

**MAIDENHEAD****DECEMBER 2021**

(Registered Charity No. 1074907)

**Chairman's Thoughts**

Hello All,

As I write this, preparations are going on apace for the Christmas party; food is being ordered and about 15 members are working away to ensure all runs smoothly on the day. If you are one of the 15, thank you for all your efforts.

In Covid terms this is probably the biggest potential risk that we have attempted, but the fact that the event is oversubscribed says to me that members are happy to attend such an event. Please ensure your own and everyone else's safety by ensuring you do not bring Covid to the party.



The new social walk that we introduced in November was well attended (17) and it's my plan to keep that event in the diary.

We have a duty of care for our members and to stimulate them mentally and physically. One of the groups I would particularly like to see revived is the coffee mornings. These ceased during the height of the pandemic and we are looking for a group of two or three people to get it going again. We would choose a central Maidenhead location where coffee and snacks are available and just host a opportunity for people to come and have a coffee and a chat. Vital for mental health. Contact me if this idea appeals to you.

There are currently vacancies for Publicity Secretary and Thames Valley Network rep roles on the committee. Contact me or another committee member if you are interested.

Stay safe and well.

John Twytle  
Chairman, Maidenhead u3a

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**Monthly talk**

From Philip Ratcliffe, Speaker Organiser:

There will be no talk in December as we shall be holding our Christmas party in lieu of the monthly meeting.

In January 2022, I am delighted that **Gerald Ratner** (of jewellers fame) has agreed to give the monthly talk. Put 11<sup>th</sup> January in your diary now.

If you have any comments before or after the meeting, or suggestions for talks, please contact Speaker Organiser, Philip Ratcliffe on [speakers@maidenheadu3a.org.uk](mailto:speakers@maidenheadu3a.org.uk)

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## Sadly Missed – Jean Myhill

It is with great regret that we record the passing of Jean Myhill from a stroke while in hospital. Jean was a retired sub-postmistress, an enthusiastic u3a member and a stalwart for many years on the committee. A keen cribbage player, she was Speaker Secretary until a couple of years ago and quizmaster for the monthly quiz; she also took on the not-to-be-underestimated task of catering for u3a events. She was a conscientious and vocal local representative on the u3a Thames Valley Network.

u3a members, her numerous friends, and her family will all remember her fondly for her generosity, her kindness and not least her sense of fun. She will be greatly missed.

### A WARM WELCOME TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED RECENTLY

Sheila Coates, Ronald Shedden, Ann-Marie Attwell, Sandra Hooper and Paul Williams.

#### Finding New Members

Those considering joining the u3a can have two taster sessions before committing themselves - this could be a monthly meeting or joining one of the group activities.

#### Membership ID Cards

Please wear your membership card on your lanyard at all general group meetings to help other members. You can buy a new one at the next monthly meeting for £2.

Maggie Kearney - Membership Secretary

## u3a 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY WOODLAND

You may remember from the November newsletter that the u3a has started a national initiative to plant 5,000 trees in the Brecon Beacons in 2022.

Individual members can buy a single tree for £7.50 or 5 trees for £30.

Maidenhead u3a's own target is to buy 100 trees. Because if we buy 100, this means we can have a copse named after our u3a with a plaque.

If you are interested in this initiative, please contact Linda Main, our Treasurer, at [treasurer@maidenheadu3a.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@maidenheadu3a.org.uk) (07962 255743) who will monitor our progress.

You can buy a single tree or several trees:

- > At our main meeting pay by card, cheque or cash
- > By making a bank transfer to our bank account
  - ✓ Account Number: 02728719
  - ✓ Sort Code: 30-95-36
  - ✓ Account Name: Maidenhead U3A
- ◆ Use your **surname**, **membership number** and **Trees** as your reference e.g. Smith1234Trees.

By sending a cheque payable to Maidenhead u3a to: Linda Main, Maidenhead u3a Treasurer, 3A Bowmans Close, Burnham, Buckinghamshire. SL1 8LH We will, of course, acknowledge your generous donation.

