



See the first of our Group Profiles  
on page 6

This Month's Meeting  
Thursday, 7th April, 2011  
2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
followed by Mike Davies  
"Rayleigh Through the  
Looking Glass"

Rayleigh U3A Website – [www.rayleighu3a.org.uk](http://www.rayleighu3a.org.uk)  
Registered Charity No. 1134068

April 2011

Newsletter No. 34

# RELLISTSMEN

## GROUP ACTIVITY CALENDAR – Normal day each Group meets each month

<b>Mondays</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	Art 1 (Watercolours); Ceramics; Family History 1; Visiting Essex Churches 4 Crib Club (evenings); Lap Top Computing; Visiting Essex Churches 1 Visiting Essex Churches 2 & 3
<b>Tuesdays</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	Birdwatching; Digital Photography; Singing for Health & Pleasure; Tai Chi; Midweek Dining 2; Tai Chi; Tempin Bowling; Wine Appreciation (evenings) Birdwatching; Dining Group 2; Singing for Health & Pleasure Tai Chi; Dining Group 1; Tai Chi;
<b>Wednesdays</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	Golf (April, July & September); Walking 1; Archaeology; Golf (May, June, August); Scrabble Crib Club; Drama; Real Ale; Visiting Churches 5 Calligraphy; Family History 2; Music Appreciation; Serendipity 3;
<b>Thursdays</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	Serendipity 2; Tai Chi; U3A Monthly Meeting Acoustic Guitar; Tai Chi; Theatre 1; Social History; Scrapbooking; Tai Chi Art Appreciation; Book Reading; Dining Group 1; Essex Social History; Family History 3; Tai Chi
<b>Fridays</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday	Latin; Local History; Yoga; Yoga; Latin; Yoga Walking 2; Yoga
<b>Saturdays</b>	Currently no Groups	
<b>Sundays</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Sunday Lunch 1 Sunday Lunch 2

Please note dates may vary more with some groups than others, particularly with trips or outdoor activities.  
Check with Group Leader for Gardening; Golf; Serendipity; Visiting Historic Places & Theatre (usually Fridays).

**PLEASE ALWAYS CHECK THE DATE OF YOUR NEXT MEETING WITH YOUR GROUP LEADER**

## FROM THE CHAIR

OUR APRIL MEETING is our 4th Annual General Meeting when members have the chance to meet and approve the members of the Committee for 2011/12. After the refreshment break we can enjoy a talk from Mike Davis titled 'Rayleigh, Through the Looking Glass'.

The Committee are looking forward to welcoming new members to our U3A at a 'New Members Coffee Morning' to be held on Tuesday 12th April in Holy Trinity Hall. Invitations have been sent out during March. This meeting is an opportunity to meet Committee Members and to hear about some of the groups from their Group Leaders (Family History, Serendipity, Scrabble, Essex Churches, History visits and more) plus a chance to meet other new members and make friends. We look to new members to come forward and offer to become a Group Leader if they have skills or interests that they can share with others. Sue Taylor, our Group Coordinator will be on hand to give help, advice and encouragement.

Membership of our U3A is now closed until the end of 2011 when we will consider a new intake of members once our members have renewed and we see how many places we have available.

On Saturday 9th April we will celebrate the talents of our acoustic guitar group, singing groups, drama group and others in a Variety Show to be held at The Grange Community Centre hosted by our very own Member of the Magic Circle, John Pomfrett. Tickets are £6 to include a ploughman's supper.

The Agenda for our AGM and a copy of the audited financial statement for the year end 31st December 2010 were included with the March newsletter. There will be limited copies available at our April meeting or available from Secretary Marian Allen. A copy of the Minutes of the AGM held on 9th April 2010 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*

