

**University of the Third Age  
Aylesbury Vale**

Registered Charity No. 1035640

**Application for Membership**

Block capitals please

**SECTION 1**

Title (Dr, Mrs., Mr. etc). ..... Surname .....

Initials..... First Name (as usually called, for badge purposes) .....

If previously employed, date of retirement and nature of employment .....

.....

Address .....

Town ..... County ..... Post Code .....

Telephone Number ..... E Mail address .....

**Please return this application form with a cheque for £12.50, made payable to :- Aylesbury Vale U3A to the Membership Secretary at the address below:-**

**The Membership Secretary  
28 Dorset Place Aylesbury HP21 9BW  
Telephone 01296 580787  
E-mail [james.mckay90@ntlworld.com](mailto:james.mckay90@ntlworld.com)**

**I understand that the above information may be stored in a computerized data base, or in a file, and used solely for U3A business and communications**

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

Please send the complete form pages 1, 2 and 4 (if applicable) to the above address.

**University of the Third Age**  
**Aylesbury Vale**

**Section 2**

Its basic philosophy is “You teach me, I teach you” and the bulk of our activities are on this voluntary basis of mutual help. We therefore expect all our members will give as well as learn. There are many ways of giving such as: joining groups, starting groups, leading groups, taking part in organizing and running the U3A through committee work, making coffee, arranging chairs for the monthly meeting etc.

Our U3A welcomes new members who accept this basis, which is set out in our constitution. Paying your subscription and becoming a member forms the basis of this agreement. If you accept this responsibility in addition to wanting to learn from others, please fill in the details below and send the completed application forms to our Membership Secretary at the address on page 1.

**Name**..... **Telephone Number**.....

**I am interested in pursuing the following subjects:-**

.....  
.....  
.....

**I feel I could share the following subjects with others**

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.....  
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# University of the Third Age

## Aylesbury Vale

- **What is the University of the Third Age?** Better known as “U3A” it is a self-help educational charity open to anyone fully or near fully retired who wishes to keep the brain alive and active by taking part in all kinds of educational pursuits. U3A consists of a nationwide network of autonomous bodies which are recognised for their contribution to adult education.
- **How does it work?** Very simply put it is based on the idea that “ You teach me - I teach you.” We all come to learn: some of us, but by no means all, are willing to teach but we all contribute to our chosen study groups. There are no paid employees.
- **Must I be qualified to join ?** No. Unlike the usual universities there are no entry qualifications and there are no barriers on any basis other than the desire to learn.
- **What would be expected of me if I join ?** We expect all our members to give as well as to learn. Giving can be in many ways, for example, giving talks, leading study groups, taking a part in organising and managing the U3A through committee work, making coffee, rearranging the chairs for the monthly meetings and in many other ways.
- **Are there exams ?** No. Everything is delightfully informal: we just learn for the pleasure of learning without worrying about tests.
- **Who are the Study Group Leaders ?** All our leaders are volunteers. They are the essence of U3A because without them there could be no U3A. Although there are frequent requests for new groups they cannot be formed unless someone offers to share their knowledge or experience with others. Being a group leader is a very rewarding experience.
- **Are there any social events ?** Although, of course, the principal reason for U3A is educational, there are always social activities to enjoy but they are, naturally, secondary to the work of the study groups. Besides the regular monthly meetings there are coffee mornings, organised outings and sometimes even short study breaks.
- **How can I join ?** The first stage is to complete the attached application form. While there are vacancies for new members, payment instructions will be included with this correspondence.
- **How much does it cost ?** At present, a year’s subscription to the Aylesbury Vale U3A costs £12.50. Our year is from 1st August until 31st July. There may or may not be running costs associated with individual study groups and outings must be paid for in advance.
- **Where can I get more information ?** Why not ask our Membership Secretary (Jim McKay 01296 580787 or email him at [james.mckay90@ntlworld.com](mailto:james.mckay90@ntlworld.com)) to send you an application form.

