



Tewkesbury and District u3a

Welcome Booklet

June 2023

Welcome to Tewkesbury and District u3a

Tewkesbury and District u3a has been providing the opportunity to “**learn, laugh, live**” for the past 30 years, and we hope you will enjoy learning with us. The u3a movement is non-religious and non-political with three main principles:



- ◆ Membership of the u3a is open to all in their ‘third age’, which is defined not by a particular age but by the period in life when full-time employment has ceased.
- ◆ Members promote the values of life-long learning and the positive attributes of belonging to a u3a.
- ◆ Members should do all they can to ensure that anyone wishing to join the u3a can do so.

The u3a is a learning co-operative, which enables members to share educational, creative and leisure activities. No academic qualifications are required to join, nor are any awarded.

Tewkesbury and District u3a.



Our u3a currently has over 550 members from Tewkesbury and the surrounding areas. It is a Registered Charity (Number 1029447).

We meet at Tewkesbury Baptist Church (entrance in Station Road) on the second Monday of each month at 10.00 for 10.30 am. These meetings have a speaker, and tea and coffee are available. This is an ideal opportunity to introduce potential new members.

(see photo of a typical meeting - with speaker)

Membership

Members pay the membership fee every year. While most of our members renew their membership in October/November, we do operate a rolling programme of membership renewal. Where appropriate, members are encouraged to complete a Gift Aid form.

Groups

Group activities take place in a range of venues around the area. We currently have over 35 groups in operation. See '**TUTA News**' and/or our '**Tewkesbury and District u3a**' **web-site** under 'Groups' for the list of Groups and contact numbers.

To join a group, the group leader should be contacted to ensure there are vacancies in the group. The group leader will give information about times, cost, venue and parking. Group members are encouraged to actively participate in groups, joining in with presentations, talks and general support for the group leader, where appropriate.

We have a reciprocal arrangement with neighbouring u3a's so that each member can regularly attend one extra interest group within another local u3a.

Non-u3a members may have an introductory visit to a chosen group before joining the u3a.



Walking Group and Kurling Group

Setting up a Group

If you have a particular interest or skills base that is not covered by our existing groups, the committee will give support and finance to set up a new group. We do have a pack to support setting up new interest groups and the role of a new group leader.

Communication

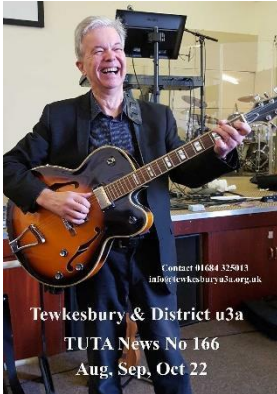
<https://tewkesburyu3a.org>

Information is posted on our website, which is regularly updated by our webmaster. This includes lists of our groups, meetings, times, membership information and important events, such as our AGM.

email

To save on postage members are encouraged to receive communications by email. It is important to remember to provide the membership secretary with any changes to your email address.

TUTA News

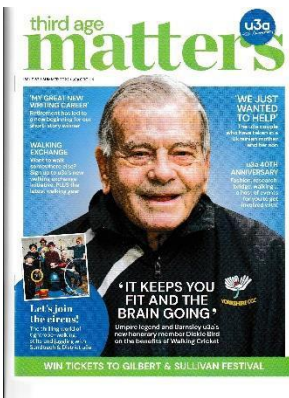


TUTA News is produced four times a year by our editor and a group of proof readers. Individuals and groups submit articles and information that are of interest to our members. Details of the monthly meetings are advertised and who will be speaking; as are forthcoming events and outings. The contact details for group leaders and committee members are also included. The most recent edition of '**TUTA News**' is always available on our website.

National Resources

National u3a has many digital resources available from their website. These include subject adviser lists, learning workshops and activities, Sources information, podcasts and some videos.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/>



Third Age Matters

'Third Age Matters' is the national magazine of the u3a. It is posted directly to members who wish to receive it. The magazine charge is shown on our membership form.

Administration

The overall running of Tewkesbury and District u3a is the responsibility of the **Committee**. It meets bi-monthly, unless there is a need for further discussion. The current members of the Committee and their roles, can be found on our website and contact details in each copy of TUTA News. Committee members are elected annually by the membership at our AGM and can hold their position for a maximum period of 5 years

Group leaders organise and run the groups within our u3a. They usually meet twice a year with our group liaison coordinators for discussion and support. Our AGM is held every December, details of time and place are notified to all members and put on the website. Members are invited to submit questions and nominations for committee members.

Events and Trips



Notification for any planned events or trips will be included in our magazine 'TUTA News' and on the website 'Events' page. Groups may also organise their own visits to places relating to their area of interest.

Equal Opportunities

Tewkesbury u3a endorses the 'Equality Diversity and Inclusion' policies of the Third Age Trust. All affiliated u3a's pursue an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy and, as far as it is within their powers to do so, provide equal treatment to any person in their group regardless of:

- ◆ Educational background and social status
- ◆ Marital status (including civil partnership status)
- ◆ Gender or sexual orientation (including gender reassignment)
- ◆ Race or racial group (including colour, ethnic or national groups)
- ◆ Religious belief
- ◆ Disability

u3a's are committed to the furtherance of fair treatment and the absence of discrimination in all their activities and strive to achieve a membership which reflects the composition of the community they serve.

Public Risk Insurance

Tewkesbury and District u3a operates under the national u3a Public and Products Liability. Charity Indemnity Insurance is also held for the protection of Trustees' Liabilities. Tour Operators' Liability is held which covers trips organised by our u3a for its members.

Members who wish to take a friend or relative, who is not a member, on a u3a trip may do so on an occasional basis subject to the committee's prior approval, but the non-member travels at his/her own risk and should consider their own travel insurance arrangements. Personal accident insurance is not provided by the u3a for members or non-members.

Ian C. Barber

Chairperson