



Members of 2009/2010 Committee

This Month's Meeting
Friday, 9th April, 2010
2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Annual General Meeting
followed by Speaker -
Colin Banks - "Man of Hats"

Rayleigh U3A Website - www.rayleighu3a.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1134068

Rayleigh U3A

Activity List

April 2010

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Art 1 - Water Colours Visiting Essex Churches IV Family History (Beginners) Singing for Health & Pleasure	Bird Watching Tai Chi	Art II - Water & Oil Walking I	Serendipity	U3A MONTHLY MEETING History I (Local History) Latin Yoga		Sunday Lunch Group
Church Group I Singing for Health & Pleasure	Midweek Dining II Tai Chi Ten Pin Bowling Wine Appreciation (Evenings)	Art II - Water & Oil Aviation Family History II (Group 1)	Scrapbooking Theatre	Theatre Yoga		Sunday Lunch Group II
Visiting Essex Churches II & III Singing for Health & Pleasure	Bird Watching Digital Photography Dining Group II Tai Chi	Archaeology Art II - Water & Oil Calligraphy Debating Drama Visiting Essex Churches V	Art Appreciation Book Reading I Family History III History II (Social)	Computing Latin Theatre Walking II Yoga		
Gardening Scrabble Singing for Health & Pleasure	Dining Group I Tai Chi	Art II - Water & Oil Music Appreciation Family History II (Group 2)		Yoga		

PLEASE NOTE MEETINGS ARE IN THEIR REGULAR "DAY OF THE MONTH" SLOTS BUT DATES MAY VARY WITH SOME GROUPS - IF IN DOUBT CONTACT THE GROUP LEADER

Serendipity - Contact Leader - Various dates each month, Local History - contact leader
Theatre - Contact Leader - Various dates each month - usually Friday. This timetable is correct at time of printing but please always check with your group leader as to the date of your next meeting

FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Members,

Our April meeting is our third Annual General Meeting when you get the chance to meet and approve the members of the Committee for 2010/11. After our refreshment break we can enjoy a talk from Colin Banks - "Man of Hats".

We started a sister U3A last year at The Rayleigh Grange and are pleased to say that they exceeded all expectations and their membership has now reached 200. The Committee are pleased to be able to welcome a number of new members to our U3A and a New Members Coffee Morning will be held on Tuesday 25th May in the Underspire Café Area at the back of the Main Hall. Invitations will be going out during this month. Membership to our U3A is now closed. Both U3A's will be keeping a Reserve List and these people will be given the opportunity to attend a meeting to help establish another U3A in this district in the coming months.

We welcome the expertise of some of our members who have come forward to organise events to add to our exciting programme. At the end of April Roger Baker has organised a five day coach trip which will be based in Bristol. Heather Brickwood and her Gardening Team have planned a two-day trip visiting gardens in Norfolk and Suffolk. Stella Lutterloch and her friends are organizing a Quiz Night in July and Brian and Doris Lambert a Quiz Night in October. If you feel you have the expertise and time to put forward ideas to the Committee we would love to hear from you.

The Agenda for our AGM and a copy of the audited financial statement for the year end 31st December 2009 were included in the March newsletter. There will be limited copies available for new members from Secretary Marian Allen. A copy of the Minutes of the AGM held on 6th February 2009 can be found on the Notice Board at the meeting for members to read and copies will be available for any member who requests it from Secretary, Marian Allen. Members will be asked to approve these minutes at the AGM.

