

Using Site Builder

Every Group in Thornbury u3a has a web page. This is created when the group is set up. Your group already has a web page. You can use this webpage to make announcements, to advertise coming meetings and to report on past meetings. You can tell people where and when your Group meets. You can tell people how to contact you. You can distribute documents and show pictures.

The main Thornbury u3a website is at:

https://u3asites.org.uk/thornbury/ home

From here you can click on the "Groups" menu at the top of the screen. This will give you a list of all the groups in Thornbury u3a. Click on a group name and you will be taken to that group's web page.

A group web page consists of some text describing the group and, below that, a list of events. Below the events list is a list of all the other groups in Thornbury u3a. You can click on the name of any other group to go to that group's web page.





Examples of Group Web Pages

On desktop computers there is a list of links and images to the right. On tablets and phones this list may appear below the list of groups. It depends on the format of the screen.

We use an editor called "Site Builder" to maintain the group web pages. So, if you want to use your group web page, you need to know a little about Site Builder.



Getting Started with Site Builder

This section describes the basic information you need to b able to maintain a simple web page using Site Builder. This may be all you need. Later sections will describe how to go further with more attractive text formatting, images and additional pages.

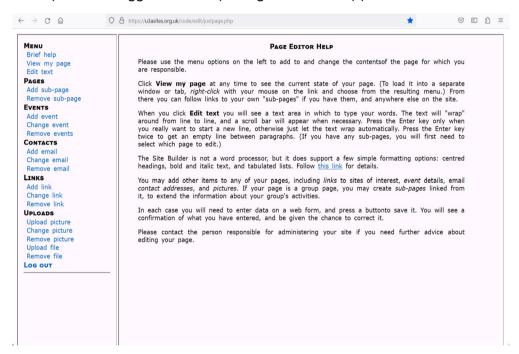
Getting a Login and Logging In

The overall Thornbury u3a website is maintained by the Webmaster who can be contacted by emailing webmaster@thornburyu3a.org.uk

They will be able to provide you with a username and password. When you have your username and password, the web page for logging on is here:

http://u3asites.org.uk/code/login.php

Once you have logged in, the opening screen will appear ...



The main part of the opening screen gives basic "help" information. Down the left side are menu options which are your starting point for editing your group web page.



Describing your Group

When your website is opened, the first thing your visitor will see is your description of the group. This should include an outline of what you do, the time and place where you meet and basic contact details.

To do this you need to be able to edit text. On the opening page, look for the menu option **Edit text**.



This will present you with a list of pages. In this example there are three pages. When you edit your website for the first time there will be only one.

Select the page you wish to edit and click **Change the Page**. This will open a window showing the existing text on the page. Now use your keyboard and mouse to edit the text as you would any text editor.

You will notice in the example that there are some words surrounded by "%" characters.



Page for editing text

These are email links. A link with the name of your group will already have been set up for you. This will be indicated on the web page by a different colour. A visitor clicking on the link will be able to send an email to your group, usually to the group leader.

Finally, click Save this page.



Creating Events

Having described your web page, the next thing you might we information about coming meetings. On the opening page, look for the menu options headed "Events". Here you can create new events, change events or delete events.

To add an event, click on Add event.

Category is both the name of your group and the name of your web page. It will already be filled in. Click on the Date field and a calendar will pop up for you to choose the date of the event.

Now type a description. This could include the title of the event, a speaker's name and the time and location. Keep the description reasonably brief so it doesn't take up too much room on the Events page (which includes events for all the groups).

EVENTS

Add event Change event Remove events

The Events options



The Add Event screen

The Photography Category is just an

example

Finally, click Save this data and check the event details.



More on Editing Text

When you edit the text on your page you can do more than simply type words. Site Builder is not a full blown word processor but there are options which can make the text more attractive. Options such as "Bold" and "Italic" can be created by using special characters in the text. You have already seen one example: The use of "%" characters to indicate an email link.

Here are some more examples showing the code used in the text and what a visitor to the site will see.

	Text Code	Display
Bold	#text#	text
Italic	_text_	text
Email	%text%	text
Centred Bold	{text}	text
	This must be followed by an empty line	
Bullet	*text	• text

You can create a table by separating the entries with double commas. Each line of text will create a separate line in the table. So, if you type...

text 1, text 2, text 3 text 4, text 5, text 6

(This must be followed by an empty line.)

... you will get...

text 1	text 2	text 3	
text 4	text 5	text 6	

Similarly, if you type...

