

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

Maldon and District

Newsletter



Garden Group visit to Furzelea, Danbury

Photo by Brigitte Whiteing

June 2024

www.maldonu3a.co.uk

Registered Charity 1086182

FROM THE CHAIR



Last month, I mentioned how we are advised to take regular physical exercise and, of course, we are also advised to exercise our brains. Games and puzzles are good as is speaking more than one language. A personal view is that learning about anything is also good – especially if you question what you are being told. A look at our Group activities shows we are making a worthwhile contribution.

I am writing this on the eve of the 80th anniversary of D-Day. We are told that less than half of young people know what happened on D-Day and I am inclined to believe this. Who better to fill in the gaps in the education of our youngsters than members of the u3a?

There are a number of financial matters that affect all of us. For instance, car insurance seems to have become much more costly, travel insurance is also costly and difficult, and then there are pension matters that our political parties are keen to highlight in the quest for votes. We are wondering whether a series of lectures on financial matters would be popular. Possibly, these might have a “workshop” element as those attending may wish to deal with their own personal circumstances.

Traditionally, the first of June was the day to start haymaking as this is our driest month. I hope you are all able to enjoy the long days and warm weather and are looking forward to our special July meeting.

Ken Hazell 0773

Many of you will recall the very amusing and interesting talk at our meeting in April by Tyler Butterworth in which he recounted tales of his father, Peter Butterworth, and his attempts at escaping from Stalag Luft III during WW2.

The theatre critic of *The Oldie* magazine adds an amusing anecdote to this story.

Butterworth was a heroic and indefatigable escaper, tunnelling his way out of a POW camp near Frankfurt with a soup spoon. After six weeks on the run he was recaptured and sent to Stalag Luft III where he participated in numerous escape attempts, forging documents and concealing coded messages in his letters home.

Back in Blighty after the war, and working as an actor, Peter heard that a new film about one of these escape attempts was in production, so he went along to the audition.

As one of the actual POWs on whom the film was based, he was confident his first hand experience would stand him in good stead. But the casting director of *The Wooden Horse* rejected him 'as not convincingly heroic or athletic'.

When Peter protested, the casting director's response was even blunter: 'You're too fat'.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to our new member:

Anne Cousins

WITH REGRET

It is with regret that have to inform you of the passing of Maisie Speller.

Maisie had been a member since 2017

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday 15th July

Wickham Bishops Hall

Doors open at 1.15pm for 1.45pm start

Afternoon Tea

with background music by the
Purleigh Philharmonic

**This is a ticket only event
for Maldon u3a members**

Please remember your membership card

MONTHLY SPEAKER SCHEDULE 2024

19th August	Prof. Stephen Brown	CHASE Africa Prof. Brown, a Trustee, will talk to us about the work of this charity to support partner organisations in Africa that enable access to family planning, healthcare and rights, whilst protecting the environment and building resilience to climate change.
16th September	Eve Regelous	Everything Strictly A glittering journey starting back in the '50s when <i>Come Dancing</i> and formation dancing was at the fore up to the latest series of <i>Strictly Come Dancing</i> . Behind the scenes information on a TV favourite.
21st October	AGM Andrew Wiltshire	Fungi & Flagstaffs The fascinating connections between Beatrix Potter, Kew Gardens and mycology
18th November	Tim Turner	Going, going, gone A history of auctions. Tim returns to delight us with this history of the world of auctions.
16th December	Christmas Event	Entertainment , tea and cake
20th January 2025	Gainsborough's House	A talk on the recently extended and refurbished house in Sudbury and on the painter, Thomas Gainsborough.

If you know of any speakers that you can recommend please contact our Speaker Secretary: Theresa Byles

Summer Event – Monday 15th July



Afternoon tea with background music provided by the Purleigh Phil, an offshoot of the Maldon Orchestra, plus a table top quiz, provided by Rosemary Case on the subject of tea.

This will be a ticketed event.