Thank you all for your continued support.
Best wishes to you all

*Maureen
Chair Rayleigh U3A*

GROUP LEADERS

Acoustic Guitar	Vera Ward	01268 755040	Social History	David Carlton	01268 452791
Archaeology	Ian Hayes	01268 779749	Holiday Group	Brian Kersey / Barbara Dale	01268 743959 01268 772018
Art Appreciation	Barbara Curry	01268 775460	Latin	Dave Filby	01268 770023
Art I - Water Colours	Sylvia Lester	01268 774201	Music Appreciation	Les Geales	01702 206966
Art II - Water/Oils	David Taylor	01268 777952	Scrabble	Maureen Huntly	01268 777398
Aviation	Phil Gendall	01268 750324	Scrapbooking	Janet Carlton	01268 452791
Bird Watching	Laurie Denney	01702 615370	Serendipity - Experiences/Discoveries around London	Linda & David Clarke	01702 204559
Book Reading I	Joyce Green	01268 771263	Singing for Health & Pleasure	Marjorie Sale	01702 346175
Book Reading II	Doreen Blake	01268 774871	Sunday Lunch Club I	Maureen Goss	01268 777681
Calligraphy	Irene Tyson	01268 742942	Sunday Lunch Club II	Sue Barrows	01268 776775
Ceramics	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590	Tai Chi	Sue Taylor	01268 786405
Computing	Keith Dunt	01702 201747	Ten Pin Bowling	Alan & Gill Hudson	01702 202158
Debating	Stella Lutterworth	01268 781425	Theatre	Jean McKenzie & Helena Maxwell	01268 510570 01268 772061
Digital Photography	Brian Kersey	01268 743959	Visiting Essex Churches Group I	Marian Allen	01268 743339
Dining Group I	June Morris	01255 470884	Group II	Audrey Morris	01268 771644
Dining Group II	Marion & Laurie Wrentham	01702 555783	Group III	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590
Drama	Joanne Baker	01268 742252	Group IV	Liz Denney	01702 615370
Family History:- Beginners	Terry Taylor	01268 786405	Group V	Maureen Turner	01268 750967
Family History I	Sue Taylor	01268 786405	Walking I	Roger Baker	01702 331166/ 07867 588879
Family History II	Val Taylor	01702 206416	Walking II	Les Poole	01268 773174
Family History III	Barbara Dale	01268 772018	Wine Appreciation	Harry Brickwood	01268 743838
French	Terri Gouldsmith	01268 562803	Yoga	Suzanne Middleton	01702 557389
Gardening	Heather Brickwood & Linda Clarke	01268 743838 01702 204559			
Golf	Kay Nevin	01268 780855			
History I - Local	Heather Flemmings	01702 204943			
History	David Fryer-Kelsey	01702 203455			

Please send items for inclusion in the May newsletter to:-

janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk

Janet Carlton,
35 Curlew Crescent,
Basildon, SS16 5HR
Tel: 01268 452791

**To arrive no later than
15th April, 2010**

NATIONAL OFFICE

**19 East Street, Bromley, Kent
BR1 1QH**

Tel: 02084666139

e-mail: national.office@u3a.org

Web site: www.u3a.org.uk

**Resource Centre: e-mail:
resource.centre@u3a.org.uk**

Next Month's Speaker

Friday, 7th May, 2010

2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

**Stephen Rice - Fire Safety Evangelist
Essex County Fire and Rescue Service**

Chairman:- Maureen Huntly - 01268 777398

E-mail - Maureen@phuntly.freemove.co.uk.

Membership Secretary:- Irene Carter - 01268 766149

E-mail - efandicart@btinternet.com

Group Co-ordinator:- Sue Taylor 01268 786405

E-mail - susan.taylor106@tesco.net

Newsletter editors:- Janet & David Carlton 01268 452791

E-mail - janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk

Group Co-ordinator's News

It is great to be back in the swing of things once again. In March we had our second Group Leader's Day – a meeting not only to thank Group Leaders for their work throughout the year but an opportunity to meet one another and discuss any issues/problems that may have been encountered. Judging by all the comments received it was a very successful day and I would like to thank all those who attended making the day enjoyable as well as informative. Notes and actions will be sent out accordingly to all Group Leaders.

Crib Club – David Sheffield has already set up an initial meeting for this new group with its first game hopefully this month. There are still places available on what is becoming a very popular group. Please contact David if you are interested in joining and to find out more, on 01268 743586.

Tai Chi – The next session starts again on Tuesday 6th April. There are just a few places available and if you would like to join this group for a very “gentle” form of exercise please call me on 01268 786405.

Ambling/Strolling – What a super response for this new group. I will be arranging an initial meeting this month but we will require a Group Leader. Please contact me if you feel you and/or possibly two members could get together to run this group and we can get, what I think is going to be a very popular group, up and running.

Ceramics – There are still places available – if you are interested in painting there is an opportunity to put those skills into practice by painting on plates etc. for those special occasions or just for fun. Please contact Brenda Perrott if you are interested on 01268 779590.

