

Yeovil u3a

Information for people interested in joining

WHO & WHAT ARE THE u3a? *(formerly known as the University of the 3rd Age)*

Founded in 1982, u3a is a UK-wide movement of locally-run interest groups that provide a wide range of opportunities to come together to learn for fun. Members explore new ideas, skills and activities together.

There are 1,057 u3as with over 450,000 members; membership is open to anyone who's either retired or semi-retired (hence 3rd age!).

u3a members draw upon their knowledge and experience to teach and learn from each other. There are no qualifications to pass – it is just for pleasure. Learning is its own reward.

It's all voluntary - a typical u3a will be home to many activity groups covering hundreds of different subjects - from art to zoology and everything in between.

The u3a national body – the Third Age Trust - looks after all the u3as in the UK, providing educational and administrative support.

ABOUT YEOVIL u3a (Yu3a)

How much is the membership?

Yeovil u3a members pay an annual fee, covering September to August. There are reduced rates for new members who join throughout the year.

Our membership fee is an *all-inclusive charge* and enables members to attend as many Groups as they wish. The only extra charges would be to cover extras such as outings & holidays, or for petrol or refreshments if relevant.

How do I join?

There is an application form included in this pack which you can use if you decide to join us. When joining please send the completed form, with a cheque, to our Membership Secretary at the address given on the form.

What else does the membership fee cover?

Included in the annual Yu3a fee is a capitation or affiliation fee, currently £3.50, which is paid to the Third Age Trust. This covers members for insurance and gives access to a wide range of resources.

New Yu3a members are issued with a Welcome booklet, programme and a membership card. In addition, our members receive a monthly newsletter.

We also have a Facebook page where members can add posts and we have a website.

NOTE: *You will need to take your membership card to any meetings you attend.*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

What is “Third Age Matters”?

In addition to your membership, you can receive a copy of “Third Age Matters” . This is a national u3a magazine, issued by the Third Age Trust which affiliated members are entitled to receive throughout the year. These are free, apart from distribution costs which are currently paid by Yeovil u3a. You can opt-out of receiving this magazine if you wish. People in the same household will only receive one copy.

What are the main benefits of joining U3A?

Friendship, sharing interests and discovering new ones. Mental or physical stimulation (or both!).

Just how much you get out of it depends partly on you but Groups thrive on the involvement of their members and the aim is “shared learning”.

For information on latest timetable of groups and meeting, contacts etc please refer to the latest programme which will be sent with your membership card. Alternatively look on our website.

What if I already belong to another u3a, but want to join in some of Yu3a Groups?

You would pay the membership fee less the capitation fee. Likewise, a Yu3a member could join another u3a where you would have to pay their membership fee minus the capitation fee (as you’ve already paid that to Yu3a).

NOTE: Yu3a is slightly different to most other u3a’s – we have an annual membership fee which covers all our groups, no matter how many you attend. Most u3a’s charge a membership fee plus you may have to pay for any (or some) groups you attend.

Supposing I am disabled?

We already have members with various levels of disability, and this in itself is no bar to membership. There is, however, a limit to the level of assistance our insurance allows us to offer. If, for instance, you are heavily dependent on someone to get you into or out of a car, we would not be able to offer lifts, as neither you nor the member helping you would be covered in the event of injury.

This does not necessarily mean you cannot take part in our activities. If you are able to bring along a carer to assist you (the carer would not, of course, be expected to become a member) we would be very happy to welcome you both.

If you have any queries, please contact:
Anne Forster (Membership Secretary):
mobile **07776 447899**
or email anneforster09@gmail.com

Find us on social media

Website www.u3asites.org.uk/yeovil

Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/yeovilu3a