



Industrial Awareness

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[This Month's Meeting](#)
 Thursday, 1st November, 2012
 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.
JIM BUTTRESS
The Queen Mother and
Royal Parks

Rayleigh U3A Website – www.rayleighu3a.org.uk
 Registered Charity No. 1134068

November

GROUP ACTIVITY CALENDAR – Normal day on which each group meets monthly

Mondays	1st Monday	Art (Watercolours); Ceramics; Family History 1 & Beginners; Laptop Computing 1; Tai Chi; Visiting Essex Churches 4
	2nd Monday	Crib Club (evenings); Tai Chi; Visiting Essex Churches 1
	3rd Monday	Antiques; Laptop Computing 2; Tai Chi; Visiting Essex Churches 2 & 3
	4th Monday	Canasta (evenings); Tai Chi
Tuesdays	1st Tuesday	Birdwatching; Digital Photography
	2nd Tuesday	Knit & Natter; Poetry; Tempin Bowling; Wine Appreciation (evenings)
	3rd Tuesday	Birdwatching
	4th Tuesday	Midweek Luncheon
Wednesdays	1st Wednesday	Drama; Walking 1
	2nd Wednesday	Archaeology; Golf (May, June, August); Scrabble; Essex Social History 3
	3rd Wednesday	Crib Club; Drama; Golf (April, July, September); Local History; Real Ale; Serendipity 3; Visiting Essex Churches 5
	4th Wednesday	Calligraphy; Family History 2; Music Appreciation
Thursdays	1st Thursday	U3A Monthly Meeting
	2nd Thursday	Acoustic Guitar; Essex Social History 2; Knit & Natter; Rummikub (even'g); Serendipity 1 & 2; Theatre
	3rd Thursday	Book Reading 1; Discussion/Points of View; Papercrafts; Serendipity 4
	4th Thursday	Art Appreciation; Essex Social History 1; Family History 3
Fridays	1st Friday	Keep Fit; Latin
	2nd Friday	Book Reading 2 & 3; Keep Fit
	3rd Friday	Flower Arranging; Keep Fit; Latin
	4th Friday	Keep Fit; Walking 2
Saturdays		Currently no groups
Sundays	2nd Sunday	Sunday Lunch

Please note dates may vary more with some groups than others, particularly with trips or outdoor activities.

Check with Group Leader for Ind. Awareness, Golf, Serendipity, Visiting Historic Places, Theatre (usually Fridays) and V.I.P.

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

FROM THE CHAIR

As David is abroad this month, it comes to me to write the letter from the Chair.

Congratulations and thanks to all the Group Leaders and their helpers who put on such splendid displays at the Groups' Presentation Day in October and to Groups' Co-ordinator Bob Wren and his team who did such a magnificent job organising the event.

Our second Study Day, "Festival of Words" organised by Marian Allen and the Rayleigh U3A Book Reading Groups will take place at Saxon Hall on Wednesday, 14th November. The day includes a programme of guest speakers including world famous celebrated author and historian Barbara Erskine. Her bestselling novel 'Lady of Hay' has sold over two million copies to date. There will be book signings, a star prize raffle, a book swap stall plus exhibitions from the Essex Library Service, Talking Newspapers and the Book Reading Groups.

The first three Autumn Subject Taster Days held in October were very well received by our members. Tickets will be on sale at the monthly meeting for the remaining three days to be held in November which cover History of Town and Village Signs in Essex, Influential Men in History, and Sociology - £2 which include tea/coffee & biscuits.

On Saturday, 10th November we are holding a Quiz Night at the Holy Trinity Hall. Tickets are £4 per person and we are looking to form twelve teams of eight – a fun night for all. There are still some tickets left.

Our Christmas Lunch & Musical Cabaret is to take place at Saxon Hall on Friday, 7th December including a free raffle, entertainment and a pre-lunch drink. This is excellent value as the price has been held at £25. Tickets will be on sale at the meeting this month.

I am sure you all enjoy reading this Newsletter every month and look forward to hearing Group News, about forthcoming events and contact details, etc. Editorial Team, David and Janet Carlton produce it every month so that it reaches you just before the monthly meeting. The Committee needs to recruit and train a member or members to take over their roles when they have to step down after their 5 year term of office on the Committee. You will find this task great fun, very rewarding and you will be part of an enthusiastic and helpful team.