Real Ale - There is still time to put your name down for this new group. Please speak to Dave Filby on 01268 770023 to find out more.

Cross Stitch and Crochet – Unfortunately Jackie Lewis has been unable to recommence this group and is taking a break from the U3A this year. We wish Jackie all the best and thank her for running the group over the past year. If there is anyone who would like to take over and lead this group, please contact me. I would also like to hear from you if you are interested in joining either of these crafts.

Don't forget to contact me if you would like to consider becoming a Group Leader or to discuss any groups you would like see added to our list.

Sue Taylor

Group Co-ordinator - 01268 786405

NEWS FROM OUR GROUP LEADERS

Gardening Group

GARDEN SLIDES SHOWS

The February slide show was excellent except I could not make it. I had a date with the norovirus instead! Many thanks to everyone who helped with the teas and putting the chairs away. The next show in April will be 'The Butchard Garden' on Vancouver Island in Canada. Terri Gouldsmith has seen this wonderful garden and it will be bought to life again by her wonderful slide show. There will also be slides from other gardens, plus David's cartoons. Heather will be providing the refreshments, so a change from biscuits, (please do not shout hurray!).

As we will be catering we need to know the numbers. Kindly pay me at the next U3A meeting on the 9th April or phone me on the number below. Looking forward to seeing you all at the Cloisters at 1.30 pm for 1.45pm Monday, 26th April. The cost is £2.50.

Linda Clarke - 01702 204559

GARDEN VISITS – 2010

All members of the Rayleigh U3A are regarded as being members of the Gardening Group

Beth Chatto & Tudor Roost
Monday 14th June, **Fully Booked**

West Hanningfield Hall
Thursday 17th June, Cost £4 including refreshments. Departing by car from the Rayleigh Trinity Church Car Park at 1.30 prompt. Map will be given out at the Car park. Large country garden surrounded by farmland; lawns with large borders

containing shrubs, shrub roses and a variety of perennials. Formal rose garden, ponds, pergola and vegetable garden.

Orchard Cottage,
219 Hockley Road, Rayleigh (Heather's Garden), Monday 19th July, Meeting at the garden 2pm, Cost £4.00 including refreshments. Parking opposite on the grass verge

Norfolk Holiday
Sunday/Monday 8th/9th August
Fully Booked

Buckingham Palace Garden and State Rooms
Tuesday 31st August, **Fully Booked**
Could those members who have not yet paid for this trip please pay Heather at the April meeting.

Any questions call Heather, 01268-743838

Tatton Park Show
Four days Friday 23rd to Monday 26th July. Departs from Kirby's no other pick up points, visiting 7 gardens & Tatton Park Show. Guided tours of Chester & grand lunch on the Monday. Two places available can be a double or twin room or two single rooms.
For full details call Harry Brickwood 01268-743838

Golf

The next game of golf will be organised and played at Dunton Hills Golf Course for U3A members at 9.am on Wednesday 12th May. Could members wishing to take part please let Kay Nevin know in advance.

Dates for the rest of the year – 9th June, 14th July, 11th August. 8th September.
Kay Nevin – 01268 780855

Anniversary Celebration

Following on from our very successful Anniversary Celebration last year, another date has been set to celebrate our three year anniversary. It has been booked for Saturday, 23rd October and will be held at Rayleigh Grange Hall with a buffet and live Band included in the price of £12 per ticket. Details of when the tickets will go on sale will be announced shortly so, once again, "watch this space".

Other visits and events are being considered for the future and you will be notified as soon as more details are known.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday, 6th May – Olympic London – All tickets now sold

Monday, 24th May – Magic Circle – A few tickets still available

Wednesday, 26th May – New members' coffee morning

Saturday, 17th July – Quiz Night – Tickets on sale at May meeting

Saturday, 18th September – Chatham Dockyard – Tickets on sale at April meeting

Saturday, 16th October – Quiz Night – Tickets on sale at a future date

Saturday, 23rd October – Third Anniversary Celebration – Tickets on sale at a future date

RAYLEIGH GRANGE U3A

Please note that our sister U3A – Rayleigh Grange - will be holding their First Anniversary Celebration on Friday, 18th June, 2010 to be held at Saxon Hall, Aviation Way, Southend-on-Sea. 12.00 for 12.30pm.

