



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A) IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



Introduction

The Nottinghamshire Network of U3As is a federation of U3As that have joined together to support each other in the promotion of informal learning and the cultural and social development of their members. The inaugural meeting was held in January 2009.

The U3A is an amazing organisation. The word 'university' in this context is used in its original sense of people coming together to learn. In the UK it has been running since 1982 but is part of an international organisation begun in France in the 1970s. Membership is increasing rapidly, as is the number of U3As. The U3A is a self-help organisation offering older people no longer in fulltime employment the opportunity of lifelong learning within a friendly and sociable framework. Each U3A acts autonomously but is affiliated to the Third Age Trust that is the national representative body providing a wide range of services to the U3As.

What do U3As do?

Within each U3A is a selection of Interest Groups representing the interests of the members of that U3A. Many common interest groups exist in most U3As, while some unusual interest groups exist in just a few. This illustrates the individual nature of each U3A.

Interest groups are self-managed and self-funded. They draw upon the knowledge, skills and experience of their members to prepare and deliver a programme of 'work' to their members. The range of interests is very wide: art and music, both practical and appreciation, foreign languages, literature and poetry, creative writing, science and technology, history, both local and national, gardening, walking, computing, craft, card and board games, cycling, dancing of all sorts, bowling and genealogy to name but some.

These activities take place in an informal, supportive and social atmosphere where learning is undertaken for its own sake, without constraints of syllabus and examination.

What does the Network do?

The Nottinghamshire U3A Network was established to enable cooperation between U3As and the provision of support across the county and also to enable the launch of new U3As. Since it began in 2009 three new U3As have been started and more are planned. There have also been workshops held for committee members to learn from one another's experience and expertise and another to establish a group of mentors who are available to work with officers in new U3As and anyone else in need of support.

The Network sends two representatives to the Regional Representative Council for the East Midlands that provides a link between the counties. There is also a North Nottinghamshire Neighbourhood Group that organises joint social events between participating U3As.

Contact Us

Further information on the network can be obtained from the Notts U3A Network website: <http://www.nottsu3anetwork.org>, or by contacting one of the officers:

Chair: Jane Pavier (0115 8401902)
Secretary: Margaret Taylor (01623 624266)
Treasurer: Rita Foulkes (01623 623582)

U3As in Nottinghamshire

U3A	Interest Groups	Monthly Meeting			Website
		Week / Day / Time			
1. Arnold	47	1	Tue	1.45pm	http://arnoldu3a.org/
2. Ashfield (Kirkby-in)	55	4	Thu	10.00am	http://www.ashfieldu3a.org.uk/
3. Beeston	42	1	Thu	10.00am	http://beestonu3a.org.uk/
4. Bingham	29	3	Wed	2.00pm	http://www.binghamu3a.co.uk/
5. Burton Joyce	31	2	Tue	1.45pm	http://www.bju3a.co.uk/
6. Carlton & Gedling	45	3	Thu	10.30am	http://u3asites.org.uk/carlton-gedling
7. Collingham	24	4	Wed	2.00pm	http://u3asites.org.uk/collingham
8. Cotgrave	0	2	Tues	10.00am	(no group information on the internet)
9. Dukeries	24	3	Mon	1.00pm	http://www.dukeriesu3a.org.uk/
10. Eastwood	21	1	Wed	10.00am	http://eastwoodu3a.org/
11. Edwalton & Gamston	15	2	Thu	2.00pm	http://edgamu3a.weebly.com/
12. Hucknall	43	2	Wed	1.30pm	http://www.hucknallu3a.org.uk/
13. Keyworth	34	4	Tue	2.30pm	http://www.keyworthu3a.org.uk/
14. Mansfield	43	3	Tue	10.00am	http://www.mansfield-u3a.org.uk/
15. Newark	41	2	Thu	2.00pm	http://newark-u3a.org.uk/
16. Nottingham	36	var	Mon	1.15pm	https://sites.google.com/site/nottinghamu3aprogramme/
17. Radcliffe-on-Trent	39	1	Thur	1.30pm	http://u3asites.org.uk/radcliffe-on-trent
18. Rainworth	17	2	Wed	10.00am	http://www.rainworth-u3a.org.uk/
19. Ravenshead	38	2	Tues	10.00am	http://u3asites.org.uk/ravenshead
20. Retford	32	4	Thu	1.30pm	http://www.retford-u3a.org.uk/
21. Sherwood	36	2	Thu	9.45am	http://www.sherwoodu3a-mansfieldwoodhouse.org.uk/
22. Soar Valley	43	4	Tues	2.00pm	http://u3asites.org.uk/soar-valley
23. Southwell	84	1	Tue	10.00am	http://www.southwellu3a.co.uk/
24. Stapleford	8	1	Wed	2.00pm	www.nottsu3anetwork.org/stapleford-u3a.html
25. Sutton-in-Ashfield	37	2	Thu	10.00am	http://www.sutton-in-ashfieldu3a.org.uk/
26. Vale of Belvoir	0	2	Tue	2.00pm	(no group information on the internet)
27. West Bridgford	60	4	Thu	1.45pm	http://u3asites.org.uk/west-bridgford
28. Worksop	37	3	Thu	2.00pm	http://u3asites.org.uk/worksop
Total	961				

The Interest Groups column is the count of the interest groups as listed on the U3A websites.