**Grateful thanks to Christine Smith, Margaret Baxter, Mo Wright, Nuala Smith and Michael Cross, our first tree donors!**



## 2022 u3a Diaries

We have ordered a number of 2022 u3a diaries. If you would like one please e-mail Linda at [treasurer@maidenheadu3a.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@maidenheadu3a.org.uk) or call her on 07962 255743. The cost is £3 per diary. There will be a number available to purchase at the Christmas party.



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## GROUP NEWS

### New Groups

There has been some encouraging response to our suggestions for new groups in the last newsletter.

**The Art Appreciation Group** is preparing to begin meetings soon and the convener, Mandy Taylor, has been delighted by the response. Her first group is now full but if anyone else is interested, please contact her on 01628 298107 or email [mandyofart@gmail.com](mailto:mandyofart@gmail.com) as she has a waiting list and is considering starting a second group later in 2022.

**The Fun with Flowers Group** is also well on with initial plans, led by Chris Smith. A first meeting was planned for November 26th and there is room for two more members. Please contact Chris on 01628 663764 or email [cwemail@sky.com](mailto:cwemail@sky.com) if you are interested.

**The Canasta Group** has held a planning meeting and convener Chris Wilkinson is hoping to begin regular meetings very soon.

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As several of our French groups have not been able to restart, several members are interested in a new **French Conversation Group**. Is there anyone out there who would like to lead such a group? If so, or if anyone else is interested in joining, please contact me, Groups Convener, Kathy Bell (details at end of newsletter).

**Theatre Visits:** Mo Wright is no longer able to organise theatre visits. If anyone is interested in taking on this task, please contact Kathy Bell. Mo is happy to pass on relevant information as and when the group restarts.

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There has also been some interest in the groups listed below but we do not yet have conveners or quite enough members to form these groups, so if you are interested in any of these please contact Kathy Bell, Groups Convener (details at end of newsletter).

- > Beginners Italian
- > Beginners Spanish
- > Needlecraft
- > Gardening
- > Grumpy Old Women





London Explorers Group members at the Albert Hall

**December Quiz** (Answers are at the end of the newsletter)

1. What single word can be used for cutlery, stirrups, handcuffs, poker and shovel?	11. What is the difference between a carat, a carrot and a caret?
2. What is (a) a fennec and (b) a xebec (or zebec)?	12. What is a wrasse?
3. What is a ricer used for?	13. What city was menaced by Kitten Kong?
4. What are tracklements?	14. Who or what is Aleksandr Orlov?
5. "Give me the dagger!" What is wrong with this demand?	15. What was the name of Jane Eyre's school friend who died?
6. What is the name of the bagpipe section where the piper plays with his fingers?	16. Where is the tallest cathedral spire in the world?
7. What is the difference between a cobble and a coble?	17. What is unusual about the motion of a camel?
8. What can be described as (a) ursine (b) vulpine and (c) lupine?	18. Which English monarch was known as Beauclerk?
9. Which film beat 'Citizen Kane ' in the Oscars?	19. What would be carried in a bowser?
10. Father and son Boots and Slippers Madden were well known for which sport?	20. What play was being performed when Abraham Lincoln was shot?





## Submissions to Newsletter

If you wish to send us photos, please ensure that they are no more than 500kB each. Also, please do not email .pdf files for the newsletter as the open source software we use to insert these files requires considerable additional effort. Acceptable formats are are: .docx, .doc, .jpeg & .xls or .xlsx.

Please email us or phone comments or anything that you would like us to consider for the next newsletter **NO LATER THAN 30<sup>TH</sup> December**.

The January 2022 newsletter won't be ready until around 10 January 2022. We don't know the exact date yet, but the printers are closed between Christmas and the New Year.

Thank you.

