

September programme

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
5 Table Tennis	6 Petanque Community Garden	7 Monthly meeting	8 Reading Music Appreciation	9 Golf Birdwatching Sing for Pleasure Theatre visit	10	11 Rural Essex
12 Table Tennis Science/Tech Garden visit	13 History visit Community Garden	14 Art Group Luncheon Club 3 Patchwork	15 Family History Ballroom Dancing	16 Photography	17	18
19 Table Tennis Scrabble Social visit	20 Petanque Woodturning Community Garden	21 Art Group Luncheon Club 1 Woodturning	22 Craft Walking	23 Luncheon Club 2 Sing for Pleasure	24	25
26 Table Tennis Astronomy Petanque	27 Community Garden	28 Art Group Buildings of High Street	29 Art Appreciation/ Maritime	30		

Blackwater U3A newsletter September 2011



www.blackwateru3a.co.uk

Reg. Charity No. 1113334

From the Chair

Welcome back from summer holidays. For many of you, it feels a bit like a new term! We hope you can enjoy all the activities and talks that have been arranged for the coming months. Why not try something new, explore new horizons, have a go with a new interest group. If you really fancy a different activity not on our list, contact one of the committee and we can see if there is enough interest to start another group.

New U3A

The launch meeting of the new U3A will be held on Friday 16th September at West Maldon Community Centre at 2.00pm. May I ask you to contact any friends who you think might be interested in joining to come along. We want to have enough numbers to start it on its journey. I have no doubt once started it would grow in size and be successful.

Thomas Plume Library. Anyone for an essay?

There is a Frank and Patricia Hermann Award for the best essay of 3,000-4,000 words on any topic based on the Plume Library. This could be a study or assessment of a group of books, or a subject related to one or more of the books. There are numerous subjects covered in the library such as Religion, Science, Medicine, Philosophy, Geography, History, Astronomy, Commerce and Trade, Exploration and travel. What a chance for a new learning experience. The catalogue of books is available on line at www.thomasplumeslibrary.co.uk. Go on have a look. If anyone is interested, I have some leaflets about it.

Health Fair

A Maldon Health Fair will be held at the Blackwater Leisure Centre on Saturday 17th September from 10.00 to 1.00 with lots of stalls covering different topics of health, plus an opportunity for some screening tests. So if you are interested pop along, and see for yourself.

Dennis Eraut

October newsletter deadline

Deadline for the October newsletter is Friday 23rd September.

Contributions to ian@ianlinton.demon.co.uk 51 Washington Road, Maldon, CM9 6BN

Coordinators

Interest Group Coordinator	Dorreen Linton	01621 853428
Art	Anita Sandison	01621 741351
Art Appreciation	Dorreen Linton	01621 853428
Birdwatching	Peter Leggett	01621 852377
Community Garden	Dorreen Linton	01621 853428
Crafts	Sheila Wallis	01621 856667
Family History	Geoff Pugh	01621 843297
French beginners	Val Wilson	01621 842455
Gardening	Jennifer Fowler	01245 222834
Golf	Alan Chapman	01621 816860
History	Dorreen Linton	01621 853428
Local Theatres	Sheila Rowsell	01621 740820
London Theatres	Gill Cato	01621 740153
Luncheon Club 1	Di Johnson	01621 828490
Luncheon Club 2	Kathy Leggett	01621 852377
Luncheon Club 3	Pam Mills	01621 874883
Maldon High Street	Dorreen Linton	01621 853428
Maritime Group	John Wallace	01245 225093
Music Appreciation	Mani Koenig-Roach	01621 854235
Patchwork & Quilting	Molly Middleton	01621 859914
	Gill Reeves	01621 855845
Petanque	George Wallis	01621 856667
Photography Group	George Wallis	01621 856667
Reading Group	Pat Wade	01621 740253
Rural Essex	Dorreen Linton	01621 853428
Science, Tech, Medicine	Alan Chapman	01621 816860
Scrabble	Sylvia Harden	01621 858506
Social Group	Barbara Brand	01621 853218
Spanish	Sue Watson	01621 852941
Table Tennis	John Mundy	01621 854065
Walkers	Dorreen Linton	01621 853428
Wine Group	Stella Bradbrook	01621 854235
Woodturning	Charles Middleton	01621 859914
Joint groups with Maldon U3A		
Astronomy	Alan Chapman	01621 816860
Ballroom Dancing	Jean Smith	01621 843054
Singing for Pleasure	Jacky Holmes	01621 854108
Snooker	Brian	01621 842619
Tenpin Bowling	David Arnold	01621 853866
Scottish Dancing	Shirley Grummett	01621 853288
Trouble-Shooters	Liz or Bryan Jones	01621 857031