It is essential that Maldon u3a members register their attendance by either emailing Malcolm Case at malcolmcas24@gmail.com or by signing up at the June monthly meeting.

Please advise of any medical dietary requirements ie gluten free.

This event is for Maldon u3a members only.

There is limited hall space
so ensure you have registered and get your ticket now

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

Subscriptions: Are due by no later than the 31st August 2024.

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

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

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

The completed form(s) together with your payment must be made before the 31st August 2024. We do not accept cash. The forms together with your cheque (if paying by cheque) MUST be returned to the Membership Secretary.

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

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

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

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

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

LONDON WALKS

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

We will meet a professional guide at 11.00 to be taken on a 2-hour guided walk. The distance walked is not vast as we stop many times to be told interesting and entertaining information.

After the walk you are free to join others for coffee/lunch or plan other things to make the most of your day in London. Transport to London is to be arranged and paid for by individuals.

The first walk for our Group is on **Tuesday 16th July** with the theme – *Past the Palace*. Places are filling up fast!

On **Tuesday 20th August**, *Inside Covent Garden* is the theme. And on **Tuesday 17th September** we will explore the *Unknown East End*.

The cost for each of the July and August walks is £10 per person. And the September walk is £11.

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

To reserve your place or any further info please contact:

Julie Lake

FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you for your contributions, please keep them coming and don't forget to include your photographs. The deadline for the next issue is Tuesday 2nd July.

Kris

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

We did not meet in May because of the Spring bank holiday, but we hope at least some of you were able to enjoy the weekend watching the Ride London Classique, one of the world's leading professional women's bike races, starting and finishing in Maldon, and the Maldon Mud Race the following weekend.

Our next meeting at the Town Hall, Market Hill, Maldon, is on **Monday 24th June**. The meeting starts at 2pm and our speaker is Max Fox, a Colchester City tour guide who will give a talk on Roman Colchester including information on the Roman Circus and updates on the latest Roman finds.

Our July meeting is on **Monday 22nd** when our speaker will be local u3a member, Ed Skinner, for his talk on *The History of Mayland*, a village on the river Blackwater.

We look forward to seeing you.

Kathy and Sylvia

ASTRONOMY GROUP

The next meeting of the Astronomy group is on **Monday 24th June**, with a visit to the National Maritime Museum and Observatory Greenwich. Owing to two cancellations, we now have availability on the coach.

Please contact me if you would like to come on this trip, I will then add you to the list, then please either send me a cheque for £21.00 per person (this includes coach, coach parking and driver's gratuity, it does not include entry to the Observatory) or hand your cheque to me at the June monthly meeting.

The coach will leave the West Maldon Community Centre at 9:00 to arrive at the NMM by about 10:30 and will leave the NMM at about 4:30/5:00 pm.

Malcolm Case

STROLLERS SUNDAY

Our walk, which took place in Terling on Sunday 19th May, was enjoyed by ten friendly strollers. It happened to coincide with Terling's Open Gardens so we were somewhat concerned that it would be manic. However, as we ventured out before the Open Gardens start time, we were ok and we also arrived back at the pub before the crowds. We were lucky with the weather after all the inclement conditions prior to the walk. We were concerned that some areas would still be very muddy but fortunately most of the mud had dried up quite considerably.

Our circular walk took us across the countryside and partly alongside the river Ter. One of the fields we walked across was covered in purple along with, and more of interest, a blaze of red. With the help of our phones, we discovered that this was Crimson Clover which none of us had ever seen before. Towards the end of our walk we passed Terling windmill, a grade II listed Smock Mill which has been converted to residential use. It was here that a kindly resident, who was a Chippendale lookalike, took our group photo. Who knows what surprises there may be on our next walk - come and join us.

To finish off a very pleasant morning we had a lovely lunch at the Rayleigh Arms pub.

Janet Morley



Sunday Strollers – **Sunday June 16th**

Our June walk will be taking place around the Great Totham area. We will meet at our house at 10.15 for a 10.30 start.