GROUPS/GROUP LEADERS

Acoustic Guitar	Vera Ward	01268 775040	Lap Top 2	Bob White	01268 779709
Antiques/Collectables			Midweek Lunch	Margaret Bristow	
	Sheila Read	01268 778926	Music Apprec'n	Les Geales	01702 206966
Archaeology	Ian Haynes	01268 779749	Papercrafts	Janet Carlton	01268 452791
Art Appreciation	Barbara Curry	01268 775460	Poetry	Marian Allen	01268 743339
Art Water Col'rs	Sylvia Lester	01268 774201	Real Ale Group	Dave Filby	01268 770023
Bird Watching	Laurie Denney	01702 615370	Rummikub	Linda Tull	01702 478649
Book Reading 1	Doreen Blake	01268 774871		Julie Reader	
Book Reading 2	Marian Allen	01268 743339	Scrabble	Margaret Bristow	
Book Reading 3	Margaret White	01268 779709	Serendipity 1	Linda & David Clarke	
Calligraphy	Irene Tyson	01268 742942			01702 204559
Canasta	Chris & Dave Towell		Serendipity 2	Pam & Keith Dunt	01702 201747
		01268 528937	Serendipity 3	Pat & John Pomfrett	
Ceramics	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590			01702 230253
Crib Club	David Sheffield	01268 743586	Serendipity 4	Sue & Mike Cairns,	01268 743497
Digital Photography				Maureen Hayes	01702 473110
	Brian Kersey	01268 743959		& Peter Britton	01268 777525
Discussions on Points of View			Singing for Health & Pleasure		
	John Edwards	01268 747208		Joanne Baker	01268 742252
Drama	Joanne Baker	01268 742252	Sunday Lunch	Maureen Goss	01268 777681
<u>Family History:</u>			Tai Chi	Linda Robson	01702 555185
Beginners	Terry Taylor	01268 786405	Tenpin Bowling	Alan Hudson	01702 202158
Family History 1	Sue Taylor	01268 477720		Bob Wren	01702 525311
Family History 2	Pete Huntly	01268 777398	Theatre	Jean Mackenzie	01268 510570
Family History 3	Barbara Dale	01268 772018		Helena Maxwell	01268 772061
Flower Arranging	Irene Stokes	01268 774564		Sandra Wilson	01268 775184
Gardening (Slide Shows)			V.I.P.	Liz & Laurie Denney	
	Linda Clarke	01702 204559			01702 615370
Golf	Kay Nevin	01268 780855	<u>Visiting Essex Churches:</u>		
History - Local	Heather Flemmings		Group 1	Marian Allen	01268 743339
		01702 204943	Group 2	Elizabeth Baker	01702 331166
	David Fryer-Kelsey		Group 3	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590
		01702 203455	Group 4	Jan Churchill	01702 510296
<u>History - Essex Social:</u>			Group 5 (J)	Maureen Turner	01268 750967
Group 1	David Carlton	01268 452791	Walking 1	Roger Baker	01702 331166
Group 3	Joan Anderson	01268 774985	Walking 2	Les Poole	01268 773174
Industrial Awareness			Wine Appreciation		
	Janet Carlton	01268 452791		Harry Brickwood	01268 743838
Keep Fit	Janet Carlton	01268 452791			
Knit & Natter	Doreen Oliver	01268 743082			
Lap Top 1	Frank Bodey	01268 733616			

(J) = Joint with Rayleigh Grange

A REMINDER

As you know, there is always a collection box for used British and Foreign stamps placed on a table at Monthly Meetings which are sorted and processed by Doreen Little. As well as stamps,

Doreen now collects Foreign and old British coins.

The money Doreen raises is for the Royal National Institute for the Blind

Please save your Christmas cards and other used stamps and bring them to the January Monthly Meeting

THANK YOU

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri. 9th November	'History of Town & Village Signs in Essex' Talk at Holy Trinity Hall Tickets now on sale - £2.00
Sat. 10th November	Rayleigh U3A Autumn Quiz Holy Trinity Hall Tickets now on sale - £4.00
Wed. 14th November	'Festival of Words' Tickets £15 – now on sale
Fri. 16th November	'Influential Men in History' Holy Trinity Hall Tickets now on sale £2.00
Fri. 23rd November	'Sociology' Holy Trinity Hall Tickets now on sale £2.00
Fri. 7th December	U3A Christmas Lunch Saxon Hall, Southend-on-Sea Tickets now on sale - £25
Thurs. 3rd January	First Monthly Meeting for 2013

U3A 2013 DIARIES

Please note that U3A Diaries for 2013 are now on sale at the Reception Desk at a cost of £2.00.

