



*Chatham Visit (see page 7)*

**This Month's Meeting**

**Friday, 5th November, 2010  
2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.**

**Richard Gibbons  
"WORLD WAR TWO:  
D-DAY AND NORMANDY"**

Rayleigh U3A Website – [www.rayleighu3a.org.uk](http://www.rayleighu3a.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1134068

10112015m2m

**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 Visiting Essex Churches 1; Crib Club(evenings); Lap Top Computing 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	Tai Chi: Birdwatching; ; Digital Photography; Singing for Health & Pleasure Tai Chi: Midweek Dining 2; Tenpin Bowling; Wine Appreciation (evenings) Tai Chi: Birdwatching; Singing for Health & Pleasure; Digital Photography; Dining Group 2; Tai Chi: Dining Group 1
<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; Golf ( May, June, August); Scrabble Archaeology; Crib Club; Drama; Real Ale; Visiting Churches 5; Family History 2 Calligraphy; Family History 2; Serendipity 3; Music Appreciation
<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; U3A Monthly Meeting Theatre 1; Acoustic Guitar Family History 3; Social History; Scrapbooking Art Appreciation; Book Reading; Dining Group 1; Essex Social History
<b>Fridays</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday	Yoga: Local History, Latin; Yoga: Yoga: Latin Yoga: Walking 2
<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

Dear Members,

### New Venue for monthly meetings in 2011

The Committee and I are pleased to tell you that we have made the decision to change our **Meeting Venue to Mill Hall as from January 2011**. Mill Hall seats up to 300 people comfortably and their staff will put out the chairs and clear the Hall for us at the end of the meeting. We will have the use of the Terrace area at the side of the main hall for ticket sales etc. The use of the kitchen is included in the hire charge to make teas and coffees.

We think that this is the best way to secure the future of the Rayleigh U3A and allow a small growth in membership and it will be far more comfortable and pleasant for everyone concerned. No more standing out in the rain!

The list of dates of our monthly meetings will be printed in our Leaflet for 2011. Our meetings from January 2011 will be on the **first Thursday in each month from 2 – 4pm**. This was the only available afternoon for continuous hire throughout the year.

### Reminders

We have our trip to Bury St. Edmunds this month please remember to get back to the Coach in plenty of time as there is only a ten minute window for us to depart. Times and Instructions will be given to everyone on arrival.

Tickets are on sale today for the Christmas Meal at Saxon Hall on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at £23.50 and the Speaker Lunch on 25th February 2011 for £15.50. Please make your cheques payable to Rayleigh U3A and hand in at our Ticket Desk at this month's meeting together with your choice of menu.

### Variety Show & Supper

We are looking for talent amongst our members to take part in our Variety Show and Supper which will be held at Rayleigh Grange Community Centre on Saturday 9th April 2011. Don't be shy, give me a call on 01268 777398 if you think you have the 'XYZ' Factor!! Tickets will be on sale at the January meeting to cover the cost of the supper.

If you feel you would like to volunteer to 'give a helping hand' at meetings or events then email our Volunteer Coordinator June Morris [june576@btinternet.com](mailto:june576@btinternet.com) or call me on 01268 777398.

Sincerely

*Maureen,*  
*Chair - Rayleigh U3A*



## RAYLEIGH U3A's COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU

In April 2011 there will be vacancies on the Rayleigh U3A Committee as the following Officers have served three years as stipulated in our Constitution - Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. We wish to recruit members to join the Committee for these roles and an additional role as Minutes Secretary.

If you have the expertise or skills relevant to these roles including organisational, management, administrative or secretarial skills then we would like to hear from you. All you need to do is to make yourself available to attend the monthly Membership Meetings and attend a Committee Meeting on the third Friday morning in the month. Help us to bring continuity to our fast -growing and thriving U3A.

