



This Month's Meeting  
at the Mill Hall Centre  
Thursday, 6th January, 2011  
2.00 - 4.00 pm  
Ray Spiller - A Musical Quiz  
Music from the 50s/60s

# January 2011

## ACTIVITY LIST - JANUARY 2011

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

Happy New Year to you all,

January 2011 heralds a new beginning for Rayleigh U3A when we will be meeting in Mill Hall, part of the Mill Hall Arts and Events Centre, centrally situated just off the High Street and adjacent to car parks. Our meeting day has changed to the first Thursday in the month from 2pm until 4pm

Please remember to renew your membership as soon as possible. To those of you who have kindly already sent in your renewal forms please collect your new Membership Cards from the Membership Desk. We will be welcoming approximately fifty new members at the end of this month which will mean more groups and new friendships to be made.

Members are advised that the **Annual General Meeting of Rayleigh U3A** in 2011 will be held on 7th April at Mill Hall at 2.15 p.m. Members may nominate Officers and Committee Members and give Notices for Motions to be considered at the AGM so long as such matters are proposed and seconded by two current members (and, in the case of nominations, confirmation from the person being nominated that they are willing to stand for the position) and delivered in writing to the Secretary at least 8 weeks prior to the date of the AGM. Committee vacancies will be listed in the February Newsletter when nominations from the membership may be put forward. Members will be provided with a copy of the Agenda for the AGM, and a copy of the audited financial statements of Rayleigh U3A for the year to 31st December 2010 with the March 2011 Newsletter. Members should ensure that they bring with them to the AGM on 7th April these copies of the Agenda and financial statements sent to them in March as further copies may not be available at the AGM itself.

The Minutes of the last AGM held on 9th April 2010 have been considered and agreed by the Committee. A copy will be posted on the Notice Board at the meetings in March and April 2011 for members to read (and the Secretary will make available a further copy for any member who requests it). Members will be asked to approve these Minutes at the AGM on 7th April 2011.

Our first speaker of the year is Ray Spiller who will be presenting a "Musical Quiz" – Music from the 50s/60s.

Best wishes to you all,

*Maureen,  
Chair - Rayleigh U3A*

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

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Happy and Healthy New Year and also thank all our Group Leaders for their help and support in keeping our groups running so smoothly. As I have said on many occasions, without you we would have no U3A.

### **Singing for Health & Pleasure**

I would like to thank Marjorie Sale for returning to the Singing for Health & Pleasure group. I am so pleased that her return to good health has enabled this to happen. Marjorie has room for more singers and if you would like to join her group please give her a call on 01702 346175. You will see her group perform jointly with the Rayleigh Grange Singing Group at the Christmas lunch (now postponed until January 7th). There are also spaces in the Grange Singing Group and if you are interested and would like to know more please contact me on 01268 786405.

### **Tai Chi**

This group now meets every Tuesday and Thursday at Castle Hall, Castle Lane Rayleigh. Please contact me for more details. If you would like to join, the cost is £4 per session payable 10 weeks in advance (£40). If you would like to attend both sessions Gavin has agreed a special price of £5 for both sessions (£50 for 10 weeks). Look forward to seeing you there.

### **Keep Fit**

Due to bad weather conditions in December Janet Carlton had postponed her initial group meeting until the 19th January. This will be at the Mill Hall at 09.30. Please contact Janet for more information on 01268 452791.

### **Dining Group I**

June Long has now taken over from June Morris as Group Leader and can be contacted on 01268 730603. I would like to thank June for being Group Leader since the group first started and I am pleased to say that she will remain a member of this group together with her partner Jim.

Would all Group Leaders please check the monthly Activity Calendar and Group Leaders List at the back of this Newsletter and advise me of any changes or corrections to their group this year. Thank you.

