

# Hollywood u3a Newsletter

## GENERAL MEETING

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026 in the Queen's Hall

Hollywood @ 10.30

Annual General Meeting: The relevant documents will be circulated in the coming days.

Following the AGM Eamonn Mallie will speak on the topic "Eyewitness to War and Peace". Eamonn is well known to everyone as a television and radio broadcaster and reporter for many years. He'll share his exciting and intriguing experiences, including revealing his connections with the "Good, the Bad, and the Ugly"

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026 in the Queen's Hall

Hollywood @ 10.30

Michael Alexander will speak on the topic, "My Life in Music". Michael was a professional violinist with the Ulster Orchestra for many years. He'll tell us about his experiences. He'll also bring his violin and will play it!!

## Groups

AMBLERS          COFFEE & CHAT  
CREATING OUR OWN STORIES  
CANASTA   GARDENING   GENEALOGY  
LOCAL HISTORY   LOOSE ENDS   TAI CHI  
EXPLORING THE SHORT STORY   POINTS of VIEW  
BIRDWATCHING   FILM GROUP   MINDFULLNESS  
YOGA for RELAXATION   OUTDOOR BOWLING OUT & ABOUT

# Hollywood u3a Newsletter

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ETSS



To mark the tenth anniversary of Exploring the Short Story, we will be hosting an event to celebrate this milestone and inviting all former members of the group to join us.

The EtSS celebration will take place on the very day (and place) it started, Monday, the 14th of September, at the Hollywood Library. The convenor, Denise, is also flying over from England. Light refreshments will be available, as well as plenty of reminiscing. More details to follow!

### Contacting Group Leaders

On the u3a website you will find a list of all the current interest groups.

If you are interested in joining a group, the easiest way to contact the group leader is to click on the blue button labelled "CLICK HERE LEARN MORE".

You will find a simple form where you type in your name, contact details, and query. The group leader will receive a message and get back to you.

The u3a website is: [www.hollywoodu3a.org](http://www.hollywoodu3a.org).

### Apple iPhone training session:

The last of this series of classes takes place at 10:00 on 1st May 2026 in the Apple Store in Belfast.

There are a few places left on this.

A booking sheet will be available at the General Meeting and AGM on 24th April, or email [itadmin@hollywoodu3a.org](mailto:itadmin@hollywoodu3a.org).

### Android training:

Sessions in Hollywood Library at 2:30 pm on 7th May and 10:30 am on 5th June 2026

A booking sheet will be available at the General Meeting and AGM on 24th April.

The 7th May session will concentrate on Android phones. The 5th June session will concentrate on Android tablet.

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## AMBLERS

Thursday 14th May.

Walk from Hilden to Lisburn along the tow path.

Hollywood train at 10.03.

Sydenham. 10.07.

Grand Central Station platform 8 at 10.34 or

Hilden Train Station at 10.54.

Train home from Lisburn.

Thursday 28th May.

Walk along the coastal path from Bangor.

Sydenham train at 9.52.

Bangor train station at 10.20.

Everyone is welcome to join us on the Ambles.

Joy

## BIRD WATCHING

This group generally meets on the second Friday of each month. Friday 8th May in Groomsport meeting at 10.30 in the harbour car park. More details will be sent out to members nearer the time.

Arlene and Dorothy

## CANASTA

Friday 1st and Friday 15th May.

Hollywood Golf Club at 10.30.

All welcome to watch, learn or play.

Joy

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## COFFEE & CHAT

Tuesday 12th May at 10.30.  
Gardeners Rest Café.  
Hillmount garden centre.  
56-58 Upper Braniel Road  
Belfast BT5 7TX.

Everyone welcome.

Joy

## CREATING OUR OWN STORIES

Our short course has now finished. The group would like to restart in September, welcoming additional members of course.

Mary Anna.

## EXPLORING THE SHORT STORY

During our last meeting in April, we discussed a story by the Southern American writer, Flannery O'Connor, 'Everything That Rises Must Converge', a complex and layered text about generational and racial conflict in the American South in the early 1960s. O'Connor may not be everyone's cup of tea, but her stories generate much discussion.

Another story by another writer we have read will be chosen for May, once the convenor finds one! Our next meeting takes place at its usual day and time, the second Wednesday of the month, on 13 May, from half ten to half twelve, via Zoom. New members are always welcome. Contact the convenor for more details.

Denise

## FILM GROUP

Hello everyone... The film outings in May will be Tuesday 5th early afternoon showing and Friday 22nd early evening. Film details and seating plans will follow soonest. Meet at Dundonald Omniplex in the foyer seating area ten minutes before showing. Hopefully there will be a good choice of films.

Kind regards

Honor

May 2026

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## GARDENING GROUP

On Monday 18th May 2026 the Gardening Group will have the opportunity to visit John & Marsha McKendry's beautiful garden in Dunady Co Antrim.

Members will be e-mailed with the details nearer the time.

Elizabeth

## GENEALOGY GROUP

The genealogy group meets every 3rd Wednesday at 10:30 in PRONI. We discuss various topics, helping each other in our research. So, if you are interested in exploring your family history you will find this an interesting and useful group.

Robert

## LOCAL HISTORY

The next meeting is on 6th May at 10.30am in the Con Auld Gallery, Hollywood Library. Topic: County Down, the Cariboo Goldrush and the foundations of British Columbia. Speaker: Brian White, Great grandson of pioneer Alexander Robb from Crawfordsburn.

Audrey

## LOOSE ENDS

Loose Ends is on hold for now.

Sandra

## OUTDOOR BOWLS

We play every Tuesday afternoon at 1.30pm for an hour and a half. If you would like some relaxed recreation, please come along and give it a try. All you need is a pair of flat shoes, we will have some bowls you can use. The price is £47.90 for the season or £4.00 per session, payable by cash only, no cheques.

Diane and Ann

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## OUT AND ABOUT

Currently nothing planned for May. If anything is arranged for May a separate email will be sent out.

Joy

## POINTS OF VIEW

This group meets in the Old School house on the last Monday of each month at 10.30.

April 27<sup>th</sup>: "Relevance of the Royal Family in the 21st Century".

May 25<sup>th</sup>: "The Middle East War".

June 29<sup>th</sup>: "What makes a good movie".

Dorothy

## TAI CHI QIGONG

Tai Chi Qigong classes will continue throughout May. As I will be out of the country, volunteers will be leading the class.

Yvonne

## YOGA

The Yoga class is on hold for now.

Barry