



*Keith & Pam Dunt
Serendipity 2 Group Leaders
(See Page 8)*

This Month's Meeting
Thursday, 1st September, 2011
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Paula Short
"Sicily, Its Heroes & Villains"

RETIRESMEN

GROUP ACTIVITY CALENDAR – Normal day each Group meets each month

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

Welcome back to the Autumn months at Rayleigh U3A. We have a lot of events taking place in the coming months and a number of new groups to be started so this is a very exciting time for us all.

I am delighted that our first Family History Study Day is to take place at Saxon Hall on Wednesday, 19th October. The day includes a programme of celebrated guest speakers talking about 'The Future of Genealogy on the Internet', the Census and Dating Family Photographs. There will be an exhibition of family history materials and a raffle.

At our October Meeting you will have the chance to chat to Group Leaders at our Open Day. Exhibitions by the group members will display details about their subjects and what they have achieved over the last year. Some groups may have vacancies for new members or the Group Leader will give help to anyone who would like to start up their own group. A wonderful opportunity for us all to interact with each other and explore the subjects we have on offer for our members to enjoy.

Social Entertainment is also an important part of our calendar and tickets costing £4 will be on sale at the September Meeting for the Party Night taking place at Rayleigh Grange Community Centre on Saturday, 29th October. Musical entertainment will be by Maggie Prince and buffet by Adams Caterers. This event is a celebration of our fourth anniversary.

On Saturday 26th November we are holding a Christmas Quiz 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.

Our Christmas Lunch and Musical Cabaret is to take place at Saxon Hall on Friday, 2nd December. Tickets are £25 and include free raffle, table prizes, entertainment and pre lunch drink.

This month I am privileged to be representing our U3A along with my husband Pete (Committee Member, Gift Aid and Study Day Co-ordinator) at the U3A National Conference being held in Nottingham from 17th to 19th September. We look forward to writing about our first visit to Conference on our return.

At this month's meeting we have the return of Paula Short, an entertaining speaker, talking to us about 'Sicily – its heroes and villains'.

Sincerely,

Maureen, Chair, Rayleigh U3A

COMMITTEE, GROUPS, GROUP LEADERS

Chairman	Maureen Huntly	01268 777398	History - Local	H. Flemings	01702 204943
Vice Chair	David Sheffield	01268 743586		D. Fryer-Kelsey	01702 203455
Secretary	Maureen Hayes	01268 743110	History - Social	David Carlton	01268 452791
Treasurer I	David Clarke	01702 204559	Industrial Awareness		
Social Treasurer	Peter Walker	01702 202225		Janet Carlton	01268 452791
S.T. Assistant	Margaret Reed	01268 761039	Keep Fit	Janet Carlton	01268 452791
Membership	Doreen Blake	01268 774871	Knit & Natter	Doreen Oliver	01268 743082
Group Co-ord'r	Sue Taylor	01268 786405	Lap Top Computing		
Events Co-ord'r	Terry Gouldsmith	01268 562803		Frank Bodey	01268 733616
News/letter Eds:	David & Janet Carlton	01268 452791	Latin	Dave Filby	01268 770023
			Music Apprec'n	Les Geales	01702 206966
Gift Aid/Study Day Co-ordinator			Real Ale Group	Dave Filby	01268 770023
	Peter Huntly	01268 777398	Scrabble	Marg'et Bristow	01268 747639
Speaker Sec.	Janet Carlton	01268 452791	Scrapbooking	Janet Carlton	01268 452791
Halls B'king Off.	Barbara Hodge	01268 771820	Serendipity I	Linda & David Clarke	01702 204559
Volunteer C'ord.	Irene Carter	01268 766149			
Other Com'ttee:	Fred Carter	01268 766149	Serendipity II	Pam & K. Dunt	01702 201747
Groups/Group Leaders:			Serendipity III	P. & J. Pomfrett	01702 230253
Acoustic Guitar	Vera Ward	01268 775040	Serendipity IV	Sue & Mike Cairns,	
Antiques/Collectables				Maureen Hayes	01702 473110
	Sheila Read	tbc		& Peter Britton	
Archaeology	Ian Haynes	01268 779749	Singing for Health & Pleasure		
Art Appreciat'n	Barbara Curry	01268 775460		Marjorie Sale	01702 346175
Art I-Water Cols.	Sylvia Lester	01268 774201	S. Lunch Club I	Maureen Goss	01268 777681
Bird Watching	Laurie Denney	01702 615370	S. Lunch Club II	Sue Barrows	01268 776775
Book Reading	Doreen Blake	01268 774871	Tai Chi (J)	Sue Taylor	01268 786405
Book Reading II	Marian Allen	01268 743339	Tenpin Bowling	Alan Hudson	01702 202158
Calligraphy	Irene Tyson	01268 742942		Bob Wren	01702 525311
Ceramics	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590	Theatre	Jean Mackenzie	01268 510570
Crib Club	David Sheffield	01268 743586		Helena Maxwell	01268 772061
Digital Photog'y	Brian Kersey	01268 743959	Theatre II	Sandra Wilson	01268 775184
Dining Group I	Margaret Bristow	01268 747639	Visiting Essex Churches:		
Dining Group II	Marion & Laurie Wrentham	01702 555783	Group I	Marian Allen	01268 743339
			Group II	Elizabeth Baker	01702 331166
Drama	Joanne Baker	01268 742252	Group III	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590
Family History Beginners			Group IV	Jan Churchill	01702 510296
	Terry Taylor	01268 786405	Group V (J)	Maureen Turner	01268 750967
Family History I	Sue Taylor	01268 786405	Walking I	Roger Baker	01702 331166
Family History II	Pete Huntly	01268 777398			07867 588879
Family History III	Barbara Dale	01268 772018	Walking II	Les Poole	01268 773174
Flower Arr'ging	Irene Stokes	01268 774564	Wine Apprec'n	Harry Brickw'd	01268 743838
Gardening II	Linda Clarke	01702 204559	Yoga	Suzanne Middleton	01702 557389
Gardening (Propagating)					
	Harry Brickwood	01268 743838			
Golf	Kay Nevin	01268 780855			
Grumpy ol' U3A Members					
	John Edwards	01268 747208			