During this year, I hope to be starting some new groups and therefore will be looking for new Group Leaders to come forward. If you are interested in becoming a Group Leader, please contact me to discuss. We will be holding our Annual Group Leaders meeting in March and as a new Group Leader you will be invited to come along and enjoy a day of sharing and learning with all our Group Leaders and Committee members.

**Sue Taylor**  
**Group Co-ordinator**

01268 786405 email: [susan.taylor106@tesco.net](mailto:susan.taylor106@tesco.net)

# NEWS FROM OUR GROUP LEADERS

## TENPIN BOWLING

Each month I report on the continuing success of our Tenpin Bowling Group and this month is no exception. In November Graham Godfrey won the trophy for the highest score (175) which turned out to be the highest score achieved since the Group started. Our other winner was Peter Joyce. A special mention must go to Betty Nott who has bowled whenever possible but has never won a trophy until now. Well done to you all. Our next meeting will be on the 11th January at CJs Hockley at 2pm.

**Alan Hudson – 01702 202158**

## SERENDIPITY GROUP III

In October 2010 we had an interesting trip to the Bank of England Museum and The Guildhall Art Gallery. The introductory talk was very informative and covered its history since 1694. After our usual pub lunch we visited the Guildhall Art Gallery and Roman Amphitheatre where we had a guided tour with excellent talks.

At the beginning of November we met at Lord's Golf & Country Club for coffee and biscuits and spent a very pleasant time planning our 2011 outings.

On 17th November we visited The Wallace Collection, said to be the finest collection of art ever held by one family and now a National Museum. It is a beautiful collection which includes "The Laughing Cavalier". On arrival, we enjoyed a scrumptious spread of coffee/tea and cookies followed by a tour of the collection with an excellent guide. We then enjoyed a superb meal in the restaurant. At the end of the day several members of the group decided to stay in London to see the Christmas Lights.

Our next trip in January is to The Royal Courts of Justice and St. Clement Danes Church.

**Pat and John Pomfrett - 01702 230253**

## LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Get all the latest details of the group on our blog <http://lhqu3arayleigh.blogspot.com>

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 16th February 2011 at 10.00am to noon, in the Cloister Rooms at Trinity Hall. It will include a slide show of Old Benfleet given by John Downer, Secretary of the Benfleet and District Historical Society. £4 per head to include tea/coffee/biscuits. Open to all Rayleigh U3A members.

On Wednesday 16th March we shall explore the old sailing town of Burnham-on-Crouch. Meet at the church at 10.00am for tea and coffee. Short drive from the Church to Clock Tower. Then a guided walk from the Clock Tower in the main street, starting at 11.15 am and taking about one and a half hours. A break for lunch in any of the cafes and pubs and then the option of visiting the Museum (in an old boat house) near the waterfront. £4 per head.

On Thursday, 31st March we visit the Titanic artifacts exhibition at O2 by coach and then go onto old Greenwich.

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. £2 per head.

Book visits with Heather Flemmings at monthly U3A meetings, email [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 please.

