

Rayleigh



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



Newsletter Edition – No.58 –November 2013
This Month's Meeting Thursday 7th November
Guest Speaker – Malka Baker – History of Dick Whittington

FROM THE CHAIR

I am lucky to be writing this newsletter, as my wife, Jackie and I were nearly killed whilst travelling to the U3A Annual Conference at Nottingham. We left home at 6am, hoping to get to the U3A Conference at the start at 9-30am. However, just 10 minutes into the journey, on the A127, just by Alton Garden Centre, 3 horses ran onto the dual carriageway. The 2 cars in front of mine hit 2 of the horses, one falling beside our car in the outside lane and the other dropping dead in front of our car. I managed to swerve around the horse just stopping as the 2 cars ahead collided and crashed. The road was completely blocked and we were held for about 2-3 hours whilst the Emergency Services cut a badly injured driver from the crashed cars. The Police finally escorted us back along the A127 to the A130 junction where we could continue our journey, via Wickford, Billericay, and back onto the A127. We carefully continued our journey and eventually arrived at the U3A National Conference at 12 Noon, having missed the whole of the first morning's session. However, on a brighter note, the Conference was still worth attending with 2 superb speakers and interactive sessions with other U3A's. On the whole Rayleigh U3A is doing the right things but I have gained some ideas to improve our U3A in the future.

Our Autumn session of Group Activities is now well under way, and we look forward to happy times together following the activities that interest us. If you are still anxious to join a Group, or better still, would like to start a new Group, please contact Bob Wren at our monthly meetings or phone him on 01702 525311. I would like to express our thanks to David Fryer-Kelsey who has decided to reluctantly close down the Local History group. This group was one of the first to start and David has given his time and knowledge to many members. We thank him and wish him well.

I do make a special plea for Members to step forward and be prepared to take on the responsibility of helping to run Rayleigh U3A. As I have said before we are particularly looking for a Main Account Treasurer, and also a Social Account Treasurer. So if you have a talent, please see me or a member of the Committee when we can give you more details of the jobs. Also, we need a Secretary as Maureen Hayes has to stand down at our next A.G.M. So if you can take minutes and would like to offer your services, again contact me, Maureen or a member of the Committee.

This Newsletter is the last before Christmas and on behalf of the Rayleigh U3A Committee I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a successful New Year. I do hope to see many of you at our Christmas Lunch on Friday 6th December when I can wish you the complements of the season in person.

Finally, attached to this Newsletter is the form to renew your Rayleigh U3A membership for 2014. If you have a problem regarding renewal please contact Doreen Blake on 01268 774871 NOW.

David Sheffield Chairman Rayleigh U3A

This Month's Speaker

Our speaker this month is Malka Baker. She is a qualified London Tour Guide and Lecturer, regularly taking groups on customised tours of London sites. She lives in Islington with her son, whilst her daughter lives in a canal boat on the River Cam. She holds a degree in English Literature and Social History

National Memorial Arboretum

The Arboretum is a very special place honouring those who have served and continue to serve our nation both at home and abroad. It covers 150 acres of the Staffordshire countryside. Visitors cannot help but be impressed and come away with a variety of emotions. Two of our members who visited the site this year have recorded their impressions for our benefit, and as you will read their visits were important to each of them for quite different reasons.

From Sue Taylor (Group Leader, Family History)

On our way to North Wales for a U3A holiday, we stopped for a while at the National Memorial Arboretum. This turned out to be a very emotional stop for me. At the Arboretum they have a whole building dedicated to Japanese Prisoners of War. My father was a survivor of the Prison Camps in Burma and I was delighted to see his name, Signalmen Victor C. Prince, on the computer list of survivors. It named the camps where he lived and worked for three and a half years. There were various pictures and lots of information which gave me a much wider insight on what life and survival must have been like in those camps in World War II. There was information and photographs of the Burma railway where my father actually worked and lots of other interesting and also sad facts and figures.

