am at The Blackwater Sailing Club, Basin Road, Heybridge Basin, Maldon, for a talk by **Gordon Davies on The English Channel,**

1875 which is notable for pioneering events. It was swum for the first time (twice), yachts took on a new shape (one of them a very local revolutionary design), and entrepreneurs vied to make crossing channel free of mal de mer. Unsuccessfully.



Capt. Matthew Webb

Monday 6th April – No meeting – Bank Holiday

Monday 1st June – Trip TBA

Monday 6th 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 3rd August – Trip TBA

Monday 7th 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 5th 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 2nd 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 malcolmcas24@gmail.com 01245 329435

At the meeting on Monday 2nd Feb during the talk by David Griffith there was a problem playing the video clip. To view the clip go to :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49Yo3xx9IDA>

14 day return—Chevron—Ninian Central Platform—1980’s

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.

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

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

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairman	Theresa Byles	
Vice Chairman	Alec Fraser	
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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	Tony Groves
Film Club	Shirley Macro
French	Ann Lester
Garden Visits	Theresa Byles Kris Taylor
Geology	Sylvia Cousins
German	Howard Broadbridge
Guitar & Ukulele	Steve Collis
Handicraft	Marian Manning Brenda Heal
History—Windsors	Kathy Goff
Just Jazz	Peter Condon David Coombes
London Theatre Outings	Rosemary Case Sheila Childs
London Walks	Julie Lake
Meet & Eat	Joan Cummins
MahJong	Jane Rainbird Elaine Brady
Maritime	Malcolm Case
Padel Tennis	Ken Hazell
Petanque (Boules)	Jack Veash Geoff Macro
Photos for Fun	Tony Groves
Rummikub	Janice Martin
Sing for Pleasure	Sue Garnham
Social Events	Margaret Harker Brenda Heal
Strollers Sunday & Tues	Malcolm Case
Tenpin Bowling	Alan Buck David Coombes
Wine Circle No. 4	Ann Goody
Writing for Fun	Patrick Forsyth

Schedule of Events – March 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maritime	Guitar/ Ukulele Engineering	Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Padel Tennis	Ten Pin Bowling Rummikub German Conversation	Canasta		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Handicrafts Discussion		Ten Pin Bowling Meet & Eat Art Appreciation Padel Tennis	Ten Pin Bowling Royal History Country Dancing French Conversation	Singing Mahjong Astronomy		Strollers
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Monthly Meeting The Life of Honey Bees Just Jazz	Guitar/ Ukulele London Walks	Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Geology Padel Tennis Photos for Fun Zoom	Ten Pin Bowling Rummikub German Conversation	Canasta		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Astronomy	Strollers Wine Group	Ten Pin Bowling Writing for fun Padel Tennis Film—Zoom	Ten Pin Bowling Country Dancing French Conversation	Aviation Singing Mahjong Cribbage		
30	31					