

Cotgrave & District U3A



Membership Information

1. WELCOME TO THE U3A.

The U3A is a UK wide movement which brings together people in their 3rd Age (a time after you have finished working full time or raising a family) and have time to pursue your interests or just try something new in a friendly and informal environment.

Formed over 40 years ago, there are now 1,000 U3As across the UK, with more than 450,000 members. U3As are run entirely voluntarily and rely on their members to take an active part. Members form interest groups covering as wide a range of topics and activities as they desire. U3A is run by members for members.

U3A has a 'university' of members who draw upon their knowledge, skills and life experience to learn from each other. There is no distinction between learners and group leaders we are all U3A members, the learners teach and the teachers learn. There are no qualifications to pass as the prime motives are for enjoyment, friendship and laughter.

LEARN, LAUGH AND LIVE.

The U3A national body – the Third Age Trust – looks after all the U3As in the UK, providing advisory, educational and administrative support. The Trust is overseen by a Board of Directors to which any U3A member may be elected.

2. COTGRAVE & DISTRICT U3A

As a local U3A, Cotgrave & District U3A is a mutual aid organization, operationally independent with its own constitution but a member of the 3rd Age Trust adhering to the guiding principles of the U3A movement. Our U3A is self-funded with membership subscriptions and costs are kept as low as possible.

1. In order to access any Cotgrave & District U3A interest group activity or Open Meeting, it is necessary to be a paid up member of Cotgrave & District U3A (Subject to point 8 or 9).

After becoming a member all interest groups are open to visit or join.

2. Membership card should be carried when attending any U3A event.
3. Membership year 1 January – 31 December.
4. Membership costs will be set by the Executive Committee on an annual basis.

New members joining part way through the year will be charged on a pro-rata basis. Late renewal of membership subscription will be at the full annual cost.

5. Membership is for the individual only, i.e. it does not include spouse or other family member.
6. Photographs may be taken as a matter of record at U3A events and may be published in newsletters or on the website. These photographs may include your image but you can request the removal of any photographs that include your image from our website or any of our social media pages. A presumption of your consent will be taken for these arrangements for photographs to be taken at U3A events unless you notify us otherwise (cotgraveu3a@hotmail.com)
7. Cotgrave U3A has an active Facebook group but this is a closed group and only available to enrolled members of our U3A.

8. Potential members are welcome to make up to 2 visits before making a decision about their membership of U3A. The visits can be to the monthly Open Meeting or an interest group.
9. Occasional attendance by non-members is permitted. This includes activities such as bus trips, day visits, quiz nights, Christmas party. These events may be charged at an enhanced rate for non-members. However, regular attendance by the same non-member to U3A events will invalidate U3A public liability insurance and therefore is not permitted.
10. In line with the national Third Age Trust insurance requirements, up to date membership and/or visitor status will be monitored for all attendees.
11. Membership must be renewed annually. Non-payment of subscription 8 weeks after the due date will result in a lapse of membership and attendance at any interest group must cease. To rejoin completion of a new application form will be required.
12. For membership payments by BACS please use the following :-
Account name - Cotgrave & District U3A, Sort Code 60-02-41, Account Number 69197121, using surname and membership number as Reference.
13. Cotgrave & District U3A are happy to hold details of the person you would like us to contact if you feel unwell or any other emergency arises while you are attending any U3A event. This is completely your choice but could be especially helpful for those members who live alone. If you would find this arrangement reassuring please let the Membership Secretary have the name and contact details of the person you would like to nominate as your emergency contact.
14. Cotgrave & District U3A has full regard to Equality, Diversity and Safeguarding of our members as detailed on our Equality and Diversity Policy and The Safeguarding Vulnerable People Policy. Please also read the Privacy Policy and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as they explain how Cotgrave & District U3A stores your personal information, works to protect your privacy and enables us to communicate with you effectively. Copies of these policies can be viewed on the Cotgrave & District website (Cotgraveu3a.weebly.com) or upon request from the Membership Secretary. (Cotgraveu3a@hotmail.com).
15. Cotgrave & District U3A committee have from time to time access to, and would like to share with you, information that is thought to be of real or potential benefit to all or some of our members. All of this information would be vetted by the committee as appropriate before distribution to members. Examples of appropriate subjects would include, but not limited to:

Health, well-being, education, ecology, data protection and anti-fraud advice, nature, social events, community matters and charities

Examples of inappropriate subjects would include, but not limited to:

Political, religious or ideological matters, commercial, sales or marketing matters, sex or pornography, items prohibited by statute or common law or personnel information.

Each member will be asked annually at the time of renewing their membership to opt into or out of receiving this information and each member has the right to decide at any time that they no longer want to receive any communication by the contacting the Membership Secretary (cotgraveu3a@hotmail.com)
16. Complaints about any infringement of the above policies or other U3A issues should be made initially to your Group Leader, or to the Chair or Vice Chair of the Executive Committee.