NEWSLETTER No. 289

MAIDENHEAD

January 2023

(Registered Charity No. 1074907)

CHAIRMAN'S THOUGHTS

Hello All,

I hope you all had a merry Christmas and I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

First to the Christmas party - all the feedback I have seen or heard on the Christmas party has been positive. 109 members attended and a really big thank to everyone who helped out and especially to our own performers both on the ukelele and those who led the singing. Thank you especially to Chris Smith for the floral decorations on the tables.

Our membership stands at 505 as we enter the new year and it usual for us to lose a few in the renewal process. This is significantly up on where we were earlier in the year so thanks to Maggie Kearney for her Membership Secretary efforts.

I would also like to thank all the remainder of the committee for their efforts in 2022. We have a really good team currently. My appeals for additional support to fill the open committee positions fell on deaf ears last month, so give some thought to helping to keep our u3a running smoothly.

It's a particularly busy time for our Membership Secretary and Treasurer as we renew memberships; please pay promptly so that the process is not too drawn out.

Very best wishes for 2023.

John Twydle

Chairman

New Members

We are delighted to welcome Amnon Paldi & Ajay Kwatra.

Membership Renewal

Your membership renewal is due on 1st January 2023. An email with the renewal form has been emailed out to you in the last few days.

Any queries, please contact Maggie Kearney at membership@maidenheadu3a.org.uk

January 2023 Monthly Meeting

Hayley Scott will give a talk: "The Life of a Metropolitan Police Crime Scene Investigator" She will talk about her 14 years' experience working as a CSI - find out what actually happens behind the crime scene tape, including the examination of murders, shootings, and arson scenes.

Learn all about fingerprint patterns and how a fingermark from a crime scene is matched to a fingerprint on the criminal database.

Hayley shares many interesting anecdotes throughout the talk with time for questions at the end.



Hayley now owns The Forensic Experience and is a university lecturer in forensic studies. Her talk comes with rave reviews from other u3a associations.

The talk will be held on **Tuesday**, **10**th **January 2023** at the Desborough Bowling Club at 10 Green Lane, Maidenhead SL6 1XZ. Please aim to arrive between 2.00 and 2.15pm. **We no longer require anti-Covid masks to be worn, but anyone who wishes to wear one is welcome to do so.**

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR PHONE IS SWITCHED OFF OR SET TO SILENT.

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

THERMAL IMAGING SURVEY

Paul Main and John Twydle both own a thermal imaging camera. If any Maidenhead u3a members would like a free and informal survey of their properties as we all try and keep our energy bills down, please contact us.

We will take thermal images of your property to help you identify areas where insulation (or other) improvements could help reduce your bills.

Please email <u>jtwydle@gmail.com</u> or <u>pauldmain@gmail.com</u>

Maidenhead National Trust Association

is organising a coach trip from, Braywick Road car park Maidenhead to Exhibition Road London, dropping off near the Natural History Museum, on

Sunday 26th February 2023

Cost £23. For more information contact from Maggie Kearney

membership@maidenheadu3a.org.uk

Maidenhead u3a CHRISTMAS PARTY







GROUP NEWS

For information about any of the groups below where a convener is not named, please contact Groups Coordinator, Kathy Bell, by email to groups@maidenheadu3a.org.uk or by phone on 07752 660537.

Solos

The new **Solos** group is now established and ready to hold its first meeting in January. As the purpose of this group is rather different from most others, which focus on a particular subject, Pauline is giving this introduction.

"The **Solos** group is for anyone living on their own, or caring for a partner, whether they have been on their own a for long time or are going through a new and possibly raw experience. The purpose of the group is to generate a **supportive network** of people with the aim of encouraging friendships, sharing activities which are more enjoyable with others than on your own and providing a "drop in" to share feelings and experiences, whether it be sharing a laugh or a new achievement, questions and tips about managing aspects of living alone and creating a new life, and providing support when times are tough. People will all have different needs and things to contribute and nobody will be expected to join in with everything or contribute more than they feel comfortable with.

