

CHAIRMAN'S THOUGHTS**Hello All**

I was born in July 1953 a few weeks after the coronation of Queen Elizabeth the second.

I never met the Queen, but I have seen her every year at the Royal Windsor Horse Show for the last 46 years. Come rain, come shine the Queen was always there, sometimes on show, presenting to prize winners, often incognito in Barbour, wellies, scarf and sunglasses, tucked in an old Land-rover, watching the horses; her great passion. Her joy at winning the Mountain and Moorland pony showing class routinely, was plain to see. The quality of her entrants was such, that often the judges had to choose between 11 ponies, 10 of which had been entered by the Queen.

Her lifelong dedication to service was something we all seek to aspire too. In this fast-changing world the Queen was one of those constants that was always there. Well, no longer, and King Charles III now must apply all the lessons he has learned in the last 73 years. God save the King.

I share 2 photos of the Queen taken at the Horse Show, many years apart.

John Twydle, Chairman



New Members

We are delighted to welcome **Colin Rookard, Karen Hogg and John Lansley**

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, 11th October at 2.15 for 2.30pm

Desborough Bowling Club at 10 Green Lane, Maidenhead SL6 1XZ.

“Not Just Nelson’s Lover: The Rise and Fall of Emma, Lady Hamilton”



In Georgian Britain, Emma (1765-1815) was the most painted woman in Europe, the muse of the society portrait artist George Romney, and one of London’s most exciting celebrities. Most famous for being the lover of Lord Nelson, the celebrated admiral and hero of the Napoleonic Wars, she was so much more than that. Emma was born into a blacksmithing family in the North West of England, a far cry from the society glitter of London. With the exciting backdrop of Georgian society this talk will explore Emma’s rise, and fall, alongside a celebration of some of the latest fashion, events and advances that make up our understanding of this time.

Speaker **Heather Adams** has recently completed a Masters Degree at Oxford University studying Early Modern History through the interdisciplinary lens of art, architecture, literature, and the material culture of the day. Her working life took her to New York, Delhi and Toronto and she latterly ran a successful Literary Agency, identifying and launching authors. She is currently writing a book about Jane Austen. Cookham resident Heather is the wife of Mike Bryan, who previously gave us very interesting talks on Roman Britain and the history of Penguin Books.

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

Prospective members who would like to attend the talk as a u3a ‘sample’ should please first contact the Membership Secretary, Maggie Kearney, on 01628 637160.

September's Meeting

"On Tuesday 13th September, Kaitlyn Elverton, a promoter of invertebrate life, gave a lively and well illustrated talk on Bug life, extolling the need to preserve bugs and other invertebrate life, mostly land based, in order to maintain a harmonious balance in our environment. Referring to Sir David Attenborough's quote, "if invertebrates disappear, ecosystems will collapse", she emphasized that of the world's 10 billion species, 73 % are invertebrates, many of which are vital for all aspects of life: pollinating, recycling waste, etc. She listed four main threats to their survival: 1) climate change, drought, floods and temperature change killing many, 2) Light pollution, disorientating insects, altering migration, mating etc, 3) Pesticides, insecticides, chemicals etc, especially neonicotinoids which leach out, run off and pollute waterways, 4) Invasive species, which are a huge problem, as it is so difficult to eradicate them. They overwhelm local species and upset the balance. Examples given were Signal crayfish, Asian hornets and the Obama flatworm (Nagara).

We need to take action: 1) improve our knowledge of insects, 2) have friendly relations with them, 3) make our gardens insect-friendly, 4) grow plants for pollinators, 5) ensure soils are peat free, 6) stop using chemicals, 7) allow "untidy" garden areas, such as long grass and log piles, especially for hibernation, 8) watch out for insect "footprints", 9) catch stowaways, 10) conservation, 11) build a pond. Kaitlyn also listed the many ways in which we could all act to reduce light pollution, by switching off lights or turning them down.

Kaitlyn closed by urging us all to create friendly spaces for insects to thrive, and to learn to have friendly relations with them, rather than seeing them all as pests. She invited us all to join Buglife, by going online. However, she admitted that there was a problem with some insects causing disease or starvation, such as mosquitoes and malaria, or locust plagues, both of which since early historic times have continued to kill millions of people each year.

Chris Good

Maidenhead u3a Christmas Party – Save the Date

When - WEDNESDAY, 7th December 2- 4.30pm.

Where - Burnham Park Hall, Windsor Lane, Burnham SL1 7HR.

Please don't miss this year's U3A Christmas party. Tickets will be available from 1st November. It's the U3A event of the year!

