

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 Table Tennis Snooker	2 Meteorology Wine Circle Ten Pin Bowling	3 Poetry Discussion Luncheon Club - Combined lunch	4 Family History (2) Mah Jong	5 Bird Watching Maldon Quay	6
7 Maritime 11 pm	8 Table Tennis Snooker	9 Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Painting	10 Ballroom Dancing French Conversation Reading Country Dancing	11 Canasta Sing for Pleasure	12	13
14 Handicrafts German Whist Table Tennis Beg.	15 Table Tennis Snooker	16 Ten Pin Bowling Lunch Clock Repairs	17 Ballroom Dancing	18 Mah Jong	19	20 Strollers Heybridge
21 Xmas Meeting 1.30 pm	22 Table Tennis Snooker	23 Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Painting Writing for Fun	24	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27
28 A N D	29 N E W	30 Ten Pin Bowling	31 Y E A R			

I try my utmost to get the calendar correct each month, but I would advise you to always check with your co-ordinator as to the date of your next meeting, especially during December

Newsletter Editor: Mrs. Jan. Robertson, 6 Blenheim Close, Danbury, CM3 4NE Tel. 01245 225657  
email Jan8085@aol.com

R E R H E H L E S W E N



The University of the Third Age

MALDON AND DISTRICT



Mave  
The 'Sixties Evening'  
Diva

NOVEMBER 2009

VOLUME 1X NO. 6

Reg. Charity No. 1086182

Web Site: [www.maldon3a.co.uk](http://www.maldon3a.co.uk)

## FROM THE CHAIR



Last month I spoke about the need to always bring your cheque book to meetings so that you can pay at the time of booking for any group or social event you might wish to attend. This was also bought to your attention by the Treasurer in an article written in last month's newsletter. I would go so far as to say that **NO** booking should be made without an accompanying payment. The reasoning behind this is so that the organiser of any event (social or group) has a guaranteed income to cover the expenses incurred and does not have to waste time and money chasing those that seem reluctant to pay.

Next month will be the Christmas meeting and this year your committee will be providing musical entertainment by Ray Spiller as well as light refreshments, so come along and join us.

I would also like to say how pleased I was to see quite a few new members joining in with the singing and dancing at the recent Social event '60's Evening'.

Alan Buck.  
Email: alan-buck@talktalk.net

### *Painting Group*

I have had the pleasure of co-ordinating the Painting Group since the start of our U3A but now feel that it is time for a change. Eileen Lane has agreed to take over the group from this month. Joyce Stokes

