
TODAY is our A.G.M. when you will be asked to elect your Committee for the next twelve months, and prospective Committee members will be introduced to you. Papers attached are: Agenda, Minutes of the last AGM, Chairman's Report and Thank You note plus the Treasurer's Report. Our Interest Group Leaders will be introduced by Mavis, and they may tell you a little bit about their individual group activities.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP £15.00 per person January to December 2026 Application forms and full membership information available from Ivan on the Reception desk. Visitors are always welcome and can attend up to three meetings after which they are asked to join and become members.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2026 - think about joining one of our interest groups and perhaps come with us on one of our day trips. Everything at Sandwell u3a is run by volunteers who give their time freely in the hope of providing members with an opportunity to take up a new interest and increase their existing knowledge. It is also a good opportunity to make new friends and keep in touch with old ones.

LIBRARY PLUS is a new service allowing you to access libraries beyond existing opening hours when no staff are present. You will first need to register and book an appointment to attend an induction. If you are interested, please ring **0121 569 4929** for more information and the libraries this service applies to.

- **CELEBRATIONS BETWEEN TODAY'S MEETING AND OUR NEXT MEETING ON 9 MARCH 2026**
February – 9th Joan Richardson [TODAY], 10th Doreen Cooper [very special birthday], 24th Angela Hunt.
March – 5th Mavis Catchpowle. Congratulations to you all on your birthday and enjoy your celebrations. If you would like to have a note of any special events in Newsroundup, please let Ann Wyle know.
- **INDOOR BOWLING AT GAYTON ROAD**
Two-hour sessions £4.00 in the Ballroom, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings 9.45am-12pm [contact Janet Dearn 07960 785664 or Margaret Withers 0121 552 4512], and Tuesday and Friday afternoons 1.45-4pm [contact John Manders 07494 893387]. All welcome and if you need more information, please contact Janet, Margaret, or John.
- **LOTTERY £5 payment due March** covers 10 weeks [50p p.wk]. Congratulations January winners: Janet Bailey, Christine Blakesley, Peggy Desorgher, Pat Stevens. Please see Brenda to take part.
- **RAFFLE** Congratulations January winners: Angela Hunt, Judith Longbottom, Pat Neal, Pat Stevens, Ann Wyle. If you have any prizes you can donate to the raffle they will be gratefully received, so please see Mavis or Ann Medhurst today.
- **TRUSTED TRADERS - Sue Clothier** 0121 588 4164 If you have previously recommended a trader, please check that the details held are correct and we have the right information. Please contact Sue if you can recommend a trader or would like details of a particular service.
- **PLEASE, REMEMBER to switch off or put your mobile phone on 'silent' mode during the meeting, and also please refrain from talking to each other during introductions and presentations. THANK YOU.**

INTEREST GROUPS. For more information about any of our groups please speak to a group leader [contact details below], our Group Liaison Officer Mavis Catchpowle, or a member of the committee. Next meeting dates are shown below.

***ART- Wednesday 18 February 10.30am-12.30pm** Central Library, West Bromwich. **10.30-12.30pm**

For more information contact group facilitator

Janet Linney 0121 588 3543 / 07710 921375.

***CHESS – Martin Roebuck** 0121 532 3639 / 07710 294834 Hill Top Library, West Bromwich.

Tuesday 17 February 2pm Please come along, everyone welcome, regardless of your chess ability.

***COMPUTERS - Ann Hobson** 0121 358 1662 / 07595 987974

Monday 2 March 10am-12noon 104 Stanton Rd, Great Barr. If you need any help with your laptop, tablet, or `phone, please come along and we will try to help you.

***CROWN GREEN BOWLS – starts again on Thursday 23 April.**

***GERMAN -Judith Ridgway** 0121 360 6152 / 07490 488144 Central Library, West Bromwich

Thursday 26 February 10am-12noon.

***GREEK – Chris Prior** 07816 059527 chriscoce@hotmail.co.uk

Wednesday 25 February 10-12pm Central Library, West Bromwich. All welcome to come along.

***ITALIAN Norma Priest** 0121 588 7716 **There will not be a meeting in February**

***LATIN- Sue Clothier** 0121 588 4164

Monday 23 February 10.00am00-12.00pm Central Library, West Bromwich. You may enjoy learning a little

of this ancient language so please come along.

***MUSIC APPRECIATION GROUP - Phil Page** 0121 682 5249

Wednesday 18 February 2pm Gayton Road Community Centre Training Room, 2 - 3.30 pm. The Group will continue to remember the popular music of the 20th century. With contributions from very varied artists, such as The Kinks, Kenny Ball and Dame Kiri Te Kanawa.

***OUTINGS - Ann Wyle** 07789 776441 [see Ann or Pat Brown if interested]

On all outings members take priority. Non-members may come along, subject to availability.

***Friday 24 April 2026 British Ironworks Centre, Oswestry. Cost £30pp, deposit £5pp required.**

Includes coach fare, entrance, and buffet lunch. Leaving WB at 9.45am.

*****Very early notice. Friday 11 December 3-course lunch at The Nevill Arms, Redditch.**

The cost of the trip will be advised nearer the date but if you are interested, please put your name on the list. Deposit of £5 can be paid at the next meeting.

***STROLLERS - Mike Matthews** 0121 357 9018 / 07710 170099

Every Thursday 10.30am Meet at RSPB entrance in Tanhouse Ave, Great Barr. Parking is free at the entrance but is chargeable if you park outside the RSPB building. However, if you become a member of the RSPB then parking is free. Nothing strenuous or difficult, and finish with a drink and chat at the RSPB coffee shop. All welcome to come along.

***SWIMMING - Ann Hobson** 0121 358 1662 / 07595 987974

Wednesdays 8.30-9.30 West Bromwich Leisure Centre, small pool. **Please try and come along and join the sessions.** Café not open but drinks available from Reception. Free entry for Sandwell residents who must take proof of residency [council tax bill, utility bill]. Car park fee is refunded at Reception.

***THEATRE - Peggy Desorgher** 07929 932362. No theatre dates planned at the moment.

*****IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING A DISCUSSION GROUP, PLEASE SEE MAVIS FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

- **NEXT MEETING – Monday 9 March 1.30 for 2pm start when Keith Farr will entertain us by singing and playing his guitar.**
- **There is a £2 charge at each meeting to cover additional room hire charges.**

Current Committee elected at the AGM 9 February 2026:

Chair, Ann Hobson

Vice Chair, Ivan Wyle

Secretary, Ann Wyle

Treasurer, Brenda Evans

Membership Secretary, Mike Matthews **Speakers' Secretary,** Alan Hobson

Communications Officer, Sue Clothier **Group Liaison Officer,** Mavis Catchpowle

Other Committee Members: Carol Green, Phil Page