

Issue:RGE49

HULLBRIDGE U3A GROUP NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026 EDITION

Welcome to the latest newsletter.



SUMMER IS STILL HERE FOR A BIT LONGER!

Date of next Hullbridge U3A Meeting

Tuesday 15th September 2026

Hullbridge Community Centre

Meeting start times **1:00 p.m. sharp** Please note only guide or assistance dogs may be brought to any of our meetings and currently no non-members may attend.

Please also note, it is essential that all members attending have their membership cards with them. Your individual card holds a bar code for use with the new check-in system. For new members, 'Buddies' will be at the door to help you.

OUR Website:

Visit our very own Hullbridge U3A Website, full of information, click on this address:

https://hullbridge.u3asite.uk/

A range of daily puzzles have been added to the website on the last page. There is a jigsaw, Sudoku, Logic, Einstein's puzzle, Guardian Crossword and an Easy crossword for those who enjoy such challenges. Hope you all enjoy.

New, Games:- Freecell, Jigsolitaire and a Trivia quiz has been added.

Go for it and log-in, you will be surprised, lots of great information! ☺

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Our **Facebook** page

(1) Hullbridge u3a | Groups | Facebook We now have 120+ members on this group. Have a look and try this out for yourselves.

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Newsletter

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News from the Chair!

September 2026

Our guest speaker last month gave us an insight into the fantastic work that Medicine Sans Frontier (also known as Doctors without Boarders or MSF) do in a humanitarian emergency. They deliver emergency aid to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics, exclusion from healthcare and natural disasters. We also learnt that they have teams around the world that can act fast, thanks to unrestricted donations that give them valuable flexibility to respond as needs arise.

With that in mind and the flood disaster that occurred in Napal two weeks ago, we have given £200 to their cause. We would also be happy to add any donation you would like to give. We will have a collection bucket at the meeting on 15th September or you can get in contact to add to the fund.

One of our group facilitators, Clodagh Duffy, has approached the committee with a plan to provide members with the opportunity to purchase second hand books at our monthly meeting. Her idea is to ask members to donate any books that they have read and purchase books at a reasonable price. She plans to donate any money to Prostate Cancer UK

Please remember to collect 50p and 0ne pound coins for the raffle and any books you wish to purchase. We have invited Ian Mathews, East of England Council Representative, to our September meeting as September 19th begins U3A week. The theme for this year is EXPANDING HORIZONS. I strongly feel that we certainly do that by offering a variety of activities that sometimes push us out of our comfort zone.

Please take a moment to read about the role of our treasurer, David, who has given you an insight into what goes on behind the scenes. Please feel free to get in contact if you feel you would like to shadow and assist him.

I look forward to seeing you next week, where you will have the opportunity to enter your photo in the Keith Wooderson photography competition. Phil will be on hand to assist you with this.

oOo

TREASURER'S ROLE

Hello, I'm David Selkirk. I took over as Treasurer from Steve Crowley at the last AGM.

My role is to look after the Group's money. I am responsible to the Committee for all things financial. I have to ensure that all transactions are accurately recorded and that all payments out are made against invoices, which must be kept for auditing at the end of the year.

The Third Age Trust, which is the umbrella organisation for all the thousands of U3A groups in the country (there are 280 in Essex alone), provides us with an accounting system called Beacon. Beacon is brilliant! It is a comprehensive system for managing both financial and membership records, and very user-friendly.

As far as finance is concerned, there are two 'ledgers' in Beacon – 'membership' and 'current'. The membership ledger records all new membership fees and renewals. The current ledger is for all other income and expenditure.

Our tireless membership Secretary Patricia Pomfrett enters all details from membership forms into the system. Name, date, method of payment and reference are shown in the membership ledger. More comprehensive details are held in a membership file, including address, phone number and email. This is very useful whenever there is a query.

It is my job to record all activity in the current ledger. There are some payments in, such as raffle income, but mainly expenses. For example, when we have meetings we have to pay for the hire of the hall, for speakers, for raffle prizes and for refreshments.

