

Heybridge u3a

March 2024 News Sheet

Your Committee

<https://u3asites.org.uk/heybridge>

Archive

www.heybridgeu3a.org.uk/archive/news.html

Registered Charity number 1160360

Next Main Meeting – Plantation Hall

Friday 8th March at 2.00 pm

Annual General Meeting

Next Committee Meeting – Plantation Hall







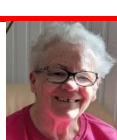
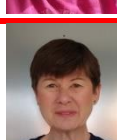

In the Claydon Room

Friday 5th April 2024 at 10.00 am

Main Meeting Refreshments Rota

March - AGM

April - Art

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From the Editors

Hello and welcome to the March News Sheet.

As we write this the weather has turned decidedly chilly, something you can vouch for if you play Petanque with Moira's group on a Monday morning, as the wind whistles up the river! The theme this winter seems to have been rain, rain and more rain. But at least it will keep our reservoirs topped up and we will avoid a hosepipe ban later in the year. Or will we? This is Britain and you can never be sure of these things. By the time you receive your next news sheet the clocks will have gone forward and the days will be longer, so something to look forward to.

Remember it is our Annual General Meeting on 8th March, and as you can see below there are positions to be filled on the committee, so put your name forward if you are able to.

Lorraine & Brian editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

Refreshments Rota

As you know, at each main meeting we have refreshments organised by a different group each month. For the AGM, Moira Penhallow has kindly volunteered to step in, and in April it will be the Art Group. Thereafter the rota will be in alphabetical order, following the list of groups on the last page of the News Sheet.

News Sheet Deadline

Please remember all CoG reports, and anything else for inclusion in the news sheet, must be submitted to the Editors by the last weekend of the month. Unfortunately anything submitted after the deadline will not be included as it takes time to put the news sheet together.

News from the Committee

From the Chairman

This month we look forward to welcoming our members to the Annual General Meeting on Friday 8th March at Plantation Hall, Heybridge, starting at 2.00 pm.

There will be two positions available on the committee and we look forward to welcoming a new Speaker Secretary and a new Co-ordinator of Groups for the year to come.

Jackie Jones chairman@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

From the Speaker Secretary

The speaker at our last meeting was Sally Lawrence, whose talk was entitled Break a Leg, which was about her time working for the BBC as a continuity announcer, which she still does as and when required. She is also an actress, still performing today and does interviews for up and coming students. We had a good attendance, and a lot of people said how interesting she was. She has been here before, and she enjoyed her second visit to Heybridge.

There will no speaker in March as it is our AGM. On 12th April we have Danielle Barnett telling us about the life and loves of Freddie Mercury. The May talk will be given by S Gunson and is entitled "The Bag Lady".

Lesley Woonton speakersecretary@heybridgeu3a.org.uk

News from around the Groups

Board Games

We met for the first time in the Claydon Room at Plantation Hall this month. We also welcomed Ann, a new member to the group. Between us we played Yahtzee, Tension and Upwords which seems to be the most popular of all the games at the moment. Yahtzee was rather noisy when the dice fell across the table so it may be a while before we play it again! We meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month and if anyone would like to join us please contact Jean or Hilary. There is now a small cost for this group as we have to pay for the rental of the Claydon Room.

Jean Rogers & Hilary Furniaux

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Cards & Paper Craft

We have been making some cards and associated crafts, unfortunately some of our ladies were unable to attend our last meeting as they were under the weather or were given inconvenient dates for deliveries.

Not deterred from being unable to join the meeting some of our group have been trying out some new crafting techniques at home and will be sharing their endeavours at the next get together. Well done!

Lesley Woonton

Coffee Morning

I am the new CoG for the Coffee Morning Group and I was off to a bad start as I was unable to attend the meeting which was at Ann's house! I was told that it was an enjoyable meeting with plenty of nice refreshments.

The next meeting will be at my house on the 15th March.