## COMMITTEE, GROUPS, GROUP LEADERS

Chairman	Maureen Huntly	01268 777398	History - Local	H. Flemings	01702 204943
Vice Chair	Brian Kersey	01268 743959		D. Fryer-Kelsey	01702 203455
Secretary	Marian Allen	01268 743339	History - Social	David Carlton	01268 452791
Treasurer I	Fred Carter	01268 766149	Holiday	Brian Kersey	01268 743959
Treasurer II	Peter Walker	01702 202225	Industrial Awareness		
Membership	Irene Carter	01268 766149		Janet Carlton	01268 452791
Group Co-ord'r	Sue Taylor	01268 786405	Keep Fit	Janet Carlton	01268 452791
News'l'tter Eds:	David & Janet Carlton		Knit & Natter	Doreen Oliver	01268 743082
		01268 452791	Lap Top Computing		
Social Secret'y	Laurie Denney	01702 615370		Frank Bodey	01268 733616
Speaker Sec.	Janet Carlton	01268 452791	Latin	Dave Filby	01268 770023
Other Committee:			Music Apprec'n	Les Geales	01702 206966
	June Morris	01255 470884	Real Ale Group	Dave Filby	01268 770023
	Frank & Doreen Bodey		Scrabble	Marg't Bristow	01268 747639
		01268 733616	Scrapbooking	Janet Carlton	01268 452791
	Pete Huntly	01268 777398	Serendipity I	Linda & David Clarke	
	Terry Gouldsmith	01268 562803			01702 204559
	Barbara Hodge	01268 771820	Serendipity II	Pam & K. Dunt	01702 201747
	Ian Haynes	01268 779749	Serendipity III	P. & J. Pomfrett	01702 230253
			Singing for Health & Pleasure		
<b>Groups/Group Leaders:</b>				Marjorie Sale	01702 346175
Acoustic Guitar	Vera Ward	01268 775040	S. Lunch Club I	Maureen Goss	01268 777681
Archaeology	Ian Haynes	01268 779749	S. Lunch Club II	Sue Barrows	01268 776775
Art Appreciat'n	Barbara Curry	01268 775460	Tai Chi (J)	Sue Taylor	01268 786405
Art I -			Tenpin Bowling	Alan Hudson	01702 202158
Water Col'rs	Sylvia Lester	01268 774201		Bob Wren	01702 525311
Bird Watching	Laurie Denney	01702 615370	Theatre	Jean Mackenzie	01268 510570
Book Reading	Doreen Blake	01268 774871		Helena Maxwell	01268 772061
Book Reading II	Marian Allen	01268 743339	Theatre II	Sandra Wilson	01268 775184
Calligraphy	Irene Tyson	01268 742942	Visiting Essex Churches:		
Ceramics	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590	Group I	Marian Allen	01268 743339
Crib Club	David Sheffield	01268 743586	Group II	Elizabeth Baker	01702 331166
Digit'l Photog'y	Brian Kersey	01268 743959	Group III	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590
Dining Group I	June Long	01268 730603	Group IV	Liz Denney	01702 615370
Dining Group II	Marion & Laurie Wrentham		Group V (J)	Maureen Turner	01268 750967
		01702 555783	Visiting Historic Places: to be confirmed		
Drama	Joanne Baker	01268 742252	Walking I	Roger Baker	01702 331166
Family History:-					07867 588879
Family History I	Sue Taylor	01268 786405	Walking II	Les Poole	01268 773174
Family History II	Pete Huntly	01268 777398	Wine Apprec'n	Harry Brickw'd	01268 743838
Family History III	Barbara Dale	01268 772018	Yoga	Suzanne Middleton	
Flower Arranging	Irene Stokes	01268 774564			01702 557389
Gardening	Heather Brickw'd	01268 743838			
	Linda Clarke	01702 204559			
Golf	Kay Nevin	01268 780855			

(J) = Joint with Rayleigh Grange

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

[janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk)

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

To arrive no later than  
**Tuesday, 14th April**

#### NATIONAL OFFICE

19 East Street, Bromley, Kent  
BR1 1QH  
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Web site: [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)  
Resource Centre: e-mail:  
[resource.centre@u3a.org.uk](mailto:resource.centre@u3a.org.uk)

#### Next Meeting at Mill Hall Centre

Thursday, 19th May, 2011  
2.00 p.m - 4.00 p.m

**Peter Webb - "The Good Life"**

### **COMMITTEE CONTACTS**

*Chairman: Maureen Huntly - 01268 777398*

*E-mail: [Maureen@phuntly.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:Maureen@phuntly.freeserve.co.uk)*

*Membership Secretary: Irene Carter - 01268 766149*

*E-mail: [efandicart@btinternet.com](mailto:efandicart@btinternet.com)*

*Group Co-ordinator: Sue Taylor 01268 786405*

*E-mail: [susan.taylor106@tesco.net](mailto:susan.taylor106@tesco.net)*

*Newsletter editors: Janet & David Carlton 01268 452791*

### **GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S NEWS**

**Group Leaders' Day** – We held our GL Day on the 9th March and this proved to be very successful. 35+ new groups were suggested by Group Leaders at the meeting. Mostly, these are groups which can be held in homes enabling Group Leaders to host a group in the comfort of their own homes and with a number that is manageable and easy to run. I will be putting lists out in batches at each of our monthly meetings during the rest of the year and you will have a chance to put your name down to join or to host one of these new groups. Some of the groups which I will be advertising at the April meeting are:- Antiques; Garden – Propagating (specific); "Grumpy 'Ol U3A Members" - a fun discussion group – I hope!!! - or - as somebody called it at the meeting - a "Complaining Group"!!