Name " Phone Fred " 486777 Joe " 845002

... you will get...

Name	Phone
Fred	486777
Joe	845002



Displaying images

You can make your web page more interesting by uploading pictures. By default they will appear as thumbnails on the right hand side of the screen or at the end of the text on a phone. You can also add small logos to go on the top left corner of the page header.

If there are more than five images, the thumbnails are shown in a block below the page text.

If you click on a thumbnail to see it in full size, you will be able to follow successive links through all the other pictures for the same page, in reverse order of their upload time.





Uploading images

Click the Upload picture menu item:

UPLOADS Upload picture Change picture Remove picture

Select the image file you want to display:

Use the **Browse** ... button to find the image file on your computer: maximum file size 1.5 megabytes. (The only valid image file types are .jpg or .png or .gif.)

Browse... No file selected.

File names should contain only letters and numbers, plus a hyphen if you wish, and the dot which precedes the file extension.

The limit for uploaded image file size is 1.5 megabytes, and the easiest way to reduce the size of any that are too big is to reduce the image width to 1200 pixels before reloading. The dimensions of all uploaded images will be adjusted automatically fit the screen on which they are viewed.

Click Upload this file



Enter data about the image ...

e picture has been saved.	Now please complete the details by entering a title and selecting the page where it should appear
thornbury/tetbury.jpg	
Please make your changes	s in the form below:
Filename:	thornbury/tetbury.jpg
On page:	Cycling
Title:	Cycling from Tetbury
Description:	
Usage:	⊚ Full ○ Logo
Inline only?	O Yes O No
Omit from Gallery?	○ Yes
Link from logo?	Enter a URL preceded by http:// or https//
Press	Save data

On page: If you have more than one page, select the page you want the image to be displayed on.

Title: This will be displayed underneath the image when it is shown as a thumbnail or above it when shown full size. The Title need not be unique.

Description: This is optional text that is shown when you hover the mouse pointer over the image.

Usage: Leave this set to Full.

Inline only? For general use, leave this selected to *No.* Select *Yes* if you want to include an image thumbnail in your page text. The method for positioning the image is described here ... https://u3asites.org.uk/code/edit/fscripts/help/inpics.html

Omit from Gallery? The Gallery feature is disabled on our site, so ignore this.

Click Save data.



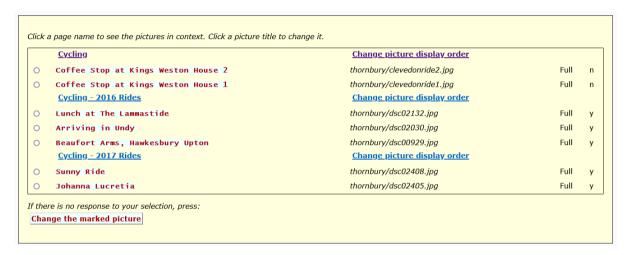
Modifying images and changing their order

Click the Change picture menu item:

UPLOADS

Upload picture Change picture Remove picture

Select the picture you want to change ...



Edit the data that you entered when uploading the picture ...



To change the order of your pictures, click the link on the picture selection screen that says **Change picture display order** and adjust the sequence.



Uploading documents

You can add documents to your web pages. Users can click a hyperlink to view or download a copy. Documents can be PDF, Word or Text files. PDF is normally the best choice since most users will have Acrobat Reader. The link to the document can be shown on the right hand side of the screen or embedded in the page text. It is best to keep file sizes small to improve download speed and reduce storage space on the server. Site Builder imposes a maximum of 5Mb.

Click the **Upload file** menu item:

UPLOADS

Upload picture Change picture Remove picture Upload file

Browse to the required file ...

```
Is this file to be password-protected? No O Yes O

N.B. The first time you upload a password-protected file, mail Site Builder Support to activate the protection, specifying a user name and password to be used by members of your own U3A.

Use the Browse ... button to find the file on your computer: maximum file size is 5 megabytes.

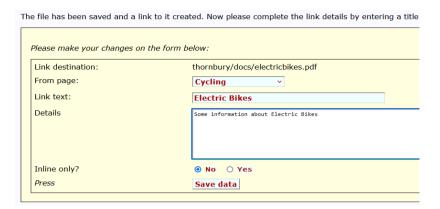
Browse... No file selected.
```

Select and upload the file ...





Now enter the details about the link to the document ...



From page: This is your group page unless you have created sub-pages.

Link text: This text will be the link the user can click to display the document.

Details: This is optional text that is shown when you hover the mouse pointer over the image.