As this walk falls on Fathers Day we will not be arranging the usual pub lunch but instead we will host a bring and share lunch afterwards at our home in Great Totham.

Please let us know if you would like to come on the walk and whether you wish to join us for lunch and we will send you more details.

Brenda and Robert Heal

Sunday Strollers – **21st July 2024**

Our July walk will be taking place around Wickham Bishops.

The walk will commence from The Green Man, CM8 3LB meeting at 10.15 for a 10.30 start.

Parking has been arranged with the landlord of The Green Man, with lunch booked there for 1.00 pm.

Please let us know if you would like to come on the walk and whether you wish to stay for lunch.

Look forward to seeing you,
Frank and Sue Golden.

Future dates for the Sunday Strollers group are: 18th August, 15th September, 20th October, 17th November.

STROLLERS TOO



On Tuesday 28th May the Strollers Too group completed an enjoyable walk from The Bell at Woodham Walter, passing the old cricket pavilion near The Warren golf course. The lunch afterwards at The Bell was enjoyed by all.

Jane Cox

Our walk on **Tuesday 25th June**

will be at Goldhanger, a circular walk starting at the Chequers pub, 1 Church Street, Goldhanger, Maldon, CM9 8AS. We will proceed through the churchyard, across the fields to the sea wall. Our walk will then continue along the sea wall back to the Chequers. It is approximately 4.9 miles.

Meet at 10:15 for 10:30 start. Parking is available at the Chequers car park which is opposite the pub. Lunch will be at the Chequers afterwards.

Please email me to advise if you are walking/ walking and having lunch.

Mags Harker

Our walk on Tuesday **23rd July** will start at: The Braxted Bakery, Witham Road, Little Braxted, CM8 3ET, whence we will return for lunch on completion of the walk.

Please arrive at 10.15 for a 10.30 start and car share wherever possible.

The walk is roughly one third on rural roads with the remaining two thirds on farm tracks and field paths. Approximately 250 yards are on quite a busy road where care will need to be taken.

David Griffiths

Future dates for the Tuesday Strollers group are: 27th August, 24th September, 22nd October, 26th November.

GARDEN GROUP

On Tuesday 14th May the Garden Group enjoyed a visit to Furzelea in Danbury. It was a morning rather like the curate's egg—good in parts, but it didn't detract from the beautiful array of late Spring flowers, shrubs and manicured lawns.

A relatively small garden its winding paths and lawns create the illusion of something a great deal larger.

Our host, Avril Cole-Jones provided information about the renovations of the house



and the formation of the garden, and we noticed several unusual small metal sculptures placed around the garden, which turned out to be one of her husband's hobbies. Another is cake making, and we were able to sample some of his excellent bakes along with our tea at the end of a very enjoyable visit.



Our garden visits in June and July are now fully booked.

We will have a visit in September to 59 East Street in Coggeshall. Details for this will be advised in later editions.

Our thanks, again, to Brigitte Whiteing for her excellent photographs.

Best wishes

Theresa Byles

Kris Taylor

MARITIME GROUP



Photo by Alec Fraser taken at the June meeting. Malcolm displaying a model of boat used by the famous fishermen of Inle Lake, Myanmar

The next meeting of the Maritime Group is on **Monday 1st July** at 10.00 at the Blackwater Sailing Club, Heybridge Basin CM49 4SD for a talk by Linda Cook on the History of the RNLI. The talk begins with a brief description of the founding of the RNLI and some of its developments along the way, its work today centering around Southend lifeboats and the work that they do, then moving on to examples of rescues around the coast, focusing on Tower station. Finally, some information about the training given to crew members and the facilities at Poole.



Monday 5th August

Trip to **Sutton Hoo**, Woodbridge. This trip is fully booked, but please contact Malcolm Case to add your name to the waiting list.