### *Maureen Huntly, Rayleigh U3A Chairman*

'I have found my role as Chair very rewarding and fulfilling. I enjoy being a part of a successful organisation. I have used the skills I acquired in my working life and put them to good use for the benefit of all the members. I thoroughly recommend being a Committee Member of Rayleigh U3A'



*RAYLEIGH U3A*

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU 2010

*Friday 3rd December at Saxon Hall,  
Aviation Way, Southend on Sea. 12 noon for 12.30pm*

### STARTER

Winter Velvet Soup or  
Atlantic Prawn Cocktail with Salad Garnish & Buttered Brown Bread

### MAIN COURSE

Traditional Roast Turkey with Chipolata  
Sausage & Sage and Onion Stuffing  
or  
Roast Topside of Beef with Yorkshire Pudding & Horseradish Sauce  
or  
Poached Salmon with Pesto  
All the above served with Potatoes and a Selection of Seasonal Vegetables

### DESSERT

Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce  
or  
Fresh Fig Brule  
or  
Ice Cream  
Tea, Coffee and Mince Pies

Price including Welcome Drink, Raffle, Table Prize and Gratuities - £23.50

## GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S NEWS

### Tai Chi

We now have a hall booked for the new Tai Chi and we hope this will start up in November - more details to be advised at November meeting

### Theatre II

I am pleased to confirm that Sandra Wilson has offered to become Group Leader for the second Theatre Group. An initial meeting is taking place on the 3rd November and more information will follow.

### Industrial Awareness and Keep Fit.

We now have enough numbers to start these two groups. Janet Carlton will be contacting all members who have put their name down on the lists as soon as a date and a hall have been booked for an initial meeting.

### Golf

Kay Nevin has already organised dates for next year – they are as follows: 6th April, 11th May, 8th June, 6th July, 10th August and 7th September. Please contact her for more information.

### Lap Top Computing

Frank Bodey now has a full group up and running. If there are any members who have computer skills they would be prepared to share with this group from time to time, would you please contact Frank as this would be very much appreciated.

### Sue Taylor

#### Group Co-ordinator

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

## NEWS FROM OUR GROUP LEADERS

### TENPIN BOWLING

Another enjoyable afternoon was had by all at CJs at our October meeting. We were pleased to welcome new members. Peter and Sheila Goodwin. First time winner was Jill Marsh with other winners being Jim Fowler and Sid Sharod. All winners had high scores and as I mentioned last month everybody is improving. As the days get colder and shorter why not come inside in the warm and join our bowling group.

The next meeting at CJs in Hockley will be on Tuesday, 9th November at 2pm.

Alan Hudson – 01702 202158

### GARDENING GROUP

#### Garden Visits

The gardening holiday for next year will be to gardens in Kent on the 5th and 6th June 2011.

Details to follow. If you wish to put your name down on the list I will be at the November meeting.

**Heather Brickwood – 01268 743838**

#### Gardening Slide Show

Cloisters Room, Trinity Church Hall  
Monday, 29th November – 1.30 for 1.45 p.m.  
David Clarke – “Botanical Gardens of Cuba”  
- £2.50

**Linda Clarke – 01702 204559**

## LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Get all the latest details of the group on our blog: <http://lhgu3arayleigh.blogspot.com>

Our September visit to Tilbury Fort got off to a rather shaky start. When we arrived at the visitor centre we were told that there was an electricity power cut and all the buildings were in darkness. However the audio guides are battery powered and most of the fort is open air so we decided to carry on and hope that the electricians would fix the fault.

So we assembled outside the visitor centre and switched on our audio guides and found that the first item of interest was on the far side of the centre. About turn and walk back through the centre. After that it became rather muddled as the instructions and notice boards were far from clear and the group tended to go in different directions depending on their interpretation. Small knots of people could be seen all over the fort, on the battlements, coming out of the Officer's quarters and disappearing down tunnels. However, I think most members saw everything of interest and we were not inconvenienced by the power cut.

Afterwards we adjourned to the World's End pub next door to the Fort. This is very old and full of genuine character, exposed beams, flag stone floor and lots of nooks and crannies. The food and service were fine and I think most people were well satisfied. In fact several said they would be coming back with friends.