Current Committee Members 2011/12

Dennis Eraut	Chair	01621 829758
Val Wilson	Vice-Chair	01621 842455
John Wallace	Vice-Chair	01245 225093
Adrian Stockton	Treasurer	01245 225081
Dawn Mundy	Secretary	01621 854065
Barbara Brand	Social Activities	01621 853218
Dorreen Linton	Interest Group Coordinator	01621 853428
Sheila Rowsell	Committee Member	01621 740820
Sheila Wallis	Committee Member	01621 856667
Peter Holmes	Co-opted Member	01621 854108
Gill Cato	Co-opted Member	01621 740153

Local U3A contacts

Maldon—Joyce Cotterell 01621 858287
 South Woodham Ferrers—Heather Richardson 01245 320205
 Heybridge—Peter Thorpe 01621 850828

News update

Emergency contact details

I noticed when I attended one of our visits that a member's emergency contact details were not up to date. Could members please let me know if their named emergency contact person has changed their address, telephone number, or mobile number. Thank you, *Dorreen Linton 01621 853428*

Third Age Trust

We have received the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011 which can be viewed at the monthly meetings.

The Blackwater U3A Membership Card can bring you an added bonus! The High Street tearooms 'Truly Scrumptious' will offer U3A members a 10% discount on sight of that member's membership card.

U3A Diary 2012 - £2 each payable with order. List available at monthly meeting, contact *Dawn Mundy 01621 854065*

Talking newspapers for the blind and partially sighted

This is a service entirely free of charge for those visually-disabled in any way and unable to read news print. Local papers are edited for items of interest, recorded on to a master tape and copies made for distribution to those in need each week. Postage is free and all that you have to do is post it back to us in the pre-prepared pouch and you will receive the next one. If anybody is interested or knows of somebody who would like to benefit from this service, they need not belong to a U3A group, please contact me on Ray Harman 01621 891736 or e-mail ray27harman@btinternet.com

An inviting opportunity from HOST

People come from all over the world to study at universities in the UK. They hope to immerse themselves in the life, language and culture of this country. The 'real Britain' is found outside the campus, in towns and villages, and above all, in people's homes. Hosting a student for one weekend, or at Christmas, or just for a day, makes a personal and meaningful contribution to international understanding and goodwill. U3A members make ideal hosts! If you would like to know more, please visit www.hostuk.org, or call Host's local organiser Sandra Purrett on 01296 681625.

Charity Soup lunches

First Tuesday of the month this year at Maldon Little Ship Club. 12 – 2, minimum contribution £3.00.

6th September Essex Air Ambulance 4th October Maldon Pioneers

1st November Sea Change 6th December RNLI

Details from Diana Rogers 01621 853841 or diana.rogers2@btinternet.com

Garden News

I have arranged one more garden visit in early October, then in November we will end our year's programme with a quiz and social afternoon. Please make a note of the changed dates and either sign the sheets at the meeting or phone if you would like to come. Autumn is fast arriving and the leaves beginning to change colour. What an extraordinary year we have had; first the very cold winter followed by a very warm dry spring, now rain and a great variation in temperature. Many shrubs and plants are flowering for a second time, there is a lot of colour in the garden. Autumn fruiting raspberries, plums, cooking apples, courgettes and runner beans are plentiful. A white Solanum which covered the back of my house "died" in the winter has now reappeared and is in flower. I guess the answer is never dig anything up for a year at least.

Helmingham Hall

Our group visited the spectacular moated red brick hall, home to the Tollemache family since 1510. We were told that the two drawbridges are still raised every night. Unfortunately the Hall is only open to the public on very rare occasions. The present Lady Tollemache has spent the last 20 years redesigning the gardens, most of which are situated in the original walled garden, surrounded by its own moat thought to date from Saxon times. We walked along the apple walk and round the luxuriant herbaceous borders and marvelled at the bountiful array of healthy vegetables some of which were for sale in the stable shop. Everything was well tended and weeded. Tucked away behind the walled garden was a small pet's cemetery, with its poignant headstones to much loved pets. Facing the Hall across both moats is a parterre which had two very ancient mulberry trees laden with fruit. Some of us surreptitiously sampled the berries, delicious! After a short walk across the front of the house we enjoyed the knot, rose and herb gardens. As it was very wet none of us ventured far into the 400 acre park, home to large herds of red and fallow deer. There were also several Highland cattle waiting patiently beside the fence adjoining the apple trees in the hope of being fed windfalls. Most of us visited the stable tea rooms where a variety of reasonably priced lunches and home made cakes were on sale. What a shame that Jennifer who organised such a splendid outing was not able to share it with us. *Gill West.*

