



SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS



Spring is Round the Corner

NEWSLETTER NO 163

March 2020

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman	Brian Chilton	01245 321238
Vice Chairman	Graham Evans	01621 742524
Secretary	Janice Tyas	01245 321110
Treasurer	Kate Smith	

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Membership Secretary	Kay Miles	01245 401015
Groups Coordinator	Sheila Chilton	01245 321238
Speaker Secretary	Shirley Masterson	01621 740110
	Jean Foddering	01245 320874
	Adelaide Ogilvie	01245 320716
	David Courtenay	01245 321093

From the Chair.

Good afternoon everyone,

Well here we are March already and the year is slipping by once again. Signs of Spring are all around with snowdrops and daffodils in profusion.

With everything going on in the world at the minute it makes you realise how fragile our existence really is.

The spread of this virus is quite frightening and I want you all to stay safe and healthy. However at present seasonal flu is more of a threat to us all here in the UK.

Enjoy our speaker today.

Brian

.Maldon and District Cluster Group of U3As

The Committee have decided to join the Cluster Group with Maldon and District, Blackwater, Heybridge, Limebrook, Dengie, Burnham on Crouch and Crouch Valley U3As. This will enable members to join Interest Groups, including theatre trips and outings within the Cluster Group without being a member of that U3A providing there are spaces available. If you wish to join a group of one of these U3As you will need a Membership Card which can be obtained through Kay Miles or Janice Tyas. A full list of the Principles of the Cluster Group is available to view on our website swf-u3a.org

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR GROUP
CO-ORDINATORS
YEAR END ACCOUNTS**

We are nearing the end of our financial year 1/4/19 to 31/3/20. Please can you let me have your annual Group accounts by the 3rd April; if you have finalised them before that date then it would be appreciated if you can let me have them as soon as they are ready, as I need to submit all the accounts to the auditor so that they can be audited in time for the May AGM.

If your group does not retain money and you were unable to attend the co-ordinators meeting to sign the 'nil return' sheet please can you email me to confirm you do not retain money using the email address below.

Many thanks
Kate Smith
U3A Treasurer
u3aswft@outlook.com

London Theatre

Mary Poppins - Thurs. Mat. **19th March**

The Prince of Egypt - Thurs Mat - **14th May** - 10+ £39.50, 25+ £32.50. I have tickets on hold for 14th May so please add your name to the list if not already there and have cheques for £39.50 available at the meeting.

Pretty Woman I - Wed. Mat. - **9th Dec** - 10+ £32.50. Tickets will be issued nearer the date.

Pretty Woman II - Wed Mat. - **18th Nov** - 10+ £39.50. Tickets on hold for 18th November. I currently have 8 names on the board, so will need another couple to confirm this booking. Please add your name if you would like a ticket and bring cheques to the meeting.

Romeo & Juliet - Thurs Mat - 8+ £49.50, 10+ £35, 20+ £30. Payment to be made by end April. The show is based on the premise that Juliet didn't die and this is really the beginning. What if she decided to choose her own fate? It's humorous and very vibrant with several twists, set in current time with modern songs. A board is out for interest.

Hello Dolly - Wed Mat. - **17th Feb. '21** - 10+ £44.50, 30+ £37.50. This show is coming to the West End in August with Imelda Thornton in the starring role and runs until the beginning of March 2021. Demand has been very strong so I have 20 tickets on hold for 17th Feb 2021. Please confirm your interest and bring cheques to the meeting so that I can pay after the meeting.

Everyone's Talking About Jamie - Wed Mat - **15th or 22nd July** - 10+ £35.00. Bookings are currently being taken until the end of August. I have a board out for interest, so please add your name and indicate which dates you are available and I'll make a booking after the meeting.

Witness for the Prosecution - Thurs Mat - **10th or 17th Sept.** - 8+ £42.50. I have had this show recommended. It is staged at City Hall and the audience are set in the position of jurors. Bookings are being taken until the end of September. I have a board out for interest, so please add your name and indicate which dates you are available.

My mobile number in case of need is 07932 637521. Pauline

Singles

16th March lunch at The Secret Garden Tea Room, Writtle Delphin

CYBER CRIME PRESENTATION

For those who missed this presentation last year, a further presentation is being arranged by the Cluster Group and will again be presented by Barry Linton of Thorpe Bay U3A and David Anthony of Essex Police. This will take place on Wednesday 13 May 2020 at Maldon Town Hall starting at 10am. There will be tea and coffee from 9.30. We have been allocated 25 places and if you would like to go, you need to email Shirley, thehighperch@yahoo.co.uk Telephone number 01621 854856. The cost will be paid by our U3A as previously

ESSEX ASSOCIATION STUDY DAY

The Study of Trees at the Arboretum

Monday 11th May 2020 at Marks Hall, Coggeshall, Essex, CO6 1TG.

