

## Contacts

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

Chair:

Vice Chair: John Fielden  
[chair2tadu3a@gmail.com](mailto:chair2tadu3a@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Dot Bailey-Hague  
[dbaileyhague@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dbaileyhague@hotmail.co.uk)

Business Secretary: Karen Baxter  
[baxter76@btinternet.com](mailto:baxter76@btinternet.com)

### *Volunteer non officers*

Communications: Alan Thatcher  
[wordpressadu3a@gmail.com](mailto:wordpressadu3a@gmail.com)

Speakers Finder: Karen Baxter  
[baxter76@btinternet.com](mailto:baxter76@btinternet.com)

Secretary: Rachel Foster  
[rachelfosterwrites@gmail.com](mailto:rachelfosterwrites@gmail.com)



Membership Secretary: Genda Smith  
[membership1tadu3a@gmail.com](mailto:membership1tadu3a@gmail.com)

Steve Cobb  
[stevecobb5252@gmail.com](mailto:stevecobb5252@gmail.com)





# u3a

learn,  
laugh,  
live

# Welcome Pack

Tadcaster & Villagesu3a



Tadcaster & Villagesu3a  
[u3asites.org.uk/tadcaster/home](http://u3asites.org.uk/tadcaster/home)

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**Learn** – u3a members are busy learning new things and staying active. There is so much to do – your 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 friends along the way.

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



## Ethos and Principles

### The Principles of the u3a Movement

The u3a movement is non-religious and non-political and has three main types of principle:

#### Lifelong Learning

- Membership of the u3a is open to all people who have retired from full time work.
- 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 Principal

- 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 u3a members in more than 1,000 u3as and is continuing 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. In this Welcome Pack you will see 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 activity/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 2.00pm 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 (served by volunteer members).

The Old Boys Sunday School is located adjacent to St Mary's Church. Disabled access is available and members are on hand to help.

You can find out more on our Tadcaster & Villages u3a Website: <https://tadcasterandvillages.u3asite.uk>



### Interest group

### contact

### email

Art  
Craft

Sue Pattinson  
Glenda Smith

[pattinsonsue67@gmail.com](mailto:pattinsonsue67@gmail.com)  
[glensm@btinternet.com](mailto:glensm@btinternet.com)

Nature/Wildlife

Joyce Webster  
Gil Firth

[joyce.webster1@btinternet.com](mailto:joyce.webster1@btinternet.com)  
[gmfirth@btinternet.com](mailto:gmfirth@btinternet.com)

Digital Photography

Alex Svenson

[alexu3a@alexsvenson.uk](mailto:alexu3a@alexsvenson.uk)

Quiz/Social  
Walking

Jan Burg  
Joyce Webster

[skipper17120@yahoo.com](mailto:skipper17120@yahoo.com)  
[joyce.webster1@btinternet.com](mailto:joyce.webster1@btinternet.com)

Table Tennis

Alan Thatcher

[alanpaul.thatcher@btinternet.com](mailto:alanpaul.thatcher@btinternet.com)

Book Group

KarenBaxter

[baxter76@btinternet.com](mailto:baxter76@btinternet.com)

Eating Out

Alan Randall

[apranda@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:apranda@hotmail.co.uk)

Theatre

Alan Randall

[apranda@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:apranda@hotmail.co.uk)

