

Maghull and Lydiate u3a Welfare Policy. 2023



Maghull & Lydiate U3A would wish to ensure consideration for all its members during periods of particular need e.g. bereavement, ill health and times of significant change. The principles of mutual aid and support that contributes to members overall health and wellbeing is encouraged.

Our u3a supports and encourages Group Leaders to be mindful of any changes within their Group membership and are requested to inform a member of the Welfare Team. This may cover such areas as access to venues, wheelchair sites, lighting, hearing loops etc

Our Welfare Team consists of both committee members and non- committee personnel. It is imperative that at least one committee member is on the team as information regarding the passing on of current members will need to be recorded on Beacon. A Welfare Officer is appointed from the Committee; should a Welfare Officer not be appointed, the role shall fall to the Chair. The Welfare Officer or nominee has responsibility for leading the Welcomers at the weekly meetings where they greet both new and existing members. The Welfare Officer ensures that the Welcomers are alert to access for those with mobility issues, emergency exits and issues of Health and Safety.

Actions of the Welfare Team

In the event of problems with access to certain venues the Welfare Officer and Safeguarding Officer should be contacted by the Group Leader to find a solution to the problem.

Invariably the team will deal with sending out cards relating to illness and bereavement. Only current members of the u3a will be sent 'Get Well' or 'Thinking of You' card depending upon the nature of the illness/accident/crisis etc. Flowers/ plants will not be sent.

In the case of bereavement members who have lost a close relative will be sent a sympathy cards on behalf of the committee and all members.

In the case if the passing of one of our current members a sympathy card will be sent and alongside this notification of the member's passing will be sent to all Group Leaders. This notification will request that Group Leaders inform their members in case any of them knew the deceased. Once we are informed of funeral arrangements these will be sent out to all group leaders again with the view of passing the information to all members by osmosis. No notice will be place directly on line as this can be seen by anyone on the web and might come as a shock to those not yet informed by the family,

The committee member with access to Beacon will then make the necessary change to the status if the person online. This will ensure that only current members are included in our return to The Trust. All necessary addresses can be found on Beacon. No printed copies if our membership role should be used.

Members who have resigned from the u3a will not be sent a card.

Members contacting the Welfare Team for further information should not be given phone numbers or home addresses until permission has been obtained from the member or relatives in the case of death.

Thank You Cards

Thank you cards will be sent directly from the Chair on behalf of all members in the event if a Group Leader resigning from their role and to members who have been working as a member of a sub-committee.

Thank you letters should be sent to all members and non members attending the u3a and giving their time for events such as concerts.