



BENFLEET BULLETIN

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

Issue 37: July 2021

W: u3asites.org.uk/benfleet

f facebook.com/groups/benfleetu3a

Chair: Marion Coleman

Bulletin Editor: Alan Aldridge

FROM THE CHAIR: Hello Everyone

Another month has slipped by and brought us a tiny step forward towards a total unlock. Our groups are slowly starting to meet up again and our programme will soon be back to normal, that is if I can remember what normal feels like!



Reminders! PLEASE renew your membership before July 16th if you have not already done so. We have SIMS members wanting your Full membership status.



To the 96 members who have not told me if they are likely to attend our 10th Anniversary Tea, PLEASE do so ASAP! Numbers need confirming.

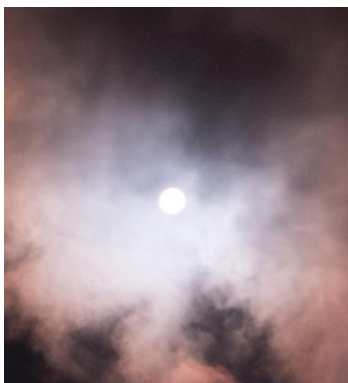
We are still looking for a Vice Chair to help us on the committee. The AGM notification and nomination forms will be coming out next month so we need you ready to offer your help. Please, whether you are SIMs or FULL, come forward and talk to us.

Finally, enjoy the Summer months, these longer warmer days and going out and about to meet friends and family.

Stay well and happy, **Marion, Chair**

SO where were you for the eclipse of the Sun?

10 June 2021: it was cloudy in Benfleet! But there were breaks in the cloud:



Emerging



Just a nibble



Getting hungry



Bite size

Your Committee – where do we stand?

As indicated in previous bulletins, some Committee Members are standing down at our AGM after extensive service, some well over and above the usual term of office. We thank them all for their contribution to our u3a.

So for the 11 current Committee Members the situation is:

Still in term of office: **Marion Coleman**, Chair and Committee Members **Lee King**, **Suzanne Worland** and **Philip Lloyd-Worth**.

Completing their term but willing to stand for another term are:

- **Bob Munson** – Membership Secretary
- **Iris Mead** – Specialist Group Coordinator
- **Alan Aldridge** – Bulletin Editor/Webmaster (a term used very loosely!)

This does NOT preclude additional candidates from coming forward.

Standing down on completion of extended terms of office are:

- **Vice-Chair Sheila Sears**: we MUST have a Vice-Chair to continue our u3a! and to date we have NO interested members.
- **Treasurer Jill Parr**: we MUST have a Treasurer to continue our u3a. We are pleased to confirm that we DO have a Member willing to stand.
- **Business Secretary Mavis Regan**: we MUST have a Business Secretary to continue our u3a. There is an interested Member BUT this is yet to be confirmed.
- **Outings Organiser Maria Kelly**: we are pleased to confirm that we DO have a Member willing to stand. Particularly important as outings are the single biggest reason that Members join.

Committee Member: we also have 1 Member willing to stand for Committee.

All candidates standing will need to be nominated and approved at the AGM in September.

We still urgently need candidates for
VICE-CHAIR and BUSINESS SECRETARY

If you are interested in any of these committee roles but unsure of what it entails, then please contact

Marion at T: 01268 421503 E: marion_c@sky.com

Upcoming Member Zoom Meetings

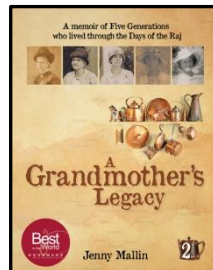
Paul Barwick
The White Mouse
(Spy story)
13 July 2021



Marion Pettet
A Peek behind
the Scenes
27 July 2021



Jenni Mallin
A Grandmothers
Legacy, in India
10 August 2021



Tom Way
Photography: Wildlife
on your doorstep
31 August 2021



WE HOPE and are planning towards running the 31 August 2021 meeting at Richmond Hall. No promises yet as a few hurdles to overcome. Fingers crossed.

When we do reinstate physical meetings, it is planned to continue with one Member zoom meeting early in each month.

Come in and Join us at the meetings – it's quite easy, you don't need to make any input, just watch, listen, learn something new and hopefully enjoy yourselves.

Please contact **Marion** T: 01268 421503 E: marion_c@sky.com to register to attend **IF you haven't attended previously**.

Need help with zoom? contact **Marion** or
Alan Aldridge T: 01268 756638 E: alan@aldridge.it

Group News

Paper craft: after many years of running this group, **Sheila and Ann** have decided to stand down. Thank you for sharing your expertise to group members.

The group needs appoint a new Group Contact or agree a rota of hosting. New members are of course also welcome.

Sewing: this group has been on hold for over a year and needs to either become active or removed. With so much interest in TV's Sewing Bee we are sure there is interest in reviving the group. New Members and Group Contact needed.

To discuss either of these groups please contact the Specialist Group Coordinator,
Iris Mead, T: 01268 752616 E: irisandderrick@sky.com

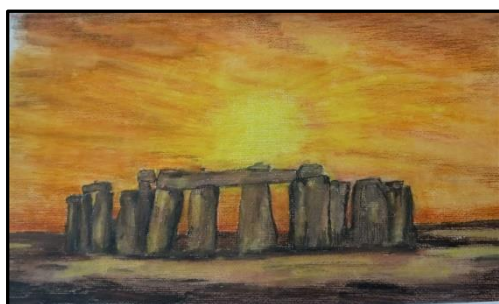
ACTIVITY CALENDAR AND GROUP ACTIVITIES

The Activity Calendar, following this section, continues to enlarge with more specific topics, dates and locations – slow but sure. Some more will BURST into life providing the Freedom Day date of 19 July 2021 is achieved.

