



How Ashby u3a works

Like all u3as nationally, Ashby u3a provides for those no longer in full time work to come together to socialise and learn for fun.

We have various Interest Groups which provide a wide range of activities. Groups are run by the members, for the members, and most meet monthly or fortnightly.

For 2026/7 the membership is £18 pa, £14 for a second member at the same address.

You can find out much more on our web site at www.ashbyu3a.co.uk.

Interest Groups

Groups are the lifeblood of the u3a movement. The u3a does not encourage the use of paid instructors, so Groups are self-organising and we learn together about our different interests. Usually at least one of the members will have some previous expertise in the subject, though sometimes we have visiting speakers to talk about or demonstrate the subjects. (These are separate from the speakers at the Monthly Meetings)

We currently have nearly 30 groups, listed below. They usually meet monthly but some meet more or less frequently. Meetings, except trips out, usually last about 2 hours.

Once you join us, you are free to join in with as many, or as few, of the groups as you wish. Just contact the relevant Group Leader to let them know you wish to join them, and they will give you further details of when and where they meet. A very few groups may have a waiting list if they already have as many members as they can cope with. Most meet at a member's house unless the numbers are too great to accommodate them. Some meet at venues in Ashby or nearby.

For most groups there is no further charge, but there may be a donation towards refreshments, or a charge for trips to cover transport and admission fees. However, where a group hires a local venue or books a visiting speaker, a regular nominal charge is usually made to cover costs incurred. Gardening, History and Science groups are some who typically charge a fee.

You certainly don't have to attend all of a group's meetings, but those that organise trips or outings will probably need you to book a place in advance.

Monthly Meetings

In addition to the Interest Groups, we hold Monthly Meetings at 2 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Congregational Church in Kilwardby Street, Ashby.

At most of these meetings we have a guest speaker followed by a chance to chat with other members over tea, coffee & biscuits.

Monthly Meetings are free to members and we hope that, if you join, you will come along to as many of these as you can.

Website and Facebook Page

We have a website www.ashbyu3a.co.uk which has all the latest news and dates for group activities and gives more detail of what each Group does and what they've been doing.

The Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ashbyu3a> also has up to date news of what we have been or will be doing shortly

Newsletter

We publish a newsletter every month which is emailed out to all members. If you do not have email, a paper copy can be delivered to your home.

The Third Age Trust

Ashby u3a is affiliated to the Third Age Trust (TAT) who look after our national interests and advise various legal aspects. Both Ashby u3a and TAT are registered charities.

Magazine

The Third Age Trust publish a magazine 5 times a year with news from around the other u3as. It is included in your subscription, and posted to your address.

The Committee

We have a volunteer Committee of around 10, elected from the membership, who look after various aspects of the u3a. Amongst them are:

Chair	Groups Co-ordinator
Vice Chair	Communications
Secretary	Speaker Organiser
Treasurer	Social Sec
Membership Sec	Minutes Sec

You would likely bump into one or more of us at the Monthly Meeting or one of the Group meetings. We are all members of many of the different Groups.

All our current groups are listed below. Full details of each can be found on the website

Activities	Gardening	Scrabble
Arts & Crafts	History	Singing for Fun
Bridge	Industrial Heritage	Social Events
Calligraphy	Food from afar	Supper Club
Coffee and chat	Literature	Walking
Computer	Lunch	Medium Walks
Croquet	Music Appreciation	Short Walks
Digital Photos	Poetry Reading	The 10 Milers
Drawing & Painting	Recorder	Wine Appreciation
Family History	Rummikub	
French	Science & Tech	