These meetings will be the **Hub** of the **Network** rather than an end in themselves and will be partly a time to share and plan as well as any content members want.

At a meeting of the small planning group we thought it would be helpful to:

- Start to get to know each other;
- Exchange contact information and consider the best ways for group communication;
- Discuss a possible venue for a place to "drop-in" on Saturdays;
- Draw up a list of topics for discussion;
- Put people with mutual interests in touch with each other, and consider ways of linking with other u3a groups.

Six people have signed up for the group so far, but there's room for another six in the group meetings and we hope others will want to join the network. We look forward to hearing from some of you.

There will be a **monthly group meeting**, **the first** of which will be on **Tuesday**, **24**th **January from 2-4p.m. at my home - 91 Pinkneys Road**, **Maidenhead SL6 5DT.** Please ring 07701354490 or 01628 621647 for further details.

Happy New Year, Pauline (Noden), convener.

Coffee Mornings

Have you ever thought that it might be nice to have a group where you could just come along and meet new people, without having to prepare anything, just to chat over coffee? This might particularly appeal to our new members who would like to find out more about the u3a.

We are considering setting up a new "Coffee Mornings" group which would meet, initially once a month, probably on a Thursday morning at a member's home, starting in January, with the first meeting likely to be on **26**th **January** in the morning. This group would be open to all of our newer members, to come and go as you please, but for catering purposes we would ask you to let us know a few days in advance if you plan to come along. We would hate to run out of coffee or biscuits.......

(cont)

If you think that you would be interested in such a group and for further details, please contact convener Kay Heppell by email at k.heppell@btinternet.com or by phone on 01628 825980.

Puzzles

Do you enjoy all kinds of puzzles - crosswords, jigsaw puzzles - and would sometimes like to work on them in the company of other people, and maybe swap jigsaw puzzles that have already been completed? This could be an entertaining group for the winter days so, if you would like to be part of it please contact Groups Coordinator Kathy Bell.

A Guitar group

Four people are now interested in this group and are planning an initial get together. They would love some more people to join them. If you are interested in this, please contact Kathy Bell.

Practical Gardening

A few people re still interested in this group but more members are needed before we can set it up, so if you are concerned about your garden after the strange weather that we have had during the last year and are interested in sharing problems and solutions as spring approaches, please contact Kathy Bell.

Untutored Art has vacancies. If you want to put Christmas artist gifts to use, then come along. We meet on the first and third Tuesday every month, 2-4pm at St. Joseph's Church Hall, 36 Cookham Rd, Maidenhead SL6 7EG. Ample parking available. Meeting dates for first 3 months of 2023 are 3^{rd&} 17th January, 7th & 21st February, 7th & 21st March and 4th & 18th April. For further information please contact Peter Neville on 01628 674097.

A Wednesday Lunch Group

As the current lunch group is frequently over subscribed, a newish member Lyn Reed is considering starting a second group which would meet on the first Wednesday of each month, starting on the 1st February, with a view to meeting more frequently if there is sufficient interest. This would be open to all but due to limited space in most of the venues, would have a limit of 12 participants each time. As Lyn is away quite frequently, she woulds like a co-convener to deputise when she is away. If you are interested in this group please call or text Lyn on 07913 305407, or contact Kathy Bell.

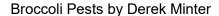
Still calling new conveners

As always, if you have a particular interest for which we are not yet catering, and would like to set up a group, please do get in touch. Assistance and support in setting up a group is always available from groups coordinator Kathy Bell and the other committee members. Please contact Kathy for more information.

Photography Group

Our topic for December was vegetables; in January it will be Curves.







Potato by Rachelle Walker

London Explorers



On 5th December, London Explorers went up to Greenwich Park. The Elizabeth Line made the journey much easier, and we were soon at Greenwich Market, and then had an excellent lunch at The Admiral Hardy pub.

We walked up to the view point in the park and it was clear enough to get a fantastic view of London from St Paul's to the O₂ (where this picture was taken).

We then walked up to the Observatory and the Planetarium where we saw the Night Sky presentation.

