

# WALLASEY <sup>u3a</sup> STAYING IN TOUCH

## A Christmas message from our Chairman

In these times of political uncertainty, climate change and with the NHS under extreme pressure I believe that we can all take comfort from family and friends and we should focus on the goodness in people around us.

I like to think that everyone in Wallasey U3A joined for companionship, friendship and the desire to Live, Laugh and Learn with other people and I hope we have achieved that in 2025.

I sincerely hope that everyone has a very Merry Christmas and we all have a happy, positive and safe 2026. **Brian Redhead Chairman**

**At our Christmas Party on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December** we had 79 people attend, it was



a great success. We were entertained by a table magician Ian Edgar, who amazed us with his genuinely magical tricks as he went round from table to table. There were quizzes, stand



up bingos and a large raffle.

**Our Speaker next month** will be Barry Humphreys with a talk entitled "The Return of Looking Back" Will you be able to guess the year from the clues he gives???? **Liz**

**Marina is now collecting ring pulls** off beer/drinks cans and tinned food for a charity working on the Philippines. Jewellery and handbags are made with them by the poor people living at the Rubbish dumps.

**We have a new Wallasey U3A Facebook group** to replace the old one which has now closed. We have opened it to the public this time to make it more inclusive for our community so that anyone can join, at the discretion of the admin team. If you join you can post comments and photos, join in the chat and see information about us before it appears in the newsletter. To join us just search Facebook Wallasey U3A or click this link <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1YEX4iW9tT/>

**What other U3As in our area are doing**

**Wirral U3A: Meetings:** [Wirral](#)

They meet every other Monday in Upton Victory Hall Tennis and Bowls Club which is off Rake Lane, Upton Village. [Wirralu3a.org.uk](http://Wirralu3a.org.uk)

**19th January :** A Pacific Voyage, Ian Bellard. Ian is a member of the Wirral History and Heritage Association. Inspired by his great-grandfather's adventures, Ian spent three months on a tall-ship voyage aboard the brigantine Søren Larsen crossing the Pacific Ocean. In his presentation Ian describes the voyage from Panama to Tahiti, calling at Galapagos, Easter Island, Pitcairn and the Marquesas

**Neston U3A:** Visit their website to learn more about them. [Welcome – NestonU3A.org.uk](#)

**Heswall U3A:** [Events | Heswallu3a.org.uk](#)

**Short Courses:** These are usually a one-off session on a variety of topics for circa 30 pre-booked members. See their Newsletter on their website for booking details. They run various trips for members including Short trips, Theatre visits and longer Coach trips.

### Our Group Activities:



**Art group:** Join us every Friday, 12-2. Community Cafe, Mill lane- opens again Friday January 9<sup>th</sup>. You don't have to be an artist, just enjoy painting or drawing. Come and join our friendly group- bring your own stuff- painting, drawing, colouring in -all welcome. No charge but please buy a coffee/tea/soup/cake from the cafe. Contact **Mary Hartley**

**Board and Card Group:** Board and Card Games will start again on Monday 5th January. Monday afternoons- 2-4 pm. We shall be alternating with Scrabble. Olawa Bakery in Liscard. We shall be including card games such as Cribbage, Canasta, Whist & Rummy as well as Boardgames. Hope to see you there. Please contact **Praveen**. Please do not phone her.

**Book Club:** The following books have been chosen by members to be read/discussed in the New Year at our meetings.

- 7/1/26 Villette - Charlotte Bronte
- 4/2 Project Hail Mary - Andy Weir
- 4/3 Boiling a frog - Christopher Brookmyre
- 1/4 The Wager - David Grann
- 6/5 Remarkably bright creatures - Shelby Van Pelt
- 3/6 On Chapel Sands - Laura Cumming

1st Wednesday of the month, 2-4pm, Telegraph pub, MT Pleasant Road, New Brighton. Contact **Jo Loughlin** as she has to inform the management regarding numbers.

**Bridge Group:** The bridge group is thriving. We meet every week for 50 weeks of the year. We had 4 new members join in September, which means we are full. We are restricted by the Cricket Club, to the number of people allowed in the room we hire. If anyone is interested in playing bridge, please contact Stewart or Sue Everitt and we will put you on a waiting list.

**Bus Buddies:** We are thinking of visiting Hardman House and Woolton Village among other places in the new year. If you would like to join in any of our brilliant bus outings then please contact me, Cathy Morgan with your mobile phone number and I will add you to our Whatsapp list. More photos on our website [Bus Buddies - Wallasey](#)

**Cinema Group:** "THE CHORAL". We all enjoyed our latest visit to The Light to see, "The Choral", written by Alan Bennett and starring Ralph Fiennes. The film depicts the plight of a choral society's endeavour to recruit teenagers to join, as the male members of the choir have enlisted for world War 1. Set in 1916 and filmed in the Yorkshire town of Soltaire ( called Ramsden in the film), a strong cast lead us through the complexities of the times with humour and pathos. The music is wonderful and the two soloists breathtaking but the theme of war and its futility is present throughout the film. Overall, 'The Choral' is highly recommend with its strong musical element and feel good factor.

