

Hoylake, West Kirby & District U3A



www.u3asites.org.uk/hoylake

SPRING 2026

Reg.Charity no. 1164889



A message from our chairman,

Hello and a very warm welcome to our new members. It was a pleasure to meet and chat with many of you at recent meetings.

Our u3a at heart, is a self-help group which relies on members to volunteer and offer to share their diverse range of talents, to enhance our happiness, knowledge and wellbeing. The delay in starting some new groups is because we need a group member to act as a contact person, this role is normally shared by another group member and is not time bound, it can be flexible and variable to meet member's needs - if you are enrolled on such a group, please consider if you could help - The first step is always the hardest.

Jules our Speaker Secretary has prepared a diverse range of speakers for the monthly meetings where we are afforded the opportunity to be enlightened on topics covering the Beatles in the 1960s to Cyber Security in our present day - The speaker on 3rd June should be very interesting!

I hope you continue to enjoy your membership and you find your experiences being a u3a member both rewarding and enjoyable.

Finally, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude for the sterling work done by committee members, group leaders and our special band of volunteers for their commitment and dedication in ensuring we continue to learn, enjoy and laugh.

Your chairman and friend,

Terry McKeown

New Members Update

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to the following people who joined us recently. They are: Olive Dunlop, Ann Finn, Linda Fisher, Linda Hughes, Donald & Yvonne Inglis, Paul Lamb, David & Gill Lawson, Christine & James Lodder, Jim Marshall, Sylvia McDonald, Ailsa & Bill Norman, Maureen Oldham, Ann Parsons, Kate Rice, Ernie Robin, Hilary Robinson, Gregory Sang, Helena Trzebiatowski-Pumford, Brian Wagstaff, Peter Walker.



Our Speakers



Dear members,
I hope you managed to collect a 2026 Speaker Card at a recent monthly meeting. They are freely available at the check-in desk and give useful reminders of the dates and subjects of our monthly talks. For those of you who prefer a 'virtual' copy, Mike Waring, our data manager (email datamanager@hwkdu3a.org) can send you one through Beacon.

On Wednesday 4th March, we will welcome back the very popular Ed Montana Williams.

Ed is an Art Historian. He formerly worked at the Tate Gallery in Liverpool and is a regular contributor to publications in art history and art critique. His work involves leading groups through exhibitions and giving public lectures. He previously taught undergraduate and postgraduate students at a number of universities. Ed's talks are not just for those with an interest in Art, and also for those without prior knowledge, just a curiosity to learn more.

His presentation this month is entitled '**The Women Art Forgot**' and will give an insight into how the role of women artists in the story of Western Art is still overlooked, neglected or simply forgotten.

Your Speaker Secretary,
Jules



Your 2026 U3A membership

Many thanks to all who have renewed their membership on time and within the grace period that ends on February 28th. Of the members who have paid so far 353 paid by card, and of these 281 used the online method. Thank you, this saves your committee a significant amount of work when you renew this way.

We are no longer taking renewal payments at Speaker Meetings but if you do wish to remain a member you can still pay online or by cheque. For information on how to pay please contact me on **telephone number 07977 145395 or email treasurer@hwkdu3a.org**

We hope that you do wish to continue to be a member but please let us know if you don't and we will remove your details from our system.

Elizabeth Webster,
Treasurer



Social Outings



Monday 16th March - Boundary Mill, Colne- There are still a few seats available for this popular shopping trip. £23 Coach price.

Thursday 23rd April - Cromford Mills, Matlock, Derbyshire.

Cromford Mills was the site of the world's first successful water-powered cotton spinning mill, meticulously restored by the Arkwright Society. Mill and village tours. Shops, restaurant and exhibition gallery on-site.

Monday 18th May – A visit to Shrewsbury This medieval market town is known for its cobbled streets and Tudor Centre, but also has a growing reputation for independent shops and culinary excellence. Visit the Abbey, the Prison, the town Centre Museum and Art gallery or the lovely Dingle garden.