## CO-ORDINATORS

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Alan Buck</b>	<b>01245 227709</b>	Luncheon Club	Mike Wood	01245 222839
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	<b>Beryl McDonell</b>	<b>01621 842093</b>		Paul Costa	01621 853893
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Pamela Turnbull</b>	<b>01376 510084</b>	Mah-Jong	Molly Polden	01621 856507
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Rosemary Case</b>	<b>01245 329435</b>	Maritime History	Malcolm Case	01245 329435
<b>Membership Sec.</b>	<b>John Robson</b>	<b>01621 828236</b>	Meteorology	Malcolm Case	01245 329435
<b>Speaker Sec.</b>	<b>Joyce Cotterell</b>	<b>01621 858287</b>		John Robson	01621 828236
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Paul Costa</b>	<b>01621 853893</b>	Music Appreciation	Enid Hall	01621 891618
	<b>John Almond</b>	<b>Ex. Dir.</b>		John Skuse	01245 224059
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Jan Robertson</b>	<b>01245 225657</b>	Painting	Eileen Lane	01621 816181
<b>WebMaster</b>	<b>John Bowen</b>	<b>01245 224677</b>	Petanque (Boule)	Barbara Arnold	01621 853866
<b>Social Committee</b>	<b>Dorothy Denmark</b>	<b>01245 223960</b>	Poetry	Jo Robson	01621 828236
Astronomy	Molly Tring	01621 854732	Reading 2nd Thursday	Sheila Epps	01621 850467
Aviation	David Arnold	01621 853866	Scottish Dancing	Shirley Grummett	01621 853288
	Fred Lane	01621 816181	Singles Dining	Sue Oram	01621 856899
Ballroom Dancing	Jo Robson	01621 828236	Sing for Pleasure	Sylvia Carpenter	01621 854905
Bird Watching	Pat Clements	01245 223427	Snooker	John Williams	01621 828461
Botany	Veronica Smith	01621 828176	Strollers	Gill Stone	01621 853948
Bridge	Sheila Epps	01621 850467	Swimmers	Gill Rowsell	01621 740619
Canasta	Marian Manning	01621 828605	Table Tennis	Gordon Hardy	01245 223012
	Margaret Dale	01268 765239	Beginners	Julie Doidge	01621 841205
Clock Repairs	Stanley Clements	01245 223427	Ten Pin Bowling	Beryl McDonell	01621 842093
Computers	Jan Robertson	01245 225657	Theatre Group	David Arnold	01621 853866
Desk Top Pub.	Jan Robertson	01245 225657		Enid Hall	01621 891618
Discussion	Ray Harman	01621 891736		Sheila Epps	01621 850467
Family History	Frank Stokes	01245 223579	Whist	Molly Polden	01621 856507
Continuing French	Sylvia Carpenter	01621 854905	Wine Circle	Graham Boswell	01621 828874
French Conversation	Bill Stichbury	01621 855828	Writing for Fun	Pat Sizer	01621 892201
Gardeners	Jan Robertson	01245 225657			
German	Jenny Plumb	01245 226112			
Good Companions	Beryl McDonell	01621 842093			
Handicraft	Marian Manning	01621 828605			
Local History	Mary Burd	01621 843020			
	Alfred Couldrey	01245 226259			

**If for any reason you do not receive a posted newsletter within a week of the Meeting, (if you did not attend the Meeting) please contact John Robson on 01621 828236**

**FREE**  
Wine making equipment & demijohns...  
contact Ann & Bob Harrison on 01621 891195  
Wickham Bishops

**BLACKWATER U3A**

Contact:  
Dorreen Linton, Chairman  
01621 853428

**SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS U3A**

Contact  
Heather Richardson Chairman  
01245 320205

**HEYBRIDGE U3A**

Contact  
Ruth Tyler, Chairman  
01621 869865

**NATIONAL OFFICE**

19 East Street, Bromley, Kent BR1 1QH  
Tel 020 8466 6139 Email [national.office@u3a.org](mailto:national.office@u3a.org)  
Web site [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)  
Resource Centre: email: [resource.centre@u3a.org.uk](mailto:resource.centre@u3a.org.uk)

Deadline for next newsletter: Friday, 11th December

***Local & General History***

Our final meeting of the year will be on **Monday 23 November** and we again have a return speaker. Pip Wright is coming and his talk is entitled "The Diary of a Poor Suffolk Woodman". The programme for 2010 will be available on the day!

Maldon Little Ship Club at 2.00 pm – All members are welcome.

Please remember there may be road works in the area!

Mary Burd

***Maritime Group***

The next meeting of the Maritime Group will be on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December** at The Little ship Club on The Hythe, Maldon, commencing at **11:00 am**. There will be a short Maritime DVD on the paddle steamer "Waverly" followed by the groups Christmas buffet.

Malcolm Case.

***Fitness Group***

Following the wind-up of the Wellbeing group we persuaded James Mihill to set up a fitness and balance exercise class for us in October 2006. James was with the Primary Care Trust but now runs Effective Exercise.

It is held on a Tuesday morning from 11.30am to 12.30 pm at the Social Hall, St Peters Hospital and costs £3 a session. There are now some spare places so if anyone would like to join us and improve their mobility please phone me or James. This is not run by the U3A and therefore you can bring friends along who are not U3A members. Those of us who go really enjoy it and you only do as much as you are able.

