

## Groups Directory 2025 - 2026



## U3a Committee (Trustees)

The list below is accurate at the time this document was produced. If you need to contact a trustee please check the website and/or monthly bulletins for up to date information.

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## Trustees Letter

Welcome to your group directory for 2025-2026. Malvern u3a continues to thrive. For 2024-2025 we had over 1800 members including approximately 350 new members. Four new groups started up during the year.

## Membership

Our membership year runs from 1st September through to 31st August. For 2025-26 the annual membership fee is £10.00 and the session fee for those using public venues we have to hire is £2.00.

Existing members will have received a personal invitation with instructions on how to renew. **NB For the 2025-2026 year we will no longer accept cash. Cheques will be accepted for a limited period only. Those of you have previously paid using cash/cheque please read the renewal invitation carefully.**

For new members, please visit our membership website at <https://members.malvernu3a.org.uk> for how to join.

## Our Groups

In the following pages, you will find a list of all the groups presently operating. Information about new groups forming through the year is included in our monthly bulletins. Each group has a web page describing the group in more detail and offer including up-to-date information on activities. See <https://malvernu3a.org.uk/groups-by-alphabet/> for a full list of active groups.

## Monthly Guest Speaker Meetings

On the last Tuesday afternoon of most months, we host a guest speaker - please visit <https://malvernu3a.org.uk/meetings/> for the latest information.

## Transport Assistance - Community Action - Not Continuing from Oct 2025

During our 2024-2025 year we started a pilot scheme working with the Community Action Malvern District (CA) car service scheme to help u3a members who are unable to travel independently get to their u3a groups and meetings. Many of you will know of CA but for those who don't, take a look at their website here: <https://www.communityaction.org.uk/car-service> or call them on 01684 892381.

Unfortunately, CA has found that the administration required to operate the subsidised transport scheme is more than they can resource and on 14th October we agreed to discontinue the scheme. This has highlighted problems that members with transport issues experience and we continue to look at ways to assist members with differing needs.

## Getting Involved

Without group leaders and trustees, our u3a simply wouldn't exist. If you would like to help out with running an existing group or setting up a new group, do chat with any leader or get in touch with any of the trustees using the details at the start of this booklet. More detailed information can be found at <https://malvernu3a.org.uk/volunteering-with-malvern-u3a/>.

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## Art & Handicrafts

### **DRAWING (DRAW1)**

**on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday**

Hanley Swan Village Hall

14.00-16.00

Drawing is something that many people enjoy or return to in later life. Whether it's a quick doodle, caricature, exploring an idea, communicating a concept or recording a view or pet, this course will help to understand drawing as a means of expression and develop new skills. We will be looking at materials, styles, techniques using a partial tutored session and part free time to work on or set up projects for home study. We could also do some outdoor work, portraits or still life studies.

#### **Leader**

Francis Colella

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### **HANDICRAFTS (HAND1)**

**on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday**

Victoria Park Bowling Club

09.45-12.00

We meet to create useful and novelty items. This is a popular group, so please contact the Leader for more information. We are now a full group, but will start a waiting list in September.

#### **Leader**

Pat Turner

#### **Contact**

Helen O'Donnell

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**PAINTING 1 (PNT1)****on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday**

Hanley Swan Village Hall

14.00-16.00

U3A Painting 1 is a group of enthusiastic amateur artists who paint and draw in a variety of media including watercolour, acrylics, oils, pencil and pastel. We are a self-help group but our former tutor and group leader is still a member and happy to give help when requested. Both beginners and more experienced artists, or those wishing to try a new medium are welcome.

**Leader**

Anne Lewis

**PAINTING 2 (PNT2)****on the 2nd and 4th Friday**

Elmslie House

14.00-16.00

We are a small friendly group who meet to share our enjoyment of drawing and painting together, and hopefully help one another and increase our skills. At the present time we have no vacancies, but we are interested in hearing from members who would like to be on our waiting list.

**Leader**

Valerie Bruton

**PAINTING 3 (PNT3)****on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

09:45-11:45

We now have vacancies to welcome more members who are interested in painting in the company of others. We do not have a tutor, but we try to help each other where we can if requested. Whether you have painted before or are keen to have a go, please get in touch.

**Leader**

Valerie Bruton

**PATCHWORK 2 AND NEEDLECRAFT (PTCH2) on the 2nd and 4th Monday**

Victoria Park Bowling Club

14.00-16.00

We are a 'self-help' group, without an instructor. Members work at their own pace and inclination and on whatever piece of work interests them. We aim to enjoy patchwork and quilting together with any other type of needle skill we may take on and to share expertise, knowledge and experience with our fellow group members.

**Leader**

Janet Jones

**PATCHWORK AND NEEDLE SKILLS (PTCH1) every Wednesday**

Victoria Park Bowling Club

14.00-16.00

We are a 'self-help' group without an instructor. Members work at their own pace and inclination and on whatever piece of work interests them. We aim to enjoy patchwork and quilting together with any other type of needle skill we may take on and to share expertise, knowledge and experience with our fellow group members.

**Leader**

Sue Wheeler

**Joint Leader**

Jane Willoughby

**SILK PAINTING (SLKP1)****on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday**

Victoria Park Bowling Club

14.00-16.00

We are a friendly group of enthusiastic silk painters of all levels, if you're a beginner we will help you explore this lovely form of painting and celebrate your success. If you are experienced and want to take this up again we would love to see you at one of our meetings. We are a self help group without an instructor, members help each other.

**Leader**

Wendy Gough

**WOOD CARVING (WCRV1)****every Friday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

10.00-13.00

The Wood Carving members use hand tools to carve individual projects at their own pace. They are of varying abilities, with experienced members to help others. Members provide their own tools and portable workbenches, but we are able to offer a taster session for beginners.

**Leader**

Peter Humphrey

## Board Card Games & Puzzles

**BRIDGE (EAT GROUP) (BRDG4)****every Tuesday**

Holy Trinity Parish Hall

10.00-12.00

This Bridge Group was formed from the late Audrey Turner's Bridge Group - using her initials (EAT). So if you want a fun game of Bridge and some lively social interaction, please join us.