Start time 10.30 am

The cost of the day is £10.00. (lunch NOT included - bring your own lunch)

Please note the Marks Hall will be closed to the public on this day.

The Arboretum forms an enviable collection of trees originating from every temperate area of the world and miles of leafy woodland walks to explore and enjoy.

The Senior Arborist will be taking you through the differing areas of the world's trees.

Please note that this day will be on uneven ground, it will also involve steps and grassed areas which may not be suitable for those with reduced mobility or wheelchair use

The above Study Days are open to U3A members of Essex Association of U3A's only.

Please apply via the Essex Association Website, contacts page for all of the above Study Days

Walking Group

The walking group meet on the first and third Friday of the month, if you would like to join us, just turn up. Alternatively, please feel free to contact me for further information about walking, using any of the means listed at the back of this newsletter. You can also get more details about the walking group from our web site <https://www.swf-u3a.org/walking/> which is updated monthly.

March Walks

Friday 6th March – Maldon/Beeleigh/Langford Walk – 7 miles – meet in Maldon Tesco car park just before 10.00.

Friday 20th March – Bicknacre/East Hanningfield Walk – 5.5 miles – meet in the Brewers Arms car park for 10.00 start.

Advance Notice of April Walks

Friday 3rd April – Crondon Park Golf Course Walk – 7 miles – meet just before 10.00 in the Galleywood car park which is just off of Margaretting Road.

Friday 17th April – Purleigh Walk – 5.5 miles – meet in Purleigh Sport Field car park just before 10.00. Bob Tyas

CURRY CLIQUE.

**WEDNESDAY 11th March 2020
7.00 for 7.30ish**

THE BALTI BHUJON

**24, Mill Rd Maldon
Maldon CM95HZ
tel:01621 742524**

Board out at the meeting

Graham Evans 01621 742524

Information received from Maldon U3A - Wild Flower and Tree Identification

I am a member of Maldon U3A and for many years now have been running successful groups lasting for 8 – 10 months each either on Wild Flower Identification or Tree Identification. Dozens of Maldon members have passed through these groups, which involve mainly being outside in the field with our books and notepads, and if the weather is not suitable for that, staying indoors but still working. This year I am opening up to other U3As in the area. The choice of those Maldon members who have expressed interest is to do Trees this year. I am open to either depending on the numbers that wish to do it. I usually operate on a fortnightly Tuesday morning session, but this could change if the group as a whole would prefer it. I live in Danbury and we often use my house as a base. Danbury is surrounded by extensive woodland.

If you are interested please contact Veronica - details below

Mrs Veronica Smith
vjsmith8696@gmail.com 01245 225608

London Walks Group 2

Our first walk this year is on Thursday 26th March and is The Famous Square Mile. The cost of walks this year will be £8. We meet at SWF station for 9.16 train or Monument tube station outside Fish Street Hill exit at 11am. I will take names at March meeting. Hope to see as many as possible. Janice

Luncheon Group

The Luncheon Group Meets on the Second Thursday of each month. We would be very pleased to see some new faces. You would be made very welcome. We try different venues each month to taste test the food so if you enjoy sociable company then come and join us.

12th March we are going to the Quart Pot.

9th April we are going to Club Woodham.

My details are in Newsletter. Adelaide

Local History

Tuesday 10 March 1.30 a talk entitled 'Bourne Mill'

Our speaker is Christopher Thornton. Bourne Mill is a National Trust property near Colchester. The talk will cover the 1,000 year history of the site and its links with the Colchester wool trade.

Please note the earlier start time

Cost £4 including refreshments, Champions Manor Hall, Main Hall

Our first visit is in April, please note this is a Wednesday visit.

Wednesday 15th April, visit to the Bata Heritage Centre, East Tilbury

1.45 for a 2pm start

The Bata Heritage Centre presents the fascinating history of the British Bata Shoe Co Ltd, and the social history of those who worked for the company and who lived on the Bata residential estate.

The visit includes an historical talk about Bata, time to view the display cabinets and weather permitting a guided walk around the Bata estate.