So please, if you have the expertise or want to learn the skills and have the time to help then contact our Committee Secretary, Maureen Hayes on 01702 473110 for further details. **If we do not replace David and Janet we may not have a newsletter!**

Finally, our speaker this month will be former "Britain in Bloom" Chairman, Jim Buttress, who spent 25 years as Superintendent of the Royal Parks. He will talk about his life and work in the Royal Parks and his conversations with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Sincerely,

Pete Huntly.

Vice Chairman, Rayleigh U3A

GROUPS' CO-ORDINATOR'S NEWS

I'd like to start by saying a big thank you to the Group Leaders of the 20 displays (and the volunteers) at the annual Presentation day on the 4th October. Judging by the comments made, emails I have received and remarks from some of the general public on the day, our relaxed and communicative format seems to have shown Rayleigh U3A in a very positive light. I think the chocolates in the "chat tables" may have had something to do with it!

A number of members came forward to add their names to group activity lists, but some had forgotten the theme of the day "Yes You Can." Unless some of them are prepared to take an active part in developing those interests, new groups cannot materialise. Please contact me to discuss your options and how we can help.

I gather, from Doreen – Membership Secretary – that she was approached by the public regarding joining our U3A, for which the waiting list will be collated after November, for next year's A.G.M.

I am open to all comments and ideas regarding the Presentation Day and the way forward with this and/or any other aspect of your U3A.

Bob Wren
Groups' Coordinator
Tel: 01702 525311
bob_wren@hotmail.com

NEWS FROM OUR GROUP LEADERS

KEEP FIT

Now the fabulous Olympics and Paralympics are over, how many of you feel inspired to take up a new KEEP FIT activity in order to keep fit? Why not come along to our sessions on Friday after-noons? We are always keen to welcome new members and we all feel the benefit of our weekly sessions which are run by Martin Frost.

Martin is qualified to teach people with various conditions which can affect those of us of a "certain age" e.g. arthritis, heart conditions, hip replacements etc. etc. The sessions are fun and everyone works at their own pace.

For more information contact **Janet Carlton** on **01268 452791**

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Get all the latest details of the group on our blog

<http://lhgu3arayleigh.blogspot.com>

Our next meeting will be a slide show and talk about the Local and Surrounding Area given by Paul Taylor. He has a fantastic fount of knowledge and a great collection of slides and is always interesting. **Thursday, 21st March, 2013** at the Rayleigh WI hall, 10.00am to 12.00. Tea/coffee/biscuits will be provided. Cost is £2.00 per person.

On **Wednesday, 10th April** we will visit the Combined Military Services Museum in Maldon from 10.30am onwards. This is a hidden gem of a museum holding an amazing collection including firearms, spy equipment, Special Forces weapons including a Cockleshell Heroes canoe, English Civil War arms and armour plus more fantastic displays. Free parking, gift shop, tea/coffee. £6.25 per person.

We go to Beeleigh Abbey near Maldon on **Wednesday, 15th May**. The grounds include three acres of spacious and peaceful gardens in an historic and rural setting. The backdrop has the remains of a 12th century Abbey incorporated into a mainly 17th century private residence. The gardens lead down to the River Chelmer. Tour of the house followed by your own time

to explore the gardens. Tea/coffee/cakes and biscuits included. Wheelchair access to the ground floor only. £16.50 per person.

Book and pay for these visits at our table at the next monthly U3A meeting on 1st November 2012. Cheques made payable to Rayleigh U3A please.

Book visits with Heather Flemmings at monthly U3A meetings or e-mail 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

GARDENING – Slide Shows

Monday, 26th November – The Cloisters, Holy Trinity Church – 1.45 to 3.30 p.m. approx, David Clarke – **"Some of my favourite gardens"**

Cost - £2.50 including refreshments.

Linda Clarke - 01702 204559
lindaclarke46@talktalk.net

TENPIN BOWLING

Whilst this Newsletter is going to the printers prior to our monthly meeting (9th October), I can confirm that the November meeting will be the second Tuesday, as usual, i.e. 13th November.

Many U3A members have asked me how Alan Hudson is progressing after the removal of his second kidney and subsequent dialysis needs. I can report that, in his wife's own words, he is doing "extremely well" and his consultants are very pleased with his progress. The strength of good wishes from around the world, including our U3A, has been a great tonic to his current recovery.

