

# WALLASEY u3a STAYING IN TOUCH FEBRUARY

**Chair Report:** Exciting times for Wallasey U3A with new groups starting this month and potentially more in the very near future. The new Drama group had its first meeting on Wednesday 11th February and the new Murder Mystery Book Group had its inaugural meeting on 18th. As well as this the new Guitar Group is restarting shortly. All these groups are looking for members to join them so, if you are interested, please contact Marina Ashton.

The Ukulele Group has just been granted the residency for the Singing Café at Earlston Library, which takes place on the third Wednesday morning every month. Not quite Las Vegas but little acorns etc. So come along, have a coffee and join in the singing. **Brian Redhead**

**Our speaker this month** is Mary's Meals who are asking all members to bring with them to our meeting on Wednesday 25th February any old coins and/or notes from anywhere in the world. This is then sent to Datchet where it is exchanged for money which is donated to the charity. It is such an easy way of raising money as many of us return from abroad with odd notes and currency. Our speaker will collect them at the meeting. Thanks in advance **Liz**.

**The TAMS magazine** for those who subscribe is now up for renewal or if you would like to start to subscribe to it the cost is just £4.20 for a year. To do so please contact Jan with your name and address and transfer your money by BACS to our account (Sort Code: 30-15-52 Account Number: 04193019 Ref: TAMS Your name) or pay **Jan** directly at the next monthly meeting.

**Marina is now collecting ring pulls** off beer/drinks cans, **not** 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.



**Art group:** Mary was demonstrating glass engraving at our art group this morning at the Inspire Cafe. We meet at 10.30 - 12.30 every Friday at InSpire Community Cafe, Mill lane/Breck Road. An informal group, bring your own stuff to



do. Come and join us. No charge but please buy a coffee/tea/soup/cake from the cafe.  
Contact **Mary Hartley**

**Board and Card Group:** Our meetings in March will be on the 2nd, 16th & 30<sup>th</sup> of March, Monday afternoons- 2-4 pm. We shall be alternating with Scrabble at Olawa Bakery in Liscard. We include card games such as Cribbage, Canasta, Whist & Rummy as well as Boardgames. Hope to see you there. Please contact **Praveen** by texting her. 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.

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 (text) 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:** For future visits we are planning to visit Chester Cathedral, Hardman`s House, Woolton Village and Ness Gardens among many other places. 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:**

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

**Craft Group:** All welcome. We have some places if anyone would like to join. **Contact Jan**

**Crown Green Bowls:** This group will be starting again in April 2026. **Contact Brian Cook** for further information.

**Discussion Group:** Tuesday 10th March. It's becoming increasingly clear that we're living in a corrupt society run by a "rich boys' club." How do you retain your personal integrity in such a world? All welcome to come and help us save the world! As ever, all welcome. The Discussion Group continues to meet at 2pm in The Telegraph on the second Tuesday of the month. **Jenny Campbell.**

**Drama Group:** The drama group met for an initial meeting and decided that we will look into doing a play possibly for The Summer Party to be discussed at a committee meeting. There will be a further meeting on Tuesday 3rd of March 1:30 pm at Foxleigh Grange where we will hopefully finalise what we're doing and who's doing what. If anybody is interested joining the group, please contact myself **Eddie Shiff**

**Guitar Group:** There's a meeting arranged for Weds 11th March at the Floral Pavilion 10.30 am in the upper lounge to discuss forming a Guitar interest group. If interested please contact Marina

**Indoor Bowls:** Every Thursday afternoon 1.30p.m. to 4.00p.m, at the United Reform church hall, Wallasey Village. The cost is now just £2, which includes refreshments. Please contact **Brian Cook** if interested in joining us.

**Lunch Group:** Many thanks to one of our newer members Naz for opening up her restaurant El Mercado in Upton for 15 of us to have a lovely meal. " We thoroughly enjoyed the meal last Thursday. Food was lovely and the owner was really helpful."(A.B.) The Lunch Group will be going to Cappadocia (Marine Point) on Thursday 5th March. We have been here before and really enjoyed it. Please let me know if you wish to go, through the WhatsApp group or text **Liz**

**Murder Mystery Book Club:** The Murder Mystery Book Club (whose 1st meeting was held on 18/02) have decided to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6.30 pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 17th March at Foxleigh Grange, 23 Townsend St. CH41 6DJ. Our first book is The Bay by L.J. Ross. There will be a charge of £2 to cover the cost of room hire & tea & coffee.