**Knit & Natter** – Well, how popular this new group is!! We had over twenty members sign up to join. I have set up an initial meeting with Doreen Oliver for the 22<sup>nd</sup> March and she has agreed that two meetings a month (a Tuesday and a Thursday) will be held regularly at her house to accommodate these members. Timings to be confirmed.

**Flower Arranging** – Irene Stokes is the new Group Leader and I have set up an initial meeting in April when a regular day and time will be decided. Please contact Irene on 01268 774564 for further information.

If you are interested in hosting a new group in your home from the list below, please contact me on 01268 786405 and we will look to set something up over the coming months.

**New Interest Groups to be considered – LEADERS REQUIRED PLEASE to host Groups at home:**

Watching and/or Discussion of DVD's, Poetry, DIY, French, Other Languages, Board Games/Card Games, Cookery – demonstrations and/or exchanging recipes/ideas, Murder Mystery, Computer Games (e.g. World of Wars), Silent Crosswords, Crossword/Sudoku, Internet Discovery, Patchwork, Model Making, Garden Clearing (hands on), Current Affairs, Investment, Foreign History, Basic English Language, History of English Language, Dressmaking/needlecraft, Dolls Houses, Indoor table tennis/snooker/billiards/darts, Mosaics.

**Sue Taylor - Group Co-ordinator**

**Tel: 01268 786405**

**e-mail: [susan.taylor106@tesco.net](mailto:susan.taylor106@tesco.net)**

## NEWS FROM OUR GROUP LEADERS

### TENPIN BOWLING

We were pleased to welcome two new members, Doreen Jones and Sheila Morgan, to our March meeting. As it was a beautiful sunny day our numbers were down but we had an enjoyable afternoon. With two cups on offer Graham Godfrey was back on form and won the first. The other cup was won by first time winner Mike Edwards.

If you would like to give Tenpin Bowling a try please come along to our April Meeting (Tuesday, 5th April). Please give me a call if you would like to know more.

Regular members – PLEASE NOTE – Due to the school Easter Holiday falling between 8th– 26th April, the April meeting will be on Tuesday, 5th April.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the May meeting will be Tuesday, 17th May.

Alan Hudson – 01702 202158

### LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Get all the latest details of the group on our blog

<http://lhgu3arayleigh.blogspot.com>

Thursday, 21st April sees us touring Old Leigh under the guidance of members of the Leigh Heritage Society.

Meet 10.00am at the Heritage Centre, 13A High Street, Old Leigh, SS9 2EN. The tour will be followed by a slide show and you will have the opportunity to look around the Old Fisherman's Cottage and explore the exhibits in the Heritage Centre. £2 per head.

Wednesday 18th May and we have a guided tour of Benfleet. This is a follow up to the slide show given by John Downer in February.

Book visits with Heather Flemmings at monthly U3A meetings or e-mail [heatherfl@lineone.net](mailto:heatherfl@lineone.net) or phone 01702 204943.

Pay David Fryer-Kelsey at monthly U3A meetings or post to 113 Greensward Lane, Hockley, Essex, SS5 5HS. Cheques made payable to Rayleigh U3A.

**David Fryer-Kelsey – 01702 203455**

**Heather Flemmings – 01702 204943**

### GOLF GROUP

If you have a set of Golf Clubs why not join our Group for a game of golf? We meet monthly from April to September at Dunton Hills Golf Club. We play 18 holes on their par 3 course at a cost of six pounds per game finishing with a drink in the Club House. This has proved to be a really enjoyable event with a lovely group of people. For more information please give me a call.

Dates for 2011 will be:- Wednesday, 13th April; Wednesday, 11th May; Wednesday, 8th June; Wednesday, 13th July; Wednesday, 10th August; Wednesday, 7th September.

