

Email: info@lisburnu3a.org

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

Charitable Status No NI103276



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 26th 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.



BRING YOUR OWN

Don't forget to bring your own cup, beaker, or mug to the monthly meetings and enjoy a more pleasant sensation than drinking out of a cardboard container!

For contact details of committee members and conveners *please consult the lists on the last page* News/information/articles for the next edition must reach the editor before the 18th of the month

The speaker for the February meeting is Andrea Stanbridge from Health and Wellbeing

Thanks to Book Group 2 who will be at the sign-in desk & will host the refreshments this month.

Membership Fee Renewals

Just to remind everyone that the membership fee, due for renewal on **1st April**, has increased to **£25** from this year, and also that Lisburn u3a have changed their bank account.

Payment can be made in one of three ways:

Bank Transfer: Lisburn u3a **Sort code 08:92:99 Account No. 67441767 Ref: Your name**

By post:

Send a cheque, payable to Lisburn u3a, to Jane Harris, 27 Charlestown Hall Lane, Lisburn, BT28 0AH

Standing Order: Lisburn u3a **Sort code 08:92:99 Account No. 67441767 Ref: Your name**

If you pay by standing order, please check that the bank details and amount have been updated.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

★ Judith Henry ★ John Barker ★ George Bryans ★

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 from the 'Activity Group Leaders - Contact Details' on the last page.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

GROUP LEADER - JACQUI TOWNSLEY



Next meeting will be **Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 7.30 pm** in Hillsborough Village Centre. Our speaker will be one of our own members, Philip Vance, who is coming along to intrigue us with stories about some of the curious objects in his collection! Have you any 'curios' in your collections? If so, please bring them along to the meeting! Many thanks to everyone who braved the dreadful weather to hear Felicity Graham's story last month, another great evening! Everyone welcome - non-group members £3.00.

BOOK GROUP 1

GROUP LEADER - HILARY PRESTON



Book club 1 read 'The Time of the Child' by Niall Williams.

Most members agreed that the start of the book was slow and it was a bit like wading through treacle with its overly lyrical prose. However when we slowed down, or listened to the audio book, we decided that it is a book full of grace, spirituality, and humanity. The story was about people getting through each day in a depressing town in rural Ireland in 1962. We were able to imagine the flawed characters. We found the passages about the baby to be true to life at that time. However we all agreed that we will not be reading another Niall Williams book for a while.

BOWLING

GROUP LEADERS - FRASER SHANNON - BILL INGLESTON



What almost seems like continuous rain, recently, has left many of us grateful to have an indoor activity with good fun and a bit of craic. Hence our trusty bowling members are happily enjoying their Indoor Bowling. Play, continuing at Kilmakee Activity Centre, is well supported with games at **1.45 pm - 4.00 pm on Tuesdays** and at **9.45 am - noon on Thursdays**. As usual, players are urged to **attend early** to facilitate the organisation of mats and teams, in time for a punctual start to games.

DANCE for FUN & FITNESS

GROUP LEADERS - LIZ MURPHY - PATRICIA RICKETTS



Exciting news for the future dancers, our experiment has been enjoyable and our teacher wonderful. **Watch our u3a newsletter for details of new dates and tell your friends!**

LET'S GO

GROUP LEADER - GAIL POLLOCK

Our next outing will be to the Ulster Museum (**date and time to be announced**) to see their **Ashes to Fashion exhibition**. A devastating fire at Malone House, caused by two firebombs planted during the Troubles in 1976, completely destroyed the Ulster Museum's entire costume and textile collection..

[Ashes to Fashion](#) is set to become a cultural moment for the Ulster Museum, and the fashion world, as it reveals a fashion and textiles collection reborn after 50 years of dedicated collecting. It brings together five centuries of historic and contemporary garments and textiles, a collection that has been lovingly rebuilt.

<https://www.ulstermuseum.org/temporary-exhibition/ashes-fashion>

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.

NATIONAL TRUST

GROUP LEADER - LESLEY KIRK

Mountstewart Thursday 12th March at 2.00pm

The East Coast support Group of the National Trust have organised a talk entitled "**Art in the Garden**" presented by Ann Fitzsimmons of the Uncommon Garden Company in Comber who is a regular expert on BBC's Gardeners' Corner. **The cost is £20 to include tea/ coffee and fresh cream scones.**

If you would like to attend please sign the sheet at the **February monthly meeting** along with your payment.

Please note: *non National Trust members would need to pay the normal entry fee to the property as well on arrival.*

PAINTING FOR PLEASURE

GROUP LEADER - TOMMY YARR

The painting group resumed on the **13th January 2026** - New members are always welcome.

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

GROUP LEADERS - KEITH INESON - WILLIAM GRANT - IAIN JAMES

We had a meeting to arrange the outings for this year and to look at photos taken during last year.