**Scrabble:** Next meetings are Monday 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2pm to 4pm. at Olowa Bakery in Liscard Village. For further details, contact **Eddie Shiff** New Members welcome,

**Social Committee:** Expression of Interest...At the last general meeting we were pleased to receive 23 names of those members who are interested in the possibility of a coach visit to a notable garden or garden centre.

At the next (February) meeting the list will be available for any who wish to add their names. If you are not able to attend the meeting, you can forward your name and a contact number.

**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:** Helping on the tea rota this month are Alan Love and Margaret Howe. 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:** If anyone would like to join please contact **Liz by text** asap.



**Ukulele Group:** We began our regular monthly session at Earlston Road Library on Wednesday 18th. Feb.10.30 am. Next one will be Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Come along and join in the singing and have a cup of tea/coffee, we provide the song books. 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:** A walk for next month hasn't yet been organised, but Margie is happy to go along to a future one if organised. Anyone interested in joining us contact Margie or **Marina**

### **Bacon Stuffed Cabbage. A take on the Irish Boiled Bacon and Cabbage**

**Ingredients:** For the bacon stuffed cabbage balls:

100g/3½oz smoked streaky bacon

110g/3½oz unsalted butter 2 sprigs fresh thyme, chopped,

2 garlic cloves, chopped. 1 onion chopped. 3 small carrots, peeled and finely chopped 300g/10½oz pork mince

2 tbsp chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley ,

1 Savoy cabbage, leaves removed, frozen and defrosted, central vein removed 350ml/12fl oz chicken stock

**For the potato and leek purée** 30g/1oz unsalted butter, 2 garlic cloves chopped, 2 sprigs Fresh thyme, whole 2 leeks, finely sliced,

100ml/3½fl oz double cream, 100ml/3½fl oz milk

2 large potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks, 100ml/3½fl oz chicken stock

To serve – peel a carrot and then peel into long strips

#### **Method:**

Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.

Cook the bacon in a medium frying pan for 2–3 minutes or until cooked.

Remove to a board and chop. In the same frying pan, melt 30g/1oz of the butter then fry the thyme, garlic and onion. Add the carrots and chopped bacon, cook for a further 2–3 minutes, then set aside.

Heat a medium sauté pan or large frying pan and add the oil. Once hot, add the pork mince and cook until golden-brown.

Add 200ml/⅓ pint water to the pan to deglaze and cook for a further 1–2 minutes over a high heat. Add the bacon mixture to the pan and cover with a lid and cook for 45 minutes. Once cooked, stir through the fresh parsley and 30g/1oz of the butter. Cut the cabbage leaves in half and then half again. Use a rolling pin to flatten the veins.

Place 2 teaspoons of the bacon mixture in the centre of each piece of cabbage and roll the leaf up around the mixture into a ball shape. You will need 12 balls. Place the balls into a round ovenproof dish and pour in the chicken stock. Cook for 10 mins.

**To make the potato and leek purée,** heat a saucepan and add butter. Add the garlic and thyme and cook for 1–2 minutes. Stir in the leeks and cook for 3–4 mins until soft. Pour in the cream and milk and cook for 4–5 mins Add the potatoes and chicken stock and cook for 15–20 mins over a low heat covered with a lid. Remove from the heat and discard the thyme. Transfer to a food processor and blend until smooth.

To serve, spoon some leek and potato purée into the centre of each plate and top with three cabbage balls per person. Garnish with the carrot strips.



## **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)

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

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

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>:** **The Wirral, a very nice place to live,** David Hearn

**April 27<sup>th</sup>:** **The Conservation Areas of the Wirral,** Gillian Bolt. **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.

To join Wallasey U3A Facebook group search in Facebook for Wallasey U3A or click this link

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1YEX4iW9tT/>

**Our website is [Wallasey U3A](#)**