**Leader**

Margaret Aspland

**BRIDGE BEGINNERS (BRDG1)****every Thursday**

Manor Park Sports Club

14.00-16.00

There will normally be a Powerpoint presentation followed by a practice session with set hands.

**Leader**

Roger Keeling

**BRIDGE DUPLICATE 2 (BRDG2)****every Monday**

Manor Park Sports Club

14.00-17.00

This group provides a relaxed and friendly atmosphere for members to play duplicate bridge. We welcome experienced players and also those who have had tuition and now wish to play to gain more confidence. Anyone who wishes to play is offered a taster session. All members are invited to play some part in the running of the group.

**Leader**

Valerie Lee

**BRIDGE DUPLICATE 3 (BRDG3)****every Thursday**

Elmslie House

14.00-17.00

We play a friendly duplicate each week and the common bidding system used is English Acol. If you use another system please bring a partner and be prepared to answer a few questions. For all of September we will be running a host system so anyone who turns up is guaranteed a game with or without a partner.

**Leader**

Andrew Hague

**CANASTA (CAN1)****on the 3rd Tuesday**

The Leader's home

14.15-17.00

Join us to play Canasta in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

**Leader**

Avril Stevens

**CANASTA 2 (CAN2)****on the 1st Tuesday**

The Leader's home

14.00-17.00

Join us to play Canasta in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

**Leader**

Jenny Bradford

**CHESS (CHES1)****on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday**

Lansdowne Crescent Methodist Church

14.00-16.00

The aim of the group is to play chess in a friendly environment and learn more about the game as we progress. We typically have 8-12 members with a range of experience and ability. All playing levels are welcome, but beginners need to know the rules and have some experience of playing the game.

**Leader**

Paul Manning

**CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS (CROS1) on the 1st and 3rd Monday**

Saint Andrew's Church Centre

14.00-16.00

This group is a social group with a purpose, for beginners and those who already enjoy the challenge of cryptic crosswords! Cryptic crosswords are a great way to keep the mind active: the clues follow rules and conventions which can be learnt.

**Leader**

Pamela Stanier

**ESTIMATIONS CARD GAME (ESTM1)****every Monday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

10.00-12.00

Estimations is known by many names (Up and Down, Oh Hell etc.), and is more interesting than Whist, less complex (or serious) than Bridge. It is played without partners, easy to learn and a lot of fun. We are a welcoming group and do not require weekly attendance. Join us on Monday mornings for a great start to the week!

**Leader**

Ashley Butterfield

**SCRABBLE (SCRB1)****on the 1st and 3rd Friday**

Manor Park Sports Club

14.00-16.00

Come and enjoy a relaxed, friendly game of Scrabble with fellow word-lovers. Whether you're an experienced player or completely new to the game, everyone is welcome. We focus on fun, gentle competition, and good conversation. Scrabble boards provided .

**Leader**

Sarah Tancred

## Computing & Photography

**PHOTOGRAPHY (PHO1)****on the 3rd Friday**

Manor Park Sports Club

10.00-12.00

Members are encouraged to broaden their camera skills through exploration of photo techniques and inspired creativity. Each meeting will address a photographic topic and discuss members' images on a given theme.

**Leader**

Steve Joyce

**Joint Leader**

Paul Manning

## Discussion & Philosophy

### **CONSCIOUSNESS DISCUSSION (CONS1) on the 2nd Tuesday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

14.30-16.30

Group discussing consciousness and near-death experiences

#### **Leader**

Shabra Dowson

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### **ECONOMICS DISCUSSION (ECON1) on the 1st Tuesday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

13.45-16.00

Economics is a very important but little understood subject that governs all our lives. We are a group of enthusiasts with varying degrees of expertise who come together once a month to air opinions and discuss issues relating to economics. The structure is fairly informal but currently we are working our way through a book which serves to provide one of the topics for each session.

#### **Leader**

John O'Loghlen

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### **PHILOSOPHICAL DISCUSSION (PHIL1) on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday**

Victoria Park Bowling Club

10.00-12.00

The study of Philosophy helps us to think more clearly, to think more critically, and thus to understand this world better. In an ever more complex environment these widely applicable skills are more useful than ever.

#### **Leader**

John O'Loghlen

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**SOCIAL DEBATE (SOCL1)****on the 4th Wednesday**

Church Meadow Court Retirement Housing

14.00-16.00

We meet to discuss everything and anything. No subject is off the agenda. Meetings are lively but good natured and ALL opinions are listened to and respected. We usually decide at a meeting the subject/subjects for the next meeting. We are a friendly welcoming group . If you are interested in joining us please contact the Leader see below.

**Leader**

Jane Ireland

**Leader**

Val Holland

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**SPIRITUALITY AND LITERATURE (SPRT1) on the 3rd Tuesday**

The Leader's home

10.00-12.00

This group starts its next series in October 2025 and continues on the third Tuesday of each month until April 2026 at the leaders flat. The aim of the group is to explore spirituality using contemporary literature. This coming series will use the theme of forgiveness as a focus for studying spirituality. The books are chosen by the group leader. Most people in the group have no specific religious attachment.

**Leader**

Peter Bevan

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## Gardening

### **GARDEN VISITS (GRDN1)**

**on the 1st Tuesday**

Various locations

in the afternoon

We aim to increase our knowledge and understanding of a variety of plants and trees and most meetings are spent visiting gardens within a reasonable distance of Malvern. The group will operate from March to October

#### **Leader**

Kay Linley

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### **GARDEN VISITS 2 (GRDN2)**

**To be Advised**

Various locations

To be Advised

We aim to increase our knowledge and understanding of a variety of plants and trees and most meetings are spent visiting gardens within an hour and a half travel of Malvern.

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## History & Culture

### **ARCHAEOLOGY (ARCH1)**

**on the 3rd Monday**

United Reformed Church Hall

10.30-12.00

The Group welcomes anyone with an interest in the past as illustrated by its material remains, no previous experience or knowledge required, just enthusiasm! We have a mixture of outside speakers, home-grown talks and excursions.