It was an interesting and fun day.

Plans for 2023 are well in hand. We have recently opened a Waiting List which will enable us to decide if we need a second group. It will also give us a list of interested people to approach if any trip is under subscribed.

For further information contact the conveners, Janet and Steve Rose (janetcrose@btinternet.com or stevelrose@hotmail.co.uk).

NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED

Pat Laković has now edited the newsletter for 4 years and would like to hand over her job to someone else by April (2023) who would work with Nuala. As it's the principal source of information for all Maidenhead u3a members, we know it's appreciated from the feedback we've received. You get to know what's going on & who does what, so you feel much more involved in what's happening.

You do need a laptop or desktop PC as the job couldn't really be done on a tablet. You should have reasonable word processing & occasionally spreadsheet editing skills, a bit of creativity & an eye for detail, plus several hours during the last 10 days of the month to jointly compile each edition. Nuala & I have learnt a lot in our roles.

Nuala & I have managed to cover absences very well so far. Although it may appear onerous, it is quite enjoyable once you get into the swing of things.

If you think you might like to give it a go, contact either Pat on 07789 482632 or Nuala on 01628 315446 - she can give you a better feel for what it's like to do this - or either of us by email at newsletter.maidenheadu3a@gmail.com.

The Quiz by Ann Hay (answers further on in the Newsletter)

- 1. What does this stand for: P.L.U.T.O.?
- 2. At what time does the church clock stand when honey is offered?
- 3. To where should you screw your courage in order not to fail?
- 4. What significant event occurred on Friday, 22nd November 1963?
- 5. What is linsey-woolsey?
- 6. Who was the youngest of the March sisters?
- 7. In which sport did Sergei Bubka and Renaud Lavillenie hold the world record?
- 8. What was the former name of the Kennedy Space centre?
- 9. What is the difference between clinker-built and carvel-built?
- 10. What the relationship to the late Queen is the Duke of Rothesay?
- 11. In which European country is the brewery which first put its beer into tin cans?
- 12. Why is London's Waterloo Bridge often referred to as the Ladies Bridge?
- 13. What are forbs?
- 14. Which is the oldest continuously serving regiment in the British Army
- 15. What is the Toon Army?
- 16. What are 'egg-eyed sharps'?
- 17. What does TNT stand for?
- 18. What area of England was the first to be created an area of natural beauty?
- 19. Which actor played the following characters in 'The Magnificent Seven' in the 60s? (a) Chris Adams (b) Bernardo O'Reilly (c) Calvera (d) Harry Luck
- 20. Which jazz trumpeter has had the greatest sales of his records ever?

January Programme

Group information below is accurate as at 2nd January 2023. 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.

V = Vacancy(ies), W = Waiting list

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME	TIME	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V/W
Ancient Literature	3 rd Thurs	14.30	Mick Stringer	07836 211314	Meets on Zoom on 19 th January & will continue to read Ovid's Metamorphoses.	
Art Appreciation	1 st Frid	10.30	Mandy Taylor	01628 298107	In January, we are going to Petworth House in Sussex. Contact Mandy for more info.	
Art Untutored	1 st & 3 rd Tues	14.00 to 16.00	Peter Neville	01628 674097	For any further information, see Group News.	V
Aviation	2 nd Thurs at WLAC	14.30	Bill Teasdale	01628 672873	Meeting on 12 th January: "Just follow the reds and greens, Sir" by Martyn Suggett which relates to the instructions to visiting pilots using the complex system of taxiways at Heathrow under the control of the tower. Many airports have fixed routes, but Heathrow's are regularly reset!	
Book Reading 1	3 rd Wed	14.30	Pauline Sparkes	01753 642490	Meeting on 18th January to discuss 'Once upon a River' by Diane Setterfield. Venue: Pauline Sparkes.	
Book Reading 2	2 nd Wed	13.00 to 15.00	Bobby Maunsell	01628 828279	The group meets at Marie Krag's home.	
Bridge C	Every Thurs	14.00	Frances Foster	07548 306782	This Bridge group continues to meet in members' houses according to members' wishes.	
Bridge E	Every Mon	13.30	Mal Geary	07973 193439	The group has 8 regulars. Sudden sickness & hols get handle by our well drilled players - all email experts. No WhatsApp, Netflix or Facebook needed!	
Bridge F - Beginners	Every Wed	9.30	Susanna Jones	07583 447789	Meet at Susanna's house. New members welcome.	V
Bridge on Sunday	Every Sun	14.00	Susanna Jones	07583 447789	New members welcome - you can come as frequently or as rarely as you like. Meet at Susanna's house.	V
Bucket List	Varies		John Twydle	01628 621644 07786 854920		
Canasta	2 nd & 4 th Frid	10.00 to 12.00	Christine Wilkinson	07887 887579		
Carpet Bowls	Every Mon	14.00	Jenny Alder	01753 859664	Fifield Memorial Hall, Fifield. New members welcome. Come	V