Jean Murray

Needlecraft

This month we met on a beautiful sunny afternoon at Elizabeth's house. We were made very welcome with the obligatory cuppa and a slice of homemade lemon meringue pie – yummy! Only 4 of us were able to make it but we enjoyed a chat as we learned how to make pom poms with not one but 2 different pom pom makers. One seemed to be more successful than the other but we worked collaboratively and managed to figure out what to do. A couple of us also did a bit of crocheting and knitting, hoping in time to complete a jumper and a blanket keepsake. Thank-you to Elizabeth for hosting this month.

Linda has offered to host Needlecraft in March

Hilary Furniaux

Patchwork

The group spent a productive afternoon sewing, chatting and enjoying tea and biscuits. The group will meet again on Monday 11th March. Visitors to the group are always welcome. We are more than happy to share our love of sewing.

Jackie Voyez

Petanque

It has been a challenging few months for the group, as the weather has not been very good to us with winter arriving with vengeance most Monday mornings.

As you can see from the photo, during today's game, 26th February, the wind was blowing a gale across the river. Thank goodness for thermals! Still 14 of us braved the elements to play - if only for one game. It was all good fun with the bracing conditions whipping at our legs and driving us to pack up early and find the nearest warm café.

We are delighted to welcome two new players to the group, Ann and Terry Burns.

If anyone else would like to join, please let me know, or come and see us at the prom in Maldon 10.00 am Mondays.



Moira Penhallow

Photography Group

Our last meeting (3rd February) review subject was rather different, in-as-much that we covered 12 months for review, rather than the normal one month. Some images presented were known, and some others were new. Each member searched and chose their favourite images over the entire 2023 year.

This month, we will examine "Interior" images, (good idea when the nasty weather is not our 'master'), plus generate an attempt to find a suitable "photography" image for our main Heybridge website. Two different tasks this month!

Our next meeting is via Zoom, on-line system, on 7th March 2024, at 2.00 pm.

Anyone interested in joining our meetings is welcome to visit our group, and enjoy our style, or find new styles too. We tend to be non-technical, although some members have lots of technical knowledge, and experience too. Contact Alex, for a link to our Zoom meetings, via group name and coordinator, on our News Sheet.

Each month, we load the photos on to "Flickr" sharing/organising/uploading/ system (on-line), for all to view.

Alex Lees

Reading & Books

This month the meeting will be held at Angela's house, on Wednesday 6th March, starting at 2.00 pm. We will be discussing "Girl, Woman, Other" by Bernadine Evaristo before taking home a copy of "Heart of Darkness" by Joseph Conrad.

Jackie Jones

Ten Pin Bowling

I trust you all enjoyed your game on the 15th February and welcome Ann and Terry to the group. Just to make a quick comment on the results it seems that a few weeks away has not made Rob rusty with an early score of 180. He joined the 175 Club! Also worth a mention is John with some very creditable scores particularly in the first couple of frames.

I am aware that lane 6 only managed two frames but thank you to the ladies to enable Ann and Terry to play.

You are aware that I have asked for an additional lane for the next three sessions i.e. 29th February, 14th March and 28th March in view of our increased numbers.

Also as mentioned we are aware that Thursdays are very busy at the alley and whilst Tuesday was not available previously it is now open and tends to be quieter. I am proposing that we consider changing to a Tuesday morning in future so that we have more space.

Your views would be appreciated.

Peter Harvey

Theatre & Cinema Group

We have been holding our meetings for the theatre group at member's houses on a rota basis as there are a few of us. We review what's on at the local theatres first as they are easier to get to than a trip into London.

In April we have secured seats for Calendar Girls, showing at Witham in April, and currently we are looking to book places at the Mercury theatre in Colchester for May, when we hope to spend an evening with the Carpenters.

Very sadly, we have lost one of our friends, Linda Simmons, who unexpectedly passed away. She will be missed very much, not only by us and by a number of other u3a members. Her funeral is 13th March 10.30 am at Chelmsford Crematorium, and afterwards at the Queen Victoria pub in Maldon. Our condolences go to her family and friends.