Bob Wren – 01702 525311

THEATRE GROUP

Some members are going to see "Fiddler on the Roof" at the Cliffs Pavilion on the 15th

Royal Marines Mountbatten Festival of Music at Royal Albert Hall, London, on Thursday 11th. April 2013

In past years, Groups from our U3A have enjoyed attending the above Festival on two occasions and several members have asked us to arrange a further visit in 2013.

The annual Festival is a colourful and moving extravaganza of military and show music in the impressive setting of the Royal Albert Hall. Tickets go on sale in early January, but those for seats in the Stalls are much sought after and not easy to obtain. We believe it worth the effort to try to obtain seats in the Stalls (rather than be satisfied with Arena or Circle seats) for this special occasion, but we need to know the level of support we have from Members before we commit ourselves to the purchase of tickets. Partners and friends of Members are welcome to join the Group on this evening. The concert begins at 7.30 p.m., but we shall leave the various coach pick-up points in Rayleigh at around 4.00 p.m. to give people time to buy themselves a meal or refreshment when we arrive at the Royal Albert Hall before the concert begins. The cost of the Festival ticket, plus coach transport to the venue, will be about £50 per person, but this amount will be confirmed when we know how many people will make up the Group.

At this stage, we are only asking members to advise us whether they are interested in joining the Group for this visit on 11th. April, and if so how many tickets they would require. We shall only ask for payment when we know for sure that we have obtained the tickets. Please advise us of your interest by sending us an E-Mail, or by telephoning us (leaving a message if necessary).

Liz and Roger Baker

Tel: 01702331166/07929792846 e-mail: rogerbaker99@hotmail.co.uk

Please Note

There will not be a Newsletter for December and the next U3A Newsletter will be for January 2013. Due to the Christmas and New Year break the January Newsletter will need to be printed before Christmas and the New Year ready for distribution before the next Monthly Meeting in January. If you have anything you wish to be printed in the Newsletter please note the deadline date is Tuesday, 4th December.

Thank You – Janet Carlton

STUDY DAY – WEDNESDAY, 14th NOVEMBER

“FESTIVAL OF WORDS”

The “Festival of Words” Study Day is to take place on Wednesday, 14th November, 2012 at Saxon Hall Conference Centre, Aviation Way, Southend-on-Sea from 9.30am until 3.45pm. It will include:-

Barbara Erskine: World famous celebrated author and historian. Her best-selling novel ‘Lady of Hay’ has sold over two million copies to date.

Roz Hall: Author, comedienne and winner of the Frinton Literary Festival’s Poetry Prize.

Dr. Adrian May: Lecturer in Creative Writing at the University of Essex. He is also a poet, songwriter, lyricist and performer of English folk music.

Patrick Wilkins: Patrick was Wandsman at St. Paul’s Cathedral, public speaker and intrepid mountaineer who climbed to Everest in 2011.

There will be book signings, a raffle, and a book swap stall plus Exhibitions from the Essex Library Service, Talking Newspapers and the Book Reading groups.

Tickets are £15 and on sale at Monthly Meetings. The cost will include morning coffee and biscuits, a buffet lunch and afternoon tea with pastries. Tickets can also be requested from Pete Huntly, Study Day Co-ordinator. Please include a stamped, addressed envelope and post to 9 Gilbert Close, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 8QR. Cheques payable to Rayleigh U3A please.

This event has been organised by Marian Allen and the Rayleigh U3A Book Reading groups.

YOUR U3A MEMBERSHIP FOR 2013

You will see that the Application Form for renewal of your U3A Membership for 2013 is included with this Newsletter. Please complete it and return the whole form to me as soon as possible with a cheque made payable to Rayleigh U3A for the appropriate amount. The cheques will not be banked until January.

This will help considerably in avoiding a build-up of renewals and applications leading up to the Christmas period.

Many thanks.

Doreen Blake – Membership Secretary

November. Please meet in the foyer at 2 p.m. and collect your tickets from the Theatre table on the 1st November.

“Top Hat” on the 29th November at the Aldwych Theatre. Please see Sandra for coach details at the 1st November meeting. “Driving Miss Daisy” on the 1st December at the Palace Theatre, Westcliff. Please collect tickets at the November 1st meeting. A reminder to all our members that our next Theatre Group meeting is on Friday, 9th November in the W.I. Hall, Bellingham Lane at 10.30am. All group members welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

Jean Mackenzie, R750 Kings Park Village, Canvey Island, SS8 8QS Tel: 01268 510570 or 07719800735, e-mail: j.mackenzie123@btinternet.com

Helena Maxwell, 5 Warwick Close, Rayleigh, SS6 8PH, Tel: 01268 772061 or 07952574907 e-mail:

maxbox@talktalk.net

Sandra Wilson, 1 Katherine Close, Rayleigh, SS6 8UH. Tel: 01268 775184. sandra.alanwilson@yahoo.com

From Sandra Wilson

I have some tickets reserved for “The 39

Steps” at the Palace Theatre, Westcliff on Thursday, 14th February at 2.30pm. This is a well known ‘Ripping Romp’ based on the Alfred Hitchcock classic, with four actors playing 39 parts between them.

