

# LISBURN U3A NEWSLETTER

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Website: <https://www.lisburnu3a.org>

Charitable Status No NI103276



2025

**U3A MONTHLY MEETINGS** - beginning at 2.00pm on the last Thursday of every month in Laganview Enterprise Centre, 69 Drumbeg Drive, Old Warren.

**The next meeting is on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February.** (sign-in from 1:40 onwards) Remember to arrive early enough to sign in (for insurance reasons) and sign up for activities, pay fees etc. ***before the meeting which begins promptly at 2pm.***

**Remember** to bring your cup, complimentary refreshments are served before the meeting starts.



**THE COMMITTEE WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS & BEST WISHES FOR 2026**

**Welcome To The Following New Members**

Caroline McGarvey and Jacqui McGarvey

***\*\* New group \*\****

***Dance for Fun & Fitness***

**Our new Dance Class is starting!!**

**Classes will be held on Wednesday afternoons at Laganview Enterprise Centre  
Starting Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 2.00pm - 3.30pm**



**There has been so much interest in the class, that we now have a waiting list  
See Group Leader Updates page 3 for details**

## Lisburn U3A Anniversary Lunch - Dunmurry Golf Club

Thursday 29th January 2026 - 12.30 for 1.00pm

Cost £27 (which includes tip) - to be paid in advance



### Starters

Soup of the Day with warm baked breads (gf available)  
Chicken Tempura on dressed leaves & sweet chilli dressing  
Salt & Chilli Tiger Prawns on a dressed leaf salad with chilli jam (gf)

### Mains

Daube of Beef with Yorkshire Pudding & pan roast gravy (gf)  
Roast Stuffed Turkey & Ham with cranberry sauce (gf available)  
Oven baked Fillet of Salmon with a Saffron Cream sauce (gf available)  
Roasted Mediterranean Vegetable Stir-fry (gf. V.)

***Main course served with seasonal vegetables & chef's potatoes***

### Desserts

Mixed Berry Pavlova with Chantilly cream & mixed berry coulis (gf)  
Chocolate Brownie with chocolate sauce & vanilla ice cream  
Bailey's Cheesecake with mixed berry coulis & fresh cream  
Tea, coffee & Dinner Mints to finish

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**Please advise any special dietary requirements.**

**Names, menu choices & payment can be given at the December monthly meeting.**

**IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF MEMBERS COULD PLACE THEIR PAYMENT & MENU CHOICES IN AN ENVELOPE  
CLEARLY MARKED WITH THEIR NAME**

**If you are unable to attend the December meeting places can be booked by either posting name, menu choices and a cheque payable to Lisburn U3A, to: Jane Harris, 27 Charlestown Hall Lane, Lisburn, BT28 0AH - Or by emailing menu choices to [treasurer@lisburnu3a.org](mailto:treasurer@lisburnu3a.org) and making payment online to the U3A bank account - Sort Code: 08.92.99 Account No. 67441767**

*When making a payment on Online Banking you may get an error message "details do not match" - this is due to an I.T. error with Co-op Bank. Providing you have entered the details correctly, it is perfectly safe to override the warning and complete your payment.*

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## GROUP LEADER UPDATES

If the group activity you are interested in, has not written anything for the 'Group Leader Updates' which follow, then you can contact them directly from the 'Activity Group Leaders - Contact Details' on the last page.

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### ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

### GROUP LEADER - JACQUI TOWNSLEY

**Next meeting will be Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.30 pm in Hillsborough Village Centre.**

Our speaker is **Darrell McKinley** and his subject is "World War Medals - from the Crimean War to the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War" and he will cover both identification and valuation of medals. So how much are war medals worth? – come along and find out .... and bring your medals and stories along too!!

*Everyone welcome - non-group members £3.00.*

### BOOK GROUP 1

### GROUP LEADER - HILARY PRESTON

We met, as usual, at a member's home in the afternoon of the first Thursday in December.