We also have to make annual payments to the Third Age Trust. There is a capitation fee of £4 per member to cover their general expenses. If anyone belongs to more than one group, only the first group they joined pays the capitation fee. Their annual fee for other groups is £4 lower (£16 instead of £20 in our case). We also pay an annual fee for Beacon, and £4.20 each per year for those who choose to get the Third Age Matters magazine.

We have a business bank account with HSBC. This is an online account which I access via their business banking app. I can make payments via BACS, or cheque if people prefer it. I pay cheques and cash in at the nearest branch in Rayleigh.

The bank charges us 40p per cheque, whilst BACS transfers are free. That is why we ask you to pay membership fees by BACS if possible.

We currently have a very healthy balance in our account of just over £13,000. If Group activities and costs remain much the same, this should be sufficient to ensure that membership fees do not have to be increased for the next 3 years at least.

We receive a bank statement each month. I check this against Beacon records, an exercise called reconciliation. When a bank transaction tallies with one in Beacon, I 'clear' that item in Beacon, and record the Beacon reference against the bank item. Everything normally checks out, but occasionally there are discrepancies. For example, someone may have said they will pay their membership fee via BACS but forgotten to do so. This is when being able to get their contact details from the membership file is particularly useful.

At the end of each month I use Beacon to produce a financial summary of income and expenditure for the year to date for presentation to the next Committee meeting. The annual summary is subject to audit, before making a return to the Charity Commission.

Pam Watson-Jones' trips and visits programme has its own separate bank account, as does the Historic London Group. Both of these are audited and included in the Charity Commission return.

Now, the part where you come in! Hullbridge U3A is very fortunate in having a full Committee with dedicated members undertaking all the necessary roles. It has been a pleasure for me to join the Committee and enjoy the bonhomie and the way everyone works together. However, many have been in their role for a very long time, and some of us are pretty long in the tooth. I am 82. It is time for a younger cohort to come forward and volunteer for some of the roles or shadow as assistants.

In particular, I need an Assistant Treasurer to shadow me and learn how everything works, ready prepared to takeover if I suddenly die or become incapable of carrying on. As Assistant Treasurer you would be a member of the Committee. No accountancy experience is required, just being comfortable with numbers and accurate. I don't have any previous experience.

We also need an Auditor as the previous auditor has recently resigned. This job would involve auditing all 3 sets of annual accounts. Previous auditing or accountancy experience is not necessary but would obviously be useful. The Auditor needs to be independent of the Committee and organisers of the Social and Historic London Groups. As Auditor, you would not be a member of the Committee.

Please think seriously if you could do either of these jobs. Contact me for further information at david.selkirk@googlemail.com

David Selkirk

August 2026

Committee Members 2026/2027

Chairperson:	**Lynda Plant**
Vice Chairperson:	**Carol Askew**
Treasurer:	**David Selkirk**
General Secretary:	**Joan Williams**
Membership Secretary:	**Patricia Pomfrett**
Assistant Membership Secretary:	**Chris Wooderson**
Social Secretary:	**Pam Watson-Jones**
Social A/c Treasurer	**Amy Wright**
Groups Coordinator:	**Pat Orme**
Speaker Secretary:	**Sylvia Bentley**
Beacon:	**John Pomfrett**
Raffles	**Jenny Shultz**
Buddies and Welfare:	**Carol Askew**
Web-Manager:	**Phil Perry**
Newsletter Editor	**Robin Evans**

Note:
The new U3A Beacon emailing system is up & running, emails are being sent to the members via Beacon which will appear as
noreply@u3abeacon.org.uk
If they are not recognised by their mailbox they could end up in Spam/Trash folders.

If you want or need to reply to an email, you cannot reply to the 'Beacon' address as you will see it is a 'noreply' box, but you will see the sender named address in **Blue** underneath the message that you can use.

Personal guests at monthly meetings:

Can you please note that due to seating restrictions in the main hall, we are not able to accommodate your personal guests at our Monthly Meetings.

This Months Speaker:-

NO SPEAKER THIS MONTH

MEET FOR TEA AND CHAT!