The U3As normally hold an open meeting once a month with a speaker on a topic of general interest to the membership. U3A open meetings are open to the members of that U3A (i.e. not the general public!). The locations where the open meetings are held are shown in **Appendix 1**.

An alphabetical list of interest group topics compiled in April 2013 is shown in **Appendix 2**. A classified list of these interest group topics is shown in **Appendix 3**. In April 2013 there were over 130 different interest group topics available over the county.

Most U3As are active participants in the Notts U3A Network organisation. To find out more go to the Nottinghamshire Network of U3As website. <http://www.nottsu3anetwork.org>. This website has more detailed information on the U3As and the network activities.

Appendix 1

Location of the open meetings – the addresses are on this page, the location map on the next. These locations can be identified in detail using this [Custom Google Map](#).

[Arnold U3A](#)

Meets at the Methodist Church, 54 Front St., Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 7EL.

[Ashfield \(Kirkby-in\) U3A](#)

Meets at The Ashwood Centre, Portland St., Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottingham NG17 7AB

[Beeston U3A](#)

Meets at the Methodist Church, Chilwell Rd, Beeston, Nottingham NG9 1EH

[Bingham U3A](#)

Meets at the Parish Church, East St., Bingham, NG13 8AD

[Burton Joyce U3A](#)

Meets at Burton Joyce Village Hall, 14 Trent Lane, Burton Joyce, Nottingham, NG14 5EY

[Carlton & Gedling U3A](#)

Meets at the Richard Herrod centre, Foxhill Rd, Nottingham, NG4 1RL

[Collingham U3A](#)

Meets at Collingham Memorial Hall, 67 Main St., Collingham, Newark, Notts NG23 7LB

[Cotgrave U3A](#)

Meets at Cotgrave Welfare, Woodview, Cotgrave, Nottingham NG12 3PG

[Dukeries U3A](#)

Meets at the Jubilee Hall, Wellow Rd, New Ollerton, NG22 9BB

[Eastwood U3A](#)

Meets at Plumtre Hall, St. Mary's Church, Church St., Eastwood, Nottingham NG16 3BS

[Edwalton & Gamston U3A](#)

Meets at Gamston Community Hall, Ambleside, Gamston NG2 6PS

[Hucknall and District U3A](#)

Meets at Hucknall Leisure Centre, Linby Rd., Hucknall, Nottingham, NG15 7TX

[Keyworth & District U3A](#)

Meets at the Methodist Church, Selby Ln, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5AH

[Mansfield and District U3A](#)

Meets at The Oakham Suite, 155 Nottingham Road, Mansfield NG18 4AE

[Newark U3A](#)

Meets at the Holy Trinity Community Centre, Boundary Rd., Newark, NG24 4AU

[Nottingham U3A](#)

Meets at the International Community Centre, 61b Mansfield Rd Nottingham NG1 3FN

[Radcliffe-on-Trent U3A](#)

Meets at Grange Hall, Vicarage Lane, R-o-T, Nottingham, NG12 2FB

[Rainworth U3A](#)

Meets at the Village Hall, Kirklington Road, Rainworth, Nottinghamshire, NG21 0JY

[Ravenshead U3A](#)

Meets at St. Peter's Church, 55 Sheepwalk Lane, Ravenshead, Nottingham, NG15 9FD

[Retford U3A](#)

Meets at The Well, Baptist Church, Hospital Rd, Retford, DN22 7BD

[Sherwood U3A](#)

Meets at The Turner Memorial Hall, Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts, NG19 9YJ

[Soar Valley U3A](#)

Meets at The Village Hall, Main St, Normanton-on-Soar, Notts, LE12 5HB

[Southwell U3A](#)

Meets at Southwell Leisure Centre, Nottingham Rd, Southwell, Notts, NG25 0LG

[Stapleford U3A U3A](#)

Meets at Stapleford Methodist Church, Eatons Rd., Stapleford, Nottingham NG13 8DR

[Sutton-in-Ashfield U3A](#)

Meets at Mansfield Hosiery Mills Social Club, The Fieldings, Huthwaite Rd, Sutton-In-Ashfield, Notts, NG17 2ED

[Vale of Belvoir U3A](#)

Meets at the Village Hall, Belvoir Road, Bottesford, Nottingham NG13 8DR

[West Bridgford U3A](#)

Meets at the Baptist Church, Melton Rd, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7NF.