We discussed 'Who Did You Tell' by **Lesley Kara**. There were no strong feelings about the book and we all finished reading it. It was not a long or demanding read. The whole group admitted getting a bit mixed up by all the characters and the ending was a bit of a surprise. We felt it was rather similar to her other book 'The Rumour' which we had read earlier in the year. The group decided that we would not be reading another Lesley Kara book in the near future. We are reading 'A Terrible Kindness' by **Jo Browning Rowe** for discussion in February.

### BOOK GROUP 2

### GROUP LEADER - JOAN BRYSON

Our first meeting of 2026 will be on **Tuesday 27th January** at 10.30am. We will be discussing 'Precipice' by well known historical novelist Robert Harris. Herbert Henry Asquith was Prime Minister when WWI broke out, he remained in office until 1916. His relationship with a much younger woman, the aristocratic Venetia Stanley, was the source of much speculation and concern when leaks of confidential information took place. Harris draws heavily on the still existing letters Asquith sent to Stanley although her replies are missing, presumed destroyed. All best wishes for Christmas and 2016.

Joan

### BOWLING

### GROUP LEADERS - FRASER SHANNON - BILL INGLESTON

Play continues at Kilmakee Activity Centre with games at 1.45 pm - 4.00 pm on Tuesdays and at 9.45 am - noon on Thursdays. Players are urged to attend early to facilitate the organisation of mats and teams in time for a punctual start to games. On Thursday morning **18th December**, we will have our Christmas tea/coffee and light fayre; hopefully with Tuesday bowlers joining us. The last day of bowling for this year will be **Tuesday 23rd December**, starting again on **Tuesday 6th January 2026**.

In the meantime, we wish all our bowlers and U3A members a joyful Christmas and a very happy New Year in 2026.

### CROCHET

### GROUP LEADER - JEAN RYAN

Weekly meetings take place on Fridays 10:30 - 12:00 at Happy Days Lisburn. Our last meeting of the year will be on **Friday 19 December**. After the Christmas break meetings will resume on **Friday 9 January 2026**.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and New Year.

## DANCE for FUN & FITNESS

## GROUP LEADER - PATRICIA RICKETTS



Our new Dance Class is starting!! Classes will be held on Wednesday afternoons at Laganview Enterprise Centre. Starting Wednesday **14th January 2026** At **2.00pm - 3.30pm**  
The class is now full, but you can still join the waiting list.

## FILM GROUP

## GROUP LEADER - JUDITH PRENTICE

We are continuing to visit Lisburn Omniplex on a Tuesday evening on a fortnightly basis (depending on suitable films being available) and a good number of members attending. If you are interested in this, please contact the group leader Judith Prentice to be added to her list. She will then advise you of films chosen, with date and time.

## LET'S GO

## GROUP LEADER - GAIL POLLOCK

January's visit will be to Symphonia Spirits, for a tour and tasting of their gins, this will be on **Saturday 24th January** at 1pm. Cost pp will be **£25**, including drivers who will be given a 'carry out'. Numbers are limited, so book early.

<https://symphoniaspirits.com/events-viewer-/woodlab-distillery-home-of-symphonia-spirits-tour/>

## PAINTING FOR PLEASURE

## GROUP LEADER - TOMMY YARR

The painting group will resume on the **13th January 2026**. Wishing everyone a happy Christmas and New Year.

## LU3A SINGERS

## GROUP LEADER - JACQUI TOWNSLEY



Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025 - Christmas Lunch!

Singing continue next year from Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026..

## T'AI CHI – Mixed Ability Classes

## GROUP LEADERS - PAUL BOYCE - KATHLEEN INGLESTON

Happy Christmas, Happy and Peaceful New Year to all in the Tai Chi group. We shall return to our class on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January**. Very best wishes from Kathleen and Paul.

