



Marian Allen's presentation (see page 6)

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Friday, 7th May 2010
2pm - 4pm
STEPHEN RICE
Fire Safety Evangelist
Essex County Fire & Rescue
Service

Rayleigh U3A Website – www.rayleighu3a.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1134068

Rayleigh U3A

Activity Calendar –MAY 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Art I – Water Colours Visiting Essex Churches IV Family History (Beginners) Singing for Health & Pleasure	Bird Watching Tai Chi	Art II – Water & Oil Walking I	Serendipity II	U3A MONTHLY MEETING (Local History) Latin		
Visiting Essex Churches Group I Singing for Health & Pleasure Crib (evening)	Midweek Dining II Tai Chi Ten Pin Bowling Wine Appreciation (Evenings)	Art II – Water & Oil Family History II (Group 1)	Theatre	Yoga		Sunday Lunch Group
Visiting Essex Churches II & III Singing for Health & Pleasure	Bird Watching Digital Photography Dining Group II Tai Chi	Art II – Water & Oil Aviation Crib Debating Drama Visiting Essex Churches V	Family History III History II- (Social) Scrapbooking	Latin Yoga		Sunday Lunch Group II
Scrabble Singing for Health & Pleasure	New Members Coffee Morning Dining Group I Tai Chi	Archaeology Art II – Water & Oil Calligraphy Music Appreciation Family History II (Group 2)	Art Appreciation Book Reading	Walking II 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

Gardening – Contact Leaders – various dates each month; Serendipity I – Contact Leader – Various dates each month; Local History – Contact Leader; Golf – 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,

The Committee and I were pleased that the format for this year's AGM went very smoothly thanks largely to our Secretary, Marian Allen and to Roger Baker who gave us the benefit of his expertise. Our new Committee Members Peter Walker, Ian Haynes, Pete Huntly, Barbara Hodge and Terri Gouldsmith were welcomed by the membership. Our speaker, Colin Banks, was a riotous success as he talked his way through his life with the use of hats.

The Committee has decided on a new format for our monthly meeting, which I believe, will work very well. We will start our meeting promptly with notices and a chance for Group Leaders to speak about their activities. At 2.30pm we will have refreshments and this will be your opportunity to chat, buy books from the stall or buy tickets for events. At 3pm we will have our speaker who this month is Stephen Rice, Fire Safety Evangelist from the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service. The revised timing should give us the opportunity to ask questions directly after the talk.

At this month's meeting we will have tickets for sale for the coach trip to Chatham Dockyard in September also the 1st Anniversary Luncheon at Saxon Hall for the Rayleigh Grange U3A plus tickets for the Quiz in July.

Our new members will enjoy a special Welcome Meeting, organized by Irene Carter our Membership Secretary, in the Coffee Lounge (Underspire) on the morning of Tuesday 25th May when they will have the opportunity to hear Group Leaders speak about their Group Activities, have an opportunity to socialise and find out more about the Rayleigh U3A.

Finally we are delighted to tell you that we have found a suitable hall for a further U3A in this area at the Hullbridge Community Centre. We are hoping to hold the first meeting in June, which will enable those people who have not been able to join our U3A or The Grange to come along to the inaugural meeting of this new U3A.

Sincerely,

Maureen
Chair Rayleigh U3A

GROUP LEADERS

Acoustic Guitar	Vera Ward	01268 755040	Holiday Group	Brian Kersey &	01268 743959
Archaeology	Ian Haynes	01268 779749	Latin	Barbara Dale	01268 772018
Art Appreciation	Barbara Curry	01268 775460	Music Appreciation	Dave Filby	01268 770023
Art I - Water Colours	Sylvia Lester	01268 774201	Real Ale	Les Geales	01702 206966
Art II - Waters/Oils	David Taylor	01268 777952	Scrabble	Dave Philby	01268 770023
Aviation	Phil Gendall	01268 750324	Scrapbooking	Maureen Huntly	01268 777398
Blind Watching	Laurie Denney	01702 615370	Serendipity -	Janet Carlton	01268 452791
Book Reading II	Doreen Blake	01268 774871	Discoveries around	Linda and David	01702 204559
Calligraphy	Irene Tyson	01268 742942	London	Clarke	
Ceramics	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590	Singing for Health &	Marjorie Sale	01702 346175
Crib Club	David Sheffield	01268 743586	Pleasure	Maureen Gross	01268 777681
Computing	Keith Dunt	01702 201747	Sunday Lunch Club I	Sue Barrows	01268 776775
Debating	Stella Lutterloch	01268 781425	Sunday Lunch Club II	Sue Taylor	01268 786405
Digital Photography	Brian Kersey	01268 743959	Tai Chi	Alan/Gill Hudson	01702 202158
Dining Group I	June Morris	01255 470884	Ten Pin Bowling	Jean McKenzie &	01268 510570
Dining Group II	Marion & Laurie		Theatre	Helena Maxwell	01268 772061
Drama	Wretham	01702 555783	Visiting Essex	Marian Allen	01268 743339
Family History:-	Joanne Baker	01268 742252	Churches (Group I)	Audrey Morris	01268 771644
Beginners	Terry Taylor	01268 786405	(Group II)	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590
Family History I	Sue Taylor	01268 786405	(Group III)	Liz Denney	01702 615370
Family History II	Vai Taylor	01702 206416	(Group IV)	Maureen Turner	01268 750967
Family History III	Barbara Dale	01268 772018	(Group V)	Roger Baker	01702 331166/
French	Terri Gouldsmith	01268 562803	Walking I	Les Poole	07867 588879
Gardening	Heather Brickwood	01268 743838	Walking II	Harry Brickwood	01268 773174
Golf	/Linda Clarke	01702 204559	Wine Appreciation	Suzanne Middleton	01268 743838
History I - Local	Kay Nevin	01268 780855	Yoga		01702 557389
History	Heather Flemmings	01702 204943			
Social History	David Fryer-Kelsey	01268 452791			
	David Carlton				