For information, future speakers planned will be:

2026

*October 20th – Andy Moore – Colchester Zoo – Animal preservation
*November 17th – Ray Clark – Stay Tuned!
* December 15th – no speaker, but entertainment at –The Xmas lunch 2026

Group Articles & Activities:

Groups Up-Date

Pat Orme Groups Co-Ordinator

Bird Watching Group

The Hullbridge U3A Bird Watching Group

Monthly Report by Roy Simmons





The August meeting was held on the 26th August and was to EWT Hanningfield Reserve.

The weather forecast was grim, but those who ventured out were rewarded with a brilliant day, both weather wise and bird watching.

Due to the drought the water was low but better than expected. Most of the birds were on the far bank, but there were a lot of them, mostly; Cormorants, Coot, Mallard, Great Crested Grebe, Tufted Duck, Scaups, Mute Swans, Greylag and Canada Geese, and Teal. In addition there were some Little Grebes, and Godwits. There were thousands of Cormorants as can be seen in the photograph above. Having had a great day we retired to the Visitor's Centre for refreshments and a chat.

The September meeting will be on the 23rd September at Two Tree Island. Meeting in the Car Park at 10:00 Hrs.

Location: Belton Way (by Leigh-on-sea train station)

Leigh on Sea, Essex, SS9 2GB

Please note that Phil Perry has created a superb new "U3A Hullbridge" Web Site and the Group Monthly Report can be found on their using this link:- https://hullbridge.u3asite.uk/

Digital Photography Group



The Hullbridge U3A

Digital Photography Group

Monthly Report

By Roy Simmons







The September meeting was held on the 1st September.

At the July and August meeting it was agreed that it would be most cost effective for Roy to produce the Images for the Library Exhibition. This month we discussed the mounting of the images and it was agreed that Dave (Garlick) would do the mounting as he has had previous experience for previous exhibitions. It was agreed that the Exhibition would be limited to 20 images.

As requested the members submitted their Exhibition Images for Review.

The members attending the September meeting reviewed the entries and selected those images for the Exhibition. Roy is to format the images to suit the A4 format (7 x 5). Roy has already purchased the necessary materials to produce these images.

We discussed the topic for the October meeting and it was agreed that we have a Photo Shoot at Gunners Park, Southend on Sea.

So the next meeting will be on the 6th October meeting in the Gunners Park Car park at 2 pm.

Location :-

Shoebury Common Road (B1016)

Shoeburyness

Essex

OS Map Reference

TQ9328884139

Have you given Phil your entry for Keith Wooderson Photo of the year 2026 !!!

Please note:- The Group Reports are now on the DPG Web Page that Phil Perry has created on the "U3A Hullbridge" Web Site. This Web Site can be reached using this link:- https://hullbridge.u3asite.uk/

Natural History Group



Natural History Group

Monthly Report by Roy Simmons



The September meeting was be held on the 12th September, when we watched three videos, they were three attempts of re-wilding deserts and forests, followed by a discussion on their results.

The October meeting will be held on the 14th October commencing at 10:00 Hrs. at 59 Keswick Avenue, Hullbridge, SS5 6JP. It is important that I know who is expected, well in advance, so that I can plan ahead, so please let me know whether you will or will not be attending.

Please note the monthly report is now on the new "U3A Hullbridge" Web Site which can be reached using this link:- https://hullbridge.u3asite.uk/

Singing for Fun Group

The Hullbridge U3A Singing for Fun Group

Monthly Report by Roy Simmons



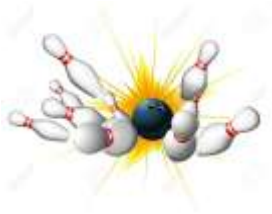
Singing for Fun

Come and join in

Best regards

Roy Simmons (facilitator)

Ten Pin Bowling



Hullbridge U3A Ten-Pin Bowling Group 1 – September 2026

With a number of members still on their "jolly holidays" this month's attendance was a little depleted. However 11 was still a good number to provide some interesting battles. The girls and boys numbers were pretty evenly split so the two lanes required were set-up accordingly.

