Welcome to Hitchin u3a

u3a is a UK-wide movement which brings together people in their 'third age' to develop their interests and continue their learning in a friendly and informal environment. The emphasis is on making learning fun.

The third age is the period in one's life, after the second age of employment and parenting, and can include people working part time.

Hitchin u3a is a comparatively small, friendly, secular and non-political group of over 200 members and new members are always welcome. Current members hail from Hitchin and surrounding towns and villages.

Venue: The main meetings are held at **Christchurch**, **Bedford Road**, the conveniently central location in Hitchin town. We usually meet on the second and fourth Monday afternoons of the month (2pm for 2.15) except on Bank Holidays,. At most meetings there is a guest speaker, with interesting talks on a wide variety of subjects. Meetings conclude with a social chat over a cup of tea and biscuits.

A full programme of speakers is available at the meetings and on the website.

Joining: Membership is £20 per calendar year (January to December).. Before joining prospective members are very welcome to attend one or two of the main meetings to find out more about us, for small donation. There is wheelchair access and carers are welcome free of charge.

For further information contact the Membership Secretary at the fortnightly meetings or via e-mail from the u3a website

ujjor learn, learn, live

Make new friends, take up new interests

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For more information visit the website at <u>www.u3asites.org.uk/hitchin</u>

Hitchin u3a Groups

Like all U3As, individual groups are the focus of Hitchin u3a. There is a combination of Open Groups, Interest Groups, and RUGs as well as a full program of Travel and Entertainment, helping to keep mind and body active.

Open Groups

The open groups are for all Hitchin u3a members and are a great way to meet other members informally whether you are new or a long-term member.

Although open to all members, numbers may sometimes be limited so please contact the Group Leader in good time.

Open Groups

- Bird Watching
- Creative Dance
- Lunch Group
- Singing (for Pleasure)
- Walking Group
- Wanderers
- Sunday lunch
- Two Mile Walks
- MOOG

Travel and Entertainment

A full and varied program of day trips, holidays and entertainment are arranged throughout the year, in conjunction with Hitchin Friendship. These are always very popular so early booking is essential.

For more details of each group please visit our website or come along to a regular meeting

Interest Groups

There are over 30 Interest groups for members & led by members, which cover a wide variety of interests. Examples of Interest groups are Architecture, Arts and Crafts, Creative Writing, Gardening and Science & Technology.

A full list of current groups can be seen on the website with a summary of the aim of each group. More details can be found at meetings.

Why not form a new Group?

Interested in a group that cannot currently take new members? Or have an interest in a subject that is not yet covered ?. Then why not register your interest at one of the meetings?

If there are enough prospective members then the opportunity to start another group is always available with the full support of the Group Co-ordinator, including help to promote and find a venue.

Really Useful Groups (RUGS)

The RUGS are essential for the smooth running of speakers meetings and the u3a as whole. They are open to all Hitchin u3a members and volunteers are always welcome They are a great way of getting involved in the running of the organisation. So please lend your support.

The RUGS cover : Reception, Roadies and Hospitality

U3A in the UK

There are now well over 1,000 u3as in the UK, split into Regions and Networks. Hitchin u3a is affiliated to the national **Third Age Trust** and linked to the **East of England Network.** For more details follow links from the website.