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

janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk

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

To arrive no later than
15th May, 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, 4th June, 2010

2.00 pm. - 4.00 pm.

David Williams

"The Great Fire of London"

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

I'm pleased to say that I'm gradually getting back into the swing of things but there's not too much to report since last month.

I am hoping the 4 new groups, Ceramics, Crib, Ambling/Strolling and Real Ale will have held their initial meetings by the time you read this report. Certainly Dave's Crib group is set up to start and I have booked Lubbards Farm for the Ambling/Strolling Group on 6th May. I will be able to let you know next month how everything is going.

Singing for Health & Pleasure – We are sorry to hear that Marjorie Sale has had a set-back after her surgery last year and we wish her all the very best on a speedy recovery. I know the group would like to keep on singing and by sheer luck we have been asked by Rayleigh Grange if our group would like to join in with them. I had a call from Sue Mahoney, who is Rayleigh Grange Group Coordinator, saying they had heard about Marjorie and thought it would be a good idea if we joined groups. Please call me for more information,.

If you are having difficulty in joining the particular group of your choice please call or e-mail me with the details. It maybe we can set up another group in that particular subject or better still, how about becoming a Group Leader and start your own group. There is always plenty of help and advice on hand from our other Group Leaders.

If you have any suggestions for NEW groups you would like to see in our U3A please call me to discuss.

Sue Taylor
Group Coordinator
01268 786405 email: susan.taylor106@tesco.net

NEWS FROM OUR GROUP LEADERS

GARDENING GROUP

GARDEN VISITS – 2010

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

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.

Any questions call Heather, 01268-743838

GOLF

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

Dates for the rest of the year -14th July, 11th August. 8th September.

Kay Nevin – 01268 780855

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Get all the latest details of the group on our blog

<http://lhgu3arayleigh.blogspot.com>

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.

Wed 9th June 10.30am - Hedingham Castle and gardens.

Hedingham Castle's Norman keep, 110 feet high, was built c.1140. There are four floors to explore, including a magnificent Banqueting Hall spanned by a remarkable 28 foot arch, one of the largest Norman arches in England.

£7 per head - Max 50 - others on reserve list.

GROUP MEMBERS PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE BOARD AT THE MONTHLY MEETINGS FOR DETAILS OF OTHER TRIPS ARRANGED FOR THIS YEAR.

To book visits please see Heather Flemmings at monthly U3A meetings, e-mail heatherfl@lineone.net or phone **01702 204943**

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

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

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

Tuesday, 25th May – New members' coffee morning

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

Saturday, 18th September – Chatham Dockyard – Tickets now on sale

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

Saturday, 23th 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 12.30 pm.

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.

SOME VISITS & EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Magic Circle – Monday, 24th May 2010

There are still a few places available on the above trip and bookings are now opened 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.

The Historic Dockyard, Chatham – 40's Re-Enactment Day – Saturday, 18th September, 2010

For full details of the above trip please see the Notice Board or April Newsletter. One coach is fully booked but there are still some vacancies on a second coach. Please see Liz or Laurie Denney on the ticket desk at the May meeting or telephone 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. Maximum of 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, 16th October and is being organised by Doris and Brian Lambert. Details are the same as above for the July Quiz Night with a maximum of 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"!

CALLIGRAPHY GROUP

We now have ten enthusiastic members who are enjoying the challenge to learn the art of calligraphy.

The group continues to meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 10am until 12 noon. We are now meeting at a new venue – Clay Cottage at Lubbards Farm. Anyone who is interested in joining us and would like to put their name down on the waiting list would be most welcome.

Irene Tyson - 01268 742942

SCRAPBOOKING/CARDMAKING

Now that we are able to use the facilities at Clay Cottage. Lubbards Farm I felt that this was an opportune time to extend our Group to include a number of people who have previously shown an interest in forming a Cardmaking Group. Cardmaking is very much akin to Scrapbooking and the two hobbies lend themselves well to one another. If you would like to know more about joining either Scrapbooking or Cardmaking please 'phone for more information.

