

Blackwater u3a Newsletter

July 2026



Blackwater u3a Community Garden

u3a

Reg. Charity No. 1113334

From the Chair

So, all of sudden gnomes are favoured by royalty (of all kinds), and everyone wants one. Those of us in the gnome have given them a loving and safe gnome for many years – you do not choose a gnome, it picks you.

Our first gnome, Dunwoody, joined us in our first gnome together. Named for a win on the horses (Richard Dunwoody), he sat happily in our garden in Bournemouth. When we moved to the Isle of Wight, he was named in the fixtures list of the deeds to ensure his smooth transfer of gnome. As time went on, he had many friends join him. We moved a lot with my job and the removal vans got bigger to accommodate the family. I was even presented with a gnome on my retirement – Woodland Wilf! It was only when we moved to Maldon that the numbers really took off. We down-sized coming here, which led to many visits to the dump. On one occasion my husband saw a jolly fellow with a rabbit in his arms and asked politely if he could buy it for me. The worker said “you’ll have to ask little Jim” so Ric went to find little Jim. Who turned out to be a man mountain.... after a suitable negotiation, he returned triumphantly with a new gnome. My son is a gardener and clears a lot of overgrown spaces. Consequently, it wasn’t unusual to see him trundling a barrow of gnomes and other ornaments up our drive. I even rescued some from the police station (with permission, of course!) together with Jim, who drives a car, a rabbit with wheelbarrow and a wishing well.

All outdoor gnomes are called Jim (much easier obviously), though Dunwoody remains overlooking the pond. Over the years he has been joined by twin Jims (both pushing wheelbarrows) many stone animals (we’ve almost got a zoo) and lots of other Jims. It is so bad we have more than 100 stashed around the place, all doing their own thing. We did have a flashing gnome (complete with raincoat) in Abingdon, where it lurked in the bamboo bush. Visitors loved that but he sadly was lost in one of the moves.

Of course, it doesn’t stop there. There are indoor gnomes too, dotted around our gnome. The bathroom has a fair collection, named for their colour – Goldengnome, Blackgnome, Pinkgnome and Sparklygnome - there are over a dozen in that room alone. You can’t go anywhere in our gnome without encountering one. You can talk to a gnome – they don’t judge, just listen and provide quiet comfort and companionship. They give

a gnome character, a bit of fun, and gardens structure, just as plants do.

So don't forget – every gnome should have one, and they should be embraced as part of your family. No-one has ever been let down by a gnome and they last forever (or until a non-gnome person comes along).

Chris Walker

Deadline for the August Newsletter

The deadline for the August Newsletter will be **Friday, 24th July**,

Please submit items in the usual way to Di Martin:

dironmar@btinternet.com

Treasurer's Request

When making payments by Bank Transfer please make payments for the following categories:

Membership Payments/Diaries

Sort Code: 60-13-37 Account No: 49519611

Account: Blackwater U3A

Quoting: 'Membership' or 'Diary'

Group Activities/Events

Sort Code: 60-13-37 Account No: 49532057

Account: Blackwater U3A No 2

Quoting: 'Theatre' / 'History' etc.

Payments by cheque should be made payable to 'Blackwater U3A'. Payments can also be made at the Monthly Meetings by Debit/Credit Cards.

Thank you, *Chris Daines*

Support and Befriending Group

If you are in need of some help or support, please telephone one of the following numbers and they will try to put you in touch with someone who can help.

Dennis Eraut	01621 829758
Christine Wright	01621 853171
Roger Wilson	01621 842455

We have a short list of members who have offered to be called upon to provide help if needed but additional names would be much appreciated. If you would be prepared to provide very occasional assistance, please contact any of the above.

History and Science Group

Sixteen of us took part in the 'Maldon Ale Trail' led by our local historian Stephen Nunn.

On our relatively short journey down to the Hythe and back, we identified 24 pubs that have served successive generations of locals from the 16th century to the present day – 600 years or so of serving ale in Maldon. Ale has been produced by various brewers over the years, including some based in the town. There have been brewers here from as early as 1446- some familiar names like Petchie in 1569 and some 'foreigners' such as a group of Dutchmen in the 1550's. Others were based in the pubs – John Wells at the White Hart, Fullbridge (1605); Francis Syritt at the Queens Head (1820's) and, of course Gray's (1865–1852) at the Carpenters. Arms.