**Kay Nevin – 01268 780855**

### KEEP FIT

Our Keep Fit Group started in February and is off to a great start. We meet every Friday afternoon – 3pm to 4pm - at Cully's Gym in Hockley. Martin is our "guru" and makes our sessions fun!! £4 per session payable on the day. If you would like to find out more and would like to join us for a taster session please give me a call.

**Janet Carlton – 01268 452791**

Price includes morning coffee, lunch and gratuities to the coach driver and guide.

Pick up points will be:-  
Kirby's Depot 8.30am  
Webster's Way 8.35am  
Rayleigh Station 8.40am.

### **COST - £33 per person**

Tickets will go on sale at the April meeting and will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Cheques should be made payable to "Rayleigh U3A" and written in advance if possible to save time at the ticket desks.

If this trip is over subscribed and there is sufficient interest, a second coach could be run on Wednesday, 7th September, 2011.

If you have any queries regarding the above two visits please enquire at the ticket desk. - **Liz and Laurie Denney**

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

**REMINDER – AS THE OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS WERE MOVED FROM FRIDAYS TO THURSDAYS THE SCHEDULE FOR PROCESSING THE NEWSLETTER HAD TO BE ALTERED. WOULD YOU PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE DATE FOR ITEMS YOU WOULD LIKE PUT IN THE NEWSLETTER IS NOW THE 14TH OF EACH MONTH AND NOT THE 15TH. THANK YOU.**

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Saturday, 9th April</b>                   | Variety Show & Supper, Rayl'gh Grange Community Hall<br>Tickets now on sale - £6           |
| <b>Tuesday, 12th April</b>                   | New Members' Meeting – 10am–12.30pm<br>Trinity Hall – Underspire Room                      |
| <b>Thursday, 14th April</b>                  | Royal Marines Mountbatten Festival of Music, Albert Hall<br><b>Tickets all sold</b>        |
| <b>Wed. 20th April and<br/>Wed. 11th May</b> | Olympic London II – <b>Tickets all sold</b><br>Olympic London II – <b>Tickets all sold</b> |
| <b>Friday, 19th August</b>                   | Hatfield House Country Show –<br>Tickets now on sale - £20                                 |
| <b>Wed. 28th Sept.</b>                       | Visit to Rye – Tickets on sale at April Meeting - £33                                      |

You will be dropped off at the Country Show entrance . The Show gives a taste of the countryside and includes a Food Marquee, Celebrity Chef Demonstrations, Steam Traction Engines, Traditional Breed Animals, Shooting, Fishing, Archery, Arena Events and lots of stalls to tempt you to spend your money. Throughout the day transport will be running to the House where there is a restaurant and some very nice small shops.

Also, to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Hatfield House, there is a major exhibition of Henry Moore's larger sculptures in the garden. This is the largest collection ever exhibited in the grounds of an historic house.

The cost to view Henry Moore's exhibition and entry to Hatfield House is not included in the £20 cost of your ticket. Entry to the Henry Moore Exhibition is £11.50 and the separate charge for entry to Hatfield House is £6. Both must be purchased by you personally and separately on the day.

There are still a few tickets available for this trip. Cheques should be made payable to "Rayleigh U3A". Pickup points will be:-

Kirby's Depot	8.45 a.m.
Webster's Way	8.50 a.m.
Rayleigh Station	8.55 a.m.

## **COACH TRIP TO RYE**

**via Tenterden, Romney Marsh, Dungeness and Camber Sands**

**WEDNESDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER, 2011**

This is a "City & Villages" trip. We leave Rayleigh and drive to Tenterden for morning coffee at a local pub and to meet our City and Villages Guide.

After coffee, we rejoin the coach for a tour of Romney Marsh and Dungeness, said to be the only desert in the U.K. A Fish & Chip lunch will be provided at the Pilot Inn, Dungeness.

After lunch we drive via Camber Sands to Rye for a guided walking tour. There will be time to purchase tea in Rye. We anticipate rejoining the coach for the homeward journey around 4.45pm-5.00pm.

### **SCRAPBOOKING**

If you are interested in finding out more about our Scrapbooking Group and feel you may like to join this friendly group please give me a call.

**Janet Carlton – 01268 457291**

### **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

Ten members attended our first meeting of the year at 69 Victoria Road, Rayleigh where we set-up a mini Table-Top Studio to enable members to hone their skills using the macro settings on their equipment on a variety of subjects such as Mineral Specimens, Miniature Paintings and Miniature Bear Families which everyone enjoyed.

Our meetings are always on the first Tuesday of the month, 10-12a.m., at the above address.