In the first game, for the girls, nobody got off to a flying start. In fact it looked like each were waiting for the other to make the first move. It wasn't until Sandy, in round 7, started her dash for the winning post that Carol and Iris tried to match her but in words of Dylan Thomas "too late cock" - Sandy was home and dry on 70 with Carol & Iris finishing in second on 67.

Meanwhile the boys were being competitive from the start. Both Graeme & Ken starting with a strike. However undeterred by this Roy, Geoff and Bob continued to play their natural game until Roy, in the final game, moved out of reach of Geoff and Bob (both on 104) with a delicate 117 for first place.

In game two for the girls, again the scores moved along sedately with, only Iris somehow gathered more points than anyone else. Carol and Sue stayed within reach of her but, with a total of 77 Iris finished in first place. Carol (again) and Sue were equal second on 70.

The boys second game saw a number of them break the 100 points barrier. Top spot was always going to be between Graeme and Ken, with Ken just managing to keep his nose in front during most of the game. Although Roy did briefly flicker, his flame went out on the final run-in. The game finished with Ken on 119, Graeme 115 and Roy on 110. A special mention for Alan who, needing just one more point from his last bowl, would surely have taken top spot.

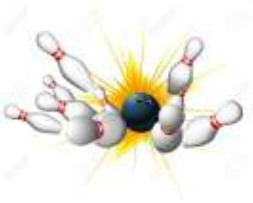




<u>Iris wins the girls whilst Ken wins the boys and overall first place.</u>

Keep Bowling..... .

Ten-Pin



Butterflies Lunch Group





The Butterflies Lunch group met on the 14th August and had lunch at the Riverside Cafe beside the river Crouch. Lovely get together.

The next meeting is on Friday 14th September and returning again to the Travellers Joy, in Rayleigh.

Calligraphy

Calligraphy Report for 4th September 2026

This month, we made arrow bookmarks, pyramid boxes and banners.

A busy morning but we succeeded at all our projects, just had to remember to turn over at the right time!

Great pictures to celebrate our successes!

Jackie Abrehart

















Historic London Group

Hullbridge U3A Historic London Group Explores Kenwood House



On Friday 14 August 2026, 31 members of the Hullbridge U3A Historic London Group journeyed to the crest of Hampstead Heath to explore the magnificent Kenwood House. The estate provided a fascinating day out for our members, offering a rich immersion into 18th-century neoclassical architecture, historic landscape design, and a world-class collection of fine art.

The Foundations: From First Owner to William Murray

The name Kenwood is said to derive **from Caenwood** or **Cane Wood,** possibly a reference dating to the Norman Conquest.

The earliest recorded house on the site was built in 1616 by John Bill, the King's Printer to James 1. His son and grandson owned it until 1690 when it was sold to Brook Bridges for £3400. Following further development and changes of ownership into the 18th century, t**he** historical significance of Kenwood blossomed in 1754 when the estate was purchased by the brilliant Scottish lawyer William Murray.

Murray, who was created the 1st Earl of Mansfield in 1776, served as Lord Chief Justice and became one of the most powerful political and legal figures of the Georgian era. He famously used Kenwood as his rural retreat from the intense pressures of political life in Westminster. It was Murray who commissioned his fellow Scot, the renowned architect Robert Adam, to transform the original 17th-century brick house into the magnificent neoclassical villa we see today.



Our guides highlighted how Adam's signature flourishes culminate in the breath-taking Great Library, a room designed specifically for Murray's extensive legal and literary book collection. It features dramatic columned apses and intricate ceiling paintings by Antonio Zucchi.

The Story of Dido Elizabeth Belle



A particularly captivating aspect of Kenwood's history shared during our visit was the story of Dido Elizabeth Belle. Dido was the daughter of an enslaved African woman and Murray's nephew, Sir John Lindsay. Brought to Kenwood in the 1760s, she was raised by the Lord Chief Justice and his wife as a free gentlewoman alongside her cousin, Lady Elizabeth Murray. This progressive arrangement was highly unusual for the Georgian era, and Dido's presence at Kenwood coincided with Lord Mansfield presiding over landmark legal cases that paved the way for the abolition of slavery in Britain.