If you would like to join our Cinema Group, text or email **Angie**



**Craft Group:** Next craft group meeting is Thursday 14th January. All welcome. We have some places if anyone would like to join. **Contact Jan.**

**Crown Green Bowls:** This group has finished now until next April 2026. **Contact Brian (Monday) or Jen (Tuesday)** for further information.

**Discussion Group:** Discussion Group, 2pm in the Telegraph, on Tuesday 13th January. Nature versus nurture. Is our inability to stick to our New Year Resolutions ( okay, let's be honest, my inability!) to do with our upbringings or our genetics? Come and have your say. The Discussion Group continues to meet at 2pm in The Telegraph on the second Tuesday of the month. **Jenny Campbell.**

**Guitar Group:** We now need a new group leader and group members to restart our Guitar Group. Please contact **Marina.**

**Indoor Bowls:** Indoor Bowls has finished for the year recommencing on the 8th January. Every Thursday afternoon 1.30p.m. to 4.00p.m, at the United Reform church hall, Wallasey Village. The cost is £3, which includes refreshments. Please contact **Brian**, if interested in joining us.

**Lunch Group:** The lunch group plus extra members had a wonderful Christmas dinner at the New Brighton Hotel this month. We are having a low key lunch on Friday January 9th at the Lighthouse at 12:30.

**Scrabble:** The Scrabble groups next meet is Monday 12th of January at 2 pm at Olowa Bakery and then on the 26th of January. Further details, contact Eddie Shiff at Olowa Bakery in Liscard Village from 2pm to 4pm. New Members welcome, email **Eddie Shiff**

**Social Committee:** social thoughts...Calling all those who rejoice in having time to enjoy discovering or revisiting interesting places.

Your social committee would be willing to organise such a visit, please contact us at a meeting or by email. **Angela H.H.**

[Social Committee \(Outings\) - Wallasey \(u3asite.uk\)](http://u3asite.uk)

**Strollers:** If you would like to join us then Email **graham**

**Table Tennis:** Table tennis continues at the Belvidere Centre, Belvidere Rd on Mondays from 1:30pm. We play doubles, are not experts, but all are improving! Any members interested in joining us, please contact **Ruth Harrison**

**Tea Rota:** We provide tea and coffee at each of our monthly meetings but we always need volunteers to help. If you would like to help with the teas and coffees in future please contact **Brian Cook.**

**Theatre Group:** Because there are mainly Christmas productions we have nothing arranged for January. If you have an idea of any particular production you would like to see please text Please phone/text **Liz.**

**Ukulele Group:** The ukulele group have an exciting project coming up in the New Year when we hope to start a singing cafe at Earlston Road Library. Meanwhile we continue to meet at the UR Church in Wallasey Village, next door to the Lighthouse pub every Monday afternoon, 2.00 – 4.00. Contact **Phil Jackson.**

**Walking Group: Margie Swann** Walking Group are meeting at Meols Station for a 5 mile walk Sat 3rd Jan 10.30 am. Wear sensible shoes and clothing. Leader Margie Swann. Anyone interested in joining us contact **Margie or Marina.**

### **Festive Appetizers**

#### **Peppadew Devils on Horseback**

OVEN Elec. 180°C Gas

100g cream cheese

5 ¼ tsp garlic salt,

¼ tsp onion powder

25 g grated cheese,

a pinch dried herbs 1/2jar peppadew peppers drained and dried with kitchen towel.

Thin long strips of bacon for each peppadew.

Mix the cream cheese, garlic and onion salt, herbs. Pipe or spoon into each peppadew.

Wrap each with the bacon strips. Freeze for 1 hour, Bake 25 – 30 mins

#### **Salmon Rillets**

1 cup dry white wine,

½ shallot chipped finely,

4 peppercorns.

2 pieces fresh salmon

2 tsp crème fraiche,

3tbsp mayonnaise,



1 tsp lemon zest, 1 tbsp lemon juice,  
1- 2 slices smoked salmon.

Chopped chives

Place the wine, chopped shallots, peppercorns and raw fish in a pan and cook for 3 – 4 mins. Drain the liquid, cool and remove the peppercorns. Mix with the crème fraiche, mayo, lemon zest and juice. Add some of the smoke salmon chopped reserving some for the garnish. Add some chopped chives and serve spoonfuls in some gem lettuce or on dessert spoons

**Christmas Tree Devilled Eggs** 3 – 4 hardboiled eggs halved and the yolks removed ½ ripe Avocado, 1 tbsp Mayonnaise, ½ tsp Dijon mustard, ½ tsp horseradish sauce 1 -2 drops green colouring. ½ yellow pepper, smoked paprika for garnish. Mix the egg yolk, mustard, horseradish sauce, mayonnaise and avocado until smooth. Colour it with a drop of green colouring and place in a piping bag with a star nozzle. Peel the bell pepper and cut into large pieces. Use a small star cutter and cut stars to place onto the trees. Pipe the yolk mix into the egg white in a swirl to give a Christmas tree shape. Place a yellow pepper star on top and sprinkle with smoked paprika



**Our website is [Wallasey U3A](https://www.wallasey.co.uk)** or join us at our new Wallasey U3A Facebook group to see photos of our events before they appear in the newsletter and have your say about what you think of our U3A.

**<https://www.facebook.com/groups/819238180663432>**