Forthcoming events

Monday 12th September Buckingham Palace State Rooms and Garden

Leave West Maldon at 9.15am. Please note Wendy Diss will be in charge, if you have any problems ring her on 01245 223459 as I will be away from 9th September. Cost is £36.30. Any outstanding money will be collected on the coach

Monday 3rd October - Visit to private garden of Mrs Coode-Adams, Feeringbury Manor at Feering. Cost £5. No refreshments so suggest we lunch at Perrywood Garden Centre on the way home. Meet at West Maldon Community Centre at 10.30 am. **Monday November 28th** - 2pm Quiz and social afternoon, cost £3. Venue to be confirmed.

Jennifer Fowler 01245 222834

Reading Group

This month we read *Middlemarch, a Study of Provincial Life*, a novel by George Eliot – the pen name of Mary Anne Evans, which she began to write in 1869 and then, fusing together several stories into a coherent whole, the novel appeared in serial form in 1871-72. The first one-volume edition was published in 1874 and attracted large sales. Set in the period 1830-32 the novel has multiple plots with a large cast of characters, and in addition to its distinct, though interlocking narratives, it pursues a number of underlying themes, including the status of women, the nature of marriage, idealism and self-interest, religion and hypocrisy, political reform and education. The pace is leisurely and the canvas is broad.

In general, *Middlemarch* has retained its popularity and status as one of the masterpieces of English fiction. Virginia Woolf gave the book unstinting praise, describing it as 'the magnificent book that, with all its imperfections, is one of the few English novels written for grown-up people'. Martin Amis and Julian Barnes have cited it as probably the greatest novel in the English language. *Gill Cato*

Further details from the coordinator *Pat Wade 01621 740253.*

Buildings in Maldon High Street

We have discovered that the shops in the High Street are held in Trust. Mike, one of the Trustees will be coming to our meeting on Wednesday, 28th September at the Oakhouse at 2 pm to tell us about the Trust. *Dorreen Linton 01621 853428*

Speakers' Corner

Our monthly general meetings feature a wide variety of guest speakers. The meetings are held at West Maldon Community Centre on the first Wednesday of the month. Remember doors now open at 2.00.

October - Colin Baldy, Director of Music at St Mary's Church, Maldon, author, conductor, singer, actor, musician, a leading light of the Maldon Festival of Arts and more who will share general knowledge about the voice, sing for us, and share his musical experiences.

Refreshments & Meet & Greet rota

October	Walkers/Wine Group
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History Group

Eltham Palace – Tuesday 13th September. We will be leaving West Maldon Community Centre at 8 am. There will be separate tours of the house and gardens. £21.

Glemham Hall – Tuesday 11th October. We will be leaving West Maldon Community Centre at 9 am. We will be visiting Sutton Hoo in the morning and lunch.

Talk – Tuesday 8th November – The Architecture of Maldon High Street Buildings. West Maldon Community Centre at 2 pm. £3.00.

Talk by Stephen Nunn Tuesday 8th December – West Maldon Community Centre at 2 pm. £3.00.

2012

Tuesday 10th January—Talk, The History of the British Museum. West Maldon Community Centre at 2 pm. £3.

Tuesday 14th February— Talk, The History of Bourne Mill, Colchester. West Maldon Community Centre at 2 pm. £3.

Tuesday 13th March – Dickens and London Exhibition at the Museum of London . Travel by train.

Thursday 19th April – Legal London

Tuesday 8th May – Visit to Finchingfield and Spain Hall

Tuesday 12th June – Coggeshall

Tuesday 10th July in the afternoon – Creeksea Place

Monday 16th July – Woodham Walter

National Trust history talks

The Cramphorn Theatre, Chelmsford is organising National Trust Talks in the evening.

Wednesday 21st September – The future in action at Ickworth – 7.45 cost according to membership (£2 - £4)

Wednesday 19th October – Rites of passage (clothes for birth, marriage and mourning)

Wednesday 16th November – History on our doorstep – WWI Aerodrome at Stowe Maries.