Group activities can also be viewed on our website if Members are ever in doubt about what is going on in their groups.

So what have you been doing?

Here's some of what's going on now. Thanks to all sending photos and write-ups.



Drawing:
Summer Solstice



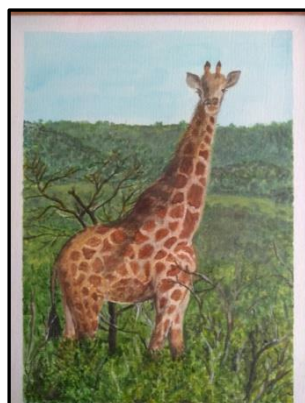
Walking over
5 miles: London



Walking over 5 miles
Southend Seafront



Photography: Woodland



Art Blue



Macs and Wellies
Gardening



Walking up to 5 miles



Drawing: Charcoal



Photography: Beeleigh Falls

BENFLEET U3A – ACTIVITY CALENDAR

GROUP	July 2021	August 2021
<u>Member Zoom Meetings</u>	<p>Zoom: 2pm Tuesday 13 July 2021 The White Mouse (Spy story!) Paul Barwick</p> <p>Zoom: 2pm Tuesday 27 July 2021 A Peek behind the Scenes Marion Pettet</p>	<p>Zoom: 2pm Tuesday 10 August 2021 A Grandmothers Legacy; the early years Jenni Mallin</p> <p>Richmond Hall? 2pm Tuesday 31 August 2021 Professional Wildlife Photography: the wildlife on your doorstep - Tom Way</p>
<u>Tea @ 3</u> <u>All Members welcome</u>	Social Zoom: 3pm every Wednesday	Social Zoom: 3pm every Wednesday
<u>Art Blue</u>	10am every Tuesday	10am every Tuesday
<u>Art Turquoise</u>	10am every Thursday	10am every Thursday
<u>Badminton1</u>	1:30 - 4pm every Monday afternoon From 19 July 2021 (rules permitting)	1:30 - 4pm every Monday afternoon
<u>Book Club</u>	Group Meeting: Monday 19 July 2021 Review: The Innocent Wife by Amy Lloyd	Group Meeting: Monday 16 August 2021 Review: To be advised
<u>Comparative Religion</u>	Garden/House Meeting: 2pm Tuesday 13 July 2021 Topic: Buddhism	Garden/House Meeting: 2pm Tuesday 10 August 2021 Topic: To be advised
<u>Culinary Experience</u>	Monday 26 July: Group COOK-IN	Monday 23 August: Group COOK-IN
<u>Discussion 1</u>	On hold until September 2021	On hold until September 2021
<u>Drawing</u>	<p>Topic: Photography group Image of the Year 2020 Zoom meeting: 2:15pm Thursday 15 July 2021 Sketch location: Sth Woodham Ferrers Riverside. TBC. My Garden: 4 seasonal drawings during the year.</p>	<p>Topic: Holiday snaps Zoom meeting: 2:15pm Thursday 19 August 2021 Sketch Location: Wat Tyler Park. Date: TBC. My Garden: 4 seasonal drawings during the year.</p>

<u>Flower Arranging</u>	Group Meetings: 10am every Friday Seasonal arrangements	Group Meetings: 10am every Friday Seasonal arrangements
<u>French</u>	Garden/house meeting: 10:00 Wed. 21 July 2021 General Conversation; Homework; Topic: Paris; Problems areas.	Garden/house meeting: 10:00 Wed. 11 August 2021 General Conversation; Homework; Topic: Paris; Problems areas.
<u>Knit & Stitch</u>	'Hug in a Shrug' project Knitting 6" squares for blankets for those needing comfort. Open to all u3a members	'Hug in a Shrug' project Knitting 6" squares for blankets for those needing comfort. Open to all u3a members
<u>Local and Essex History</u>	Research topic: Local/Essex postcards	Research topic: Individual visits to Essex Village with input of history, photos, etc.
<u>Local Interest</u>	Wednesday 7 July 2021; Rayleigh Heritage Trail	Wednesday 4 August; Location TBA
<u>Macs/Wellies Gardening</u>	3-4 ad hoc garden meetings Open Garden event for ALL members, 25 July 2021	3-4 ad hoc garden meetings
<u>Meditation</u>	Virtual meditation session am every Tuesday	Virtual meditation session am every Tuesday
<u>Photography</u>	19 July 2021: meeting outdoors in groups of 6; Location/topic to be advised.	16 August 2021: meeting outdoors in groups of 6; Location/topic to be advised.
<u>Scrabble</u>	2pm Monday 19 July 2021	2pm Monday 2 and 16 August 2021
<u>Spanish</u>	Skype: 10am every Wednesday Language conversation – topic chosen previous week	Skype: 10am every Wednesday Language conversation – topic chosen previous week
<u>Walking upto 5 miles</u>	Thursday 1 July 2021 Walk to be advised.	Thursday 5 August 2021 Walk to be advised.
<u>Walking over 5 miles</u>	Thursday 22 July 2021 Walk details to be advised.	Thursday 26 August 2021 Walk details to be advised.
<u>Women in History</u>	On hold until September 2021	On hold until September 2021