Monday 2nd September

Trip to **Chatham Dockyard**. Includes tours of the Ropery, the Submarine, the RNLI 200th Anniversary exhibition and the 40th Anniversary exhibition of the Dockyard and hopefully a tour of the store where the National Maritime Museum keep their models which are usually on display at the Museum.

Cost pp is £40 including coach and entry. There is still availability on this trip. For further details on this trip, please contact Malcolm Case.



- Monday 7th October Talk by Gordon Davies on **Emigration 1850 style**. In the 1850s over a third of a million people left the UK for a new life in Australasia, travelling there by sailing ship on a voyage likely to take 3 or 4 months. Who went? Why? What were their experiences en route? What support did they have?
- Monday 4th November Talk over Zoom by Roger Butler, with a colourful introduction to all aspects of **Waterway Heritage**. Roger will include fascinating engineering and architecture, historic boats, and plenty of unusual landmarks. He will also weave in some archive images as well as important contemporary features such as the Falkirk Wheel in Scotland. Aspects include grand warehouses and quirky cottages, tall lock flights and sweeping aqueducts, deep tunnels and a vast array of bridges and even tiny bollards. Many such buildings and structures still reflect the work of the original distinctive canal companies, including of course, the famous Roses and Castles canal boat artwork.
- Monday 2nd December Talk by Julie Hobby and Chaplain Ruth on the work of the **Seafarers' Centre**, Tilbury. The talk will cover all aspects of their work for seafarers and will include details on how your donations to the centre are used. The talk will be followed by some Christmas cheer, nibbles and discussion on our 2025 programme.

Malcolm Case



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

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

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



Reminder

Don't forget that there are many on-line learning events on the national u3a website. Zoom talks currently listed include:

A History of Royal Flying: Flying the Royal Family, Thursday 2 July at 10am

Live Cookery Demonstration – Summer Recipes, Thursday 11 July at 10.30am

The Harlem Renaissance 2, Friday 12 July at 2pm

Just click on the link on our web page www.maldonu3a.co.uk

Flaming June roared in with an Easterly wind which made it feel more like Autumn than the first day of meteorological summer as 12 hardy members set out to explore Minsmere.

The groups perseverance was rewarded with a myriad of sightings most of which were what we all expected to see but in amongst the 100s of Avocet, many of which were sitting on eggs, flocks of Shelduck, some pairs with flotillas of ducklings, there were Barnacle Geese (*Branta leucopsis*), one of what is known as the three black geese The sighting was a first at Minsmere for many of the group.

At this time of the year the great attraction at Minsmere are the Bittern (*Botaurus*



stellaris) with its mottled buff plumage streaked and barred with dark brown and black. Their famous boom is described as a cross between a lowing cow and a distant foghorn. The birds are confined to the reedbeds of the reserve and are very secretive although most of the group were fortunate enough to catch a glimpse of a Bittern in flight.

Whilst waiting for the Bittern to make an appearance the smallest of the Raptors, a Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*), with its slate grey back, white breast and underparts streaked with black, a black moustache and red thighs obligingly decided to sit in an adjacent tree affording the group a closeup of this beautiful bird.

*Photos thanks to
Brigitte Whiteing*



Mike Bagshaw

Peter Gaywood

Birdwatching Group Programme 2024

7th July	Tollesbury	Meet in Woodrolfe Road
August	No meeting	
7th September	Maldon Prom	Meet by Rossi's Kiosk
6th October	Heybridge Basin	Meet in the car park
2nd November	Walton on the Naze	Meet in the Visitor Centre
1st December	Hanningfield Reservoir	Meet in the Visitor Centre car park

AVIATION GROUP

Hello everyone,

On Sunday 26th May five of us entered our classic cars in the display area at the Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome



Photo courtesy Alec Fraser

We were blessed with warm pleasant weather throughout the day which allowed a full flying display with some exhilarating aerobatics from one of the specialist pilots!