Wednesday 7th December – History of Butlins 1938-83
I will put out signing up sheets so members can car share.

Dorreen Linton 01621 853428

Social Group

Great Bardfield Lodge Experience

Monday 19th September. A trip to the lodge and vineyards with Ploughman's lunch and wine tasting. £17.50 plus car share

Fish & chip evening

Friday 21st October, West Maldon Community Centre 7..30.

English Country Dancing

Friday 18th November, West Maldon Community Centre 7..30..

Barbara Brand 01621 853218.

Second Luncheon Club

July saw twenty- four members of the Second Luncheon Club and one guest gathered for their monthly meeting and eating at The Norton Barge in Cold Norton. It is a community pub run by a committee of trustees who are local villagers. They rely on volunteers for all staffing except for the Chef and the Bar Man. An exceptional two course, fixed price “Meal Deal” was enjoyed by many of us. The blackcurrant crumble and the apple pie are to be highly recommended. This was followed by the usual coffee and chat. We are grateful to the staff and volunteers who made us so welcome and served us well. This Community pub deserves local support. See the website for photographs.

A date for your diaries – our Christmas Lunch will be at The Norton Barge on December 16th.

Kathy Leggett Co-ordinator, 01621 852377

Luncheon Group 3

The August meeting of Luncheon Group 3 met at the Norton Barge, a community project pub run by the villagers of Cold Norton. They opened on a Wednesday especially for us; here we enjoyed an excellent lunch. Although we were somewhat depleted in numbers for a variety of reasons it was a lively gathering, its success being measured by the departure time! Our coordinator was not able to be with us; we wish her well following eye surgery. *Christine Wright*

Coordinator, Pam Mills 01621 874883

Craft Group

Having enjoyed decorating bags in a variety of ways, in September we plan to decorate T shirts. Please bring a white or pale self-coloured T shirt with you to spray on September 22nd. Thank you all for your contributions to our display, we had many complimentary comments.

Sheila Wallis, 01621 856667

Photographic Group

Our next meeting will take place on Friday, 16th September; venue to be decided at August meeting. *George Wallis, 01621 856667*

Petanque Group

We will meet as usual at 2pm on Tuesday 6th and 20th September. There will be an additional meeting which will take place at 2pm on Monday 26th September, where Heybridge U3A have challenged us to a match.

George Wallis, 01621 856667

Golfing Group

Our August golfing session was to Braxted Park Golf Course near Rivenhall. The weather was fine, the company and the golfing excellent. Our September golfing session will be at the Rivenhall Golf Course on Friday the 9th where the group is booked in for the Oaks Course commencing at 10.00am sharp.

Finally, our golfing thought for this month is "Golf is not just exercise; it is an adventure, a romance....a Shakespeare play in which disaster and comedy are intertwined (and) you have to live with the consequences of each action. Harold Segall, American Golfing Writer. Alan Chapman Coordinator, 01621 816860

Alan Chapman, Coordinator 01621 816860

Ballroom Dancing

Ballroom Dancing starts again on Thursday 15th September at 2.45pm. in the main hall at West Maldon Community Centre. We are a friendly group meeting for one and half hours every 2nd and 4th Thursday. Come along and learn some basic steps or add a few variations to those you already know. Looking forward to seeing you.

Jean Smith, 01621 843054

Community Garden

Plans for the future.

We would again like to put compost on the area including the grass in the Autumn so we will need some donations please – watch out for our begging bowl. The garden now has a spring collection of plants, and the summer display is building up but we need late summer and autumn plants. Could members please give plant donations towards this season of the year. Remember our colours are blue and yellow. Please ring to find out meeting times. *Dorreen Linton 01621 853428*

Art Group

We will return to Mundon Victory Hall in September, but if the weather is good, use the hall as a base for sketching in the village. Please contact Anita on 01621 41351 asandison@gmail.com for details.

Scrabble Group

Meetings are every 3rd Monday of the month - September 19th, October 17th, November 21st, December no meeting. More members are welcome.

Sylvia Harden - 01621 858506

Maritime Group

Thursday 29 September - Greenwich

Our September meeting is being organised jointly with the Art Appreciation Group. It is a whole day visit by coach to the National Maritime Museum complex at Greenwich. We will have most of the day to explore the NMM, the Queen's House, the Royal Observatory Centre, (all free), or the Meridian Courtyard and Planetarium (entrance fee). Please sign up on Dorreen's Art Appreciation Group list.

