



Phil's Olympic Surprise - see Page 8

This Month's Meeting

**Thursday, 6th September, 2012
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm**

William Tyler
Churchill - A Study in Leadership

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

September

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; Tenpin 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 (eve'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

The seven years of waiting are now over and The London 2012 Olympics have been and gone. As I write this from my armchair it is fantastic to think how many medals were gained from such a small island. The Cycling and Rowing Gold Medals are an inspiration to us all and I am tempted to ask Bob Wren to consider two new Rayleigh U3A Groups for cycling and rowing!!!!

August was a holiday and quiet month for Rayleigh U3A but we start the Autumn session on Thursday, 6th September at Mill Hall when the speaker will be William Tyler on the subject of 'Churchill – A Study in Leadership'.

At this meeting look out for tickets for the first of three Autumn Taster days. These taster days will be of special interest for new members, which we hope will lead to the formation of new Rayleigh U3A Groups. The first is on Tuesday, 25th September on the subject of 'Essex Wildlife Conservation'.

Sorry to go back to the Olympics but it is interesting that the basic Olympics values are Respect, Excellence and Friendship, all of which Rayleigh U3A have as their basic values. We may be past the age to become future Olympic champions but we can all help the Olympic Legacy by encouraging our children and grand-children to join a Sports Club and work and prepare for glory in a future Olympics Games representing Team GB. It would be wonderful to have a Rayleigh Champion and maybe, one day, Rayleigh Town will have its own Golden Letter Box!!!!

Sincerely,

David Sheffield

Chairman – Rayleigh U3A

GROUPS/GROUP LEADERS

Acoustic Guitar	Vera Ward	01268 775040	Latin	Dave Filby	01268 770023
Antiques/Collectables			Midweek Lunch Club		
	Sheila Read	01268 778926		Margaret Bristow	
Archaeology	Ian Haynes	01268 779749	Music Appreciation		
Art Appreciation	Barbara Curry	01268 775460		Les Geales	01702 206966
Art I – Water Colours				Janet Carlton	01268 452791
	Sylvia Lester	01268 774201	Papercrafts	Marian Allen	01268 743339
Bird Watching	Laurie Denney	01702 615370	Poetry	Dave Filby	01268 770023
Book Reading 1	Doreen Blake	01268 774871	Real Ale Group	Linda Tull	01702 478649
Book Reading 2	Marian Allen	01268 743339	Rummikub		
Book Reading 3	Margaret White	01268 779709		Julie Reader	
Calligraphy	Irene Tyson	01268 742942	Scrabble	Margaret Bristow	
Canasta	Chris & Dave Towell		Serendipity 1	Linda & David Clarke	
		01268 528937			01702 204559
Ceramics	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590	Serendipity 2	Pam & Keith Dunt	01702 201747
Crib Club	David Sheffield	01268 743586	Serendipity 3	Pat & John Pomfrett	
Digital Photography					01702 230253
	Brian Kersey	01268 743959	Serendipity 4	Sue & Mike Cairns,	01268 743497
Discussions on Points of View				Maureen Hayes	01702 473110
	John Edwards	01268 747208		& Peter Britton	01268 777525
Drama	Joanne Baker	01268 742252	Singing for Health & Pleasure and with Rayleigh		
Family History:			Grange (J)	Marjorie Sale	01702 346175
Beginners	Terry Taylor	01268 786405	Sunday Lunch Club		
Family History 1	Sue Taylor	01268 477720		Maureen Goss	01268 777681
Family History 2	Pete Huntly	01268 777398	Tai Chi	Linda Robson	01702 555185
Family History 3	Barbara Dale	01268 772018	Tenpin Bowling	Alan Hudson	01702 202158
Flower Arranging	Irene Stokes	01268 774564		Bob Wren	01702 525311
Gardening (Slide Shows)			Theatre	Jean Mackenzie	01268 510570
	Linda Clarke	01702 204559		Helena Maxwell	01268 772061
Golf	Kay Nevin	01268 780855		Sandra Wilson	01268 775184
History - Local	Heather Flemings	01702 204943	V.I.P.	Liz & Laurie Denney	
	/ David Fryer-Kelsey				01702 615370
		01702 203455	Visiting Essex Churches:		
History - Essex Social:			Group 1	Marian Allen	01268 743339
Group 1	David Carlton	01268 452791	Group 2	Elizabeth Baker	01702 331166
Group 2	John Passfield	01702 203980	Group 3	Brenda Perrott	01268 779590
Group 3	Joan Anderson	01268 774985	Group 4	Jan Churchill	01702 510296
Industrial Awareness			Group 5 (J)	Maureen Turner	01268 750967
	Janet Carlton	01268 452791	Walking 1	Roger Baker	01702 331166
Keep Fit	Janet Carlton	01268 452791	Walking 2	Les Poole	01268 773174
Knit & Natter	Doreen Oliver	01268 743082	Wine Appreciation		
Lap Top Computing 1				Harry Brickwood	01268 743838
	Frank Bodey	01268 733616			
Lap Top Computing 2			(J) = Joint with Rayleigh Grange		
	Bob White	01268 779709			

