

BRAINTREE AREA U3A NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2024

Introduction

Here's wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy 2024.

Now that our Christmas and New Year celebrations are all but a distant memory our thoughts turn to the daylight hours increasing and seeing the first signs of Spring appearing in our gardens, fields and hedgerows.

General Meetings

All our General Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The entrance fee is £1. Refreshments are served following the presentation.

Our January general meeting

will be held from

2 - 4pm on Wednesday 17 January 2024

at The Institute,

Bocking End,

Braintree, Essex, CM7 9AE,

We will be welcoming Barbara Meyer. Barbara's presentation is entitled -

'Seals in Lincolnshire and Norfolk'.



Our February general meeting

will be held from

2 - 4pm on Wednesday 21 February 2024

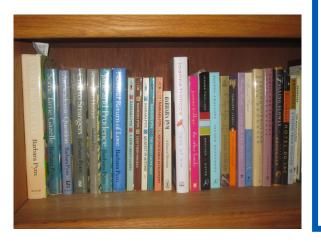
at The Institute,

Bocking End,

Braintree, Essex, CM7 9AE

We will be welcoming Bobbie Derbyshire. Bobbie's presentation is entitled -

'Where do Novelists Get Their Ideas From?'



General Meeting Programme – March to November 2024			
Date	Speaker	Meeting Title	
20 March 2024	Bob Read	Let's Talk About Toilets	
17 April 2024	Jackie Lucas	AGM/ Info on Lasting Powers of Attorney	
15 May 2024	David Caulfield	Songs and Stories from the 60's and 70's	
19 June 2024	Philip Caine	Barrow to Baghdad and Back Again	
17 July 2024	Gary Lewis	Hitchcock's Leytonstone	
21 August 2024	John Worland	Essex Witch Trials	
18 September 2024	David Gask	The John Ray Trust	
16 October 2024	Dan Tussler	My Vital Health	
20 November 2024	Carolyn Harley	The Importance of Re-cycling	

Membership Fees

Membership fees for the period 1 January – 31 December 2024 are now due. The membership fees have been kept at £20 per person or £35 per couple. The membership forms can be downloaded from our website, and will be available at our forthcoming meetings.

YOUR U3A NEEDS YOU!

The Braintree u3a Committee are pleased to announce that they have recruited a new Treasurer and a new Secretary for the forthcoming year, however we would like more members to join us in planning and shaping our u3a's future.

If you are interested in becoming a committee member, please speak to Debbie Winchester either in person, or via email, or by telephone. Debbie's details are at the end of this Newsletter.

Group News

The Groups that the committee believe are currently active are listed in the table overleaf. If you wish to join one of the Groups please contact our Group Co-ordinator, Linda Hellewell in the first instance, or one of the other Committee members. (our details are listed at the end of this email).

Group List as at 3 January 2024				
Group Name	Meeting Day and Time	Group Name	Meeting Day and Time	
Art Appreciation	4th Tuesday at 14:00	Out and About	Ad Hoc	
Book Club 1	2nd Tuesday at 14:00	Painting	2nd Thursday at 10:30	
Card and Board Games	Meets Fortnightly on Mondays	Pétanque	Every Tuesday at 9:30	
Creative Writers	3rd Friday at 10:00	Pétanque	Every Wednesday at 10:00	
Digital Photography	Ad Hoc—Thursday at 10:00	Scrabble	1st & 3rd Thursday at 10:30	
Family History	2nd Monday at 14:30	Snooker	2nd & 4th Thursday at 14:00	
Flower Arranging	2nd Wednesday at 10:00	Sunday Luncheon	Check Venue	
French Conversation	2nd Wednesday at 10:30	Tuesday Luncheon	Check Venue	
Gardening	3rd Tuesday — Venue varies	Ukelele Group	Every Other Week at 14:00	
Geography	3rd Friday at 10:00	Walkie Talkies	4th Wednesday at 10:30	
Grumpy Old Men	3rd Monday at 19:15	Walking Group 1	3rd Thursday at 9:45	
Jazz and Jammin	Ad Hoc – Mondays at 14:00	Walking Group 2	3rd Tuesday at 10:30	
Le Dejeuner Lunch Grp	4th Tuesday—Venue varies			

The Committee

Geoff Mead - Braintree U3A Honorary President

Debbie Winchester Brian Armstrong Alan James June Thompson Linda Hellewell Christine Deal Pauline McAllister Anne Britton Andrew Ings	Chair Membership Secretary Treasurer Secretary Vice Chair and Group Co-ordinator Vice Chair and Newsletter Editor Speaker Co-ordinator Outings Organiser Publicity
Anne Britton	Outings Organiser
Andrew Ings Ann Hunt	Meeting Boards and Greeting
Kathryn Varley	ТВА

Non-Committee member

Elaine Orpe

Web Editor

Contact Details

U3A mobile – 07938 982183 Debbie Winchester – 07746 958824 - email: debawinch@gmail.com Linda Hellewell – 07951 369991 – email: lindahelly2@gmail.com Pauline McAllister - 01376 320096 Christine Deal - 07791 729242 – email: <u>christinedeal@hotmail.co.uk</u>

And Finally

Let's all look forward to a fun filled year of learning through our Group activities and General meetings.