On Friday 17th July we will have a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament at 3.40pm. We are limited to a group size of 25. There are still five places available if anyone would like to join us. Contact Geoff Pugh on 07579 028328 or geoffreypugh@btinternet.com.

Co-ordinators: Peter Holmes, Dennis Eraut and Geoff Pugh

Flower Arranging



At our meeting on 26th May we used unusual containers for our arrangements and at our June meeting our arrangements will represent a cake or cakes. We have been invited to take part in St Mary's Flower Festival from 17th-19th July and our arrangements will be depicting the Great Fire of

London.

We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month in the Linton Room at WMCC from 9,30sm to 11.30am.

Co-ordinator: Di Martin 01621 856347

Card and Board Games Group

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month in the Linton Room from 2-4pm.

Co-ordinator: Sheila Rowsell 01621 740820

Art Appreciation Group



Dennis gave a wonderfully informative talk in May about the Bayeux Tapestry. Although always called a tapestry, it is in fact an embroidery on sections of linen cloth.

He explained the images, frame by frame which helped everyone to understand the events as they unfolded along the length (70 metres) of the tapestry.

There are 58 scenes, many with Latin titles.

He identified the fabric and stitches used, including the wool and natural dyes used to create the colours, particularly woad, weft and madder.

The smaller features at the top and bottom were intriguing, some as birds, fantastic creatures and others as very recognisable naked people! There is even a depiction of Halley's Comet thought to be an ill omen. The first half of the Embroidery shows Harold on his trip to Normandy, his capture and then his fighting with William Duke of Normandy against his rebellious barons in Brittany followed by a controversial section showing Harold giving a sacred oath. Was he promising the English crown to William when King Edward died?

The battle scenes at Hastings gave lots of details of weapons, wounds, horses, archers, and many fallen bodies.

Dennis told us how at the end of World War 2 the tapestry was nearly taken to Germany. Then bringing us up to date he told us that the tapestry will be displayed in London at the British Museum from September 2026 onwards.

There is also a copy in Reading Museum made by Victorian embroiderers.

Everyone enjoyed seeing the story revealed, it raised lots of questions and conversation. I'm sure we all went home keen to look up more details. See iPlayer on TV "Mysteries of the Bayeux Tapestry"

Thank you, Dennis. *Liz Walden*

Tuesday June 23rd at 2pm we will be having a special day on Venice, its buildings and its artists We will watch two DVDs by Prof. Kloss the first one a little bit of history then Basilica of St.Marco and on to the Doges Palace and viewing of the art works inside. The second one on the artists of the Venetian school especially Gentile Bellini 1429-1507 and Vittore Carpaccio 1465-1526

If anyone likes Venice, you must come and see these.

Co-ordinator: Dennis Eraut 01621 829758

Table Tennis 2

We meet on Thursday afternoons at West Maldon Community Centre between 2.30pm and 4.30pm. We have four tables for our use and play doubles and singles, depending on numbers. The group is now full; however, I am happy to add names to a waiting list.

Co-ordinator: Kath Little 07762 312838

CHAI (Churches of Historical & Architectural Interest) Group

On 12th June we visited The Srinivasa Perumal Temple in Hatfield Peverel a newly established Hindu temple serving the growing Hindu community across Essex. It occupies a restored former church building on The Street, now transformed into a traditional Vaishnavite place of worship. We were welcomed by Raj Krishna their resident priest.

The temple was formally inaugurated on 16 July 2025, following extensive restoration works on the historic church building. The consecration marked the completion of a long community-led project to create a permanent spiritual home for Hindus in the region.

The temple is dedicated to Lord Srinivasa Perumal, a form of Lord Vishnu revered as the divine protector and giver of prosperity, peace, and spiritual guidance. The building has been restored to include: a Garbhagriha (sanctum sanctorum), Sannidhis (shrines) for multiple deities, sculptures carved by master artisans in India, installed according to traditional Agama principles. It functions not only as a place of worship but also as a community and cultural centre, with outreach to local schools and families.

