

University of the Third Age (U3A) Banstead Area

Thank you for showing an interest in our U3A. Please find additional information which you may find helpful and should enable you to decide whether or not the U3A is for you.

What is the U3A?

It is an organisation aimed at people who have reached retirement or semi-retirement age, or whose family responsibilities have reduced thereby releasing time for themselves. U3A Banstead Area currently has more than 600 members.

The U3A movement is a type of co-operative relying on all of its members taking an active part, within each individual's capabilities. It is not for those seeking to be easily entertained. It is for those who want to develop an interest for their own enjoyment. The U3A enables the sharing of experience and knowledge gained by its members over a lifetime, supplemented by information gained from books or the internet etc For the U3A to succeed for everyone members should be prepared to share time, energy, knowledge and experience with other members.

How does it work?

Like-minded people get together in a group on a regular basis to undertake a specific activity or study or pastime. Groups meet in a friendly environment such as a member's home, with a few larger groups using meeting rooms or halls. Some group members may have subject knowledge, other members could have none. This doesn't matter, a willingness to take part is far more important. There are no exams or tests. The purpose is to learn, improve or try something new just for personal satisfaction.

Enjoyment and learning to laugh are cornerstones of the U3A.

Structure.

The Committee is drawn from the membership. It is not brought in from an outside body. It is made up of volunteer members who are prepared to give some time to undertake a task that enables the whole of Banstead Area U3A to function and improve. The Committee meets about 4 times a year but communicates through email outside meetings. It takes decisions on how the local U3A is managed, what social activities are provided, which guest speakers to invite along to Open Meetings, which interest groups need support and which new groups need starting.

Interest Groups are the backbone of any U3A. The current list of groups reflects the interests of the group leaders / group co-ordinators. New groups are formed when, either an existing group is full or there are sufficient members on the waiting list to start a second group, or when a number of members with a shared interest are brought together to start a new group.

Open Meetings are held regularly throughout the year. Guest speakers are invited along to talk about a subject which is of potential interest to the membership as a whole and to answer any follow-up questions. These events are open to all members and entry is free on the production of a current membership card. Open Meetings not only provide an informative talk but also give time for members to socialise, have a cup of tea and to find out about other U3A activities. The Open Meetings programme can be found on the web page and appears in our Newsletter which is issued 3 times a year.

The Third Age Trust [TAT]. U3A Banstead Area, like the other 1,000-plus U3A's in the country comes under the umbrella of the Third Age Trust which provides the legal basis for our charitable status. We are also covered by insurances put in place by TAT. In order not to breach the terms of our insurance cover, only fully paid-up members may take part in our group activities. Group leaders/ co-ordinators undertake a check of membership cards annually.

"Really Useful Groups" [RUGs] exist to help with regular one-off tasks that need to be undertaken. Volunteers join a small pool of people to be called upon to help as needed. If enough members volunteer, the chances are the call comes only once or twice a year. RUGs are an excellent way to meet new people and, although busy at the time, are usually enjoyable.

Please keep the details outlined above for your information

U3A - Banstead Area

Reg. Charity 1049254

Membership Application Form 2018/19

The initial annual subscription is £12 per person and runs from 1st September to 31st August. For those joining between 1st April and 30th June, the initial subscription is £6 per person, which covers the period through to 31st August. For those joining after June 30th, the fee is £12 per person, but their membership is valid until 31st August of the following year.

Completed membership application forms can be given in at the AGM and Open Meetings (**initial subscriptions by cash or cheque, payable to U3A Banstead**) or sent by post (cheques only) to: The Membership Secretaries: Robin & Dee Brodie, 31 Balmoral Way, Sutton SM2 6PD (Telephone 020 8642 1718).

For **membership renewals**, the **discounted** annual subscription is £10 if you pay by Standing Order or on-line Bank Transfer, payable on the 1st September of each year. A Standing Order application form is at the end of the second page of this form for you to complete and then **send to the Membership Secretaries**. This discounted subscription also applies if you renew by cash or cheque (please include a self-addressed and stamped envelope) before the 31st October, after which it reverts to £12.

The annual subscription includes a £3.50 fee paid to our national organisation, the Third Age Trust, which provides a range of services and benefits including "Third Age Matters" and "Sources" magazines, and public liability insurance cover. Your subscription also entitles you to receive our own Newsletter and attendance at any number of our groups and open meetings. Should you have an email address, you will receive our Newsletter by email. If you prefer a paper copy, let us know. Some copies will also be available at our Open Meetings.

Surname.....

First Name(s).....

Name of second applicant at the same address

Address.....

Post Code..... Telephone no.....

Email.....

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

All members must:

- Abide by the Principles of the U3A movement.
- Always act in the best interests of the U3A and never do anything to bring the U3A into disrepute.
- Abide by the terms and conditions of the constitution.
- Treat fellow members with respect and courtesy at all times.
- Comply with and support the decisions of the elected committee.
- Advise the committee of any change in your personal details.

I/We apply for membership **U3A Banstead Area** and confirm that I/We will abide by the terms of membership as stated above. I/We confirm that I/We have completed the form myself/ourselves. I/We will make full payment of fees due as soon as is reasonably practicable.

Signed (first applicant) Dated

Signed (second applicant) Dated

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Please tick the box below to give us permission to use (for the duration of your membership) the information you have supplied in the following ways:

- To store it securely for membership purposes.
- To communicate with you as a U3A member.
- To share with group leaders for those groups that you are a member of.
- To send you general information about the Third Age Trust (the national organisation to which U3As are affiliated).

I/we consent to my/our data being used for membership purposes as detailed above.

Are you happy to be added to the direct mailing list for the Third Age Trust magazines – Third Age Matters and Sources? If so, please tick the box below:

I/we consent to my/our data being shared with the company who oversee the distribution of the Third Age Trust Magazines.

Please be advised that you can request for your data not to be used for any of these purposes at any time by contacting the Membership Secretaries as detailed on first page.

For Internal Use Only:

Received	Paid	Logged	Membership Number/s

Standing Order Application Form

Please complete details below and return with your Application Form.

To: Bank & Address..... Please pay: HSBC BANK, BANSTEAD BRANCH, Sort Code 40 09 04

For the credit of: U3A – Banstead, Account No 21389688

The sum of £*10/20. Amount in words *Ten/Twenty pounds (*Delete as appropriate)

Date of first payment 1st September and then 1st September annually, debit my (our) account accordingly until further notice

Name of account to be debited.....

Ref (to be filled in by membership secretary).....

Sort Code...../...../..... Account Number.....

Signature(s).....Date

Please complete details below and return with your Application Form.

Name.....

Name of partner [if applicable]

Address.....

.....Post Code.....

Email address.....

Email address for partner [if applicable].....

Telephone number.....

How did you find out about the U3A?

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What are your 2 or 3 main interests?

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What are the 2 or 3 main interests of partner [if applicable].....

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How do you and your partner [if applicable] hope to benefit from joining the U3A?

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What special [if any] experience / knowledge can you or your partner [if applicable] contribute?

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What groups, not on our list, would you like to see started?

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The following activities need volunteers. Please tick alongside the activity if you are willing to join other members to undertake:

Putting out chairs at Open Meetings

Making teas / coffees at Open Meetings

General admin support on ad-hoc basis, usually from home, own computer needed.....

Setting-up projector / PA system at Open Meetings.....

Updating webpage as required, usually from home, own computer needed.....

Updating IT information [Microsoft systems] ad hoc, from home, own computer needed

Editing the Newsletter issued 3 times a year

Might you be interested in joining the Committee? Yes / No