



## Contacts

We have a small committee and are always happy to welcome volunteer committee members. At present the committee comprises:

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Vice Chair: Steve Cobb

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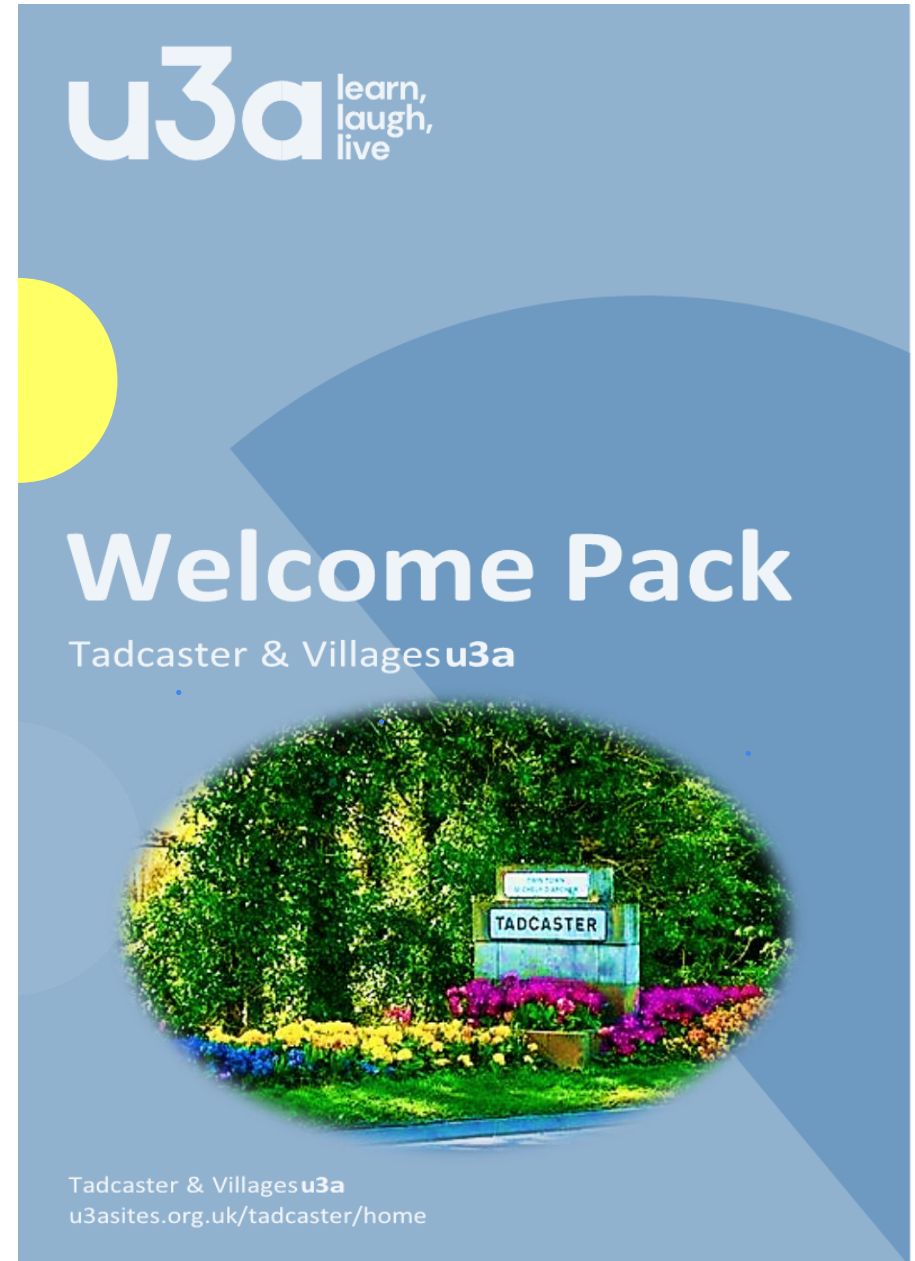
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**Learn** – u3a members are busy learning new things and staying active. There is so much to do – the choice is endless.

**Laugh** – So here's the thing – u3a is really good fun. You have the opportunity to follow your interest(s) or learn new ones and build friendships along the way.

**Live** – Our members are finding new interests and ways to continue to make the most of life by joining u3a.

## The Principles of the u3a Movement

The u3a movement is non-religious and non-political and has three main principles:

### Lifelong Learning

- Membership of the u3a is open to all those who have retired or are semi-retired.
- Members promote the values of lifelong learning and the positive attributes of belonging to a u3a.
- Members should do all they can to ensure that people wanting to join a u3a can do so.

### Self Help Learning Principle

- Members form interest groups covering as wide a range of topics and activities as they desire; by the members, for the members.
- No qualifications are sought or offered. Learning is for its own sake, with enjoyment being the prime motive, not qualifications or awards.
- There is no distinction between the learners and the teachers; they are all u3a members.

### The Mutual Aid Principle

- Each u3a is a mutual aid organisation, operationally independent but a member of The Third Age Trust, which requires adherence to the guiding principles of the u3a movement.
- No payments are made to members for services rendered to any u3a.
- Each u3a is self-funded with membership subscriptions and cost kept as low as possible



## History

Our founders envisaged a collaborative approach with peers learning from each other. The u3a movement was to be self-funded, with members not working towards qualifications but learning purely for pleasure. There would be no distinction between the learners and the teachers – everyone could take a turn at being both if they wished. From its beginnings in 1981, the movement grew.

### **1981** The beginning of the movement

By the early 1990s, a u3a was opening every fortnight. u3as grew in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and in 2008 membership was increasing by 11% every year.

### **2010** Membership reached the quarter million mark.

**2016** The u3a movement reached the milestone of 1,000 u3as, celebrated by a conference and one of the speakers included Eric Midwinter, one of the founders of the u3a movement.

Today, our movement includes over 400,000 members in more than 1,000 u3as and continues to grow.

## Introduction



“u3a shows the value of communities of interest and learning which are not defined by age or by past experience but instead are defined by the experiences still to be explored.”

Thank you for joining us. Our u3a gives you opportunities to develop your interests, make new friends and have fun.

Our members have stepped up and found new and creative ways to keep connected with each other and continue their learning. You will see in this Welcome Pack – there are many examples of new projects, ideas and shared skills and learning, that our members are taking part in.

In this pack you will find what’s available in our u3a including access to interest groups and communication platforms. You will also have access to the national ‘Third Age Matters magazine’, the National online newsletter and various social media sites.

# Tadcaster & Villages Information

## All about us

Tadcaster and Villages u3a is a small, friendly group having been launched in May 2019. Members are drawn from Tadcaster and surrounding villages.



We meet on the third Monday of each month at 2pm in The Old Boys Sunday School, (near St Mary's Church), Tadcaster. At the meeting members enjoy listening to a guest speaker and refreshments are available too.

The Old Boys Sunday School is located adjacent to St Mary's Church. Disabled access is available.

You can find out more on our Tadcaster & Villages u3a Facebook page.



Tadcaster Viaduct



## Interest group

## contact

## email

Craft	Glenda Smith	<a href="mailto:glensm@btinternet.com">glensm@btinternet.com</a>
Book Group	Karen Baxter	
Circle Dancing	Joyce Webster for Felicity Hill	<a href="mailto:joyce.webster1@btinternet.com">joyce.webster1@btinternet.com</a>
Days Out/Visits	Denise Gent	
Digital Photography	Alex Svensonn	<a href="mailto:alexu3a@alexsvenson.uk">alexu3a@alexsvenson.uk</a>
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