Cost £4pp including refreshments

Tuesday 12th May a visit to Coalhouse Fort, East Tilbury

1.45 for a 2pm start

Built between 1861 and 1874 to protect the Thames Estuary from invasion it was also used in WW1 and WW2. The visit includes a guided tour of the Fort.

Cost £4.50, refreshments at own cost.

Sheets for all the above will be out at the meeting. Kate

Strollers

Strollers will commence on our usual day of the month, the fourth Monday in March, although as you know I sometimes have to change the date because of bank holidays.

I believe the conditions will still be extremely wet and soggy, so for our first outing I will take a walk around Maldon on dry land. Could you therefore please meet at 10.30 on Monday 23rd March at Tesco's main entrance in Maldon.

Thanks and I look forward to meeting up with you all again.

Best wishes. Jill

Gardening Group

Can I suggest that you bring your diaries to the next U3A meeting to help with coordinating your visits, especially the coach trips as we will need to know numbers.

On **Monday 9th March** at 2pm we have booked a tour of Hyde Hall, which can be followed by tea and cake if you wish. I should be grateful if you could arrive by 1.45 and please **DO NOT FORGET YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARDS.**

As our usual date in April is Easter Monday our April outing will be on **Monday 20th April** when we will visit Furzelea in Danbury to see the tulips.

On **Monday 11th May** we are visiting two gardens in Bures, which is on the Essex/Suffolk border just the other side of Colchester. Rhona has booked the Lion Pub at Lamarsh for lunch at 12.45pm and will bring menu samples to the next U3A meeting and I should be grateful if you would let us know whether you are interested in this. Could you also please let me know whether you would be prepared to drive there, as a coach would make it an expensive day out.

On **Monday 8th June** we are going to Little Myles in Stondon Massey which is in the Brentwood area, a visit that was rained off last year.

On **Monday 13th July** we are having a coach trip to Goodnestone Park in Kent and I should be grateful if you would please indicate whether you hope to join us on this visit as this will make a difference in the price.

Please make a note of these dates in your diaries.

Many thanks. Jill, Rhona and Joyce

London Walks group 1

Our first walk of the year is: on 18th March and is entitled '**In Focus: Trafalgar Square**'. We meet our guide at: **Embankment tube, Villiers St exit, at 11 am.**

At the meeting I will be taking names and £8 cash for our April walk entitled: '**The Huguenots of Spitalfields**'. The meeting place for this is **Liverpool Street Station, Bishopsgate Exit, street level on 22nd April at 11 am.** I think after our February talk we will find this extremely interesting. Please note that London Walks have given me an **absolute** maximum of 30 for this and many of the walks this year. **Mary**

Pics, Bricks and Moore

Wallace Collection - Tuesday 28th April - 11.00am

Simon Whitehouse has been booked for a guided visit to the Wallace Collection in London. The Wallace Collection is a national museum which displays the wonderful works of art collected in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries by the first four Marquesses of Hertford and Sir Richard Wallace. It was bequeathed to the nation by Sir Richard's widow in 1897 and is displayed at Hertford House (meet at Bond Street Tube Station) "in a sumptuous but approachable manner which is an essential part of its charm".

Entrance to the Gallery is free but a donation of £2 per person on the day has been suggested. It is estimate that the cost of the guide will be in the range £10 - £15 per person depending upon numbers attending.

We now have the option of opening trips up to other U3As in our Cluster but before doing so we would like to confirm interest from within the SWF U3A for this tour at the monthly meeting in March. Non group members are welcome.

Other Outings Arranged for 2020:

All of our trips for 2020 are now listed on the SWF U3A website. The next two, after the Wallace Collection, are:

Tues. 26th May - Architectural Walk - Battersea Power Station regeneration

Tues. 28th July - Coach Trip to the Weald and Downland Museum plus Big-nor Roman Villa

It will be really helpful to continue to gauge levels of interest for these at the meeting on Wednesday