The temple follows Vaishnavism, a major tradition within Hinduism centred on the worship of Vishnu and his incarnations. It houses several additional shrines, reflecting the inclusive nature of South Indian Hindu worship:

Lord Ganesha (Vijaya Ganapathy) — remover of obstacles, invoked at the start of all undertakings.

Lord Murugan (Subramanya) — symbol of courage, clarity, and victory.

Lord Ayyappa — embodiment of discipline, unity, and spiritual awakening.

Lord Shiva — supreme yogi, representing creation, preservation, and transformation.

We found this a most interesting and fascinating visit and were invited to attend one of their festivals in the future.



Following this visit, we had a lunch at The Owl on the Green at Terling and then went on our way to attend the Parish Church of St Nicolas, Chipping Hill, Witham.



This church is located in the ancient heart of Witham. It is the oldest building in the town and is a Grade 1 listed building. The church is close to the site of an Iron Age Fort dating back to 500 BC.

The church was dedicated to St Nicholas by 1147 but renamed St Nicolas in the 20th century. The present church

was built in the 1330's.

Architecturally, the church is unusual in having been substantially built as an entity rather than in stages over centuries. It originally comprised a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel to the east and a western tower, all in 14th century decorated style. Except for alterations to the upper part of the tower in 1743 and 1877, the external appearance of the church has changed little in over 500 years.

While there are a number of monuments in the church, the most notable is the tomb of Judge John Southcote and his wife Elizabeth in the northwest corner.

More information about the architecture of the church may be found in 'The Buildings of England: Essex', by James Bettley and Nikolaus Pevsner.

Geoff Pugh

continued on next page

CHAI Group Continued

10th July

We will visit St Andrew's Parish Church, Hatfield Peverel. CM3 2LE. A guide has been arranged.

Lunch has been booked at The Coffee Lounge, Hatfield Peverel Village Hall, CM3 2HP. Our planned visit to All Saints Church, Ulting, unfortunately has been cancelled as a wedding will be taking place.

Meet at WMCC at 10.15am for car share. There is ample parking at both the Church and the village hall arranged by *Chris Elliott*

Co-ordinators: Geoff Pugh, Jim Skelly and Di Martin

Rummikub

At our May meeting there were eight members so that made two groups of four. Sylvie won in her group and Sheila won in my group. We all enjoy playing it,

Sylvie and Marg brought the jackets they had made with Marg wearing hers. I said because they didn't come last month they went sewing and made their jackets. They are beautiful, and clever. Well done Sylvie and Marg.

There were nine members at our June meeting making three groups of three. Elaine won in her group and Sue won in her group. I won in my group. I was so lucky this time with the games, and it is luck as to what tiles you get. It makes you use your brain which is good for you.

If you would like to join everyone welcome.

Co-ordinator: Patricia Harding 01621 843099

Play Reading Group

This month's choice was "Joking apart" by Alan Ayckbourn.

Spread over a period of twelve years, we follow the lives of Richard and Anthea who are successful at everything and who gradually take over the lives of business friends and neighbours. In the first part we meet the new vicar and his wife who have just moved in. As a friendly gesture Richard offers to open up his garden by removing the dividing fence to allow them a bigger space, much to the consternation of the vicar's wife, Louise. Anthea, in a bid to help, takes over many of the activities that Louise would normally do in her supportive role. Brian and Hugh, the vicar, are in love with Anthea and Sven, Richard's business partner finds himself pushed out.

There is unrequited love, jealousy and misery in this comedy. We enjoyed reading this play about two people who just cannot stop themselves from taking over other people's lives.

Co-ordinator: Gill Swanson 07975 920460

Reading Group

"The wrong sister" by Claire Douglas was our book of the month.

We follow the story of two sisters, Alice and Tasha, very different in terms of achievements and aspiration. Alice is a successful scientist with a successful husband and money is no object. Tasha is married with twins and living in her hometown.

An offer by Alice to look after her nieces while Tasha and her husband have a break in Venice leads to tragedy. From there we begin to unravel layers of deceit that permeate the lives of the sisters, their mother, Tasha's mother in law, and her sister. Relationships are complicated or fractured and the ending for some, was a bit of a let-down.

We found it an easy read, gripping at times but not one we would choose to read again or recommend as a "must read". Marks ranged from 5 to 8 with an average of 7.