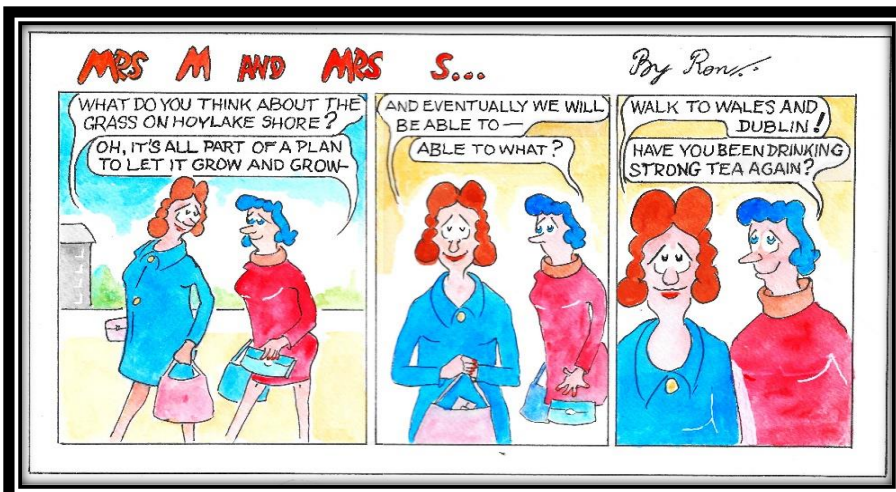
Visit the social table for further details of all these trips or **you can email :**

social@hwkdu3a.org.uk or contact Carol on 0151 364 4554 or Wendy on 0151 632 5112.

Christmas Lunch 2025

Our Christmas lunch at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club was again a great success. Eighty of us enjoyed wonderful food and immaculate service in a beautiful room with an awesome view. There is a lot of work involved in arranging a special lunch for so many people. Our sincere thanks go to Carol Bradstreet and Wendy McKeown for organising such a lovely Christmas treat.

' The Chase' - If you enjoy watching this programme on ITV1 at 5pm ... don't miss it on Friday on Friday 6th March when Victoria Doran, former chairman, speaker and long term newsletter contributor from Morocco during lock down appears as a contestant. Should be good!



Another wonderful topical cartoon from our own Ron Burke.



New Interest Groups

We are pleased to tell you that 5 new interest groups have been formed.

Two are Local & Social History. Both groups will be meeting on the 1st Thursday of the month. Group 1 is already full, but Group 2 have a few spaces available. A new Bus Pass group will be starting in March/April and is presently full.

If you want to join a specific interest group, you should register your interest at the speaker meetings, then you must be prepared to be patient until there are enough members interested to hold a start-up meeting, and then to attend that meeting. That way you can be assured of a place in a newly formed group and have some input on where and when the group will meet. Do remember that every member must be prepared to play a part in the organization and running of the group.

However, the new Theatre group has a few spaces available, and Catherine is hoping to hold a March meeting in the Hoylake Community Centre to start up a new Boules group which will start in April in Ashton Park.

Further information about any of these groups and others will be available from the Groups desk at the speaker meetings or you can email groups@hwkdu3a.org

Helen Crelley & Catherine Ditchfield. (Groups team co-ordinators)



Midweek Walkers (Easy 4) short walk - Wednesday 18 February 2026

An intrepid, hardy group of 13 members of the Easy 4 short walking group, enjoyed a 3.5 mile walk on Wednesday 18 February 2026. The walk started from the Hoylake Promenade, skirting around the rear of the Royal Liverpool Golf course and then

continued onto West Kirby via the old municipal golf course. A short walk along Greenbank Road and then back alongside the Gilroy Nature Reserve and Hoylake animal sanctuary back to Hoylake high street. We all enjoyed a very welcome lunch at Arthur's Wine Bar after our walk (would highly recommend to other U3A groups when booking lunch for groups).



Gillian Creek

We are sad to inform you that Gillian Creek recently passed away. Gillian had been a U3A member since 2020 and was a member of Mike Waring's Science Group. She will be very much missed by her many friends. We send our deepest condolences to her family and friends