Jean Cuthbert 01621 856094

James Mihill 07767302137

There is also another Effective Exercise just started at Sandon Village Hall on Monday's - 10-11 am so if anyone finds it more convenient, try this one. Same instructor.

Contact: Irene Harris 01245 474617

**Ten Pin Bowling**

After seven successful years and meeting almost every Wednesday morning we have had over 350 meetings. Through the winter we have about fifty of us playing. No competitions, just good fun. Maybe you are thinking of joining us?

On **Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup>** we are having a Ten Pin bowler's lunch in the Chinese restaurant next door, after bowling.

We will be meeting all through Christmas, both Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>. and 30<sup>th</sup>. Interested in joining us? – any Wednesday- just ring David Arnold on 01621 853866 for all the details.

**Astronomy**

We had an interesting session on planets in October.

**November 30<sup>th</sup>** we have the return of Allan Bell, talking about how the passage of the moon can be predicted. He always gives a very interesting talk, so I hope lots of people will come, 7.30pm WMCC.

Molly Tring

**Meteorology**

Our November meeting was about wind. Although we had a reserve team of presenters it went quite well and we learnt a few interesting facts. For example: If you cover a beach ball with cling film that, in proportion, it would represent the thickness of the atmosphere, so thin and so fragile! No wonder people are getting worried about it.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday December 2<sup>nd</sup>. at 2.30** in the Maldon Little Ship Club. The forecast is that the meeting will be cloudy but **not** dull!

Contact Malcolm Case on 01245 329435 for more details.

**Aviation Group**

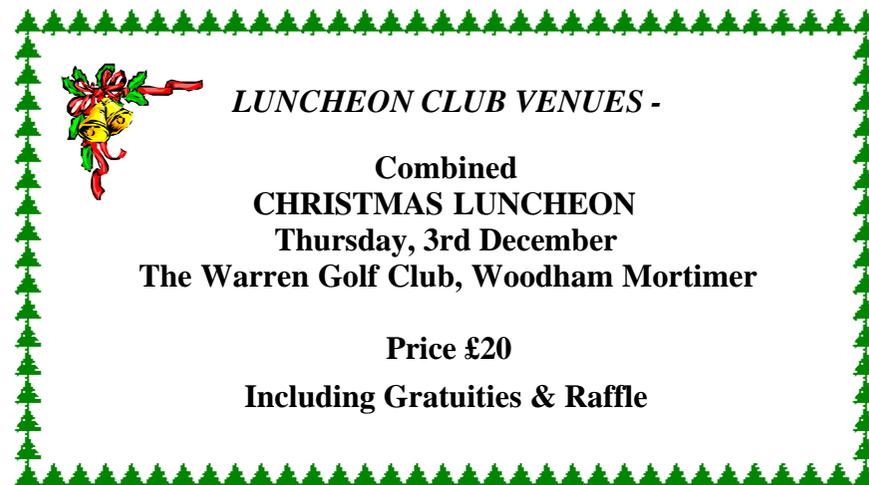
At our November meeting we will be trying to sort out some sort of programme for next year. Visits to Air shows and places. We will also have some interesting DVDs to show. As it is our last meeting before Christmas we may start our celebrations early! We will **not** be meeting in December.

Our first meeting in the New Year will be on **Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**.

At present we meet 2 pm at the Maldon Little Ship Club. We are still planning to move our meetings to the Stow Maries Airfield as soon as the facilities there are ready, in the Spring we hope.

Please come along. All members of our or other U3As are welcome.

Interested? Contact David Arnold on 01621 853866



**LUNCHEON CLUB VENUES -**

**Combined  
CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON  
Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
The Warren Golf Club, Woodham Mortimer**

**Price £20  
Including Gratuities & Raffle**

### *Calling all Walkers*

A useful website has come to my attention and thought you might be interested.

[www.walkinginengland.co.uk](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk) Walks in Essex can be downloaded free.

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### *Family History*

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 25th November at 2,30 pm and will be held at 30 The Spinnaker, South Woodham Ferrers.

Please bring your queries, researches and personal histories.