Timing of future Maritime Group meetings

This year we have experienced a few clashes with other interest group meetings so, after consulting with most of our regular members, we will change to the FIRST Monday afternoon in the month, instead of the fourth Monday. This will take effect from October. We will continue to meet in the Linton Room of the West Maldon Community Centre at 2.00 pm for our 'indoor' meetings.

John Wallace 01245 225093

Local Theatre Group

Forthcoming events

Friday September 9th - The 39 Steps at the Cramphorn Theatre, £10. Full

Monday October 10th - Death by Fatal Murder at the Civic Theatre. £17.
Full

Sunday December 11th - A Christmas Soiree at Hylands House by the Cameo Players. £14. Fifteen seats have been reserved, but as payment has to be immediate, cheques must be written and given to Jenny at the September meeting.

I shall be away for a while from the end of August, so Jenny Wall will very kindly be standing in for me during that time. Her telephone number is 01621 860549. Enjoy the rest of the summer and I'll see you on my return.

Sheila Rowsell. 01621 740820

London Theatre Group

Planning for the next trip to London on Sunday 20th November 2011 is well in hand, when we go to the Royal Albert Hall to see the Classical Spectacular. I now need to collect money for the coach - £9 per person. As I am away for both the September and October monthly meetings, (on holiday both times!!) I wonder if you would all be so kind as to post your cheques to me Gill Cato, "Melandra", Summerhill, Althorne, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 6BY.

This would be a great help. You can get in touch with me using my email: cato662@btinternet.com or phone 01621 740153 (answerphone attached), and I will answer all enquiries a.s.a.p.

Walking Group

Our next walk will be on Thursday, 22nd September. We will meet at Tesco car park at 9.30 am. Sheila Harris will lead the walk around Coggeshall. The walks are between 5-6 miles and most of the group usually have a snack lunch at a local establishment, although car shares mean that there is the choice. Please come along with ideas for future walks for the coming months.

Dorreen Linton 01621 853428

Science, Technology & Medical Group

Our group recently visited the Long Shop Museum at Leiston, Suffolk. Steeped in history, the Long Shop was built in 1852 by Richard Garrett as one of Britain's first production lines for building steam engines.

Exploring this award winning museum with its collection of unique and fascinating exhibits, presented in a particularly historic and appropriate setting, was like travelling back in time. A highlight of the day was Roger's eating venue. Which I must say lived up to his promise of a venue providing superb mouth watering meals. For selfish reasons I'm not going to tell you where this wonderful eating venue is located. (Sorry Luncheon Groups) as I intend to go back soon and do not want the venue to get too well known.

Our next meeting of the ST&M group will be a lecture at West Maldon Community Centre in the Linton Room on Monday 12th September at 9.30am on the subject of Atomic Power. The title of the presentation is "Power From a Crumb" and will be followed by a DVD on the subject of decommissioning of atomic waste.

Our next site visit will be to the Royal Gunpowder Mills at Waltham Abbey on Monday 10th October leaving West Maldon Community Centre by car share at 9.30am. Finally, the group's last lecture of the 2011 session will be on Monday 14th November at 9.30am when Dr Colin Tock will be giving a medical-oriented talk on the subject of Radiation Therapy(the inside story). *Alan Chapman, Coordinator 01621 816860*

Table Tennis Group

Sessions take place on the 1st, 3rd and 5th (when applicable) Monday at West Maldon Community Centre. Four tables are available for play. Time 11.45 am to 1.30pm (please do not arrive before 11.40). Fee £3.00 per session. It is a very friendly group, balls and bats provided. Coaching is given and new members are welcomed. The group has been running since April 2010 and numbers playing have grown with the turnout often over twelve people. *John Mundy 01621 854065*

Music Appreciation Group

Our next meeting will be at Dorreen Linton's home on the second Thursday of September, 8th September, when the letter will be C. Please ring her to let her know whether or not you will be there on 01621 853428 *Pat Willis*

Birdwatching

The agreed programme for September 2011 to July 2012 is:

Friday 9th September - RSPB Reserve at Wallasea Island, lunch at Creeksea Ferry Inn. Meet at West Maldon Community Centre at 8.30am. Guide Jeff Delve. Now FULL.

Thursday 6th October - Combined trip with the Rural Essex Group to Chafford Gorge, Thurrock. (see page 9 for details)

Friday 4th November - RSPB Reserve at Old Hall Marshes, Tollesbury, no facilities. Meet at 9 am at West Maldon Community Centre . Guide Paul Charleton. Followed by comfort break and hot drinks and/or own Picnic Lunch at Abberton Essex Wildlife Trust. Charge £3.50 each.