Please send me a cheque for £16.50 payable to Rayleigh U3A if you would like a ticket.

As there is no meeting in December, I must have the money by the Theatre Group meeting on 9th November please. Tickets will be available for collection at the January and February meetings.

I also have six tickets left for “Driving Miss Daisy” at the Palace Theatre, Westcliff on Saturday, 1st December at 2.30pm. These cost £19.60 each and I must have money for them by return as I need to pay for them at the end of this month.

Jean Mackenzie is taking part in the Palace Theatre, Westcliff show “A Hundred Shining Hearts”, a celebration of the 100th birthday of the Theatre. It runs from the 1st to the 3rd November. There is no time to organise a group but anyone wishing to see the show can book a concession ticket at a £2.00 reduction on the full price.

HEADLINES AND ACTIVITIES

An important message from our Webmaster

A few people have experienced problems accessing the password protected Newsletters. This only seems to be occurring with Internet Explorer and the easiest and most effective solution to overcome the problem is to download the alternative web browser **Mozilla Firefox** which is a lot better and faster than Internet Explorer.

This can be downloaded easily for free at:-

<http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/>

I use it all the time. Give it a try! Those who have done so have found it successful. **Pete Huntly - Tel: 01268 777398** pa.huntly@btinternet.com

HELPFUL INFORMATION

A number of members have commented that they have difficulty in hearing what is said on the stage at our Monthly Meetings. In order to assist those that are having problems the Committee will arrange for a number of seats to be reserved at the front of the hall.

ANNOUNCEMENT

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE RAYLEIGH U3A

The Study Days Team is pleased to say that the series of Autumn "Subject Taster Days" is now half way through. So far the Taster Days have all been well received and attended. The half day talks research interesting and informative subjects not yet covered by Groups in our U3A. The remaining three half day talks will be held at Holy Trinity Hall on the following days:-

FRIDAYS FROM 1.30pm UNTIL 3.30pm

Friday, 9th November - Subject is 'History of Town & Village Signs in Essex'. Talk to be given by Keith Lovell, Author and Speaker.

Friday, 16th November – Subject is 'Influential Men in History'. Talk by Peter A.T. Turrall, MBE about Guglielmo Marconi, the founder of Marconi (The Wireless Telegraph & Signal Company) in Chelmsford.

Friday, 23rd November - Subject is 'Sociology' - Talk to be given by Dr. Katy Wheeler Ph.D. from The University of Essex who will give a general overview on this interesting and informative subject.

To be sure of a seat, Tickets will be on sale at the monthly Meetings at £2 to include tea/coffee and biscuits

FRONT PAGE PHOTO

Members of the Industrial Awareness Group recently visited the Museum of Power at Langford near Maldon. This was a steam powered water pump commissioned in January 1931 which provided water for a wide area stretching from Southend to the east and Canvey Island, Benfleet, Pitsea and Laindon to the west and water required for the high areas of Hockley, Rayleigh, Thundersley, Billericay and Ramsden Heath.

Rayleigh U3A Autumn Quiz

*hosted by David Lutterloch
at Trinity Hall*

Saturday, 10th November - 7.00p.m for 7.30p.m

Teams of 8 Maximum - 12 teams

TICKETS £4.00

Team Prizes

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

Tickets now on sale

November Speaker Jim Buttress



Jim has had a very interesting and varied career in horticulture. Briefly and not exclusively he has been a member of the Britain in Bloom judging panel since 1986 and Chairman from 2004-2008. He is one of only 63 Horticulturalists currently holding the coveted VMH (Victoria Medal of Honour). He was a foundation stone in the development of Tom Hart Dykes' World Garden working alongside Tom since 2005 where he organises the annual plant fair and day to day activities at Lullingstone. He has also featured in the Sunday BBC Radio gardening programme "Dig It". Jim is a former Superintendent of the Royal Parks and this activity will form the basis of this month's talk.

January's Speaker

John Vigor

"FAMOUS COUNTRY HOUSES"