(J) = Joint with Rayleigh Grange

GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S NEWS

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Chairman:- Maureen Huntly - 01268 777398

e-mail - maureenhuntly@btinternet.com

Membership Secretary:- Doreen Blake - 01268 774871

e-mail - rblake@uk2.net

Group Co-ordinator:- Sue Taylor - 01268 786405

e-mail - susan.taylor106@tesco.net

Secretary:- Maureen Hayes - 01702 473110

e-mail - mhayesghayes@talktalk.net

***Newsletter editors:-Janet & David Carlton - 01268
452791***

e-mail - janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk

IT HAS BEEN FAIRLY QUIET over the past couple of months and there is not too much to report to you. However, I am pleased that the new groups we have started since February are all now up and running. They include Flower Arranging, Points of View, Antiques/Collectables, Beginners Family History, Serendipity IV, VIP's and Canasta.

I look forward to opening further groups before the end of the year and if you have any suggestions for new groups please let me know.

It is with regret I have to inform you that Heather Brickwood has decided to step down as Gardening Group Leader after almost 4 years and, therefore, will no longer be running the Gardening Group. Heather was one of the first members to come forward and volunteer to become a Group Leader when we started four years ago. Heather has run a very successful and popular group during that time and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking her very much for all the hard work and effort she has put into making it so successful. Heather will be missed and I would like to wish her all the very best from all of us at Rayleigh U3A. THANK YOU HEATHER.

I am pleased to let you know that Linda Clarke will be continuing as Group Leader for her Gardening Group.

If there is anyone who would be interested in taking up the position of Group Leader for a new Gardening Group please contact me.

Annual Group Presentations – October Meeting. As you are aware plans are under way for our Group Presentations at the October Meeting. Will all Group Leaders please make sure they have let me know what space they require and I am sure you are all putting together information for that day. Looking forward to seeing what groups have been doing over the past year.

Group etiquette and courtesy

If you are interested in joining a group please contact the Group Leader to see if there are any spaces and if not, ask to have your name added to the waiting list. When you have joined a group, it is important and courteous to contact the Group Leader if you are unable to attend a particular meeting. There is often a waiting list of members wanting to join groups and the Group Leader would appreciate knowing that you were not able to attend a meeting. This would provide an opportunity for someone on the waiting list to go along to the meeting on that occasion as you might yourself have done when on the waiting list.

Sue Taylor – Group Co-ordinator.

Tel: 01268 786405

Email: susan.taylor106@tesco.net

NEWS FROM OUR GROUP LEADERS

LOCAL HISTORY

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

Wednesday, 21st September

Coach visit to Thaxted and Saffron Walden. Leave Kirby's depot at 08.30am. £17 per head or £19.50 including tea/coffee at Thaxted. Fully booked but there may be cancellations.

Thursday, 20th October

Our last meeting of the year will be an indoor meeting in association with the Social History Group in the WI hall at 10.00am. David Carlton and David Fryer-Kelsey will talk about their activities in 2011 and look forward to 2012. A chance for members to meet and have a natter. New Rayleigh U3A members are welcome to come and find out what we are planning for the New Year.

£2 per head includes tea/coffee. Book and pay at our desk at monthly meetings. Plenty of seats available.