The outing dates are as follows:



6 th April 26	Belfast Bus Tour
4 th May 26	Montalto Estate
1 st June 26	Nendrum Abbey
6 th July 26	Greyabbey
3 rd August 26	Belfast Titanic Quarter
7 th September 26	Armagh
5 th October 26	Carlingford
2 nd November 26	Ulster Folk Museum
7 th December 26	Lisburn Light Trail (Evening)

We will have another evening looking at photos in April or May. (Date to be arranged)

LU3A SINGERS

GROUP LEADER - JACQUI TOWNSLEY



Singing Group meetings in March are on **Friday 13th and Friday 27th March 2026 at 2.00 pm** in the **Parish Room, Hillsborough Parish Church.**

The Parish Room is the building on your right as you drive through the church gates - parking is available as you drive up to the Downshire Centre and also outside the Centre.

T'AI CHI – Mixed Ability Classes

GROUP LEADERS - PAUL BOYCE - KATHLEEN INGLESTON



Our Tai Chi / Qigong class each **Monday at 11:00 am** in the Laganview Enterprise Centre has been well supported in January and into February. Our tutor **Michael MacBean** gives us exercises to increase stability and strength.

We now have an additional class with **Michael**, which began on **Wednesday 11th February 11 am** and this is also at the Laganview Enterprise Centre. Those on our waiting list have been catered for and places were also offered to the rest of the u3a membership. Each class has all spaces filled at this time.

Happy exercising everyone! From Group Leaders, Paul and Ros Boyce and Kathleen Ingleston.

YOGA

GROUP LEADERS - BRENDA PALMER - FRED A BELL

Yoga continues with Asha, on **Wednesdays 4 pm - 5 pm** and **Thursdays 11 am - 12 pm**. We have a full complement at the moment but we are happy to put anyone interested in joining on our waiting list.

THEATRE & CONCERT

GROUP LEADERS - JACQUI TOWNSLEY - KATHLEEN ROBINSON

"CINDERELLA" - Lagan Valley Island - Friday 6th March 2026 at 7.30 pm

Booking closed - tickets available at February meeting or at the theatre on the night.

DEATH ON THE NILE - Grand Opera House, Wednesday 29th April at 2.30 pm.

The classic Hercule Poirot mystery! Starring as Poirot is Mark Hadfield (Belfast; Outlander; Wallander) who will be joined on stage by Glynis Barber (Dempsey and Makepeace; EastEnders) and Bob Barrett (Murder on the Orient Express; Holby City).

"This brand-new adaptation of the Agatha Christie classic is not to be missed."

Tickets £42.50 pp. closing date for bookings Monday 9th March 2026

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 - STANLEY PRENTICE

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 LEADERS - JULIA SIMPSON - DARRELL MAWHINNEY

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 competition

What do the following have in common? - **John Calvin; Duke of Cornwall; Lord Auckland; Earl Grey; Martin Luther.**

Clue - This could have happened to you . . . if you were a bad girl.

The answer was in the clue. They were all **female convict ships** that took prisoners from Ireland to Tasmania, between 1840 - 1851

Tasmania was known as Van Diemen's Land from its European discovery in 1642, it operated as a British penal colony under this name from 1803, later becoming a separate colony in 1825 before adopting the name Tasmania in 1856.

Well done to David Mann who was the only person to get the correct answer.

Nice try from Elma Harvey, but they were not Witches or Warlocks.

If you are doing family research but cannot find a long lost female third cousin twice removed she may have been a passenger on one of these ships.

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, Bentrin 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 Every Thursday	1:45 - 4pm 09:45 - 12:15	1	Fraser Shannon Bill Ingleston	
Bowling Outdoor Seasonal Summer	Every Tuesday Every Thursday	1:45 - 4pm 09:45 - 12:15	10	Fraser Shannon Bill Ingleston	
Bridge	Every Thursday	7:30pm	13	Ivy Long Joan Bolam	
Bridge Beginner	Every Tuesday	2 - 3:45pm	12	Fionnuala O'Callaghan Rosita Storey	
Crochet	Every Friday	10:30am	6	Jean Ryan	
Dance Group	Every Wednesday	2pm - 3.30pm	5	Liz Murphy Patricia Ricketts	
Dining Out	2 nd Thurs of month	6:45pm	8	Norma Patterson	
Film Group	Most alternate Tues	Evening	8	Judith Prentice	
Garden Group	Occasional	Varied	8	Paul Boyce 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 William Grant Iain James	
Scrabble	1st & 3rd Thurs of each month	2:00pm	2	Lynda Brownlee Barbara Primrose	
Snooker	Every Tuesday	7:30pm	7	Neville Hicks	
T'ai Chi Mixed Ability Classes	Mondays	11:00 - 12:00	5	Kathleen Ingleston Paul Boyce	
Theatre / Concert	Occasional	Varied	8	Jacqui Townsley Kathleen Robinson	
Yoga	Every Wednesday Every Thursday	4pm - 5pm 11am - 12	5	Brenda Palmer 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 William Grant	
Scramblers	Every Thursday	09:30am	8	Julia Simpson Darrell Mawhinney	