



MELBOURNE AREA DERBY

U3A (The University of the Third Age) 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.

If you're wondering what we mean by the third age - it is a time after you have finished working full-time or raising your family and have time to pursue your interests or try something new.

U3A has a 'university' of members who draw upon their knowledge and experience to teach and learn from each other but there are no qualifications to pass – it is just for pleasure. Learning is its own reward.

TO JOIN MAD U3A contact MADu3amem@gmail.com, come along to the monthly meeting (the first Thursday of the month: see below for details) or use the contacts link on the website

<https://u3asites.org.uk/melbourne-area>

You can find a list of the current activities on the website and sign up to groups.

The annual membership fee of £16 gives you access to the monthly meetings and group activities. There may be a small additional charge for group meetings to cover room hire costs etc. Please bring your membership card to meetings!

MONTHLY MEETINGS JANUARY TO MARCH 2020

There will not be a meeting in January.

THURS, 6th FEBRUARY: 14:00-16:00: 'LIVE LIFE BETTER'

Melbourne Assembly Rooms

Jane Tomkinson from Derbyshire County Council will talk on living life better and is also willing to do health checks if members wish e.g. blood pressure, height, weight, BMI etc.

THURS, 5th MARCH: 14:00-16:00: TALK ON DERBY MUSEUM

Melbourne Assembly Rooms

A talk on Derby Museum and what is new there.

NEW GROUP!!!

New Current Affairs group starting in the New Year: check the website for details! (See information on Beacon below)



Paul Stafford a U3A member from Nottinghamshire (left) gave us a thoroughly entertaining and informative talk about his holiday to North Korea at the October members meeting. Paul's talk was both funny and enlightening.

NEWS: THE BEACON SYSTEM

The Beacon system is a data management system designed by the U3A specifically for U3A branches, recently adopted by Melbourne U3A. The system is designed to hold all membership and financial information in one secure location and prevent unauthorised access, for an annual fee of £1 per member.

The main benefit is that Member information is held accurately and securely. The information is stored remotely and is accessible over the internet via password-controlled portals. The system keeps us legal by complying with the increasing bureaucracy required to be a charity. Data

protection [GDPR] and complying with insurance criteria are just two of the many challenges that face the committee.

Members can access only their own information to check for accuracy and choose whether to restrict access to their information. They can also view groups and calendars to check future events and sign up to attend new groups. **Committee members** have access to overview information and committee contact details but little more than members. **Officers have access relevant to their role** (eg The membership secretary is the person entrusted with membership information and the first person to contact with queries). **Group Leaders** have access to view and amend information relevant to their groups only, allowing them to contact group members with up to date information and manage the events for their group.

How do you access the system?

Go to the Melbourne Area Derby website and click on the links either as a member [you log in with your own information] or a system user if you have been issued with a username and password.

Contact madu3adata@gmail.com if you have any more questions.

If you wish to start a new group contact madu3agroups@gmail.com or call 07843 746217.

You do not need to be an expert, just enthusiastic! Ideas could include darts, gardening, sewing, quizzing chess, cycling...but anything goes!
