



General Meetings are held on the **second Thursday** of the month at 2.00pm  
at Christ Church, 164 New London Road, Chelmsford CM2 0AW

## General Meeting Speakers



### Chelmsford u3a Christmas Socials

**6<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**Christ Church Main Hall**

**2.00 – 4.00 pm**

**Our special Guest is Henry VIII, England's favourite King!**



Tony Harris is a professional comedian, raconteur and actor who specialises in historical talks with an hysterical twist!

To book your place at either event email Eddie on [ejwood34@gmail.com](mailto:ejwood34@gmail.com)

Please state which date you would prefer

### Festive Food & Drink Included!

✚ Mulled Wine; Savoury nibbles

✚ Tea/Coffee, Mince Pies & Cakes.

Seasonal Raffle and Table Quiz

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm Martin Orkin - The Story of Simon & Garfunkel**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – AGM & Meet The Group Leaders**

## View from the Chair

I can't believe 2024 is nearly over! The year seems to have flown by and although it has had its ups and downs I'm sure I will have many positive things to write about in my annual report. We are now, of course entering the period of festive fun! I'm sure like me you have plenty of Christmas lunches to go to! It seems that almost every group has planned a get together in December or January. However, the highlight of the year will be our twin Christmas Social events on 6<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> December (as mentioned on page 1), when Tony Harris will be entertaining us as his alter ego, King Henry VIII no less!

There will be a raffle and a table quiz, and of course mulled wine, home-made mince pies, cakes and the usual tea and coffee. An army of volunteers will be on hand (we hope!) to ensure it all goes off smoothly! If you haven't booked your seat yet we do have some spare capacity but please get in touch with Eddie first to make sure it's ok for you to come (Tel: 01245 601359).



At our committee meeting last week our focus was on attracting new members and advertising our interest groups. Peter Anderton has designed some wonderful posters, flyers and leaflets that not only highlight the learning opportunities available in our u3a, but the social and friendly nature of our groups. In the new year we will be looking at ways to market our existing groups and to attract new members who are keen to start up new groups. However, we have a bit of catching up to do as our ratio of groups to members has grown smaller over the year as a result of 115 members joining us since 1<sup>st</sup> March. That's why I was delighted when Tony Cox contacted me to say he would like to start up a new group called Cycling for Pleasure (see advertisement on page 3).

As **Groups Co-ordinator** it is my job to oversee and support the working of our Interest Groups and to assist in creating and facilitating new ones. Ideally we need to create another 20 new groups and clearly I can't do this alone!. So, I need you to help me out and there are several ways in which you can do this:

- If you are a fairly new member please let me know if there is a particular subject, interest, or activity that you would like to see featured in our group offer.
- Any member who is willing to share their knowledge/skills or passion about a subject should talk to me about it and we can make some plans.
- If you are an experienced group Leader, would you be willing to mentor or support a new or potential Group Leader in the early stages of setting up an interest group by talking to them about your own positive experiences, the challenges you have overcome and the confidence you have gained?

- Lastly, but perhaps most importantly, if you are willing to be part of a team focussed on setting up new groups, please get in touch. I need people with ideas but also people who have the time, capability and enthusiasm to put those ideas into fruition.



So I will leave it there and wish you all a very Happy Christmas!

Lesley Wood (Email: [chair.chelmsfordu3a@yahoo.com](mailto:chair.chelmsfordu3a@yahoo.com))

### **Proposed New Group for Chelmsford u3a - Cycling For Fun Group**



Fancy an activity that can help your fitness, enable you to meet and socialise with people and have some fun? Then this new Group will be right up your street.

Chelmsford is a wonderful place for cycling: there are good, safe cycle paths in many parts of the city, the nearby countryside is easily accessible, beautiful and not too hilly, and most importantly there are plenty of cafes to stop for a cuppa and a break.

The Group will be open to all, we aim to encourage a wide range of people and to make real efforts to help everyone enjoy their cycling and the local area. That includes people who haven't ridden for ages and those who are a bit worried about cycling these days. We can take your particular needs into account.

In January we'll be holding a meeting for people interested in learning more about the Group. An important part of this will be for people to say what they want out of the Group and for us to have a discussion about how to proceed.