Pat Laković & Nuala Smith

[newsletter@maidenheadu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@maidenheadu3a.org.uk)



**HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE**  
**and**  
**WISHING YOU ALL A FANTASTIC YEAR IN 2022!**



## December Programme

Group information below is accurate as at 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021. More group details are available on our website but make sure you are registered as a user. **If you wish to join a group please ring the convener. Even if it is full; you can always be entered on a waiting list.**

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
Ancient Literature	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	14.30	Mick Stringer	07836 211314	We will finish reading Aristophanes' Lysistrata and have a look at his Clouds. The group may also dip into Plutarch's Life of Alcibiades.	
Art Appreciation	1 <sup>st</sup> Frid	10.30	Mandy Taylor	01628 298107	This new group is now full and meetings will start soon. Mandy is considering starting a second group in 2022. Contact her if interested. <a href="mailto:mandyofart@gmail.com">mandyofart@gmail.com</a>	W
Art Untutored	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues	14.00	Peter Neville	01628 674097	Meets at St Joseph's Church Hall, Cookham Road, Maidenhead SL6 8AT.	V
Aviation	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	14.30	Bill Teasdale	01628 672873	<b>There will be no meeting in December.</b>	V
Book Reading 1	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	14.00	Pauline Sparkes	01753 642490	Book: One August Night by Victoria Hislop. Meet at Ros Shotter's.	W
Bridge C	Every Thurs	14.00	Frances Foster	07548 306782	This Bridge group continues to meet in members' houses.	
Bridge E	Every Mon	13.30	Mal Geary	07973 193439	We meet on Mondays, usually with 1 or 2 tables. Contact Mal for information.	
Bridge F - Beginners	Every Wed	9.30	Susanna Jones	07583 447789	Meet at Susanna's house. Separate rooms for each table.	V
Bridge on Sunday	Every Sun	14.30	Susanna Jones	07583 447789	Meet at Susanna's as above.	
Online Bridge			Susanna Jones	07583 447789	Via BBO (free) website. More information from <a href="mailto:susannavj@hotmail.com">susannavj@hotmail.com</a>	
Canasta			Chris Wilkinson	07887 887579	A planning meeting has been held and regular meetings will start soon.	
Carpet Bowls	Every Mon	14.00	George Bourne	07792 570353	Fifield Memorial Hall. Fifield. No vacancies in this group at present.	
Classical Music	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	14.15	John Noakes	01628 637399	Meet on 13 <sup>th</sup> December at Janice's. Please ring her on 01628 530770 if you plan to go to the meeting.	V
Creative Cards 1	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Frid	10.00	Eileen Rogers	01628 639656	No vacancies here but there are vacancies in Creative Cards 2.	V
Creative Cards 2	1 <sup>st</sup> Frid				The group will also meet on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Frid if requested.	
Cribbage	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs	15.00	Nigel Furneaux	01628 635488	Meet at Shire Horse pub.	



ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
Current Affairs 1	4 <sup>th</sup> Tues	TBC	Malcolm Stebles	01628 630699	New members welcome but we may need to split into 2 groups.	V
Current Affairs 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	14.15	Janice Waterman	01628 530770	Co-convener is Pam May. Her email is pam.may508@gmail.com	
Exploring World Faiths	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs	14.30	Michael Gammage	01628 637801	Meet at 16, Culham Drive, Maidenhead SL6 7PW.	V
Family History	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues	14.30	John Noakes	01628 637399	<b>No meeting in December.</b>	V
French Improvers	Fortnightly on Wed	10.30	Evelyne Withey	07939 083996	Meetings continue on Zoom at the moment. Next meeting is on 1 <sup>st</sup> December. There are 3 or 4 vacancies.	V
French 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	10.00	Margaret Scharff	01628 666218	<b>No meetings in December.</b>	W
French Advanced	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	15.00	Ian Ross	01628 626849		V
Fun with Flowers			Chris Smith	01628 663764	There is room for 2 more members. Please contact Chris by phone or on <a href="mailto:cwemail@sky.com">cwemail@sky.com</a> if you are interested.	
Garden Visits	4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	12.00	Maura McGinley	01628 629088	Reconvene for annual lunch in February 2022. Details in the New Year.	
German Advanced	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Frid	10.00	Rhona Latham	01628 638740		
German Conversation	Every other Wed	14.00	Vreny Breadon	07900 831041	<b>Note change of time.</b>	
History	2 <sup>nd</sup> Frid	14.00	Chris Sayers	01628 620647		V
Jazz Appreciation	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	14.00	Kath Evans	07743 572146		V
Latin	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon	10.45	Mick Stringer	07836 211314	Meetings are on <b>6<sup>th</sup> &amp; 20<sup>th</sup> December</b> . Please note change of day. Inter alia, the group will look at Ovid's Fasti & Suetonius' Life of Augustus.	V
London Explorers / Bucket List			Janet Rose John Twydle	01628 624709 01628 621644		
Lunch Club	Monthly		Linda Rahmatalla	01628 671766 07740 853952	<b>There will be no Lunch Club in December.</b> The next one is on 22 <sup>nd</sup> January.	
Mah Jong	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed		Jill Waites	01628 628993	Please contact Jill for details.	



ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
Meditation	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	14.30	Marie Krag	01628 632683	<b>Note change of date in December, 8<sup>th</sup> instead of 1<sup>st</sup>.</b> <a href="mailto:mariekrag@talktalk.net">mariekrag@talktalk.net</a>	
MOTO (Members on their own)	Mainly Sundays		Jean Gale	01628 825107		
Nature Amble	3 <sup>rd</sup> Frid		Jill Waites	01628 628993	The season is now over for the Winter.	V
Play Reading 1	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs	14.00	Barrie Williams	01189 349525	Meet at Barrie's house, 3 <sup>rd</sup> December.	
Play Reading 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Frid	14.00	Janet Rose	01628 624709		
Poetry & Prose	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues	14.00	Barrie Williams	01189 349525	<b>No meeting in December.</b> Resume on 18 <sup>th</sup> January with 'Arrivals and Departures'.	V
Poetry 2	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues	14.30	Michael Gammage	01628 637801	Most meetings are 'in person', some on Zoom. The group reads & discusses all sorts of poetry. To join phone or email <a href="mailto:michael.gammage@outlook.com">michael.gammage@outlook.com</a>	V
Popular Music	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	14.30	Barrie Williams	01189 349525	Meet at Mollie Dunnings house 16 <sup>th</sup> December.	
Quiz	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon	19.15 for 19.30			The quiz has been postponed due to the sad death of Jean Myhill. More information will be available in the New Year.	V
Recorder	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	13.30	Edwina Shelley	07708 044152	Cox Green Community Centre, 51 Highfield Lane, Cox Green, Maidenhead SL6 3AX. Edwina's email address is <a href="mailto:edwina.shelley@btinternet.com">edwina.shelley@btinternet.com</a>	V
Rummikub	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	10.30 to 12.30	Kath Evans	07743 572146	Meet at the Shire Horse pub. Contact Kath on <a href="mailto:kmevans4012@gmail.com">kmevans4012@gmail.com</a> to confirm attendance. New members welcome.	V
Science	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	14.15	John Twydle	07786 854920	Larkspur House, Mill Lane, Taplow SL6 0AG. Social afternoon with some Science/Tech thrown in. If you have an interesting object, bring it with you and talk on it for 2-5 mins.	
Scrabble	Last Mon	14.15	Hilary Brodie	01628 522331	No Scrabble in December. Next meeting will be the last Monday in January.	V
Spanish Conversation	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon	10.00	Barrie Williams	01189 349525	<b>No meeting in December.</b>	
Spanish for Holidaymakers 1	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues	10.00	Kathy Bell	07752 660537		
Spanish for Holidaymakers 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues	10.00				





ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
Spanish Improvers 1	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues	10.00	Barrie Williams	01189 349525	Meeting 7 <sup>th</sup> December.	
Spanish Improvers 2	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	10.00			Meeting 6 <sup>th</sup> December.	
Spanish Improvers 3	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri	10.00			Meeting 10 <sup>th</sup> December.	
Ukulele	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	11.00 to 13.00	Carolyn Bell	07940 333709	Email address is carolynbell64@gmail.com.	V
Walks	Various	Varies	John Twydle	01628 621644 07786 854920	<p><b>Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> December.</b> Meet at 10.00 for 10.15 start at the Palmers Arms pub, Village Road, Dorney SL4 6QW for a 3.8 mile walk to the rowing lake down to near Dorney Church and return. No stiles almost flat walk. Lunch at the Palmers Arms for those that want it. Leader is John Twydle.</p> <p><b>Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> December</b> Meet at 11.00 for coffee at the Library Café in the town centre. Short walk after for those that wish to walk. 1.3 mile walk flat. Leader is John Twydle.</p>	
Yoga			Barbie Bellman	01628 773653	The group is now full. Members are making plans with the convener. More next month.	



## Committee Members & other u3a links

Chairman	John Twydle	<a href="mailto:chairman@maidenheadu3a.org.uk">chairman@maidenheadu3a.org.uk</a>	01628 621644
Treasurer	Linda Main	<a href="mailto:treasurer@maidenheadu3a.org.uk">treasurer@maidenheadu3a.org.uk</a>	07962 255743
Secretary	Janet Rose	<a href="mailto:secretary@maidenheadu3a.org.uk">secretary@maidenheadu3a.org.uk</a>	01628 624709
Membership Secretary	Maggie Kearney	<a href="mailto:membership@maidenheadu3a.org.uk">membership@maidenheadu3a.org.uk</a>	01628 637160
Groups Coordinator	Kathy Bell	<a href="mailto:groups@maidenheadu3a.org.uk">groups@maidenheadu3a.org.uk</a>	07752 660537
Speaker Organiser	Philip Ratcliffe	<a href="mailto:speakers@maidenheadu3a.org.uk">speakers@maidenheadu3a.org.uk</a>	07710 160786
Newsletter	Pat Laković	<a href="mailto:newsletter@maidenheadu3a.org.uk">newsletter@maidenheadu3a.org.uk</a>	01628 782038
	Nuala Smith	<a href="mailto:newsletter@maidenheadu3a.org.uk">newsletter@maidenheadu3a.org.uk</a>	01628 541685
Website Editor	Nigel Roper	<a href="mailto:web@maidenheadu3a.org.uk">web@maidenheadu3a.org.uk</a>	01628 636893

## Websites & Social Media

Maidenhead u3a	<a href="http://www.maidenheadu3a.org.uk">www.maidenheadu3a.org.uk</a>
Twitter	<a href="https://twitter.com/Maidenheadu3a">twitter.com/Maidenheadu3a</a>
Thames Valley Network	<a href="http://www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk">www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk</a>
Third Age Trust	<a href="http://www.u3a.org.uk">www.u3a.org.uk</a>

## Answers to Quiz

If you wish to question Ann, email her at [annghay@aol.com](mailto:annghay@aol.com)

1. Irons.	11. Carat is a measurement of precious stones, carrot is a vegetable and caret is a printer's symbol indicating that a letter has been missed out, like an upside down 'v'.
2. (a) a fennec is a small Egyptian fox (b) is a small Mediterranean sailing ship from 17 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> centuries.	12. A brightly coloured fish.
3. Pressing cooked potato through a grille instead of mashing.	13. London (The Goodies)
4. Mustard and bottled sauces served in restaurants, mainly with meat.	14. The meerkat in advertisements.
5. It should be daggers in the plural (Lady Macbeth)	15. Helen Burn.
6. The chanter.	16. Ülm.
7. A cobble is a small rounded stone making part of a road. A coble is a little sailing boat with its mast in the bows.	17. It moves both left legs together; next pace both right legs. Other animals use alternate legs.
8. (a) a bear (b) a fox (c) a wolf	18. King Henry I.
9. How Green Was My Valley.	19. Aviation fuel.
10. Horse racing as jockeys.	20. 'Our American Cousin'.

