



Maghull and Lydiate U3A



Reg. Charity: No. 1116576

Group Updates *Apr/May/June 2025*

There's something quite magical about this time of year; we gain precious daylight, flowers bring back colour to our lives as they push through the soil to greet us and the promise of warm weather makes life feel full of purpose again.

We can enjoy the chance to sit outside in the warming sunshine and relax; we can delve into new and exciting worlds just by reading a book. Our two book groups are doing well and we celebrate the fact that one of our members recently had one of her short stories published for the first time. Well done Pat!!

Years ago, our amazing u3a, had its own Creative Writing group and this might just be the perfect time to try and bring it back to life! I'm sure there are lots of budding authors in our U3A who would love the opportunity to share their work with others. Imagine having the chance to share your short stories, your poems with like-minded people. If the idea appeals, get in touch; we're always happy to help set up a new group. After all, new groups start with a simple idea and often grow to be huge successes just like our u3a.

Jane Jones

ART APPRECIATION

Leader: Maureen Birchall 287 0308 **Asst:** Jan Martin
Interested in the Arts? Then this is the group for you.
We visit galleries and exhibitions and take the occasional trip away.
Something is bound to take your fancy.

ARCHITECTURE FOR FUN

Leader: George Birchall 287 0308 **Asst:** Jeff Martin
Keep an eye on the website for all our outings.

BADMINTON 1

Group One : Roy Silcock 07906 119556
Venue: United Reformed Ch. Hall **Day:** Wednesday 09:30 - 12:00
A great way to keep fit & make new friends. New members welcome.

BADMINTON 2

Group Two: June Avery 526 9118 or 07952385283

Venue: Sports Hall, Deyes High
Day: Fridays 19:00 - 20:00

Our group will be moving to a new venue in April Please contact the leader for further info. If you fancy joining us please contact June.

BEGINNERS/IMPROVERS BRIDGE

Leader: Jane Jones 526 2530
Venue: Kensington House
Mondays : 13:00 - 15:00

We use basic Acol for our beginners but try and stretch our improvers with a few wiggles and stretch raisers!! Our current beginners' group is full.

BOOK CLUB 1

Leader: Sue Quinn 287 5285
Venue: The Coffee Shop Maghull Station 10:00

Date: First Friday of the month
This group is for those members with a love of books and like to share their thoughts with other like-minded people.

BOOK CLUB2

Leader: Kathleen Zimak 0791072430
Venue: Hare & Hounds 10:30
Date: Second Friday of the month
Our second Book Club is going well with members at almost full capacity.

BOWLS

U3A link Brenda McKenzie
0790052522

Venue: Kensington House

Mondays 12:00 - 15:00

Our new season starts in April.

If you fancy trying your hand please contact us before coming along as places are limited by the size of the green.

BOWLS FOR FUN

Leader: Chris Chua-Short
07780765235

Venue: Oakhill Park Greens,
Liverpool Road

Tuesdays: 13:00 - 16:00

Fancy trying your hand at Crown Green Bowling? This such a good way to make new friends and learn new skills

Contact Chris before you turn up as the group is already proving to be very popular.

CARD MAKING GROUP

Leader: Joan Martin 01704 537646

Asst: Pat Harris

Venue: St George's URC

Monday 13:30 - 15:30

Need a special card but can't find it? We can put you on the road to making your own.

Our established members can turn their hand to anything and are really good at sharing their skills with beginners.

CRIBBAGE GROUP

Leader: Neil Hawkes 07369 212 101

Venue: Kensington House, Station Road

Thursdays: 10:00 - 12:00

If Bridge seems too much like hard work I guarantee Cribbage will be nothing but fun. New members are always welcome.

Contact Neil if you fancy trying your hand at this very easy, fun game.

CYCLING GROUPS

DAY RIDERS

Leader: Alan Carr 01704840762

Time and venues vary. New members welcome, a typical ride is between 20 - 30 miles.

EASY RIDERS

Leader: Brian Dickinson 520 1857

Mondays: 10:00

Starting points vary Rides are usually some 15 - 25miles.

This is a gentle way to improve your fitness

CREATIVE CRAFTS

Leader: Maureen Collier 526 0837

Venue: United Reformed Church

Mondays 13:30

Textiles has a new name but the standard of work is still amazing. Be it quilting, embroidery, collage or patchwork this group can turn their hand to anything. Come along and try out this friendly group.

DAY TRIPS

Leader: Marj Atlay 526 4665

Asst: Vacancy

One of our most popular groups day trips fly off the table in minutes when a new trip is announced. We have visited film studios, country houses, courtrooms and prisons, well dressing displays scarecrow festivals ancient monuments and Royal Palaces. Keep an eye on the website for more details.