Feel free to contact me to learn more.

Tony Cox  
07758817559

### **Spanish Conversation Group**

Leader: Lindsay Whitehouse



We met in the Library, there were eight of us present. We started the meeting by sharing our news and activities since the last meeting. One member told us about a documentary programme he had seen recently about a young Spanish man who suffered from premature ageing disease. Although the man was in his 20s he looked to be in his 80s, his story and positivity about life was inspirational.

Another member shared his analysis of a documentary programme charting the use of homemade mini submarines which are being used more and more by criminal gangs to bring drugs into Europe from the American continents.

Talking about holidays was quite popular. One member had recently returned from a sunshine break in Cyprus, and another had spent time closer to home on a short break in Mersea Island. A third member talked about her plans for an upcoming holiday to Italy. We also updated each other on general health matters, it is a recurring theme!

We enjoyed trying to solve the puzzle of colloquial Spanish phrases and finding an English counterpart, which is not necessarily an exact translation.

Most of the meeting was conducted in Spanish, with only short bursts of English to impart essential group information.

We now have vacancies within the group. If anyone would like to come along and join us for an initial meeting, please contact me to let me know. You will need a grasp of basic Spanish. We will make you feel welcome.

Lindsay Whitehouse Group Leader

### **London - The City & its People Group**

Leader: Berry Cornell

**If you would like to join the London Group** please contact the membership secretary Chris Rycroft for further information: Tel no. 01245 473047 email: [c.rycroft123@btinternet.com](mailto:c.rycroft123@btinternet.com).

The Group **usually** meets up on 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 2pm but **dates in bold** are exceptions due to Bank holidays, Christmas and availability. Meetings are held at Christ Church, New London Road, Chelmsford.



### **Remaining Programme for 2024**

**16<sup>th</sup> Dec** We are back at Christ Church for our final meeting of the year having abandoned the Essex Record Office. BUT we haven't given up on tea, coffee and cakes provided by Sarah's Catering. Tony Tuckwell has kindly agreed to come back and delight us by talking about 'Three Men without a Boat' and we look forward to seeing everyone to exchange Christmas greetings.

**If you are not able to come then the committee would like to send you masses of good wishes for the coming year.**

### **Programme for the beginning of 2025**

27<sup>th</sup> Jan Talk: Policing East London in the 70's – the "fun side!", speaker Roy Tyzack at Christ Church  
24<sup>th</sup> Feb Talk: Famous plaques in the East End. Speaker Gary Lewis.  
24<sup>th</sup> Mar To be arranged.

**Committee:** Berry Cornell Convenor 01277 355823, Susie Fowkes, Chris Rycroft, David Marsh, Dave Sayers, Bob Smith Deputy Convenor.

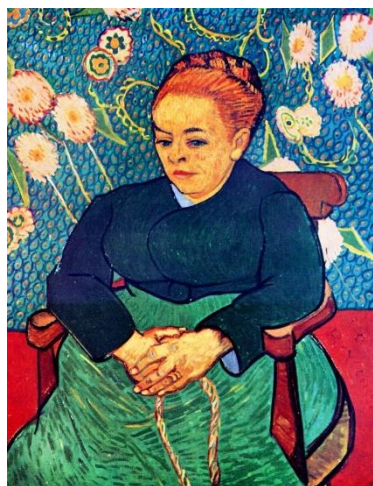
## Art Appreciation Group

Leader: Brenda Kelly

This month we travelled up to the National Gallery in London to see the exhibition 'Van Gogh: Poets and Lovers'. It is a great exhibition of 61 paintings which celebrates the 200 years since the National Gallery was founded.

Vincent Van Gogh (1853-1890) had been working in Paris but in 1888 he moved to Arles in Provence where he painted some of his most famous paintings. He loved the quality of light in the south of France and the surrounding countryside, the gardens, and the people who worked there for example his painting of 'Road Menders at Saint-Remy'.

The exhibition opened with two lovers strolling 'Into the Undergrowth', an undergrowth of many different coloured spots of paint; blue, pink, yellow, green. Although he was inspired by the work of the Impressionists, especially Millet, see his painting of 'The Sower', he wanted to use brighter colours and stronger brush strokes, which stand out from the paintings.