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME	TIME	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V/W
					and try, no experience needed.	
Classical Music	2 nd Mon	14.15	John Noakes	01628 637399	First meeting of 2023 will be at Shirley's: 01628 527604.	٧
Creative Cards 1	2 nd & 4 th Frid	10.00	Files Person	04.620.62065.6		
Creative Cards 2	1st & 3 rd Frid	10.00	Eileen Rogers	01628 639656		V
Creative Writing	1 st Tues	10.00	Mo Wright	01628 630023	There are now no vacancies.	
Cribbage	2 nd & 4 th Thurs	15.00	Nigel Furneaux	07721 426768	Meet at Shire Horse pub. New members welcome.	V
Current Affairs 1	4 th Tues	14.15 for 14.30	Barbara Walmsley	01628 522255	New members welcome. Meetings are held at Spindlewood, High Road, Cookham SL6 9JT . Contact Barbara for more details.	V
Current Affairs 2	2 nd Thurs	14.15	Janice Waterman	01628 530770	Co-convener is Pam May. Her email address is pam.may508@gmail.com	
Dog Walking	2 nd & 4 th Mon	11.00 to 12.00	Sandra Brooks	07717 043462 sandrabrooks341@gmail.com	The group meets every 2 weeks at Hurley and then at Braywick usually with 3 regular walkers each time. Contact Sandra if you are interested in joining.	V
Exploring World Faiths	1 st Thurs	14.30	Michael Gammage	01628 637801 07763 405699	No specialist knowledge required! Please call or email <u>michael.gammage@outlook.com</u> for details & register your interest if you'd like to join when we have a vacancy.	
Family History	3 rd Tues	14.30	John Noakes	01628 637399		V
Film		14.00 to 16.00	Jenny Webb & John Twydle	jenny.webb50@btinternet.com jtwydle@gmail.com	Monday, 23 rd January at 14.00: Rainman. Tuesday, 31 st January at 14.00: Thelma and Louise. Both showings will be at The Studio, The Courtyard, Berry Hill, Taplow SL6 ODA. Please let either John or Jenny know if you are coming.	
Food & Nutrition	3 rd Tues	14.00	Chris Good	chrisgood.1939@yahoo.co.uk	Next meeting on 17 th Jan at 2pm at Spinney Cottage, Thicket Grove, Maidenhead SL6 4LW . There is a shortage of car parking space, so car lift sharing is advised.	V
French 2	2 nd & 4 th Wed	10.00	Margaret Scharff	01628 666218	We have space for 1 or 2 more members.	V