DIGITAL CAMERA GROUP

Leaders: Peter Martin 01704 537646

Terry Horrobin 526 1249

Venue: St Andrews Church Room.

Mondays:14:00 - 16:00 fortnightly

We aim to encourage and inspire the taking of better photographs & to provide a better understanding of Digital Camera 'settings' and techniques. Photographs can be submitted (on 'memory stick') on a variety of subjects and a general critique is offered.

Check us out online each month

DIGITAL HELP DESK

Rhoda Myers 531 0921

Colin 526 0752 Phil 526 6805

Doug 07729077278

Venue: Maghull Baptist Church
Tuesdays

Help Desk: Tuesday a.m. 'drop in'.

Bring your laptop or tablet in and we will see if we can help.

We tackle a wide range of issues and really relish a challenge.

We're ready willing and able to help if we can.

FAMILY HISTORY

Leaders: David Russell 526 6527

Rosney Leith 526 3623

Venue: Lydiate Village Centre

Lambshear Lane Lydiate 14:00 -

16:00 First Thursday of the month

If you want a better understanding of your family's past, their lives and times, see our programme on the U3A site.

The members are always keen to help any one starting their own family tree.

FRENCH GROUPS

Leader: David Ward 526 5071

Monday 14:00 - 16:00

Venue: Lydiate Village Centre
Lambshear Lane

This class has now amalgamated with the Wednesday class. It is designed for those with a good knowledge of the language.

Here's your chance to learn how.

GARDEN VISITS

Leaders: Ann Raw 526 6086

Barbara Short 526 1119

Asst. Doreen Bird

From the keen gardener to the hesitant amateur this is a great group to join. Visits are organised monthly (save for winter months) and cover well known gardens close by, visits to RHS gardens and the odd garden centre for a welcome cuppa.

GERMAN

Leader: Peter Duffy 526 2933

Venue: Kensington House

Thurs 10:00 - 12:00

Brush up on your German by joining this friendly group. We welcome anybody with a basic knowledge or who might have had German skills in the past. Contact Peter if you need more information before joining.

GLASS WORKSHOP

Leader: John Jackson 526 2900

Asst: Bob Jones 931 4638

Venue: Lydiate Village Centre

If you have a creative bent then this could be right up your street.

Working with glass of many hues and textures you can create your own masterpiece perfect for hanging in a window so the sun brings out its beauty. There will be expert tuition available and help with all the tools of the trade.

HISTORY FOR FUN

Leader: Eric Purvis 07840 491258

Venue & Time: Kensington House
14:30 – 16:00 second Thursday each month

We have speakers on many topics so variety is the name of our game. We've all learnt a lot just this year and have certainly seen a new slant on history. Come along you won't be disappointed.

HOLIDAY GROUP

Leader: Jane Jones 526 2530

Asst.: Chris Fletcher

We offer holidays to a wide range of destinations at very reasonable prices. Here or abroad, our holidays come with a guarantee of fun?

Our 2025 holidays are already planned and we've turned our attention to 2026!! Time flies remember. Details will be on line shortly.

LINE DANCING

Leader: Hilary Loughlin 928 8936

Venue: Maghull Parish Hall,

Day/Time: Weds 10:00 - 12:00

This group is a great way to become fitter and to make new friends. Come and try us out - you'll have fun dancing to great music!

NORDIC WALKING 1

Leaders: Brenda & John McKenzie
0790052522, Dave and Ann

Venue: Lydiate Village Hall
Southport Rd.

Tuesdays 10:30

A great way to improve your all over fitness.

Two walks available, three and five miles. Active Sefton Training must have been completed before joining a walk. Great company and great walks await!

NORDIC WALKING 2

Leaders: Margaret Kendall 526 3164
Dave Cadwallader 07790 081778
Diane Johnson 077252637609

Venue: Maghull Leisure Centre
10:00 each Monday but not Bank
Holidays

This is an hour long walk. Training through Active Sefton is required before walking so that the full benefit of the Nordic Poles can be felt.

PAINTING FOR PLEASURE

Leaders: Margaret Walton 526 0852
Angela Wilson

Venue: St George's URC

Day& Time: Thursdays at 10:00

Cost: £2.00 per session

This great group provides opportunities for beginners & established artists to try their hand at new ideas & explore new ones. Whilst no formal lessons are given we share all we know & learn & help each other. This is friendly group ready to take on new members, give the leaders a call.

PHILOSOPHY

Leader: Tony Snape 526 3146

Venue: Kensington House Third
Wed. of the month 14:30 - 16:30

We are a friendly group who enjoy a good discussion and keeping our brain active.