There were many differing paintings of trees with bold wavy lines set against a background of landscapes, though we did see a still life 'Still Life with Coffee Pot', as well as the well-known paintings of 'Sunflowers', 'Van Gogh's Chair', 'The Yellow House' and 'Starry Night over the Rhone', which was a strong mixture of dark blue as well as the yellow of the stars. He used bright colours for the hat and clothes of the peasant 'Patience' and the painting of 'La Berceuse' displayed next to the 'Sunflowers'. An incredible artist who died too young.

This month we are having a Christmas Lunch on 10th December at 'The Old Windmill' in South Hanningfield.

A Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2025.

## Birding Group

Leader Alan Alexander 01245 248030 Mobile 07712 818499

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November eight member's of the Birding Group met at the Essex Wildlife Trust Reserve Blue House Farm. It was a sunny, crisp winters morning with a biting wind from the North, so we all wrapped up warm and set off for the Sea Wall.

On the way we saw Jackdaw, Robin, Crow. Up on the wall we had an elevated view of Redshank, Grey Plover and Oystercatcher. In the fields hundreds of Canada, Greylag and Brent Geese had amassed.



We continued our walk along the Sea Wall and saw Rook, Herring Gulls, Lapwing, Curlew, Stonechat, Shellduck, Little Grebe, Great Black Backed Gull and Wigeon. We also saw Red Knot, Golden Plover. While walking we were rewarded with an impressive flypast from some of the Brent Geese we had seen in the fields.



Our walk eventually took us down off the Sea Wall and into a Hide from which we overlooked some frozen waterways. In the distance we could see in the distance a Marsh Harrier and a Heron, oh, and more Geese. At the next hide we saw Corn Bunting, Meadow Pipit, Barnacle Geese, Pewits, Swan, Pigeons and Starlings. Our group does not meet in December, it would be too close to Christmas. I will email Group Members with our 2025 programme soon. In the meantime I wish you all a happy, peaceful Christmas and a Healthy 2025.

**New members are very welcome to join us, please** feel free to contact me on the numbers above, or by the U3A website email address. We meet at 10am on the fourth Friday of the month at the chosen venue and set off about ten minutes later. The walking is not arduous, we usually spend more time standing or sitting in hides enjoying the spectacle of nature. There is no fee to join the group and **all abilities are more than welcome** whether an experienced birder or total novice.

If members would like to be added to our growing WhatsApp Group, please let me know and give me your mobile number. As always, if any members have ideas or suggestions for visits, please let me know. I will send all members an email nearer the time, confirming the location and that we can go ahead.

### **Bus Pass Group**

Group Leader: Maurice Austin

Once again, a Baker's Dozen of us caught a bus from Chelmsford bus station. Most of the party gathered near stand 3 as arranged and worried that the leader wasn't going to turn up. He was at the other end of the bus station bus-spotting! Not exactly recording bus numbers but trying to see where the recently revised 59 from Harlow terminated! Some people have strange interests!

We boarded the single decker First 73 to Maldon via Heybridge, just a few minutes "down" as we took some time to board. The lady driver was very patient and careful and took us through Parkway and Springfield Road where we picked up a modest clientele. Nevertheless, we still outnumbered them! Funnily enough, some of the passengers seemed to be the same people that travelled regularly when I drove the 73 for both Hedingham and Eastern National many years ago!

We passed the site of the new railway station near Boreham and marvelled at the civil engineering feats which have so transformed the views in that area. It is hardly attractive but very interesting and impressive. We moved onto a less urban environment on the old road alongside the current A12, through

Boreham and Hatfield Peverel when we really do enter the countryside passing through Nounsley and Ulting where the bus travels through a lane seemingly too narrow even for a car. Inevitably, we met a 4x4 who initially seemed to imagine he could squeeze past the bus! It didn't take him long to have a rethink and reverse to one of the few passing points!! The tall hedges caught the bus's near-side mirror which closed shut with quite a thump!

