

LISBURN U3A NEWSLETTER

Email: info@lisburnu3a.org

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

Charitable Status No NI103276



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

The next meeting will be on Thursday 24th September. Don't forget to bring your own cup, or mug to the meetings and enjoy a more pleasant sensation than drinking out of a cardboard container!

For contact details of committee members & conveners *please consult the lists on the last page*
News/information/articles for the next edition must reach the editor before the 19th of the month

The guest speaker at the September meeting will be Hilary Flockheart who will talk about her many volunteering adventures all over the world, after retirement

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Irene Davidson

Welcome to our newest members!

★ Anne Clarke ★ Eileen Faulkner ★ Jennifer Knox ★
★ Judith Searle ★ Helen Mercer ★

We are looking for a U3A member to work alongside our webmaster Deirdre Maguire in the running and maintenance of our U3A website. The role would involve helping with occasional website updates, adding and amending content, and general site maintenance. While the role is not demanding, some experience with website platforms would be helpful. If you have some time to spare and would be interested in helping support our organisation, we would be pleased to hear from you. Please contact our Chairperson Sharon Graham at chair@lisburnu3a.org if you can help.

Wanted an Apprentice editor

Recruiting an Apprentice Editor!

Are you a potential journalist that might be grateful for the opportunity to get something into print? Step into an editor's shoes? Work alongside the current editor for a couple of months.

Contact Newsletter Editor at editor@lisburnu3a.org

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

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, 14th October 2026 at 7.30 pm** in Hillsborough Village Centre.

It was good to see everyone back after the summer holidays and details of our next meeting will be circulated as soon as I get confirmation from the guest speaker.

I look forward to seeing you all in October. - Jacqui Townsley

BEGINNERS BRIDGE

GROUP LEADERS - FIONNUALA O'CALLAGHAN - ROSITA STOREY

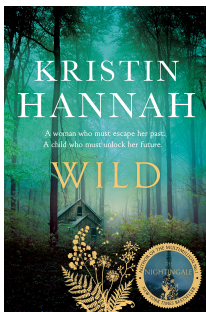
A new Bridge class for beginners will start in the New Year. The classes will continue to be every **Tuesday afternoon 2 - 4 pm** in Smyth Patterson's Cafe, second floor in Lisburn. Further details will be provided later.

Everyone is very welcome! If you would like more information please contact Fionnuala or Rosita.

(Contact information is on the last page of the Newsletter).

BOOK GROUP 1

GROUP LEADER - HILARY PRESTON

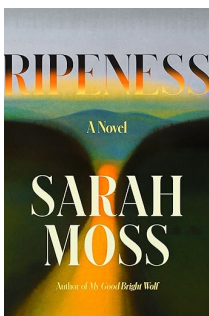


We met in a member's home to discuss '**My Friends**' by **Frederick Blackman**. The narrative alternates between a summer 25 years ago featuring four 14 year old children, dealing with harsh home lives, and Louisa an 18 year old foster care graduate and aspiring artist who became obsessed with a famous painting tied to these children.

The book group found plenty to chat about and we all particularly enjoyed the train journey taken by Louisa and Ted. We were all able to identify with the sense of place. Overall the group decided that the book was an interesting worthwhile read. Next month we will be discussing the book '**Wild**' by **Kirstin Hannah**.

BOOK GROUP 2

GROUP LEADER - JOAN BRYSON



We combined our August meeting with a celebration of founder member David Mann's Big Birthday. David also celebrated with an 80km charity tandem bike ride.

Our October meeting is on **Tuesday 27th at 10.30am** when we will discuss '**Ripeness**' by **Sarah Moss**. What do home and belonging mean in times of disruption and displacement? An elderly woman looks back to when she was growing up. She is half English and half Jewish French, raised in England but long-time resident in Ireland. Sometimes she misses cultural sensitivities and offends with her blunt comments but is acutely sensitive to the changing moods of landscape and sceptical about the permanence of anything. Issues about assimilation and integration arise in her community when asylum seekers and a returned yank arrive.

What positive contributions can the newcomers make?

BOWLING OUTDOOR

GROUP LEADERS - FRASER SHANNON - BILL INGLESTON

The outdoor bowls group finished another successful season at Lisnagarvey on 1st September. The weather was very kind this summer, with only one occasion when rain stopped play. Maurice Hanna surprised us all by running a secret competition for "best bowler" on each of our days. It was a very close-run competition with the following results. **Tuesday: 1st - Ben Jones, 2nd - Irene Davidson, 3rd - Denis Harris** and on **Thursday: 1st - Owen Johnston, 2nd - Irene Davidson, 3rd - Sally Magill**. We rounded off the season with an afternoon tea at Lisnagarvey after our last game and look forward to doing it all again next year.

Bowling Indoor

Indoor Bowling started on 1st September with play at the familiar times of 1.45pm - 4.00 pm on Tuesdays and 9.45 am - noon on Thursdays. The regular indoor season is well established now and having the full complement of bowlers again, has resulted in the usual pleasant, sociable atmosphere.

Many of the players are looking forward to the annual indoor tournament in Westport next month. Lasting almost a week, it allows plenty of time for the all-important socialising.

CROCHET

GROUP LEADER - JEAN RYAN

Weekly meetings take place on Fridays from 10:30-12:00 at Happy Days Lisburn. We start back after the summer break on **Friday 4 September**.

DANCE for FUN & FITNESS

GROUP LEADERS - LIZ MURPHY - PATRICIA RICKETTS

Dancing for Fun commenced on Wednesday 16th September with returning participants and some new faces. We repeated some dances from last term and we learnt a new one, **Dashing White Sergeant** which proved challenging and led to much humour. The class was enjoyed by all.

