

Getting the most from your u3a membership

The U3A is a friendly group of people that is open to everyone no longer in full time employment.

By joining you get the opportunity to :-

- Make new friends.
- Come along to Monthly Meeting and hear speakers on a variety of subjects.
- Join one of our many groups covering a wide variety of interests, hobbies, skills, or even start a new group yourself.
- Take part in Outings, Coach trips, Theatre visits, Wine tasting, Eating out
- Receive magazine updates via the Newsletter
- Have access to all our news and information through the U3A website.
- Volunteer to help and join the Committee.

We also have a private Facebook group for members discussion.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2455307594682033>

Monthly meetings - Our monthly meetings are at the Astor Theatre in Deal. These are usually talks, but we do have the occasional coffee morning or quiz. They are on the first Wednesday of each month. You should be able to talk to any of the committee members who are there and also a few group leaders. The first meeting you come to someone will make sure you are seated with someone to chat to.

Occasionally we have meetings in Dover, the Landmark Centre or the Astor on the third Wednesday of the month and information about these will be sent by email or post and will also be posted on the website.

Website - Every bit of information about our activities is on our website which can be found here <https://wcc.u3asite.uk/> or by typing White Cliffs u3a into Google. It's our notice board, so please do look there to see the latest news about what we're doing.

If you need any help with Navigating the website or logging in to Beacon our website manager Bill Venables will be happy to help you. His email address is u3ait111@outlook.com. Bill and his wife Mary also run regular drop in sessions at the Golf Road Centre where you can get help using gadgets and Laptops, so do keep an eye out for announcements of those in the Newsletter and by email.

Membership - You can renew your membership and join groups through Beacon our membership database. This is on-line and you will be given a link to it when you first join. There are also links to it on every page of the website should you lose the information.

You will be invited to a new member meeting soon after you join, you will get a chance to meet the Committee and other new members, there may also be a few Group Leaders there. You can have a chat about all aspects of the u3a. Do try and come along if you can even if it's just for the tea and cake.

Groups – If you look on the Groups page of the Website you find a listing of every Group that is currently running, we also send out a new list of groups each year and you should get a copy of that by email or post.

Outings – We have outings and trips throughout the year but mostly in the summer. Information will be emailed out when new trips are announced.

Committee – The latest details (including photos) of who is on the Committee are on the Website. There is also a contact form where you can contact anyone of us.

The Third Age Trust

The Third Age Trust is the Nation Movement representing all u3as. The national movement and the regional u3as are all separate charities with their own constitution and committee, but work together with the common aim of helping people continue learning.

The Third Age Trust also offer many interesting Events and on line groups which you can also join and there's a little bit of information about them here.

TAT Main Website - <https://www.u3a.org.uk/>

- Interest Groups On-line

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/interest-groups-online/interest-groups-online-groups>

- This offers a variety of peer led, online learning opportunities.
- To join a group, it will cost you £12

- On-line Learning Events. <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events#Events>

- u3a members can access a wide range of free online talks, workshops, and courses through their membership. Most sessions are led by fellow members, sharing their expertise, with additional talks from notable speakers and organizations.
- All events are bookable via Eventbrite. and are exclusively for u3a members.

- Summer Schools <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/summer-schools>

- u3a summer schools are organised by individual regions and nations, giving you the opportunity to spend a couple of days getting to know other members, learning new things, and exploring topics your u3a might not usually offer.
- You can find all the summer schools taking place this year on the Summer Schools page. Full course details and booking information are available on each region's website, which are linked on this page.