We passed through Langford and Heybridge, where the mirror was adjusted, and the bus turning point at Heybridge Basin with its rather extravagant display for the forthcoming remembrance event. One lady was lovingly tending the tiny garden area, and we later saw her "planting" giant wire poppies amongst the display. It was rather heart-warming to see so much preparation by a very small community.

Rather than walk down to the Basin itself and the sea lock at the end (or beginning?) of the Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation, we stayed on the bus for a while until we reached the little bus station at a food store in Maldon. Here, we disembarked, said goodbye to our superb driver and waited for the First 75 towards Colchester. We didn't have long to wait, it arrived dead on time but left a couple of minutes late as we took so long to get on! The very cheerful driver seemed pleased to see so many passengers on a cold and gloomy (but dry) day.



At Tiptree, most of us walked to the Wilkins jam factory and found the café, museum and shop and had a nice coffee and lunch. The food was fine, and mostly served very pleasantly although one male server was loud and a little off-putting. The entry to the café was confusing with a rather officious note instructing intending customers to queue in a waiting area. Not only was the note ambiguous, but the aforesaid server was also blunt to some young people politely waiting for their turn. It was obvious that some form of entry control would be needed at busy times but a little more care with the entry arrangements would transform a quite nice café to a superb one.

The museum is excellent, covering the interesting history of the Wilkins family, the Crab and Winkle railway line from Kelvedon to Tollesbury, jam making and much more. Outdoor exhibits included old farm equipment, factory artifacts and a Routemaster bus used as a mobile shop and tearoom. And the shop majoring in Wilkins products is worthy of a trip on its own right. All in all, a very worthwhile visit.

One of us had heard about a "Cheap Shop" and tried it. It turned out to be an emporium of almost never-ending treasures and delight. Most of the party seemed to buy something from there, so as well as making some bus trips profitable, we boosted the retail economy of Tiptree!

Our return trips were on time, slightly busier as it was school-out time, but equally pleasant. The buzz of conversation indicated that we had all had a nice time and there was much anticipation about the December trip.

Once again, Jayne Byott was busy with her camera, a selection of her artistic snaps has been sent to our very efficient Editor for him to select from. Incidentally, the pic we showed last month was also by Jayne.

Our next trip will be on Friday 13 December 2024, when we will go to Thaxted via Great Dunmow.

Sir John Betjeman said of Thaxted”

“There is no town in North Essex – and very few in England – to equal in beauty, compactness and juxtaposition of medieval and Georgian architecture, the town of Thaxted”.

There will be no bus pass trips in January or February 2025. The first one of the new year will be on Friday 14 March. The destination will depend upon what the bus companies do to their timetables and whether highways authorities have finished some of the long-standing roadworks.

Maurice Austin.

### Lunch Club 3

Leaders: Laraine Linard and Barbara Childs



### Church Visiting Group

Group Leader: Brian Greatrex Administrator: Michael Gray

Wednesday November 6

CHELMSFORD Cathedral Church of St Mary the Virgin, St Peter and St Cedd



Thirty-two of us, including a couple of new members, made the short journey to our own Cathedral Church in the heart of the city. After coffee and biscuits, we were welcomed by the Interim Dean, the Very Reverend Paul Kennington.

He explained that the simple architecture of St Mary’s dates back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century – “troubled times”. These walls, he went on, have seen it all. People just like us have come here for over six hundred years, seeking comfort and hope, they have rejoiced, they have wept.

It’s pretty safe to say that no-one has insider knowledge of Chelmsford Cathedral to rival that shared during this

memorable tour by our Group Leader, Brian Greatrex. Before we set off round the building, he introduced this year's Organ Scholar, Logan Williamson, who demonstrated the two linked instruments in Chancel and Nave, giving us an impressive sampler of sound from a delicate flute to the mighty roar of the full organ.

Out tour began in the east end, with the Cathedral – the Chair of the Bishop of Chelmsford – flanked by seats for the area bishops.

The diocese is only 110 years old, previously we have been under London, Rochester and St Alban's. And it was not until the 1980s that visionary clerics decided to replace the parish church aesthetic with a style more suited to a Cathedral.

From Easter to Advent 1983, the church was closed, and for Easter 1984, the Glory Tapestry on the East Wall was unveiled, 1500 squares of silk in many colours.