We will be entertained by our very own Ukulele Band, **The Maideleles** plus the **Shirtlifters JAZZ** band and there will be ample opportunities to have fun including a festive sing along during the afternoon.

Food will be provided and there will be plenty of parking. Look out for more information in the November Newsletter.

GROUP NEWS

Feeling Creative?

The **Creative Writing Group** has restarted and has space for four new members. If you are interested, please contact the convener, Mo Wright, by email at mowright@greenbee.net, or by phone 01628 630023

Calling Music Lovers

Singing for pleasure

Many of the original members of this group are keen to start singing again now that the the worst of the Covid danger is past, but they are seeking a new convener and someone who could accompany them on piano, keyboard or, possibly, guitar. We thank Brian Commins and Pat Fairbairn who ran this group for many years but are no longer able to do so. If you can help please contact groups Coordinator Kathy Bell by email to groups@maidenheadu3a.org.uk or by phone 07752 660537

A guitar group

Some members are interested in reviving former ability on, or learning to play, the guitar but need a leader with some experience to help them. If this could be you, please contact Kathy Bell.

Food & Nutrition

We have a convener who would like to set up a Food & Nutrition Group. Meetings would be an afternoon on a day of the week to suit the members. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Bell on 07752 660537 or convener Chris Good by email at chrisgood.1939@yahoo.co.uk

Calling New Conveners

Once again we are seeking conveners to help set up the groups listed last month, and repeated below. The convener role can be very rewarding. It need not be arduous as, once a group is established, responsibilities are usually shared between the members. It is also possible to have joint conveners. Assistance and support is always available from Groups Coordinator Kathy Bell and the other committee members for the fairly simple process of setting up a group. Please contact Kathy for more information. Here are our suggestions:

- Beer Appreciation
- Bird watching
- Computer Bits and Bytes (see note below)
- Curry Club
- Cycling
- Industrial Heritage

- Jewellery, both making and repair
- Practical Gardening
- Railway Studies
- Relaxing Art (Adult colouring)
- Solos (see note below)
- Theatre Visits

Maideleles Ukulele Group Needs Men – no experience needed!

Back in the spring when we were deciding on a name (all uke groups have one) the Maideleles was the most popular choice; it being a hybridisation of Maidenhead and Ukulele. Now, as a group with 9, going on 10 members we wonder if the name may be giving the wrong impression - you see, there are only 2 men. Chris and Geoff need help!

Now we are in our new home, White Waltham Parish Hall, we have space for more people to join us, the more the merrier! Absolute beginners or experienced players are welcome to come along to our Wednesday morning sessions, a fun time is guaranteed. And even if you would just like to see if it might be something interesting to do, you will be welcomed: you may be press-ganged into making the brews mind!



Maideleles: every Wednesday 10.30 to 12.30. Venue: White Waltham Parish Hall.

We try to car share where possible so transport may be available if needed.

Convener:

Carolyn Bell,
ukulele@maidenheadu3a.org.uk and

07940 333709

At Cliveden in September by

Mo Wright

Are you aware of how Royal Mail cancels stamps?

When a stamp goes through the postal system on a letter (etc) they are cancelled by either applying a mark or a logo which is obvious to the naked eye BUT to safeguard their revenue the Royal Mail also uses UV franking machines so a stamp that looks unused may very well have been through the system. So be aware as a second class stamp re-used illegally can cost the recipient £2.50 to claim the letter.



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

1. Where in London would you find a pair of bascules?
2. Who/what is reputed to say "A-little-bit-of-bread-and-NO-cheese"?
3. For what purpose would one use (a) bib-and-brace (b) brace-and-bit?
4. By what name is Gerald Wiley better known?
5. What have the following in common? The Neckinger, the Effra, the Peck, the Earl's Sluice, the Walbrook and the Westbourne.
6. What are miscanthus, fescue and timothy?
7. What is a gimmer?
8. What were the names of Scarlett O'Hara's three husbands?
9. What is the collective noun for giraffes?
10. Where is the Lutine bell and what is the significance of its being rung?
11. What type of animals are Ankoli?
12. What is the difference between (a) passant (b) couchant (c) rampant?
13. What is (a) a garial (b) a garryowen
14. When the Queen last participated in Trooping the Colour on horseback, what was the name of her horse?
15. In 1858, what caused Parliament to consider moving to Henley-on-Thames?
16. What is the name of the prison in "Porridge"?
17. Apart from a human, what is a 'churchwarden'?
18. Why did Queen Victoria not have a Silver Jubilee?
19. What was the weather like at the Battle of Towton in 1461?
20. Give two different meanings for 'croup'.