#### **Leader**

Michael Lewent

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**FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY (GENY1)**      **on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday**

Malvern Baptist Church

10.00-12.00

The group includes members with a wide experience of researching family history ranging from 30 or more years through to the complete beginner. All personal research is undertaken outside of meetings with members using methods most appropriate to their circumstances

**Leader**

Gwenda Evans

**HISTORY THROUGH ART (AHIS1)**      **on the last Friday**

Malvern Rugby Football Club

10.00-12.00

We are a friendly group sharing an interest in a wide variety of subjects linking art in the broadest sense to the history of its period. Each month, some of our members volunteer to present a topic of their choice to the group and this frequently generates a lively discussion.

**Leader**

Roger Hales

**MILITARY HISTORY (MLHS1)**      **on the 2nd Friday**

Manor Park Sports Club

10.00-12.00

The Group provides a varied programme on a wide variety of topics covering all historical periods. Members who would like to speak on topics of their personal interests and experiences are encouraged to do so. Further details of the programme for the coming year can be found on our web page.

**Leader**

Simon Sole

**SOCIAL HISTORY (SOCL2)****on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday**

Victoria Park Bowling Club

10.00-12.00

We study all periods and types of history except military, topics being chosen by members of the Group. Each topic involves a series of lectures taking a year or eighteen months to complete, but you don't have to attend every one! At the moment we are studying The Twentieth Century Year by Year and have now reached 1965.

**Leader**

Brian Chesney

**WELSH CULTURE GROUP (WLSH1)****on the 1st Friday**

Malvern Baptist Church

10.00-12.00

Through our programme, we aim to share our knowledge and enthusiasm of all aspects of Wales and Welsh life. While our meetings are conducted entirely in English, we do sing the national anthem in Welsh (with English phonetics on the screen). We have several members who are Welsh-speaking who are always happy to help with pronunciation.

**Leader**

Jennifer Davies

## Languages

**BEGINNERS LATIN (LT1)****on the 2nd and 4th Thursday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

14.00-16.00

The group will continue to follow the beginners' course, which started in September 2022. If you have a basic grasp of Latin and wish to brush up former skills, you will be most welcome to join us.

**Leader**

Brenda Newhall

**FLUENT FRENCH 1 (FRFL1)****on alternate Thursdays**

Members' homes

10.00-12.00

We expect members to be able to speak French fluently, to take part in discussions and on occasions to lead them.

**Leader**Jenny Clayphan

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**FLUENT FRENCH CONVERSATION  
(FRFL2)****on the 2nd and 4th  
Monday**

The Leader's home

14.00-16.00

Members simply relax and chat in French on anything and everything. There is no preparation, no grammar and no homework!

**Leader**Arline Gaskell

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**FLUENT FRENCH CONVERSATION 3  
(FRFL3)****on the 2nd and 4th  
Thursday**

Members' homes

15.00-16.30

Members simply relax and chat in French on anything and everything. There is no preparation, no grammar and no homework!

**Leader**Anita Phillips

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**FRENCH CONVERSATION 1  
(FRCV1)****on the 1st and 3rd  
Wednesday**

Members' homes

10.00-12.00

The group is at an advanced level. The first hour is spent in conversation, with each member bringing something that interests them to the table. The second hour is spent reading and translating an article, chosen by members in turn, which is sent out a week in advance. We would welcome new members to the group.

**Leader**

Richard Winterton

**FRENCH CONVERSATION 2  
(FRCV2)****on the 2nd and 4th  
Wednesday**

Lansdowne Crescent Methodist Church

10.00-12.00

Whilst there is a wide range of linguistic competence within the group, all members are nevertheless encouraged to participate as fully as possible in the relaxed atmosphere. Subjects of conversation include members' recent holidays, theatre visits etc. We also read interesting magazine articles which expand our knowledge of French life and culture past and present. The group is currently full. However, anyone interested in joining at a later date is welcome to contact the leader.

**Leader**

Sue Norcross

### **FRENCH CONVERSATION 3 (FRCV3)**

**on the 1st and 3rd  
Monday**

The Leader's home

11.00-12.00

We are an informal group, and at varied levels of competence, but we enjoy speaking together, and don't study any books etc! Please note the group is currently full.

#### **Leader**

Jill Rayner

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### **FRENCH CONVERSATION 4 (FRCV4)**

**on the 2nd and 4th  
Monday**

The Leader's home

12.15-13.45

This group is for those who already know some French and wish to improve it through conversation. We meet over lunchtime and participants bring their own lunch. The group uses French for the whole session, with support and translation.

#### **Leader**

Pamela Stanier

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### **FRENCH CONVERSATION/INTERMEDIATE LEVEL (FRCV5)**

**on the 2nd and 4th  
Tuesday**

Malvern Theatres Bistro Cafe

14.00-15.30

We call this group "French polishing" as we aim to improve our existing use of French language through speaking together. It is not designed for beginners; nor is it a structured educational group, but instead an opportunity to get talking in an informal and supportive setting. The standard is intermediate level, but have some spaces for people who are capable speakers whose fluency has become rusty.

#### **Leader**

Roger Bigland

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**FRENCH FOR BEGINNERS (FRCV6)****every Monday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

15.00-16.30

A 6-week pilot course aimed at complete beginners who want to get a flavour of French and learn the basics of French conversation is planned to start shortly. It will be a small group with the emphasis on speaking, listening and gaining confidence and the goal of learning enough to manage everyday situations. I hope it will be a lot more fun than it ever was at school.

**Leader**

Sally Ford

**FRENCH INTERMEDIATE (FRIN1)****on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday**

The Leader's home

14.00-16.00

The aim of the group is to improve confidence, accuracy and fluency in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Members subscribe to a French magazine, Rendez-vous, which comes out every two months, has a wide variety of interesting articles and keeps us up-to-date with vocabulary as well as with events in France.

**Leader**

Arline Gaskell

**FRENCH REVISITED (FRRV1)****on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday**

Manor Park Sports Club

10.00-12.00

Our course uses a structured format to improve members' vocabulary, grammar, spelling, sentence construction, listening and responding skills. We listen to tapes (native speakers) and participate in role-plays relating to everyday real life situations.

**Leader**

Carmel O Flynn

**GERMAN CONVERSATION (GRMN2)****every Monday**

The Leader's home

14.30-16.00

We speak in German about anything and everything, what we have done in the last week, topics suggested by members or anything else that takes our fancy. We help one another out with vocabulary and there is no grammar and no homework. Everybody with an interest in the German language at whatever level is welcome, even if you just want to listen in.