This was one of many works of art commissioned by the Cathedral: the silver cross, originally intended for the Chancel Arch, the altar frontal in the Mildmay Chapel, and a rare chance to see the Banner out of its glass case, revealing its reverse side, commissioned in the 70s, and displayed for some years in the V&A. The richly detailed Tree of Life and the Crucifix below, with its living cross. The icons in the South Choir Aisle, the Risen Lord [Christus Rex] over the Chancel Arch, the fibre-glass ambos, the St Cedd engraved glass window, the Bombed Child Pietà in St Peter's Chapel.



There were ancient survivals, too, of course. The Mildmay monument, the fine fifteenth century fan arch in the North Transept, and the intriguing banner cupboards set into the tower buttresses. A glance up at the saints supporting the wooden roof of the south aisle, and the gallery leading to the Knightbridge Library over the remarkable two-storey porch.

And out of the under-floor-heated church to a chilly churchyard to admire the fine flint flushwork and the modern carving of St Peter, wearing fisherman's galoshes and holding a Yale key to heaven ...

Our first meeting of 2025 will be on Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> – as is traditional, to a couple of churches not too far away We hope to see many of our regulars, and maybe a few newcomers, there. Make a note of the .date!

### Book Group

Leader: Andy Moir

### Our books for the next three meeting are:

Mon Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	The Music Shop by Rachel Joyce
Mon Jan 20 <sup>th</sup>	The Ashes of London by Andrew Taylor
Mon Feb 17 <sup>th</sup>	Normal Rules Don't Apply by Kate Atkinson

## Local History Group

Leader: Jane Humphreys 01245 259590

In November we invited Phil Lyons back to give us a talk about a sailor's life in the British Navy at the time of Trafalgar (1805).

**Naval Power:** Phil began with a comparison of the naval strength of France, Spain, and Britain in 1800 and 1810, highlighting the impact of the Battle of Trafalgar on the Spanish navy which lost more than half its ships.

**Impress Service:** The British Navy's use of the Impress Service from 1792 significantly increased its manpower, with nefarious methods used to press men into service. By way of a local example Phil showed us a list 21 Colchester men who had fought at Trafalgar. The average age of these men was 22.

<a href="#">ISAAC POOLEY</a>	<a href="#">JAMES WILSON</a>	<a href="#">JOHN WALES</a>
<a href="#">WILLIAM SIMMS</a>	<a href="#">JOHN KING</a>	<a href="#">LT JOHN MAPLE</a>
<a href="#">JOHN HARDING</a>	<a href="#">JOHN WEIR</a>	<a href="#">LT THOMAS PINTO</a>
<a href="#">ROBERT COOK</a>	<a href="#">JOHN JOLLY</a>	<a href="#">PTE REDMOND ABBOTT</a>
<a href="#">JAMES RICHARDSON</a>	<a href="#">THOMAS MIDDLETON</a>	<a href="#">PTE JOHN FEAKES</a>
<a href="#">BEN SNOOD</a>	<a href="#">WINDEN BACCHUS</a>	<a href="#">SGT GEORGE LYES</a>
<a href="#">SAM TWAITS</a>	<a href="#">HENRY ROOFE</a>	<a href="#">JAMES MARTIN</a>

**Life at Sea:** Life on a ship involved learning the ropes, dealing with injuries, and facing dangers such as disease and accidents, which were more common than enemy action.

**Diet and Living Conditions:** Sailors' diets were basic and often infested with pests and wine was described as being like bullock's blood mixed with sawdust! The alcohol ration was ¼ pint rum mixed with water, and a gallon of Small Beer (2/3%) per man per day, drunkenness was therefore common. The men had to make their own uniforms with cloth purchased from the Purser. Living conditions were cramped and unsanitary, with hammocks for sleeping and no heating or ventilation. They worked in three 8 hour shifts (watches) per day allowing them a full 8 hours to sleep. Your hammock became your coffin if you died at sea. Rats on board ship were hunted for sport and eaten, compared by seamen to the taste of rabbit.