Janet Carlton – 01268 452791

TENPIN BOWLING

An excellent meeting was held this month at CJ's Hockley which included three first timers, Maureen & Alan Brown and Val Curtis. All three expressed how friendly they found the group and Alan was also a trophy winner which he put down to beginners luck. With 24 attendees Graham Godfrey and Tom Morris were the other trophy winners on the day.

I am looking after things in the absence of Alan Hudson who is in hospital having an operation. We all wish him a speedy recovery. As a qualified instructor I assist Alan each month and if anyone wants some basic instruction (at no cost, other than the lane charges), at CJ's or the Kursaal, Southend, by all means give me a call.

The next meeting will be on the 18th May at CJ's, 1.45pm for 2.00pm.

Bob Wren - 01702 525311

GROUP LEADERS

Why not set up a blog to publicise the activities of your group. It's very easy and free, see:-

<http://lhgu3aravleigh.blogspot.com>).

I set up this blog for the Local History Group very quickly. It enables us to communicate details of our planned visits. We can notify changes easily.

The members can feedback their comments so we know if we are doing things well or not.

Get the strength of the internet around you.

David Fryer-Kelsey

HEADLINES AND GROUP NEWS

Those of you who were present at the April meeting will have enjoyed listening to Colin Banks "Man of Hats". Colin has written to us following on from the meeting:-

"Please on my behalf will you thank the members of the Rayleigh U3A for the very warm reception that they all afforded to me at the meeting this afternoon.

The overwhelming pleasure and happiness from all concerned was from my point of view a great success. I did not think that there would be so many people at an AGM. The happiness, enjoyment and welcome clearly indicated to me a well run and respected U3A. Well done to all the officers concerned.

Those of you present will agree that Colin was extremely entertaining. He does give other talks and we shall invite him back next year for what will surely be something to look forward to.

CONGRATULATIONS

Marian Allen

Rayleigh U3A Founder Member, Hon. President and Secretary

Our photo on the front page this month shows Marian Allen being awarded Rayleigh Town Council's annual Adult High Achiever Award. The award was presented to Marian on 21st April by the leader of Rayleigh Town Council for establishing the U3A movement in Rayleigh.

Highlighting Marian's award the Chairman said "The University of the Third Age has brought learning and a social life into the lives of so many retired men and women in the Rayleigh area. Rayleigh U3A gives members an opportunity to meet with others and enjoy activities and interests, where learning is fun."

GIFT AID UPDATE

The Charities Commission recently registered Rayleigh U3A as a charity. An application has now been submitted to HM Revenue and Customs for recognition as a charity for tax purposes and once this is confirmed we will be sending each member a Gift Aid Declaration which will enable us to reclaim 28 pence in the pound on subscriptions for the benefit of the membership.

Pete Huntly – Gift Aid Co-ordinator

U3A - Nationally – "What's going on"

U3A Travel Writing Competition – Theme 'My journey of a lifetime' Closing date: **20th August 2010**. Entries should be no longer than 800 words and be your own unpublished work. Winners will be notified in September and announced in U3A News. And will receive 2 Bradt Travel Guides of their choice and a gift token. For further information please contact national.office@u3a.org.uk or telephone Marian Allen 01268 743339.

U3A members have a special invitation to meet Kim Gilmour, Technology Journalist and author of Digital Photography for the Older & Wiser and Sean McManus, journalist and author of Social Networking for the Older & Wiser at Seminars to be held at the University of London on the 17th June 1.45 – 4.15. Admission by ticket only £6 per person including refreshments. Send cheque payable to Third Age Trust and s.a.e. to: U3A National Office, 19 East Street, Bromley, Kent BR1 1QE. For further information please see above.

U3A Jazz Appreciation Network Holiday to Rimini 22nd June 2010 to 28th June 2010. Cost £793.00. Flight from Gatwick to Bologna - includes transfer to and from Hotel Continental, Rimini – 6 nights bed and breakfast. Enjoy Jazz music each evening and appreciate Bologna a stunning medieval centre. For brochure and booking information send stamped addressed foolscap envelope to Bob Jones, Jazz Appreciation Network Coordinator, 48 Mowbray Drive Reading RG30 4XY. E-mail jazzzer@mypostoffice.co.uk

The Annual Seminar of the Science, Technology and Society Network will be held at Abergavenny. 9th – 12th August 2010. It will take place at the Ty'r Morwydd Environmental Study Centre, Abergavenny. The Centre is a good quality hostel rather than a hotel with no lift. Half board cost is £190 per person. Further information from Jo Livingstone and Nic Griffin – members of the U3A Science, Technology and Society Network: Web address u3aabergavenny2010@hotmail.co.uk.

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.