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tue. 25th September	'Essex Wildlife Conservation' Talk at Holy Trinity Hall Tickets now on sale - £2.00
Tue. 9th October	'Medicine and Science' Talk at Holy Trinity Hall Tickets now on sale - £2.00
Tue. 30th October	'Influential Women in History' Talk at Holy Trinity Hall Tickets now on sale - £2.00
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

RAYLEIGH U3A COMMITTEE

Chairman: David Sheffield - 01268 743586 e-mail: dave@djsheff.demon.co.uk

Vice Chairman: Pete Huntly - 01268 777398 (Gift Aid & Study Day Co-ordinator and Webmaster) e-mail: pa.huntly@btinternet.com

Membership Secretary: Doreen Blake - 01268 774871; e-mail: rblake@uk2.net

Group Co-ordinator: Bob Wren - 01702 525311; e-mail: bob_wren@hotmail.com

Secretary: Maureen Hayes - 01702 473110; e-mail: mhayesghayes@talktalk.net

Newsletter editors. Janet & David Carlton - 01268 452791;

e-mail: janetcarlton@blueyonder.co.uk

Treasurer No1 A/C: David Clarke - 01702 204559; e-mail: clarked@talktalk.net

Treasurer No 2 A/C: Margaret Read - 01268 761039; e-mail: margitcrip@yahoo.com

Speaker Secretaries: Fred Carter - 01268 766149; Sylvia Mitchell - 01268 770139

e-mails: efandicart@btinternet.com; sylviamitchell18@yahoo.com

Volunteer's Co-ord'r: Irene Carter - 01268 766149

e-mail - efandicart@btinternet.com

Events Co-ord'r: Terry Gouldsmith - 01268 562803

e-mail - terrygouldsmith@live.co.uk

Halls Booking Officer:- Barbara Hodge - 01268 771820

GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S NEWS

After the traditional August exclusion of a Newsletter and monthly meeting, we must now focus on our autumn schedule of events and activities.

Whilst most groups are full or requiring new or additional group leaders to organise them, can I, on behalf of the committee, thank Suzanne Middleton and Harry Brickwood for leading their former group activities of Yoga and Gardening Propagation respectively. Sue advised me that many of her Friday group now have multi commitments and with reducing class numbers and hall fees to pay the class has struggled for some while. The point being is that if existing groups are looking for new members, please let me, or a committee member know and we can raise the profile at the monthly meeting and on the notice boards. Laptop two is a successful example.

Following Septembers meeting, we will be looking at the annual October "Presentation" meeting. The theme is to be "Yes You Can" and I will want current group leaders to come forward to manage a table at that meeting to show everyone what can be achieved either through their craft/learning skills, or how they organise and run their activity with the pleasure and problems they face. The objective is to encourage others to come forward to run new groups, in the knowledge that they will be supported and even mentored by those around them. I will be emailing group leaders shortly to gain their support for a 2 hour presentation – 2.00pm to 4.00pm. refreshments from 3.00pm. Shared tables with other associated groups will mean less time behind a table and time to mingle.

Clearly, if we do not have sufficient group leaders at tables, we won't have a "Presentation" day! I am hoping that we can all motivate our members to come forward and increase the pro activity of our friendly, sociable and positive Rayleigh U3A.

Bob Wren
Group Co-ordinator

Tel: 01702 525311
bob_wren@hotmail.com

NEWS FROM OUR GROUP LEADERS

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Get all the latest details of the group on our blog

<http://lhgu3arayleigh.blogspot.com>

Coach Visit to Lavenham and Sudbury on Wednesday, 19th Sept. 2012

A reminder for those booked on this visit.

We leave Kirby's depot in Bull Lane at 8.00am and arrive at Lavenham at 09.30 where those who have booked may take tea or coffee in the Guildhall. We will meet our guides at 11.00am for a tour of this beautiful old town. In the afternoon we have free time to explore Sudbury. Arrive back at Rayleigh about 6.00pm.

Our annual meeting at the WI Hall with the Social History Group is now scheduled for **Thursday, 18th October** - 10.00am to 12.00. There is no charge for this.

Non-members of the group are welcome. Come along and have a good old chat over tea/coffee/biscuits. David Carlton will tell us about the work the Social History group is doing and David Fryer-Kelsey will introduce the 2013 itinerary for the Local History group. Please come to our table to book for this event at the meeting on Thursday, 6th September so we have an idea of numbers.

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 please.

David Fryer-Kelsey - 01702 203455
Heather Flemmings - 01702 204943

THEATRE GROUP

On the 19th July forty-eight members enjoyed going to The Mill at Sonning to see "Cash on Delivery", a very funny comedy. A lovely day with a good buffet lunch.

On Tuesday, 31st July twelve members saw Gilbert & Sullivan's "Ruddigore" performed by the Buxton International Champions, South Anglia Savoy Players. Another excellent show.