Having recently found some letters which had been sent to my father whilst he was held prisoner along with lots of other memorabilia, I am able to understand, to a degree, just what life must have been like for him. The letters which were sent from his family during 1942 and 1943 he did not actually receive until 1944 and during most of that time his parents did not know whether he was dead or alive. On the back of his letters, my father made notes and kept various records. He also started to write poetry relating to his stay in the camp. I thought our Poetry Group might be interested in the poems and I would like to show them to the Poetry Group for them to read at one of their meetings. The writing is extremely faded on these letters as they were written in pencil but I have tried to decipher as much as I can. Below are a couple of verses I have deciphered from one of his poems (not in order):

We love to ride the bogey trains
Much better than the basket chains
Although it gives us aches and pains
It's foolish but it's fun

We love to climb the scaffold poles
With 40 feet beneath our feet
Better be monkey than human moles
It's foolish but it's fun

The injured roll up by the score
Bruised and battered cut and sore
Tomorrow they'll turn up for more
It's foolish but it's fun



My father is now 93 and although quite frail he is still going strong but suffering with dementia. I guess his memories of those awful years will eventually fade away. Before his dementia was diagnosed we had taken him along to his old regiment, The Royal Signals, where they have a huge museum and all sorts of memorabilia (well worth a visit). One small part of the exhibition includes items etc. from soldiers who were Japanese prisoners of war during WWII. They made a fuss of Dad and after a guided tour even showed him a book, from their archives, which during the war had actually been buried, hidden from the Japanese guards, as it contained details of all those prisoners who had died, what camp they were in, the date they died and the cause of death. Dad actually recognised a few names of soldiers he had known, which brought a tear to his eyes.

Our family plan to pass various original items and documents of interest both to the Arboretum and to the Royal Signals Museum for their archives, etc. This initial part of our holiday turned out to be very worthwhile and extremely interesting for us.

From Robin Blake

En-route to North Wales for our U3A Walking Group holiday this year, we spent a couple of hours at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas in Staffordshire. We were so impressed that we vowed to spend a full day there, which we did in July.

I am sure you will have seen photographs of the centrepiece, the Armed Forces Memorial, and perhaps, like us, you thought that was the National Memorial. But no, the site covers 152 acres and was gifted by Redland Aggregates (now Lafarge) of reclaimed gravel workings. The siting was important. It is roughly at the heart of the nation and has 50,000 maturing trees and over 250 memorials.

Visitors are met at the Millennium Chapel of Peace and Forgiveness whose wooden construction is supported on 12 trunks of Douglas Fir, each representing one of the 12 apostles. The Millennium Prayer, written by 13 year old Anna Crompton from Ipswich is displayed on the front of the building.

Within the Chapel, amongst other furnishings, are altar candlesticks, designed to represent the 12 knives used by the apostles at the Last Supper, and a wonderful carving, carved by the Essex Woodcarvers, of 12 young figures listening to the storyteller, who is modelled on the local vicar and the exquisite carvings of the children modelled on the children and their friends. Unlike the Cenotaph or local war memorials when, at the 11th hour of the 11th month on a Sunday nearest to the 11th day the nation pays tribute to its war dead of 2 world wars, at the National Memorial Arboretum at 11 o'clock every day a 2 minute silence is observed.

The centrepiece is the Armed Forces Memorial, recording members of the armed forces who have died as a result of conflicts since 1945, and is updated once a year. To date it lists over 16,000 names in the order of their deaths so that, where more than one perished in a single incident, their names are together as comrades. It consists of a 6 metre high earth mound, 100 metres wide and at the top of the mound stands a 43 metre diameter structure of 2 curved and 2 straight walls constructed of 200,000 bricks faced with Portland stone panels.



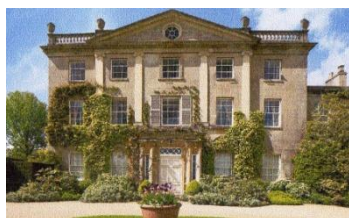
Within the Arboretum are over 250 memorials and trees sponsored by such diverse organisations as the individual branches of the Services; War Widows; St. Dunstons, where there is a pathway of flowers chosen for their scent for the blind to appreciate; the Limbless ex-Servicemen Association's orchard, where the fruit trees are kept at a low height to allow fruit to be picked from wheelchairs; child victims of war and terrorism (Garden of The Innocents); Bevin Boys; Post Office and many more.

We recommend a visit, about 157 miles from Rayleigh, about 3 hours driving time, sat nav DE13 7AR .

REPORTS ON ENJOYABLE GROUP VISITS

Highgrove (with Fred and Irene Carter)

After a coffee stop on our way to Tetbury, we had a look around the town and managed to find a very good hotel for lunch. After lunch we went to Highgrove and met our guide, a very pleasant fellow. Next we were shown a DVD featuring



Prince Charles. Our guide took us around a very impressive estate. On display were many interesting gifts from foreign dignitaries together with four busts of Prince Charles at various ages.

