

Thank You for Visiting Merton u3a

A silent revolution is sweeping across developed nations. People are living longer and longer. What is more, the term of active life is also extending. Typically u3a members are over 55, are no longer in full time employment or having childcare responsibilities and so have some time on their hands. This is the opportunity to stretch the mind, extend one's social life and have fun!

We are one of more than 1,000 local u3a groups throughout the UK with a combined membership in excess of 400,000. Collectively we are represented by the [Third Age Trust](#).

About Us

Merton U3A is a locally run organisation of volunteers providing recreational & social activities and study groups at minimal cost. There is a mix of activities, interest groups, talks, visits, seminars, coffee mornings, lunches and courses. Established over 35 years ago, we have over 800 members in and around Merton participating in nearly 100 groups – these are shown on the website. We set up new groups or activities where there is a demand. We value and share everyone's viewpoint, skills and experience and learn from each other.

Our activities are only open to members, although some groups might run taster sessions for would-be members. Prospective members are welcome to attend one talk. No qualifications are required to join. We don't issue qualifications; learning is its own reward.

Benefits of Joining

The major advantage is the ability to enjoy new interests and make great friends in a relaxed environment. In recent research, u3a members reported learning or developing skills, feeling valued, enjoying life more and feeling supported in new communities when they moved house.

Specific benefits mentioned included learning new skills (84%), building confidence (59%), feeling healthier (55%) and becoming engaged with the community (50%).

How much does it cost?

The current annual fee for Merton u3a is £16 or £27 for a couple at the same address. Some groups make a small additional charge, typically £1-£2 per meeting, to cover the cost of venue hire, refreshments and any other expenses. The cost for visits varies. However many groups meet in member's houses, so the only extra cost is bringing the biscuits when it is your turn!

How do I keep up to date?

Check the website for the latest information and news about talks, events or other activities. There is a monthly news update – currently by e-mail. There are also links to events and talks run by London and Surrey Regions which we can attend. There are contact details for our Events, Membership and Groups Co-ordinators on the home page.

I'd like to join – What do I do?

We look forward to welcoming you! Please complete the application form on the following pages and return it to the address shown. You can also use our Gift Membership scheme to sign up a friend, neighbour or relative, ask our membership secretary about this [here](#) or for any further information.



MERTON u3a MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

YOUR DETAILS

Member 1

Name	
Email	Telephone Mobile
Address	
Postcode	

Contact in case of emergency

Name	Telephone
Relationship to you	
Please tick to confirm that you have obtained the named person's consent for us to store their information.	
	Consent has been given <input type="checkbox"/>

Member 2 – delete if not applicable

Name	
Email	Telephone

MEMBERSHIP FEES

<input type="checkbox"/> One member £16.00 annually	<input type="checkbox"/> Two members at the same address £27.00 annually
Membership fees are payable by (please tick one):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bank transfer to: account Merton u3a, sort code 40-07-30, A/C no 42314673, reference your surname and post code	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque to Merton u3a

Gift Aid Declaration Merton u3a will receive an additional 25p for every £1 of your membership fee if you sign the declaration below:

I want my membership fee to be a Gift Aid donation to Merton u3a, including any future payments. I'm a UK taxpayer and I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the total amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in a tax year, it is my responsibility to cancel the Gift Aid or pay any difference.

Signature.....Date.....

I/We apply for membership of Merton u3a and confirm that I/We have completed the form myself/ourselves or have been assisted to do so.

Signed

Date

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Merton u3a processes member information so that we can keep you informed about events, groups, and activities as part of your membership. Merton u3a's lawful basis for collecting this information is legitimate interest. In processing your information Mertonu3a will:

- Store it securely
- Use it to communicate with you as a u3a member.
- Share your information with group leaders/convenors for those groups that you are a member of.
- Send you general information about the Third Age Trust, the national organisation all u3as are affiliated to.

You will receive Merton u3a Newsletter by email unless you have no online access. Tick the box if you need to have it by post

Tick the box below if you want to receive the Third Age Trust's quarterly magazine, Third Age Matters.

Merton u3a is a self-help organisation; it is a vibrant community run by its members. There are many ways for you to make a contribution: it might be setting up chairs for a meeting, befriending others, forming a group, helping with recruitment. Please contact any committee members to find out about the ways in which you can take part.

It would be useful for us to know where you got this application form, e.g. library (which branch), community centre, Membership Secretary, Merton u3a website, another source:

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Please return both pages of the form to: **The Membership Secretary, Merton u3a, 75 Clonmore Street, London SW18 5ET.** For further information, phone **02085449478** or **07387574878** or look at our website mertonu3a.org.uk.

For internal use:

Received	Paid	Logged	Membership Number/s
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Revised 23 June 22