**Discipline and Morale:** Discipline was harsh, with flogging and hanging as punishments. 12 lashes from the 'cat of nine tails' was the maximum allowed but was often ignored. It could take a man up to 15 minutes to die if he got caught up in the rigging. However, there were also moments of respite, such as visits from "Jolly Boats" bringing prostitutes to anchored ships.

Phil's talk was well-received by the audience. Account by Lesley Wood.

**The Essex Branch of the Historical Association**  
2.30pm Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
**Charles II's revenge on the men who killed his father**  
**– retribution or Justice?**  
**Don Jordan.** Co-Author, "The King's Revenge"  
at Trinity Methodist Church, Chelmsford  
All Welcome £5 for non-members

## Book Group 2 - Bookworms

Leaders: Nick Bailey and Jane Hickman

We had our first book group discussion on Tuesday 7th November at the Black Bull in Rainsford Road. There was a lively exchange of views around our featured book " The Boys in the Boat " by Daniel Brown, a narrative account of the eight man USA rowing team, that won gold at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. We all felt that it was an interesting work, if a little long .

Our next two books to be discussed will be " James " by Percival Everett at our meeting on Thursday 5th December and " The Appeal " by Janice Hallett at our meeting on Thursday 2nd January 2025. All at the Black Bull, Rainsford Road .

If you are interested in joining our group please contact Nick at [nickbailey01245@outlook.com](mailto:nickbailey01245@outlook.com) .

## IT Group

Leader: Lyn Parsons

The IT Group had a good turnout for the November meeting. It was good to see some new members coming along to get help with their IT issues, they were all given support by our regular helpers.

So if you are struggling with any IT issues please come along to the sessions, you may only need help for 1 or 2 sessions to get you up to speed with your devices, apps, online banking, security etc.



**Remember there isn't any membership fee and no attendance fee, just a small donation for tea/coffee if you partake.**

We meet at Christ Church, New London Road, 2nd Wednesday of the month 10.00-11.30. Please bring the device you want help with and a mug for tea/coffee.

Lyn

## Garden Group

Group Leader: Chris Bellamy Secretary: Val Green

**Chelmsford u3a Gardening Group Lunch,  
1 p.m. Thur. 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2035  
At Little Channels,  
Pratts Farm Lane West,  
Little Waltham, CM3 3PR.**

## Science Group

Leader: Chris Bellamy



Chelmsford u3a Science Group Lunch

1 p.m. Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025,

Ivyhill,

Writtle Rd.

Margaretting, CM4 0EH

£33 for 3 courses

The Menu is available at

[https://chelmsford.u3asite.uk/u3a\\_events/science-group-christmas-lunch/](https://chelmsford.u3asite.uk/u3a_events/science-group-christmas-lunch/)

**Title: Why are Rare Breeds of Sheep Rare?**

**Talk by Andrew Notman on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024**



Andrew's talk was well-illustrated where he showed many breeds of sheep as well as interesting information on the screen. Andrew's knowledge of sheep came through his presentation particularly when he talked about the shearing sheep! He said sheep with horns can be difficult to shear. He says you don't need strength but you do need technique.

He started with the fact that at present in the UK there are about seven thousand rare breeds including Boreray, Cotswold, Manx Loaghtan, North Ronaldsay, Whiteface Woodland whilst the total sheep population is 15million. He showed on screen the main characteristics of rare breeds which he split into

two camps, Primitive and woollen. The Primitive have a body mass between 20 to 25kg whereas the woollen 100 to 150kg and the list covered much else besides.

Rare breeds are important especially for their genetic characteristics which may be called upon in the future to breed in a specific trait.

Most breeds have been developed for meat or wool although some are classed as dual-purpose (ideal for both). The fleeces of many sheep breeds contain a mixture of wool, hair and kemp (short thick fibres). For most woollen garments hair and kemp are a problem as they aren't easy to dye and can't be spun into fine threads. The fleeces from the pure wool breeds command a higher price (£4+) than from the others (less than £1). All wool in Britain is sold through the British Wool Marketing Board which was originally setup by the Government in 1933. It allows fleeces from rare breeds to be sold privately to hand spinners who like to use the natural fleece colours. Fleeces on the Island of Harris are made into Harris Tweed garments.