Co-ordinator: Gill Swanson 07975 920460

Gardening Group

Our May visit was to a very well cared for and interesting garden called "Oak Farm" at Wakes Colne. The owner gave us an extremely informative



tour of the garden pointing out many interesting plants one of which took most people's eye was a purple phlomis. Luckily the weather was

kind to us, and we were able to relax and take in the lovely views across the Colne Valley whilst enjoying a good selection of cakes and tea out in the garden.



For June we visited a garden called "Keeway" at Creeksea. There were excellent views over the River Crouch, and rambling walks through a wild meadow which then led up to a more formal area of

mixed herbaceous plants and roses. Terracing led down to more mature trees and shrubs. For some ladies there was the temptation of plant sales. There was also a very well stocked



vegetable garden and greenhouse which was followed by a relaxing stay on the terrace with some very enjoyable refreshments

July 20th "The Mount", Epping Road, Roydon near Harlow, CM19 5HT. Cost £10 includes entrance and refreshments

August 17th Informal get together - to be confirmed

Co-ordinator: Sandy Cowan 07734 795426

Shakespeare Group

We continue with Richard III for June and July.

Most of the group enjoyed watching on big screen TV the Richard III production starring Laurence Olivier as Richard and supported by John Gielgud and Claire Bloom, a film made in 1955. It certainly brought to life the evil plotting of Richard before he became King. As we all oldies say the diction was excellent unlike the mumbling of modern films and the music created moods and was not overwhelming.

Our next meetings are on Fridays June 26th, July 10th and July 24th all at 2pm.

Co-ordinator: Dennis Eraut 01621 829758

Cribbage Group

Lovely to welcome Helen, a new member to our group and who enjoyed playing with us. She also scored the second highest score with 20 points, just pipped by Mary with 21 points. Mary had the most wins of the overall games this month.

We meet every second Wednesday at WMCC at 2.00pm for 2 hours, with a refreshment break halfway. We are almost at full capacity, but numbers vary due to holidays and unavoidable commitments.

If you are interested in joining the group, then please contact me.

Co-ordinator: Terri Hardcastle 07934 349959

Canasta

We meet every third Thursday of the month in the Linton room, from 2-4pm for fun games of Canasta.

New players always welcome.

Co-ordinator: Stephy Eraut 07710 677789

Petanque Group

The Petanque group is extremely popular, consisting of members from Blackwater, South Woodham Ferrers, Limebrook and Maldon. Attendance is averaging over a dozen at a time and total membership is nearly thirty.

The Petanque group is at full capacity so there will now have to be a waiting list. If anyone would like to set up a second group, I would be happy to assist in getting it started.

Play takes place every Tuesday afternoon in the Maldon Promenade Park meeting at 2pm. Please arrive 10 minutes before so we can allocate teams.

Co-ordinator: Phil Hopkins 07902 918574

RAGs (Real Ale Group)

I have sent an updated events sheet on WhatsApp to all RAG group members so please let me know if you have not seen it.

Co-ordinator: Paul Allen 07712 052303

Blackwater u3a Facebook Page

I'd like to share more information and photos about the different groups on our Facebook page. If you have any news or photos, I can include to help promote your group, please let me know.

I would like to hear from anyone who has an event or group they would like to share information on. I can be contacted via the Blackwater u3a Facebook Messenger or by email karengrove64@gmail.com or 07834 763006

Karen Grove

Walking Group

In May we had a lovely walk around the village of Terling with a stop at the new tearoom. Lovely.



June 25th – Boreham Church

July 23rd – Meadowcroft Garden Centre SS11 7QU

August 27th - Wickham Bishops Church, CM8 3LA

We walk on the fourth Thursday of the month, starting at 10am. New walkers would be very welcome and if you are interested, please ring me, or see me at the monthly meeting.

Co-ordinator: John Mayes 01245 222530

Local Theatres Group

Pride & Prejudice* (*sort of) – Chelmsford Theatre
Thursday 17th September 2026 at 2.30pm, Tickets: £42.50



Opening at Chelmsford Theatre ahead of their UK tour, David Pugh presents the Chelmsford Theatre production of *Pride and Prejudice* (*sort of)* By Isobel McArthur after Jane Austen.