The Vision of the 1st Earl of Iveagh



Another central talking point of the day was the history of the man responsible for saving Kenwood for the public over a century later. The property houses the world-renowned Iveagh Bequest, a spectacular collection of Old Master and British paintings left to the nation by Edward Guinness, the 1st Earl of Iveagh. As the ultra-wealthy head of the family brewing empire, Lord Iveagh bought Kenwood in 1925 to serve as a fitting home for his magnificent art collection, preventing the estate from being carved up by developers.

Upon his death in 1927, he generously bequeathed the house, its 112 acres of parkland, and 63 of his finest paintings to the nation. Because he specified that the art must be displayed in a grand, domestic residential setting rather than a stark museum, our members were able to appreciate the works in the intimate, elegant atmosphere that the 1st Earl originally intended.

Priceless Masterpieces of the Bequest



Members thoroughly enjoyed exploring the galleries, standing mere inches from the priceless masterpieces that Lord Iveagh collected. The collection is famously home to London's only Rembrandt *Self-Portrait with Two Circles*, painted in the artist's later years, which drew significant admiration for its haunting depth and mastery of light. Another undeniable highlight was Johannes Vermeer's *The Guitar Player*, one of only 34 surviving works by the Dutch master, celebrated for its exquisite rendering of texture and daylight.

Our group also spent time studying the magnificent array of 18th-century British portraiture. The dining room and galleries boast exceptional, iconic works by Thomas Gainsborough and Sir Joshua Reynolds, including Reynolds' charming portrait of *Lady Louisa Manners*. The collection also features striking landscapes by J.M.W. Turner and works by Frans Hals, ensuring that every room offered a profound artistic discovery.



Historic Landscapes and Shared History

The group reunited for a welcome lunch break at the Brew House Café, to relax in the shade and discuss the morning's discoveries. Afterwards, exploration turned to the estate's glorious parkland. These grounds were sculpted by the legendary landscape architect Humphry Repton, who designed the rolling slopes to frame elegant ornamental ponds, ancient woodlands, and panoramic views across London.

Complementing the fully designed nature of the Kenwood park, two nationally important sculptures have been incorporated, Monolith (Empyrean) by Barbara Hepworth, 1953, and Two Piece Reclining Figure No.5, 1963–4 by Henry Moore.



Thanks to our coach driver who dropped off and met the party near the main house, the day was as comfortable as it was culturally enriching. It was a thoroughly successful and informative outing for the Historic London Group, helping us to appreciate one of the capital's finest architectural and artistic gems.



A big thank you to Carol and Paul Ogden for organising this wonderful outing

Hullbridge u3a Historic London Group visit The Speaker's House.



The Historic London Group arranged two separate tours due to number restrictions for the Speakers House in Westminster Palace. Both were affected by train travel disruption. However we arrived in time for our brief security check before meeting our guide and were amazed at what we saw and heard.



The role of the Speaker has existed since at least 1377 and has a long history of evolving responsibilities and traditions. The Speaker's role today is to chair debates in the House of Commons Chamber, but he also represents the House of Commons. In earlier times the speaker used to reside in Covent Garden and Soho, before moving to Goring House where Buckingham Palace now stands. Henry Addington became the first speaker to live on site at Westminster Palace.

Our tour starts in the 900-year-old Westminster Hall. Speaker's House isn't so old though, as it was one of the new buildings needed after the 1834 fire that destroyed most of the Palace of Westminster (the correct name for the Houses of Parliament). Speaker's House was started in 1844 and finished in 1859. It's a five-storey townhouse near the base of 'Big Ben' and is the only survivor of the four residential building that once existed. The architect was Charles Barry, responsible for the splendour of Highclere Castle or as some will know it - Downton Abbey.



After an introductory talk in Speaker's Court, outside the building, we entered and ascended the Grand Staircase (Photo 1). This looks palatial as it is based on one similar at St James's Palace. There's a huge fireplace on the landing where we turn and the newel posts are topped with a flag-holding gold griffin and royal lion.



After a stop at the top of the staircase and introduction to the portraits of former Speakers, you pass through a corridor to reach the Speaker's Office (Photo 2) (also called the Morning Room). We were advised to look at the Hans Holbein painting of King Henry VIII's advisor, Sir Thomas More briefly Speaker in 1523.



