

The Northumbria Region U3A covers the area from Tynedale in the west to the east coast and from Berwick on the borders to Northallerton in Yorkshire, roughly 115 miles long and 70 miles wide.
(Insert map 2)

Each U3A contributes a fee (according to size) to cover administration costs and has a voting member.

Originating in January 1994, with an informal meeting of six U3As (Darlington, Durham, Ponteland, Stockton, Tynedale and Wearside) at the Redhills Hotel in Durham. The outcome was an informal regional group with a small committee with each U3A taking it in turn to chair the quarterly meetings.
Later a working party, set up to consider the future structure of the group,

recommended a change in name with the effect that on 23rd April 1996 the Redhills Group became The Northumbria Region. It had no constitution but a statement of intent: to fulfil the needs and aspirations of its members.

Its purpose is to encourage the development of new U3As and to support, stimulate and share ideas by various forms of communication between existing U3As in the region, maintaining the pattern of quarterly meetings, the venue being a changing feature.**(edit content to meet committees needs)**

In the reorganisation of 2006 it was deemed necessary to replace the statement of intent with a simple constitution. The elected Committee consists of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Regional Trustee, Regional Volunteers, Newsletter Editor and Committee Members.

Formal recognition as a Network by the Third Age Trust (TAT) happened in **2022** when Region participated in trialling a new Network Constitution. **(Amend to be accurate) boundary issues persist.**

There is a **3 year plan** in action to guide the way ahead based on the input of all member U3As together with the Committee, Regional volunteer group and TAT volunteers

Leaflet Produced 2024 for revision in 2027

Regional Meetings are a swap shop of ideas, information, successes and failures. Occasionally outside speakers or members of the National Executive are invited and quarterly reports are presented from our Regional Trustee, the Regional Volunteers, Development Events and IT sub-committees.**(Revise with input from committee)**
(Insert picture)

There is a Regional Web site where further information can be found. **Insert url**

The Northumbria Messenger is the regional newsletter.**Edit replace with Mary's content**
(Insert link to Messenger ?QR code)

Regional Commemorations have included celebrating 25 years of U3A in

Britain (2007) at New Collage Durham as well as visits to the Baltic Centre and Millennium Bridge. **Add reference to the Hadrian's Wall Event/40th Anniversary?**

The development of **New U3As** are supported by Region helping with the application for the grant from the Third Age Trust (TAT) if required. New U3As are invited to attend Regional meetings and are given free membership for their first year.

(Insert picture)

member U3As are circulated with information about the range of workshops available.

Region has been central to the development of role networks to enhance and support the work of volunteers and trustees in their U3As. Trustees offer support and opportunities for each other to explore issues and help resolve any conflicts. Sharing of documentation and processes are encouraged.

Study Days, Events and Shared Learning Projects are enabled by Region to support the development of activities not possible within one U3A.

(Insert Picture)

Social Media is being progressed with a Facebook identity and linked pages for the member U3As with support from volunteers **(Insert url or QR code)**

Online Training Events

These are organised by the Third Age Trust (TAT). They aim to address all aspects of running a successful U3A to enable members to feel supported and confident in their activities. Region advertise the workshops ensuring all



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
THE THIRD AGE TRUST

The Origins, Purpose and Development of
Northumbria U3A
Established 1994

Insert map 1

Charity Number