With regard to the meat, abattoirs and butchers prefer carcasses of uniform size and numbers to fit the retailer requirements of joint sizes. As most of the primitive rare breeds are small, their carcasses are small producing a small income unless sold privately. The rare breeds are valuable in that they are good mothers and hardy. This last point is due to the kemp being well developed in the new born lamb.

I have picked out one or two salient points from the most interesting and informative talk give with passion and knowledge. Andrew did answer the question posed in the title I am not sure my report has!

Paul Chaplin

Science Group talks are held in the Catholic Church Hall in Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford CM1 2DU. Doors open at 1.30pm and the talks start at 2.15pm. Tea/Coffee before the talk. **Non-members of the Science group are welcome. £2 for non-members.**

### Chelmsford Science and Engineering Society

18<sup>th</sup> Dec **Echoes Of The Big Bang: Probing The Origin Of Our Cosmos** by Emilie Hertig, Final Year PhD Candidate at the University of Cambridge Institute of Astronomy.

For more details see the CES website at <https://ceses.org.uk/>

### Reminder to Group Leaders

**Please send copy for the January 2025 Newsletter to the editor, Andy Moir.**

**All copy must arrive no later than Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2024.**

**Please would contributors use the Calibri Font size 12. For MS Word use Paragraph settings; line spacing single and spacing 0 before and after lines.**

### Chelmsford u3a Committee

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
Chair	Lesley Wood
Vice Chair	Alan Caddy
Secretary	Marie Neale
Treasurer	Wendy Hubbard
Membership Secretary	Diane Read 077144 32360
Speaker Organiser/Deputy Treasurer	Eddie Wood 01245 601359
Newsletter Coordinator	Lynn Regan
Monthly Meetings Organiser	David Marsh/Brian Littlechild
Marketing/Recruitment	Alan Caddy
Groups Coordinator	Lesley Wood
Social Media/Deputy Web Manager	Allan Goldsmith
Publicity & Advertising	Peter Anderton
Committee Member	Ann Bell
Committee Member	Nick Bailey

**Volunteers not on the Committee:**

Web Manager	Andy Moir
Newsletter Editor	Andy Moir

### Interest Groups (as of June 2024)

You must be a member of Chelmsford u3a before you join an Interest Group. However, if you would like a taster session before you join contact the Group Leader either by phone or by email.

Name of Group	Day of Month	Time	Group Leader	Phone	EMail
All Day Walks	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday		Berry Cornell	01277355823	Via website
Amateur Dramatics			Alan Caddy		Via website
Art Appreciation	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	14.00	Brenda Kelly	01277840621	Via website
Art Club	Mondays Weekly	9.30	Peter Anderton	07773074105	Peter.anderton@scion-uk.com
Art Group	Tuesdays Weekly	9.30	Cynthia Cronin	01245461215	Via website
Birding	4 <sup>th</sup> Friday	10.00	Alan Alexander	07712818499	Via website
Book Group	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	14.30	Andy Moir		Via website
Book Worms	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	14.30	Nick Bailey & Jane Hickman		Via website
Bridge (beginners)	Tuesdays	14.00	Alan Cardus		Via website
Buss Pass Group	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday	varies	Maurice Austin		Via Website
Church Visits	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	10.15	Brian Greatrex & Michael Gray	01245258833	Via website
Coach Outings	Various		Malcolm Lonsdale		Via website
Craft Workshops	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	10.00 – 13.00	Julie Nicholson		Julnic138@gmail.com or via website
Discussion Group	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues	13.00- 15.00	Brian Littlechild		brian.littlechild@blueyonder.co.uk
Family History	4th Friday	14.00	Lesley Wood	01245601359	lesleywood54@yahoo.com
Fishing Group	Wednesdays		Alan Caddy		Via Website
French Conversation	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	14 -15.15	Marie Neale		Via Website
Garden Group	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	14.00	Chris Bellamy Val Green	01277353481	Via website
Information Technology	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	10.00	Lyn Parsons		Via Website
International Dining	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	Evenings	Jennie Cappin	01245 358629	Via website