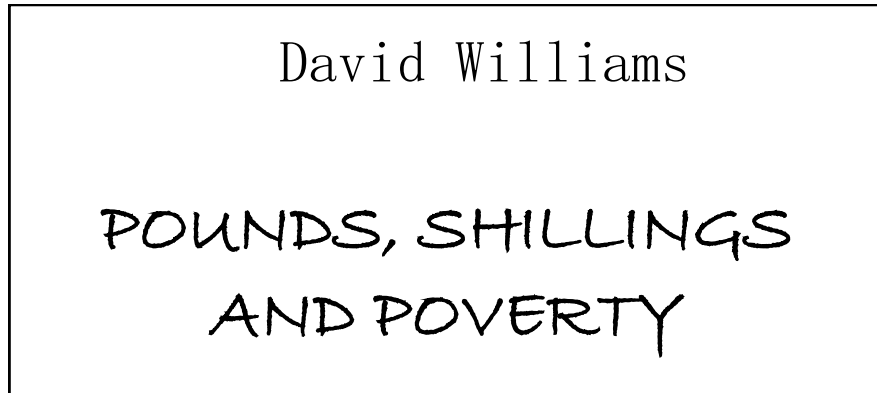
There has been good initial interest in the Battersea Power Station walk but there are still plenty of places available (estimated cost £10 - £15)

About 30 people have already expressed interest in the coach trip but there are places available on the coach. The cost to cover the coach, entrance and talks / tours is estimated at £35 - £38 per person depending upon how many people travel and what tours people opt to do at the venues. Chris and Roy

**Please note the deadline for inclusion in next month's
Newsletter is Wednesday 25th March
E-mail to Lyn Kear at f.kear365@btinternet.com, tel.321367**

TODAYS SPEAKER: Lucy Allen — ‘A stuntwomen’s life’.

April 1st



Last time, David gave us a talk on the Great Fire of London. Today he is taking us back to the Victorian era.

Social Committee

Members: Brian Hurrell (Group Leader)
social@swf-u3a.org 07913390302
Phil West (Treasurer)
Pat Golding
Graham Evans

V.E Day Celebration

Friday 8th May 2pm until 5pm.

This is going to be held at the Bell Public House in Woodham Ferrers (opposite St Mary’s Church). We will be able to enjoy music from the 1940’s era courtesy of ‘Kind of Blue’ jazz band and a few songs from our own U3A ensemble ‘Find Your Voice’. A buffet style afternoon tea will be included and 1940’s costumes are encouraged to enhance the fun! Price: £10.00 per person.

Brian Hurrell

INTEREST & ACTIVITY GROUPS

This information is given for SWF U3A purposes only and not used for other purposes or passed on without the person's consent.

Where no contact details are given please use the general e-mail , groups@swf-u3a.org for initial contact only.

All Kinds of Music	Meets 2 nd Wednesday 2:00 – 4:00 pm Group Leader :- Jenny Dale,	
Book Group 1	Meets 1 st Monday @ 10.00am first Monday. Village Hall Group Leader:- Anne Turner Email anneturner70@hotmail.com	01245 322933
Book Group 2	Meets 1 st Monday @ 7.30pm. Group Leader :- Pam French e-mail:- derekpamfrench@hotmail.com	01245 400311
Cards and Games for fun	Meets 4th Wednesday Group Leader :- Adelaide Ogilvie e mail:- adelaide.ogilvie@btinternet.com	01245 320716 .
Coffee with Coleridge	Meets 4th Wednesday 10.30 am—12 .30 pm Group Leader Doulla Day	
Craft Group	Meets 1 st & 3 rd Thursdays @10:00-12:00am Group Leader :- Sandra Rolfe E-mail - sandra.rolfe@btinternet.com	01245 320374
Curry Clique	Meets second Wednesday of alternate months Contact : Graham Evans	01621 742524
Discussion Group	Meets 3rd Monday@2pm Champions Manor Group Leader Alan W	
Digital Photography Group	Meets 4 th Friday @ 10:00am Group Leader :- Ali-J Wilson	

Drawing Group	Meets fourth Monday at 2.00 - 4.00 pm Group Leader :- Ali-J Wilson	
Find Your Voice	Meets 2nd Wednesday 10 .30—12.30 South Woodham Ferrers Village Hall small room at the back Group Leader: Shirley Masterson e-mail: fambridgehouse@yahoo.co.uk	01621740110
French Group	Meets 2 nd Thursday @ 1:00 pm—3pm Group Leader :- Jean Foddering	01245 320874
Gardening Group	Meets 2 nd Monday Group Leader Jill Hiskett and Rhona Hathaway. Contact:- Jill Hiskett	01245320794.
Gin Appreciation.	Meets first Tuesday 7 - 9pm at Village Hall. Group Leader Mary Brindley E-mail rbmb4546@ yahoo.com	01245329162
Golfing Group	Meets every Monday Morning Group Leader :- Phil West e-mail:- philwest33@sky.com	07751022666
Local History Group	Meets 2 nd Tuesday @ 2:00 – 4:00 pm Group Leader - Kate Smith e-mail :- u3aswfhistory@outlook.com	
London Theatres	Meets to suit Tickets Group Leader :- Pauline Coster e-mail:- costerpc@outlook.com	01245 320437
London Walks Group 1	Meets 3 rd Wednesday when walks are scheduled Group Leader :- Mary Brindley e-mail:- rbmb4546@yahoo.co.uk	01245 329162