The Crimson room (Photo 3) was our next stop. This is the principal reception room and is often used for entertaining. When admiring the portraits, we learned that Speaker John Trevor in 1685 had a squint so members of parliament were never sure who he was talking to. Because of this, Speakers now have to know the name and constituency of the MP they are addressing

in the House of Commons. We learned that the portraits of speakers wearing red meant they came from the clergy and those wearing black came from the legal profession.



We then entered the State Dining Room (Photo 4), a wonderfully impressive room, that could sit as few as twelve or as many as 34. This was where Charles and Diana had their engagement dinner. The silver service currently in use is from 1835–36.

We were then invited into the State Bedroom (Photo 5) where historically the monarch was invited to sleep the night before their coronation. As Queen Victoria lived nearby at Buckingham Palace there was probably less need for this tradition, plus the fact the room wasn't ready in 1838 for her coronation.



As we neared the end of our tour of the Speakers House we were showed a glass cabinet that housed gifts to the speaker. There was a key that was marked 'Guy Fawkes key' taken from him during his arrest in 1605. Also given by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy during his "Wings for Freedom Speech" a fighter pilots helmet signed by pilots and inscribed WE HAVE FREEDOM, GIVE US WINGS TO PROTECT IT (Photo 6).



The Speaker's House epitomises the status of the Speaker. It always was the grandest residence in the New Palace of Westminster. The current Speaker is The Rt Hon Sir Lindsay Hoyle, Member of Parliament for the constituency of Chorley, Lancashire Sir Lindsay followed John Bercow, Michael Martin and Betty Boothroyd. Betty Boothroyd danced in the Tiller Girls troupe from 1946 to 1952 before a foot injury led her to politics and became the first female Speaker of the House of Commons. Speakers are elected and need to be a Member of Parliament to stand.

Thank you to Carol and Paul Ogden the Historic London Facilitators for arranging this amazing tour and to Richard Favier for leading the first tour.

Hullbridge u3a visit the New Holland Tractor plant in Basildon 03/09/26



On route to reception there were tractors of all shapes and sizes on display. After refreshments one of our two guides explained how this farm equipment repair business in New Holland, USA became a brand leader worldwide.

The story began in 1895 when Abram Zimmerman opened an equipment repair shop in New Holland, Pennsylvania, USA. In

the same year Alexandre Braud introduces stationary Threshers to farmers in Western France. Zimmerman founded the New Holland Machine Company in 1903, producing agricultural equipment to help the farming community around him. Also in the same year Henry Ford starts his automobile company in Detroit, USA.



Ford, whose mass-production methods revolutionise the automobile industry, sees an opportunity to mass-produce tractors. Three years later Belgium engineer Leon Claeys starts to produce threshing machines in a factory in Zedelgem, Belgium.

In 1907 Ford announce the prototype for the world's first mass produced, gasoline powered tractor, called the auto motive plough. 1917 provided farmers with the Fordson Model F. It captures the imagination of farmers with its reliable design, affordability and a dealership network providing sales and support. Fiat's founder, Senator Giovanni Agnelli starts to think about producing agricultural tractors and in August 1917 he presents the Italian Authorities his first prototype. In 1927 Fiat reached the milestone of 2000 units since production began and by 1927 were selling tractors at a rate of more than 1000 per year.

In 1940 New Holland announce the self tying automatic pick up baler. Sperry Rand Corporation acquires New Holland. In 1961 Sperry New Holland launches its self propelled harvester allowing rapid chopping and clamping of grass and maize for winter forage.

On April 2nd, 1960 a 100 acre site in Basildon as Ford moved tractor operations having outgrown Dagenham plant. The new plant opened in 1964 coinciding with the launch of the Ford x6 tractor series. The site had produce 2 million tractors when ownership shifted from Ford to Fiat in 1990. And in 1991 Fiat acquired the Ford- New Holland agricultural division unifying the brand under the new name New Holland. Present day owner is CNH industrial and Basildon produces the T6 and T7 Tractors, featuring alternative fuels like methane powered units. These days' tractors can be autonomous. The Farmer can digitally map his working area and set the tractor to work without a driver using satellite navigation.



