

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

For many members Special Interest Groups are the most important aspect of U3A; some members join only because of an interest in a particular group.

Each group is self supporting and decides the venue, programme, costs, etc.

A convenor/administrator takes the lead in arranging the programme in discussion with the group. In some groups there may be an element of 'informal teaching' and occasionally there will be an outside speaker/demonstrator.

Current groups include Architecture, Beginners Spanish, Books, Chess, Computer Skills, Contract Bridge, Craft Workshop, Exploring Poetry Together, English Folk Dancing, Family History, German, Handbell Ringing, History, Indoor Bowls, Intermediate Spanish, Latin, Local History, Luncheon Club, Outings, Music Appreciation, Painting for Pleasure, Philosophy, Photography, Quiz, Science, Scrabble, Singing for Pleasure, Ukulele, and Walking.

New groups are always under consideration and anyone can start a group for their own interest or hobby.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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OR GO TO
www.burnleyanddistrictu3a.org.uk

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never stop learning

Learn, Laugh, Live



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

The U3A is a registered charity No. 288007

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Burnley & District

A Self-Help Organisation for those no longer in full-time employment in Burnley, Padiham and the surrounding areas.

It's never too late to learn!

Join the hundreds of thousands of members in over a thousand U3As throughout the UK

The U3A provides opportunities for Education and Learning, Leisure, Recreation and Social Activities and visits to Places of Interest all in a friendly, welcoming environment.

WHAT IS IT?

U3A is short for “University of the Third Age” but it’s not an academic institution with entrance qualifications, examinations and certificates. It is a “self-help” organisation of like-minded people coming together to share knowledge, ideas and experience.



U3A is a worldwide organisation and we have links with regional and national colleagues but we are an independent body and make decisions locally through a small elected committee.

The first U3A in the UK was started in 1982. There are now over 1,000 U3As with about 384,000 members. Numbers continue to grow because it is meeting the needs of an increasing number of retired people.

Burnley & District U3A started in June 2007 with about 40 members. The numbers increased steadily and by January 2017 there were over 260 members with new people joining each month.

MEMBERSHIP – WHO CAN JOIN?

Membership is open to anyone who is no longer in full time employment. This means that most are over 50 years but there is no minimum age.

Anyone interested in joining can attend two monthly meetings for a visitor’s fee of £2.00 or any Special Interest Group for one visit, but must then become a member.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

The annual membership fee which is normally due on 1st April is:-

£14 April to March or £9.50 October to March for a single person.

£26 April to March or £17 October to March for husband and wife or partners living at the same address.

£6 per person January to March.

WHAT DO YOU GET?

Once you are a member you are entitled to attend the monthly meetings and receive the national magazine, “Third Age Matters”, published 5 times per year, which has news from around the country and details of online and residential courses.

A Newsletter is produced monthly with information about all Special Interest Group activities; it is distributed at monthly meetings, or by mail or email.

You can also join as many or as few of the Special Interest Groups as you wish.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of every month at 2.30pm in the Unity Centre of Padiham Unitarian Chapel, Church Street, Padiham, BB12 8JH.



The meetings always feature a guest speaker. A wide range of topics have been covered including travel, natural history, music, literature, entertainment, history and social issues.

Also important is that members are kept in touch with what is happening in the U3A and have the opportunity to socialise, with refreshments available after the speaker.

OUTINGS AND TRAVEL

There are regular day trips and outings which are open to all members. These have included visits to towns and cities, museums and art galleries, theatres and concerts and stately homes. There is also a thriving walking group.