[Worksop U3A](#)

Meets at St. Anne's Church Hall, Harrington St off Newcastle Av, Worksop S80 1NQ

Location Map



Appendix 2

Alphabetical list of interest group topics across the county:

Amateur Dramatics	Digital Photography	Music Instruments contd.
Angling	Discussion	Recorder
Antiques	Exercise	Steel Band
Archeology	Family History / Genealogy	Swing
Architecture	Film / Cinema	Ukulele
Armchair Travel	Financial Investments	National Parks
Art Appreciation	Financial Planning	National Trust
Art Practical	French	Navigation and Map Reading
Drawing	Gardening	Needlecraft
Painting	Gardening - Cooperative	Philosophy
Pastels	Gardening - Visits	Pilates
Portraiture	German	Play Reading
Watercolour Painting	Green Issues	Poetry
Ballroom Dancing	Heraldry	Pot Luck / Never Too Late
Bell Ringing	History	Psychology
Bird Watching	English Social	Puddings
Board Games General	of Ideas	Quilting
Books / Reading / Literature	Local	Quizzes
Bobbin Lace	Medieval	Railways
Bowling	Natural	Rugby
Bowls	World War 1	Rummikub
Breakfast	Holidays	Sailing
Bridge	Horticulture	Science and Technology
Cake Decorating	Humour	Scrabble
Canasta	Italian	Shakespeare
Caravanning	Kings Card Game	Singing
Card Games	Latin	Social events
Chess	Line Dancing	Spanish
Computing	Luncheon, Tea, Supper	Spinning
Beginners	Mah Jong	Swimming
Internet	Mathematics	Table Tennis
Workshops	Medicine, Diabetic Support	Tai Chi
Cookery General	Medicine and Social History	Tap Dancing
Country Dancing	Meditation	Theatre Visits
Craft - Cards	Mosaics	Vegetarian Cookery
Craft General	Movement to Music / Mobility	Visits / Travel
Creative Writing	Music Appreciation	Walking
Cribbage	Classical	Weekenders
Cricket	Concert Visits	Whist
Crochet / Knitting	Jazz	Wildlife and Nature
Croquet	Opera	Wine
Cycling	Popular	Woodcarving / Woodworking
Dancing General	20th Cent. Composers	Yoga
	Music Instruments	
	Folk	

Appendix 3

Classified list of interest group topics across the county:

Arts

Archaeology
Architecture
Art
Appreciation
Practical
Drawing
Painting
Pastels
Portraiture
Watercolour Painting

Cinema

History and Genealogy

Family History
Heraldry
History
English Social
Ideas
Local
Medieval
Natural
World War 1

Literature

Books / Reading
Creative Writing
Poetry

Miscellaneous

Discussion
Humour
Philosophy
Psychology

Music

Bell Ringing
Music Appreciation
Classical
Concert Visits
Jazz
Opera
Popular
Musical Instruments
Folk
Mixed Instruments
Recorder
Steel Band
Swing
Ukulele

Theatre

Amateur Dramatics
Play Reading
Shakespeare
Visits

Financial

Financial Investment
Financial Planning

Food and Drink

Cookery
Cake Decorating
Puddings
Vegetarian

Dining

Drink
Wine

Hobbies and Pastimes

Antiques

Board Games

Chess
Cribbage
Mah Jong
Rummikub
Scrabble

Collectables

Cookery

Card Games

General
Bridge
Canasta
Kings
Whist

Craft

Textiles
Crochet
Lace
Knitting
Needlecraft
Spinning
Non Textile
Cardcraft
Mosaics
Papercraft
Sugarcraft
Woodcraft

Gardening

Cooperative
Visits

Pot Luck

Pot Luck
Never Too Late

Languages

French
German
Italian
Latin
Spanish

Sciences

Computing

Computer Beginners
Digital Photography
Internet

Horticulture

Mathematics

Medicine

Diabetic Support
Social History

Science and Technology

Green Issues

Wildlife

Bird Watching

Travel

Armchair

Holidays

Outings

Caravanning
National Parks
National Trust
Weekenders

Transport

Navigation / Maps
Railways

Social Events

Well Body

Indoor activity

Exercise
General
Bowling (Ten Pin)
Bowls
Pilates
Swimming
Table Tennis
Tai Chi
Yoga
Dancing
Ballroom
Country
Line
Tap

Mind

Meditation
Quizzes

Outdoor Activity

Angling
Bowls
Cricket
Croquet
Cycling
Rugby
Sailing
Walking