Inline only? For general use, leave this selected to *No*. Select *Yes* if you want to include a link to the document within the text of your page.

Press Save Data and the document will be shown as follows ...



If you tick Yes for **Inline only?** Then the link will not appear in the links on the right hand side of your page. You can insert a clickable link in the body of your text by putting a l character either side, as in this example ...

Here is some information about |Electric Bikes|.

The text will appear as ...

Here is some information about Electric Bikes.



You can delete a document from your page by clicking **Remove file** and selecting the name of the document:

UPLOADS

Upload picture Change picture Remove picture Upload file Remove file

Please select the link to remove:

Cycling

remove Cycling Safely
thornbury/docs/cyclingsafely.pdf
remove Electric Bikes
thornbury/docs/electricbikes.pdf

Remove the marked link.

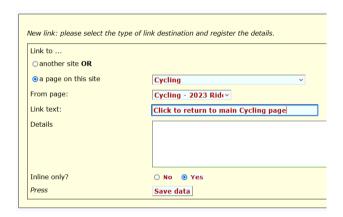


Links

You can create a clickable link to another page in the Thornbury u3a Web Site or to other web sites.

To create a link to the Thornbury u3a Web Site click Add link from the menu:

LINKS Add link Change link Remove link



Select a page on this site and select the page from the drop down list.

From page: Choose the page that the link is to appear in

Link text: Type in the text that will appear as the hyperlink

Inline only? Select Yes

Press Save data

You can now insert a clickable link in your text by putting a I character either side, as in this example ...

|Click to return to main Cycling page|

This will appear as follows:

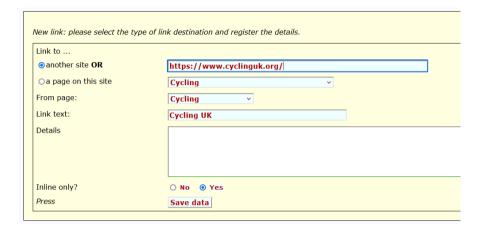
cycled straight back to Thornbury. https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41940393 Click to return to main Cycling page



To create a link to another web site, click Add link from the menu:

LINKS

Add link Change link Remove link



Select another site and type or paste the url to that site

From page: Choose the page that the link is to appear in

Link text: Type in the text that will appear as the hyperlink

Inline only? Select Yes

Press Save data

You can now insert a clickable link in your text by putting a | character either side of the link text you just saved, as in this example ...

Useful information about cycling in general can be found on the |Cycling UK| web site.

This will appear as follows:

Useful information about cycling in general can be found on the Cycling UK web site.

Clicking Cycling UK will take you to https://www.cyclinguk.org/

You can change or delete a link by clicking the appropriate menu item.



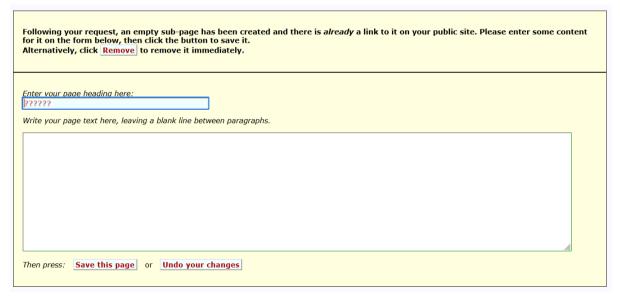
Subpages

Each u3a group has its own web page on the Thornbury u3a web site. A single page is often enough, but if you want to add more content on additional pages, you can create sub-pages. Links to your sub-pages will appear on the right hand side of your main page. Sub-page links will appear in alphabetic order and precede links to documents and pictures. To return to the main page from a sub-page you can click the browser's Back button. If you wish, you can create a link in the text to also achieve this (as shown in the example in the Links section).

Click Add sub-page in the menu ...

PAGES

Add sub-page Remove sub-page



This action immediately creates a sub-page called ????? so you should click the **Remove** button if you have done this by mistake or are experimenting (or delete it later by using the **Delete sub-page** menu).



Enter a title for your sub-page and type the text you require ...



The new sub-page will appear in the list of links on the right hand side of the main page:



You can change the title and the body text at any time by clicking the **Edit text** menu and selecting the required sub-page:

MENU Brief help View my page Edit text

```
Please select a page to change:

O Cycling
Cycling - 2016 Rides +
Cycling - 2018 Rides +
Cycling - 2018 Rides +
Cycling - 2023 Rides +
Cy
```