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME	TIME	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V/W
French Advanced	3 rd Thurs	15.00	lan Ross	01628 626849	Four members of our group are genuinely bilingual, so our discussions are unstructured and range far and wide at fast pace in true French style. We continue to meet in group members' houses.	V
French Conversation	2 nd Mon	12.15 to 13.45	Tim Lodge	01628 627882	Meetings revert to 2 nd Monday for January. We still have one vacancy.	V
French Improvers	1 st & 3rd Wed	10.30	Evelyne Withey	07939 083996	Meetings continue on Zoom. We have 3 or 4 vacancies.	V
Fun with Flowers	3 rd Frid	14.00	Chris Smith	01628 663764	There is 1 vacancy. If anyone would like to go on to a waiting list, it means that if a person is unable to attend, their place can be offered to another person.	V
Garden Visits	4 th Wed	12.00	Maura McGinley	01628 629088 07767 446349	No meeting in January. Our February meeting is a lunch to masrk the beginning of our year.	
German Advanced	2 nd & 4 th Frid	10.00	Rhona Latham	01628 638740	Erika Hayward, a native speaker, leads the group & we meet in members' houses. Our remit is to practise & extend our language skills. We converse in German and read books. We have vacancies for people who are able to hold a simple conversation in German and have a good knowledge of grammar. There is no teaching. Enquiries to Rhona.	V
German Conversation	Alternate Weds	14.00	Vreny Breadon	07900 831041		
History	2 nd Frid	14.00	Chris Sayers	01628 620647		V
Jazz Appreciation	2 nd Mon	14.00 to 16.00	Richard Kellaway	01628 482605		
Latin	2 nd & 4 th Mon	10.45	Mick Stringer	07836 211314	We meet on 9 th & 23 rd January on Zoom. We will continue to read Plautus' Bacchides & to translate selections from Ovid's Heroides and Cicero's correspondence.	V
London Explorers	Monthly	Varies	Janet Rose	01628 624709	See visit report on page 6 re vacancies.	
Lunch Club	Monthly	Varies	Linda Rahmatalla	01628 671766 07740 853952	Lunch will be on Thursday, 26th January . Venue to be decided.	V
Mahjong 麻 将	1 st & 3 rd Wed	14.00	Jill Waites	01628 628993	Please contact Jill for more details.	
Maideleles (Ukulele)	Every Wed	10.30 to 12.30	Carolyn Bell Geoff Selvidge	07940 333709 07817 615677		V

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME	TIME	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V/W
Meditation	3 rd Wed	14.00	Marie Krag	01628 632683	We now have 2 vacancies.	V
MOTO (Members on their own)	Mainly Sundays		Jean Gale	01628 825107		
Nature Amble	3 rd Frid		Jill Waites	01628 628993	These restart in March 2023.	
Photography	2 nd Tues	11.15	John Twydle	07786 854920	Topic for January is Curves. We meet on 10 th January at 11.15 at The Studio, The Courtyard, Berry Hill, Taplow, SL6 0DA	
Play Reading 1	1 st Thurs	14.00	Barrie Williams	01189 349525		V
Play Reading 2	2 nd Frid	14.00	Janet Rose	01628 624709		
Poetry Reading	1 st Tues	14.30	Michael Gammage	01628 637801 07763 405699	No specialist knowledge required! New members welcome. michael.gammage@outlook.com	V
Popular Music	3 rd Thurs	14.30	Barrie Williams	01189 349525		
Quiz	1 st Mon	19.15	Derek Searle	01628 822562 07801 926246	The January quiz is on Monday 9 th January at 7.15 for 7.30. New contestants welcome - please contact Derek.	V
Recorder	1 st & 3 rd Mon	13.30	Edwina Shelley	07708 044152		V
Rummikub	1 st & 3 rd Frid	9.30 to 11.30	Janice Walker	01753 852403	The first meeting in 2023 is on 6 th January at the Shire Horse pub. New members always welcome.	V
Science	3 rd Thurs	14.15 for 14.30	John Twydle	07786 854920	Meet at Jaqueline Turner's,Larkspur House, Mill Lane, Taplow. Our speaker will be Ron Lewin who will recreate a Michael Faraday Christmas Lecture.	
Scrabble	Last Mon	14.15	Hilary Brodie	01628 522331		V
Solos	Varies	pm	Pauline Noden	01628 621647 07701354490	First meeting is on Tuesday , 24 th January from 2-4 pm at 91 Pinkneys Road , Maidenhead SL6 5DT . There are no steps and plenty of parking. Please ring Pauline for further details or email pauline.noden@gmail.com	V
Spanish for Holidaymakers 1	1 st & 3 rd Tues	10.00	Kathy Bell	07752 660537	The group will restart on Tuesday, 17 th January.	
Spanish for Holidaymakers 2	2 nd & 4 th Tues	10.00			The group will restart on Tuesday, 10 th January.	