## YOGA

## GROUP LEADERS - BRENDA PALMER - FRED A BELL

Yoga will be taking a break over Christmas and New Year then will resume on **7th January 2026**. Our classes are fully subscribed at the moment but anyone who is interested can have their names placed on our waiting list. Just contact Freda or Brenda

## THEATRE & CONCERT

## GROUP LEADERS - JACQUI TOWNSLEY - KATHLEEN ROBINSON

**A Christmas Carol - Lyric Theatre, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 2.30 pm**

*Booking closed - tickets available at the Show.*

**WALKING GROUPS** - You Have A Choice Of **Five** Walking Groups With **Five** Different Levels Of Difficulty:

**LEVEL 1: STROLLERS**

**GROUP LEADER - MARY HINE**

Carrying on as usual on Mondays but our walks are always subject to weather conditions. Contact Mary if you are interested in further information.

**LEVEL 2: SATURDAY RAMBLERS**

**GROUP LEADER - GIL COLVIN**

Consider joining us on the 3rd Saturday of each month, meeting at the venue at 10.30, to walk approximately 4 miles. For details contact Group Leader.

**LEVEL 3: RAMBLERS**

**GROUP LEADERS - JULIA SIMPSON - DARRELL MAWHINNEY**

**LEVEL 4: RAMBLERS PLUS**

**GROUP LEADERS - KEITH INESON - WILLIAM GRANT**

Rambles continue every Monday with a Ramble Plus on the second Monday of the month. New members always welcome.

**LEVEL 5: SCRAMBLERS**

**GROUP LEADER - STANLEY PRENTICE**

Mountain walks / Scramblers take place every Thursday, predominantly in the Mourne. We join up with our fellow Scramblers from Belfast u3a for these walks. Any questions or for more information, please contact the group convener.

**Last month's Quiz**

The answer to last month's quiz was **Une Chaumière**:

This term specifically refers to a thatched-roof cottage which has a particular charm and style. Despite being a French word, "Chaumières" are also found in England, such as in the village of East Meon, Hampshire.



**The clues** were the Thatched roof, Chaumière comes from *chaume*, which is the French word for thatch.

**and** -: *it is both Rural and feminine* - the French language has gender specific words.

**Congratulations** to **Julie Smyth** who wins the competition, despite having the wrong answer. Julie won because she was the only member who offered any answer.

## LISBURN U3A COMMITTEE MEMBERS

| NAME           | POSITION                         | EMAIL               |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Sharon Graham  | Chairperson                      | Info@lisburnu3a.org |
| Rosita Storey  | Vice Chairperson                 |                     |
| Rosita Storey  | Convener of Group Leaders        |                     |
| Jane Harris    | Treasurer                        |                     |
| Edna Elliott   | Administrative Secretary         |                     |
| Irene Davidson | Membership Secretary             |                     |
| Derek Elliott  | Speakers                         |                     |
| Brenda Palmer  | Catering and sign in Coordinator |                     |
|                |                                  |                     |

## ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

| NAME              | POSITION          | EMAIL               |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Deirdre Maguire   | Webmaster         | Info@lisburnu3a.org |
| Ray Fillmore      | Newsletter Editor |                     |
| Darrell Mawhinney | Photo Supplement  |                     |
|                   |                   |                     |

| VENUE* KEY                                       |                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 = Kilmakee Activity Centre                     | 10 = Lisnagarvey Bowling Club {seasonal outdoor bowls} |
| 2 = Lisburn Racquets Club, Belfast Road, Lisburn | 11 = Tesco, Bentrim Road, Lisburn                      |
| 3 = Hillsborough Village Community Centre        | 12 = Smyth Patterson's Café                            |
| 4 = Volunteer Member's Homes                     | 13 = Bridge Community Centre                           |
| 5 = Laganview Enterprise Centre, Lisburn         | 14 =                                                   |
| 6 = Happy Days {The Journey Church, Lisburn}     | 15 =                                                   |
| 7 = Coach Snooker Club, Hillsborough             | 16 =                                                   |
| 8 = Varied Venues                                | 17 =                                                   |
| 9 = Parish Room Hillsborough Parish Church       | 18 =                                                   |