**Our next meeting will be an indoor meeting in association with the Social History Group in the Cloisters Room on Monday, 15th November, 9.30 – 12.30. David Carlton and David Fryer-Kelsey will talk about our activities in 2010 and look forward to 2011. This meeting is open to all U3A members.**

£2 per head includes tea/coffee. Book and pay at our desk in the Underspire Room at monthly meetings.

**This will be our last meeting until Wednesday 16th February 2011.**

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

**Heather Flemmings – 01702 204943**

**David Fryer-Kelsey – 01702 203455**

## DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

The next meeting is on TUESDAY, 7th DECEMBER at 69 Victoria Road, 10.30 - 12.30 p.m.

Unfortunately, Sylvia's health problems this Summer have prevented me planning and effecting the smooth running of the group. Those of you who still want to continue to meet monthly on the 1st Tuesday of the month please contact me in order that I can create a new list to pass on to Sue. Hopefully, we can now progress with our interests. Thank you for your good wishes and I look forward to our next meetings.

If you are a new member and would like to join us please contact me to have a chat.

**Brian Kersey – 01268 743959**

Please send items for inclusion in the January 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  
**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, 6th January, 2011

2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Ray Spiller

'A MUSICAL QUIZ'

Music from the 50s/60s

## **COMMITTEE CONTACTS**

*Chairman: Maureen Huntly - 01268 777398*

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

## Some visits and events to look forward to

### **LEE VALLEY OLYMPIC LONDON II TOURS**

#### TWO DATES FOR 2011: 20th APRIL & 11th MAY

Tickets for the above visits will be on sale in the Underspire Room at the November meeting. For details of the trip please see October's Newsletter and the Noticeboard at the November meeting.

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**

<b>Friday, 26th November</b>	Bury St. Edmunds Christmas Fayre	<b>Tickets all sold</b>
<b>Friday, 3rd December</b>	Christmas Lunch, Saxon Hall	Tickets now on sale - £23.50
<b>Mon, 10th January</b>	"Faith and Belief" Talks	Tickets now on sale - £10 for 3 talks
<b>Mon, 24th January</b>	as above	
<b>Mon, 7th February</b>	as above	
<b>Friday, 25th February</b>	Speaker Lunch, Saxon Hall	Tickets now on sale - £15.50 (Details in October Newsletter)
<b>Saturday, 9th April</b>	Variety Show and Supper, Rayleigh Grange Community Hall	Tickets on sale at January monthly meeting
<b>Wed. 20th April and Wed. 11th May</b>	Olympic London II	Tickets now on sale - £35

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

**DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR BREAKS, THE  
DEADLINE FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE JANUARY**

**NEWSLETTER IS SUNDAY, 5th DECEMBER**

(See next page)

#### WALKING GROUP II

We are now into our second year and are quite a big group. The walks take place on the last Friday of the month and we have visited Canewdon, Paglesham, Hockley, Ashingdon, Thundersley, Danbury, Maldon, Ingatestone, Herongate and with Walking Group I, the Stour Valley. Most walks start from a public house and normally return to the pub for lunch which seems to go down very well with members. Winter can have its problems with footpaths in some areas becoming difficult to negotiate.

When this happens, we look for a different option such as a brisk walk along Southend seafront taking in the sea air.

We have more walks on the drawing board for this year and next. As a group leader, with the support of group members who help with planning the walks, I look forward to another successful year for the group and continued excellent company and enjoyment.

Les Poole 01268 - 773174

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## **HEADLINES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **SECRETARY'S NOTES**

#### **U3A EAST OF ENGLAND CONFERENCE**

Marian Allen and Terri Gouldsmith represented Rayleigh U3A at the East of England Conference held at St Neots, Cambridgeshire on the 29th September with approximately 50 representatives from 25 U3A Groups ranging in size from under 300 to over 900 members.