### *New Group*

Our next meeting will be on **Friday, 4th December** at 2.00 pm and will be held at 58 Augustine Way, Bicknacre.

Frank Stokes.

### *Strollers*

#### **Sunday 20th December.**

Meet at 8 Beeches Road, Heybridge at 10.30am for a local walk of 3 - 4 miles. Please let me know if you are coming.

Gill S Tel: 01621 853948

### *Ballroom Dancing*

Our numbers have been disappointing and only with a few more will we be able to go on in the New Year, so if you have the interest please come along and join us on Thursday afternoons. Don't worry if you don't have a partner, we may be able to sort one out for you.

Jo Robson

### *Poetry*

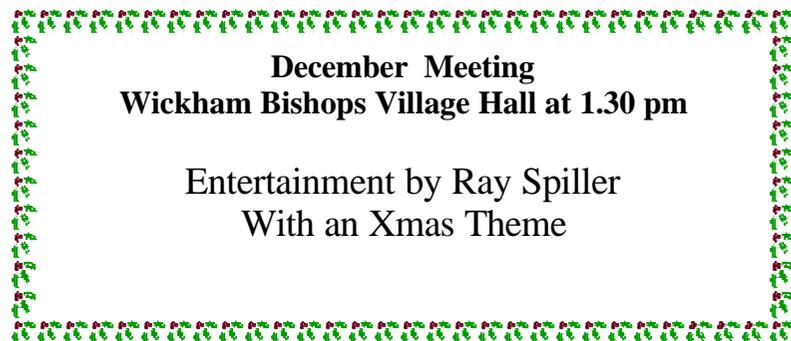
Our next meeting will be at Doreen Bowens on the **3rd December**, and the subject will be LONDON. There must be tons of stuff written about this great city!

Jo Robson

### *Gardeners*

We held our last meeting this year at Mundon Village Hall when we had a most interesting illustrated talk by Brian Wickenden and then after partaking of some wonderful homemade cakes we had presentations of our trip to Worcesster and the proposed trip to Rutland next year. We are still awaiting to finalise the 2010 date and hotel, but most probably will be in July. 34 people signed up as interested in joining us.

Jan Robertson



## Bird Watching Group Visit to Hanningfield Reservoir

October had been one of those months above average temperatures below average rainfall plenty of sunshine with clear skies and beautiful sunsets giving those of us living in Heybridge the opportunity each evening to watch vast flocks of geese and ducks return to their roosts in the Blackwater Estuary.

It was then, with heightened anticipation that on 1<sup>st</sup> November I looked out of the bedroom window only to be confronted by that sight so beloved by television weather people “A misty murky day,” still it was not raining .

By 10:00 as the group assembled in the car park at the Hanningfield centre the predicted rain was falling, heavily, at least there were hides overlooking the reservoir in which to shelter.

Over the next two hours we identified some 20 different species ,including water fowl, waders along with non water loving species but alas none of which we could identify as migrants from colder climates. The reservoir was very low but we had a grandstand view of a huge mixed flotilla of ducks, grebes and geese as they passed back and forwards in front of us.

Although the weather was decidedly damp the woods were full of sounds the main one being that of young children enjoying them selves in the rain as they hunted for bugs and other creepy crawlies and looking at what they found in little container microscopes as soggy parents huddled under what little shelter the trees provided.

The woodland birds like those parents were hiding somewhere out of our sight but it did not matter the children were out enjoying nature nearly as much as we did.

Peter Gaywood

We saw buoys being repaired and repainted. I found this part was very interesting. When we had finish we swapped our safety gear with the other group and went off to the control centre.

In this room we saw how modern technology monitors the light houses, light ships and large buoys around our coast. They are able to tell the state of any one of these units around our coast and dispatch engineers immediately should there be a problem. All light houses etc have back-up systems. The control centre is manned 24 hours a day 365 days a year, this is to receive radio or phone messages referring to the navigational marks monitored and to those not electronically monitored so that any repairs can be carried out straight away to keep the navigational mark operational. After we had taken our leave of the Trinity House staff we went for a pre-ordered pub lunch in the Samuel Pepys Public House in Church Street. After a nice lunch we had about an hour to explore Harwich.