- London Walks Group 2** Meets 4th Thursday when walks are scheduled
Group Leader :- Janice Tyas 01245 321110
E-mail:- janice.winyard44@gmail.com
- Luncheon Club** Meets 2nd Thursday for lunch at elected venue
Group Leader :- [Adelaide Ogilvie](mailto:Adelaide.Ogilvie@btinternet.com) 01245 320716
- Paints and Pastels Mixed Media Art** Meets 2nd Monday 9.45 - 12.15
Programme Co-ordinator Sheila Elliott
Contact Judith.
- Pics, Bricks and Moore** - Art and Architecture for enjoyment
Meets 4th Tuesday (may vary with availability of venues)
Group Leader: Chris Miles 01245 401015
email: chris.miles48@yahoo.co.uk
- Play Reading** Meets 3rd Tuesday 1.30 - 3.30 pm
Contact Judith
- Science & Technology Group** Meets 1st Thursday 10:00 – 12:00 pm
In the Meeting Room @ Champions Manor
Group Leader :- Ken Pratt
- Singles - Social & Dining** Meets 3rd Monday for lunch 11:30 am
Group Leader :- Joan Bridger 01245 328369
- Strollers** Meets 4th Monday 10:30 am
Group Leader: Jill Hiskitt 01245 320794
- Tai Chi** Meets every Monday 1:15 – 2:30 pm
@ SWF Village Hall
Tutor :- Gareth Chandler 07760 234536
e-mail:- gochandler@btinternet.com
- Ten Pin Bowling** Meets 2nd Friday at 9:45 am at Madison Heights in Maldon
Group Leader :- David Courtenay 01245 321093
Email:- david.courtenay@icloud.com
- Walking Group** Meets 1st & 3rd Friday
Group Leader :- Bob Tyas 01245 321110
E-mail: Robert.tyas82@gmail.com.

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Whisky Appreciation Group	Meets 4 th Friday @ 2:00 pm Group Leader :- Alan Golding email:- alan.golding@btinternet.com	01245 320846
Wine Appreciation Group 1	Meets 2 nd Friday 2:00 – 4:00 pm Group Leader:: Janet Tipping email: dandjtipping64@gmail.com	01245 323424
Wine Appreciation Group 2	Meets 2 nd Friday 2:00 – 4:00 pm Group Leader :- Gerald Malone e-mail:- gimalone@yahoo.com	01245 325572
Wine Appreciation Group 3	Meets 2 nd Friday 2:00 – 4:00 pm Group Leader :- Brian Chilton e-mail:- sheila.chilton@talktalk.net	01245 321238

Our Web Site

This contains details of past and future meetings. It also has a copy of the newsletter each month, so you can check any details. <http://www.swf-u3a.org>

The Crouch Valley site is at :
www.u3asites.org.uk/crouch-valley

South Woodham Ferrers U3A Interest Group Programme

Day of the Month	WEEK OF THE MONTH				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
Monday	A M	Golfing Group Book Group 1	Golfing Group Paint & Pastels	Golfing Group Singles Social & Dining	Golfing Group Strollers
	P M	Tai Chi Book Group 2	Tai Chi Gardening	Tai Chi Discussion Group	Tai Chi Drawing Group
Tuesday	A M				
	P M	Gin Appreciation	Play Reading		Pics, Bricks and Moore
Wednesday	A M		Find Your Voice	London Walks 1	Family History Coffee with Coleridge
	P M	MONTHLY MEETING	All Kinds of Music		Cards & Games For Fun
Thursday	A M	Craft/Science & Technology		Craft	London Walks 2
	P M		Luncheon Club French		
Friday	A M	Ten Pin Bowling Walking	Ten Pin Bowling	Ten Pin Bowling Walking	Ten Pin Bowling Photography
	P M		Wine Appreciation 1, 2 & 3		Whisky Appreciation

Theatre as Arranged, Curry Clique 2nd Wednesday of odd months