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



Our October visit will be to the **Coca Cola** works on the Lissue Road Lisburn on **Wednesday 14th October** at **10.30**. This is a **FREE** event. This will be a guided behind-the-scenes tour of the manufacturing facility, explore interactive exhibits, to learn how Coca-Cola products are produced, marketed, and enjoyed across the island of Ireland.

The tour lasts approx 90 minutes.

See - <https://ie.coca-colahellenic.com/en/coca-cola-visitors-experience>

LU3A SINGERS

GROUP LEADER - JACQUI TOWNSLEY

We meet on **alternate Fridays** and our meetings next month are on **Friday 2nd, Friday 16th** and **Friday 30th** October 2026 at **2.00 pm** in the **Rock Rehearsal Room at Lagan Valley Island Arts Centre**, Lisburn.

I look forward to welcoming new members - no limit on numbers - and all levels of ability are very acceptable! Keep singing in the meantime!

NATIONAL TRUST

GROUP LEADER - LESLEY KIRK

Sunday 11th October 2pm - **Apple Sunday at Address House**



Have a go on the apple press, taste some local cider, and enjoy the local craft stalls. Pick some apples from the local orchard (limited availability) and learn about cooking with apples at a Cookery Demonstration. Normal entry fee for non NT members.

Sign the sheet at the monthly meeting or text / email Lesley by **Friday 9th October** if you would like to go.

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

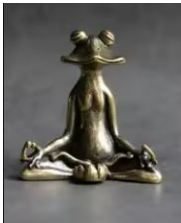
GROUP LEADERS - KEITH INESON - WILLIAM GRANT - IAIN JAMES



We had a good visit to Armagh with an excellent meal at the Mulberry Brassiere. Our next outing will be to **Carlingford** on **Monday 5th October** which should be a good venue to take photos and another good meal afterwards!

T'AI CHI / QIGONG

GROUP LEADERS - ROZ BOYCE - PAUL BOYCE - KATHLEEN INGLESTON



Both the Monday and Wednesday classes are up and running again, the Monday class from the 7th September and the Wednesday class from the 16th September.

We are sorry that 2 members from the Monday class were unable to return this term. We wish them well and we know that we will see them out and about at other u3a activities.

We welcomed two new members from our u3a Waiting List into the Monday class.

Welcome back everyone. Enjoy this new season of lessons.

THEATRE & CONCERT

GROUP LEADERS - JACQUI TOWNSLEY - KATHLEEN ROBINSON

Pride & Prejudice (Sort of) Grand Opera House - Thursday 22nd October 2026 at 2.30 pm

Booking closed.

The Voice – Lyric Theatre - Saturday 7th November 2026 at 3.00 pm

Prime Cut Productions, Ireland's leading independent and award winning Theatre Company, return to the Lyric with their critically acclaimed new version of Jean Cocteau's The Human Voice, by Darren Murphy. "Fabulous" and "riveting" this new version is a radical reimagining of Cocteau's work, "an impeccable piece of theatre".

Tickets £22 pp. Closing date for bookings is Monday 28th September 2026.

YOGA

GROUP LEADERS - BRENDA PALMER - FRED A BELL



Yoga continues on Wednesdays and Thursdays. We are at full capacity at the moment but are happy to add anyone interested in joining us on our waiting list

WALKING GROUPS - You Have a Choice of **Four** Walking Groups with **Four** 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

We meet every Monday for a 10.30 walk start, at various locations.

To have your details added to the Ramblers database, please contact the convenor.

LEVEL 4: 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.

*And finally, another inspirational **Editors Competition***

Where in Northern Ireland would you find all of these -:

A Sensory Garden; a Wild Wood; a Secret swamp and a Pond Zone.

Send your answers to editor@lisburnu3a.org

Technology Help - Computer, iPads and general Technology Courses. <https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/>

This is by far the best 'self learning' website that I have seen.

Look for the Magnifying Glass {standard symbol for "search"} type in what you need help with and read what it says on the screen - Simple!!

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	
Pat Cameron	Catering and sign in Coordinator	
Jim Maye	Committee member	

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 = Parish Room Hillsborough Parish Church
6 = Happy Days {The Journey Church, Lisburn}	15 =
7 = Coach Snooker Club, Hillsborough	16 =
8 = Varied Venues	17 =
9 = Lagan Valley Island Arts Centre	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	7:15pm	13	Ivy Long Joan Bolam	
Bridge Beginner	Every Tuesday	2pm - 4pm	12	Fionnuala O'Callaghan Rosita Storey	
Crochet	Every Friday	10:30am	6	Jean Ryan	
Dance Group	Every Wednesday	2pm - 3.30pm	5	Liz Murphy	
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	Joan Hamilton Pat Cameron	
Golf	Most Mondays	Varied	8	Margaret Callan	
Let's Go	Occasional	Varied	8	Gail Pollock	
LU3A Singers	Alternate Fridays	2pm - 4pm	9	Jacqui Townsley	
National Trust	Varied	Varied	8	Lesley Kirk	
Painting	Every Tuesday	10:30am	3	Tommy Yarr	
Photography	Occasional	Varied	8	Keith Ineson 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 Wednesdays	11:00 - 12:00 11:00 - 12:00	5	Kathleen Ingleston Roz Boyce 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	
Scramblers	Every Thursday	09:30am	8	Julia Simpson Darrell Mawhinney	