After its triumph in the West End, where it won the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Comedy and the Evening Standard Award, *Pride and Prejudice* (sort of)* returns by public demand and is a unique and audacious retelling of Jane Austen's most iconic love story.

Men, money and microphones will be fought over in this irreverent but affectionate adaptation where the stakes couldn't be higher when it comes to romance. This multi-award-winning production features a string of pop classics including *Young Hearts Run Free*, *Will You Love Me Tomorrow* and *You're So Vain*.

It's the 1800s. It's party time. Let the ruthless matchmaking begin.

Payment to be made by 1st July 2026, please.

Bank Transfer Payments: Sort Code: 60-13-37 Account No:
49532057

Account: Blackwater U3A No 2 Quoting: Local Theatre (Pride)

The Great British Bake-Off Musical

Witham Public Hall.

Saturday 31 October 2026 at 2.30pm

Tickets: £20.20 (including booking fee)



Come and see *The Great British Bake-Off Musical* for a warm, witty, and uplifting night out that captures all the charm of the beloved *The Great British Bake Off*. Bursting with catchy songs, delightful humour, and larger-than-life characters, the show whisks you into a world of cakes, competition, and camaraderie. It's a feel-good celebration of friendship, resilience, and the joy of baking—perfect for anyone who loves a sprinkle of nostalgia with their entertainment.

Payment to be made by 1st July 2026, please.

Bank Transfer Payments: Sort Code: 60-13-37 Account No:
49532057

Account: Blackwater U3A No 2
(Bake)

Quoting: Local Theatre

Please note if you wish to have tickets these MUST be paid in advance so we can ensure purchasing these, some events are popular, and tickets need to be purchased well in advance. Thank you.

Any suggestions for shows, please let me know.

Co-ordinator: Janet Watson 07952 925164

Members on Their Own (MOTO) GROUP



In June we had a Bring and Share Afternoon Tea.

Future meetings of the MOTO Group in July

Sat 4th 12.30pm lunch at Oliver's Nurseries, Witham.

Sat 4th 5pm "Last Night of the Proms" – Witham Choral Society United Reform Church, Witham. Tickets £15 on the door.

Sat 11th Maldon Choral concert at 7.30 pm United Reform Church, Maldon. "A Little Summertime Jazz". Tickets £15 from Maldon Books, or on the door.

Sun 19th 4pm to 6pm Maldon Orchestra free concert on the common in Little Totham. Bring your own chair. Refreshments (for a donation) available.

If you are interested in joining this group or finding out more about it, please contact the Co-ordinator.

Co-ordinator: Robyn Slade 01621 928536

Golf Group

The Golf group is a small friendly group which plays at different local golf courses, usually on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. All members have a list of dates and venues.

Our next meeting is on **Friday 10th July at Little Channels golf club, Chelmsford**. Meet at 10.15am in the car park.

Co-ordinator: Peter Holmes 01621 854108
peterholmes4427@gmail.com

Curry Club

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 23rd June. Members of the group will be notified of the venue via the WhatsApp group.

There is a waiting list to join this group. Is anyone interested in setting up Curry Club 2?

Co-ordinator: Gerry Davis 01621 843217.

Table Tennis 1 & Tai Chi

Table Tennis: Monday mornings 9.30am till 12pm all standards accepted.

Tai Chi: Monday afternoons 2pm till 4pm learners and all standards welcome.

Both groups are progressing well with good numbers attending

Co-ordinator: Peter Harden 07754536639

Wine Tasting Group

It is always exciting to try a new wine supplier who can provide a different range of wines from the local supermarkets or wine shops. This is exactly what we had for our May meeting, thanks to Sue who ordered the wines from Wine Warehouse. Never heard of them and neither had we but it proved to be a good choice, especially for the white wines. The company provided tasting notes for the various grape varieties, plus further comment on each wine from a professional wine taster.

We enjoyed Sauvignon Blanc from France, Pinot Grigio from Italy, Chenin Blanc from South Africa (where it is known as Steen) and Chardonnay from Chile. We all found the Chenin Blanc a little too sweet, but the other wines were pleasant, easy drinking and ideally suited for a summer afternoon or evening.