**Leader**

Michael Lewent

**GERMAN IMPROVERS (GRMN3) on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

10.00-12.00

This is a group for those with a basic grasp of German who would like to extend their vocabulary and knowledge of the grammar in an informal way.

**Leader**

Brenda Newhall

**GERMAN INTERMEDIATE (GRMN4)****every Monday**

The Leader's home

10.30-12.00

We meet every Monday from 10.30 - 12.00 at the leader's house. Members have a working knowledge of German and, though not yet fluent, can understand and hold conversations in German. We will be using a range of materials including written and broadcast news and German literature. We will also be taking a more practical approach with the use of role plays and word games to expand vocabulary and aid conversation. At present the group is full with a waiting list. Leader: Sarah Barrie

**Leader**

Sarah Barrie

**GERMAN POST BEGINNERS (GRMN1)****every Thursday**

The Leader's home

14.00-15.30

We have been following the BBC Talk German course and the group have now completed their first year of study. We are serious about learning and aren't afraid to tackle all aspects of the language, but in a relaxed environment where camaraderie and fun are also important! We have room for one or two new members but a certain level of competency will be necessary.

**Leader**

Sarah Barrie

**ITALIAN CONVERSATION (ITCV1)****every Tuesday**

The Leader's home

14.00-16.00

For people with a range of fluency in the language, we converse, read and discuss various topics usually on Italian art and culture. Tuesdays 2-4 p.m. with refreshment break. NOT for absolute beginners.

**Leader**

Thomas Foort

**RUSSIAN IMPROVERS (RUS1)****every Wednesday**

Saint Andrew's Church Centre

11.00-12.00

This group is for students who are already familiar and confident with the alphabet and are ready to start at Lesson 3 of the course book [Ruslan Russian 1]. A degree of flexibility enables us to follow participants' interests and learn about Russia as we progress. The group includes some who are refreshing previous knowledge from O level etc. or started from scratch with u3a.

**Leader**

Andrew Jameson

**SPANISH BEGINNERS (SPBG1)****every Wednesday**

The Leader's home

10.30-11.30

This group is for beginners and is a 2 year course

**Leader**

Gwyn Klee

**SPANISH CONVERSATION A  
(SPCV1)****on the 2nd and 4th  
Wednesday**

Members' homes

10.00-12.00

Members will be encouraged to expand their conversational skills by sharing topics of their own choice from the media, personal experiences, holidays etc. in the general group discussion. A reasonable knowledge of grammar and everyday vocabulary is assumed.

**Leader**

Judith Taylor

**SPANISH CONVERSATION B  
(SPCV2)****on the 1st and 3rd  
Tuesday**

Members' homes

10.00-12.00

We usually have a break in August. Members have varying levels of fluency and prefer to learn the language through conversation. Preparation is not essential and we have no theme, but most members come with ideas and prepare a few sentences in Spanish.

**Leader**

Sybil Heeks

**SPANISH IMPROVERS 1 (SPIM1)****every Tuesday**

Manor Park Sports Club

10.00-12.00

Our aim is to introduce the Spanish language and way of life through speech and written work, and by videos and oral cassettes as well as books. At holiday times the group will be given the choice of whether to meet.

**Leader**

Gwyn Klee

**Literature & the Performing Arts****BOOK SHARE (BOOK1)****on the last Friday**

Manor Park Sports Club

10.30-12.30

This group is for people who love reading and can bring a book along and talk about it – any book on anything: e.g. history, geography, travel, religion, biography, science, gardening, biology, entertainment, etc. It is NOT going to be a book of the month.

**Leader**

Val Holland

**CREATIVE WRITING 1 (CW1)****on the 2nd Tuesday**

The Leader's home

10.00-12.00

CW1 has always been and still is a mainly prose, non teaching group. Members read their contribution to a set topic followed by constructive discussion.

**Leader**

Dorothy Meredith

**Membership**

Mary Emery

**CREATIVE WRITING 3 (CW3)****on the 1st Tuesday**

The Leader's home

10.00-12.00

At our meetings we each read out our own piece of work and provide feedback to others. The topics for our writing are chosen in the previous month. When time allows, a short impromptu writing exercise may also be run.

**Leader**

Susan van Ling

**CREATIVE WRITING TECHNIQUES (CW4) on the 3rd Tuesday**

Manor Park Sports Club

10.00-12.00

Want to enhance your writing skills and up your creativity, then why not join this group which focuses on creative writing techniques. No homework to do, just exercises and discussion. This is suitable for anyone wishing to write fiction from long short stories to novels

**Leader**

Jane Guinery

**DRAMA GROUP (DRAM1)****on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday**

Saint Andrew's Church Centre

13.30-16.00

The Drama group provides an opportunity to perform, or direct, selected scenes from a wide range of plays. Trying out ways to see how texts can work in performance provides the main focus of the sessions. Members won't be under any pressure to learn lines or perform to an audience.

**Leader**

Derek Gale

**ENJOYING SHAKESPEARE  
(SHKE1)****on the 1st and 3rd  
Wednesday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

10.00-12.00

We sight-read Shakespeare's plays after a brief introduction to each play. Currently, we are working through in a roughly chronological order. We will restart with "Measure for Measure". We welcome new members to this group. Please contact the Leader for further details.

**Leader**

John Birks

---

**FILM GROUP 1 (FLMG1)****on the 1st Monday**

Members' homes

10.00-12.00

We meet on the 1st Monday of each month in members' homes to discuss and rate films we have viewed recently in local cinemas. After coffee we draw up a list of promising new films to view in the coming month. Our lively discussions bring together different points of view in a very amicable and enjoyable way.

**Leader**

Susan Clarke

---

**FILM GROUP 2 (FLMG2)****on the 2nd Monday**

Members' homes

10.00-12.00

We're rather like a book group, in that we discuss films we have seen, would or would not recommend and plan together what films we will seek to view in the coming weeks. A member circulates a monthly "what's on" film list covering Malvern, Pershore & Tewkesbury, as well as the annual Borderlands film festival. Our discussions are lively & friendly-from time to time we also watch selected DVDs in one another's homes.