The highlight for me was The Mediterranean Garden which we saw at the end of our tour. The weather was pretty poor but we enjoyed a great day out.

Thank you very much Fred and Irene.

Rita Cooper

Duke of York's Theatre (with the Theatre Group in July)

We went to see 'A Passion Play' and what a day that was. We first had lunch at The Bistro, which is always a good meal. Then on to The Duke of York's Theatre. I did not know what to expect but as Zoe Wanamaker was starring in it I knew it would be good. It was more than good.....it was outstanding. A first rate cast and it was funny and very clever.

An added bonus was that after the performance the whole cast came back on stage for a 'Question and Answer' session, exclusively for U3A members of the audience. Everyone enjoyed the show and it was a wonderful day.

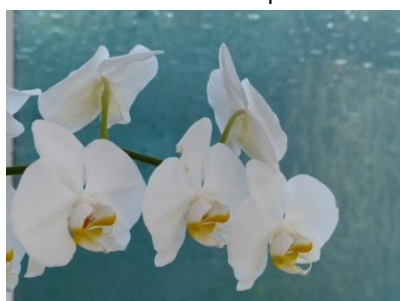
Lilian Morris

GARDENING CORNER
“Growing and caring for Orchids”

I have been growing Orchids for 20 years both indoors, in a conservatory and in a heated greenhouse attached to our bungalow. The `Moth Orchid` *Phalanopsis* has become a firm favourite pot plant with the plant loving public with its long-lasting blooms (3 months and more). Perhaps you would want to know more of its likes and dislikes?

Orchids are one of the world's most widespread genus of plants. There are in excess of 30,000 different species that are found in every continent except Antarctica and with the help of breeders are increasing with many bi-generic crosses which are capable of larger, more floriferous, exciting colours to whet our appetites.

Orchid's fall into 2 main types of culture: Terrestrial and Epiphytes. The Moth Orchid is in the latter group. The ones usually sold are Hybrids and are capable of many years of long flowering and are tolerant to a degree of neglect hence their popularity, but there are some essential guide lines for a long life. Feeding and watering need not follow any set pattern. The look and feel of the leaves are a good guide. They should be stiff and slightly shiny. When watering and feeding is required, place the pot on a free-draining surface. Fill a pint jug with fresh rainwater or failing this cooled, boiled tap water. Every month or so add a measure of Orchid feed as suggested on the bottle. I use a Baby-Bio Orchid feed (in a pink bottle from Homebase). You must resist the temptation to overfeed.



Gently pour the whole pint onto the compost, being careful not to get any in the leaf base, leave to drain (you should get 90% out of the bottom of the pot which can be reused on other Orchids). They also appreciate some humidity which can be supplied by a plant saucer filled with grit and kept damp but NEVER stand the pots in water. They also appreciate the company of other Orchids of the same type on a bigger saucer. They hate being in a draught or strong sunlight. This type of Orchid grows on trees in dappled shade in its natural habitat. Needless to say it needs a minimum of 55 degrees F at night to do well. When your plant has finished flowering, cut the stem off 2 joints from the base and usually the plant will respond by growing another flower spike from that point but often with less or smaller blooms.

Eventually the plant will need a rest or a repot. Completely empty the pot and shake off all the old compost and dispose. There should be a mass of silver roots, some more dead looking which should be cut off. The growing roots have pale green tips which you keep. Using the same cleaned transparent pot, use a proprietary Orchid compost which should be small nuggets of pine bark and sometimes coconut fibre (discard any dust), dampen before use and pack as tightly as possible without breaking the roots. Remember GOOD DRAINAGE is essential for success and should give you many years of pleasure.

Scale insect is really the only pest and can be treated with a spray of insecticide under the leaves or picked off with tweezers. Sometimes after a long flowering period the plant takes a rest to grow a new leaf or more roots. (This can be several months so be patient).

Brian Kersey
(for more help 01268 743959 E-mail; brian.kersey@sky.com)



TALES FROM CLEMENTS HALL SWIMMING POOL

As a regular swimmer over the years you get to know many people and some become friends. It is so strange to meet them in the street with clothes on and without a swimming hat – barely recognisable. A special German friend I meet is also interested in art and gardening, so a lot of talking there. A story unfolded last week when we were discussing our best Serendipity moments. Her tale was whilst on holiday with her husband in Spain about 20 years ago. Walking down to her friend's café in this small village, ahead was a nurse pushing someone in a wheelchair. Oh my goodness it's Stephen Hawking. They all entered her friend's café (the only café in the village). Her friend couldn't speak English so she offered to help. Stephen wanted black tea with honey. No honey! This was hurriedly sent for from the local store. They continued to chat to Stephen and the nurse, and eventually plucked up courage and asked if a picture could be taken of all of them. This was perfectly OK and, as you can guess, it is now one of her most prized possessions. She added that having seen him on TV recently, his health seems better now than all those years ago. Science and Medicine just gets better and better.