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME	TIME	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V/W
Spanish Improvers 1 Spanish Improvers 2 Spanish Improvers 3	2 nd & 4 th Tues 1 st & 3 rd Mon 1 st & 3 rd Frid	10.00 10.00 10.00	Barrie Williams	01189 349525		
Threads & Needles	3 rd Thurs	11.00 to 13.00	Maggie Kearney	01628 637160	New members welcome. Contact Maggie for more information.	V
Walk 1	Thurs, 12 th Jan	10.45 for 11.00	John Twydle	0778685492	Arrive at 10.45 for 11.00 departure from The Oak and Saw pub, Taplow Village SL6 0ET . Park at the pub or in the village car park. It is a 2 4/4 mile walk towards Burnham & return. Some elevation but not steep. Lunch at the Oak and Saw for those that wish.	
Walk 2	Tues, 24 th Jan	10.30	Margarette Shore	07989 181321	Arrive at 10,30 at Pinkneys Arms, Lee Lane, SL6 6NU . Turn right at the vets, then across fields, back through Stubbings Churchyard and back to Pinkneys Green. Approximately 3 miles. We could then go to the Pinkneys Arms for lunch.	
Yoga	Every Mon	14.30 to 15.30	Barbie Bellman	01628 773653 07740 288498	Yoga will restart on 16th January at St Mark's Methodist Church for 4 weeks until half-term.	

Submissions to Newsletter - especially Pictures

If you wish to send us photos, please, ensure that they are no more than 750kb each. Also, <u>please do not</u> email .pdf files for the newsletter as the open source software we use to insert these files requires considerable additional effort. Acceptable formats are: .docx, .doc, .jpeg (.jpg) & .xls or .xlsx. It would help the editors if you would crop them and reduce the image size before sending.

Please email us anything that you would like us to consider for the February newsletter NO LATER than 22nd January 2023.

Thank you.

Pat Laković & Nuala Smith newsletter@maidenheadu3a@gmail.com or newsletter.maidenheadu3a@gmail.com



Thames Valley Network

South East Region

TVN

Check their website for future meetings & outings at http://u3atvnetwork.org.uk/

Answers to January's Quiz Any queries, email Ann at annghay@icloud.com

- 1. Pipe Line Under The Ocean.
- 2. Ten to three.
- 3. To the sticking-place (Macbeth).
- 4. Assassination of President Kennedy.
- 5. A cheap woven fabric used in 19th century for servants' clothing.
- 6. Amy.
- 7. Pole vault.
- 8. Cape Canaveral Space Center.
- 9. They are the way planks are attached to a boat, clinker means they are fixed edge to edge, carvel overlap.
- 10. Son, King Charles.
- 11. Wales.
- 12. During World War Two blitz, it was badly damaged and not enough builders could be found, therefore much of the rebuilding was done by women.
- 13. A type of flowering plant.
- 14. The Coldstream Guards.
- 15. Newcastle United football team.
- 16. Fine sewing needles.
- 17. Trinitrotoluene. (Chemical formula for those interested is C₆H₂(NO₂)3CH₃
- 18. The Quantocks.
- 19. (a) Yul Brynner. (b) Charles Bronson (C) Eli Wallach (d) Brad Dexter
- 20. Miles Davis.

Committee Members & other u3a links

Chairman	John Twydle	chairman@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	01628 621644
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Secretary	Janet Rose	secretary@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	01628 624709
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Websites & Social Media

Maidenhead u3a www.maidenheadu3a.org.uk

Twitter <u>twitter.com/Maidenheadu3a.org.uk</u>

Thames Valley Network <u>www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk</u>

Third Age Trust <u>www.u3a.org.uk</u>