Jazz and Blues Group	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	10.30-12.30	Heinz Kassier		kassier2@gmail.com
Live Arts	Theatre Visits	As & when	John Heathcote	01245380766	liveartsgroup@aol.co.uk
Local History	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday	14.15	Jane Humphreys	01245 259590	Via website
London the City & its people	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday	14.00	Berry Cornell	01277 355823	Chris Rycroft via website
Lunch Club 1	Last Friday of month	12.30	John Heathcote	01245 380766	Via website
Lunch Club 2	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	12.30	Harry Glaser	01245 462760	Via website
Lunch Club 3	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	12.30	Laraine Linard Barbara Childs	01245 475444	Via website
Mah-Jong	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	2.00	Chris Paget	01245 474811	chrispaget@lineone.net
Philosophy	Thursday 4-weekly	11.00	Julia McClure	07941 480240	Via Website
Philosophy & Religion	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	10.00	Jim Mackay		Jim88mackay@aol.co.uk
Photographs on Face Book	Online		Alan Mayo	07979 540053	Via Website
Pickleball	Monday Weekly	2.00	Alan Mayo	07979 540053	Via Website
Poetry Appreciation	2nd Wed	14.00	Judith & Tony Boniface	01245 266316	Via Website
Science Group	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	13.45	Chris Bellamy	01277353481	Via website
Sewing, Knitting & Crochet	3rd Thursday		Jacqui Norfolk	07714 258517	Jacqueline.n@virgin.net
Short Walks	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	10.00	Robert Lloyd	01245466167	Via website
Spanish Conversation	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	10.30	Lindsay Whitehouse	01245 356363	Via website
Summer evening walks	4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Apr -Sep	Alan Mayo	07979 540053	Via website
Sunday Lunch	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	13.00	Lesley Wood	01245601359	Via the website
Ten Pin Bowling	2nd & 4th Fridays	10.30	Roger & Ruth Spall	01245466486	Via website
Travel Group	See website		Anne Brereton		cu3atravelgroup@outlook.com
Walking Group	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	10.00	Alan Mayo	07979 540053	Via website

# Chelmsford u3a Notice of Annual General Meeting 2025

Dear Members,

The Business Secretary, Marie Neale, gives notification of the date of Annual General Meeting of Chelmsford u3a 2025 in order to allow for members to prepare for the meeting.

Notice is hereby given that the 32nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Chelmsford u3a will be held on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025**.

The meeting will take place at: **Christ Church, 164 New London Road, Chelmsford CM2 0AW, commencing at 2.00 p.m.**

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## 1. Submission of Proposed Resolutions

Members are invited to submit proposed and seconded resolutions with supporting statements to the business secretary **by 22 December 2024** at [secretary.chelmsfordu3a@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.chelmsfordu3a@gmail.com).

## 2. Submission of Proposed Nominations for Election to the Committee

Members are invited to submit proposed and seconded nominations for vacant officer and other trustee posts. Nominations are also required from existing committee post holders standing for re-election. In accordance with our constitution the officers will be elected by the Trustees at their first meeting following the AGM.

Nominations must be made on a Nomination form, which is available on the website. and should be returned to the Business Secretary, **by 23 December 2024** at [secretary.chelmsfordu3a@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.chelmsfordu3a@gmail.com).

## 3. Voting Arrangements

Any member who is unable to attend the AGM may appoint someone else to vote on their behalf (either a named individual or the chairman of the meeting). A form of Proxy notice will be issued for such purpose once all resolutions and nominations have been received. It must be deposited with the Business Secretary **by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at the latest**.

**A detailed agenda and supporting papers will be issued by 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at the latest.**

**Marie Neale, Secretary**



**Committee Nomination Form**

This form must be completed and returned to the Secretary, Marie Neale  
by email; [secretary.chelmsford@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.chelmsford@gmail.com) or post to: 50 Primrose Hill, Chelmsford, Essex  
CM1 2RH

**by no later than 23 December 2024**

I wish to nominate (Name).....

Address.....  
.....

U3A Membership number.....

**Proposer Name**.....

**Proposer signature**.....**Date**.....

**U3A Membership number**.....

**Seconder name**.....

**Seconder's signature**.....**Date**.....

**U3A membership number**.....

I am willing to stand at the forthcoming election

Signature of  
Nominee.....Date.....