Linda Clarke



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The age of Digital Photography has revolutionised the way we record our daily lives. We could never have envisaged the diversity and complexity of 'equipment' now available to us just 20 odd years ago, so I will endeavour to unravel some of the pluses and minuses as I see it.

It is 10 years since I 'ditched' using film, albeit with tongue in cheek and was left with several cameras and lenses nobody wanted. I have found much to commend digital on so many fronts whilst finding my previous skills and knowledge still have a place in this modern world.

I believe that Photography is an Art-Form and it is the ability to 'see' a picture and exploit it in so many ways. The expression 'Painting with Light' is as strong now as in the early days of Photography when colour was a dream still to come. It became clear to me when, in the early days of my interest, I joined my local Photographic Society in Rayleigh over 30 years ago and began to enter Competitions starting with Beginners through to Advanced levels in, initially, Monochrome prints and Colour Slides. We often had set subjects as well as 'Open' classes and learnt by example from others, the finer points of composition and presentation. It became more interesting to guess who produced what and the styles and observations of other members became easy to spot and helped to develop my own interpretations.

Some 60 years ago I purchased my first camera, an Ensign 'Fulview', British design and manufactured with a big top screen viewfinder for composing your intended 'masterpiece'. What an improvement on the Kodak 'Brownie Box' we had been used to seeing, with that tiny viewfinder that you had to shade with your hand to see anything at all!! The point I am making is that the 'first priority of seeing what you intend to take' is still paramount in my opinion, Sadly, this is missing on most compact cameras sold today, the early ones had both a screen and a viewfinder for those 'sunny days' when one cannot see anything on the screen clearly unless you hold it at arms length. This is bad practise and because your posture is unstable, especially in a windy situation or on a slope, I was always taught 'hold the camera with both hands and stick your elbows in' which is virtually impossible with only a screen to use. This is an important consideration when buying an 'all singing and dancing, can do anything' slim, light, small, colour to suit your mood or ensemble, camera. Please don't think that I condemn this technology completely. It has its place in the repertoire and there has never been a time when there was an excuse not to take pictures 'on the run' so to speak and to be unobtrusive is a plus for those 'capture the moment' opportunities.

So, what do we have as an alternative? A new innovation is the 'Bridge Camera' which is a cheaper version of the DSLR (digital single lens reflex). Some have a viewfinder and a screen but are not a true Reflex insomuch as when you are shooting close-ups you don't get exactly what you see, because the electronic viewfinder does not see exactly what the lens sees. They are smaller, lighter but chunkier than DSLRs but a good step-up and capable of most things the 'big boys' offer. There is no excuse now not to 'have a go' at that seemingly impossible shot. You have capacity for hundreds of images on a 2g card and literally thousands on a 64g card. There is much to learn and the more you do the better. Learn to know exactly where everything is on the camera so that you know what to press and why. You will probably never use some of the controls so don't get bogged down by this. So nothing has changed, good images are still good whatever the camera and your ability to 'see' a good picture will come with experience or maybe you have that 'gift' already.

I still find my photography exciting although using a computer has brought many 'despairing' moments but so did home processing and printing, not forgetting 3 or more hours processing colour positives (slides).

So now it's an 'instant' world and no going back. Stick with it and the rewards will come.

Take lots of images. **ENJOY.**

Brian Kersey

U3A Diaries for 2014



We have just a few U3A diaries left, which we shall sell at the November meeting, price £2 each. This is your last opportunity to purchase this excellent diary for use next year.



Tai Chi Group

Tai chi is a wonderful form of gentle exercise to keep us agile. The current group agree that it has improved our balance, posture and flexibility. It is also a form of meditation helping us to maintain our focus.

Our tutor, Gavin, is patient and good-humoured. There are whole group warm up exercises, the '*neigong*' and '*qigong*', followed by individual attention as we all work our own way, at our own pace, through the '*form*'.

To find out more, contact Linda Robson on 01702 555185

Remember When

According to today`s regulators and bureaucrats, those of us who were kids in the 30`s, 40`s and 50`s probably shouldn`t have survived, because our baby cots were covered with brightly coloured lead-based paint which we promptly chewed and liked.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, or latches on doors or cabinets and it was fine to play with pans.