SATURDAY 3rd December - Goldhanger , the shore and sea wall, no facilities. Meet West Maldon Community Centre at 9.15am . Guide John Buchanon, followed by Carvery Christmas Lunch at 1pm at Tollesbury Cruising Club Restaurant. Spouses of birdwatchers or birdwatchers not attending at Goldhanger are invited.

THURSDAY 12th January - Indoor Meeting at Henry Dixon Hall, Rivenhall End with the Witham & Braintree U3A . Talk on Otters & Water Voles. Meet at West Maldon Community Centre at 9am for car share. Shared outlay is £70.00 so we wish many members to attend to keep the charge per person to £3-£4.

Friday 3rd February - DIY Bird watching. Marshes and Sea wall beyond Maldon Promenade without a guide. An exercise in bird recognition to test our skills unaided. Meet at the Main Entrance Gates to Prom Park at 9.45am.

THURSDAY 9th February - Indoor Meeting at Henry Dixon Hall – Rivenhall with Witham and Braintree U3A. Talk by Barry Kaufman-Wright on Birds of Prey. Meet at West Maldon Community Centre at 9am for car share. Again as many as possible are welcome.

Friday 2nd March - RSPB Bowers Marsh, Vange. Guide Steve Roach. Meet at West Maldon Community Centre at 8.30am for car share. Facilities and refreshments at nearby Watt Tyler Country Park.

Monday 23rd April to Thursday 26th April - 4 days and 3 nights in Old Hunstanton, North Norfolk - Guide Alex Bass. Meet at 3Norfolk Road at 8.30am for long-term parking and car share. Now fully booked

Friday 18th May to Tuesday 22nd May - 6 days and 5 nights on the Isle of Mull, Scotland. Guide John Simpson. Now fully booked.

Friday 8th June - Provisional booking to Essex Wildlife Trust, Ray Island off Mersea Island. Guide David Nicholls. Meet at West Maldon Community Centre for car share. Time to be arranged according to tide times.

Friday 20th July - Guided visit to EWT Stow Maries in the evening to see and learn about bats and glow worms after a meal at the nearby Prince of Wales Pub. Meet at West Maldon Community Centre at 6pm.

Peter Leggett, Coordinator, 01621 852377

Birdwatching visit to Chafford Gorge

We arrive at the Essex Wildlife Trust centre at 9.30 am for coffee and an introduction to the Centre from Adam Taylor. Ruth Barnes, our guide will walk and talk us along the winding paths of the Gorge between 10.0 am - 12 noon at a cost of £3.pp. Lunch will be arranged at a nearby eatery. Meet at West Maldon Community Centre at 8.30 am to arrange car share. Sign up and pay up at the Sept.7th Meeting. *For this event contact Dawn Mundy 01621 854065*

Rural Essex

Sunday 11th September – Essex Wildlife Trust have arranged a walk for wildlife at Abbots Hall Farm, £5 per person Call 01621 862960 to book

Thursday 6th October – Chafford Gorge. Please meet at West Maldon Community Centre at 1 p.m. Mike Sandison will be our guide for a geology walk around the Gorge. £2 (12 maximum)

Wednesday 9th November – Wallasea Island Wild Coast Project. Our local Essex Wildlife Trust have arranged a talk by Chris Tyas at The Friends Meeting Place at 8 pm. £1.50 donation.

Dorreen Linton 01621 853428

Art Appreciation

Ranger's House, Greenwich on Thursday 29th September. We will be leaving West Maldon Community Centre at 8 am. Coach £12 and £6 for the guided tour of the Ranger's House. I understand that it is going to be possible to visit the Queen's House in the morning.

Maldon Art Trail – Saturday 1st – 8th October. I will put out a signing up list so members can see who else is interested and they could meet up.

Tuesday 22nd November – meeting at West Maldon Community Centre at 2 p.m.

Tuesday 24th January – meeting at West Maldon Community Centre at 2 p.m.

Tuesday 28th February – meeting at West Maldon Community Centre at 2 p.m.

Tuesday 27th March – Beecroft Gallery, Westcliff – afternoon visit

Tuesday 24th April – to be confirmed

Tuesday 22nd May – Sholto's London Walk

Wednesday 27th June – Red House, Bexleyheath – all day visit

Dorreen Linton 01621 853428