Wednesday, 5th September. "Singing in the Rain" at the Palace Theatre, London via Kirby's Coaches. Departing Kirby's depot 10.00am, 10.05am Webster's Way, 10.10am Rayleigh Station. Lunch is booked at Bistro 1, Frith Street.

Wednesday, 12th September. "Starlight Express" at the Cliffs Pavillion at 2.30pm. Please meet Jean in the Foyer at 2.00pm. Tickets will be available at the Theatre table on the 6th September.

Thursday, 25th October. "Billy Elliot" at Victoria Palace, London at 2.30pm via Kirby's Coaches. Departure times to be arranged in next Newsletter.

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; email: sandra.alanwilson@yahoo.com

Phil says he is very proud to have had the honour of holding the lamp.

Taff told him later that he had been made an MBE in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Honours List. Phil also spoke with Dan Jarvis who was the Torchbearer. Phil says his enduring memories will not only be of holding the lamp but of the wonderful atmosphere, friendliness and camaraderie of everyone present that day. He says it will be something he will tell everyone in his old age!

Thank you, Phil for sending your photo to share with members of Rayleigh U3A. A little piece of history was made in Rayleigh that day.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

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

*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
14th September, 2012

NATIONAL OFFICE

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FRONT PAGE PHOTO –

featuring Phil Gendall



On 6th July when the Olympic Torch was due to pass by in Rayleigh on it's journey around the Country, Phil Gendall and his wife decided it would be a better option to watch the flame arrive in the Country Park rather than wait to see the torch bearer pass by and only get a glimpse of the Torch.

When they arrived at the area close to Chapel Lane car park, they met an old friend who was an Essex Ambassador for the Games. He advised Phil and his wife that they could board a nearby coach which would take them onto the site where the flame would be transferred into a Miner's Lamp and kept over night. It was drizzling when they arrived at the site so they took cover under a large canopy along with hundreds of local schoolchildren and a few adults and teachers. In due course, after the children had been marshalled to their allocated positions Phil and his wife were able to walk down to an area where there was a large grandstand overlooking what would eventually be the start/finish line. From there they had a very good view of all that was going on. There was a large media presence gathered just below and they went down to join the scrum and managed to take some good pictures of the Torch and its bearers. Phil started talking to one of the escort runners (dressed in light grey) who were all Metropolitan Police Officers. The runner told him that thirty-five of them were escorting the flame on its relay around the Country. He explained they were working a four-day shift. Day 1 they ran alongside the torch. Day 2 they drove the coach. Day 3 they were on bikes and Day 4 they rested.

Whilst Phil was talking to the escort runner, (Taff, MBE - from Wales - of course!) he asked if he could have a closer look at one of the miner's lamps which would hold the flame overnight. Not only did he get a closer look, he was allowed to hold it! Phil's wife didn't miss the opportunity and took the picture on the front page of this newsletter.

TENPIN BOWLING

On Tuesday, 3rd of July, thirty-one members of our Rayleigh Group and Rayleigh Grange joined together at CJs for an afternoon of bowling. It was a most enjoyable afternoon and we hope to arrange another meeting later in the year.

was, as usual, most enjoyable. The winners this month were Graham Godfrey, John Capel and first time winner Maureen Lewis. The lowest score trophy went to Roy Lewis.

The next meeting at CJs will be on Tuesday, 11th September at 2.00 p.m.

Our monthly meeting on the 17th July **Alan Hudson – 01702 202158**

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; e-mail: pa.huntly@btinternet.com

Our Guest Speaker this month is William Tyler **'Churchill - A Study in Leadership'**

William Tyler talks of how Churchill was a dominant figure in 20th Century British History. He led Britain through the dark days of 1940 with unsurpassed quality of leadership, clear judgement, uplifting speeches, sympathy and humour.

Next month is our Annual Presentation Meeting

There will be no Speaker

ANNOUNCEMENT

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE RAYLEIGH U3A

The Study Day Team have been researching interesting and informative subjects not yet covered by Groups in our U3A

We are pleased and proud to announce that a series of Autumn 'Subject Taster Days' will be launched with three, half day talks to be held at Holy Trinity Hall on the following

Tuesdays from 2pm – 4pm

Tuesday, 25th September – Subject is 'Essex Wildlife Conservation', introductory talk by Alex Bass is entitled 'A year in the life of Bocking' - a typical year in the wild life of a small village near Braintree.

Tuesday, 9th October – Subject is 'Medicine & Science', introductory talk by Detective Sergeant Paul Clark of Southend Police who will give a talk about 'The Role of a Scenes of Crime Officer'.

Tuesday, 30th October – Subject is 'Influential Women in History', introductory talk by Valerie Morse is entitled 'Daisy, Countess of Warwick' - she lived at Easton Lodge near Great Dunmow, was an intimate of King Edward VII, a local benefactor and socialite.

SECOND SET OF TASTER DAYS ARE TO BE HELD ON 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

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 bestselling 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.