It was doubtful at one stage if the resident WW1 replica aircraft would fly as taxiing with no brakes or wheel steering in the gentle but gusting wind was "marginal", but they opted for "wing walkers" to guide them from dispersal to the downwind take off point at the end of airstrip 20. Fine in principle, but the

"walkers" had to jog half a mile or so guiding one aircraft and then jog back around the airfield for the next one! --- Rather than me!



Photos courtesy Alec Fraser

On **Friday 28th June** we will gather at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall for a **Show and Tell** meeting when members are encouraged to bring along items of Aviation/Military interest and to allow us all to share in the story attached to them.

In view of the 80th anniversary of D Day we will start with a short, only just released film about the Airspeed Horsa gliders used so effectively to land commandos and their equipment behind enemy lines to secure vital canal and road bridges.

Wednesday 24th July A visit to the Norfolk and Suffolk air museum at Flixton, Suffolk is planned. A superb "small" museum with many interesting exhibits.

More info on <https://www.aviationmuseum.net/>

We are teaming up with the Garden Group to use a well equipped coach with air conditioning etc (a real plus considering the July date). Cost for the transport is £26 pp and entry to the museum is free but donations are appreciated.

If you wish to join us on this visit, please bring your cheque book to the monthly meeting at Wickham Bishops Hall on the 17th June.

August No meeting but a Zoom spectacular is planned!!

Friday 27th September Opening meeting after the summer break with an illustrated talk by Joe Marshall about the wartime incident when a Hurricane force landed at Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome followed by some flypast gems from the past.

Meeting at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall at 11.00

- Friday 25th October Illustrated talk about Operation Exodus & Dodge by Chris Samson and fellow member David Gillespie. These operations were put in place to airlift and repatriate thousands of Allied POWS as their camps were overrun by the Allied Armies.
- Meeting at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall at 11.00.
- Friday 22nd November Illustrated talk about the history of RFC Goldhanger by local historian David Newman.
- Meeting at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall at 11.00.
- Friday 20th December Meeting at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall for an Aviation related quiz with Christmas nibbles followed by a light lunch at a venue to be determined.

Chris Samson

POETRY GROUP

The next meeting of the Poetry group is on **Thursday 4th July** meeting at 2:00 pm in a member's house. The poetry subject for discussion is *Summer*. There are several poets who have written poetry on this subject – William Matthews, W.S.Graham, Robert Louis Stevenson to name but a few.



Robert Louis Stevenson



to name

Jo Robson

FILM GROUP

Starting with ***The Mercy***, we all thought it was a good film but incredibly sad. It's difficult to understand why Donald Crowhurst, as played by Colin Firth, even attempted to take on the challenge when his boat was unseaworthy, and he didn't really have the skill set to complete the journey. It seems he was pushed into it by his own desire to achieve something outstanding and the people backing him, as well as the media. The film was well done, with good acting all round. Score: 8

The Last Mountain was also based on true events, although this time it was a documentary style film about Tom Ballard and his mother, Alison Hargreaves, as well as members of their family, friends, and various climbing experts. It was well put together, maybe a bit too long, but again extremely sad to see such young people's lives coming to an end so tragically, and the impact on their family and friends. They loved what they did and lived to climb, the more extreme the better. Score: 7

For the next month the films are as follows:

Burton and Taylor, a BBC Four TV film written by William Ivory and directed by Richard Laxton and based on the legendary acting duo and former husband and wife, Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor. The film is set during their preparation for a 1983 theatrical production of the play *Private Lives*. The film stars Helena Bonham Carter and Dominic West in the title roles.

Nowhere Special is an internationally co-produced drama film written, directed, and produced by Uberto Pasolini. The film is set in Northern Ireland and stars James Norton and Daniel Lamont. The story follows John, a single parent to four year old Michael, who must make arrangements for the care of his son when he is faced with the reality of terminal illness.

Both films are on BBC iPlayer for over a year.

Our next meeting is **Wednesday 26th June**, 7.30pm by Zoom, as usual. If you would like to join us, please get in touch.