Come along and see what we're about, our lively talks & discussions will whet your appetite for more!

PLAY READING /DRAMA

Leader: Elsie Bickerstaff 526 6511

Venue: 613 Green Lane, Maghull
2nd Tuesday of the month 14:00

This could be the way to start up your acting career!

If you enjoy the written word and like reading out loud then play reading could be perfect for you. We are a friendly group with room for a few new members.

SINGING FOR FUN

Leaders: Brian and Lyn Casson
07522 589 465 or 281 6831

Venue: Lydiate Village Centre
Lamshear Lane

Date & Time: Mon 10:00 - 12:00

This is a group specifically for groaners and squealers and we have found ourselves to be very popular indeed. That being the case we now have a waiting list in force; don't let that put you off putting your name down though.

SPANISH CONVERSATION

Leader : Ron Higham 526 3562

Venue: Lydiate Village Centre
Lamshear Lane

Friday 10:00 - 12:00

Take your Spanish to the next level with this group. Our Spanish groups have now been amalgamated and now meet at this new time.

We're making great progress with this beautiful language so come along and join us.

STRAMBLERS GROUP

Co-ordinator - Anne Blundell
07799006845

Stramblers 1 and 2 have now combined. The same enjoyable walks, the same good company but reduced numbers on the walks mean that one group will suffice. Always check availability on each walk by contacting the Leader.

SUPPER CLUB

Leaders: Sue Quinn 287 5285
Barbara Wilson 07932 990428

Doreen Bird
Meeting once a month our new group is proving to be very popular. Keep an eye on our website to find dates for their next gourmet meal. This new group has proved to be quite the success providing an opportunity to try out different cuisines.

TABLE GAMES

Leader: Phil Davidson 526 6805
Asst: Cath Pearson 526 1872

Venue: Kensington House
Mondays 10:00 - 12:00

This is a great way to kick start the week. New members are always welcome - we're a friendly group and we're looking forward to meeting you.

TABLE TENNIS

Leaders: Carolyn Comaish 526 4478
George Dobie 285 0119

Tuesdays 14:00 & Fridays 14:00

Venue: Maghull Baptist Church
Take advantage of our brilliant table tennis tables and the great company this group offers. Refreshing your skills or start from scratch this group is perfect.

TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE

Leader: Phil Davidson 526 6805

Asst: Colin Bennett 526 0752

Venue: Kensington House 14:30
Second and Fourth Wednesday of the month.

New ideas are always welcome.

THEATRE GROUP

Leaders: Pat Kelly 476 1726,

Sue Quinn 287 5285

& Ann Unsworth 480 7398

Join our organised visits to all the local theatres. Comedy, drama, musicals, ballet and opera the ladies on the theatre table have given us a chance to try it all. All new productions are listed on our website and at the Theatre table.

WALKING GROUPS

FRIDAY STROLLERS

Leader: Brenda McKenzie

07900525222

Day & Time: Fridays 10:00 Meet at Maghull Old Station.

It is very much a social walking group, so the group will take part in short, slow, local walks followed by refreshments if you so wish. Please book before attending.

RAMBLERS

Co-ordinator: Margaret Kendall
526 3164

Asst: Alan Carr 01704 840 762

Date: First Thursday in the month.

This group offers moderately challenging walks usually some 9 - 11 miles in length and often gaining a significant height. Members use own transport to get to the starting points.

Appropriate gear must be worn as we walk in a variety of weather.

Details are posted on the website

RAMBLERS continued before the walk. Contact the co-ordinator for more details.

SUNDAY STROLLERS

Leaders: Brenda & John McKenzie
07900525222

Brian & Brenda Dickinson 07938
695 346

Day & Time: TBD

Gentle walks at a leisurely pace, a perfect way to enjoy your Sundays. Our varied walks will give you an opportunity to see our countryside at its best. This group has proved to be perfect for our less able walkers.

WALKING NETBALL GROUP

Leader: Gail Aindow 07803598477

Venue: Deyes High Deyes Lane

Walking Netball provides a fun, safe environment and encourages adults to have a more gradual introduction to physical activity by regaining necessary motor skills, helping balance, coordination and better footwork for any age or fitness. Please contact Gail for more information about the starting date for the new venue.

WINE TASTING

Leader: George Birchall 287 0308

Venue: Wine Time at Scatchards

Our visits vary so you'll need to contact George for details of the next Wine visit.

Also keep an eye out for our Wine Breaks; our most recent break was to the vineyards of North Wales; who knows where the next one will take us.

PLEASE NOTE: All U3A activities are taken at your own risk; you are responsible for your own safety.