**Leader**

Sue Dalley

**FILM GROUP 4 (FLMG4)****on the 1st Monday**

Members' homes

10.00-12.00

At meetings we discuss the films we have seen, where the aim is to gain pleasure from and an increased knowledge of film. There is also scope for developing the group according to members' interests.

**Leader**

Julia Davies

**LITERATURE (LIT1)****on the 1st and 3rd Thursday**

Poolbrook Village Hall

10.00-12.00

The literature group enjoys looking at and discussing a book in detail. We usually spend 2 or 3 sessions and are led by one or two of the members. Our discussions are lively and interesting and we respect each other's thoughts and ideas. We include modern works as well as the classics. We include poetry sessions and listen to each other's choices for a 'Good Read'.

**Leader**

Win Crawford

**PLAY READING 1 (PLRD1)****on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday**

Manor Park Sports Club

10.00-12.00

We try to read a varied selection of plays, but we do like to laugh so tend not to go for the tragic end of the range.

However, if someone is burning to do Oedipus Rex we might give it a go.

**Leader**

Annie Martin

**PLAY READING 2 (PLRD2)****on the 1st and 3rd Thursday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

09.20-12.00

We read a wide variety of plays with members recommending plays they would particularly like to read.

**Leader**

David Martin

**POETRY PLEASE (POET1)****on the 2nd Monday**

Elmslie House

10.00-12.00

This lively friendly group meets to read poetry of our choice – anything goes! It is very informal and lots of fun.

**Leader**

Mary Rose Hughes

**POETRY PLEASE 2 (POET2)****on the 4th Monday**

Elmslie House

10.00-12.00

Join like-minded members to read favourite poems in a fun and informal atmosphere. All are welcome!

**Leader**

Patricia Evans

**SHAKESPEARE ON PAGE AND STAGE  
(SHKE2)**

**on the 4th  
Wednesday**

Manor Park Sports Club

13.45-16.00

The group reads and discusses Shakespeare's plays and attends theatre performances. We aim to read /study 2 Plays each session i.e. September 1925 – May 2026. We also meet twice a year to watch the DVD of each play we have just read plus we have lunch together at these times. While we aim for an optimum number of members, we do currently have vacancies.

**Leader**

Robin Brighton

---

**THEATRE STUDIES (THET1)**

**on the last Wednesday**

Elmslie House

10.00-12.00

Talks on all aspects of the Theatre are given by the leader or a member of the group. Where possible this talk is linked to productions at Malvern Festival Theatre. We also discuss productions seen by members. These are usually Malvern productions, but also take in RSC and National Theatre etc.

**Leader**

Anthea Nakorn

**Admin**

Anthony Beach

**Admin**

Christopher Gillies

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## Maths Science and Earth Sciences

### ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS (ASTR1)

Zoom

Check with  
Leader

Check with Leader

The course can be downloaded from the U3A Malvern website anytime, as a series of video recordings, each linked from a table on the web site. The course topics cover historical astronomy, the solar system, planetary physics, Atomic physics, Particle physics, Relativity and Cosmology. For 2025-26 there are sufficient numbers to run Zoom sessions. But due to a lightning strike the remaining working computer now gives no sound out, so I can't run zoom sessions, I will let you know when resolved..

**Leader**

Chris Baddiley

### EXPLORING MATHEMATICAL IDEAS (MATH1)

on the 1st and 3rd  
Tuesday

Manor Park Sports Club

14.00-16.00

If you are curious about Maths and can remember some of your O-level, then you should be able to follow these sessions. Part of the session will be a presentation and part will be actively doing! We will explore some mathematical ideas based around number work, geometry, algebra, and problem solving.

**Leader**

Roger Keeling

**GEOLOGY (GEOL1)****on the 3rd Friday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

10.00-12.00

We focus on the geology of the Malvern area and adjacent counties as well as wider geological issues both national and international. This includes the interaction between geology and landscapes and buildings and monuments. In the winter there are talks by visiting speakers and in the summer, visits and field trips both locally and abroad. We have a comprehensive library of maps, leaflets and books and encourage small group research. See the Group website for further information.

**Leader**

Peter Bridges

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**MATHEMATICAL TOPICS (MAT1) on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday**

Manor Park Sports Club

14.00-16.00

The Mathematical Topics Group is the one for those confident with topics at the post O-level/GCSE level stage. Each session has a focus on a particular theme and members will not be expected to have attended another session previously. There is a certain amount of exposition by the session leader and the rest of the time is spent tackling problems on the topic, with assistance where required. Session details will be published twice a year, before September and January.

**Leader**

John Knee

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**NATURAL HISTORY (NATH1)****on the 1st Monday**

Manor Park Sports Club

10.00-12.00

There will be a mix of field trips and classroom sessions. The field of natural history is clearly large and the topics to be covered would be decided by group members, exploiting available expertise. These could include birds, flora, butterflies, moths and dragonflies etc.

**Leader**

Richard Newton

**SCIENCE ( GENETICS AND EVOLUTION )  
(SCI1)****on the 2nd  
Thursday**

Poolbrook Village Hall

10.00-12.00

The Science Group is concerned primarily with Biology, mostly, but not exclusively, with Evolution and Genetics. The aim of the members is to continue within this framework, incorporating biological principles and processes as they arise, but to include specific topics where relevant.

**Leader**

Alan Gray

**THE HUMAN BODY (HBOD1)****every Wednesday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

14.30-16.30

A 10-week course starting Wed 10th Sept with a one-week gap in the middle A light-hearted course using PowerPoint. A guide to the functioning of the major systems in your body, plus some of the malfunctions which may show up as we age. No notes and no knowledge required.

**Leader**

Sue Lamberton

## Music

### **ABC MUSIC GROUP (MUSC4) on the 2nd and 4th Thursday**

The Leader's home

10.00-12.00

This is a group, wishing to explore any genre of music, with the exception of classical music. So anything else would be welcome, whatever you know and would wish to share with other like minded individuals in a friendly and respectful environment. Bring along a CD and lets hear what you've got, it may be a revelation!