There will be a three course meal followed by Coffee/Tea and mints.

The price includes reception drink, raffle, entertainment and tip for the waiting staff.

Tickets are £21.50 and members of Rayleigh U3A are warmly invited to join the celebration.

For further details please contact Sue Mahoney on 01268 780051 or e-mail her at Pemberwell@aol.com.

THE HISTORIC DOCKYARD, CHATHAM

SATURDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER, 2010

40'S RE-ENACTMENT DAY

A visit has been arranged to Chatham Dockyard to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

Step back in time for a day of nostalgia discovering what life was like on the home front. See military and home front re-enactors, wartime vehicles, period fashion and an exciting programme of wartime entertainment with humour, music and dance. Around every corner you'll encounter bombsite urchins, 'spivs', soldiers and sailors, coppers and dockyard maties. New for 2010 – a trade village, themed street scene and even more indoor and outdoor live entertainment. All this will provide so much atmosphere on the day.

There is much more - Heroic rescues of the RNLI crew are re-lived in the gallery of historic lifeboats. Magnificent maritime models, art and other artefacts come together in an historic building. Plus a visit mustn't be missed to the Ropery (included in the cost). The beautiful walled Commissioner's garden offers a perfect setting for a moment of secluded peace and quiet during a fascinating day's visit!

Price to include coach, entrance fee to Chatham dockyard and timed ticket to the Ropery, plus driver's gratuity. £18 PER PERSON cheques made payable to RAYLEIGH U3A

If you unable to attend the April meeting but would like to go on the trip please telephone Liz and Laurie on 01702 615370.

QUIZ NIGHTS - 2010

You will be pleased to hear that due to popular demand two Quiz Nights are being arranged for this year. The first is on Saturday, 17th July. Tickets will go on sale at the May meeting. 8 per team. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tickets £3 on sale at the ticket desk. Please see or contact Stella Lutterloch - 01268 781425 - for further details.

The second Quiz Night will be held in the Autumn on Saturday, 16 October and is being organised by Doris and Brian Lambert. Details are the same as above for the July Quiz Night with 8 per team. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tickets will be £3 but at the moment the date when the tickets will go on sale hasn't been decided. So put the date in your diary and "watch this space"!

Local History Group

ITINERARY 2010 as at 12th March, 2010

Wed 14th Apr 10.30am –Waltham Abbey/Royal Gun Powder Mills

Kept secret for over 300 years, the fascinating stories of what went on behind closed doors is still unfolding at the Royal Gunpowder Mills. £6 plus £2 for land train, includes tea/coffee on arrival.

Fri 21st May 10.30am - Cressing Temple (Medieval Manor of the Knights Templar)

Two vast barns, built in the early 1200's, are masterpieces of carpentry. Also farm buildings, a Templar well and a Tudor walled garden. £6 per head, Max 35, others on reserve list.

IF YOU WISH TO BOOK ANY OF THE ABOVE TRIPS, PLEASE CONTACT US AS BELOW OR VISIT THE TABLE AT THE MONTHLY MEETING.

Heather Flemmings – 01702 204943

David Fryer-Kelsey - 01702 203455

Tenpin Bowling

A fantastic afternoon this month at Tenpin Bowling with Brian Lambert scoring a brilliant 161 - the highest individual score since we started! Everybody gave him a big round of applause. Our other winners were Graham Godfrey and Lilian Morris.

We were all really pleased to see Doreen Morris back bowling after her broken arm.

Bowling will be later next month due to the Easter holidays. It will be on the 20th April at CJs in Hockley at 2pm.

Alan Hudson – 01702 202158

Serendipity - Group II

On Thursday 4th March, 27 of us met David Williams at The Hamilton Hall Pub (next to

Liverpool Street Station) for a guided walk entitled "Introduction to the City". After coffee we set off at 11am starting with the Liverpool Street Station Concourse and including St. Botolph, Bishopgate, The Leathersellers Livery Company, St. Mary Axe and The Gherkin, Leadenhall Market, St. Michael's Church, Lombard Street, St. Stephen's, Walbrook to name but a few. David was excellent and everybody enjoyed it. (He was so good that we have booked another walk in June!) We all had lunch together at The Greenman Pub at the Bank and in the afternoon we went back to St. Stephen's Church in Walbrook. We could not go in during the morning as there was a service in progress. This was instead of visiting the planned Clock-maker's Museum as the Guildhall was cordoned off due to an official visit. The church was a Wren Church and was quite magnificent and everyone agreed was well worth a visit. We then made our way back to Liverpool Street, some walking and some using the bus. It was a most enjoyable day.