The reds were a Shiraz from South-East Australia, Cabernet Sauvignon from South Africa, Pinot Noir from Chile and a blend of Garnacha/Tempranillo/Syrah from Spain. Considering the grape varieties, we expected more full bodied wines with greater length and complexity. But they were still pleasantly drinkable!

Overall, a very interesting evening with a wonderful selection of nibbles to accompany the wines. Thank you, Sue.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 25th June, at 12.30pm with Frances and Brian.

Co-ordinator: Frances Butcher 01621 853352

Country Dancing

The group is friendly, happy and supportive, but it still has to be organised and fortunately John has agreed to take this on for me.

Co-ordinator: John Rogers 07860 162328 or email
diana.rogers2@btinternet.com

Blackwater u3a Community Garden



The team usually meet on a Friday morning for about an hour and volunteers are always welcome.

The garden was created in 2010 for the benefit of residents and visitors to Maldon as it is on the corner of New Street leading to the White Horse car park entrance.

Over the years, the garden has been awarded several certificates from Maldon in Bloom.



Please contact the Co-Ordinator Dorreen Linton for further information dorren@dorreenlinton.uk or 01621 853428.

Art Group 1 – Mundon

We haven't managed to have a Wednesday morning with the right kind of weather, but sketching sessions at Hyde Hall and Beeleigh Abbey gardens are planned. I will email/phone members once it is not too wet, cold, or hot!!

Just a few photos this month.



Pauline
Hinchcliffe
watercolour



Sandra
Potts
watercolour



Maureen Taylor, watercolour



Val Wilson, both pictures pen and wash

Please contact me if you would like a taster session and all materials provided.

Co-ordinator: Anita Sandison 01621 741351

asandison@gmail.com

Art Group 2 - Heybridge

We very much enjoyed our session with Janet Reid who is an excellent watercolourist. She gave us lots of hints and tips and reminded us of techniques for using this medium, some of them things that were long forgotten or quite a new idea to us. Now to utilise some of these skills into our future artwork!



We meet on the first and third Fridays of each month from 2pm to 4 pm.



If you would like to join us or want to know more contact the



Co-ordinator Carol Greenhaigh on 07585 593028

Committee Members 2026/7

Chris Walker	Chair	01621 840385
Peter Harden	Vice Chair and Cluster Group Representative	07754 536639
Chris Daines	Treasurer	07973 342283
Karen Grove	Secretary and Facebook Representative	karengrove64@gmail.com
Theresa Rogers	Minutes Secretary	01621 332169
Janet Watson	Groups Co-ordinator	07952 925164
Jenny O'Connor	Monthly Meeting Co-ordinator	07903 959450
Liz Walden	Website Manager	07985 202924
Gerry Davis	Membership Secretary	01621 843217

Database Manager

Ron Martin 01621 856347

Newsletter Production:

Editor Di Martin 01621 856347
Publisher Roger Wilson 01621 842455

July Programme

As well as the schedules on the back of this booklet, please check the Events page on the Blackwater u3a website and the Newsletter items for the latest up to date information.

OUR CLUSTER GROUP

Do you know what our cluster group is and what it enables you to do?

Our cluster group consists of seven u3as all in the local area, they are all listed in our newsletter and on our web site.

What this means is that you are able to join any of their groups as long as there is space. Again, you only have to look at their web sites to find out what groups they are running and who to contact. You do not have to join these u3As, but you will be asked to show your membership card or number and have your emergency contact recorded. There are already in the newsletter some long standing joint groups with Maldon u3a which in future will be called cluster groups as there are many others currently running such as table tennis and tai chi to name a few.

Well, what are you waiting for, there are so many different groups available.

Peter Harden

Maldon and District	http:// www.maldonu3a.co.uk/
Limebrook	https://limebrook-maldon.u3asite.uk/
Burnham on Crouch	https://bocu3a.org/
Dengie	https://dengie.u3asite.uk/
Crouch Valley	https://u3asites.org.uk/crouch-valley/home
South Woodham Ferrers	https://swf.u3asite.uk/

And of course, a reminder of our own website:

Blackwater u3a <https://blackwater.u3asite.uk/>

Cluster Groups with Maldon u3a

Singing for Pleasure	Jacky Holmes	01621 854108
Tenpin Bowling	Alan Buck (Wed)	01245 227709
	David Coombes (Thurs)	01621 855358
Croquet	Geoff Macro	07462 333742
Padel Tennis	Ken Hazel	ken_hazell@icloud.com