**Heather Flemmings – 01702 204943**

**David Fryer-Kelsey – 01702 203455**

## GROUP LEADERS

Acoustic Guitar	Vera Ward	01268 755040	Holiday Group	Brian Kersey & Barbara Dale	01268 743959
Archaeology	Ian Haynes	01268 779749	Latin	Dave Filby	01268 772018
Art Appreciation	Barbara Curry	01268 775460	Music Appreciation	Les Geales	01268 770033
Art I – Water Colours	Sylvia Lester	01268 774201	Real Ale	Dave Philby	01702 206066
Art II – Waters/Oils	David Taylor	01268 777952	Scrabble	Maureen Humby	01268 770033
Aviation	Phil Gendall	01268 750324	Scrapbooking	Janet Carlton	01268 777398
Bird Watching	Laurie Denney	01702 615370	Serendipity – Discoveries around London	Linda and David Clarke	01268 452791
Book Reading II	Doreen Blake	01268 774871	Singing for Health & Pleasure	Marjorie Sale	01702 346175
Calligraphy	Irene Tyson	01268 742942	Sunday Lunch Club I	Maureen Gross	01268 777681
Ceramics	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590	Sunday Lunch Club II	Sue Barrows	01268 776775
Crib Club	David Sheffield	01268 743586	Tai Chi	Sue Taylor	01268 786405
Computing	Keith Dunt	01702 201747	Ten Pin Bowling	Alan/Gill Hudson	01702 202158
Debating	Stella Luterloch	01268 781425	Theatre	Jean McKenzie & Helena Maxwell	01268 510570
Digital Photography	Brian Kersey	01268 743959	Visiting Essex Churches (Group I)	Marian Allen	01268 772061
Dining Group I	June Morris	01255 470884	(Group II)	Andrey Morris	01268 743339
Dining Group II	Marion & Laurie Wretham	01702 555783	(Group III)	Brenda Perrott	01268 771644
Drama	Joanne Baker	01268 742252	(Group IV)	Liz Demsey	01268 779590
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/
Family History II	Val Taylor	01702 206416	Walking II	Les Poole	07867 588879
Family History III	Barbara Dale	01268 772018	Wine Appreciation	Harry Brickwood	01268 773174
French	Terri Gouldsmith	01268 562803	Yoga	Suzanne Middleton	01268 743838
Gardening	Heather Brickwood /Linda Clarke	01268 743838			
Golf	Kay Nevin	01702 204559			
History I – Local History	Heather Flemmings	01268 780855			
Social History	David Fryer-Kelsey	01702 204943			
	David Carlton	01268 452791			

**Please send items for inclusion in the January newsletter to:-**

**janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk**

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

**To arrive no later than  
Sunday, 5th December, 2010**

#### NATIONAL OFFICE

19 East Street, Bromley, Kent  
BR1 1QH

Tel: 02084666139

e-mail: [national.office@u3a.org](mailto:national.office@u3a.org)

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, 3rd February**

**2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.**

**Ian Curry**

**"Weather Law - Fact or  
Fiction?"**

#### **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*

*E-mail: [janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk)*

#### **KEEP FIT – Please Note**

This is to confirm to those of you who had shown an interest in finding out more concerning the proposed Keep Fit group that the initial meeting has been re-scheduled for Wednesday, 19th January at Mill Hall, Rayleigh starting at 9.30 a.m. Anyone is welcome even if your name isn't on the list. Please contact me if you have any queries.

**Janet Carlton – 01268 452791**

#### **THEATRE GROUP**

On 22nd October 34 members met to help plan our next visits.

In November 18 members, led by Sandra Wilson, enjoyed a visit to the TV studios to watch a recording of "Loose Women" following a rather fraught bus trip!

17 members braved the cold on 25th November to see the matinee of "The Railway Children" at Waterloo Station, on Platforms 1 and 2. We were all impressed by the presentation and excellent performance. The arrival of a Sterling 1877 Steam Engine and coach was the highlight of the show. However, we were all very glad to have enjoyed a good hot meal before the show as the heating failed during the second half of the performance.

**18th December** – A coach full of members and friends visited the Royal Albert Hall to enjoy "Carols by Candlelight".

**16th February, 2011** – 15 members so far are interested in seeing "Chess" at the Cliffs Pavilion. If any more members would like to go, please contact Helena a.s.a.p.. Price approximately £21.

8th March – "The Mousetrap" is booked for 32 members.

Contact Sandra or Helena.

**23rd March** – 11-13 members are booked for "Love Never Dies" at the Adelphi.

March – An Agatha Christie play. Date and details to be advised. Please contact Jean if you are interested.

**18th May** – 11-23 members are hoping to see "Les Miserables" at the Queen's. Please contact Helena about sending your payment. Tickets cost £23.50.

Our next meeting is on Friday, 18th February at 10.30 am at the W.I Hall, Bellingham Lane. This date is to be confirmed.