Shirley Macro

DONATIONS for the SEAFARERS CENTRE, TILBURY

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

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

Malcolm Case

Dengie Cycling Group

Hello. We are trying to restart the Dengie u3a cycling group

We keep the distances low and usually plan a coffee stop. The speeds are never high, and the rides are always local and wherever possible on the quieter roads. We also try to pick dates and times that suit the majority of the riders. ebikes are also welcome to join us.

Please come and join us, we cycle at a very sedate pace, and you can walk up any hills with Brian.

Best wishes

Edward

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

0800 4708090 www.thesilverline.org.uk

The Silver Line
helpline for older people

From Chelmsford u3a

Dear Members,

Chelmsford u3a is hoping to start an Amateur Dramatics Group if they get sufficient interest to make it viable. With that in mind they are opening the group to any existing u3a members in the surrounding area.

Please note we will not require members of other u3as to become associate members of Chelmsford u3a. We call this 'Visitor' membership, and it is free to join on this basis, although a contribution toward group running costs will almost certainly be required.

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

Script writing

Directing and producing

Set design

Musical back-rounds

Costume design

Make-up

Set construction

Lighting

Stage crew

Narrating

Health and Safety on stage

Not forgetting any budding Thespians.

I have probably forgotten to mention many skills that would be required but have listed what I know. If there is sufficient interest, I will arrange a date for us to meet and discuss how we might achieve this.

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

CROQUET GROUP



It's time to start thinking about those summer sports. Croquet is competitive yet sociable, enjoyable, active and healthy.

New members are always welcome. Why not come along and have a go. The group meets on the **1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons** from April until October. There is a charge of £7.00 for the use of equipment and refreshments are served at the end of play. Please note that shoes with flat soles and no heels must be worn and your toes should be covered, so no sandals please.

Maldon & District u3a play with the kind permission of Maldon Croquet Club on the Club lawns at Hatfield Peverel Bowling Club, the Keith Bigden Memorial Ground, Wickham Bishops Road, Hatfield Peverel, CM3 2JL.

If you would like more information, or would like to come along and give it a try, please contact one of the u3a co-ordinators.

Geoff and Shirley Macro

PETANQUE GROUP



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

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

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

New players are always welcome to come and give it a try, so why not come along and have a go. Car parking is available at the park, but please note that

Maldon District Council make a charge. We may be able to loan you some boules to get you started, but you will need to purchase some of your own to play regularly.

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

For more details please contact:

Jack Veash

Geoff Macro

PADEL TENNIS GROUP

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

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

MAHJONG

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

If you haven't played Mahjong before we are very happy to teach you. Our next meeting is on **21st June** at the new time of **2—4pm**

For more information, please contact Mags Pell.

Possible new Group—Carpet Bowls

Is this something you would be interested in ?



We have been approached by the organiser of Maldon Carpet Bowls club to ask if we would consider encompassing the club into our u3a. This would require one of our members to take on the role of the group's coordinator.

The club has been running for over 12 years and meets every Thursday evening in Maldon Town Hall. It is well attended, but unfortunately none of the club's members are willing to take on the running of the club when the current organiser steps down and it could then cease to continue. Some u3a members are attendees.

If you think that you would be willing to take on this role, please contact Malcolm Case for further details.

Malcolm Case – Groups Coordinator

First Aid

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

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

It covers:

Resuscitation Bleeding

Choking Fainting

Nosebleeds Falls

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

Course with Qualification

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

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

The course is valid for 3 years from completion.

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

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

THE BIG BALTI

The next curry night will be held on **Monday 29th July** at the Balti Bhujon restaurant, Mill Road, Maldon. 6.30ish start.

To add your name to the list please contact:

Graham Evans

Bob Gowers

TENPIN BOWLING

Do you fancy a chat and a cup of coffee with some tenpin bowling thrown in? The bowling, although it is good exercise and a chance to improve your coordination skills, it is not the main reason for coming. In fact, when the group was originally envisaged more than 20 years ago it was as a social group to meet for coffee with the bowling an added extra., and that has remained the case. A good morning is not necessarily a high score, but did you enjoy yourself?