## LISBURN U3A ACTIVITY GROUP LEADERS

| GROUP                              | Day                               | Time                        | Venue | Group Leader                                | Contact Email       |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Antiques                           | 2nd Wed of month                  | 7:30pm                      | 3     | Jacqui Townsley                             | Info@lisburnu3a.org |
| Archery                            | Every Tuesday                     | 10:00am                     | 1     | John Sell                                   |                     |
| Badminton                          | Every Wednesday                   | 10:30am                     | 2     | Laura Molloy                                |                     |
| Book Group 1                       | 1st Thurs of month                | afternoon                   | 4     | Hilary Preston                              |                     |
| Book Group 2                       | Last Tues of month                | 10:30am                     | 4     | Joan Bryson                                 |                     |
| Bowling Indoor                     | Every Tuesday<br>Every Thursday   | 1:45 - 4pm<br>09:45 - 12:15 | 1     | Fraser Shannon<br>Bill Ingleston            |                     |
| Bowling Outdoor<br>Seasonal Summer | Every Tuesday<br>Every Thursday   | 1:45 - 4pm<br>09:45 - 12:15 | 10    | Fraser Shannon<br>Bill Ingleston            |                     |
| Bridge                             | Every Thursday                    | 7:30pm                      | 13    | Ivy Long<br>Joan Bolam                      |                     |
| Bridge Beginner                    | Every Tuesday                     | 2 - 3:45pm                  | 12    | Fionnuala O'Callaghan<br>Rosita Storey      |                     |
| Crochet                            | Every Friday                      | 10:30am                     | 6     | Jean Ryan                                   |                     |
| Dance Group                        | Every Wednesday                   | 2pm - 3.30pm                | 5     | Patricia Ricketts                           |                     |
| Dining Out                         | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs of month    | 6:45pm                      | 8     | Norma Patterson                             |                     |
| Film Group                         | Most alternate Tues               | Evening                     | 8     | Judith Prentice                             |                     |
| Garden Group                       | Occasional                        | Varied                      | 8     | Paul Boyce<br>Joan Hamilton                 |                     |
| Golf                               | Most Mondays                      | Varied                      | 8     | Margaret Callan                             |                     |
| Let's Go                           | Occasional                        | Varied                      | 8     | Gail Pollock                                |                     |
| LU3A Singers                       | 2nd & 4th Fridays                 | 2:00pm                      | 9     | Jacqui Townsley                             |                     |
| National Trust                     | Varied                            | Varied                      | 8     | Lesley Kirk                                 |                     |
| Painting                           | Every Tuesday                     | 10:30am                     | 3     | Tommy Yarr                                  |                     |
| Photography                        | Occasional                        | Varied                      | 8     | Keith Ineson<br>William Grant<br>Iain James |                     |
| Scrabble                           | 1st & 3rd Thurs of<br>each month  | 2:00pm                      | 2     | Lynda Brownlee<br>Barbara Primrose          |                     |
| Snooker                            | Every Tuesday                     | 7:30pm                      | 7     | Neville Hicks                               |                     |
| T'ai Chi Mixed<br>Ability Classes  | Mondays                           | 11:00 - 12:00               | 5     | Kathleen Ingleston<br>Paul Boyce            |                     |
| Theatre / Concert                  | Occasional                        | Varied                      | 8     | Jacqui Townsley<br>Kathleen Robinson        |                     |
| Yoga                               | Every Wednesday<br>Every Thursday | 4pm - 5pm<br>11am - 12      | 5     | Brenda Palmer<br>Freda Bell                 |                     |
| Strollers                          | Every Monday                      | 10:15am                     | 8     | Mary Hine                                   |                     |
| Saturday Ramblers                  | 3rd Sat of month                  | 10:30am                     | 8     | Gil Colvin                                  |                     |
| Ramblers                           | Every Monday                      | 10:30am                     | 8     | Stanley Prentice                            |                     |
| Ramblers Plus                      | 2nd Mon of month                  | 10:30am                     | 8     | Keith Ineson<br>William Grant               |                     |
| Scramblers                         | Every Thursday                    | 09:30am                     | 8     | Julia Simpson<br>Darrell Mawhinney          |                     |