We arrived back at Maldon at about 5pm, after having a very enjoyable and in the true spirit of the U3A, an educational day; my thanks go to Malcolm for organising it.  
Fred Lane



Trinity House



Trinity House Building



Merchant Navy Memorial



Wreck Buoys

### ***Maritime Group visit Trinity House at Harwich***

Twenty one members of the Maritime group went to Harwich on the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009 to visit Trinity House. This was the second party to go from the group, the others going earlier in the year.

I cannot speak for the other party but most of the feedback that I have heard is that their trip was extremely good. I personally felt and I believe this was the general feeling of our party, that this was a super visit.

We left West Maldon Community Centre at 10 am the weather was bright and sunny. The journey took just about an hour. This gave us a chance to have a comfort break and enjoy a pleasant cup of coffee on the pier at Harwich. Then it was time to visit Trinity House. We were ushered in to a meeting room where we were treated to a fascinating talk on Trinity House. This was a forty five minute talk which had to span five hundred years of history. If you had said to me days before what does Trinity House do I would most likely have said "It started sometime in the eighteen hundreds and looks after the light houses and light house crews". That was the limit of my knowledge and in forty five minutes Paul Howe our guide gave us a talk that changed all that.

On 20<sup>th</sup> May 1514 Henry the VIII granted a Royal Charter to a Fraternity of Mariners called the Guild of the Holy Trinity. We were told how in 1609 Trinity House set up the first light house. In 1732 the first light vessel belonging to Trinity House was moored near the Nore Sands at the mouth of the Thames. In 1867 electricity was introduced into the first Trinity House Light House at South Foreland. In 1913 the first compressed air fog horn was installed at Trevoise Head, Cornwall. Then in 1989 crews are removed from the last light ship and from 1998 the last light house keepers are withdrawn from light houses. These are just a few of the points that have happened during the last five hundred years of Trinity House's existence.

Trinity House is the General Light house Authority (GLA) for England Wales and the Channel Islands it provides and maintains nearly 600 aids to navigation ranging from Lighthouses and Buoys through to the latest Satellite Navigation technology. Along with the other two GLAs of the United Kingdom and Ireland, Trinity House is funded by the General Lighthouse Fund; this fund is levied on commercial shipping calling at ports in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Apart from that Trinity House is a major maritime charity operating as a separate entity to the GLA and funded principally by its endowments. The charity spends over £3 million pounds annually on the welfare of mariners and the education and training of future seafarers.

After our talk we were divided into two groups, one group went to see the control room while the other group went to the buoy yard. In the buoy yard we saw some of the buoys that were ready to go into service. Also the very large anchor chains used to hold the buoys on station. There were eight wreck buoys ready to be taken at a moment's notice to the site of a wreck that could be a danger to shipping. Just as a point of interest these buoys are yellow and black in colour and are placed around the wreck and have compass positional markings on top. These are in the form of two triangles, for the North buoy both triangles point up, for the South buoy both triangles point down, for the East buoy the bottom triangle points down and the top triangle points up and on the West buoy the bottom triangle points up and the top triangle points down. The mariner will be safe if they sail north south east or west of the appropriate buoy.

### **2009/10 CALENDAR—Dates for your Diary**

List of Events and Outings during the year.

|              |                                                             |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat. 21 Nov. | Beetle Drive, Langford Village Hall - Social                |
| Thurs. 3 Dec | Combined Luncheon Groups Xmas Lunch at The Warren Golf Club |
| Fri. 8 Jan   | Ceilidh— Social                                             |
| Mon 1 Feb    | Film Show "Britain at Bay"—Maldon Town Hall                 |

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

### **Social News**

Thank you for supporting the Sixties Evening which I understand was a great success. (I missed it!) We now look forward to the Beetle Drive on **Saturday 21 November**. Remember that this event starts at 7.00 o'clock with doors open at 6.30pm. A member mentioned to me recently that he had never experienced the level of competitiveness that he had encountered at our Beetle Drives! I am sure the usual organised pandemonium will prevail. There will be an interval for everyone to calm down and enjoy coffee and cake. At the end there will be a prize and a certificate (to be displayed with pride) for the winner, plus a free raffle. And all this for £3. You really are spoilt!!