#### **Leader**

Andy Boldero

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### **CLASSICAL MUSIC AND OPERA on the 2nd and 3rd (OPER1) Wednesday**

The Leader's home

14.00-17.00

We alternate between a classical music programme and an opera (viewed on tv) presented by the leader or any member may make up their own programme and present it, followed by a short discussion. We meet twice a month, with the same programme repeated in case everyone wants to come on the same day.

#### **Leader**

Thomas Foort

---

**MY MUSIC (MUSC3)****on the 3rd Monday**

The Leader's home

14.00-16.00

We play, mostly on C/D's, every type of music - classical, popular, jazz, folk, etc., either as an individual with their own programme of music, or as a group with a theme, or as pot luck, making for an enjoyable musical afternoon in a relaxed sociable atmosphere.

**Leader**

Richard Rowan

**RECORDER GROUP (RCRD1)****on the 1st and 3rd Thursday**

Ascension Church

10.00-12.00

We play mostly in four parts, for descant, treble tenor and bass recorders, enjoying music ranging from 16th century pieces through to 1960's pop - including Ragtime, classical pieces and music from the shows. The group includes a wide range of levels of player but some experience of playing and the ability to read music are needed.

**Leader**

Sue Fairchild

**SING ANYWAY! (SING1)****on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday**

Malvern Rugby Football Club

11.00-12.30

These singing sessions are for everyone, including those who may lack confidence in their voices but who would really like to experience the joy of singing together with friends in harmony. We sing without musical accompaniment, altogether in one big circle, and enjoy all sorts of rounds and songs with wonderful harmonies. They're all taught by ear, so you don't need to read music to come and enjoy yourself at Sing Anyway! Please see Malvern U3A website for further details or contact Sunnara.

**Leader**

Sunnara Vivian

**SING TOGETHER (SING2)****on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday**

Malvern Rugby Football Club

14.00-15.30

Sing Together is for anyone who enjoys singing but lacks confidence or would just like to sing. There will be lots of varied songs to suit everyone's taste. Come along and join similar people to grow singing skills together and have fun. The first group meeting for 2025 to 2026 will be on Tuesday 7th October 2025 from 2:00 to 3:30pm at Malvern Rugby Football Club.

**Leader**

Jan Stoney

**Contact**

Wendy Bell

**THE WIND GROUP (WIND1)****on alternate Mondays**

Lansdowne Crescent Methodist Church

14.30-16.30

The u3a Wind Group started in November 2022. We have about 18 players in the full range of woodwind instruments from piccolo to bassoon plus saxophones. We would particularly welcome instruments in the middle and lower musical register, but we have a waiting list for flute players. Our aim is to meet on alternate Mondays to play a variety of types of music for pleasure rather than performance.

**Leader**

Cynthia Merriman

**UKULELE (UKUL1)****on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday**

Saint Andrew's Church Centre

10.00-12.00

There are Strum and Sing sessions twice a month. These sessions are suitable for players of all abilities with the first part of each session being set aside for learning ukulele skills. In addition, there are currently two instrumental groups that meet in member's homes on Tuesday mornings (each group meets once a fortnight). There are currently no spaces in these groups, but if members are interested in forming further groups they should contact Richard Owen for details of music etc.

**Leader**

Richard Owen

## Outdoor & Active

### **BADMINTON (BADM1)**

**every Tuesday**

Malvern St James Sports Centre

10.00-11.30

The group is suitable for those who have played the game before (albeit some time ago) or who have experience of tennis or squash. On the other hand, it is not suitable for reasonably accomplished badminton players. Basically it is a 'middle of the road' grouping. We will only be playing doubles, either mixed, men's or women's.

#### **Leader**

Roger Keeling

---

### **BOULES AND PETANQUE 1 (BAP1)**

**every Thursday**

Great Malvern Railway Station Park

10.30-12.00

Join us for gentle exercise in a pleasant outdoor location. Please note: This is a very popular group. As of July 2025 our group is full and we already have a number of people on the waiting list. We no longer feel able to add more people to the waiting list. Should the situation change, we will update this page and/or publish a notice in the monthly bulletin.

#### **Joint Leader**

Patricia Haywood

#### **Joint Leader**

Carol Davis

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### **BOULES AND PETANQUE 2 (BAP2)**

**every Monday**

Great Malvern Railway Station Park

10.30-11.30

Join us for gentle exercise in a pleasant outdoor location. We are currently full. Meet at 10.25 every Monday morning for a 10.30 start.

#### **Leader**

Fraser McNeil-Watson

---

**BOULES AND PETANQUE 3 (BAP3)****every Tuesday**

Great Malvern Railway Station Park

10.30-11.30

Join us for gentle exercise in a pleasant outdoor location.

**Leader**

Zelie Cleaver

**CROQUET (CROQ1)****every Thursday**

Miller's Court Farm

10.00-17.00

We aim to give members a full knowledge of the rules, and coaching on techniques on the method of playing a game that is both fulfilling and enjoyable. The group operates on from May to September

**Leader**

Brenda Spragg

**CYCLING (CYC1)****on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday**

Various locations

10-00-14.00

This group is for social cyclists who want to explore the lanes and byways of the Three Counties on two wheels (we do not ride off road) . Rides vary between 25 and 35 miles on average and usually last about 3 hours (with a coffee break) and terminate with a pub lunch. Electric bikes are welcome

**Leader**

Roger Keeling

**Contact**

Rod Mackichan

**DOWSING - BEGINNERS/IMPROVERS  
(DOWS1)**

**on the 3rd  
Tuesday**

Elmslie House

14.00-15.30

Learn to dowse using simple dowsing tools. Dowsing can be used to find water, lost objects, explore outdoor sites, improve health and much more!

**Leader**

Kate Smart

---

**FOLK DANCING (FLKD1)**

**on alternate Wednesdays**

Saint Andrew's Church Centre

14.00-16.00

The aim of the group is to dance a variety of folk / country dances in a friendly environment. All are welcome

**Leader**

Michael Davis

---

**KEEP FIT (FIT1)**

**every Wednesday**

Saint Andrew's Church Centre

10.30-12.00

The Keep Fit Group is for both sexes, is run by a qualified physiotherapist and consists of keep fit exercises. When attending you should bring an exercise mat or large towel, appropriate clothing and lace-up shoes.