Engines are now made in Turin, Italy by FPT Industries (Fiat Power train) with Croix near Lille in France producing the cab shells. Transmissions are made in Antwerp, Belgium. All components are delivered to Basildon for assembly, painting (Except for the cab) and quality control. Giving the whole production an international feel. Please use this link to view more. www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IFvoo1kvfw

Thank you to Pam Watson –Jones for arranging this visit and lunch

Quick Quiz

QUIZ QUESTIONS- September 2026

1) Which British king married Mary of Teck?

2) The Battle of Edgehill was the first battle in which conflict?

3) What was Commonwealth Day called before 1958?

4) In which year was NATO formed?

5) What great structure designed by Joseph Paxton was built in 1851?

6) Who was the British Prime Minister at the outbreak of WWI?

7) The eruption of Mount Vesuvius destroyed the city of Pompeii and which other city?

8) In which year did Hitler become Chancellor of Germany?

9) Which daughter of Zeus was the cause of the Trojan War?

10) Carpet, Coral, and Pilot are types of which animal?

ANSWERS AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER

Website info:

The new Hullbridge u3a website is up and running and provides you with a lot of information. There are events, dates and details. Plus Interest Groups showing who to contact if you would like to join a group and even start a new group.

On some Group pages there are historic reports and photo's of past visits.

There are policies, historic newsletters and enrolment details for your friends. Contact details are securely included to enable members to contact any of the committee members to ask for information, discuss matters, or put forward suggestions to be discussed at a committee meeting, which is held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

We have had more than 1000 views on the site already, so have a look. If the Facilitator of any Interest Group would like to amend the detail on their Group Page please contact the Web Manager Phil Perry.

‘In our Thoughts…..’

This is a special section in our newsletter, dedicated to those that may need our ‘thoughts’ and, or support in difficult times.

Families can let Carol Askew (Buddies and Welfare group member) know in the first place (tel. 07711 944867) if someone is unwell and advise of the situation.

If you feel this is helpful, Please specify if anything special that may need to be taken into consideration (no telephone calls or visits at this time? or cards appreciated or even if visits are appropriate and appreciated ?).
Also,
If a member of family passes away let us know and possibly a short obituary is fine or just a notification is fine too, it is up to you!

Contact: Buddies and Welfare group member, Carol Askew, Tel: 07711 944867

Articles for the newsletter **

For group leaders / facilitators or anyone that may have written articles that you would like to be included in the next **October** newsletter, Please ensure that you send them to the editor **no later than Tuesday 13th October 2026**

Please get your articles in early! – Thank you!

Please send them to the editor Robin Evans at email:

Also remember if you advertise next meeting dates, or dates for feedback in your article, that the publication of the newsletter is the weekend **before the general meetings. The General meetings are normally the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Last Laugh !







- **Why is Tennis like colouring?**
- **You have got to keep between the lines** 😂



- WHAT IS THE TALLEST BUILDING IN THE WORLD?
  - The Library, as it has the most stories!



PLEASE be advised, Last laughs and jokes are **not** intended to offend and supplied by u3a members and similar age group persons, life is too short without a laugh Eh!

QUIZ ANSWERS:

1. George V

2. English Civil War

3. Empire Day

4. 1949

5. The Crystal Palace

6. Herbert Asquith

7. Herculaneum

8. 1933

9. Helen of Troy

10 Answers

11. George V

12. English Civil War

13. Empire Day

14. 1949

15. The Crystal Palace

10. Snakes

(THANKS TO **Pam Simmons** FOR THE QUIZ).

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK ON TUESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2026 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, FOR TEA AND A NICE CHAT!

World Wide Web:

We have our own website on the internet, check it out Hullbridge u3a
Website: https://hullbridge.u3asite.uk/

Loads of information: A range of daily puzzles have been added to the website on the last page. There is a jigsaw, Sudoku, Logic, Einstein's puzzle, Guardian Crossword and an Easy crossword for those who enjoy such challenges. Hope you all enjoy.

End