# AYLESBURY VALE U3A

Registered Charity No. 1035640

The Membership Secretary  
28 Dorset Place  
Aylesbury  
HP21 9BW

## GIFT AID

Dear Member

It would benefit our U3A to reclaim the tax paid by members on all subscription payments (see note 5 below). In fact the Charity Commissioners encourage us to do so. Last year our U3A received benefit in excess of £600.

Please read the notes below and then if you qualify and have no objection, sign and date the declaration below and return it to me, either directly at a Wednesday or by post at the above address.

Many thanks.

*James McKay*

Membership Secretary.

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### Gift Aid Declaration:

I would like Aylesbury Vale U3A to reclaim the tax on all donations and subscription payments I have made since 6th April 2004 and may make in future.

**Name: Address**

Signature.....

Date...../...../.....

#### NOTES:

1. This Gift Aid declaration replaces any Deed of Covenant that you may have previously established with the U3A
2. This Gift Aid declaration covers any payments that you have made to the U3A since April 2004 and may make to the U3A in the future, including single donations and membership subscriptions.
3. For your donations to qualify for GIFT AID you must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount the U3A will reclaim on your donation within a tax year.
4. You can cancel this declaration at any time by advising the Membership Secretary in writing.
5. Our U3A can reclaim about £3.40 for every member who pays tax (standard rate) , and signs this form.

# STUDY GROUPS

The study groups available at any time depend on demand and supply, currently there are nearly forty active groups. New ones are added almost every year. Some groups are small, others are so popular that second groups have had to be set up while some have even had to resort to a waiting list.

Contact the group leader to find out whether the group has a vacancy or to find out exactly what the group does; you will find the name and telephone number in your Directory or, if you are not yet a member, ask the Groups Co-ordinator, Jean Coussens (01296 422325) or the Membership Secretary, Jim McKay (01296 580787) to put you in touch.

**The present list of groups is:-**

<b>BOWLS</b>	<b>OPERA APPRECIATION</b>
<b>BRIDGE FOR IMPROVERS</b>	<b>OUT &amp; ABOUT</b>
<b>CHESS</b>	<b>OUTINGS BY COACH</b>
<b>COMPUTER USERS (CUSS)</b>	<b>PAINTING</b>
<b>CRIBBAGE &amp; DOMINOES</b>	<b>PLAY READING</b>
<b>CURRENT AFFAIRS 1</b>	<b>POETRY 1</b>
<b>CURRENT AFFAIRS 2</b>	<b>POETRY 2</b>
<b>DESIGN &amp; TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>PSYCHOLOGY</b>
<b>LETS TALK TRENCH</b>	<b>READERS' CIRCLE 1</b>
<b>GARDENING</b>	<b>READERS' CIRCLE 2</b>
<b>GENEALOGY</b>	<b>RECORDER ENSEMBLE</b>
<b>GENTLE WALKS</b>	<b>SWIMMING FOR PLEASURE</b>
<b>GERMAN CONVERSATION</b>	<b>TEN PIN BOWLING</b>
<b>HISTORY</b>	<b>THEATRE TRIPS</b>
<b>HISTORY OF ART</b>	<b>WALKS EXPLORING LONDON</b>
<b>KNITTING &amp; CROCHET</b>	<b>WALKS LOCAL</b>
<b>LET'S TALK FRENCH</b>	<b>WHIST</b>
<b>LOOKING AT PHOTOGRAPHS</b>	<b>WILDLIFE &amp; NATURE WATCH</b>
<b>MUSIC I LIKE</b>	<b>WINE APPRECIATION 1</b>
<b>NEEDLEWORK</b>	<b>WINE APPRECIATION 2</b>

The Computer Users Support Group (CUSS) also runs an Internet Forum which offers help to all members of our U3A who have access to the Internet, and who experience problems with their computer systems, you can access this service 24/7 and advice will be offered by one or other of our members. If you are interested in this service please contact Mike Bean or Jim McKay and we will post your name on our list.