**Leader**

Angela Lane

**Contact**

Linda Scott

---

**PICKLEBALL (PCKL1)**

Manor Park Sports Club

**every Friday**

12:30-14:45

Pickleball is a bit of a mixture of tennis, badminton, and table tennis. It is played on a badminton size court using a slightly oversize table tennis paddle and a plastic ball.

Please check the web page for further information

**Leader**

Jane Smallwood

**SHORT MAT BOWLING 1 (BOWL2)**

Welland Village Hall

**every Monday**

13.30-16.00

We have three bowling mats each being 45ft long by 6ft wide accommodating 18 players in 6 teams of three. The bowls we use are regular bowling green size, although the game is somewhat different to Green Bowling. All equipment is supplied except for flat shoes. .

**Leader**

Geoff Smithdale

**SHORT MAT BOWLING 2 (BOWL3)**

Welland Village Hall

**every Tuesday**

09.30-12.00

We have three bowling mats each being 45ft long by 6ft wide. The bowls are regular bowling green size, although the game is somewhat different to Green Bowling. All equipment is supplied except for flat shoes.

**Leader**

Martin Peer

**SKI (SKI1)**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

**To be Advised**

Check with Leader

Group to reminisce on past skiing adventures and possibly arrange future ones. No set venue or times - see Group Leader for details

**Leader**

Carol Pelusi

**TABLE TENNIS (TT1)**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

**every Wednesday**

13.00-16.00

We meet every Wednesday at the Cube for social Table Tennis between 1pm and 4pm. Bats are available for newcomers and all are assured of a warm welcome.

**Leader**

Vernon Jones

**TABLE TENNIS SINGLES (TT2)**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

**on the 2nd and 4th Friday**

10.00-12.00

This is a group for people who play at a reasonable standard, aiming to develop and improve their match skills. We generally play singles and also try to arrange matchplay when possible. Please contact the leader for the latest information.

**Leader**

Michael Lewent

**TAI CHI (TACH1)**

Guarlford Village Hall

**every Wednesday**

14.00-15.00

This group will be for Shibashi - a sequence of 18 movements which can be done seated or standing.

**Leader**

Linda Edwards

**THE WALKING GROUP (WALK1) on the 2nd and 4th Thursday**

Various locations

10.00-13.00

This group is for people who enjoy the outside world. Exploring the area by foot. Walks will vary on length depending on location. Walks approx 2 hrs with a break for a drink finishing at a cafe or pub for lunch. All get a chance to lead a walk to create variety.

**Leader**

Suzanne Hutchinson

**WALKING FOOTBALL (WLKF2) on the 2nd and 4th Thursday**

Malvern St James Sports Centre

Check with Leader

Thought your playing days were a thing of the past? Why not try walking football, the fastest growing sport in the UK. Whether you have played football in the past, or just fancy keeping fit in a social kick about, all are welcome.

**Leader**

Tony Black

**YOGA 1 (YOGA1)****every Monday**

Malvern Vale Community Centre

09.15-10.15

The yoga class is taught by a qualified yoga instructor, teaching a gentle and restorative form of yoga. The class includes a series of postures, a short meditation and a final relaxation. This is a mixed ability group and is suitable for those who have practised yoga before and complete beginners. For this class, you will need to be able to lie on the floor and get up and down from the floor unaided.

**Leader**

Emma Savage

**YOGA 2 (YOGA2)****every Thursday**

Malvern Vale Community Centre

16:45-17:45

The yoga class is taught by a qualified yoga instructor, teaching a gentle and restorative form of yoga. The class includes a series of postures, a short meditation and a final relaxation. The group is suitable for those who have practised yoga before and complete beginners. For this class, you will need to be able to lie on the floor and get up and down from the floor unaided.

**Leader**

Emma Savage

---

**Social****DRIVING SKILLS REVISITED (DRIV1)****on the 3rd Friday**

Malvern Cube Community Centre

10.00-12.00

We can help you refresh your ability to cope with modern day situations. Each month our talk covers a different topic, including night driving, winter driving, motorways, manoeuvres, lone driving, technology and challenges. We also offer an hour's one-to-one driving assessment in your own car.

**Leader**

Val Allen

---

**QUIZ GROUP (QUIZ1)****on the last Friday**

Saint Andrew's Church Centre

14.00-16.30

We welcome individuals as well as couples/friends. Teams of between 4 and 5 people are decided on arrival. We have a different quiz master each month drawn from members of the group. The usual format is 8 rounds on a variety of topics, with a coffee/tea break.

**Leader**

Aidan Lawrence

**SOLOS (SOLO1)****on the 1st Saturday**

Manor Park Sports Club

10.00-12.00

Solos has grown into a large, friendly group, embracing positive aging with a variety of social events for those living on their own. This group offers a warm environment where friendships flourish through shared activities.

**Leader**

Mary Barrett

**Treasurer**

Pat Bowyer

**SOLOS TOO (SOLO2)****on the 3rd Saturday**

Manor Park Sports Club

10.30-12.30

Solos Too Group Summary Established in September 2025, Solos Too is a social group for people living alone, offering companionship and a range of activities to promote positive ~ ageing and wellbeing. It is an offshoot of the original Solos group. Currently we are formulating what we will offer, but it is likely to include: Monthly meet-ups. Informal coffee mornings each month. Key Events.

**Leader**

Marilyn Clarke

**Contact**

Sue Pascoe

**THE GOOD BEER GROUP (BEER1)****on the 3rd Tuesday**

Various locations

19:00-Late

We meet to share and develop our knowledge of good beers through tastings, talks and visits to pubs and breweries.

Information about meetings is sent out by e-mail.

Participants are encouraged to become involved in organising or assisting with trips and venues, but this is not compulsory.

**Leader**Carl Flint

---

**THE GRAPE GROUP (GRPE1)****on the 1st Wednesday**

Various locations

19.30-22.00

We explore the pleasures of wine, and welcome absolute beginners as well as those who are already quite knowledgeable. The basic idea is to enjoy the wine in your glass, as well as to learn something more about wine in a structured but informal atmosphere.