**Jean Mackenzie - 01268 510570**  
**Helena Maxwell – 01268 772061,**  
**Mobile 07952574907**  
**Wilson - 01268 775184**

#### **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 and finishing with a drink in the club house. This has proved a really enjoyable event with a lovely group of people.

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

If you would like more information please contact **Kay Nevin – 01268 780855**

#### **ESSEX SOCIAL HISTORY**

Some members of our group recently gave a talk to members of the Local History Group at the Cloisters, Trinity Hall. At the end of the meeting some members of the Local History Group expressed an interest in joining Social History and I have also been contacted by other U3A members who have also shown an interest.

As it may be difficult for so many to join the existing group I have suggested started a second Essex Social History Group. If you are interested in joining please contact me.

**David Carlton – 01268 452791 or**  
**e-mail [davidcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:davidcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk)**



## GARDENING SLIDE SHOWS

David provided an excellent show with the added bonus of slides featuring a German tourist in underpants rescuing a Bichon Frise from drowning. This was particularly poignant to us as we look after a Bichon five days a week. The sausage rolls, mince pies and Christmas Crackers went down so well that I hope to repeat it again next year. Many of the crackers were taken home for grandchildren which was an added bonus.

Next Slide Show – Monday, 24th January, Cloister Rooms, Trinity Hall, 1.30 for 1.45 pm until approx 3.30pm  
Cost £2.50 including tea/coffee and cake.  
Featuring “The Good Life, Part Two” – A humorous tale by Peter Webb.  
All those who saw Part 1 last year know

how amusing Peter was. Unfortunately the weather was against us, with the ice and snow being so treacherous underfoot and only a few brave souls managed to get to the Cloisters. I hope this year the weather is better so that more can come along and enjoy the show.

**Linda Clarke – 01702 204559**

## SERENDIPITY GROUP I

Members of Serendipity Group I would like to thank Linda and David for arranging all the trips we have enjoyed with them during 2010.

We look forward to many more outings in 2011 and would like them to know that we appreciate the time and trouble they take to ensure things run smoothly for us.

## HEADLINES AND ACTIVITIES

### Some visits and events to look forward to

#### Hatfield House Country Fair Friday, 19th August, 2011

A trip has been arranged to Visit the Country Fair at Hatfield House which is held annually. The cost of the visit will be £20 and will include entry to the Country Fair and driver's gratuity. You will be dropped off at the entrance to the Country Fair. The Fair 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 400<sup>th</sup> 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 cost of your ticket.

Tickets will go on sale at the January meeting and will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Cheques should be made payable to Rayleigh U3A.

As stated above, tickets for the Henry Moore Exhibition and entry to the House are not included in the cost of the visit. 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.

Pickup points will be:- Kirby's Depot 8.45 a.m.  
Webster's Way 8.50 a.m.  
Rayleigh Station 8.55 a.m.

**Liz and Laurie Denney - 01702 615370**

***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**

**Friday, 7th January** Christmas Lunch, Saxon Hall – re-scheduled from December  
**Mon, 10th January** “Faith and Belief” Talks – Tickets now on sale - £10 for 3 talks  
**Mon, 24th January** as above  
**Mon, 7th February** as above  
**Friday, 25th February** Speaker Lunch, Saxon Hall – Tickets now on sale - £15.50

**Saturday, 9th April** Variety Show and Supper, Rayleigh Grange Community Hall  
Tickets on sale at January monthly meeting

**Thursday, 14th April** Royal Marines Mountbatten Festival of Music, Albert Hall  
**Tickets all sold**

**Wed. 20th April and** Olympic London II – **Tickets all sold**  
**Wed. 11th May** Olympic London II – **Tickets all sold**  
**Friday, 19th August** Hatfield House Country Fair – Tickets on sale at the  
January meeting

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

If you have access to the Internet and receive your newsletter via e-mail please be sure to open your e-mails regularly as we intend to start sending any appropriate information which has missed appearing in a Newsletter out via e-mail.