October Programme

Group information below is accurate as at **22nd September 2022**. 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		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
Ancient Literature	3 rd Thurs	14.30	Mick Stringer	07836 211314	Will continue reading Gilgamesh.	
Art Appreciation	1 st Frid	10.30	Mandy Taylor	01628 298107		V
Art Untutored	1 st & 3 rd Tues	14.00	Peter Neville	01628 674097		V
Astrology	1 st Wed	14.00	Marie Krag	01628 632683	Have fun discovering how your friends and family might see the world differently from you by exploring the ancient symbolism of Astrology.	V
Aviation	2 nd Thurs	14.30	Bill Teasdale	01628 672873	At our meeting in October will be Peter Hart, formerly of the Imperial War Museum. His talk is titled "Zeppelins over London".	V
Book Reading 1	3 rd Wed	14.30	Pauline Sparkes	01753 642490	Book – The Island of Missing Trees by Elif Shafok	W
Book Reading 2	2 nd Wed	13.00 to 15.00	Bobby Maunsell	01628 828279	This group would welcome ONE more member.	V
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	Play starts at 13.45 on the dot.	V
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 Twyde	01628 621644		
Canasta	2 nd & 4 th Frid	10.00 to 12.00	Christine Wilkinson	07887 887579	Meet at The Shire Horse pub on the A4.	
Carpet Bowls	Every Mon	14.00	Jenny Alder	01753 859664	Fifield Memorial Hall, Fifield. New members welcome. Contact Jenny on beandjaldalder@gmail.com if you are interested in joining.	V
Classical Music	2 nd Mon	14.15	John Noakes	01628 637399		V
Creative Cards 1	2 nd & 4 th Frid	10.00	Eileen Rogers	01628 639656		
Creative Cards 2	1 st & 3 rd Frid					V
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	Barbara Walmsley	01628 522255	New members welcome. Meetings are held at Spindlewood, High Road,	V

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
		for 14.30			Cookham SL6 9JT. Contact Barbara for more details.	
Current Affairs 2	2 nd Thurs	14.15	Janice Waterman	01628 530770	Co-convener is Pam May. Her email is pam.may508@gmail.com	
Dog Walking	2 nd & 4 th Mon	Flexible	Sandra Brooks	07717 043462	The regular days may be altered to reflect holidays. Exact times and locations vary.	V
Exploring World Faiths	1 st Thurs	14.30	Michael Gammage	01628 637801 07763 405699	No specialist knowledge required! Please call or email michael.gammage@outlook.com for details. New members welcome.	V
Family History	3 rd Tues	14.30	John Noakes	01628 637399	Meet at Pauline's. Please ensure she knows you are coming (07849 857068)	V
Film			Jenny Webb & John Twytle		Initial meeting on 27 th September to make plans. More information next month.	
French 2	2 nd & 4 th Wed	10.00	Margaret Scharff	01628 666218	We have space for 1 or 2 more members. Please contact Margaret for more information.	V
French Advanced	3 rd Thurs	15.00	Ian Ross	01628 626849		V
French Conversation	2 nd Mon	12.15 to 13.45	Tim Lodge	01628 627882	We meet in a member's home. We now have ONE vacancy.	V
French Improvers	1 st & 3 rd 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		
Garden Visits	4 th Wed	12.00	Maura McGinley	01628 629088 07767 446349	Wednesday 26 th October. Venue to be decided.	
German Advanced	2 nd & 4 th Frid	10.00	Rhona Latham	01628 638740	Regular meetings resumed in September. We have a vacancy for anyone interested in practising their German. Enquiries to Rhona.	V
German Conversation	Alternate Weds	14.00	Vreny Breadon	07900 831041		
History	2 nd Frid	14.00	Chris Sayers	01628 620647	We have several vacancies & new members would be very welcome.	V
Jazz Appreciation	2 nd Mon	14.00 to 16.00	Kath Evans	07743 572146	Contact Kath for more information.	
Latin	2 nd & 4 th Mon	10.45	Mick Stringer	07836 211314		V
London Explorers	Monthly	Varies	Janet Rose	01628 624709	There are no vacancies at the moment.	
Lunch Club	Monthly		Linda Rahmatalla	01628 671766 07740 853952	Lunch Club will be on Tuesday 25th Octoberr . Venue to be decided. New members always welcome.	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	Carolyn Bell	07940 333709	New members welcome, beginners or improvers! With the new venue from	V

