

What is available on our private website:

#### SideBar

## NEWS

[Drop into the Coffee shop](#)

[Join us for a Chat](#)

### 1 Activity Groups

- **GROUPS** (*consult this page to view all active groups*)

### 2 Discussions

- [Coffee shop](#)
- [Groups Common Room](#) (*suggest new groups, offers of help, etc.*)
- [Technical Assistance Area](#)
- [The future of the vU3A](#)

### 3 Other activities

- [Blogs, wikis, personal pages](#)
- [Currency Converter](#)
- [Humour](#)
- [Puzzles and quizzes](#)
- [Topic of the Day](#)
- [Disability Centre](#)

### 4 Information

- [Members biographical notes](#)
- [Group Leader support/info](#)
- [HELP with using this wiki site](#)
- [Information desk](#) (for latest news)
- [How to install Skype](#)
- [RSS feeds](#)
- [Useful websites](#)
- [vU3a Committees](#)
- [Newsletter Library](#)
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- [History of U3A](#)

### 5 Past projects

- [Gallery](#)

A montage of some of the photos on our website



The Virtual

# U3A

[www.vu3a.org](http://www.vu3a.org)

An online U3A  
for older people  
to enjoy shared  
learning over  
the Internet

Affiliated to



[www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)

## What is the Virtual U3A?

The Virtual University of the Third Age (**vU3A**) is a U3A existing solely on the Internet and affiliated to the Third Age Trust. The **vU3A** has its home on a private website hosted by pbworks.com.

## What are our aims?

U3As are democratic, self-funded, self-managed organisations. We draw upon the knowledge, skills and experience of our members to organise interest groups. The groups cover art, music, history, architecture, sciences, crafts, languages, gardening, technologies, literature or any other subject agreed by the members. Our aim has been to create an online U3A which adheres to the principles of participative learning as practised by U3As throughout the UK.

## Who can join vU3A?

Anybody aged over 50 can join U3A and this includes people who are working part time. An important target group for the **vU3A** is older people who are isolated either geographically, through illness or perhaps because of personal commitments (carers, for example).



## What computer skills do I need?

You will need to be able to:

- ✿ Use a mouse and keyboard
- ✿ Receive and send emails
- ✿ Find your way around the Internet
- ✿ Save and retrieve files

Additional skills (not essential but rather handy) include taking part in 'chat' exchanges or 'forum' discussions on the Internet. The idea behind these requirements is to allow members of the vU3A to communicate effectively with one another and to work in groups on projects of shared interest. Technical help is always available.

## What can a member look forward to?

Members of vU3A are free to join any of our interest groups and/or form their own learning groups, choose topics and share in teaching and learning in a collaborative way. All groups have a Group Leader or Convenor who can help members to get the best from the experience. Discounts are available through The Third Age Trust to purchase computer hardware and software.

## Where can I find out more about the vU3A?

More information is available on our public website [www.vu3a.org](http://www.vu3a.org) where you can also apply for membership. Why not pay it a visit?

## What does it cost?

Our subscription is currently £12 per year. This covers an online version of the Third Age Trust quarterly magazine, plus Sources another journal that provides helpful information to interest groups, as well as our own monthly Newsletter. Subscriptions are paid using a credit or debit card online but we can arrange for other methods of payment if required.

## Want to learn more?

If you have any questions or want to find out more about membership of the **vU3A** please contact:

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