Our next trip on the 1st April is to The National History Museum and Darwin Centre. On the 13th May we have a trip to St. Martins-In-The-Fields and The National Gallery.

Pam and Keith Dunt – 01702 201747

Scrabble – New venue

Please note that the Scrabble Group will continue to meet the last Monday morning in the month 10.00 am – 12.00 am. However, it will now meet at a new venue – The Ceramics Studio, Lubbards Lodge. New members welcome.

Call **Maureen Huntly – 01268 777398** for further details.

HEADLINES AND GROUP NEWS

PLEASE NOTE

For the first time this month the hard copies of the Newsletter are being posted direct to members instead of them being collected at the monthly meeting. The advantage will be two-fold:-

- a) All members will receive their copy in advance of the meeting. (This has always happened with members who receive their copies via e-mail.)
- b) The new system will cut down on the congestion experienced at the Information Desk.

Doreen Blake will still be available at the Information Desk to answer queries and take note of any changes in circumstances regarding the newsletter. Members with e-mail addresses will automatically be sent the newsletter via e-mail the Wednesday before each monthly meeting. This assists greatly in keeping administration costs down.

U3A - Nationally – “What’s going on”

BBC Documentary Series.

BBC television is making a documentary series about attitudes to money and would like to speak to people about the role money plays in their lives. For an informal chat please contact Tara Nolan on 020 7557 2364 or email her at tara.nolan@bbc.co.uk

Bookbite Project

This is a new project led by the reading charity “Booktrust” which aims to inspire older people to discover or re-discover reading and creative writing. There will be a magazine containing information on books, stories, book clubs etc and a website with other useful resources www.bookbite.org.uk

Lanyards

Lanyards with the U3A logo are now available at 70p each plus p&p from the national office The Old Municipal Buildings, 19 East Street Bromley BR1 1QE

Summer School Update.

There are still some vacancies for Cinema History, Latin American Spanish, Philosophy, Poetry, Storytelling and Writing for the second summer school starting 23 August – applications can be made to the National Office 020 8466 6139.

For further information on the above and for other U3A National and Regional news, please visit the Secretary’s Desk in the Underspire Room and speak to Marian Allen or see the Notice Board.

Volunteers

Please see June Morris, our Volunteers’ Co-ordinator, at the April meeting or call her on **01255 470884** if you would be willing to join our Volunteer Bank.

Combined Churches Visit

On 22nd March, 47 members from four of the Church Visiting groups combined to make an outing to London, visiting the Freemasons’ Hall in the morning and the Jewish Museum in the afternoon. The Freemasons’ Hall is a magnificent art-deco building constructed about 75 years ago with wonderful displays of marble stonework. We enjoyed a tour given by two entertaining guides with a wealth of Masonic knowledge. The Jewish Museum had re-opened only a few days before our visit after a £11 million refurbishment. We were the first group to make a tour of the museum since its re-opening and were regarded as ‘guinea-pigs’ for future tour parties. The museum records the history and role of the Jewish community in the UK and we all found it most informative. Overall the day in London was a great success.

Roger Baker – Visiting Essex Churches, Group 1

Some visits and events to look forward to

Magic Circle –Monday, 24th May 2010

As you probably know, tickets for the above visit to the Magic Circle went on sale at our February meeting. There are still a few places available and we are opening the bookings up to family and friends if you would like to invite somebody along. For details of the day please see the November Newsletter or the Notice Board and if you would like tickets please telephone Janet Carlton – 01268 452791.

As announced last month Liz and Laurie Denney have volunteered to jointly take over the position of Social Secretary. The first visit they are planning is to the Historic Dockyard in Chatham on Saturday, 18th September. Tickets will go on sale at the April monthly meeting and will be sold on the usual first come, first served basis. Here is a flavour of what the day will consist of. Please see Liz or Laurie, who will be sitting at the ticket desk, if you want to go on the trip or would like to know more.