



Olton and District u3a

January 2026

Newsletter 107

Website - [oltonanddistrict.u3asite.uk](http://oltonanddistrict.u3asite.uk)



Welcome to the newsletter for January, may I wish you all a Happy New Year and hope 2026 is good for you. The start of the new year is always associated with bringing changes and starting afresh. I am giving notice that I shall be stepping down from being Olton and District u3a newsletter editor in April 2026 and would like to find someone to replace me and carry this role forward. If you are interested please let me or a committee member know. Many Thanks.

### NEWS FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

#### Recycling Opportunity



“We will have a collection box for used cartridges at the next core meeting. Any Money raised from recycling cartridges will be used to support Olton and District u3a. We have so far raised over £200.00 by recycling used ink cartridges”

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### NEWS FROM OUR INTEREST GROUPS

#### Curry night - Jo R



“Our first curry night of 2026 will be held on **Tuesday 27th January** at the Rajasthan Restaurant in Olton at **7 pm**. The price for a main course, rice and naan will be **£15.00**.

Drinks are payable when ordering.”

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#### Holiday Group - Joy E.



##### Great Yarmouth 2026

“Friday 11th September to Tuesday 15th September 2026. Cost **£499.00**

The hotel is the **Palm Court** which is lovely, on the sea front, flat for walking and the reviews are really good. We have managed to get 13 single rooms (no single supplement). There will be of course 2 days out (TBA).

The deposit is £40.00 per person, please let me know ASAP. Happy New Year to everyone.”

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## Garden lovers' group - Rob C



"Happy New Year to everyone in our u3a. The final garden lovers meeting of 2025 was held at the Friary on Friday 12th December. Thirty two of us enjoyed each other's company and also a splendid array of food. I think this end of year gathering in December is now firmly established as one of our regular calendar items.

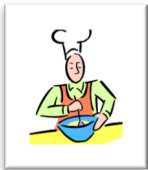
Our next meeting will be at Baddesley Clinton on Friday 13th February starting at 1pm. We are hoping to see a good display of snowdrops particularly by the path up to the church.



It is rather miserable weather wise at present so I have included a photo of Kew gardens last summer to remind everyone that brighter weather will soon be here."

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## Cookery Group - Janice C.



"The December meeting of the Cookery group included a festive buffet, where each member brought either a sweet or savoury dish. Janice and Desy decorated the room beautifully, and the food was accompanied by a glass or two of (non-alcoholic) Prosecco. It was a lovely afternoon and a great start to the Christmas season."



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## Scrabble & Rummikub Group - Chris F.



"Wishing u3a members all the best for 2026, unfortunately the meeting for the beginning of January was cancelled due to the snow. There are some lovely sunny days at the moment, which would be great for walks, if it wasn't for the snow and ice, as long as you are wrapped up against the cold."

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**Line Dancing Group - Sue M. Gill N and Carmel D.**



“The line dancing group held our Christmas party on 16 December when 65 dancers attended for fun frolics, mince pies and drinks. What fun we had as you can see from the photograph and it was good for us all to have time to chat. Here’s to our 10th year of testing our feet and brains.

It was decided that instead of exchanging Christmas cards dancers may wish to make a donation to the food bank. You will see from the photograph the donations delivered to the food bank at the Renewal Church by Gill and Bev. They were delighted with all our efforts and said it would really help. A BIG thank you to those who made this possible. At the suggestion of our dancers we will be carrying on with donations this year to help those in need in our area.’

We wish all our u3a members a Very Happy Healthy and Joyous 2026.”



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**Trips Group - Pat C.**



**New Spring Trip**

“A coach trip has been organised to Quarry Bank Mill in Cheshire for THURSDAY, 19th March, 2026. Members were informed recently by email. The mill and estate is owned by the National Trust and is a very popular property.

Please email Pat Castro at [patcastro29@hotmail.com](mailto:patcastro29@hotmail.com) as soon as possible if you are interested in joining us. Thank you.”

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## **Quiz Group - Hilary B. and Carol O.**



“Happy New Year to all our quizzers! The first quiz of the year is all about dates in 2026. On which day and month will the following days be celebrated in 2026? For example, Michaelmas Day = . September 29th.

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|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Burns Night        | 6. St Swithin’s Day |
| 2. St Valentine’s Day | 7. Halloween        |
| 3. St David’s day     | 8. All Saints Day   |
| 4. St Patrick’s Day   | 9. Guy Fawkes Night |
| 5. St George’s Day    | 10. St Andrew’s Day |

Here are the answers to **December’s Christmas Number Ones** quiz.

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|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Johnnie Ray     | 6. Johnny Mathis    |
| 2. Harry Belafonte | 7. Human League     |
| 3. Danny Williams  | 8. Pet Shop Boys    |
| 4. The Scaffold    | 9. Michael Jackson  |
| 5. Mud             | 10. The Spice Girls |

The Quiz Group meets on the second Thursday of each month at 1.30pm at Olton Friary. Our January quiz was cancelled owing to concerns about the icy conditions. Carol and Hilary would be pleased to see you if you would like to join us.”

**If you have any items you would like included in the February newsletter, please send them to me at [oltonu3aeleanor@gmail.com](mailto:oltonu3aeleanor@gmail.com)**