When we rode our bikes, we wore no helmets, just flip flops and fluorescent `clackers` on our wheels.

As children we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags. Riding in the passenger seat was a treat. We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle – and it tasted the same.

We ate dripping sandwiches, bread and butter pudding and drank fizzy pop with sugar in it, but we were never overweight because we were always outside playing.

We shared one drink with four friends, from one bottle or can and no one actually died from this.

We would spend hours building go-carts out of scraps and then went top speed down the hill, only to find we forgot the brakes. After running into stinging nettles a few times we learned to solve the problem.

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back before it got dark. No one was able to reach us all day and no one minded.



We did not have play stations, or X-Boxes, no video games at all, no 99 channels on TV, no mobile phones, no personal computers, no internet chat rooms. We had friends – because we went outside and found them.

We played elastics and street rounders, and sometimes that ball really hurt.

We fell out of trees, got cut and broke bones and teeth, and there were no lawsuits. They were accidents. We learned not to do the same thing again.

We had fights, punched each other hard and got black and blue – we learned to get over it. We walked to friend`s homes. We made up games with sticks and tennis balls and ate live stuff, and although we were told it would happen, we did not have very many eyes out, nor did the live stuff live inside us forever.

We rode bikes in packs of 7 and wore our coats by only the hood. Our actions were our own. Consequences were expected. The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke a law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law. Imagine that!

This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers and problem solvers and inventors ever. The past 60 years have been an explosion of innovations and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all.

AND YOU ARE ONE OF THEM. CONGRATULATIONS!!

Forthcoming Speaker

The speaker at our January meeting will be our very own David Clarke, who will provide us with an illustrated talk on Cuba and his travels there.

Gardening group slide shows

The following slide shows have been arranged for this Autumn, as follows:

Monday 28th October – Solanums and Friends by John Walker

Monday 25th November – Digital display of gardens visited this year by David Clarke

Meetings are held at the Cloister Room, Holy Trinity Church, Rayleigh at 1.45pm.

Cost per meeting £3 incl. refreshments.

Local History Group

After five years visiting the various fascinating buildings and sites in Essex and having guided tours explaining the finer points, we have decided to move on. It has been a fascinating project and I think we have all learned a lot more about our beautiful and in many cases secret county.

If anybody would like to take up the mantle, they are welcome to use our blog which contains details of all our trips, and we would be happy to give advice. Thank you to all of you who supported us over the years.

Take care and good health from David and Heather.

AN "INVITATION TO LUNCH"

with Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Lord Petre at Saxon Hall on Tuesday 15th April 2014.
Talk entitled 'Duties of the Lord Lieutenant'

Lord Petre is the 18th Baron Petre who took up his duties in October 2002 and lives near Chelmsford at Ingatestone Hall with his family. The title of Lord Lieutenant is given to the British Monarch's personal representatives in the United Kingdom. We are privileged to have Lord Petre agree to talk at our luncheon.

Tickets will be on sale at the January 2014 meeting at £17.50 to include two course lunch, coffee/tea & mints

Maureen Huntly, Social Committee



THE RAYLEIGH U3A AUTUMN/WINTER AFTERNOON TALKS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

On the afternoon of Monday 7th October the Autumn/Winter series of 'Afternoon Speakers' was launched to an audience of over sixty people at the W. I. Hall, Rayleigh. This is the second year of these talks introducing a variety of speakers and subjects to our members, which have proved very successful.

Jim Worsdale is remembered for being the well-known Editor of the 'Evening Echo' and a supporter of many local charities. His talk was a series of amusing anecdotes of his career progression from a Junior Reporter with the 'Southend Standard' to a feature writer in the 'Reveille' and a Roving Reporter in Florida, USA. All his life expertise was put into practice when he graduated up the ladder and returned home to become Editor of our local paper. In his retirement he has continued to write for pleasure. His talk was interesting, entertaining and made us laugh.

Pete Huntly, Education Committee



AUTUMN/WINTER AFTERNOON SPEAKERS 2013/2014

Monday 21st October 2013 - David Williams, City of London Guide-Lecturer 'The City Livery Companies'. An accomplished speaker who brings to life different aspects of our wonderful City of London. This time we heard about the intriguing history of the many and varied Livery Companies.