This will be our last meeting until 2012.

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

David Fryer-Kelsey – 01702 203455

Heather Flemmings – 01702 204943

CALLIGRAPHY GROUP

The Calligraphy Group is now well established and we are able to welcome new members. If you are interested please ring me and have a chat.

Irene Tyson - 01268 742942

GOLF GROUP

We would still like to welcome new mem-

bers to the Golf Group so if you have a set of Golf Clubs why not join our Group for a game of golf? We meet monthly from April to September at Dunton Hills Golf Club. We play 18 holes on their par 3 course at a cost of six pounds per game finishing with a drink in the Club House. This has proved to be a really enjoyable event with a lovely group of people.

For more information please give me a call. Last date for 2011 will be: Wednesday, 7th September.

Kay Nevin – 01268 780855

TENPIN BOWLING GROUP

Due to holidays there were only twelve members of our group at the July meeting. I would like to welcome two new members, John Flemmings and Sue Parsons. They both enjoyed the afternoon.

The cups this month went to John Capel, Mike Edwards and Peter Goodwin.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 6th September at CJs in Hockley at 2pm.

Alan Hudson – 01702 202158

KNIT and NATTER

As we all get back to normal after Summer holidays, family visits etc. I hope that members of our Group are keen to continue meeting two afternoons a month and come to either or both. We meet on the second Tuesday and second Thursday of each month at 69 Victoria Road, Rayleigh except in October. Due to holidays that month I can only do the second Thursday.

I do hope to see our regular members and anybody else interested in Knitting, Cross Stich etc., or just the "Natter". Please come to the September meetings which start on Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th September.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Doreen Oliver – 01268 743082

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

janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk

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

**To arrive no later than
Sunday, 14th September**

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 MEETING

Thursday,
6th October, 2011
2.00 p.m - 4.00 p.m

**Annual Group
Presentations**

FRONT PAGE PHOTO

Pam and Keith Dunt, Group Leaders of Serendity II, recently held a planning meeting for the Group to decide places to visit during the next six months. In celebration of the success of the Group, Pam arranged for a celebration cake to be made and enjoyed by the group that morning. This wasn't the only celebration for Pam and Keith as they were also celebrating their Golden Wedding with family and friends during the same week.



RAYLEIGH GRANGE - RACE NIGHT

Please note that Rayleigh Grange have organised a Race Night on Saturday, 24th September at 7.30 p.m. at The Grange Community Centre. They would like to invite members of Rayleigh U3A and their family and friends to this event. Members and their guests are welcome to bring their own nibbles but drinks will be sold from the bar. Tickets are £5.00 each. Please contact Sue Mahoney on 01268 780051 or e-mail pemberwell@aol.com for more information.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday, 19th Oct.	Family History Study Day Tickets all sold
Saturday, 29th Oct.	Party Night - £4 Tickets now on sale
Saturday, 26th Nov.	Quiz Night £4 Tickets now on sale
Friday, 2nd Dec.	Christmas Lunch and Musical Cabaret £25 Tickets now on sale

PLANT PROPAGATION GROUP

This will commence on Tuesday, 6th September and run for six consecutive weeks. It has become clear that this course is going to be popular so I am going to run it as follows:-

Two courses starting on Tuesday, 6th September and Wednesday, 7th September Time - 9 am to 10.30 am. Period - 6 consecutive weeks. Each class will be for eight people.

Venue - Orchard Cottage, 219 Hockley Road, Rayleigh, SS6 8BH

I will supply all tools, compost, pots, plants and seeds*. You will also have free use of my heated propagators.

Please come in your gardening clothes as you will be digging up plants and getting your hands dirty.

If you have "Wellies" please bring them. You will be outdoors all the time.

Cost - £6 per person, this includes tea/coffee
**The plants and seeds will be from my garden, if you wish to use other plants or seeds these will be for your own account.*

If you wish to join this course please e-mail me - henry.brickwood@homecall.co.uk
Please state if you have a preference for Tuesdays or Wednesdays or that either is acceptable.

Also advise your telephone number.

A list of those members wishing to join was made some months ago. This list will be ignored.

The entry list starts today either by e-mail or by the list on the notice board at the meeting on Thursday, 1st September. Please do not telephone me.

Harry Brickwood

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

Singing for Pleasure is starting again on 13th September at the Wesley Room in the Methodist Church, Eastwood Road, Rayleigh. 10.30am – noon. Everyone is welcome and

the dates booked are Sept 13th, 27th, Oct 4th, 11th and 25th and Nov 1st and 8th. In September we shall be preparing for singing at the Group Presentation Day at the October monthly meeting.