Next year we are planning to bring the Beetle Drive forward to September to enable you to arrive in daylight. Langford Village Hall is not the easiest of places to find on a dark November night.

Tickets are on sale from today for the Ceilidh, which will be held at Maldon Town Football Club on **Friday 8 January**. Sue will call and the music will be provided by the Caledonians, as usual. You do not need to be an expert at Scottish dancing but it helps if you know the difference between your right hand and your left hand. The price has been kept at £7 per person. More details of what to bring in the next newsletter.

Following our successful film afternoon last year, we are going to risk the weather again with another film from the same source. This one is called *Britain at Bay*. It will be shown at Maldon Town Hall on **Monday 1 February**, 2.00 p.m., and the price will again be £2, to include tea and cake afterwards. We do not sell tickets at the December meeting but the box will be there for you to put in your reservation slip and cheque.

dd

## *Maldon and Blackwater Joint project on River Blackwater*

The members of the group completed their snapshot study of the estuary of the river Blackwater between 2007 and 2008, last April and mounted a successful exhibition at the W.M.C.C., reported in the Newsletter at the time. It was felt that it would be disappointing if all the information gathered and displayed so attractively were wasted, and so we approached the Plume School with a view to involving some of the pupils. Schools are very busy, and it was not until the autumn term that we were able to visit and set up our exhibitions. The Mill Road site was first, on 20<sup>th</sup> October, and we had a steady stream of Year 7 and Year 8 pupils throughout the day, showing a considerable amount of interest especially since the Year 7 pupils were in the process of completing projects on Maldon. After half term, we repeated the exercise on 3<sup>rd</sup> November at the Farnbridge Road site, talking to pupils from Year 9 through to Year 13 throughout the day. Again, a great deal of interest and comment was generated, especially from some Special Needs pupils, one of whom had quite coincidentally, a photograph of herself on a piece of our display work. A pupil studying for BTECH Media interviewed some members and videoed the display as part of his work.

It is possible that there will be follow-up events involving some members of the group going into the school individually to speak to a selected class on an aspect of our study. We all agreed that we had thoroughly enjoyed meeting the pupils over the two days, and would like to thank especially Mr Richard Hill, Deputy Head, and Mr Tony Morrell, Assistant Special Needs Teacher, for making it possible, and for making us so very welcome.

Veronica Smith



## **Another update on Neighbourhood Watch**

A bit of useful advice - verified by the Dorset Police .

The number does work from a mobile. This actually happened to someone's daughter.

Lauren was 19 yrs old and in college.

This story takes place over the Christmas/New Year's holiday break.

It was the Saturday before New Year and it was about 1.00 pm in the afternoon, and Lauren was driving to visit a friend, when an UNMARKED police car pulled up behind her and put its lights on. Lauren's parents have 4 children (of various ages) and have always told them never to pull over for an unmarked car on the side of the road, but rather wait until they get to a service station, etc. So Lauren remembered her parents' advice, and telephoned **112** from her mobile phone. This connected her to the police dispatcher she told the dispatcher that there was an unmarked police car with a flashing blue light on his rooftop behind her and that she would not pull over right away but wait until she was in a service station or busy area.

The dispatcher checked to see if there was a police car where she was and there wasn't and he told her to keep driving, remain calm and that he had back-up already on the way. Ten minutes later 4 police cars surrounded her and the unmarked car behind her. One policeman went to her side and the others surrounded the car behind. They pulled the guy from the car and tackled him to the ground..... ..the man was a convicted rapist and wanted for other crimes.

I never knew that bit of advice, but especially for a woman alone in a car, you do not have to pull over for an UNMARKED car.