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W	
				September we now have vacancies.		
Meditation	3 rd Wed	12.30	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	In September we saw the wonder of nature with lots of new growth after the drought. Many plants were flowering past their seasonal dates. The last amble is on Friday 21st October when we will walk along the tow-path at Dorney finishing with lunch at the Palmer's Arms for those who wish to join us. All are welcome, please contact Jill for details.	V
Photography			John Twydle	07786 854920	Meet on Tuesday 11th October at 11.15 at The Studio, The Courtyard, Berry Hill, Taplow, SL6 0DA. Topic for October "Broken Glass" Send Images to John before the day.	
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	We had no meeting in September but will meet as usual in October. A confirmation email will be sent to group members.	
Poetry Reading	1 st Tues	14.30	Michael Gammage	01628 637801 07763 405699	This group reads, not writes poetry. 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	Meet at Shire Horse pub on Monday, 3rd October . Email Derek at drs05drs@gmail.com if you need more information.	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	Meet at Shire Horse pub. New members very welcome. Turn up on the day or contact Janice.	V
Science	3 rd Thurs	14.15 for 14.30	John Twydle	07786 854920	Meet at Jacqueline Turner's (Larkspur House, Mill Lane, Taplow. (07545 504880). Ron Lewin will give us a talk on William Herschel – his social and domestic life followed by Herschel the great telescope maker.	
Scrabble	Last Mon	14.15	Hilary Brodie	01628 522331	This is a small, friendly & relaxed group. Meet at Hilary's house.	V
Spanish for Holidaymakers 1	1 st & 3 rd Tues	10.00	Kathy Bell	07752 660537	Usual schedule resumed	
Spanish for Holidaymakers 2	2 nd & 4 th Tues	10.00			Usual schedule resumed	
Spanish Improvers 1	2 nd & 4 th Tues	10.00	Barrie Williams	01189 349525		

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W	
Spanish Improvers 2	1 st & 3 rd Mon	10.00				
Spanish Improvers 3	1 st & 3 rd Frid	10.00				
Threads & Needles	3 rd Thur	11.00 to 13.00	Maggie Kearney	01628 637160	Meet at Maggie's - 18 Wayside Mews SL6 7EJ. New members welcome. Contact Maggie.	V
Walk 1 (long walk)	6 th October	10.15	Wendy Jones	01628 662753	Meet at Taplow car park, Rectory Road, Taplow, SL6 0ET at 10.15 for 10.30 start of a fairly easy walk of about 4 miles to the river and along the Thames Path to Bray Lock and back. Some elevation returning to Taplow Village. Lunch afterwards at Oak & Saw pub for those who want it.	
Walk 2 (short walk)	Wed 12 th October	10.45	Anne Clark	07879 847375	Meet at 10:45 for 11.00 start at Stubbings Nursery overflow carpark SL6 6QL for a 2 mile walk across farmland, along a country lane, returning via Maidenhead Thicket. Lunch for those who want it after at Stubbings Cafe.	
Yoga	Every Mon	14.30 to 15.30	Barbie Bellman	01628 773653 07740 288498	Meet at St Mark's Methodist Church, Allenby Road, Maidenhead. Classes restart on 19th September until 17th October inclusive.	

Submissions to Newsletter - especially Pictures

If you wish to send us photos, please, ensure that they are no more than 750kb 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: .docx, .doc, .jpeg (.jpg) & .xls or .xlsx. It would help the editors if you would crop them and reduce the size before sending.

Please email us anything that you would like us to consider for the October newsletter NO LATER than 23rd October 2022.

Thank you.

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

1. On Tower Bridge, the raising mechanisms of the actual bridge.
2. The yellowhammer bird.
- 3 (a) work overalls. (b) a hand- drill
4. Ronnie Barker
5. They are all lost rivers under London, tributaries of the Thames
6. Native British grasses
7. A teenage ewe that has not yet been sheared.
8. Charles Hamilton, Frank Kennedy, Rhett Butler
9. A tower
10. In Lloyds of London (the insurers) and is rung when a vessel has sunk.
11. Cattle with immense horns
12. Heraldic positions of animals. (a) passant is a sideways view, walking. (b) lying down (c) vertical view, sideways, poised on one foot, challenging.
1. (a) a type of crocodile (b) a move in rugby union football
14. A black mare named Burmese.
15. The 'Great Stink' of the polluted Thames
16. Slade Prison
17. A very long clay pipe with a curved stem.
18. Because Albert had died in the year when it would have taken place.
19. A snowstorm, blowing in the face of the Lancastrians, who lost.
20. A breathing disease in young children and the rear end of a horse.



Thames Valley Network

South East Region

TVN

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

Committee Members & other u3a links

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Websites & Social Media

Maidenhead u3a	www.maidenheadu3a.org.uk
Twitter	twitter.com/Maidenheadu3a.org.uk
Thames Valley Network	www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk
Third Age Trust	www.u3a.org.uk