We have set subjects each month where members are encouraged to create their own interpretations.

We also take time to iron-out technical problems and to improve the understanding of equipment and it's application to specific subject matters.

We have a few vacancies at the moment so please give me a call if you would like to join us or just discuss what it involves. We cater for ALL abilities so ' don't be shy - give us a try'.

**Brian Kersey - 01268743959 or e-mail [brian.kersey@sky.com](mailto:brian.kersey@sky.com)**

## **HEADLINES AND ACTIVITIES**

**PLEASE NOTE – NEXT MONTH'S MEETING  
DON'T TURN UP ON THE WRONG DAY!!!**

Due to circumstances beyond our control (Local elections etc.) our May meeting will be on **Thursday, 19th May.**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2011**

As you know, we shall be holding our AGM this month. For your information a copy of Rayleigh U3A Accounts for year ending 31st December, 2010 was enclosed last month with the March Newsletter. The Accounts are printed on the back of the Agenda. You may find it useful to bring the Accounts and Agenda with you to the meeting as there will only be a few spare copies available at the meeting.

**Fred Carter**  
**Treasurer - Main Account**

**Peter Walker**  
**Treasurer – Social Account**

## **SECRETARY'S NOTES**

### **LECTURE - ESSEX UNIVERSITY, SOUTHEND CAMPUS**

As mentioned in last month's Newsletter we have been invited to a lecture to be given by Professor Tod Landman, the Director of the Institute for Democracy and Conflict Resolution. This is a very topical subject given the current unrest and Human Rights issues presently taking place in a wide range of Countries. The venue will be The Gateway Building in Southend and will take place on Wednesday, 13th April commencing at 3.00pm (for refreshments). The lecture will begin at 3.30p.m.

The Gateway Building can be found as follows:- Past the railway bridge with the sea behind you turn left down Elmer Approach. The Gateway Building has been built directly behind what was once the Odeon Cinema and is only a short distance from the railway bridge. There are still some places left to attend the Lecture. Please let me know if you would like a place or would like more information.

**Marion Allen - Secretary Tel: 01268 743339**

## **GROUP PROFILE**

### **CRIBBAGE GROUP**

Rayleigh U3A Cribbage Group was formed in the first quarter of 2010 after I attended a similar U3A Crib Club in Spain.

I am a Chemist and spent all my working life in the pharmaceutical industry, first as a Research Chemist and ending as a worldwide production manager working and living in Pakistan and Nigeria. I was lucky to retire early aged 53 and needed something to fill my time. A year after retiring I was sworn in as an Essex Magistrate based at the Southend Court. After 17 years as a J.P I was too old at 70 and had to retire from active service. About this time I discovered Rayleigh U3A and joined with my wife, Jacqueline. At the start we joined a number of groups – Visiting Essex Churches III, Wine Appreciation, Real Ale Appreciation and Digital Photography.

After seeing the success of the U3A Crib Club in Spain I decided to start a Cribbage Group for our members in Rayleigh. The Group was advertised at a U3A monthly meeting and I was surprised to get 20 to 30 members who were interested in joining. Most could play Cribbage but many had not played for a long time. We started playing twice monthly at the Ceramics Centre at Lubbards Farm.

There was an excellent response to start with but the initial enthusiasm died down for various reasons but mainly due to the venue being unsuitable. The Cribbage Group staggered on until Christmas 2010. In January 2011 I offered to hold the meetings at my home on a trial basis. The number of members attending immediately went up and it was agreed to work towards competitive Cribbage and move away from social Cribbage.

There are now 22 signed-up members, most of whom play at the Monday evening meeting with fewer attending the Wednesday morning meeting. There are a few vacancies, mainly for the Wednesday morning meeting or you could go on a waiting list if you are interested in joining the Monday meeting. New members need to be able to play Cribbage even if it is a few years since they have played the game and are a bit rusty!! For more information please give me a call.

**David Sheffield – 01268 743586**

### **LOOKING FOR A HOME**

Four adult and eight young goldfish are anxiously in need of a new home. Delightful company if you have a pond. Please contact Marian and Ron on 01268 743339 if you can help.

## **Some visits and events to look forward to**

### **HATFIELD HOUSE COUNTRY SHOW**

**FRIDAY, 19TH AUGUST, 2011**

A trip has been arranged to Visit the Country Show held annually at Hatfield House. The cost of the visit will be £20 and will include transport, entry to the Country Show and driver's gratuity.