An idea put forward by Jill Moore from Leigh U3A in order to celebrate the Olympics was an Estuary Walk co-ordinated between different U3A groups. Some groups would spread their walk over 2-3 days. Others would do about 2 miles in a chain between Shoebury and the Olympic site passing on the baton from one U3A link in the chain to the next. We thought it sounded a very good idea.

A question raised by one member was whether we should employ paid tutors, bearing in mind the lack of adult education facilities. The Chairman of the Third Age Trust, Ian Searle, and Founder Member, Eric Midwinter, were strongly against this happening and said that if we did so it set a dangerous precedent. We are a self-help organisation and our strength comes with sharing our knowledge and learning together.

The keynote speech of the Conference was made by Eric Midwinter who reminded us of U3A principles which has been adhered to since its inception. In short, these are that there should be no education without enjoyment. Citizens invent their own destiny. Everybody has something to offer. People are given the confidence to bring their skills to the party. To my mind these are a good set of principles and do not suffer from being repeated occasionally.

## **FAITH AND BELIEF**

A Series of short talks jointly arranged by members of the Visiting Churches Groups.

The Women's' Institute Hall, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh has been booked for the 10th and 24th January and the 7th February. Speakers have been booked and tickets and programmes will be available for sale at the November meeting and by post from Marian Allen 01268 743339 at a cost of £10 for all three sessions. The Talks are open to all U3A members but priority will be given to the members of the Church Visiting Groups.

## **CORRESPONDENCE - THIRD AGE TRUST**

Notice of a day Conference 'Understanding the heart in health and disease' to be held at the National Institute for Medical Research Mill Hill London on Wednesday December 8th from 2.30 - 4.30. Admission by ticket (150 only) free of charge from U3A National Office, The Old Municipal Buildings, 19 East Street, Bromley BR1 1QE enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. For security regulations applications for more than one ticket should be accompanied by the names of the person to whom the tickets are given.

Programme and further information from Marian Allen.

**Marian Allen (Secretary) – 01268 743339**

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## **RENEWAL APPLICATION 2011**

Your renewal application is enclosed with this Newsletter. Please complete it in **FULL** as the information from this form is used to prepare our database which is copied to the National Office and our Newsletter Editor in order that the U3A News and Sources plus Rayleigh U3A Newsletters may be posted direct to you.

It would be helpful if you would let me know as soon as possible if you do not wish to renew your membership. Please note that cheques sent together with renewal applications won't be paid in until after Christmas.

Thank you.

**Irene Carter - 01268 766149**  
**Membership Secretary**

## **"THANK YOU" FROM THE THEATRE GROUP**

Those of us who went on the Sonning trip would like to say a big Thank You to Helena and Jeanne. We enjoyed the day immensely.

The trip to see "Warhorse" was fantastic too and we all appreciate the time and trouble taken by Helena and Jeanne to ensure our outings run smoothly.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

If you feel you would like to volunteer to 'give a helping hand' at meetings or events then e-mail or telephone our Volunteer Co-ordinator June Morris ([june576@btinternet.com](mailto:june576@btinternet.com) - tel: 01255 470884) or call me.

**Maureen Huntly - 01268 777398.**

## **2011 U3A DIARIES**

The diaries have now arrived and are on sale in the Underspire Room. If you have ordered one please go the information desk to collect and pay for your diary. There are a few additional diaries for sale and more can be ordered.

## **"LOST"??**

Have you forgotten about a jigsaw which you bought from the Book Stall back in July? Doris and Brian remember selling the 1,000 piece jigsaw entitled "Lord Mayor's Day", depicting a painting by Canaletto, at the July meeting. The person who bought it on the day left it at the Book Stall to collect at the end of the meeting but never returned to collect it. If you are that person please go to the Information Desk where it is waiting for collection.

## **VISIT TO CHATHAM DOCKYARD** (See front cover)

A day visiting Chatham Dockyard coincided with Chatham's annual re-enactment day in September and was thoroughly enjoyed by our members. This year the re-enactment celebrated the Battle of Britain in WW II.