Moira Penhallow

Walking

March is the start of both the Walking and Strollers Groups. Walkers meet for a 3-4 mile walk on the second Thursday afternoon each month from March to November - excluding August. Strollers meet for a 2 mile meander on the third Thursday afternoon in the same months as the Walkers. An outline of the route will be emailed to each group about 10 days beforehand.

All suggestions and offers to lead either group occasionally would be gratefully received.

Linda Wells

Weekenders

The Lock Cafe at Heybridge Basin proved to be a welcoming venue for the Weekenders' meeting in February. Pat asked for help to find her missing cat and I'm happy to announce that he reappeared the next day, unharmed but very hungry. Where do they get to, I wonder.

Some of the group were going to see High School Musical in February at Witham, one of the WOW presentations. The next WAOS show is Calendar Girls so maybe others will want to see that, why not give it a try as they're usually excellent productions.

In March we will be meeting up at Oliver's at the usual time of 10.00 am on the 16th. Meetings are usually on the third Saturday of the month.

Linda Etherton

For your info....

This may be of interest if you would like to learn more about Artificial Intelligence.

Barry Claydon, AI Subject Adviser, has set up a national library relating to Artificial Intelligence. It contains articles written by u3a members and is suitable for AI beginners and enthusiasts. Links below:

<https://u3acommunities.org/interest-groups/computing/ai-for-everyone/>

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/subjects/artificial-intelligence>

The Blackwater u3a Scottish Country Dancing group meet at Langford Village Hall on 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at Langford Village Hall. For more information email diana.rogers2@btinternet.com

Please remember to bring any unwanted gifts, second-hand books (in good condition) or plants to our Market Place, which is held at our Main Meeting. It is an opportunity to donate items for “sale” for other members to buy in exchange for a donation to Heybridge u3a funds. Please note that we cannot accept electrical goods.

The u3a festival is being held at the University of York between 17th and 19th July. More information can be found on the u3a website. To register interest or make enquiries email festival@u3a.org.uk

If you are a Facebook user, then you may like to know that Heybridge u3a has its own Facebook page which we would like to develop. Just search for Heybridge u3a on Facebook, then apply for membership. You'll be able to submit posts and read about what is going on in the group.

Maldon Nub News is the local online newspaper; their website is maldon.nub.news Alternatively the Maldon & Burnham Standard is available in newsagents and at maldonandburnhamstandard.co.uk. Both have plenty of information about what is happening in the local area.

A reminder about our local football clubs, who are Heybridge Swifts FC who play at Scraley Road, Heybridge and Maldon & Tiptree FC who play at Park Drive, Maldon. Admission per game is £5 for concessions.

To book a space at one of our local recycling centres visit www.loveessex.org.uk . This is mandatory for everyone except those visiting by foot or Blue Badge holders.

Caroline Community Radio is our local community radio station broadcasting on 94.7 FM in Maldon and 104.7 FM in Burnham, and on the internet. They play music from the 60s through to the present day, and have regular local news updates. If you would like a mention on air, the email address to use is hello@carolinecommunityradio.co.uk

Have a look at the attached diary, which shows all of the interest groups run by Heybridge u3a . together with the location and time. Contact the relevant CoG (on the last page of the News Sheet) if you are interesting in joining any group.

Members of Heybridge u3a can join in the activities of any other u3a in our local “cluster group”, which comprises Maldon, Limebrook, Blackwater, Burnham, Dengie, Crouch Valley and South Woodham Ferrers and ourselves. Further details can be found at:

[ClusterGroupActivitySchedule.pdf \(maldonu3a.co.uk\)](http://maldonu3a.co.uk/ClusterGroupActivitySchedule.pdf)

If you have any articles you would like included in the next Heybridge u3a News Sheet please send them to editor@heybridgeu3a.org.uk.

