

for an interesting and active retirement

What is U3A?

U3A - University of the Third (post-retirement) Age - is a learning co-operative for "Third Agers". This term was coined to refer to what we in South Africa tend to call senior citizens - older people from all walks of life who are no longer in full time employment.

How did it start?

U3A began in France in 1972, under the aegis of the University of Toulouse. In the French model faculty members and working academics are course facilitators and lecturers. With its spread to the UK and the realisation that Third Agers had the skills to organise and teach their own autonomous learning groups, the nature of the organisation changed and that model has been enthusiastically adopted in more than 30 countries around the world.

U3A in South Africa

The first local example of the UK model was launched in Cape Town in February, 2000. The response was overwhelming. The current national membership of around 11,000 comprises 25 independent local U3As in Gauteng, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, Western Cape and Eastern Cape.

The objectives of the Joburg North branch of U3A

U3A Joburg North is a Non-Profit Organization comprising mature persons in partial or complete retirement (i.e. "The Third Age"). The objectives of U3A are :-

- a. To provide intellectually stimulating programmes of learning and social contacts arising from them.
- b. To deliver these programs through a voluntary, self-help community in which all members enjoy equal status.
- c. To promote improvement in the quality of life of members.
- d. To demonstrate that intellectual capacity can be maintained well into the Third Age.

Membership

Currently U3A Joburg North has 571 members.

Members pay an annual subscription fee of R50. An attendance fee of R20 per meeting applies to visitors who do not wish to become full members.

Meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 am for 10:00 am at the Randburg Gereformeerde Kerk, 42 Third Road, Northwold, where an invited guest speaker shares his/her knowledge on a topic of interest with members. There are no meetings in December or January. Enthusiastic members also participate in our courses and special interest groups.

For further information please contact Bill Reynard (083 301-6520) or Margaret Britz (011 475-0756 / 073 281-8620 / maggiebritz@hotmail.com).

Please check our website for the latest information at www.u3a.org.za/U3A_JBN/JBN.htm

Affordable Special Interest Groups