Monday 4th November we would like to introduce to you Martyn Harrison an accomplished Tenor and soloist who has worked for many Opera Companies including the Royal Opera House, Glyndebourne and abroad. He appeared in London Musicals including 'Phantom of the Opera,' and 'Sweeney Todd'. We are so lucky to have him come to speak and sing about his love of music on his extended tour of UK, Germany and Australia.

Friday 22nd November 2013 - Professor Alan Davies' talk on 'Rainbows' from the School of Physics, Astronomy and Mathematics at the University of Hertfordshire will help us to understand the properties and wonder of rainbows through a variety of photographs. A retired professor his particular skill is to bring a subject to life for audiences of all ages. Come along to this talk which requires no specialist knowledge with mathematics or physics just an explanation of the beauty we see in the sky following rain.

Monday 3rd February 2014 - Reverend Kelvin Woolmer, 'Nicker to Vicar!'

Monday 17th February 2014 - Adrian Wright, 150 Years of 'The London Underground'

*Tickets are for sale at the monthly meetings and at each talk – £2 to include tea/coffee and biscuits.
All talks are held between 2 and 4pm at The WI Hall, Rayleigh.*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Chairman:** David Sheffield
dave@djsheff.demon.co.uk 01268 743586
- Vice Chairman:** Pete Huntly
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- Social Activities Co-ordinator:** Maureen Huntly
maureenhuntly@btinternet.com 01268 777398

**This is the last Newsletter
before the Christmas Break
and your Newsletter editors (Irene and
John Tyson, and Liz and Roger Baker) wish
to take this opportunity to send
Christmas greetings to all
their Rayleigh U3A friends**



STOP PRESS

Dates for your Diary – Educational Events

Contact – Pete Huntly pa.huntly@btinternet.com
01268 777398

Wednesday 6th. November - Study Day on 'Victorian
London' at Saxon Hall (sold out)

Dates for your Diary – Social Events

A Right Cockney Knees up !!!

Saturday 8th March 2014

At Hullbridge Sports and Social Club, Lower Road.

Come and join in with this fun sing-a-long evening

With a two course meal, bar and raffle.

Music by Guitarist and Singer Pete George

Tickets on sale at the January Meeting

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Friday 6th December 12 for 12.30 till 4pm

**In the new Jubilee Suite with dance floor at
Saxon Hall** Aviation Way, Southend-on-Sea SS2 6UN

Three course meal with tea/coffee & mince pies with wine
or soft drink

Flower Arrangement Table Prizes

Gratuity for Staff and Raffle

Musical Entertainment by Pete George

Tickets at £25 each

on sale at the November meeting



MONTHLY MEETINGS

*After this next Meeting in November, the following meeting
will be on Thursday 2nd. January. As you are aware, we do
not have a meeting in December but instead invite you to
join your fellow members for a Christmas lunch on Friday
December 6th. (details of which are given above)*

A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITORS

We welcome contributions from members for
Publication in the Newsletter.

Please send articles to:

Liz and Roger Baker

rogerandlizbaker@gmail.com

Irene and John Tyson

Jatyson1@aol.com

Contributions should be sent by the 10th of the month prior
to the month of publication.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Rayleigh U3A

Registered Charity No. 1134068

Membership Renewal 2014

The membership fee due 1st February, 2014 is £20 per person. To renew your membership please complete this form and send it with your cheque to the address below.

*Membership will deem to have lapsed if Renewal Application forms are not received by the Membership Secretary by **31st January, 2014.***

Please note that you may be asked to produce your Membership Card when attending meetings and joining groups.

**Please renew my/our membership of Rayleigh University of the Third Age
I enclose my/our cheque payable to Rayleigh U3A for £20/£40**

BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Title First name Surname

Mr _____

Mrs _____

Ms _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Phone _____ **e-mail** _____

Signed

Date

Please let us have your comments or suggestions about anything you think would improve our U3A.

GIFT AID

Rayleigh U3A is a Registered Charity and we can therefore claim back tax on your subscription.

If you have already completed a Gift Aid Declaration you do not need to submit another one.

If you have not yet submitted a form and are now able to do so please contact;

Pete Huntly , Gift Aid Coordinator at pa.huntly@btinternet.com or on 01268 777398 to request a form.

This does not affect your personal tax position in any way, it enables us to maintain our subscription at £20 and provides extra income to improve our services to members.

Please return to

Membership Secretary:-

Doreen Blake

129 Bull Lane

Rayleigh SS6 8NU

Phone 01268 774871

email rblake@uk2.net