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

If you are interested, please contact:

Alan Buck

David Coombes



JUST JAZZ GROUP



Our next meeting is **Monday 17th June** from 7.30—9.30pm, in the Little Ship Club, Hythe Quay, Maldon . The bar will be open so pop in for drink, some music and a chat. We look forward to seeing you.

Pete Condon

David Coombes

Information

Maldon Banking Facilities

Following on from a conversation with one of our long-standing members about the banking situation in Maldon now that almost all the bank branches have closed, we thought it may be useful to our members to know some of the facilities that are available other than using digital home banking.

Barclays Local has a pod in Maldon District Council offices in Princes Road. It is open on Wednesday & Thursday from 9.30 – 12.30 and 13.00 – 16.00.

Halifax Building Society has a pod in Maldon Town Council offices on Market Hill. It is open on Tuesday from 9.00 – 15.00.

Both these pods will deal with account queries and make online payments and transfers and manage Direct Debits and standing orders.

And don't forget that you can make pay in cheques and cash, make cash withdrawals and check your balance with the majority of banks at your local Post Office.

Thanks to Mollie Polden for suggesting this article.

GERMAN CONVERSATION

Please note that our next meeting is not until **3rd September**.

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

Howard Broadbridge

RUSSIAN CONVERSATION

One of our members, Irina Vahonina, is Russian and she has started a Russian language activity group. She also speaks Polish, so she is also able to teach that. The emphasis is on conversational language—beginners are welcome.

If you would like to expand your knowledge of foreign languages please contact Irina for more information..

ART APPRECIATION GROUP

Our July meeting is on **Tuesday 23rd** when we are joining up with Blackwater u3a's art group for a talk, given by Rosalind Mercer, on Rosemary Rutherford, an extraordinary, but forgotten, local artist.

Judith Johnston

Andy Simmonds

Committee members

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

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

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairman	Ken Hazell
Vice Chairman	Alec Fraser
Business Secretary	
Treasurer	Steven Clarke
Membership Secretary	Malcolm Case
Newsletter Editor	Kris Taylor
Minutes & Speaker Secretary	Theresa Byles
Groups Coordinator	Malcolm Case
Committee	Andy Simmonds Carol Bates
Trustee	Geoff Cory
Webmaster	Tony Groves
Social Group	Michael Childs
Publicity	Andy Simmonds Irina Vahonina

GROUP CO-ORDINATORS

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

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

Comment on *u3a matters* via
Patrick Forsyth

Schedule of Events – July 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
1 Maritime	2	3 Ten Pin Bowling Padel Tennis Croquet Bridge	4 Ten Pin Bowling Poetry Rummikub Petanque	5 Mahjong	6	7 Bird Watching Tollesbury
8 Handicrafts Discussion	9 Garden Visit Keeway	10 Ten Pin Bowling Meet & Eat Padel Tennis	11 Ten Pin Bowling Royal History- Victorians Scottish Dancing Petanque French Conversation	12 Canasta Singing	13	14
15 Monthly meeting Afternoon Tea Just Jazz	16 German London Walk Engineering & Inventions	17 Ten Pin Bowling Padel Tennis Croquet Geology Bridge Photography	18 Ten Pin Bowling Rummikub Petanque	19 Mahjong	20	21 Strollers
22 Local History	23 Strollers Art Appreciation Wine Group	24 Ten Pin Bowling Aviation/ Garden Group Vait to Bressingham Padel Tennis Wine Group	25 Ten Pin Bowling Scottish Dancing Petanque French Conversation Writing Wine Group	26 Canasta Singing Reading Cribbage	27	28
29 Astronomy Greenwich Observatory	30 Garden Visit Kamala	31 Ten Pin Bowling Bridge Padel Tennis Film				