**Leader**Michael John Davies

---

**THE GRAPE GROUP 2 (GRPE2)****on the 3rd Thursday**

Various locations

19.30-22.00

We explore the pleasures of wine, and welcome absolute beginners as well as those who are already quite knowledgeable. The basic idea is to enjoy the wine in your glass, as well as to learn something more about wine in a structured but informal atmosphere.

**Joint Leader**

Lars Phillips

**Joint Leader**Anita Phillips

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**TRAVEL GROUP (TRVL1)****on the 2nd Tuesday**

Malvern Rugby Football Club

14.00-16.00

Members of this very large group volunteer to organise various day trips to places of interest in the UK. All members of Malvern U3A are automatically enrolled as members of The Travel Group. Further details are shown on our web page.

**Leader**

Peter Dennis

**Joint Leader**

Hazel Haslam

**WINE TASTING (WINE1)****on the 2nd Saturday**

Members' homes

19.30-22.00

The group is not intended for wine “experts” but for those who simply want to sample a range of wines and talk about them. Group members (a) contribute £15 a month to cover the cost of the wine, (b) provide a plate of food for sharing.

**Leader**

David Martin

**Joint Leader**

Liz Martin

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ENJOYING SHAKESPEARE (SHKE1)	27	PATCHWORK 2 AND NEEDLECRAFT (PTCH2)	8
ESTIMATIONS CARD GAME (ESTM1)	12	PATCHWORK AND NEEDLE SKILLS (PTCH1)	8
EXPLORING MATHEMATICAL IDEAS (MATH1)	31	PHILOSOPHICAL DISCUSSION (PHIL1)	13
FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY (GENY1)	16	PHOTOGRAPHY (PHO1)	12
FILM GROUP 1 (FLMG1)	27	PICKLEBALL (PCKL1)	41
FILM GROUP 2 (FLMG2)	28	PLAY READING 1 (PLRD1)	29
FILM GROUP 4 (FLMG4)	28	PLAY READING 2 (PLRD2)	29
FLUENT FRENCH 1 (FRFL1)	18	POETRY PLEASE (POET1)	29
FLUENT FRENCH CONVERSATION (FRFL2)	18	POETRY PLEASE 2 (POET2)	29
		QUIZ GROUP (QUIZ1)	45
		RECORDER GROUP (RCRD1)	35
		RUSSIAN IMPROVERS (RUS1)	23

SCIENCE ( GENETICS AND EVOLUTION ) (SCI1)	33	TABLE TENNIS (TT1)	42
SCRABBLE (SCRB1)	12	TABLE TENNIS SINGLES (TT2)	42
SHAKESPEARE ON PAGE AND STAGE (SHKE2)	30	TAI CHI (TACH1)	42
SHORT MAT BOWLING 1 (BOWL2)	41	THE GOOD BEER GROUP (BEER1)	46
SHORT MAT BOWLING 2 (BOWL3)	41	THE GRAPE GROUP (GRPE1)	46
SILK PAINTING (SLKP1)	9	THE GRAPE GROUP 2 (GRPE2)	46
SING ANYWAY! (SING1)	36	THE HUMAN BODY (HBOD1)	33
SING TOGETHER (SING2)	36	THE WALKING GROUP (WALK1)	43
SKI (SKI1)	42	THE WIND GROUP (WIND1)	37
SOCIAL DEBATE (SOCL1)	14	THEATRE STUDIES (THET1)	30
SOCIAL HISTORY (SOCL2)	17	TRAVEL GROUP (TRVL1)	47
SOLOS (SOLO1)	45	UKULELE (UKUL1)	37
SOLOS TOO (SOLO2)	45	WALKING FOOTBALL (WLKF2)	43
SPANISH BEGINNERS (SPBG1)	24	WELSH CULTURE GROUP (WLSH1)	17
SPANISH CONVERSATION A (SPCV1)	24	WINE TASTING (WINE1)	47
SPANISH CONVERSATION B (SPCV2)	24	WOOD CARVING (WCRV1)	9
SPANISH IMPROVERS 1 (SPIM1)	25	YOGA 1 (YOGA1)	43
SPIRITUALITY AND LITERATURE (SPRT1)	14	YOGA 2 (YOGA2)	44

## Venues

<b>Venue</b>	<b>Address</b>
Ascension Church	Somers Park Road, Malvern, WR14 1XA
Church Meadow Court Retirement Housing	Graham Road, Malvern, WR14 2JT
Elmslie House	8 Avenue Road, Malvern, WR14 3AG
Great Malvern Railway Station Park	Station Approach, Malvern, WR14 3AU
Guarlford Village Hall	4 Penny Lane, Guarlford, WR13 6PG
Hanley Swan Village Hall	Welland Road, Hanley Swan, WR8 0DA
Holy Trinity Parish Hall	North Malvern Road, Malvern, WR14 4LR
Lansdowne Crescent Methodist Church	Lansdowne Crescent, Malvern, WR14 2AW
Malvern Baptist Church	Abbey Road, Malvern, WR14 3HG
Malvern Cube Community Centre	Albert Road North, Malvern, WR14 2YH
Malvern Rugby Football Club	Spring Lane, Malvern, WR14 1AJ
Malvern St James Sports Centre	33 Barnards Green Rd, Malvern, WR14 3LH
Malvern Theatres Bistro Cafe	Grange Rd, Great Malvern, Malvern, WR14 3HB
Malvern Vale Community Centre	110 Swinyard Road, Malvern, WR14 1GU
Manor Park Sports Club	Albert Road North, Malvern, WR14 2TL
Miller's Court Farm	Birt Street, Birtsmorton, WR13 6AP
Poolbrook Village Hall	Poolbrook Road, Malvern, WR14 3JW
Saint Andrew's Church Centre	Churchdown Rd, Malvern, WR14 3JX
United Reformed Church Hall	Worcester Road, Malvern, WR14 1SS
Victoria Park Bowling Club	Victoria Park, Malvern Link, WR14 2JY
Welland Village Hall	Marlbank Road, Welland, WR13 6LA



For information about membership renewal, please see page ?

# Open Day 2025

Monday 1st September  
Great Malvern Priory, Church St.  
Malvern W14 2AY  
10:00 – 12:00

For the most up-to-date information see our website  
<https://www.malvernu3a.org.uk/group-dir/>

Important changes will also feature in the news bulletins  
sent to members