Apparently police have to respect your right to keep going to a 'safe' place. You obviously need to make some signals that you acknowledge them I.e., put on your hazard lights) or call **112** like Lauren did.

Too bad the mobile phone companies don't give you this little bit of wonderful information.

(112 is an emergency number on your mobile that takes you straight to the police because 999 does not work if you have no signal) .

### What Love means to a 4-8 year old...

The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined  
See what you think:

'When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love.'  
Rebecca- age 8

'When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different.  
You just know that your name is safe in their mouth.'  
Billy - age 4

'Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other.'  
Karl - age 5

'Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs.'  
Chrissy - age 6

'Love is what makes you smile when you're tired.'  
Terri - age 4

'Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK.'  
Danny - age 7

'Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen.'  
Bobby - age 7 (Wow!)

'Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday.'  
Noelle - age 7

'Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well.'  
Tommy - age 6

'During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore.'  
Cindy - age 8

'My mommy loves me more than anybody You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night.'  
Clare - age 6

'Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken.'  
Elaine-age 5

'Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day.'  
Mary Ann - age 4

'You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget.'  
Jessica - age 8

MALDON & DISTRICT U3A — SOCIAL EVENT



# CEILIDH

at

**THE SAVILLE SUITE**

**Maldon Football Club**

**Friday, 8 January 2010**

**7.30 p.m. (Doors open 6.45)**

**Please bring a plate of "finger food" to share  
(No soup!)**

**Bring savoury dishes only- the Social Committee  
will provide dessert**

**No bottles this time – there is a Bar**

**TICKETS: £7.00**

Tickets will be issued on a first come, first served basis upon receipt of booking form in the current newsletter, together with your cheque made out to 'Maldon & District U3A.'

Tickets available from:

Janet Buck

01245-227709

Enquiries:

Dorothy Denmark

01245-223960

**U3A members only!**

**CEILIDH on 8 January 2010**

Please reserve me ..... Ticket(s) @ £7.00 each I enclose my cheque for £.... made payable to 'Maldon & District U3A'

Name(s) of Member(s) .....

## *“The Sixties”*

### **Good Companions visit to Cambridge.**

On Saturday 10th October six of the 'weekenders' took the National Express bus to Cambridge. It turned out to be a lovely day weather wise.

We headed off to find the City Sightseeing Hop on Hop off open topped bus. We started at stop nine and soon got into the commentary through the earphones. It was all very informative and we were able to see many sights. The bus went round three side of the University Botanic Gardens encouraging us to pay them a visit. We hopped off at junction 15 as we were changing our mode of transport to a punt. We ate our sandwiches as we glided along but the ducks were very interested as we were right down at their level. James our punter gave a commentary as we moved along and was happy to answer any of our questions. The view of the colleges was very different from that seen from the bus. The fun came when we returned to the moorings and we had to get out!!!! There seemed to be an even bigger crowd of spectators on the bridge watching the entertainment than when we were trying to get in earlier. The punt stayed upright and we did get out with much laughter. Back onto the bus to resume our sightseeing tour.

I think the most poignant observation I made was at the American Cemetery, commemorating the 8937 U.S. service men and women who lost their lives while serving in the U.K. during WW II.

On returning to our starting point we used our feet. Bikes, bikes and more bikes going in all directions. After a very welcome cup of tea we headed back to catch the bus home. It was the same driver, since he had dropped us off he had been up to Liverpool and back.

This was just one of the activities we have done, normally at a weekends, enjoying one another's company.  
Valerie Lyndon.

The 60's night was held on the 22nd October at the Maldon Town Hall and a very enjoyable night was had by all.

There were several interesting costumes— and a lot of very energetic dancing!

A special thank you to Ray Durrant, Rita B and Jim “Guitar” Tidmarsh who played hits from the 60's and created a superb atmosphere.

The Social Committee arranged a great evening and managed to keep us going with some most welcome nibbles.

Roll on the next event and we shall all be there!

Colin Cardy