Marjorie Sale – 01702 346175

THEATRE GROUP II

Having formed earlier this year we have had successful trips to London to see "Blithe Spirit", "Pygmalion" and the musical "Wicked". Following a visit to the Palace Theatre, Westcliff in August we still have "Vivaldi - The Four Seasons" in October, "Legally Blonde" and "Warhorse" in November and another trip to the Palace Theatre to see "The Holly and the Ivy" in December to look forward to.

I have booked a minibus for those going to The Royal Albert Hall at Christmas and will contact those members personally with details of transport and timings.

A coach is also booked for the November trips to see "Legally Blonde" and "Warhorse". Details will be in the October newsletter or by individual e-mail.

Would everyone who requested a ticket for "The Holly and the Ivy" via myself or Helena (Group 1), ensure that you have given/sent me a cheque payable to Rayleigh U3A for £16.50 by the October monthly meeting at the latest. Thank you.

Those U3A members who expressed an interest in joining the group at the July meeting will hear from me directly when we have new visits to offer – probably in the New Year. Any queries please see me or Kathy at the September monthly meeting. Hope you all had a good summer. Sandra and Kathy

Sandra Wilson - 01268 775184
sandra.alanwilson@yahoo.com

KEEP FIT

This is to let you know that following a rather sparse attendance over the last six to eight weeks our members are now all ready to get back into a proper routine in September. Most members of our Group have had to miss a few weeks since the end of July due to being away on holiday and/or having visits from families and friends during the school six week holiday. We all feel the benefit of our weekly workout and our sessions are fun so we shall be pleased to get back to normal.

We would be very pleased to welcome new members to our Group so if you would like to know more and would like to come along to a taster session please give me a call.

Following the September U3A monthly meeting the next Keep Fit session will be on Friday, 9th September as Martin Frost, our instructor, will be on holiday on Friday, 2nd September. Please give me a call to find out more

Janet Carlton – 01268 452791

SCRAPBOOKING

If you are interested in finding out more about our Scrapbooking Group and feel you may like to join this friendly group please give me a call. We would welcome new members and we start up again on Thursday, 15th September at Clay Cottage. Janet Carlton – 01268 452791

V.I.P. GROUP

Wednesday, 28th September.
Visit to Rye – Fully booked.
Friday, 25th November
Bury St. Edmunds Xmas Fayre.
Fully booked.

Laurie Denney – 01702 615370

GARDENING GROUP II

Slide Show – Monday, 24th October
The next slide show and talk will be by Jim Buttress. He will be speaking of his unusual experiences as a judge for Britain in Bloom. Before he became a judge he had a long and varied experience working for the Royal Parks during which he met many of the very special residents. Jim is very well known and popular in the gardening world.

Open to all Rayleigh U3A Members. Cost £2.50, including tea/coffee and biscuits at The Cloisters, Trinity Hall. Please book your seat as soon as possible.

I shall be taking bookings at the monthly meeting on the 1st September but unfortunately I won't be at the October meeting.

Linda Clarke - 01702 204559
lindaclarke46@talktalk.net

LINDA'S OPEN GARDEN IN JUNE HAMILTON GARDENS, HOCKLEY

Many thanks to Serendipity 1, Archaeology and Latin Groups for helping to raise £152.00 for the Friends of Lions in Hockley. They are affiliated to Rayleigh Lions Club and the money is used for projects in the local community.

In the last few years they have been involved in the purchase of a mini-bus for the day care centre, a peaceful place for young people with dementia. They have also provided a wet room for a mother with a broken back who is permanently in a wheel chair. This is to name but a few of the projects and people the Lions have been able to assist in the community. The thank you letter from the Lions will be posted on the board at the next U3A meeting.

Thank you again.
Linda and David Clarke

HEADLINES AND ACTIVITIES

Advance Notice of Autumn Social Events

PARTY NIGHT

To be held at Rayleigh Grange Community Centre
On Saturday, 29th October 2011
7.30pm – 11pm
Tickets £4

Includes Finger Buffet, Musical Entertainment by Maggie Prince
Free Raffle & Lucky Ticket Prize

GRAND CHRISTMAS QUIZ

To be held at Trinity Hall on Saturday, 26th November 2011
7pm for 7.30pm
Teams of 8 – Tickets £4
Maximum of 12 teams
Lucky Ticket Prizes and Fun Games
Team Prizes
Hosted by David Lutterloch

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

To be held at Saxon Hall on Friday, 2nd December 2011
12pm for 12.30pm
Tickets £25 - including Gratuities for Staff
Pre Dinner Drink, Free Raffle and Table Prizes
Three course meal
Musical Entertainment by Pete George – Singer and all round Entertainer

*Other visits and events are being considered for the future and
you will be notified as soon as more details are known*