Co-ordinators

Interest Groups Co-ordinator	Janet Watson	07952 925164
Art Group 1 (Mundon)	Anita Sandison	01621 741351
Art Group 2 (Heybridge)	Carol Greenhalgh	07585 593028
Art Appreciation	Dennis Eraut	01621 829758
Birding	Stephy Eraut	01621 829758
Canasta	Stephy Eraut	01621 829758
Card and Board Games	Sheila Rowsell	01621 740820
CHAI, <i>Churches of Historical and Architectural Interest</i>	Jim Skelly Di Martin	01621 740799 01621 856347
Community Garden	Dorreen Linton	01621 853428
Country Dancing	John Rogers	01621 853841
Cribbage	Terri Hardcastle	07934 349959
Curry Club	Gerry Davis	01621 843217
Facebook	Karen Grove	karengrove64@gmail.com
Family History	Geoff Pugh	01621 843297
Flower Arranging	Di Martin	01621 856347
Gardening	Sandy Cowan	07734 795426
Golf	Peter Holmes	01621 854108
History and Science	Dennis Eraut Geoff Pugh	01621 829758 01621 843297
	Peter Holmes	01621 854108
Local Theatres	Janet Watson	07952 925164
London Theatres	vacant	
Luncheon Club 3	Sid Sutton	07711 258802
MOTO	Robyn Slade	01621 928536
Petanque	Phil Hopkins	07902 918574
Play Reading	Anita Parkes	01621 857730
Reading	Gill Swanson	07975 920460
Real Ale Group	Paul Allen	01621 856303
Rummikub Group	Pat Harding	01621 843099
Shakespeare	Dennis Eraut	01621 829758
Table Tennis 1	Peter Harden Jack Veash	07754 536639 07388 420968
Table Tennis 2	Kath Little	07762 312838
Tai Chi	Peter Harden	07754 536639
Walkers	John Mayes	01245 222530
Wine Tasting	Frances Butcher	01621 853352

Monthly Meeting Speaker's Corner

1st July – “Giggly Pig” by Tracy Mackness, FROM BANGED UP TO BANGERS, a story of how one woman managed to turn her life around to become an award winning sausage producer and Pig Farmer!! Tracy will have sausages and books for sale.

Tracy Mackness, Giggly Pig Co.

5th August – Afternoon Tea

Rotas for Refreshments

JULY Cribbage and Art Group 1 (Mundon)

AUGUST MOTO

SEPTEMBER Canasta and Play Reading

Doors will be open for helpers and co-ordinators setting up at 1.30 pm. Doors are open for other members at 2.00 pm. If you have insufficient members between your groups, please contact me in advance.

Welcome Team:

Jenny and her buddies will be on hand to welcome new members.

Set-up and Clear-up rota

JULY Tai Chi and Walkers

AUGUST Golf and Curry Club

SEPTEMBER Art Appreciation and Table Tennis 2

When setting up the hall please start with the row furthest away from the speaker, leaving sufficient gangways as normal. When clearing up, please do not put the chairs away until requested by a committee member.

Thank you all for your co-operation, *Janet Watson*

July 2026 Programme

RED INDICATES A MORNING MEETING

BLUE INDICATES AN AFTERNOON MEETING

BLACK INDICATES UNSPECIFIED TIMING

Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
		1 Monthly Meeting	2 Table T 2	3 Art 2	4 MOTO	5
6 Table T 1 Tai Chi	7 Pétanque Card and Board Games	8 Art 1 Cribbage Croquet	9 Play Reading Table T 2 Reading	10 Golf Singing CHAI Shakes- peare	11 MOTO	12
13 Table T 1 Tai Chi	14 Pétanque	15 Art 1	16 Rummikub Table T 2 Canasta	17 Art 2 History and Science	18	19 MOTO
20 Table T 1 Tai Chi Gardening	21 Pétanque	22 Art 1 Croquet Real Ale	23 Walking Table Tennis 2	24 Golf Singing Shakes- peare News- letter deadline	25	26
27 Table T 1 Tai Chi	28 Flower arranging Pétanque	29 Art 1	30 Wine Tasting	31		